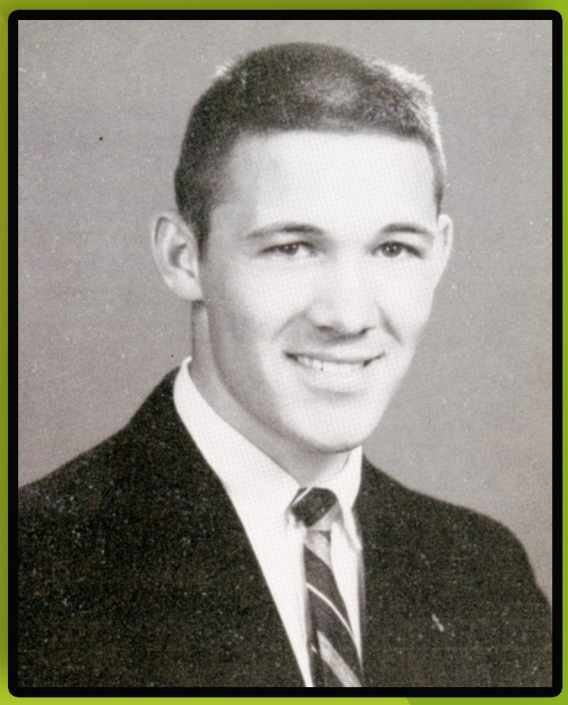


Jack Gannon

Missouri Record

Summer and Fall 2013

Missouri Record
Volume 137, No. 1
Summer and Fall 2013

Contents

features

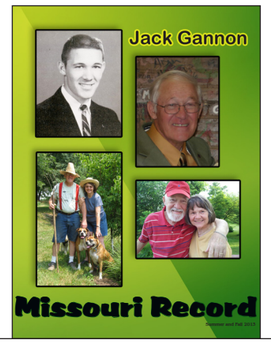
4 Signs of the Times

5 Alumni News

9 Campus Staff News

11 Campus News

On the Cover



Cover designed by Heather Dunn and MSD's Digital Imaging Department. Cover honors Jack R. Gannon, '54 graduate of Missouri School for the Deaf.

Missouri Record
Published since 1879 by Missouri School for the Deaf

departments

16 Student Services
17 Student Life
21 High School
22 Elementary/ Middle School
23 Sports

The MISSOURI RECORD is published one time per year: Winter/Spring by the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, Missouri.

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ensures equal employment/educational opportunities/affirmative action regardless of race, color, creed, national origin or sex, in compliance with Titles VI and IX, or disability, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Missouri Record Staff
Barbara Garrison, *Editor*
Becky Payne, *Associate Editor*
Heather Dunn, *Designer/Digital Imaging*
Bobby Morris, Jr., *Digital Printing*

State Board of Education
Peter Herschend, *President*
Michael W. Jones, *Vice President*
Deborah L. Demien
Charlie Shields
J. Michael Ponder
Russell Still
Robin Barbour, *Executive Assistant*

MSD Board of Advisor
Tony Nitko, *St. Louis, President*
Paul Miller, *Centertown, Vice President*
Dr. Helen Logan, *Fulton*
Jeff Patridge, *Jefferson City*
Dr. Stephanie Logan, *Fulton*

Administration
Dr. Chris Nicastro, *Commissioner of Education*
Dr. Stephen Barr, *Assistant Commissioner, Office of Special Education*
Barbara Garrison, *Superintendent*
Margilee LaBorde, *Assistant Superintendent*
Harold Siebert, *Director of Fiscal Affairs*
Larry Hoard, *Director of Outreach Services*
Bethany Peterson, *Director of Student Life*
Dee Anne Peneston, *Dean of Instruction*
Debora Ripley, *Teacher in Charge Elementary/Middle School*
Sarah Neumann, *Teacher in Charge Elementary/Middle/High School*
Bobby Morris, Jr., *Teacher in Charge Coats Career and Technology Center*
Jennifer Dignan, *Teacher in Charge Coats Career and Technology Center*

Each time the Missouri Record is returned due to an incorrect address, MSD is charged a handling fee for its return. For that reason, mailings that are returned to us without a forwarding address are deleted from our mailing list.

Signs of the Times

By Barbara Garrison, Superintendent

Hello! Hello! Hello!

Last July, MSD faced a nightmare that no school ever wants to face. On the last day of our Extended School Year (ESY) Program, a bus accident occurred with our precious cargo of students and staff aboard. I cannot emphasize enough my deep appreciation for our ability and expertise in responding to such a tragic event. We are so grateful that their injuries were not life threatening or altering. Employees here at MSD reacted and responded in a highly professional, caring and competent manner. We appreciate the love, concern and support from MSD family and friends during those days.

In August, prior to students returning, employees participated a variety of exciting Professional Development opportunities including our annual "Opening of School" staff meeting, Armed Intruder Training and providing a Safe Space.

Students returned the middle of August, and the 2013-14 school year is well underway. Including an exciting season by our Varsity Volleyball and Varsity Football teams, plans for regional academic bowls and science fairs, new employee orientations and retiring employees celebrations.

MSD is focused on what we do best:

1) Educating Missouri's children who are deaf/hard of hearing,
2) Educating families with babies who are deaf/hard of hearing, and
3) Educating school districts that serve students who are deaf/hard of hearing.

We are aware of the reality that a deaf child can receive the same required units for a high school diploma from their local public school or any school in the state. At the same time, we recognize that MSD's attraction as an educational option is critical for the student's social maturity (ASL culture, Deaf History and Deaf Studies) and emotional well-being (academic and athletic competition, clubs and after school activities, Deaf pride) and the benefit of total immersion for language acquisition and development from professionals and peers on the MSD campus.

We have a good reputation with the DESE Assistant Commissioner, Office of Special Education, the DESE Commissioner and other departments with the DESE and with school districts and families across the state with our Outreach Services and Families First Programs. The MSD Alumni Association, the MSD Parents Organization, the Missouri Association of the Deaf and the Missouri Commission of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing are invaluable resources. The general revenue funds allocated us this year are sufficient for our operation and we are in the process of securing an individual to lead us through our Strategic Planning process to build and strengthen our future.

