

SOUTHEAST JILG NEWS

**JOB FOR ILLINOIS GRADUATES
THE SKILLS TO GRADUATE, THE CONFIDENCE TO SUCCEED**

JAWS Recruitment all this month

Statewide Community Service Nets Thousands for Red Cross-



In a united effort, seventeen schools have combined support and commitment to raise funding for the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. This fund is used by the Red Cross to help the victims of thousands of disasters each year. At a Leadership Development Conference conducted early in the fall, Service Learning Coordinators from each participating school selected a project so that all schools could strive together to have a strong impact. Upon return to their respective schools, each Service learning Coordinator and Career Specialist worked within the boundaries of their own school and community and conducted their own local activities to raise money for the group project. After creating awareness of the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and the ongoing need for its support, each school worked to secure funding and combine their totals for a presentation to the Red Cross. The Jobs for Illinois Graduates Program sponsors are very proud of these students who have strived together to make a difference.

Back row from left, Brian Neighbors, Career Specialist (CS) Springfield High, Dave Roberts, CS Lanphier, Sue Haptonstahl, CS Southeast, Red Cross Christian County, Tom Welch, executive Vice President, JILG Inc., Michelle Trueblood, President, JILG Inc. Front row, Latonya Amy, Service Learning Coordinator (SLC) Springfield, Akeem, SLC Lanphier, Lacreia Lott, SLC Southeast, and Jennifer Rice, Red Cross Sangamon County.



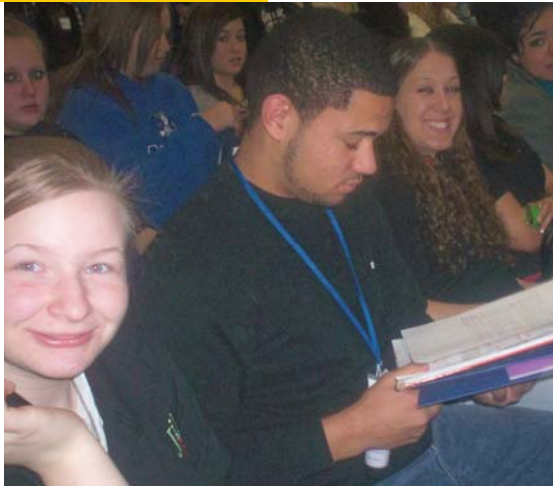
5th Hour JILG students pose in their new professional polo shirts purchased with a combination of their money and a matching donation from the Bank of Springfield.

Bank of Springfield Funds JILG Polo Shirts

Contact Information

Full story is on page 2.

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Left, Stefani Petersen, Matt Gunn, and Alexis Armes check out their schedule for the Pathways Conference. Kindra Lacy, right, looks over the information given on what to expect the first year in college.



Pathways to Your Future at LLCC

Hickey College Talks Perception

Karen Price spoke to the class on January 29 and gave students demonstrations of how what they see may not always be the reality. Bree Henderson learned that what you interpret may be quite different than what the real message is. She noted that visual tricks and illusions can fool you. Isaac Neal learned that you should not judge people too soon. Nathan Kalaskie was most impressed with the idea of thinking "outside the box".

The Southeast JILG students enjoyed joining up with the Springfield and Jacksonville JILG students as they attended the Pathways to Your Future Conference on January 7. The students went to three presentations, learning about the costs of college, strategies to secure success in your studies, and how to be prepared for the independence that going to college requires. Sabrina Holmes learned she can ask counselors for help and that technology really affects the world. Sabrina's comment, "This was a very good experience and opened my eyes to a lot of things in the world and how to get to the future".



Amanda Ladage from Robert Morris "Blasts Off"

In December JILG students completed a career survey with Amanda Ladage from Robert Morris to look at what their interests indicate might be good vocations for them to pursue. The students also played a game to see if their knowledge of college has grown this year. James Warren has applied to Robert Morris and is hoping to major in graphic design and graduate in 2 1/2 years through their accelerated program.

