

## EDUCATION DIGEST

### Convicted superintendent makes a payment

**RIVERVIEW GARDENS** • Henry Williams, former superintendent at Riverview Gardens School District, has made his restitution payment, and early this month.

Williams was convicted of funneling district money into his personal life insurance accounts, and, as part of his sentence, ordered to pay back \$102,000. He missed his first payment of \$1,700 last month. He then gave the district \$800, saying through his lawyer that he didn't owe all that the court said he did. After the court filed a motion to revoke his probation and send him to prison, Williams paid the rest of the money.

**ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY** > **Discussion about the effect of violence on Israelis is canceled** • A pro-Israel group canceled an event scheduled for last week at St. Louis University after pro-Palestinian protesters showed up to a similar event at DePaul University in Chicago earlier in the week. Brett Cohen, campus coordinator for StandWithUs, said the purpose of the event was to show how Israelis living on the other side of the Gaza Strip have been affected by years of violence. Jacob Shrybman, from the Sderot Media Center, was to give a personal account of what it is like to live in one of these border towns and to talk about how Israelis have suffered from the conflict. The same event at DePaul on Monday drew a group of protesters. Cohen said that Shrybman had to be escorted out of the building by security because protesters were verbally harassing him.

**SIUC** > **School offers tuition break for low-income students** • Southern Illinois University Carbondale announced Monday that it will start giving a 20 percent tuition break to low-income students from Illinois' southernmost 34 counties. The program, dubbed the Southern Stars Tuition Rate, will begin this fall with new, first-time freshmen and will apply to all four years of undergraduate study. To qualify for the Southern Stars Tuition Rate, students have to graduate from qualified high schools that meet certain academic requirements. They must also be eligible for Pell grants. More than 90 current students enrolled at SIUC would qualify for the program, school administrators said.

**LADUE SCHOOLS** > **Ladue team qualifies for national eco challenge** • A team of five students at Ladue Horton Watkins High School are among the 48 school teams nationwide that have qualified to participate in the Final Challenge of the Lexus Eco Challenge, a national contest that encourages middle and high school students to help protect the environment. The team, the only finalist from Missouri, was awarded \$10,000 for its entry. The students, Rivka Feinberg, Natalie Krebs, Maxwell Montaldo, Mark Wilensky and Gina Wilmott, designed a rain garden to be built at the high school and will build the rain garden as part of their final challenge. The team's website is [www.teamleaf.org](http://www.teamleaf.org).

**LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY** > **Megan Meier's mother heads annual Cybersummit on April 1** • Tina Meier, the mother of 13-year-old Megan Meier, an O'Fallon, Mo., girl who committed suicide after being harassed on the Internet, will open the third annual Cybersummit for middle and high school students on April 1 at Lindenwood University. The event is hosted by CHARACTERplus, a project of the Cooperating School Districts and BJC Healthcare School Outreach. Space is still available for student teams. To register, contact Brenda Kirchoff at 314-692-9736 or e-mail [bkirchoff@csd.org](mailto:bkirchoff@csd.org).