

Missouri Record

Summer-Fall 2007



Building Trades: A New Program



MSD Students Celebrate Deaf Awareness Week by Honoring One of Their Own

by Kimberly Long

The Fulton Sun - Sunday, September 23, 2007

When Laura Redding-Searing graduated from the Missouri School for the Deaf more than a century ago no one could have ever imagined the path she would take, or the influence she would have on MSD students today.

A pre-Civil War graduate, Redding-Searing went on to become a well-known journalist - which was practically unheard for any woman at that time, let alone one that was deaf.

The young writer reportedly held interviews with both Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, using a slate tablet to communicate back and forth.

In honor of Deaf Awareness Week Sept. 24-27, members of the MSD National Honor Society are paying tribute to Redding-Searing's success by selling a compiled collection of her articles and poetry to give the public a glimpse of how influential the deaf can be.

"So many people view the deaf as being handicap, but they can do anything but hear," said Betty Sullivan, a high school teacher at MSD's Wheeler Hall. "Raising awareness is what Deaf Awareness Week is all about - to show that the deaf are no different than the hearing; they can do things too."

Deaf Awareness Week is recognized the last full week of September, in commemoration of the first World Congress of the Deaf held that week in 1951. The purpose of the seven-day homage is to draw attention to deaf people, their accomplishments and their issues.

Sullivan and MSD drama teacher Lucille Blackwell - who also is deaf - got permission from the Redding-Searing family to use the book project as a way to raise awareness about deafness, and teach their students the importance of interacting with the hearing community.

"Communication between the deaf and hearing community is very important, and the Fulton community does so much for our campus," Sullivan noted. "(Projects like this) teach the kids leadership skills and

why community service is an important part of their lives."

Proceeds from the book sales, Sullivan said, will be used to do fund activities like MSD's annual November Turkey Trot, where the students run laps for pledges and then donate the money to SERVE, Inc. to help needy families at Thanksgiving.

Members of MSD's National Honor Society also host annual blood drives, send care packages to soldiers and donate to the RIF program to further demonstrate how much the "deaf can and deaf do" make a difference, Sullivan said.

Currently Redding-Searing's book of poetry is only being sold to MSD faculty and students, but soon it will be available to the public at a cost of \$25 for local residents and \$35 for buyers who wish to have their copy mailed.

"We have a limited edition of 100 copies that we will be selling, so if anyone wants one they need to act fast," Sullivan said.

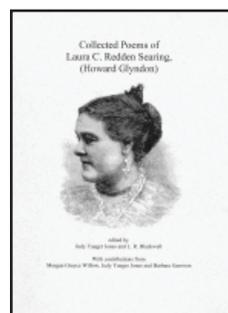
Other activities being held on the MSD campus (that) week include a workshop session and performance by professional deaf mime, J.J. Jones of Kansas City.

Wednesday at 1 p.m., Jones will conduct a workshop on campus for MSD's drama students, teaching them how mimes perform. Later that evening, he will hold a free performance for the public at 6:30 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium. Sullivan encourages the community to attend.

—Reprinted with permission from the Fulton Sun



Laura Catherine (Redden) Searing



To order a copy of the Redding-Searing book of poetry, contact Mrs. Betty Sullivan (the NHS Sponsor) at MSD's 505 E. 5th Street address, or call 573-592-2515 and leave a message for her.



Missouri Record

Published since 1879 by Missouri School for the Deaf

Volume 130, No.1— Summer/Fall 2007

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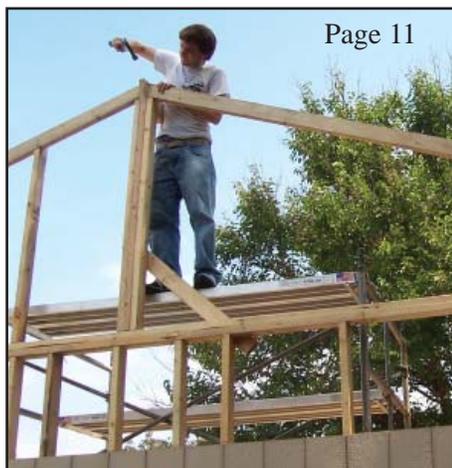
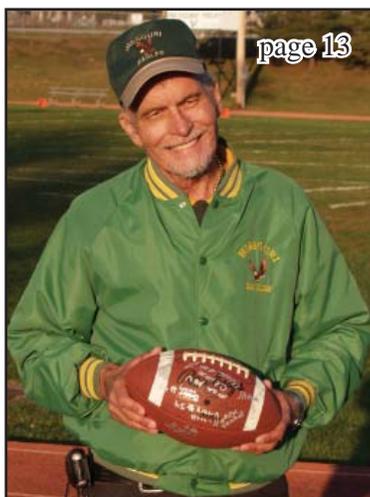
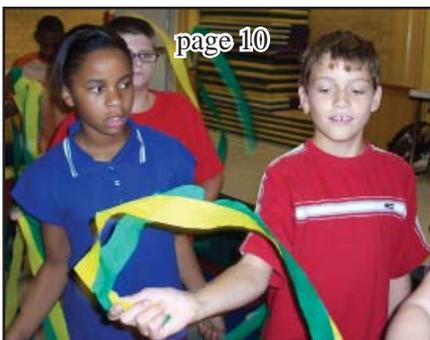
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The MISSOURI RECORD is published two times per year: Summer/Fall and Winter/Spring by the Missouri School for the Deaf, Fulton, Missouri.