Bank of Springfield and BEP Help JILG Purchase Polo Shirts

Jobs for Illinois Graduates students in the three high public high schools in Springfield are all grateful to a local bank for providing funds to help pay for their JILG polo shirts this year. The Bank of Springfield, through Executive Vice-President Mike Pence provided funding to cover half the costs of the shirts. Kristy Martin, Human Resources Director of SPARC worked with Southeast High School JILG Career Specialist Sue Haptonstahl to procure the funding. Sue and Kristy met through the Springfield Chamber of Commerce Business Education Partnership Committee this fall. When Sue told the committee how much the students needed the shirts for job shadowing, interviews, and service learning activities throughout the community, the committee members provided vendors names and offered support. It was Kristy who found a vendor, Best Embroidery and Clyde Davis, who not only did a great job with the shirts, but gave the JILG group a discount. Then Kristy approached Mike Pence from Bank of Springfield who offered to provide substantial funding not only for this year's shirts, but for the next. Students then came up with the additional money to purchase the shirts. When JILG students went to Lincoln Land on January 7 for the Pathways to Your Future Conference, they were excited to wear their new shirts and show off their professional look.

Old Man Winter Blows in the Cold, Students Warm Up to Compete



Sabrina Holmes is the Southeast competitor in our decision making contest. All students had to write an essay about a hypothetical decision that “Robert” had to make about jobs, college, and his future. Sabrina’s was chosen for her clarity and focus, as well as the good writing that went into her effort. We hope her essay will go all the way to the state and win her an award for Southeast JILG.

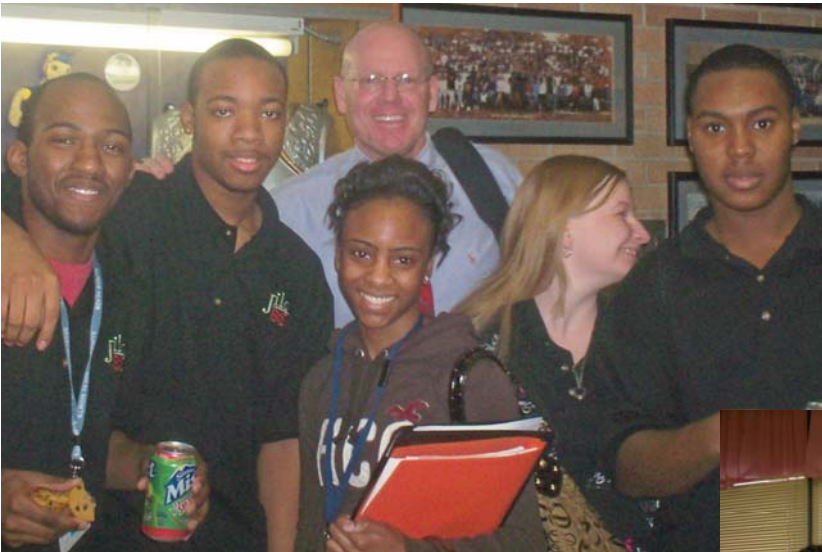


One of three Jobs for Illinois Graduates Career Development Conferences will be held on April 29 in Effingham, IL. At this particular conference students from 20 different JILG programs in the state will compete in categories such as public speaking, portfolios, interviewing, program design, posters, dressing for success, as well as the competitions listed on this page.



Keith Dickerson was the competitor for the University of Illinois Champaign college application contest. Keith had to complete the application and also had to write two essays about his goals in life and how education can make those goals happen. Not only did Keith do this for the competition, but he applied there for real. Good luck on all fronts, Keith!

