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New Greathouse Children's Center opens

Photo by J. Don Wallace



From left, Gary Vandergriff of Vandergriff Group Architects, Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust Advisory Committee member Joan Baskin and MC President Dr. Steve Thomas; right, at top, Isaac Strain, Baylie Savage and Preslea Tindle with their teacher, Teresa Long; right, at bottom, Ashley Casarez, Zoe Dominguez, Jayden Evans with Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center Assistant Director Tanya Primera



Photos by Nancy Thorne

The children of the recently completed Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center (HLGCC) moved into their new digs on March 23, and this past Wednesday, April 8, they sang "I am Special" to the 150-plus attendees at the Open House celebration for the new center. The construction of the new HLGCC was provided for by the \$41.8 million bond which passed in 2005. Furniture for the new facility was provided by the MC Foundation and the Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust.

The new, 6,000 square-foot HLGCC can now accommodate 128 children, twice as many as the original HLGCC. Licensed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Child Care Licensing, the new HLGCC offers high-quality care and developmentally-appropriate curriculum for infants as young as four months and children through five years of age. The HLGCC also serves MC's child development, nursing and psychology students as a training site. It is a Texas Workforce Commission Rising Star Provider and has its Texas School Readiness Certification from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Houston.

MC President Dr. Steve Thomas, Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust Advisory Committee member Joan Baskin and Gary Vandergriff of Vandergriff Group Architects were present to recognize this important milestone in MC's bond building program.

Midland College students, employees and community children are accepted to the HLGCC on a waiting list basis, and may call (432) 685-4574 for more information.

Legacy essays reveal how community service changes lives

Photo by J. Don Wallace



Winners of the Legacy Essay Awards Contest, standing at front, from left, David Yoxsimer, Andrew Eaton, Ashlea Stanley, Grace Barker and Robert Brosig with MC President Dr. Steve Thomas and representatives from the Abell-Hanger Foundation and the Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust

Midland County high school graduates find MC such a terrific value because of Midland's Legacy Scholarship, which pays tuition and fees and, in return, students are required to do 40 hours of community service.

This spring, more than 270 students are attending MC on Midland's Legacy Scholarship, co-sponsored by the Abell-Hanger Foundation, the Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust and the Chaparral Foundation. Five of those students—Andrew Eaton,

Grace Barker, Robert Brosig, Ashlea Stanley and David Yoxsimer—were recently honored at a luncheon in which they received additional \$500 scholarships for essays written about their community service. The students traditionally find that their volunteer work changed their own lives as much or more than those they were helping. As Grace Barker said in her essay, "I have realized that life is not about getting all you can. Life is about receiving so that you will be equipped to give. There is no use in being strong if you have no one to carry..."

Since 1986, more than 8,000 students have taken advantage of the original Abell-Hanger Scholarship—renamed Midland's Legacy Scholarship in 2003 when the Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust became a funding partner; the Chaparral Foundation joined the partnership in 2006. The three agencies provide more than \$500,000 each year for the scholarships, and in exchange, students have contributed more than 260,000 volunteer hours at more than 90 non-profit agencies.

KIDS' COLLEGE online registration begins April 15

KIDS' COLLEGE is a summer enrichment program for students who will be completing first through sixth grades this spring. This year, 44 classes will be offered, including 12 new ones, such as **Bead It!**, **Broadway Lights**, **Selective Detective** and **Funky Forensics**. Online registration begins April 15 at www.midland.edu/kidscollege. Session I is from June 1-11. Please call (432) 685-4518 for more information.

QuickBooks Pro for Small Business begins April 20

This easy-to-use accounting software is geared towards small business owners and this course will show QuickBooks users how to design charts of accounts, set up and track accounts, create invoices and receive payments. The course costs \$179 and meets 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

evenings, April 20 - May 4 at the ATC. Registration is available at www.midland.edu/workforce or by calling (432) 681-6326.