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Cover design by Kevin Spencer and MSD's Digital Imaging Department. The cover picture shows the new MSD "boat house," constructed using the new Building Trades curriculum, to house our "Outdoor Education" equipment.

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Signs of the Time

by Barbara Garrison, Superintendent



Full Accreditation

This fall of 2007 when I think of “Signs of the Time”, there are several things that come to mind:

Our full accreditation by the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) and the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges (NCA); our increased enrollment; the impact of the mandate by the Governor to centralize state government services on MSD; the good and the bad of Internet access for students; the national initiative to standardize deaf education following the National Agenda (National Association of the Deaf) and the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) guidelines; Fall Homecoming; the renovation of the Harrison Gymnasium locker rooms and pool areas; the Department of Conservation/MSD Youth Deer Hunt; the plan for a Parent/Alumni Lounge at MSD; the repair of our track on the McClure athletic field has reached number one on the Capital Improvements list; the discussions about Summer Enrichment programs; the upcoming Deaf Educators Conference and Deaf Summit; and on and on ...

As you know, the Missouri Record is a continuing history of the Missouri School for the Deaf, so all the topics above are certainly relevant; however, today I want to focus on the impact of becoming fully certified by the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) and the North Central Association (NCA). It is important that you understand that MSD could also seek certification from other organizations like the Conference of Educational Administrators at Schools for the Deaf (CEASD). We limited our choices for certification to MSIP and NCA because:

1. It is our belief that certification by the same organizations that evaluate mainstreamed programs is the best choice for MSD;
2. The process of accrediting school districts (MSIP) is mandated by state law; and
3. The cost of seeking certification by other certifying organizations was cost prohibitive.

The Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) has the responsibility of reviewing and accrediting the 524 school districts in Missouri within a five-year review cycle.

School district reviews are conducted each year for approximately twenty percent (20%) of the 524 districts, and reports covering the areas of resource, process and performance are developed. These reports are reviewed by a Department School Improvement Committee and a summary of each report and the committee’s recommendations regarding accreditation for each district are presented to the State Board of Education for its approval. Each district also submits a School Improvement Plan which addresses the concerns identified in the review report and may request a re-review in order to improve its accreditation. This was MSD’s first MSIP review and it has verified that we are doing VERY well when compared with the other school districts in our state.

I am very appreciative of our students, parents, and instructional and residential staff who participated in this school evaluation. The MSIP report reflects the caliber of education that MSD provides for Missouri’s children who are deaf/hard of hearing. This certification is the first step in dispelling the following **MYTHS** about our school:

- That MSD is a special school that doesn’t require the same coursework/units for graduation as public school districts, private schools, charter schools and home-schooling venues for a high school diploma (in fact, we require more units because we include ASL and Deaf History/Culture);
- That MSD is an institution for those not succeeding in the public school system; and
- That the public school district should be the first choice and that MSD should be the “Last Choice” for educating these special children.

Mainstreamed education certainly works well in some areas of the state especially in a program with a critical mass of Deaf/HH students (enough to have a defined program with a full spectrum of services in place to address the needs of the “whole” child are the best opportunities for equal access to instructional, social and athletic participation). You should know who the deaf children are in your community so that you can ask them (and their parents) how school works for them. When you meet a child that is not succeeding, I challenge each of you to help the family contact our Outreach Services department to arrange for a visit to find out how and why MSD educates the “whole” deaf child.

OPENING OF SCHOOL WITH CJ

by Barbara Garrison, Superintendent

On August 17, 2007 CJ Jones met with employees of MSD at their Opening of School Staff Meeting. By sharing personal stories based on experiences, CJ not only provided insight into the culturally rich Deaf community, but provided the motivation needed to “kick off” the new school year by reminding us that being different does not mean being less worthwhile. While at MSD, CJ spent time with residential staff and instructional staff - in individual training workshops relevant to the responsibilities of each department.

CJ Jones, MSD Class of 1969, is an internationally known deaf entertainer who has been delighting audiences young and old with his unique style of visual imagery and storytelling for over 25 years. CJ is known primarily as CEO, producer, director, writer, actor, comedian, and motivational speaker. He has traveled with the National Theatre of the Deaf and toured with “Children of a Lesser God” on Broadway. He has also appeared on NBC’s “Frasier,” ABC Family’s “Lincoln Heights,” the PBS television shows “Sesame Street” and “Rainbow’s End,” and was the host of “Happy Hands Kids Klub.” His latest job was a “voice over” for a Deaf Indian (played by a hearing actor) in a movie called “PathFinder” from 20th Century Fox.