Peoria High School Looks at Starting JILG Program



Peoria High School Principal Randy Simmons visited Southeast Jobs for Illinois Graduates program on January 13 to see if the program would be a good match for his school next year. Mr. Simmons spent time with the students from our class asking how the program works and what benefits it can offer his school and students. Aaron Slater and Isiah Hopson emphasized the extra support you receive from your specialist in keeping up grades and learning about colleges. Raven Windett talked about how the group comes together to support each other in class and out. Stefani Petersen spoke on the feeling of security she has being in the class and the friends she has made. Keith Dickerson focused on the service opportunities and the connections you can make for your future.

Mentoring Begins at Fairview

Students from 6th hour have begun their mentoring at Fairview Elementary School every Thursday. Principal Cheree Morrison and Teacher Christine Dunn worked with Ms. Hap to find students throughout their school who would benefit from having an older high school mentor to help with their math and reading. While students got to know each other last week, they will begin tutoring this month and go to the school through May of this year.



Jalesha Horton and Sarah Hoffman connect with their little buddies at Fairview Elementary on January 29.

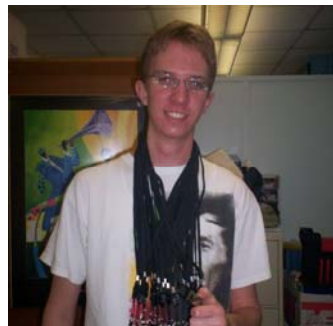
'08 Update



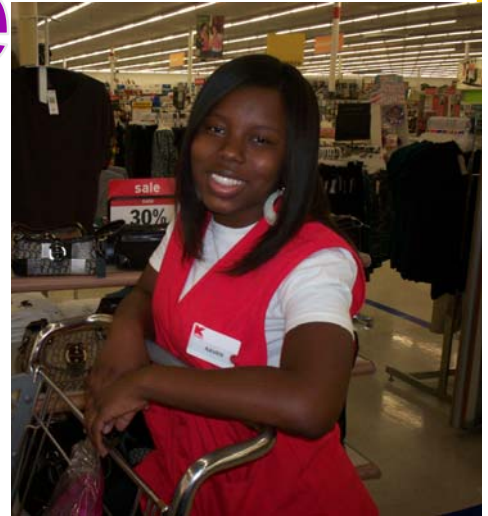
Portfolios- What Are They Good For???

Ask Jeannice Williams, class of '08, who recently came to talk to Ms. Hap about her job interview coming up and what she should prepare for. Starting with the resume, the portfolio is a useful tool to share with employers. Jeannice's portfolio which earned her 2 Lincoln Land College credits for Employability Skills 101 contains her work in many areas; chronological and functional resumes, network contacts, letters of application, thanks, resignation, business cards, skills

assessments and certificates of achievement are all included in the binder as well as a CD students can use to edit information. This year's class has received personal jump drives to store their portfolios so that they can work on their portfolios at



school, at home, in the labs, and laptops. VP Nathan Kalaskie has found many uses for his new drive.



'08 JILGie Secures More Scholarships for College

Raven Shelton, pictured above at her summer job at K-Mart, is the recipient of a Bright Start Scholarship. State Treasurer Alexi Gianoulis announced in January. A scholarship in the amount of \$1000 to \$1500 will be placed in Raven's Bright Start College Savings Account. Raven is in her first year studying nursing at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. She hopes to become a pediatric nurse practitioner upon graduation from college. Raven was also the recipient of the Legislative Scholarship for full tuition through Representative Raymond Poe's office this year.

Class of 08 Follow Up Data

The poor job market nationally seems to have made some hits with the data collected from last year's JILG class.

	National	December Southeast	February Southeast	+/-
Graduation Rate	90%	100%	100%	same
Total Job Placements	60%	47.5%	40%	-7.5%
Total Positive Outcomes	80%	92.5%	90%	-2.5%
Total Full-time Placement	80%	63.16%	56.25%	-6.91%
Total in Full-time Jobs	60%	5.26%	0	-5.26%

of students currently attending 2-yr, 4-yr, vocational school **30 out of 40**