We have recognized retiring Advisory Board members: Judy Ebersole, Donna Wolfe and Tom Clapp and welcomed new board members: Dr. Helen Logan, Jeff Patridge, Paul Miller and Dr. Stephanie Logan. In addition, we bid farewell to retiring staff members: Larry Hoard, Director of Student and Outreach Services; Barbara McGrath, Superintendent's Administrative Assistant; Eddie Ross, vocational instructor; and Valarie Britton, Assistant Dormitory Director.

"The Signs of the Time" in the fall of 2013 are:

- the heartbeat of MSD will always be PreK - 12 education, but the lifeblood of MSD has become and will continue to be in its outreach services; and
- it is time we view individuals whose first language is ASL, with English as a second language, as consumers instead of disabled.

Lastly, it is important to me for each of you to know that it has been my honor to serve the Missouri School for the Deaf for these almost twelve years and I will always be humbled by the opportunity to have served as her thirteenth and first female Superintendent. While searching for the 14th MSD Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Margilee LaBorde and Business Manager Harold Siebert will oversee the daily operations of the school and support services.

The decision to retire has not been an easy one, but the timing is right for new leadership to come on board as the Management Team and Board of Advisors lead the school through strategic planning for the future of our beloved MSD. My desire is to assist the Management Team and the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education in any way possible during this time of transition. It is my sincere hope that the school would continue through its strategic planning within the atmosphere of respect and caring for the inherit worth of every human being. All of us are different while some of us are the same. Each of us is special but our needs are all the same. And when we see barriers we have to tear them down because we all deserve an equal playing field in this life. It is the recognition of, respect for, and efforts (actions) to create, a positive learning and living environment that that makes MSD a special school. My dream is that even during the extreme challenges faced by the economic downfall of the past five years and the subsequent closing of state residential schools nationwide, that I leave MSD in as good a shape, or perhaps even better than it was before I arrived. A large portion of my heart will always beat at MSD and with each of you.

Old Stark Hall

MSD Alumni News

By Tom Bastean

Stark Hall/School celebrated its 75th anniversary on Homecoming Day, September 26 with a large crowd of alumni, former teachers/staff, and friends. There were pictures of different eras on display in the new Stark School building. The difference between the 2 names for the building is as follows: Stark Hall was adopted when the old Stark building served as both dormitory and school, while the new Stark School is only an elementary school building. Elementary students now reside in the different cottages north of the campus.

The program presentation was held in the Stark School Gym. The Gym was the only preserved part of the old Stark. The attendance was little over 100 folks. The presentation reflected the history of old Stark Hall and all of its facilities inside such as the dormitory with beds with letter "M" on the headboard and closet with different animals cut out of wood at the top of the door. There were displays of the different classrooms with teachers and students. A few of the alumni who were present were among the first students enrolled in the (then) new Stark Hall building in fall of 1938. One of our alumni donated her school-made blue dress and apron which she wore when she was 6 years old. We brought up the "Corner Stone" which had many written statements in the copper box. Unfortunately, all those papers crumbled into a small pile of dirt prior to the destruction of old Stark Hall building. We have a record of statements written by 2 of our former students because they were published in the spring Missouri Record

New Stark School

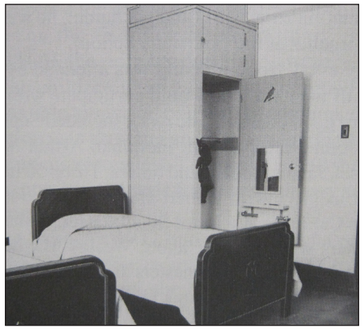
April, 1938. Before Stark Hall was built, McKee Hall was the elementary building for many years at that time. McKee Hall was called the "cottage."

Then, to represent the change to the new Stark School building, we displayed a picture of the last group of students who were in the old Stark Hall and moved on to the new Stark School building in fall of 1996. Teachers and students were videotaped as they were busy with the packing of the school supplies in boxes, preparing for the move to the new building. Our maintenance staff loaded up the truck to transport the supplies to the new Stark School in December, 1995. The last groups of students were videotaped as they signed farewell to old Stark and welcome to the new Stark School.

Pictures and videotapes were taken of the demolition of the old Stark School in different phases. Phase one displayed the new school being built, from the groundbreaking to its completion. Phase two, was the demolition of the old Stark Hall and the beginning of the building of the first cottage - Gannon House. Watching the demolishing of the old building was sad because many of us had fond memories as students there.

Many were unable to attend this special anniversary. To include them, we have created an album of fond comments from our alumni who were students at Stark Hall. We only received a few. We are still open for more comments to be added. If you are an alumnis who attended Stark Hall and want to send your comments, please contact Tom Bastean at museum@msd.dese.mo.gov. for details.

Stark Hall dining room



Stark Hall student's room

Front Row, L to R: Lillie Mae Harring Brown, Harriet Lachman Koch, Laura Boling, Mary Long Bartok, Kathy Smith, and Karen Kerby. Back Row, L to R: Carroll Brown, Richard Koch, Robert Boiling George Smith, and Richard Kerby.

Interesting Articles from 1938 Spring Missouri Record

These are articles that were printed 75 years ago - the same year Stark Hall construction was completed. In fall of 1938, elementary students were moving from McKee Hall (Cottages) to bright new Stark Hall. We wanted to mention a few things about the time during the construction of Stark Hall.

Here is an old quote from the Record:

He Knows Mules

A teacher was instructing a class in English and called on a small boy named Jimmy Brown.

"James," she said, "write on the board "Richard can ride the mule if he wants to."

"Now," continued the teacher, when Jimmy finished writing. "can you find a better form for that sentence?"

"Yes, I think I can," was the prompt answer. "Richard can ride the mule if the mule wants him to." ---Exchange

The following is a statement that got the attention of Superintendent Ingle and prompted him to create brochures about MSD in 1938:

No School for the Deaf

We were very much surprised recently by the statement of the mother of a prospective pupil. This woman was anxious to see her son to receive a proper education. She approached the superintendent of schools in her home district and explained that she was the mother of a deaf child. She asked for assistance in finding the proper place to educate her boy. The superintendent of the local school at this time, made the statement to her that the State of Missouri provided no facilities for educating deaf children. It is amazing to us that one who holds a position such as this could make such a statement. Since receiving this information we are mailing to each superintendent in the state, literature regarding the Missouri School for the Deaf. It is hoped that there will not be a recurrence of the above incident.