In addition, CJ can rightly add educator and advocate to his credits. He heads Hands Across Communications (www.handsacrosscommunications.com) where he provides the medium for international deaf artists to share their talents and receive recognition for their artistic work by producing events to showcase these talents. The goal is to make their dream come true through performances on stage.

CJ founded Sign World TV in 2001 to help broaden the opportunities for Deaf people in entertainment. He



CJ Jones during a training workshop.

completed two documentary film projects: “The Other Side - South Africa” and “The Other Side - Japan.” In addition, his most recent DVD, “What Are You...Deaf?”, is on sale at: www.cjoneslive.com.

When not pursuing these goals, he takes his one-man show (www.cjoneslive.com) on the road! For more than 30 years, CJ has shared his talents with Deaf and hearing schools, events, and universities across the country and around the world. Having appeared on Broadway stage, in television, video, and on the big screen, he has experienced what he calls the “double whammy” of being an actor who is both deaf and black. CJ vigorously spreads the message to students and adults alike, that being different does not mean being less worthwhile.

Blunt Appoints Gambaro to State Board of Education

Gov. Matt Blunt appointed former (D) State Representative Derio L. Gambaro to the State Board of Education.

Mr. Gambaro, 51 of St. Louis, is an engineer for BRI, Inc. He is a former state representative and chair of the St. Louis City Election Board. As a state rep, Mr. Gambaro served on the Education-Elementary and Secondary Committee. He holds a bachelor’s degree in plant engineering from St. Louis University.

“I am looking forward to this opportunity to help improve the educational opportunities available to all Missouri’s students. I want to thank Governor Blunt for his vote of confidence in me for this important position,” Derio Gambaro said.

Congratulations to the Class of 2007



Angelo Harrington was born in St. Louis, MO on Nov. 28, 1988. He is the son of Marsha Harrington and Reginal Tolbert. Prior to entering MSD he attended school at Gallaudet School in St. Louis. He entered MSD in August of 2002. While a student at MSD, Angelo was involved in Deaf Club, Jr. NAD, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Eagles sign group. He played basketball (1,2,3,4), football (1,2,3,4), and track (1,2,3). Angelo also served as VP of his Senior class, and graduated Salutatorian of his class. He plans to attend college to become an Artist and find employment in that field.



Jon LaRoue was born in St. Louis, MO on Nov. 5, 1987. He is the son of Karen LaRoue and Robert LaRoue. Prior to entering MSD, he attended Wright School in St. Louis. He entered MSD in 1994. While a student at MSD, Jon was a member of the Drama club, and he played basketball (1,2), football (1,2,3), and track (1,2). His future plans

include attending college at SWCID and NTID/RIT in the area of Computer Technology.



Brittany McNamer was born in Jefferson City, MO on Dec. 3, 1987. She is the daughter of Jim Barton and Shelley Bailey. She entered MSD in January of 1992. While a student at MSD, she was a member of National Honor Society (3,4), Volleyball (1), and she held the class offices of Freshman VP, and Junior secretary. Brittany graduated Valedictorian of her class. Her future plans include being a stay-at-home mom and traveling in the U.S.



Matthew Porter was born in Joplin, MO on Apr. 7, 1988. He is the son of Terry and Jane Porter. Prior to entering MSD, he attended school at Joplin. He entered MSD in 1997. While a student at MSD he was active in Jr. NAD, football (2,3,4), basketball (2,3,4), track (2,3,4). He also served as treasurer of his class (4). After graduation Matt plans to attend college at SWCID in Texas to study computers and cars.



Kira Roberts was born in Iowa City, Iowa on Dec. 13, 1987. She is the granddaughter of James and Vickie Carthey. Prior to entering MSD she attended school at ISD. She entered MSD in April of 1999. While a student at MSD she was involved in Jr. NAD (1,2,3,4 + office of secretary for one year), National Honor Society (4), volleyball (1,2,3,4), basketball (1,2,3,4), track (1,2,3,4), and cheerleading (1,2). Kira served as class secretary (1), and president (2,3,4). After graduation she plans to attend Gallaudet University to study Pre-Veterinary Science.



Terra Sutherlin was born in St. Louis, MO on July. 17, 1989. She is the daughter of Diane Sutherlin and Joseph Harlan. Prior to entering MSD she attended Gallaudet School in St. Louis. She entered MSD in 2003. While a student at MSD she was involved in Jr. NAD, volleyball (3), and she was secretary of her Senior class. Terra was the Lang Voc. Award recipient for 2007. She plans to

attend college in St. Louis to study daycare programs.



Nathaniel Wilkerson was born in St. Louis, MO on May 9, 1989. He is the son of Kenneth Wilkerson and Cathy Smith. Prior to enrollment at MSD he attended St. Louis Schools. He entered MSD in Dec. 2005. While a student at MSD he was involved in basketball (3,4) and track (3,4). After graduation Nathan plans to move to Texas to attend college at SWCID to play basketball.



