

Jan. 8, 2020



Have a submission for the All-Star News? Send it to [Leslie Garrison](#) by 5 p.m. Sunday.

Coming Up At Avery

Jan. 14

PTO Meeting
7 p.m.
Avery Library

Jan 14 & 15

Avery Play Script Reading
6:45 p.m.
Steger Auditorium

Jan. 16

Cub Scout Meeting

Jan. 17

Mardi Gras Masquerade
Dress-Up Day for Trivia Night

Jan. 20

MLK Day, No School

Jan. 22

Trivia Night Registration Opens

Jan. 31

Women & Wine Fundraiser

Avery Trivia Night Kickoff



Make plans to attend the 2020 Trivia Night & Auction, sponsored by Jill Stokke of John Jackson Neighborhood Real Estate, on **Saturday, Feb. 22!** Registration opens **Wednesday, Jan. 22.** Teams of 8 players can choose a regular table for \$240 or a premium table for \$340. Registration will be open online -- look for the link in the All-Star News and on Facebook (follow the [Avery Trivia Night page](#)).

To kick off registration, Avery students are encouraged to dress up for the theme, Mardi Gras Masquerade, on **Friday, Jan. 17.**

Here's How You Can Help:

Donate Gift Cards. Did you get a gift card over the holidays that you could donate to the auction? Send them in an envelope with "Auction" on it to your child's teacher.

Become a Sponsor. The committee is currently looking for individuals and businesses (or families or classrooms!) to sponsor the event and provide donations. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please email Jessica Gatewood at jessicagatewood@gmail.com.

Donate an Auction Item. Donations can be traditional auction items but also services (landscaping or mowing, babysitting, cleaning, cooking, etc.) ... think outside the box! Contact Heidi Bolzenius at heidi_bolzenius@att.net if you have an idea for an auction item.

71st Annual Avery Play

Would YOU like to be in the cast of 71st Annual Avery Play? The Avery Play is an original play written, directed, produced, and performed by Avery Parents. The Play Committee will have read-throughs of the script (written by our very own Avery parent, Melody Frese) on **Tuesday, Jan. 14** and **Wednesday, Jan. 15** at 6:45 p.m. at Steger's theater.

Any interested parents, teachers, and/or community members can join us for one (or both) evenings. If acting isn't for you, stay tuned for opportunities to help with the set design, props, costumes, dances, sound, lighting, program creation, advertising, recording, ticket sales, and concessions (yep... lots of ways to get involved). You will have an absolute blast keeping this fun tradition alive and making new friends in our school community.

Contact Kersten Horn (horn.kersten@gmail.com) or Michele Willis (michelewillis@gmail.com) if you would like more information.

Jan. 16 Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Stand back, I'm going to try science!

Our January Pack Meeting is dedicated to STEM and the Cub Scouts' Nova program. We'll have multiple demonstrations covering a range of engineering disciplines and scientific principles. With the district Science Fair approaching, we'll also be discussing the rubric and helping Cubs brainstorm their ideas. Siblings are always welcome!

Questions? Contact Cubmaster Brandon Thurmon (bthurmon@gmail.com)

New Fundraiser Social Jan. 31

Avery Moms: Join us for Women & Wine, a night out with other moms to enjoy each other's company while raising money for Avery. The event is **Friday, Jan. 31** and is \$25 per person, which goes directly to PTO. See details and sign up on the [Avery Socials website](#). Then pay PTO via PayPal or drop a check in the PTO mailbox at the school. Details about the party will be emailed to you after you sign up.

Several Fundraiser Socials are planned throughout the year, like Progressive Dinner, that raise funds for our school while building community among families. If you have an idea for a Fundraiser Social or would like to be a host, please reach out to Kim Wise at kimberlykwise@gmail.com.

Green Tip of the Week

It's a new year! Let's finally say bye to bags - disposable plastic ones, that is. I know it's a hard habit to break because I am still working on it myself. But we all know the ban on bags is coming soon. California, Hawaii and New York have already enacted bans, and several other states are in the process of placing restrictions on them. It won't be long, so we might as well act now!

First, get enough reusable bags so that you can fit a whole load of groceries in them.

