

Loyola kicks off construction projects

Monday Informer

Mankato Loyola Catholic Schools hosts a ceremonial groundbreaking on Wednesday to mark the first phase of its more than \$3.5 million capital campaign. The campaign raised funds for several academic initiatives as well as a \$2 million facilities improvement project that includes: additional space for an expanded preschool program, a renovated chapel entrance, sprinkler system and a new art center and student commons area at the Good Counsel campus. The project also includes gymnasium and theater improvements at the Fitzgerald campus as well as flooring and ceiling replacements at both schools.

The groundbreaking ceremony begins at 6 p.m. at the Good Counsel campus and will include ice cream sundaes.

Group forms to combat prenatal alcohol exposure

The inaugural meeting of the Greater Mankato Area Chapter of Healthy Brains for Children will be held Tuesday.

The chapter was founded by Jody Allen Crowe, a longtime educator in public schools who now resides in Mankato and studies the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol. The mission of the chapter is to prevent prenatal exposure and increase awareness and prevention practices throughout the area.

The meeting will be held noon to 1 p.m. at the Blue Earth County Library.

Youth summer program hosting car wash fundraiser

The ENCORE youth summer program is hosting a car wash on Tuesday to raise money for Kids Against Hunger.

From 11 a. m.- 5 p. m., students will wash cars at Roosevelt Elementary in Mankato. All funds will be used to purchase food that students will then pack on Aug.

10 at Kids Against Hunger headquarters.

ENCORE is supported by the Mankato Department of Community Education and Recreation. Designed for students in grades 5-7, community service projects are a main focus of the program.

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INFORMER: MATAPS meeting is Tuesday at Best Western

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Online school hosting information session

Minnesota Connections Academy will host an information session on Thursday.

The public online school for grades K-12 hosts several such sessions throughout the year in the Mankato area. The next will be held 6:30-8 p.m. at Country Inn and Suites on Premier Drive in Mankato.

Those in attendance will have the opportunity to speak with teachers, learn about enrollment and review the school's individualized education approach and curriculum.

Area transportation under review

An open house to gather the public's thoughts on the future of the area's transportation is planned for 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Best Western in North Mankato.

The Mankato Area Transportation and Planning Study or MAT-APS open house is meant to review and allow opportunity to comment on recommendations for roads, transit and bicycling.

The MATAPS partnership is made up of the Minnesota Department of Transportation District 7, Region Nine Development Commission, the cities of Mankato, North Mankato, Minnesota State University and Blue Earth, Nicollet and Le Sueur counties.

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