Mr. Ingle Away

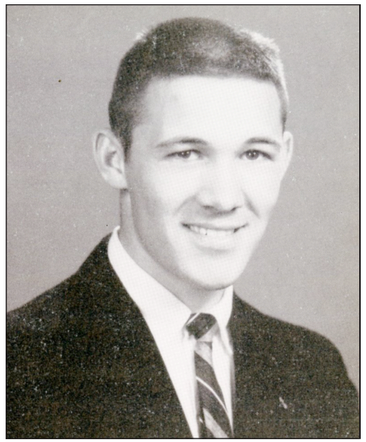
Mr. Truman Ingle left Fulton October 15, 1938 for Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he will be in the Veteran's Hospital for a week or ten days. In his absence Mr. Gough is acting in an editorial capacity for The Record.

Visionary Leader Jack R. Gannon

Reprinted with permission from Gallaudet University Visionary Leader gallery

Jack R. Gannon, '59, is Visionary Leader of the month for September 2013 (at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC.). Gannon is a well-known author, educator, historian, and museum curator.

Gannon was born in West Plains, MO., in 1936 and became deaf at 8 years old due to spinal meningitis. He graduated from the Missouri School for the Deaf



Senior picture from Gallaudet '59.

in 1954 and graduated from Gallaudet in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. Jack met his wife, Rosalyn, at Gallaudet and the couple married five days after graduation.

After college, Gannon taught at the Nebraska School for the Deaf in Omaha. Gannon was also (employed) as an athletics coach and was named "Coach of the Year" of Metropolitan Omaha by WOW-TV.

Eventually Gannon made his way back to Gallaudet where he served in administrative roles in alumni relations, public relations, and as a special assistant to the president for many years.

Gannon authored many books on Deaf culture and history including, Deaf Heritage: A Narrative History of Deaf America, The Week the World Heard Gallaudet, and

Jack Gannon and his wife, Rosalyn Faye.

co-authored Deaf Eyes: A Pictorial History, is a comprehensive overview of the first 50 years of the Federation's existence. In addition, Gannon curated "History Through Deaf Eyes, " a traveling exhibit which captured nearly 200 years of deaf American history.

Gannon is also an activist for the deaf community through the National Association of the Deaf. While in Nebraska, Gannon served terms as president and vice president of the Nebraska Association of the Deaf, was editor of The Deaf Nebraskan, and was president of the Omaha Club of the Deaf.

Gannon has won numerous awards throughout his life, including an honorary doctorate degree from Gallaudet in 1988. In 2011, both Gannon and his wife were honored with the International Solidarity Merit Award, First Class, from the World Federation of the Deaf for their work to

Jack Gannon and his wife, Rosalyn Faye with their dogs, Ruby and Champ.

preserve the history of deaf people from around the world. In 1989, Gannon received the Laurent Clerc Award, which is given for outstanding social contributions made by a deaf person, the Distinguished Service award from the National action of the Deaf, and the Edward Allen Fay Award from the Conference of Educational Administrators Serving the Deaf.

One of the several people to nominate Gannon as a Visionary Leader said: "I cannot imagine anyone more visionary than Jack R. Gannon. He had the foresight to see what documentation of deaf lives could mean to the wider world. His contributions

to the nation and the world have made life better for deaf people." Another nominator wrote: "Jack recognized the need for some kind of documentation of the multi-faceted history of the deaf as unique minority group with its distinctive visual culture."

The Gannons currently live on an 18th century farmhouse in New Market, MD. The couple has two children, Christine and Jeff and four grandchildren. Christine is the director of Health and Wellness Programs at Gallaudet.

Obituary

Charles Eugene Smith, 80 passed away July 16, 2013 at the Kansas City Hospice House. He was born on March 25, 1933 in New Cambria, Missouri. He fought a brief and courageous battle with cancer in his colon and liver.

Charles was the youngest of five brothers, and a lifelong resident of Kansas City, Kansas. He attended the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, Missouri, and had to leave early to help with the family farm. on June 4, 1961, he married Darlene Anderson in Kearney, Nebraska. Charles worked for the Whitaker Cable Corp. for 33 years until it was closed.

He was a longtime member of the Assembly of God Church. He was very active with the Kansas City Division No.31 Deaf Fraternal Society and served as President, Treasurer and in other positions.

Charles is survived by his sweet loving wife of 52 years, Darlene (Anderson); son Daniel and his wife Joan of Indianapolis, Indiana; daughter Carlisa and her husband Charles of Richmond, Virginia; brother, Earl and other family members.

LaVerna Marie (Smith) Randall passed away at age of 85 on Wednesday, August 28, 2013. She will forever be remembered as a devoted wife, loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt, sister and friend to everyone she met. LaVerna was born on July 30, 1928 in Hale, Missouri. She was one of the eight children born to Carmel and Bessie (Jeffries) Smith. She attended and graduated from Missouri School for the Deaf and received her training as a licensed Cosmetologist. She married the love of her life Jack Randall on January 31, 1948. She had been an active member of the Olathe deaf community and has served in many ways.

LaVerna is preceded in death by her loving husband, parents and 5 siblings. She is survived by her three children; daughters-Vicki Baska and husband, Janice Maring and husband, and son Bill Randall and wife. She left behind to cherish her memory, six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Survivors also include two sisters.

James Kevin "Jimmy" Sullivan passed away September 25, 2013. He was born on December 26, 1958 to the late James and Florence Sullivan. He graduated from Gallaudet School for the Deaf in St. Louis, Missouri in the spring of 1974. He then enrolled in the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, Missouri, the following fall and graduated in May, 1978. He is survived by siblings, fond relatives, and friends.

NOTIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS

In accordance with federal regulations, some identifiable information in former students' files will be destroyed on February 3, 2014. A record of each student's transcript, enrollment information, last audiogram and last IEP will be kept in their permanent file.

