Two women compete for auditor’s post, other election results mixed

With primary victories by Susan Montee and Sandra Thomas, the auditor’s office will likely continue to be held by a woman for another four years. Montee, a Democrat, and Thomas, a Republican, overcame their male competitors in the Aug. 8 primary. Voters will decide which one gets the post in November.

The office has been held by a woman for more than two decades, since 1984 when Margaret Kelly was first appointed to the position and became the first woman to hold statewide office in Missouri. Kelly went on to win elections three times and held the post until 1998, when she chose not to run for re-election and was succeeded by current auditor, Claire McCaskill. McCaskill is giving up the seat to run for U.S. Senate.

Also in the Aug. 8 primary, Kansas City-area voters chose Jolie Justus as the Democratic candidate for state Senate in the 10th district. She will face Republican Jerry Mounts in November to determine who succeeds Democrat Charles Wheeler. A victory by Justus in November could increase the total number of women in the state Senate to seven, tying the all-time high.

Currently, six of 34 Missouri Senators are women. Three are facing re-election this

(Two women compete for auditor's post, other election results mixed Continued on page 3)

Tenth annual Academy as exciting as the first!

This year’s 21st Century Leadership Academy Fellows spent an unforgettable week with women leaders from both the public and private sectors and discussed everything from architecture and international relations to education and child birth policy.

Thirty-five Missouri college students gathered for the annual program in May at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. This was the tenth time the Academy has convened since the Institute’s founding in 1996.

UM-System Curator and Former State Rep. Marion Cairns and current State Rep. Rachel Storch started the week off Sunday evening with a discussion of the history of women in Missouri politics and where we’re headed. Later that evening, faculty-in-residence, State Sen. Rita Days, led a fun-filled game of the Institute’s original “Women’s Political Jeopardy” to get everyone relaxed and talking before starting a hectic week.

On Monday, the students lunched with women leaders of the legal community at the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and later, divided into groups according to their interests and met with women business leaders. One group went to Children’s Hospital and discussed healthcare issues, while other groups went to

(Continued on page 7)
Missouri Legislators Brush Up on Foreign Policy

The Center for Women Policy Studies recently announced that State Rep. Connie “LaJoyce” Johnson (D--St. Louis City) has been selected to participate in the 2006 Foreign Policy Institute. Now in its 6th year, the Institute brings state legislators to Washington, DC, for a week-long educational experience that includes meetings with Members of Congress and high-ranking officials in the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). State Rep. Juanita Head Walton (D-St. Louis County) is a graduate of the 2005 Institute.

Means To Lead Mound City Bar

Pamela Means has been elected president of the Mound City Bar Association west of the Mississippi River.

Inside the Institute...

It’s bon voyage to St. Louis Advisory Board Member Sheilah Clarke-Ekong. Affectionately known as Dr. E on campus, Sheilah is heading to Europe and Africa for a yearlong sabbatical.

Congratulations are in order for St. Louis Advisory Board member Julia Muller, who was elected president of the St. Louis Community College Foundation and Kansas City Advisory Board member Amy Blunt, who just started a new job in government relations for the law firm of Lathrop & Gage. She will divide her time between the firm’s Kansas City office and Washington, D.C.

The Institute wishes a fond farewell to longtime Kansas City Advisory Board member Meg Harding, who is leaving the board. Harding, a former state representative, has been on the Kansas City board since its inception in 1999.

“Meg has always been enthusiastic about her own public service and encouraging other women to follow in her footsteps,” said Institute Director Vivian Eveloff.

In July, Eveloff and Linda McDaniel, representing the League of Women Voters, presented a program on the history and future of women in politics titled, "We’ve Got the Vote: Look What We’ve Done With It!"

Eveloff’s portion of the presentation dealt with University City’s long history of leadership in electing women who lived there. The Institute’s namesake, Sue Shear, represented the University City area.

