



MURRAY
STATE UNIVERSITY

RSEC gets new name, now CFSB Center

Murray State University's Regional Special Events Center (RSEC) is now known as the CFSB Center thanks to the largest gift in Murray State athletics history. CFSB (Community Financial Services Bank) donated \$3.3 million to MSU's athletic program securing naming rights of the facility. "This is an historic day for Racer athletics," said Allen Ward, director of athletics. "The commitment that CFSB has made will have a dramatic impact on our program, especially men's and women's basketball."



CMT and Miranda Lambert on campus for concert and CMT "Top 20 Countdown"

Murray and Murray State University took center stage with Miranda Lambert on "CMT's Top 20 Countdown" in October. A production crew from CMT was in Murray covering interesting places around town and on campus. The episode featured MSU and Lambert's performance in the CFSB Center on Friday, Oct. 8.



School of agriculture receives \$1M gift

The MSU school of agriculture recently received one of the largest gifts in its history. Cindy Hutson, a 1990 graduate of Murray State University, generously donated a 160-acre farm to MSU for use as a research and laboratory facility for students and faculty. Hutson's gift was made in memory of her late husband, Dan C. Hutson II. "This is another great day for MSU agriculture. In fact, it is the beginning of a new era," said Dr. Tony Brannon, dean of the school of agriculture. "The acquisition of a new university farm laboratory has been our top priority since 2005."

Murray professor lends expertise to the creation of Iraqi university

One of Murray State University's own is seeing the groundbreaking work being done to construct a new university in the Kurdish region of Iraq. Dr. Michael Basile, professor in the college of education and former director of MSU's Institute for International Studies, is helping to develop civil institutions within the region. "For about 15 years I have been working with a colleague, Salah Aziz, an Iraqi Kurd, who was a member of the Florida State-Florida A&M universities college of engineering faculty to assist Kurdish people," Basile said.



Kentucky Afield features MSU students

Murray State University students are lending a hand to the Kentucky Division of Fisheries in restoring a once common fish in the Purchase region, the alligator gar. They are assisting in a two-year program to restore the species to its native west Kentucky. In the current phase of the study, the gar will have a transmitter implanted in order to track their movement and feeding preferences. Popular television show *Kentucky Afield* covered both the plight of the alligator gar and the role of MSU students in the effort.

College of Education receives largest gift in its history

A \$1.3 million gift from the estate of Selman and Katherine Franzman in honor of their daughter, Barbara Sue Franzman Beasley, will create two endowments that benefit students entering Murray State University's college of education in the fall of 2011. The gift is the largest received to date by Murray State's college of education.

Murray's Dr. Seid Hassan international expert on Ethiopian economics

When the Ethiopian government unexpectedly devalued its currency by 20 percent this fall, news agencies and businesses around the world looked to an expert in the field to explain the situation. Many sought Dr. Seid Hassan, professor of economics at Murray State University. Hassan, a member of the college of business faculty since 1992, teaches such content areas as global issues of economics, international trade, economic development and monetary economics. A native Ethiopian, he had stayed current with the policies and events of his country and had produced several recent articles about the problems the government had encountered.

MSU's engineering physics program receives reaccreditation from national accreditation board

Dr. Stephen Cobb, dean of the college of science, engineering and technology at Murray State University has received notification from ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) that the engineering physics program received full and complete reaccreditation following the evaluation visit last fall. The engineering physics program at MSU is one of fewer than 20 accredited programs in the U.S. In addition, Cobb said, "It is the only free-standing accredited engineering program at a regional comprehensive university in Kentucky."

Microsoft computer engineer speaks to the Women in STEM and university students

Jennifer Marsman from Microsoft spoke at Murray State University to the Women in STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math) on Oct. 21, in the Freed Curd Auditorium in the Collins Center for Industry and Technology. Her lecture subject was "Career Journey: How a Geekette Found Happiness at Microsoft." MSU students, faculty and staff, as well as community members in the area attended. Marsman is a developer evangelist in Microsoft's developer and platform evangelism group. She is educated on all the new tools and technologies from Microsoft, which enables her to go out to developers and interested persons to "spread the news" of the new technologies, explain their usage and serve as a role model for women.

Students volunteer at World Equestrian Games

Twenty-one students traveled to Lexington to represent Murray State University at the FEI World Equestrian Games. Sue Robinson, equestrian team coach and equine lecturer, arranged the opportunity for the students. They volunteered for six days in the Equine Village, working with some of the most famous horses and riders in the industry. Students were credentialed and worked as barn stewards performing tasks such as assisting in horse transfers, crowd control, checking credentials at barn entrances and more.

MSU flash mob YouTube video viewed over 20,000 times

Students, faculty, staff and even President Dunn joined in a spontaneous "flash mob" dance on campus this month. As the music played and the cameras rolled, seemingly unaware bystanders began to join in the dance, each somehow familiar with all the dance moves. As the group grew, delighted bystanders clapped and sang along. A video of the performance has been viewed more than 20,000 times and continues to be a popular online destination.

Students looking for African-American burial plots in Trigg County

Students from Murray State University headed to Trigg County to help locate unmarked African-American burial plots. They were assisting the Cadiz Renaissance on Main program as it works on upgrading a city-owned cemetery. One of the goals of the program is to put up a monument to the number of African-Americans buried there without markers. Dr. Anthony Ortmann, Murray State professor, said they used radar equipment to determine where the unmarked graves are located.

MSU board of regents approves the establishment of doctor of nursing practice degree program

Murray State University's board of regents voted to approve a proposal that would create a doctor of nursing practice (DNP) in the school of nursing. The DNP program is designed to move BSN-prepared registered nurses into advanced practice, benefiting health care not only in Kentucky but also in the surrounding region and the nation. Murray State's school of nursing, which was established July 1 of this year as a stand-alone academic entity, offers a number of nursing programs at both the baccalaureate and master levels. This newest program will enhance the visibility of nursing to potential students, as well as assist in securing grants and contracts and attracting highly qualified faculty to the university.