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
505 EAST 5TH STREET
FULTON, MO 65251

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

In accordance with the state and federal regulation implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) this is to inform you of our intent to destroy personally identifiable information related to special education services maintained in former student's special education records.

If you wish to maintain this information for your personal records, you need to notify us (in writing) upon receipt of this notice; Otherwise, the information will be destroyed on February 3, 2014.

Please be advised that the records may be needed by the student or the parent(s) for social security benefits or other purposes.

Records to be destroyed are as follows:

- Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs)
- Evaluation Reports
- Test Protocols (Available for inspection only; no copy will be provided
- Notifications of Meetings
- Notices of Action
- Review of Existing Data Summaries

All other personally identifiable information with the Special Education file*

The reason for destruction of the above listed items is because they are no longer needed to provide educational services as it have been more than three (3) years since this individual has received special education services at the Missouri School for the Deaf.

*The district may maintain a permanent record, without time limitation, of a student's names, address and phone number, his/her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

The school is required to maintain records for a minimum of three (3) years from the date the child no longer received special education and related services.

You may contact the records office at the Missouri School for the Deaf at 573-592-2504 or mail a written request to the address above.

Did you graduate or leave MSD three to ten years ago???

Do you want your records??

If So,
Please contact Josh Lococo at:

Call at 573-592-2504
or
email: josh.lococo@msd.dese.mo.gov

He will check to see if your name is on the list of people who Missouri School for the Deaf is trying to contact.

Thank you!

Retirees 2013

Thanks for 128 years of service to Missouri School for the Deaf!

Valerie Britton
Student Life
Assistant Girls Director
33 years

Eddie Ross
Middle and Vocational
Teacher
21 years

Betty Sullivan
Teacher-In-Charge
21 years

Barbara McGarth
Administraive Assistant
34 years

Juanita Knipp
School Nurse
13 years

Larry Hoard
Clinical Director
6 years

New Staff/Job Changes:

New Staff:

RA's:
Sydney Kuster
Samantha Huesemann
Jaylyn Wilson
Jonathan Bradley
Charles Council
Lachana Wilcox
Kayla Johnson

Nurse:
Fawn Vandeloecht

Speech Therapist:
Judith Fiocco

Teacher In Charge:
Sarah Neumann

Teacher's:
Cherise Santoriello
Shanda Collins
Lindi Stephens
Kathy Meyer
Josephine Kurz

Teacher Aide:
Josh Lococo
Amy Wells

Outreach Services Director:
David Kingsbury

Cook:
Sean Sievert
Victoria Warfield

Job Changes:

Jennifer Dignan from Teacher to Teacher In Charge
Brad Drew from Teacher Aide to Residential Advisor
Betty Pittmon from Cook to Residential Advisor
Shauna Isaac from Cook to Teacher Aide
Trisha DeBrodie from Teacher Aide to Assistant Dorm Director

ColorDash Run

By Bethany Peterson

MSD Staff participated in the 2013 ColorDash Run in Columbia, MO on October 5th. Staff pictured are Jonah Wilson, Jaylyn Wilson, Will Unzicker, Kimberly Peterson, and Michael Stieber. Proceeds benefitted the Humane Society and they raised over $7,000 dollars that day. 2100 people participated in the run. They received two ColorDash t-shirts and they were given to two of our Senior students.

MSD mourns the loss of former staff member and friend, Mr. Richard Reed, who passed away on November 27, 2013 in Columbia, Missouri at the age of 85. Words cannot express the depth of our loss. He is survived by his wife, Marthada Reed, other relatives and numerous friends. A retrospective of his life and career will be in the next Missouri Record.

Extended School Year
Summer 2013

By Lucille Blackwell

In the four short weeks of ESY, students were exposed to timelines, Mark Twain, life cycles of butterflies and more. Two major field trips were to the Mud Room in Columbia and to Hannibal.

Inside Mark Twain Cave in Hannibal, Missouri.

This was the first year that we had preschool students at ESY. They took their turn with snacks and clean up duty. Students all worked together making sack lunches for Fridays and field trips. Students were well behaved on field trips and brought books to read for long bus trips.

The Mud Room, a clay and ceramics shop, has expanded since the last time we were there. There was a room for all the students to go in and paint. This year was the first time students painted ceramic mugs. They were creative, some used only paint, others used rubber or foam stamps to jazz up their mugs. After painting the mugs we went to a park and ate lunch, then played in the playground for a while.

The trip to Hannibal was a long drive, but worth it. Students and staff took a tour of the cave that Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) grew up exploring. We also took a steamboat ride on the Mississippi River. Students explored the steamboat that was modeled after steamboats from Mark Twain's time.

Inside Mark Twain Cave in Hannibal, Missouri.

The theme of timeline was used by all teachers and in all subjects. The science classes explored the life cycles of butterflies and made timelines illustrating this. Language Arts classes had students writing their own timeline. Social Studies classes made time lines of historical figures and of different events in history. Math class used timelines to figure out how old people were when events happened.

All of the students had opportunities to participate in Drama. In drama they worked on informational videos that will be used during the 2013-14 school year. Some students were assigned to create lunch videos where they signed the menu that will be served at lunch time. They signed "Happy Birthday" for recognizing birthdays throughout the school year. They signed stories about their summer, which connected to the timeline theme.

Everyone got a DVD at the end of the Extended School Year. Students are reminded of their summer experience whenever their faces pop up on the daily video announcements. We're already wondering what we'll do next summer.

Left and Right pictures: ESY Students enjoy steamboat ride on Mississipppi River at Hannibal, Missouri.

MSD Nears 15 Years with FOSC

By Ron Danuser

Once again a dedicated group of MSD staff volunteered their last free weekend before school resumes to help with the Missouri Department of Conservation's Family Outdoor Skills Camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and their families.

Since its inception nearly 15 years ago MSD has provided staff and logistical support to the camp. In recent years MSD staff have provided busses and drivers to chauffer campers from one activity to another, lifeguards to open the pool in the evenings, and operated the 40 foot climbing/rappelling tower which always proves to be on of the most popular activities offered.

The camp typically occurs the first weekend in August and plays host to nearly 200 campers. The camp is open to any family with a Deaf or Hard of Hearing child. The entire family is encouraged to attend with a focus on a shared experience specifically for the child with a hearing loss. The camp is free regardless of how many campers a family might entail.