Associate Degree Nursing program to host orientation

Students interested in the Associate Degree Nursing program are invited to an orientation to discuss the program, degree plans and financial aid. The orientation will be held on Tuesday, April 21, at 4:00 p.m. in room 232 of the Davidson Family Health Sciences Building. Please call (432) 685-4600.

Cosmetology provides services to public at reduced rates!

The MC Cosmetology Department offers haircuts, facials and manicures at reduced rates to the public! Client hours are 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, and 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. the last Saturday of the month. For appointments, please call (432) 685-6721.

Chad Campbell designates \$30,000 gift to MC Golf program



MC Golf Coach Delnor Poss, at front, with former MC golfers David Pritchett, Brian McKinley and Pete Petersen; at right, Chad Campbell

David Chad Campbell—former MC student and now champion golfer—recently designated a \$30,000 contribution to MC's Golf program. The first installment of \$15,000 was given to MC in early April, and the second half will be awarded within two months of accurate reporting to the PGA. This is the second gift to MC's Golf program which Mr. Campbell has designated through the PGA. The first was a \$25,000 gift in 2007 for the Golf: For Business and Life program.



This year, the funds are given through the 2008 Ryder Cup Outreach program, which allows Ryder Cup Team members to select colleges of their choice to receive funding from the PGA of America. Chad Campbell designated gifts to Midland College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Texas Tech University. The funding allows MC to participate in the Play Golf America University program, through which the PGA hopes more college students will "become exposed to golf and learn how their ability to play the sport can lead to future career enhancement." This initiative is already underway in MC's Golf program.

Campbell was born in Andrews, Texas and attended Midland College from 1992 to 1994 where he played golf under the instruction of Coach Delnor Poss. He finished his Bachelor's degree at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He turned professional in 1996 and has since claimed three PGA Tour wins.

Science Extravaganza unites 2,000 area students for hands-on experiments



Above, MC Math Instructor Sonia Ford, at right, exhibits the "critical load" of a weight-bearing structure; right at top, kids attempt to pair up giant chromosomes; right at bottom, students learn anatomy with dissected frogs.



Photos by J. Don Wallace

Several new and cutting edge exhibits were featured at this year's Science Extravaganza, held on April 3. Now in its 17th year, this campus-wide science exposition brings 2,000 fifth and sixth graders to experience the wonders, discoveries and fun that science and math have to offer.

In addition to exhibits and activities by MC's Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling, Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Math, Meteorology, Respiratory, Veterinary Technology programs, a new demonstration was provided by MC Math Instructor Sonia Ford who taught students the engineering concept of "critical load." The participants were able to use four notecards to build any structure, then Instructor Ford piled boxes of rocks on the structure to test its weight-bearing capacity. "The students came up with some inventive structures," said Science Extravaganza Coordinator and MC Biology Professor Claudia Hinds. "The students from Greenwood did really well. They came up with a structure that held every weight we added to it," she added.

Texas Tech engineering students brought a Chevrolet Equinox which they redesigned to run with a hydrogen fuel cell. Still part of an evolving technology, the hydrogen battery powers all electric elements of the car, but costs about \$200,000. The Tech students also developed a fuel for the engine which was only 15 percent gasoline. The other 85 percent was ethanol, which drastically reduces damaging emissions to the environment.

Representatives from Citibank also came with a shopping experiment to teach students the value of budgeting and saving. Other community exhibitors, such as the National Weather Service, the Midland Police Department and the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum were present with hands-on demonstrations.

MC to host Earth Day fair

The college is planning an Earth Day Fun Fair on Wednesday, April 22, in Beal Plaza from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. There will be booths set up by local businesses, games, prizes and food. The purpose of the fair is to raise awareness about environmental concerns, to encourage responsible use of resources, and to provide information on recycling and conserving a variety of resources, such as water and energy. For more information, please call Claudia Hinds, (432) 685-4618.



Midland College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates and associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Midland College.
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