Deidre Wiseman was born in Cape Girardeau, MO on July 10, 1987. She is the daughter of Velma Wiseman. Prior to enrollment at MSD she attended school at Cape Girardeau. She entered MSD in 1993. While a student at MSD she was involved in basketball (2,3,4), and volleyball (1,2,3,4). She served as president of her class (4) and as treasurer (3). After graduation she plans to attend college at SWCID in Texas.

Awards and Scholarships 2007

MSDAA & MSDPO Valedictorian Scholarship	<i>Brittany McNamer</i>
MSDAA & MSDPO Salutatorian Scholarship	<i>Angelo Harrington</i>
DAR Charity Stille Langstaff Good Citizen Award	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Fulton Breakfast Optimist Student of the Year	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Fulton Kiwanis Club Scholarship	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Dr. Henry Durst Cooperation Award	<i>Jon LaRoue Terra Sutherland</i>
Stephen W. Koziar Communication Award	<i>Kira Roberts Terra Sutherland</i>
Cleve and Fern Ready Distinguished Service Award	<i>Terra Sutherland</i>
Eldon Shipman Vocational Award	<i>Kira Roberts Angelo Harrington</i>
Melanie Behrens Memorial Award	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
MSD Teachers Association Scholarship	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Eager Eagle Awards	<i>Angelo Harrington Deidre Wiseman</i>
George Dewey Coats Vocational Excellence Award	<i>Terra Sutherland</i>
William H. Lange Vocational Award	<i>Terra Sutherland</i>
Robertson Memorial Photography Award	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Gallaudet University Midwest Regional Academic Bowl Certificate	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
3 Sports Award	<i>Angelo Harrington Matt Porter Kira Roberts</i>
Clarence Davis Award - Best Female Athlete Trophy	<i>Kira Roberts</i>
Donald Yates and Donald Brummit Award - Best Male Athlete Award	<i>Angelo Harrington</i>
Scholar Award	<i>Kira Roberts Angelo Harrington</i>
George Washington Carver Award	<i>Deidre Wiseman</i>

On Campus Staff News

Retirees 2007

Have you ever noticed that most of the time when folks come to work at MSD, they tend to stay-on for a while? Well, these ladies are no exception. Luckily, we have only 3 retiring this year - but between them they represent over 50 years of experience. As with most families, we are happy that they have reached the place where they can retire and we hope that they find LOTS of enjoyment in this next phase of their lives - but we are also very sad to see them leave. Best wishes to each one of you - from all of us!



Martha Eisenhouer
Elementary Teacher
12 Years Service



Evelyn Nelson
Food Service
19 Years Service



Sharon Quick
Business Office
19 Years Service

MSD Pool, Locker Rooms, Gymnasium Windows & Offices Renovated

by Tom Zengel, Business Manager

After 35 years of constant use, the MSD pool was showing definite signs of wear. The interior paint and granite encasing the 2,572 sq. ft. swimming area was deteriorating at an increasingly alarming rate. This caused the crystal clear water to appear murky and uninviting. Americans with Disabilities (ADA) regulations, non-existent when the pool was built, were being legally ignored. Heating of the water to comfortable levels was uneven, no longer automatic, and had to be adjusted daily by maintenance personnel. Filters for the water pumps and steam heating bundles were no longer available commercially and had to be specially ordered and made. The roof leaked, air handling equipment for the inside air and humidity was inefficient, chlorination equipment was outdated and rust was the prevailing color of the mechanical room. Despite all this, MSD maintenance personnel insured the water was healthy and comfortable for students, staff and visitors.

They tested water quality daily (or more often), made adjustments and repairs, and kept the pool operational and compliant to city, state and federal rules - but just having a pool was becoming increasingly difficult! It was costing \$35,000 a year just for the steam to heat the pool and quite a bit more for water, electricity, chemicals and repairs. What was needed was a project to bring pool appearance and operation into line with 2007 technology, ADA rules and efficiency.

In 2006 Governor Matt Blunt approved the Capital Improvement bill which made funding available to renovate the MSD pool. Also included, were renovations to locker rooms, gymnasium windows and offices, pool area re-roofing, better water drainage around the exterior of the pool/gym area and more efficient lighting and air handling. Whew! It was actually more than MSD could have hoped for and demonstrates the high regard that the state and legislature have for MSD and its students. Total funding was approximately \$1.2 million. In 2006 the state appointed an architect, Seth Langton from St. Louis, to devise specifications, drawings and improvements that could/should be made to the gymnasium/pool facilities. In Spring 2007 the bid was awarded to Wavco Construction of Jefferson City and construction commenced.

It was costing
\$35,000 a year
just for the
steam to heat
the pool...

The original deadline for completion of the project was set in mid-October. However, as is the case with many projects, as construction proceeded, the contractor and the architect found that changes to the original plans and specifications would be in the best interest of the school and the State of Missouri. In all, over 30 change orders were requested and approved to the project. Each one had the potential for extending the completion date by a few days.