Once again the camp proved to be enriching not only for the campers, but for those who staffed it as well. Whether seeing the quiet glow of pride in a youngsters face as they inch just a little higher or the cheers from the crowd as a climber makes it to the top after a hard struggle, the rewards of this unique and challenging experience are truly inspiring.

Getting equipment to climb the tower.

Shirts used to distinguish tower/climbing staff.

A group of climbers who made it to the top!

Group of MSD Staff who volunteered at FOSC during August 2013.

MSD Parents' Organization

By Jeff Patridge

Have you heard of the Missouri School for the Deaf Parents' Organization? If not, you should look us up. The Missouri School for the Deaf Parents' Organization, also known as the MSDPO, is a non-profit organization that supports Missouri School for the Deaf students and staff. The proceeds earned from fundraising efforts are used to provide college scholarships and fulfill other requests. All funds earned by the organization are returned to MSD. Membership in the organization is open to all parents, alumni, staff, and MSD supporters.

As in years past, the MSDPO provided much needed support during the 2012-2013 school year. This support included:

- Purchase of special commemorative t-shirts to honor the student-athletes that brought home the Boys Basketball Championship, Girls Free Throw Championship, and the Spirit Stick Award from the 2013 Great Plains Schools for the Deaf Basketball Tournament.
- Purchase of supplies used by students to build a float they entered into the Fulton Jaycees Winter Holiday Parade. The MSDPO also purchased two reusable magnetic signs identifying the school that were placed on the vehicle used to pull the float.
- Sponsored the MSD football team preview in the annual Mid-Missouri Pigskin Preview.
- Donated the prizes for the MSD Students Talent Show in April.
- Made a donation to the Senior Class of 2013 to assist in the purchase of the senior gift.
- Awarded the "Eager Eagle Awards" to students at the year-end awards ceremonies.
- Donated the book Historic MSD by Richard Reed to all graduating seniors.
- Joined the Missouri School for the Deaf Alumni Association in awarding a $500.00 scholarship to the 2013 salutatorian.
- Sponsored the first Superintendent's Award Scholarship of $500.00 that was presented to the 2013 valedictorian.
- Honored MSD staff during Staff Appreciation Week by purchasing two large cakes.

The MSDPO was able to provide this support, thanks to the continued generosity of everyone that purchased items during special sales promotions, and at the Fall and Winter Homecoming booths. Efforts were also helped by the continued growth of the Box Tops for Education program. In 2011-2012 (the first year in the program) the MSDPO earned $215.00. Last year the organization earned $263.30. The goal for the 2013-2014 school year is to top $500.00 in Box Tops submitted.

Even though the MSDPO had a successful 2012-2013, continued support is needed. Already during the 2013-2014 school year the organization has sponsored the MSD football team preview in the Mid-Missouri Pigskin Preview, purchased shirts that were given to donors at the MSD Student Council and National Honor Society Blood Drives in September and December, and purchased shirts for MSD Music in Motion to wear at their special performance at a St. Louis Rams game in November.

To learn more about the MSDPO and its activities visit their Facebook and web site. You can find the organization on Facebook under "Missouri School for the Deaf Parents' Organization" or on the web at www.msdpo.org.

Students form top of ILY handshape.

Deaf Awareness Week

By Debbie Burnaman, DAW Committee

The Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD) celebrated its third annual Deaf Awareness Week (DAW) on campus during the week of September 23rd through the 27th. Deaf awareness week is recognized nationally as a time to spread awareness about Deaf culture and American Sign Language (ASL). Our DAW committee: Sharon Egbert, Ellen Foshay, Debbie Burnaman, Jennifer Dignan, and Jason Freeman, organized a fun but educational week of activities.

We started the week with the opening ceremony at the football field and announced the theme: "It's a Deaf, Deaf, Deaf World". There was a student performance of the "Eagle Song", an adaption of Gallaudet University's "Bison Song." Each teacher was then given a balloon with MSD's contact information attached to the ends. We paraded around the track and released the balloons with hopes of people finding the cards to better spread information about our school.

Wednesday we had informational and educational exhibits and activities set up in the high school gym. Our students and public school groups from across mid-Missouri rotated around to gain more knowledge on deaf culture and what services are available to them, and other fun activities. There was face painting, ASL story telling, balloon shapes, and games. We were able to enjoy the gorgeous weather with a sack lunch outside. There was also our special guest, Kurt Ramborger, the deaf chef that appeared in 'Chopped', the cooking show. He was here in the morning for pictures and questions. On Thursday, he cooked for our MSD students in different groups during the day. Later that evening he cooked for the public, with approximately 200 people in attendance, in the gym.

MSD students had an assembly that showcased all kinds of cultured performances, art, and announcements. The high school and middle school Deaf Studies/ ASL classes performed "Planet Eyeth," ABC and Number stories, and jokes. The elementary school had their own class acts. The DAW committee honored Roy and Sharon Morris for their work at MSD and presented them with a quilt made by Lucille Blackwell. During the assembly, we announced winners for the art contest that we held here on campus. The elementary students submitted drawings, the middle school students offered sculptures, and the high school students submitted ASL videos.

To wrap up our educational AND fun week, we had our closing ceremony. The "Eagle Song" was performed again and closing remarks were made. All the students were given an ASL t-shirt which stated on the back: "Visual Language Rocks" to advocate for ASL and deaf culture. To conclude our fun week, we took a group picture in these shirts. We'd like to thank MSDPO (Missouri School for the Deaf Parents' Organization) and Jr. NAD (Junior National Association of the Deaf) for donating the shirts and to every staff and sponsor who helped make the event possible. Thanks Haley Allen and Jason Freeman for editing this article.

Elementary act that was performed during DAW.

The lucky audience to try Kurt' Ramborger's cooking.

Department of Outreach Services

By: Larry Hoard

There have been some staff changes in the Department of Outreach Services. Nancy Wood, a long time teacher at MSD, joined the Outreach Services team as the Deaf Education Consultant. Previously this was a part-time position, but it is now a full time year round position. Nancy is a great addition to the team. MSD is searching for a new Director for the Department of Outreach Services. The previous director, Larry Hoard, retired on October 1, 2013. Until MSD hires a new director, Dr. Alison Burco, MSD's audiologist, will be in charge of the Department. Larry Hoard will work a few hours a week and oversee the Shared Reading and Families First programs.