ABOUT “It Takes a Candidate”

Excerpt from Amazon.com

Based on data from the Citizen Political Ambition Study, a national survey of 3,800 “potential candidates” conducted by the authors, it relates these findings: --Women, even at the highest levels of professional accomplishment, are significantly less likely than men to demonstrate ambition to run for elective office. --Women are less likely than men to be recruited to run for office. --Women are less likely than men to consider themselves “qualified” to run for office. --Women are less likely than men to express a willingness to run for a future office. According to the authors, this gender gap in political ambition persists across generations, despite society’s changing attitudes towards female candidates.

Correction: In a photo caption in the Spring issue of Woman Watch, we incorrectly identified Joan Esserman as a newly elected member of the Kirkwood City Council. She was elected to the Webster Groves City Council. We apologize for the error.
Pipeline grads celebrate county-level victories

In addition to nine incumbent state legislators, Pipeline series participants figured in two victories in the Aug. 8 primary in county races. Theresa Garza traveled from Kansas City to attend the Pipeline to Local Office program in January, 2005 in St. Louis. Her trip was worth it; She won her primary for an open seat in the Jackson County Legislature in the 1st District against two male opponents with 43 percent of the vote. Her closest challenger garnered less than 35 percent. With no opposition in the general election in November, Garza is assured a seat at the legislative table.

In Cole County, which includes Jefferson City, Gaylin Rich Carver upset incumbent Bill Tackett in the Democratic primary for Cole County Prosecuting Attorney 60 percent to 40 percent. Carver’s mother, Pam Schantz Rich, and aunt, Mary Schantz, attended the Pipeline to Local Office program this past January. Carver will face Republican Mark Richardson in the General Election in November.

Eveloff encourages women lawyers at local conference

The Sue Shear Institute joined several hundred women lawyers in downtown St. Louis June 21-23 for the Women Lawyers’ Association of Greater St. Louis’ Midwest Regional Conference “Gateway to the Future.”

The Institute co-sponsored two panel discussions: “Women Lawyers in Public Office” and “How to Become a Judge.”

Institute Director Vivian Eveloff moderated the first panel, which included U. S. District Attorney and former Missouri House Speaker Catherine Hanaway and State Representatives Margaret Donnelly and Connie Johnson. Eveloff also participated in the latter discussion, sharing the dais with Amy Kinker, a Lincoln County Circuit Judge; Carol Jackson, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri; and Maggie Robb, a judge on the Indiana Court of Appeals. St. Louis County Associate Circuit Judge Brenda Stith Loftin moderated.

During the conference, women lawyers from throughout the Midwest shared their inspirational stories and encouraged other women to follow in their footsteps.
APPOINTMENTS
In each newsletter, we will list women who have been recently appointed to public policy positions. Please let us know of any other women who have joined the public policy process since April 2006.

Serving on a public board or commission is an excellent way to put your talents to use in public service without running for office.

If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, contact the Institute at (314) 516-4727 in St. Louis or (816) 235-1409 in Kansas City and visit our website at www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/ to complete a “Public Service Personal Profile” on-line.

For a list of boards and commissions in Missouri, visit the Governor’s website at www.gov.mo.gov/boards/boards.htm.

St. Louis City

Kathy Brady
Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority

Leslie Christian-Wilson
East-Loopy/Parkview Gardens Special Business District

Patricia Ann Clay
Affordable Housing Commission

Venora Curry
Board of Equalization

Alberta Dillard
Metro Park & Recreation District

Stacy Edwards
Zoo Subdistrict

Charlotte Flowers
Board of Equalization, St. Louis Public Library-Board of Directors

Frankie Freeman
Metro Zoo & Museum District Board

Laurna Godwin
Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority

Cathy Heimberger
St. Louis Public Library Board of Directors

Sheila Hudson
Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority

Johnny Mae Jones
Affordable Housing Commission

Loretta Lloyd
East Loop/Parkview Gardens Special Business District

Sandria Mack
Demolition Contractors Certification Board

Kerry Meyer
 Cherokee Lemp Special Business District

Liz Neuf
Cathedral Square Special Business District

LaDonna Parker
Affordable Housing Commission

Linda Primer
St. Louis Regional Convention & Sports Complex Authority

May Brown Reay
Forest Park Advisory Board

Mary Sheridan
Board of Equalization

Susan Stauder
Planning Commission, Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority

Alma Wesley
Civil Rights Enforcement Commission

Gloria Bewen Wessels
History Museum Subdistrict

Dorothy White-Coleman
Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority

Sunday Elizabeth Whiteside
Tax Increment Financing Commission

Susan Zorn
Lakeside Center Advisory Board

St. Louis County

Gretchen Crank
Historic Building Commission

Elizabeth Hunter
Lakeside Center Advisory Board

Deborah Luecrath
Health Advisory Board

Lynn McClanahan
Emergency Planning Commission

Kendra Miller
Lakeside Center Advisory Board

Kansas City

Elizabeth Amirahmadi
Municipal Arts Commission

Ana Ruth Avila
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Cheryl Bisbee
Planned Industrial Expansion Authority

Vo-Laria Brooks
University of Missouri Extension Council

Linda Dost
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Tsveta Genova
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Adry Fisher Lambert
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Babette Macy
City Plan Commission

Maila Nareed
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Kyoko Peters

Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Rosetta Robins
Human Rights Commission

Jarene Stanford
Truman Medical Center Board of Directors

Sachie Stroder
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Lenora Ellen Wuattoux
Ethnic Enrichment Commission

State of Missouri

Dr. Lynthia B. Andrews
State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services

Ann R. Bannes
State Board of Senior Services

Harriet Beard
Well Installation Board

Lisa G. Britt
Organ Donation Advisory Committee

Roberta (Robbie) Brouk
Advisory Comm. for Clinical Perfusionists

Wendy Buehler
Missouri Mental Health Task Force

Andrea Buening
Missouri Head Injury Advisory Council

Leila L. Cohoon
Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners

Betty Council
Missouri Head Injury Advisory Council

Judith K. Doss
Regional Convention & Sports Complex Authority

Jane Drummond
General Counsel to the Governor

Kathlyn Fares
Math and Science Alliance

Jan Finn
Organ Donation Advisory Committee

Mary Lou Hartzler
Advisory Comm. for Clinical Perfusionists

Debra Hollingsworth
Math and Science Alliance

Sherry S. Jones
Agricultural & Small Business Dev. Authority

Nanci M. King
Missouri Women’s Council

Robin Krause
Math and Science Alliance

Mary Beth Luna
Math and Science Alliance

Carissa M. Mattern
State Interagency Coordinating Council

Vicky May
Math and Science Alliance

(Continued on page 5)
Academy Alumni News

It is always exciting to receive “progress reports” from Leadership Academy alums, and we are proud to share their accomplishments with you! (Note: The number in parenthesis represents year of participation in the Leadership Academy.)

♦ Mandy (Allen) Miller  
Central Missouri State University ('00)  
Mandy graduated from CMSU in 2001 with a BA in Political Science and earned a law degree from the University of Missouri School of Law in 2005. She is a practicing attorney with the law firm of Smith Lewis, LLP in Columbia, Missouri. Mandy got married in July 2003.

♦ LeAnn Beaty  
Missouri State University ('02)  
Having completed her coursework and comps, LeAnn is back in Springfield, Mo. to work on her dissertation. She is also teaching two classes of American Government at Ozarks Technical College.

♦ Stephanie Bell  
University of Missouri—St. Louis ('03)  
Stephanie received the St. Louis Post-Dispatch’s endorsement in her race for the Missouri Legislature, but came up short in the Republican Primary. In spite of a disappointing end, Stephanie doesn’t regret the campaign. “Running for office was an excellent educational experience,” she said. “Though I did not win (this time!), I am walking away with knowledge I could not have gotten any other way.”

♦ Pearlina Boyd  
Missouri State University ('00)  
Pearlina has started her own consulting company, Accession Consulting, LLC, providing services in the areas of government relations, political elections, public policy, and nonprofit management/strategic planning. In addition, she recently returned from Tokyo, Japan, where she visited with a focus on international business and foreign policy.

♦ Amber Clifford  
Central Missouri State University ('00)  
Amber is working on her PhD in American Studies at University of Kansas. She is currently ABD, and plans to graduate in May 2007. Her dissertation is an examination of sexuality and space in the Kansas City jazz scene.