It now appears certain that the mid-October completion date will most probably be extended to late November or early December 2007. Some parts of the project, such as the gymnasium and locker room improvements should be ready and usable prior to that. However, the pool itself will be a Christmas present from the state to MSD students and the community groups that appreciate its use. By 2008 MSD should be the owners of one of the finest pool facilities in the state. MSD owes a debt of gratitude to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education which submitted the project, the Governor and legislature for approving the funding and the Office of Administration, Division of Design and Construction for overseeing the project's construction and completion.

"Whee...last one in the pool is a rotten egg!"



Old locker room stripped and ready for renovation.



Incomplete renovation shows new walls, lockers, floor, lighting, and ventilation system.



Looking in from gymnasium entrance toward the shallow end of the pool you can see the new ramp to make it more accessible for handicapped students.



Looking into pool from deep end - shows new ceiling, windows, ventilation system and tile on the outside of the pool, on edge of walkway.



Alumni News

by Tom Basteau, Assistant Superintendent

There was a good crowd of MSD alumni at the fall Homecoming Saturday, October 27. Many reunited to meet their former classmates and friends. There was supposed to be a MSDAA meeting on Saturday morning, but attendance did not meet quorum and the meeting was changed to an informal meeting. Some items were discussed and addressed. The informal meeting concluded at noon. MSD girls volleyball teams (JV and V) lost their games and the football team won their game 76 to 52 against the Ohio School for the Deaf.

MSD Museum was not open due to limited staff to supervise visitors. We will plan to open it again at the winter Homecoming on Saturday, January 26 - when MSD plays the Oklahoma School for the Deaf.

Class of 1977 held its 30 year class reunion and all went to Mom's Restaurant for supper after the game. Class of 1987 - 20th year reunion was held in the Farquhar Library.

Cliffton Benitz- Class of 1966 and his family were all at the football game. Cliffton is on leave due to illness. The MSD football team brought the game ball with their signatures and score and presented it to him at the end of the game. It was very touching and his family really appreciated what Cliff's association with his colleagues and students meant.

MSDAA now has it's own webpage. Those with access can find information about your friends or classmates there. It will also include MSDAA meeting dates/minutes and other upcoming events. Feel free to send anything to the

editor of the webpage-www.msdaa.org

If you are interested in subscribing to the Missouri Record, contact Tom.Basteau@msd.dese.mo.gov Subscriptions are free.

Obituary

Samuel Wright Nichols

Samuel Wright Nichols passed away March 1, 2007. Samuel was born March 14, 1934. He graduated from the Missouri School for the Deaf in May, 1954. He is survived by his wife, Pauletta Hobbs and two sons, Roger Lane Nichols and Jeffery Wright Nichols of Lewistown, MO., and a brother, Dwain Nichols of Oklahoma City, OK. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Thank You

MSD is always happy to host events that bring our alumni and the Deaf community together. It is a part of our rich history together and one of the ways that we celebrate our precious culture. We are proud to acknowledge the receipt of a cashier's check from the participants of the reunion for MSD alumni from the 1955-65 classes. We have elected to deposit these funds into the MSD Museum account to be used to continuously improve and maintain the rich history that we share there. We want to thank the participants for this kind gift and please know that we will put it to good use in the museum.

Middle School/High School Happenings

Guest Artist JJ Jones Gives Drama Classes Some Pointers

by Lucille Blackwell, HS Teacher



JJ Jones

The Middle School and High School drama groups combined for an amazing Clown vs Mimes program. Students choose to be a clown or mime and learned some of the basic skills needed for pantomime. JJ Jones, a guest artist helped fine tune the program during a morning workshop. Students worked hard to develop their costumes and personalities. *Continued on page 12.*

WAY TO GO!!!!

by Barbara Jones, MS/HS Aide

These Middle School kids earned their way to a day off and a visit to Central Dairy in Jefferson City.



The trip was a reward for "Level 2 & 3" students. The 13 students worked hard to earn this trip by: completing their homework, being respectful, having a good attitude, etc.

Successfully solving a group activity.

They traveled to Riverside Park for team building games, snacks and lunch. Before returning to school they all enjoyed a huge ice cream treat at Central Dairy!

Elementary School News

by Dan Isaac, Teacher Aide

Stark School Accentuates the Positive!

On Friday, August 24th, Stark School gathered in the gymnasium for a party and skits. This party was in honor of the PBS expectations. When you think of PBS you may think of Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch. This is a different kind of PBS. PBS stands for Positive Behavior Support. There are six guidelines to this program:

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Kind

Be Safe

Be Cooperative

Be Peaceful



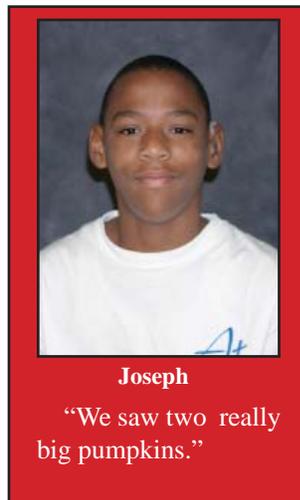
Joyla and Branden take part in the ribbon march.