The 2nd Annual Family ASL Camp was May 31- June 2, 2013. A record number of people registered but many were unable to come due to flooding from major storms all across the state. In spite of the soggy beginning, those who made it to camp had a wonderful time learning ASL, deaf culture and shared reading. Everyone raved about the meals MSD's cook, Luke Hegadorn, and his staff prepared, about the activities for children and adults, and the ASL instruction.

Our Families First Early Intervention program went through a huge growth spurt. It is now serving over 70 families and will soon have 40 trained parent advisors. Due to the continued growth of this program, Terry Johns has been hired to help Laura Scott, the lead parent advisor.

Debbie Burnament share her knowledge of Deaf Culture at ASL camp.

DEAF Inc., in St. Louis, has partnered with MSD to provide Shared Reading tutoring in the St. Louis area. The Gallaudet University Regional Center-Midwest is working with a grant writer to obtain funding for this program. In the meantime DEAF Inc. has been using volunteer tutors trained by MSD's SRP (Shared Reading Program) trainers, Joyce Dignan and Shauna Morgan. MSD has approved a budget to contract with deaf tutors to pay them to provide tutoring this fiscal year until grant many is available. MSD will also fund Shared Reading tutoring in the Central Missouri area this fiscal year. Joyce and Shauna will also be teaching MSD's residential advisors Shared Reading so they can use it with MSD students.

On August 10, 2013 MSD presented a workshop on Special Education Law and how it applies to Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Over 73 teachers, Special Education directors, interpreters, parents and others attended the three hour presentation by Heidi Atkins Lieberman. It was a big success.

2013 ASL Campers.

Playing icebreaker games at ASL Camp.

Adam Davis at Parents Panel at ASL camp.

Kids playing while their families are learning ASL.

On November 2, 2013 MSD partnered with Gallaudet University Regional Center-Midwest and Southeast Missouri Deaf Association to present a Southeast Missouri Deaf Education Workshop. It was a full day of presentations that included a Deaf Panel, Misti Harrison's experiences in growing up deaf, Hooked on Science, Early Intervention Panel, Hands & Voices parent organization, and how audiology issues affect learning.

Allen is petting a friendly camel at Wild Animal Safari.

Safari field trip

By Sandra Hudgens

In April of 2013 the Stark Cottages enjoyed a trip to a Wild Animal Safari in Stafford, MO. The kids enjoyed a picnic lunch outside the park just before starting their adventure. They enjoyed an assortment of sandwiches of ham and cheese, turkey, or peanut butter jelly, along with potato and pasta salads. It was good for the kids to stretch and run a bit before going inside the park. After we finished with lunch and cleaned up, everyone jumped back on the bus and headed to the Safari park.

This park is a special area that you can drive your vehicle through or you can ride on one of their vehicles with a guide. Since we had made plans, the establishment expected us and arranged for us to have a guided tour on one of their buses. Each one of the kids had a cup of food for the animals, and extra in case they ran out. We saw all kinds of animals, including a zebra crossed with a donkey, a zedonk! The animal most enjoyed by everyone was the camel. He almost climbed on the bus with us and chased us as we drove away!

We then had the chance to feed the tigers! Of course we couldn't use our hands but we still got to feed them ourselves! This place was amazing and everyone was glad they went!

Brandyn is feeding an animal at Wild Animal Safari.

Stark Cottages Digging In the Dirt

In September of 2012, Roy Baker suggested to Sandra Hudgens that the Stark Cottages need a dirt pile for the kids to use for digging, imagination and play. Sandra thought it was a fantastic idea and the two of them created a proposal to request a pile of dirt be delivered for our young imagineers. The idea was brought up and discussed in several meetings, and the result was that, one weekend, a pile of dirt was delivered! The kids were thrilled!!! With the pile of dirt we were presented with another problem. The cottages were limited on the number of toys they had that could be used to play in the dirt. After some searching, a gift from the MSD Alumni Association was presented and toys were bought for the kids to enjoy! As the year went on, the kids out grew their dirt pile and a request for a second dirt pile was made and received. A huge thank you to MSD Alumni Association and to the MSD Maintenance Department for finding us toys to play with and dirt to play in. Thank you Roy for such a great idea!

Playing in the dirt

Elementary students with their new toys to use to play in dirt pile.

MSD's Experiential Ed Adventure Race Makes a Splash With Students

By Ron Danuser

This fall MSD students were treated to the first ever MSD Ex Ed Adventure race. Nineteen teams of 2 competed in the race which consisted of a half mile canoe section and a one mile foot race with four stations along the way which contained logic puzzles for them to solve. Correct answers earned participants deductions from their overall race times while incorrect answers earned penalties.

The race started with teams starting at two minute intervals. It was immediately obvious how serious the teams took it as the first teams dashed from the starting staging point to the canoes, threw on their PFD and dove into the boats. After paddling across Little Dixie Lake the racers exited the boats to find a card positioned on the far shore. The exiting and re-entering the boats caused havoc for several teams as they tumbled out of the canoe and into the shallow waters. Each splash brought cheers and laughs from not only those looking on but from the participants themselves.

1st part of Ex Ed Race.

Once they found their card teams paddled back across the lake and took to a narrow trail through the woods. Along the way they meet four stations where they had to pause and answer a logic puzzle. Some found this quick and easy while others struggled to find the right answer but all enjoyed the challenges.

Experiential Ed Adventure Race winners.

After the final team had finished, team scores were tallied while the students were treated to a lovely afternoon of lake side BBQ. In the end team Nick/Benson came in first with team Scotty/Terrell in second and Team AJ/Courtney coming in 3rd. All three teams were later treated to a dinner at a local Chinese restaurant and received custom T-shirts as souvenirs from the race.

After the winners were announced the students chattered for hours with smiling faces and hearty laughter about their individual success and blunders along the course. Before the last team had finished, the students were asking for another race and where it would be and how soon they could do it! Their enthusiasm is infectious and indeed the race moderators were already thinking of the next Adventure Race! Stay tuned!