♦ Rita Crowley  
University of Missouri—Columbia ('05)  
Rita is a proud BSW student at Mizzou where she is finishing her degree and making plans to attend graduate school.

2006 Leadership Academy Interns Mayra Flesner (UM-St. Louis, formerly CMSU) and Dianna Meyers (UMR) hang the Academy banner in preparation for the arrival of the 2006 Shear Fellows.

(Academic Affairs Council of St. Louis)
Jennifer Drake  
*Truman State University ('05)*

Jennifer spent the summer in Washington, DC, as a member of the minority health policy staff of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee. She is now back in St. Louis, doing fundraising for Planned Parenthood and volunteering on local campaigns.

Christina Eston  
*Lincoln University ('03)*

Christina graduated from Lincoln University in May with a degree in criminal justice, and started a job with the St. Louis Public Defenders Office in June.

Mayra Flesner  
*Central MO State Univ. ('04)*

Mayra took a break from her internship at the Sue Shear Institute when she was selected for a highly competitive summer internship with the Clerk of the U.S. District Court-Eastern District of Missouri. After a very successful summer, Mayra was asked to return to the Court in the fall, and plans to apply for a job there after she graduates in May 2007. She also plans to take the LSAT and apply for law school.

Anna Gourdin  
*Southeast Missouri State Univ. ('05)*

Anna is the Finance Director for Susan Montee, who secured the Democratic nomination for Auditor in the August Primary.

LaDonna Graham  
*Lincoln University ('00)*

LaDonna is living in Wilmington, DE, where she has put her science and policy backgrounds to use as the founder of “CounterAct Drugs,” which helps schools, small companies and corporations deal with substance abuse issues. She is also active in the Women Opportunities League which advocates for policy issues impacting single mothers, such as an increase in the minimum wage.

Rose Noll-Hilkemeyer  
*Univ. of Missouri—Rolla ('02)*

Rose, who serves on the Village Board of Trustees in Freeburg, Mo., was recently appointed by the Missouri Municipal League to serve on the National League of Cities Community and Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Committee.

Patrice Hutton  
*University of Missouri—Columbia ('05)*

Patrice graduated from MU in May and was one of 12 summer interns accepted into the Coro Kansas City Summer Internship in Public Affairs. Patrice plans to spend three months in England before starting graduate school in January.

Lina Khan  
*Truman State University ('06)*

Lina has secured an internship with the Bureau of International Labor Affairs in Washington, D.C. for the fall.

Brianna Lennon  
*Truman State University ('06)*

Brianna spent her summer working on a successful Missouri Senate campaign in St. Louis. She plans to reactivates the College Democrats at Truman and when she returns to Kirksville in the fall. After studying her way through the Leadership Academy, Brianna took the LSAT, and is applying to law school.

Angela Marino  
*Missouri State University ('02)*

Angela was among the 30 young professionals recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as a “future newsmaker in the St. Louis business community” in its annual “30 Under 30” list. Angela was recognized for her work as a major gifts director for the United Way of Greater St. Louis, overseeing more than $20 million in donations in 2005.

Mary Mann  
*University of Missouri—Columbia ('06)*

Mary spent the summer in Maine, leading daily mountain climbing trips at Camp Nashoba North. This fall she is finishing up her degree in political science and next spring she plans to study abroad in Equatorial Guinea. She is also applying for a research grant to study environmental politics.

AJ Mercer  
*University of Missouri—Rolla ('98)*

AJ switched from her from ceramic engineering masters program and started work on an engineering management degree this summer. She is also working as a certified Pharmacy Technician at the hospital in Rolla.

Paula Mihalck  
*University of Missouri—Rolla ('00)*

Paula is finishing up her Ph.D. in environmental engineering. In the meantime, she is officially employed by UMR and loaned out to the U.S. Army to work with MANSCEN-HSO (the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center’s Homeland Security Office).