The strategy is to accentuate the positive behaviors of our students.

The party was to promote these behaviors. Each class presented a skit to show each of the six guidelines and how to apply them. The students then had to guess which behavior matched the skit that was performed. It was a fantastic presentation, and was followed by a ribbon march and an ice cream social where everyone got a tasty ice cream sundae, with nothing spared on the toppings.

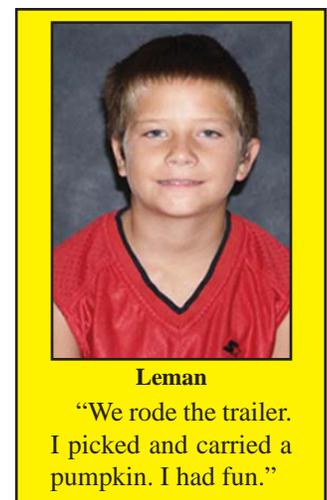
Bradford Farm Field Trip

On Friday September 7th, all of the students from Stark Elementary went on a field trip to Bradford Farm. Bradford Farm is an agricultural experiment station overseen by the University of Missouri. The students were enthralled in the activities as they looked at many different kinds of crops including gourds of every shape and size, corn of every color, soybeans, pumpkins and even peanuts. The pumpkin patch was a favorite activity for students and staff alike, as everyone was able to pick out a pumpkin for themselves. The day ended with all of the students and staff following a map and going through a corn maze. The students had a lot to say about their experience at Bradford Farm. Some of the students wrote about their experience:



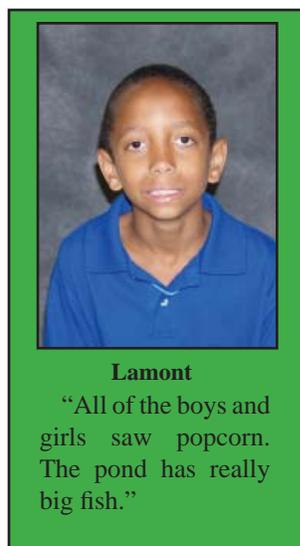
Joseph

"We saw two really big pumpkins."



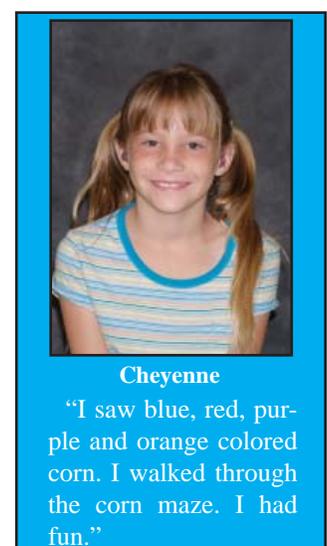
Leman

"We rode the trailer. I picked and carried a pumpkin. I had fun."



Lamont

"All of the boys and girls saw popcorn. The pond has really big fish."



Cheyenne

"I saw blue, red, purple and orange colored corn. I walked through the corn maze. I had fun."

Vocational News

Building Trades: A New Program

by Margilee LaBorde, Instructional Supervisor



Above: Zach nailing a stud as Brandyn and Steven hold it still.



Above: Mitchell holds a brace up as the other students do their work.



Above: Chris puts the gable end up.



Above: LaJuan and Chris sheathing the roof.

There is a new vocational curricular area for MSD that has grown out of woodworking and previous construction classes and opportunities. Building Trades is a seventeen component comprehensive building curriculum being taught by Mr. Eddie Ross. At this time his students are constructing a new storage shed for equipment purchased by Student Life department for activities including canoeing and archery. They were in need of a place to store the equipment, so the Building Trades class agreed to help. They are using wall framing, roof framing, finish carpentry, and painting units to learn through practical experiences. This particular Building Trades curriculum was chosen for its inclusion of activities, DVD demonstrations that can be viewed and reviewed, and tools and materials to be used in actual construction. Other units include hand tools, masonry, power tools, cabinet making, concrete, dry wall, HVAC, communication and estimation. Students who complete the entire program will have a solid foundation in many aspects of construction as a career. Alignment of all Building Trades objectives to the Missouri Standards will be a part of ongoing curriculum work this year. The pictures above show the progress being made in this project.

Sports News

Chetara Earns Gold at State and Places at the Pan American Deaf Games

by David Haus, Vocational Supervisor

Chetara had a very exciting spring and summer as she showed that she is one of the fastest high school female athletes in Missouri and the World. She won the state championship in the 100m dash and 200m dash for the second year in a row in Class 1. Her times at the state competition in 2007 in the 100m dash (12.70) and 200m dash (25.95) are awaiting ratification to become the Deaf World Junior Records.

