

INSPIRE TIMES



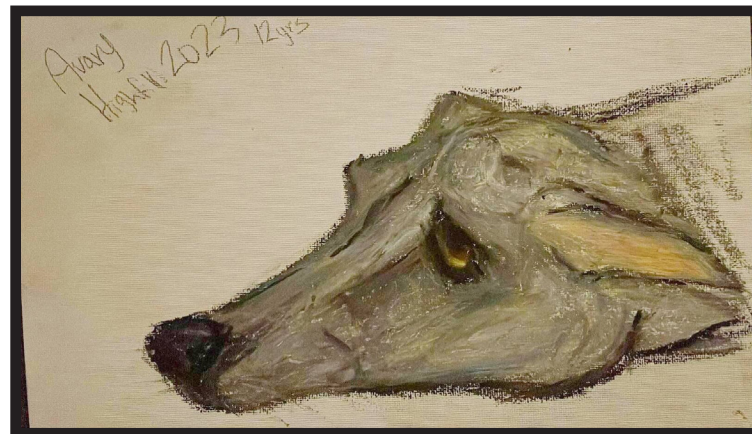
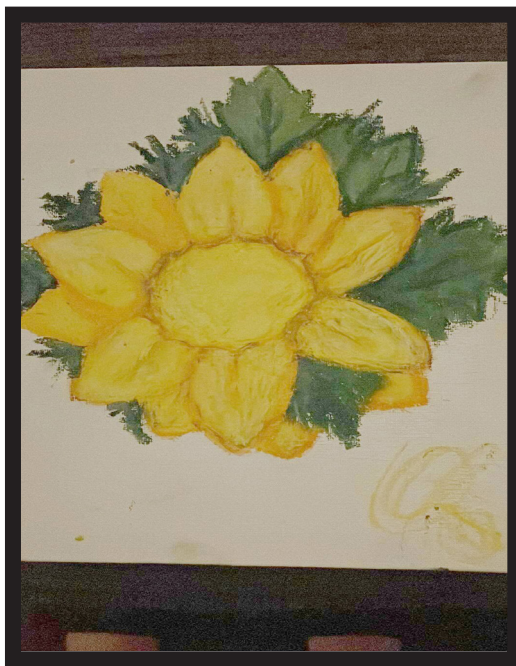
Vision Statement: "Our vision is to empower individuals, support their personal growth, and celebrate achievements in order to create a transformed community as each person's unique vision for a better future becomes a reality."

Mission Statement: Our organization is deeply committed to empowering people to define and pursue their unique vision for their future. We provide a diverse range of opportunities and resources to support each person on that journey. By inspiring hope, self-belief, and goal-oriented approaches, we aim to enable individuals to chart their own paths and achieve the future they envision for themselves.

Artist: McKenzie
Johnson, age 5



Sunflowers & Dog Artist: Avery Highfill



Inspire Times is looking for submissions!

Ages 0-18!

Do you have an idea for the paper? Simply email it to InspireTimes@inspirehopesemo and look for the next edition of Black River Times!

Opinion Column * Recipes * Cartoons * Projects * Photographs * Short Essay * Poem * Book or Film Review * Hot Topics * Horoscopes * Upcoming Events * Articles on Events such as Sports, an Organization or Club * Fashion * Your Own Idea!

Dad jokes:

Q: How did the carpenter know the wood was cut in half? A: Because he saw it!

Q: What do you call a knife on wheels? A: A roller blade!

Q: Why did Italy wander off? A: It enjoyed Roman around!


Q: Why did the hospital always close early? A: It had no patience!

Inspire Hope is so proud of our first edition of Inspire Times! Showcasing the talents of kids not only in Butler County, but also Carter, Ripley, Stoddard and Wayne! The articles, pictures and artwork were so much fun to see and share. Avery Highfill was one of the artists that shared her work with us to print in the paper. As you may have seen, we made a mistake. This was our first edition, and we did not print the artwork in a way to show how amazing it is. Ja'Bryson Howard submitted an article which told how he has learned about consequences and learning from his mistakes. We agree with Ja'Bryson! We definitely owe Avery an apology. In addition, we are reprinting her artwork so that everyone can see how talented she is! We hope you enjoy January's edition, and we look forward to getting submissions for February!

Sincerely,

The Board of Inspire Hope, Inc.

**WHAT HAPPENS
IN THE LUNCHROOM,
STAYS IN THE LUNCHROOM**



Lunchtime in our cafeteria is always _____ (adjective). They serve hot _____ (food) and _____ (food), but some students _____ (verb) their own _____ (nouns) to eat. Some kids quietly _____ (verb) their _____ (food), while others throw _____ (vegetables) or _____ (fruits) when the teachers aren't looking. One time, a bunch of kids mixed all of their unfinished _____ (food) and _____ (food) together to make a _____ (adjective) mountain of _____ (noun) on a _____ (furniture). The teachers were _____ (emotion), but everyone had already _____ (verb -ed) outside for recess, so nobody got in trouble.