Andrea and Courtney answering a logic question.

Josh and Micheal run to their next part of race.

Dacota and Delanzia are getting instructions for next part of the race.

Christin shows off her largest deer taken during the hunt.

The first deer of the weekend. (Mikal with his deer)

2013 Youth Hunt

By Allen Leroux

The Missouri School for the Deaf proudly participates in a fall deer youth hunt every year. The hunt is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation, and the Boy Scouts. The hunt was from Friday November 1st to Sunday November 3rd. This year in particular was very exciting! MSD sent seven kids to the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation. There, the kids were greeted by the guides who would accompany them on their adventure. Each guide was very friendly and eager to get to know their young hunter. Four of the seven kids were new to the hunt and had never shot a rifle before. School staff who went to the hunt, helped interpret instructions on gun safety and how to shoot. All the kids responded well and listened carefully. Even though several of the kids had never shot before, all of them shot well and hit their targets. Friday night the kids took part in a bon fire with roasted marshmallows and a feast of a BBQ. One student in particular, Delanzia always helps the hunt staff in making cobblers using iron kettles. Everyone got a good night sleep and woke up extra early Saturday morning to try to get themselves a deer. Right off the bat, Mikal got the first deer of the weekend just after 8am, on Saturday. Later in the day the kids would gather and tell stories about the deer they saw but didn't get to shoot. Everyone congratulated Mikal on a good job with his deer. The hunters also participated in making crafts such as bracelets, silly putty, and tie dye pillow cases. Sunday morning the hunters were at it again. Everyone said they had a good time and saw lots of deer, but one student, Christin, got herself the biggest deer of the weekend. Christin stood so proud over her 8pt buck, and the other kids cheered her on. Later in the day on Sunday, seven tired hunters and five tired staff members returned to the school with great laughter and joy from a weekend well spent outdoors. The hunters were: Christin Kohl, Delanzia Hayes, Sara Farmer, Domanic Voss, Mikal Meriewether, Brad Caskey, and Jayman Washington. The staff members who assisted were: Jessie Hoover, Lachana Wilcox, Scott Gaines, Charles Braxton, and Allen Leroux.

The Monster Makers.

Annual MSD Haunted House Continues to Provide Community Scares

By Ron Danuser

Each year, when the leaves take on their amber hues of fall, a long running tradition ushers forth a new year of spooks and scares. For nearly 20 years a small group of dedicated staff and students have built and operated the annual MSD Haunted House. Students are involved in every aspect of the event, from moving in wall units and props, to rigging lighting, to staffing the haunt full of ghouls and goblins. Each year the crews work the hard physical labor required to build the dark labyrinth and are rewarded with the screams and laughs of those who dare enter. Each night, after the haunt closes the students return to the dorm and enthusiastically recounting their stories of causing grown men to jump back in fright or

The witch who's fire burned and cauldron bubbled!

One of the many ghouls lurking inside.

Pre-race zombie takeover of the Headquarters.

screaming college students.

For many years the haunt has been the only one in town, as was the case this year. Many families, college students and brave trick-or-treaters attend year after year and thus it has become not only an MSD tradition, but a tradition within the community as well. This year the MSD Monster Makers - a phrase coined by the students in the early 90s - raised two hundred and thirty four dollars for the Jr NAD, a long time sponsor of the happening.

Zombies Overrun MSD - EX ED Zombie Dash

By Ron Danuser

Recently, the high school students were treated to their second in a series of Ex ED (Experiential Education) adventure races. This race had students not only racing against the clock, but also against zombies, in the first ever MSD Ex Ed Zombie Dash!

The dash had 10 teams of 4 racers who dashed about, completing missions (brain puzzles stationed around campus) and collecting bonuses while avoiding a literal horde (28 to begin with!) of gangly zombies (staff and volunteers). Each racer wore a flag football belt. If zombies pulled both flags during the race that player became 'infected' and joined the zombies side in attempting to pull flags and 'infect' 'human' players. Teams scored time deductions by correctly answering the brain puzzles and for each member of their team who made it through the game without becoming a zombie. Time penalties were dealt for incorrect answers to the missions and for each member of the team who became a zombie.

The students and staff took to the game with vim and vigor. Play was light hearted and fun though each player took their role seriously and played to their fullest. The staff and volunteer zombies ALL earned high praise for their willingness to be splattered and made-up and lumber about trying to catch their light footed prey. Their acting was MOMENTOUS and truly sold the game. The support crew did a tremendous job of keeping the headquarters organized and moving mostly smooth (despite the occasional overrun by zombies) as teams rushed in and out to retrieve new missions and cash in health and cure cards. The students quickly learned that pure physical prowess to evade the zombies would not be enough. Players had to constantly adjust strategies and utilize intellect under stress to win this game.

The game provided all the elements we look for in an Ex Ed adventure; It was both physical and mentally challenging, it tested ones limits and provided self reflection, and perhaps most importantly it was fun and provided wonderful memories, evident in the near constant recanting of stories of brave deeds and heroics.

First Place Team AJ.

Zombies infect a prize human player.

The entire crew; the zombies, the racers, the infected and the few reamaining humans.

Student Council Blood Drive

By Becky Payne

MSD is sponsoring 3 blood drives this year – with two of them co-sponsored by the Student-Council, for the first time. What is the reason for this? The American Red Cross has changed its marketing technique. They no longer supply t-shirts at blood drives, but they do offer a scholarship program. Each year, a graduating senior from MSD will receive a scholarship to their choice of higher education program. The amount of the scholarship depends on how many units of blood we are able to help them collect for that year. Last year, one of our Seniors received a scholarship for $250. We want to "UP" that amount this year so that one of our seniors gets $500. To do that, we have to help collect 100 units of blood. At our September 30th blood drive, we collected 25 units – more than our 20 unit goal. We had 9 students who presented to donate. Four of those 9 were successful donors. Not only are they donating blood, but they are learning community service!

