



FOUNDATION NEWS

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Upcoming Events

**19th Annual
Race to the Future
Tuesday
September 25, 2018
5:30 pm
Devil Dog Arena**

**MHS Class of 1978
Reunion
September 21-22
Contact Sarah Ryals
sarah@ccrwwd.com**

**Devil Dog Reunion
June 1, 2019
Special Guests
MHS Class of
1969**

2018 RACE TO THE FUTURE TUE. SEPT 25 SHOWCASING DEVIL DOG ARENA

In 2017 the South Conway County Public School Foundation changed the format for our annual Race to the Future event. The new format was met with great success, so we are doing it again. Last year we highlighted the new cafeteria at Morrilton Primary and this year we will showcase Devil Dog Arena. This building is a stunning example of our school district's progress and promise to have the best facilities possible for our students.

The event will be Tuesday, September 25th at 5:30 pm. During the event, entertainment will be provided by various school organizations, while guests enjoy delicious appetizers. Tours of Devil Dog Arena will be available throughout the event.

Funds raised during this year's Race to the Future will be used to aid the School District in providing concurrent college and technical classes through UACCM to eligible Morrilton High School Juniors and Seniors

at no cost to the students. The SCCPSF has set a goal of \$25,000.00 to aid the School District in making this possible.

SCCSD is partnering with UACCM for Advanced Placement coursework in 2018-2019 and to offer UACCM concurrent credit through classes to students on the Morrilton High School campus.

UACCM concurrent opportunities allow students to begin working toward career/technical fields of study or to begin working toward general education college coursework while attending Morrilton High School. This gives students the advantage of acquiring certifications to work in business and industry prior to graduation and making them preferred applicants after graduation. Likewise, graduates of MHS have an opportunity to experience success at the college level while still in high school, giving our students a head start when it comes to their post-secondary education.

Introducing high school students to various college and career pathways early increases the likelihood that they will continue working toward career/technical fields and other academic studies upon graduation.

Local business and industry demand a highly skilled workforce and this partnership is helping to meet that demand. Ultimately, graduates of MHS will be more prepared and equipped for future success regardless of the pathway they choose.

We encourage you to send your support early, using the sponsorship form inside this newsletter. If you prefer to give online, that option is available on our website at www.sccpsf.org.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to the educational community in the South Conway County School District through your support of the 2018 Race to the Future.

MORRILTON POLICE CHIEF HONORED WITH NATIONAL AWARD



Photo courtesy of Petit Jean Country Headlight

Morrilton Police Chief, Sonny Stover, was named the 2018 National School Safety Association 'Police Chief of the Year'. Stover is pictured on the right receiving the award at the National School Safety Conference in Orlando, Florida in July.

Stover was also named Arkansas Safe School Associations' Police Chief of the Year' at the state conference in North

Little Rock. He was honored for his support of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Training & Community Relations program, of which Morrilton School Resource Officer Phil Blaylock serves on the executive board.

There have been daily requests from school districts nationwide who want to learn more about the program.

HEALTH INITIATIVES VAULT TO THE FOREFRONT AT MIS

An official plan of action to target childhood obesity made its debut in Morrilton on August 8th, 2018. The Champions for Health (formerly known as the Arkansas Heart Foundation) has chosen Morrilton Intermediate School (MIS) as a partner in a pilot project during the 2018- 2019 school year.

The kickoff was highlighted by a live radio broadcast from station 103.7 FM The Buzz, an appearance by Congressman French Hill, and the demonstration of exciting, cutting edge physical exercises designed to inspire students and faculty to move more. Excitement and expectations for the possibilities associated with this pro-

gram are running high. Sarah Stobaugh, principal of MIS states, "We are excited to introduce the Champions of Health Initiative." She identifies the fact that, "The students will be planting gardens" and that "we will have an extra 30 minutes of recess to promote movement and healthy choices" as particular perks that will certainly appeal to the children. Other perks of the program will include: cooking classes for parents and the children, de-

cision making lessons and activities, award winning Spark PE classes, and personal health coaches for teachers and adults on campus.

According to their website, the aim of the pilot program from the Champions For Health perspective, is to create a replicable model for schools statewide. The overall vision is to "Inspire future generations to create a legacy of health in Arkansas" to reverse the obesity epidemic. Currently,

Arkansas is ranked in the top five states for obesity with 35%+ of adults scoring as being obese. 39% of Arkansas students were classified as "overweight" or "obese" during the 2016-2017 school year. With these statistics, our current generation is predicted to have a shorter life expectancy than their parents due to conditions correlated with obesity such as: cancer, diabetes, heart disease, dementia, all of which can lead to premature death.



MIS staff celebrating the Champions for Health kickoff

“FIFTY IS NIFTY” FOR THE 2018 MHS REUNION BRUNCH!

On Saturday, June 2, for the eighteenth year, Morrilton High School graduates gathered at the MHS Cafeteria for the annual MHS Golden Reunion Brunch. The MHS Class of 1968 was the honored class this year and planned their reunion activities to coincide with the brunch event.

Earl “Bimbo” Bentley, ’38, was recognized as being in attendance celebrating his 80th class reunion, while Charlie Owens, spouse of deceased 1936 class member, Jean Winburne

Owens, was there celebrating that class’s 82nd reunion. Again, we had alums and family groups from many different years and from many different places come together for a time of fellowship and fun.

This year’s reunion weekend activities expanded to include more than a brunch. There was a tour of the new Devil Dog Arena, a reception for all the 50th classes at the Rialto Gallery that evening, followed by the stellar performance at the Rialto Theater of the Remnants of Rock, a band

that formed in the performers’ high school years as the St. James Group, led by Rick Calhoun, ’66, with band members from the classes of 1966 and 1968.

Several classes gathered in different places at different times for their own celebrations, while the 1968 class had a whirlwind weekend of special activities in place, beginning with a Friday night gathering and ending with a Sunday morning service. The Class of 1968 reunion committee is to be commended for its excellent

execution of a reunion weekend.

Lots of fun and fellowship took place for a lot of folks and plans are underway for next year’s event on Saturday, June 1, that will honor the MHS Class of 1969. The weekend will include a return performance of the “Remnants of Rock”.

For more information, please contact Phyllis Scroggin McQuin, ’62, at 501-354-5346, or Carolyn Stacks Massingill, ’59, at 501-354-5806.

SHEKINNA STRICKLEN: DEVIL DOG HERO CONTINUES TO SHINE

On the court, Shekinna Stricklen has done it again! She has notched another line for herself in record books. The 28 year old basketball phenom, whose record shattering career began in the South Conway County School District, has tied the WNBA record of eight three pointers in a single game also held by Diana Taurasi and Riquana Williams. Stricklen finished the game, played on July 22, with 8 of 11 from 3 point land and a season high 24 points that helped her team, the Connecticut Sun, outshine the Dallas Wings in a 92-75 victory. When asked how she felt/ what she thought upon realizing that she’d tied the WNBA record Stricklen said “I was so happy when I hit that last 3 to tie the record! My teammates were all yelling to shoot another 3 because they knew I needed one more to tie the record! It also was more special because I had over 60 people at the game



in Dallas when I did it! My parents, my brother and his family, aunts and uncles and cousins from both sides of the family!”

No stranger to outstanding achievement, Stricklen was a standout athlete while with the Morrilton Lady Devil Dogs. During her career at MHS, it became commonplace to spot the country’s top college coaches in the stands watching her play. She played a major role leading the Lady Devil Dogs to a State Championship in 2006. After High School she was recruited by, and attended, the University of Tennessee, where she played under the legendary Pat Summit. In her first year at Tennessee, Stricklen was named the Freshman of the Year by the United States Basketball Women’s Association. She was the second overall player chosen in the 2012 WNBA draft. As a 6 year WNBA veteran, Shekinna continues to give maximum effort as she makes her hometown proud.

**South Conway
County Public
School Foundation**

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**Internet Web Site
www.sccpsf.org**

**D. D. E. A. N. S LIST
DEVIL DOGS' EARNING ACHIEVEMENTS NOTED**

The following is a list of some of the outstanding accomplishments achieved by students in the South Conway County School District in 2018

Morrilton High School

- Morrilton Melodies Choir - Excellent rating at State Championship
- MHS Quiz Bowl - 2nd Place at Regionals
- MHS Robotics - Placed 15th in Arkansas State Championships
- MHS 9th Grade Quiz Bowl - Winners 5A Regional Tournament

Morrilton Junior High School

- MJHS Quiz Bowl Team - 3rd in Regionals
- MJHS Cheer Team - 8 All Americans Named
- 7th & 8th Grade Choirs - 1st Place Division 1 Choral Performance Assessment

Morrilton Intermediate School

- MIS Beta Club - Placed 5th in the National Song Fest Competition

Morrilton Elementary School

- 3rd Graders demonstrated kindness by surprising bus drivers and cafeteria staff

Morrilton Primary School

- MPS students raised \$372 for the MPS Scholarship

*Foundation News is a Publication of the South Conway County Public School Foundation
which supports improved educational oportunities for the South Conway County School
District.*



9/7 Dogs vs JA Fair
9/21 Dogs vs Harrison
10/5 Dogs vs Alma
(Homecoming)
10/19 Dogs vs Vilonia

**2018 Home
Football Games**

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