

**Shannon Hook**

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**From:** Shannon Hook  
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**To:** Shannon Hook  
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July 2008

# Learning for Life and Exploring News

*Greater St. Louis Area Council*

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**Dear Shannon,**

We are looking forward to meeting with all of the teachers and administrators in the fall to renew the school-based programs. We have updated our program structure, but will be offering scholarships to most schools who have previously used our program. Your Area Executive will contact you in August or September.

We wish the Law Enforcement Explorers a fun and safe trip to the national conference this month. Executives will be contacting post advisors soon to renew the program and plan an open house for fall recruitment.

We hope everyone is having a great summer!

--Learning for Life

Greater St. Louis Area Council

## Exploring Post Updates

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Fall is fast approaching and students will soon be going

Area 93

South and West Counties and the surrounding areas

Area 94

St. Louis City

Area 25

Southeast Missouri and Southern Illinois

**Quick Links**

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back to school and looking for extracurricular activities. September and October are the best months to conduct an open house to recruit new youth into the fall. Those are also the months many posts are due to renew the program. Area executives will soon be contacting post advisors to help them with the renewal paperwork, but advisors who are already familiar with the process can visit the links to complete the paperwork in advance. Advisors can also begin thinking about their open house date and activities.

Tip: Let youth advisors take the lead on planning the open house to save time for you and gain leadership experience for them.

## LFL Introduces New Program Structure

[Learn more...](#)



Because of budget constraints, Learning for Life has updated its curriculum program and fee structure. We will now be offering consumable student workbooks that coincide with the teachers' guidebooks.

Although scholarships will be available for next year, we are attempting to sell the program to schools at a low cost to alleviate our budget and bring the program to as many schools as possible. We pride ourselves on delivering an outstanding program that will still be provided below cost.

## St. Michael's Day Dash

On February 7th, the Exploring community was shocked at the sudden loss of one of their dedicated Exploring Post Advisors, Tom Ballman. Ballman and four others, known as the "Kirkwood Five," were killed in a shooting rampage at Kirkwood City Hall.

We invite everyone to participate in the St. Michael's Day Dash, a 5K walk/run that will be held on September 28th in memory of the victims. Proceeds will benefit families of the "Kirkwood Five" as well as The Back Stoppers Inc., an organization that provides financial assistance to the families of fallen police officers and firefighters.

This event is NOT sponsored by Learning for Life. For more information on the event, please contact Andria Van Mierlo at 314-267-6118.



## Exploring Advisor of the Year



Congratulations to Neil Mercille for being Nationally recognized as Exploring Advisor of the

Year. Neil is the advisor to Post 9182 at the Bridgeton Police Department and continues to deliver a quality program to Explorers in Area 92 each year. He will be recognized at the National Law Enforcement Conference in Fort Collins, CO this month. We appreciate Neal's support and dedication to the program.

## Tank Icebreaker

Place soft balls of some sort throughout the playing area. Split into pairs. One person is sighted while the other is blindfolded. The sighted person, or "driver" places both hands on the shoulders of the blindfolded person, or "tank." The sighted person verbally directs the blind person to pick up soft objects that they must fire at the other tank drivers. If a tank is hit, the driver is okay. The ball must hit the driver. Once a driver is hit, he/she must place one hand on their head to indicate they have been hit. Once they have been hit twice, the team is out of the game.

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