We are hoping to build our donorship with each drive, and we have a "secret weapon." Jeff Patridge, the president of the MSD Parent's Organization, designed a really cool T-shirt and has donated 30 shirts per drive. At the Sept. 30th drive, we ran out of T-shirts, and our sign-up sheet was full before the blood drive ever started. We are hoping for a similar outcome with our upcoming Dec. 2nd blood drive. The t-shirt design is pictured below. To get one, you must come to the blood drive on Dec. 2nd from noon to 4 PM, and attempt to give blood. If you're in the area, come on down!

Middle School and High School Student Council members at District meeting.

Kristen's first time giving blood at blood drive.

Student Council District

By Becky Payne and Heather Dunn

MSD Middle School and High School Student Council sponsors Becky Payne, Heather Dunn, and Jennifer Dignan were able to take 15 students to the district meeting this year. Our Student Council is a member of the Northeast District of the Missouri Association of Student Councils (MASC). This year, the Northeast district meeting was held in Jefferson City, MO – close enough for us to take some kids and check it out. MSD's Student Councils have been members of the MASC for two years. We have attended the annual State meeting for each of those years. This is the first time for us to attend a district meeting.

When we arrived at the Jefferson City High School, there were kids EVERYWHERE! There were over 1,000 mid-Missouri kids in attendance. It was very well organized. The theme for this meeting was from the Dr. Seuss book, The Lorax – "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." We were treated to donuts and fruit when we arrived, then we all gathered in the gym for some entertainment and a keynote speaker, who invited us to try new things and to help others along the way. Then we were split up into groups. The students went to meetings to brainstorm new ideas, and Sponsors went to a district meeting. There was also a magic show, and games to entertain us. All-in-all, it was an insightful and delightful meeting.

We are now looking forward to attending the annual state meeting of the MASC, which occurs in March of each year – with the location changing to match the MASC student president's school. This year the meeting will be held in Imperial, MO, at Windsor High School.

Two different performances happened at the District meeting.

Middle school students and staff stand around a stalagmite at Bridal Cave.

Elementary students enjoy the hay ride around Bradford Farms.

Elementary Fall Field Trips

By Haley Allen

The students of Stark Hall had an exciting October with two field trips: one for the elementary school, pre-k through 5th grade, and one for the middle school, grades 6-8.

On October 5th, elementary students got the privilege of visiting Bradford Farms in Columbia, Missouri. We arrived at Bradford Farms and loaded onto a trailer for a hayride through the farm. Tim Reinbott, our tour guide, stopped us at the giant pumpkin, explained different kinds of corn and had us guess the weight of the pumpkin. Believe it or not, it weighed 123 pounds! The kids then got to see and touch shrimp from the freshwater pond and learned that the larger shrimp usually eat the smaller ones. They set out to navigate the corn maze before heading to the pumpkin patch. Each student got to pick out and take home a pumpkin - but only if they could carry the pumpkin themselves.

Ally navigating the corn maze while classmates follow

Some of them were carrying pumpkins that weighed more than they did! After a fun-filled afternoon with some perfect weather, we loaded up and headed back to school.

On October 8th, the middle school students set out to Bridal Cave in Camdenton, Missouri, where they got to venture into two different caves. Each student was given a flashlight and was able to explore and climb around inside Bear Cave. The second cave, Bridal Cave, was a guided tour and students got to learn about rock formations, different kinds of rocks, how caves are formed, and did some hiking through the woods to different caves. Students then got to go through Thunder Mountain, Bridal Cave's outdoor classroom and learn about frontier life.

Eagle Friends

By Laura Smith

The Eagle Friend program is growing; we now have 25 students matched with 25 adults! We are so thankful for the MSD staff that are willing to give up some of their time in order to befriend a young student.

Early in October we had our WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL Eagle Friend party. We were all set up outside, the young Eagle Friends and adult Eagle Friends started arriving at the party. There were lots of hugs and happy Eagle Friends. Then BAM it started pouring rain on us with absolutely no warning. There was a mad rush to the door, lol. One of our young Eagle Friends, Domanic, volunteered to get all wet and help bring in all of the party supplies that were becoming drenched. Thank You Domanic!!

All the games, chairs and tables were moved into Stark School's gym. We all laughed and chatted about how fast the rain came down on us. The Eagle Friends found each other again and started playing games, reading books, playing cards and having a snack together. Later balloon shapes were added to the activities; hats, dogs, swords, hearts and an octopus. The young Eagle Friends did a great job of waiting patiently for their balloon shape to be made. Some came back several time to get a balloon shape. I believe that Damar left with 6 balloon shapes!

Now everyone is looking forward to our Valentine's Day party.

12 Days of Christmas

Reprinted from Fulton Sun with permission

Each year the Fulton Sun seeks local school groups to help represent the song "12 Days of Christmas" through pictures in the 12 editions leading up to the holiday.

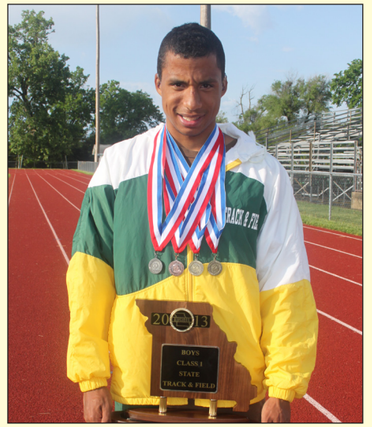
Reprinted from Fulton Sun, pictures by Dean Asher

Four Calling Birds - Missouri School for the Deaf's first and fifth graders act out the fourth verse of the song.

Reprinted from Fulton Sun, pictures by Dean Asher

Three French Hens - Missouri School for the Deaf's preschoolers act out the third verse of the song.

Eagle Friends Motto.



Nick with his Class 1 State trophy and medals.

2013 Class 1 State Champion!

By Ella Washington

Nick is ever calm, cool and confident; and ever humble. The weekend of Friday, May 17th and Saturday, May 18th for the Class 1 State Track and Field Championship has to be the most important meet of young Nick's track career to date.

Day 1- After qualifying (with the fastest time) in the 100M Dash prelims, Nick proceeded to the pit to compete in the Long Jump. After qualifying for the finals in the Long Jump, Nick jumped into a 3rd place finish with a leap of 21-00.50, only one inch behind the second place jump. Next was the 400M Dash prelims. