



News Release

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EXPERIENCE WESTERN! DISCOVER THE TREASURE

St. Joseph, Mo. —March 21, 2005—The campus of Missouri Western State College is the place to be on Saturday, April 9. The college is hosting “Experience Western! Discover the Treasure,” a day of free activities, displays and services for all ages. Hours for “Experience Western!” are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the main welcome center is in the new Fulkerson Center, which is adjacent to the Leah Spratt Building.

Western will showcase its campus, people and services, highlighting their quality programs, showcasing student excellence, and demonstrating the wide variety of services offered from degrees to classes to activities/events for the community.

“Western is an outstanding resource for St. Joseph and the surrounding region, and we invite the community to visit campus for lots of free fun and information,” said Kristy Hill, director of public relations and marketing and coordinator of the event. “We have activities that will appeal to people of all ages.”

Events include several areas: Treasure Island Children’s Activities, Information and Service Fair, entertainment, showcase of student work, information presentations and an antique, classic and hot rod show. A free hot dog lunch will be served to the first 1,000 visitors from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Treasure Island Children’s Area features more than 25 fun things to do, including crafts, face painting, bowling, prizes and giveaways. Smokey the Bear and Partymasters, a group of magicians, jugglers and balloon artists, will be walking around the area, too.

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Several departments have come up with some unusual activities that children will really enjoy, Kristy said. The computer science, mathematics and physics department will give rides on a hovercraft, the biology department's pre-professional students will patch up "injuries" in a MASH tent, and the nursing department will offer several interactive stations that promote good health.

At the Information and Service Fair in the Fulkerson Center, the community can visit over 60 displays providing information about Western's programs and events, and how individuals can interact with Western. Everyone will receive a "Discover the Treasure" card as they enter the Fulkerson Center. If they take the card to 20 displays and get the card punched, they can turn the card in for a gift bag and be eligible for the prizes such as dinner gift certificates, motel stays, a portable DVD player and more.

Services offered include several free health screenings by Western's nursing department, child seat safety check, voter registration and first aid for choking.

The Barnes and Noble Bookstore will also be open that day, and will hold a drawing for a Western sweatshirt. And, Alumni Services will host hospitality in the new Alumni Room of the Fulkerson Center for all alumni.

Western students are hosting a fundraiser for St. Jude's Children's Hospital at 4 p.m. April 9 in the Spratt Memorial Stadium. Planned events include a concert with several bands, a Harley Davidson bike show and several other activities.

Hill said "Experience Western! Discover the Treasure" is an appropriate name for the event, because it is a perfect opportunity for the community to visit the college. "I'm sure they'll discover some wonderful things about Western, and have a very enjoyable experience."

For more information, call 816-271-5651 or visit the website at www.mwsc.edu/experiencwestern.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