Second, place your reusable bags some place convenient for you, like by the door or in your

car. If you have enough reusable bags, you could always keep some in the car for those spur-of-the-moment shopping sprees.

Third, failing all else, as you approach the checkout counter, put those Midwestern manners away for a moment. When asked that fateful question answer: "Well, I'd rather have paper, if that's okay." Or if it's not a large load, "I'm okay to carry these."

Have an amazing 2020, everyone! If you have any green tips, please send them to Beth: connollybjm@gmail.com.

What's Going on in Gifted?

See the Gifted newsletter from Mr. Barbre [here](#).

Save the Date for STEAM Night

STEAM NIGHT WILL BE ROLLING IN **Tuesday, Jan. 28** from 6:15-7:45 p.m. at Avery.

Come join your child in participating in a night of STEAM activities. This fun filled evening will include hands-on learning activities that support teamwork and problem solving in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math!

If you would like to donate to help make this night great, please [use this link](#).

Donations can be placed in the boxes right inside of the office or your child can bring them to the modular classrooms. We would love to have these donations by January 24. If you have questions about donations please email Jenn Pupillo: pupillo.jennifer@wgmail.org

In addition to grade level activities, The Novel Neighbor will host a small STEAM book fair in the library!

Caps Collection

The Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts at Avery are leading an effort to collect caps and lids to go toward recycled plastic picnic tables for the front lawn of Avery as part of our Green Schools Quest. The PTO will cover the additional cost associated with making the tables as long as students can bring in the necessary number of caps. 550 pounds are required for each 8-foot

table, so let's get collecting!! To add to the excitement, the grade that collects the most will get to choose the color of the picnic tables! A collection box is waiting for your plastic at the entrance to Avery.

Please make sure caps and lids are clean and fall into these categories:

Acceptable Caps Examples - Recycle #2, 4 or 5

medicine bottle caps (info packet removed), drink bottle caps (soda, water, juice, sport drinks, milk jugs), flip-top caps (ketchup), detergent caps, spout caps (mustard), hair spray caps, spray paint caps, toothpaste caps, ointment tube caps, deodorant caps, baby food caps, apple sauce pouch caps, shampoo/conditioner caps

Acceptable Lids Examples - Recycle #2, 4 or 5

cottage cheese container lids, cool whip container lids, mayonnaise jar lids, coffee can lids, yogurt lids, cream cheese container lids, peanut butter jar lids, butter container lids, ice cream bucket lids under 8 inches, Pringles lids

Ras Jones Awards at MLK Celebration

Ras Jones was a civil rights activist and leader in Webster Groves who is honored through the MLK Community Celebration essay/arts program. Students this year are invited to submit projects based on the theme "Building Character" and that reflect on Dr. King's identification of "true education" as "intelligence plus character."

Awardees will be invited to read from essays or say a few words about their arts projects, at the 2020 Community Celebration, the evening of January 19; each awardee will also receive a gift towards purchasing a \$50 savings bond. All projects submitted will be displayed at the event, at Steger Sixth Grade Center/Henry Givens Jr. Elementary School.

See [the flyer](#) for more information.

New Student Grant Opportunity

All of the money raised from the Kona Ice days will be reserved for student grant ideas on how to serve the community outside of Avery. Students can come up with an idea of how to benefit others outside of Avery with their families, friends or teachers. Please turn in grant ideas to classroom teachers, who will then pass them on to PTO. Students will be asked to attend a PTO meeting to present their idea.

PTO Buyout

Several years ago, the PTO decided to no longer ask parents to sell anything to help with fundraising. Instead, we do a PTO "buyout," which is a one-time direct donation to the PTO. We get to keep 100% of the funds, and every single penny will go back into Avery this year, with the bulk of money going directly to the teachers to help reimburse them for personal money they have spent on their classrooms!

Our goal this year is \$12,000!! This is the highest goal we have set! Please remember that EVERY dollar counts! It's not how much you can give, just that you give! You can donate through [the Avery PTO PayPal buyout link](#).

Flyers

[Donate to WGHS Chelsea Detrick Experiential Learning Center](#)

[Avery Buzz Book](#)

[Webster Groves Parent Advisory Council \(PAC\) Meeting Information](#)