In Memory of Tom Evans



Chocolate Cherry Cookies

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Butter ¼ cup (softened) | Brown sugar ¾ cup |
| Granulated sugar ½ cup | 1 Egg |
| Vanilla 1 tsp | Cocoa powder ½ cup |
| Flour 1 cup & 3 tbsp | Baking soda ½ tsp |
| Salt ¼ tsp | Cornstarch 1 tsp |
| Maraschino cherries ¾ cup (chopped) | Dried cherries ½ cup |
| Chocolate chips ½ cup | |

Start by preparing the cookie dough: beat butter, brown sugar, and granulated sugar. Add egg and vanilla. Beat in dry ingredients (flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, salt, cornstarch). Stir in maraschino cherries, dried cherries, and chocolate chips or chunks. Scoop the dough into 2-tablespoon balls and bake for 8-10 minutes at 350 F.

The inspiration for this recipe is because one of my Papa's favorite candies was the Queen Anne Cordial Cherries. Which inspired Chocolate Cherry cookies. This recipe is in memory of my papa Tom Evans.

My New Year's Resolution is to grow up to be a good person. Grade 6

Less screen time.
Morgan, age 12

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO GET AN XBOX. GRADE 6

To make the honor roll. Gretta, age 15

To become a cheerleader.
Evelle, age 7

To be the fastest runner ever.
Lydia, age 8

To improve in playing football.
Harry, age 10

I will not eat too much candy! Girl, age 9

To go on a vacation.
McKenzie, age 5

My New Year's Resolution is to chase my dreams! Grade 6

I want to practice kicking the soccer ball. Boy, age 6

Follow Stray Kids band even more. Jorie, age 12

To get really good at soccer and never give up. Audrey, age 8

I want to be better at everything.
Boy, age 8

My New Year's Resolution is to not get in trouble, to get good grades, not talk back to my teachers, and make good choices and have good grades. I love school. It's the best! Grade 6

My New Year's Resolution is to think before I react in situations.
Grade 6

I WANT TO DO MORE FLIPS. GIRL, AGE 9

I want to stop fighting with my little sister.
Boy, age 9

I want to watch the Macy's Day Parade.
Boy, age 6

I will practice more math and get an A+. Boy, age 9

I will read more at home and at school. Girl, age 10

Try not to worry so much. Maddux, age 12

My New Year's Resolution is to be good and stay out of trouble, and to treat my teacher with respect. Grade 6

I want to watch America's Got Talent. Boy, age 10

I want to play Sonic on my Nintendo Switch. Boy, age 7

I WILL HAVE MORE COURAGE. GIRL, AGE 9

My New Year's Resolution is to be a better person and student. Grade 5.

I want to play more basketball with my dad. Boy, age 6

I want to help my mom clear house. Girl, age 6

I want to make more friends.
Girl, age 9

I will not do things that will get me grounded. Girl, age 9 1/2

My New Year's Resolution is to graduate. Grade 6



EMBARK ON A LEARNING ODYSSEY

There are some fantastic apps out there that make learning a blast, and the best part is—they won't cost you a penny! Let's dive into the world of knowledge and explore the top apps that will spark your curiosity and creativity.

KHAN ACADEMY KIDS AND KHAN ACADEMY

First up, we have Khan Academy Kids and its big sibling, Khan Academy. Khan Academy Kids is like a magical playground for ages 2-8. Khan Academy, for ages 6 and up, is an online treasure trove of knowledge. It's all about making learning interesting and fun!

SCRATCH JR. BY SCRATCH FOUNDATION

This is your ticket to the world of coding and creativity. Designed for ages 5-7, lets you create your own interactive stories and games. It's like painting with code!

KING OF MATH JR LITE & KING OF MATH JR. 2 BY ODDROBO SOFTWARE AB

Aimed at ages 6 and up, these apps transform math into a fun and exciting journey. Solve problems, count animals, and conquer memory matching games in a vibrant and engaging environment.

DUOLINGO

Duolingo is your passport to exploring over 40 languages, including cool ones like Klingon and Valyrian! Happy learning!

BEYOND THE STARS: THE MARVELS AND MYSTERIES OF BLACK HOLES!

Calling all future space explorers! Imagine you have a magical vacuum cleaner in space that's so powerful, it sucks up everything around it – even light! That's kind of what a black hole is, and trust me, they're the coolest things in the universe.

Okay, so picture this: a black hole is like a super-duper strong cosmic ninja that pulls in everything nearby with its invisible force. It's like the ultimate space superhero with a superpower called gravity.

Now, what makes black holes even more mind-blowing is their secret identity – they used to be giant stars that partied hard in space. When these stars run out of "star fuel," they collapse under their own weight, and bam!

A black hole is born.

But wait, it gets even cooler! Black holes have an invisible boundary called the "event horizon." If anything, and I mean anything, crosses this boundary, it gets pulled into the black hole – like being pulled into a super cosmic swirl.

And guess what? Time itself gets a little funky near a black hole. It's like a time-traveling roller-coaster where time slows down the closer you get. So, if you had a twin, and one of you went on a black hole adventure while the other stayed on Earth, when you came back, you'd find out your twin has aged more than you. How wild is that?

In short, black holes are the rock-stars of space, with their gravity powers, event horizons, and time-bending shenanigans.

Decking the Halls and Hearts: A Festive Journey with Sierra Girls

It was incredible being able to take a sketch on paper and bring it to real life! It took us a lot of time and several tries to figure out how we wanted to make the vision and bring it to life. We had a lot of help from our SOTC staff to help us figure out some more ideas but overall I enjoyed being able to work with this group of girls to get the job done.

Everyone had their own task but we would all come together and help each other. It opened up new opportunities to be able to work on our cooperation skills and be able to work on our time management skills.

It was like a home away from home. We were able to decorate for Christmas because of our strong, beautiful group leader Mona and we are thankful for our day staff, Miss Linda, for finding us this opportunity and working late to be there with us.

We are grateful for Rebecca for bringing us joy and helping let us help her out this holiday, she did a lot for us and we are so thankful for her. She made it feel like a miracle, she made us feel welcomed by making stockings and gifts. She brought us hope.
- Sierra Girls



Who Was Mark Twain and Dr. Seuss?

Mark Twain is one of Missouri's famous authors! Did you know that Mark Twain was not a real person? It was actually a **pen name**. A pen name is a fake name that an author uses instead of their real name when publishing books. It's like a secret identity for writers! Mark Twain and Dr. Seuss are two famous authors who used pen names.

Mark Twain's real name was Samuel Clemens. Mark Twain's pen name was inspired by a term used in river boating, which meant that the water was safe for riverboats that day.

Dr. Seuss is another very famous writer who used a pen name. Dr. Seuss's real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel. Dr. Seuss adopted his pen name from his middle name, which he added "Dr." to because his father had always wanted him to pursue a career in medicine.

Pen names, or pseudonyms, are used for lots of reasons. A few reasons why writers might choose to publish under a different name such as privacy to keep their lives out of the limelight or protection in case it is a controversial topic.

One of the most important reasons is Freedom! It allows writers to pursue their passion or desire while being anonymous.

Would you like to put something in the paper but are nervous? Get creative and make up a pen name!

Tech for Tomorrow: Empowering Youth through Computer Assembly

Asa and Mary Wyatt donated a huge room full of computers, monitors, keyboards, graphics and internet cards, storage servers, and network switches. There were even keyboard cards that allows older computers to communicate with newer keyboards! These parts will be used in projects where kids are able to put computers together that can be used for school or simple gaming.

Our project will let kids from the community come and assemble these computers and take them home. This will not only give them something they can use as a resource, but also instilling the confidence they need to carry into their adult life. I personally love messing with electronics like these and am excited to help bring my hobby to more people who enjoy the same thing; to help give them the same joy that I experience when I finally get something working. If you're interested in this project, email info@inspirehopesemo.org.
Dean Hester



Famous Pen Names

P O H F H T K K N P T M X Z N L I O E Z
X V J K L I I F X C X A K W U H R M J G
J Y D Q N O A R L S Q Y I S M V J X K L
M G T R U I N G H L K A U E V F R L R E
K E S L I F J W P E R A U K Y D J B O W
N O T Z E D K X V W I N W Z W U R E W I
F R Z N S M F E D S U G L W Z V D Q L S
X G D M J I O H B P A E Q D E Y I O I C
L E H A Q X L N H X R L E B T I M F N A
E O X R Z L Q E Y N M O Y M Q J R Q G R
T R G K E X K J N S J U U E X H J B I R
L W I T A Z V A J C N G H A Z A K Z U O
Q E J W I D N O U E E I Q R V I H K W L
E L K A C R D E F F E D C F E D V H Q L
D L C I H S Y V M A E F O K H Q Q I M A
Q V W N B U G G T T U A V G E P X U V V
O R P P F E X Q K L O C M N O T P Z T D
S U U M T S W S G F K V F D I O P H I S
O C B N P S E F L F A L V U F Z D V S V
D P X X K P P H O A H H S M W O X G J B

SilenceDogood

LewisCarroll

GeorgeOrwell

MayaAngelou

JKRowling

LemonySnicket

DrSeuss

MarkTwain

CSLews

Silence Dogood = Benjamin Franklin
Maya Angelou = Marguerite Johnson
Dr. Seuss = Theodor Seuss Geisel

Lewis Carroll = Charles Dodgson
JK Rowling = Joanne Rowling
Mark Twain = Samuel Clemens

George Orwell = Eric Blair
Lemony Snicket = Daniel Handler
C.S. Lewis = Clive Lewis