

## **Pattonville student, teacher return from Space Camp**

Alexis Moore, a teacher of the visually impaired at Pattonville High School, and her student, Sitou Agbakpem, returned recently from a visit to NASA's Space Camp.

The two journeyed to Huntsville, AL, as part of a group of 16 blind and visually impaired students (and seven chaperones) from throughout Missouri. The week-long trip is sponsored each year by the Lighthouse for the Blind in St. Louis.

While at Space Camp, Sitou completed a mission, constructed and launched rockets, learned about space history, experienced weightlessness on the 1/6th chair simulator, went through low ropes courses, braved a climbing wall, met an astronaut who signed his rocket and toured Rocket Park. The students also heard a presentation from a blind engineer who works for NASA. He shared that NASA has more than 15 people working for them who are blind or visually impaired. Sitou met other students who are blind or visually impaired from Canada, Ireland, Australia, Dominica, Oklahoma, West Virginia, South Carolina, Utah, and other areas in addition to others from Missouri.

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Cutlines:

SitouandAlexisatSpaceCamp09.jpg - Alexis Moore, a teacher of the visually impaired at Pattonville High School, and her student, Sitou Agbakpem, returned recently from a visit to NASA's Space Camp.

SitoutatSpaceCamp09.jpg - Sitou Agbakpem, a student at Pattonville High School, participates in Space Camp.

## **Willow Brook Elementary celebrates 50 years**

In the fall of 1959, a new elementary school opened in the Willow Brook subdivision on Schuetz Road. Willow Brook Elementary School may look slightly different today, with a new four-room classroom addition and updates from recent bond issues, but one thing has remained the same over its 50 year history - the school's mission to ensure all children are successful academically. The Willow Brook School community recently celebrated the school's 50th anniversary with a variety of activities.

The celebration began when the school commemorated the occasion with an all-school photo of students and staff posed in the shape of the number 50 (see photo below). A Golden Jubilee Celebration was held on Oct. 16. The day started with a school-wide celebration where students shared what they enjoy about Willow Brook, retired staff members shared their memories and the Willow Brook Singers provided entertainment. Students enjoyed cupcakes and also sang Happy Birthday to the school. Hallway display cases reflected different decades at Willow Brook. Later, a reception was held for current and former staff members and honored guests.

The 50th anniversary theme continued to pop up in other places. [Willow Brook's entry for the Pattonville Homecoming parade](#) on Oct. 3 featured the school's 50th anniversary/birthday. The float consisted of a two-tiered birthday cake with 50 candles and birthday balloons. Students riding in the float wore birthday hats.

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Cutlines:

WBSingers50th09.jpg - The Willow Brook Singers perform during Willow Brook Elementary School's 50th anniversary celebration.

WB50thphoto.jpg - Willow Brook Elementary students and staff formed the number 50 on the playground in celebration of the school's 50th anniversary in existence. Photo courtesy of Wagner Portrait Group.

## **29 Pattonville students named AP Scholars**

Twenty-nine Pattonville High School students have been recognized for their outstanding performance on the college-level Advanced Placement (AP) exams taken last spring. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school and to receive college credit, advanced placement or both for successful performance on the AP exams. Only about 18 percent of the more than 1.7 million high school students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Pattonville students took the AP exams last May after completing college-level courses at Pattonville High School. Pattonville currently offers 12 Advanced Placement courses: AP Studio Art, AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP European History, AP Government and Politics, AP Physics, AP Psychology, AP Spanish, AP Statistics, and AP United States History. Last year, one-third of Pattonville High School students enrolled in AP courses.

Pattonville students were recognized for achieving three different levels of "AP Scholar." Five students, all of whom graduated with the Pattonville Class of 2009, earned the "Scholar with Distinction" Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students were Theresa Guntly, Kyle Koenig, Rachael Ludwig, Anthony Shor and Charlotte Sword.

Joseph Wingerter, a Pattonville senior, and seven 2009 graduates earned the "Scholar with Honor" Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. The graduates who earned the award are: Travis Barber, Amanda Beckmann, Dakota Jones, Mary Kuper, Rachel Marx, Ryan Mathes and Steven McCormick.

Sixteen Pattonville students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. Those who graduated last May and earned the recognition are: Jordan Bai, Lindsey Breier, Mary Chou, Justin Corcoran, Marissa Kunce, Cara Lowry, Wakeel Rahman, Allen Stringer and James Williams. Current Pattonville seniors who earned the AP Scholar Awards are: Jason Baker, Shannon Flanakin, Georgina Glogovac, Megan Lafollette, Ashleigh Lazear, Rachel McDonald and Tyler Morin.

More than 90 percent of the nation's colleges and universities award credit and/or placement for qualifying exams.

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Cutline:

HSAPscholars09.jpg - Pattonville High School seniors Rachel McDonald and Georgina Glogovac are among Pattonville's AP Scholar honorees.

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Committed to our mission, "That All Will Learn"