With two gold medals already hanging from Chetara's neck, she was invited to participate in the Pan American Deaf Games held in Venezuela in August. Tammy Storm, a former residence advisor who worked with Chetara when she first arrived at MSD as a five year old, helped lead the fundraising effort for Chetara to go to the games. Chetara had to get her passport and immunizations very quickly so she could attend the Pan Am Games. She was nervous as she boarded the plane for her adventure and tears were shed as the plane lifted off. She eventually realized that it was safe to fly and even got enough courage to look out the window and enjoy the view. Esmeralda Sally accompanied Chetara to the games and helped her translate Spanish to English. She helped Chetara overcome her fear of flying. When Chetara stepped off the plane, she noticed many unusual smells that she was not familiar with from home.

At the games, she found she was one of only two high school athletes involved in the competition. The other high school athlete was from Michigan and she was running in the distance races. Chetara was there for the sprints. She did her best and earned a third place in the 200m dash. In the 100m dash, she earned a medal for 4th place (12:47). She met two very strong Cuban runners in the 100m dash that took first (11:33) and second (12:41). She also earned a third place in the long jump, an event that was added for her to participate in at the last minute.

Chetara met many very friendly people on her adventure. The local people traded with her for some nice items such as the shirt she wears in her picture and a hat with the Mexican flag. She noticed the local people were very poor compared to most Americans. They lived in houses made of mud and did not have many electronic



Chetara shows the medals she won at the Pan American Deaf Games.



Chetara brought back money from Venezuela as a special souvenir.

devices. She noticed most cars had manual transmissions. She enjoyed the people but missed American food. The food she ate almost always included rice and some chicken. The food did not have much fat in it and seemed like "diet food" to her.

This was Chetara's first international competition. The experience will prepare her as she continues to train for the 2008 high school track season, the Deaf World Championships in the summer of 2008 in Venezuela and the 2009 Deaflympics that will be in Taipei, Taiwan. Chetara is asking for donations to support her Deaflympics competition. Donations can be sent to the following address with a note saying they are for Chetara:

USA Deaf Track and Field (USADTF)
c/o Thomas Withrow
9706 DuBarry St.
Glenn Dale, MD 20769

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In the program, the clowns had several magic acts going terribly wrong. Their skits were developed from books about clowns and clown acts. The mimes each had a solo act and one grand finale where a couple arrives to a theater and can't get seats together. The result was hilarious. Also in appearance was a Charlie Chaplin emcee, who had her own story line during the show.

Homecoming Festivities Were Especially Meaningful This Year

by Becky Payne, Associate Editor

The 2007 Fall Homecoming festivities were special this year for several reasons. This year we played Ohio School for the Deaf for the first time. We heard that they had a good team, and that they were ready to take on the MSD Eagles - but their efforts were met head-on and after a hard-fought game, MSD came out on top. The score was 76-52 with many exciting moments, lots of touchdowns, and several interceptions that lead to touchdowns.

Before the game started, the Homecoming King and Queen were crowned. The candidates were Chris, Elizabeth, Cleve, Judy, and Jennifer. The winners were Cleve and Judy.

This was also the last game of the MSD football season, so Athletic Director Mrs. Washington took great pride in recognizing the Senior members of our team. They were Brian, Johnny, and Jarrell. They were each presented with Senior Award plaques with pictures of themselves during their last season at MSD.

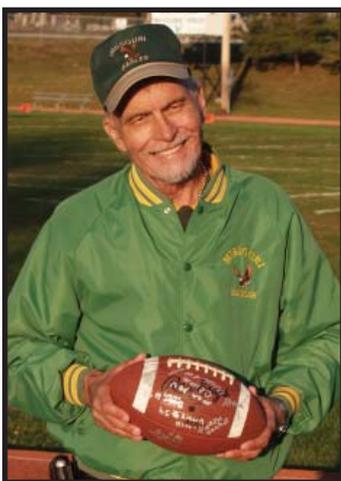
Another important part of Homecoming 2007 was that Cliffton Benitz and his family were able to attend. Cliff is an MSD graduate (class of 1966) and is employed as a dorm supervisor at Tate dorm. He is currently on medical leave due to a life threatening illness. We invited him and his family and were very happy when they responded with a "YES, they could come!". A special area was set-up close to the field where staff, students, friends, and alumni could visit with Cliff during the game. After the game was over, the football team brought the game ball, which they had all signed, and presented it to Cliff. He and his family were very touched and elated by the great response of all those who came out to visit with Cliff.



Homecoming Court, left to right - Christopher, Elizabeth, King Cleve, Queen Judy, Jennifer, Jarrell, Chetara, Mr. Tom Bastean.



Senior award recipients, left to right - Brian, Jarrell, and John.



Left - Cliffton proudly showing off his game ball.



Christopher carries the football towards the goal.

Student Life News

Welcome Back Party Ushers in New School Year

By Ron Danuser, Activity Director

A tradition has been established over the past three years of a Hawaiian themed welcome back party to start the beginning of each new school year. On the first Friday after the students return from summer vacation, this party is thrown as the official opportunity for old friends and new to come together and hear stories of summer adventures and escapades. Hawaiian leis, shirts, decorations and food support the theme and helps bolster the cheery mood everyone is in after being separated for the summer. While titled a welcome back party, each year this luau feels more like a family reunion.



Friends old and new.

Tradition of MSD Monster Makers Continues and Breaks Record

by Ron Danuser, Activity Director

For the eighth year in a row a dedicated group of high school students and staff commonly known as the MSD Monster Makers, or MMM, opened the doors to their annual Haunted House. This year they took over the Rice Hall gym and transformed it into darkened hallways full of screams and surprises. For five days the group dedicated their evening hours to construct the attraction and opened it to the public for three nights. During those three nights, due largely to the attractions continually growing reputation amongst the town, they earned \$408 breaking the record of last year by almost fifty dollars. Proceeds from the annual event are donated to the MSD Chapter of the Jr National Association of the Deaf. Upon learning that the record was broken, plans began to formulate for next year as to how they could break the record again. The 2008 MSD Haunted House will surely be the biggest, scariest yet.



Do you recognize these monsters? Above - "The Slasher" carries a big knife. Lower left - Oh no! We've awakened the vampire! Lower right - This witch looks hungry. I wonder what she's cooking-up for supper?



Missouri School for the Deaf 2007-2008 Basketball Schedule



Date	Opponent	Level	Time	Place
11/27/07	Prairie Home	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
12/01/07	Arkansas School f/t Deaf	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
12/03/07	Community R-6	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	Ladonia
12/06/07	Kansas School f/t Deaf	G/B VAR	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Olathe, KS Olathe, KS
12/10/07	Jamestown	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
12/13/07	Tuscumbia	JVB/VG	5:30 p.m.	Tuscumbia
12/14/07	ISD vs. KSD	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
12/15/07	Iowa School f/t Deaf	G/B VAR	10:00 a.m.	MSD
	Kansas School f/t Deaf	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
01/03/08	Chamois	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	Chamois
01/08/08	Calvary Lutheran	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
01/15/08	Wellsville	Girls JV/V	6:00 p.m.	MSD
01/24/08	North Callaway	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	Kingdom City
01/26/08	*Oklahoma School f/t Deaf	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
02/07-09/08	GPSD	G/B VAR	TBA	Sulphur, OK
02/12/08	Marion County (Senior nite)	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	MSD
02/19/08	Higbee	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	Higbee
02/21/08	Calvary Lutheran	G/B VAR	6:00 p.m.	Jefferson City
02/23-03/01/08	District Play-Offs	G/B VAR	TBA	TBA
	Winter Awards Recognition		TBA	
	*Homecoming			



Missouri School for the Deaf 2008 Track & Field Schedule

Date	Opponent	Level	Time	Place
03/18/08	Mule Relay	G/B VAR	1:00 p.m.	CMSU
04/01/08	Fatima Blue/Gold	G/B VAR	3:00 p.m.	Westphalia
04/04/08	MSD Invitational	G/B VAR	1:00 p.m.	MSD
04/22/08	Fatima	G/B VAR	3:00 p.m.	Westphalia
04/26/08	GPSD	G/B VAR	11:00 p.m.	Council Bluffs, IA
05/03/08	DISTRICT	G/B VAR	11:00 p.m.	MSD
05/06/08	Callaway Relays	G/B VAR	4:00 p.m.	MSD
05/10/08	SECTIONALS	G/B VAR	11:00 a.m.	Centralia
05/16 & 05/17/08	STATE	G/B VAR	11:00 a.m.	Jefferson City

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Constitution Day 2007

by Mrs. Betty Sullivan, HS teacher

MSD had the pleasure of welcoming Lt. Colonel (Retired) Don Koonce of the 203rd National Guard to help our students celebrate and honor Constitution Day on September 22, 2007. Colonel Koonce told the compelling story of the “Birth of the Constitution.” This is the story of the journey to Philadelphia in the summer of 1787. Through his storytelling, he helped students witness the miracle that took place as our nation’s founders gathered for the purpose of establishing a document that would guide free, self governing people in maintaining life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - which became the Constitution!

LTC Koonce is a man who loves America. He has served as a soldier and an officer within the Missouri Army National Guard since 1976, including a recent 17-month deployment to Iraq with the 203rd Engineer Battalion. During that deployment he received two bronze stars, awarded for distinguished, heroic or meritorious achievement or service. He enjoys serving the youth of Missouri and surrounding states through presentation of historical, patriotic, character-based stories from America’s past. Recently, this has grown to the point of the establishment of a company named, American Stories, Inc. The goal of his company is to tell America’s stories and stories about America’s heroes to the youth of America, hopefully inspiring them to make America’s future brighter.

LTC Don Koonce during his recent Constitution Day program.