Kelly Newsome McNichols  
*Univ. of Missouri—Kansas City ('04)*

Kelly graduated with a Master of Public Administration with an emphasis in Nonprofit Management in May and started a job with The Church Development Foundation as a capital campaign consultant for churches. She is also in the process of writing a book on successful campaigns in African American churches.

Amy Moore  
*Central Missouri State University ('06)*

Amy is finishing her political science degree from Iowa where she is working for the Iowa Democratic Party and hosting events for Presidential hopefuls. She plans to backpack in Europe next spring, and attend law school in 2007.

Liz Morrow  
*Lincoln University ('01)*

Liz is an admission counselor at Lincoln
architectural firm HOK, the World Affairs Council and UM-St. Louis’ College of Education.

Each year, the students research and debate a bill sponsored by a woman legislator during the most recent legislative session. On Tuesday, State Rep. Cynthia Davis joined the Fellows to discuss a bill she had sponsored on midwifery.

Wednesday the group boarded a bus bound for Jefferson City, always one of the week’s highlights. After debating Davis’ bill in on the House floor, the group had lunch at the Governor’s mansion and met State Treasurer Sarah Steelman. Later in the day, the students took part in “Girls and Gavels,” a discussion with Missouri Supreme Court Judges Laura Denvir Stith and Mary Rhodes Russell and Girl Scouts from the Heart of Missouri Council.

Former Massachusetts Lt. Gov. and author Evelyn Murphy spoke about the wage gap at Thursday’s Keynote Dinner, held at the University Club where Fellows were joined by a diverse crowd of community men and women.

“It was a reminder that we still have a long way to go to achieve equality,” said Miranda Dorn, a junior at UM-St. Louis studying secondary education and English. “It was also very empowering to see such a diverse group of women serving as role models for us. Even the informal interactions were powerful.”

Unviersity and travels and recruits around the world. She will be graduating with her MBA In Management in May 2007.

Jennifer Neer
Central Missouri State University (‘04)
Jennifer is attending American University where she is pursuing a Master of Public Policy. Last spring she completed a Women’s Leadership course through the Women and Politics Institute at AU.

Telesa Nolan
University of Missouri—St. Louis (‘03)
Telesa recently became chair of the National Black MBA Association HR Committee. She is preparing to take the GRE this fall, and plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Organizational/Industrial Psychology at UM - St. Louis in 2007.

Victoria Okoye
University of Missouri—Columbia (‘05)
Victoria graduated from Mizzou in May but was back in school this summer to study Igbo, a Nigerian language. This fall, Victoria plans to work on applications for grad school, study for the GRE and travel. In addition to going to Nigeria with her family, Victoria plans to visit her sister in Ireland.

Erika Pitts
Lincoln University (‘02)
Since attending the Academy in 2002, Erika earned an MBA from the University of Illinois, and is working as a consultant in the State Farm Corporate Office in Bloomington, IL. Though she is working in the private sector, Erika reports that she has not lost her passion for public service.

Jessica Post
Truman State University (‘01)
Jessica Post is the Field Director for the Minnesota Senate Democrat-Farmer-Labor Caucus. She works with the caucus’s targeted candidates across the state to maintain the Democratic Majority in the Minnesota Senate.

Amanda Russell
Central Missouri State University (‘06)
Amanda is the legislative assistant for Rep. Tim Flook (R-Liberty), assisting constituents, doing research, and publishing information. She is also working on Rep. Flook’s re-election campaign.

Michelle Wade
Missouri State University (‘03)
Michelle is continuing her doctoral studies in political science at SIU, and presented a paper at the Women’s Caucus Pre-Conference of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia at the end of August.

Angela Vo
University of Missouri—Columbia (‘04)
Angela Vo was recently recognized as one of the “REAL hot 100,” a list of young women from around the country who are fighting stereotypes, and making a difference in their communities. The REAL Hot 100 project was founded in 2005 to combat the lack of positive, strong images of women in the media. Angie and the other 99 REAL hot women were recognized at a REAL hot Party August 12 in New York City.
Yes, I want to support the Institute’s mission in helping women participate fully in public policy decision making arenas. Please place me on your mail list for notice of upcoming events and to receive the Woman Watch newsletter.

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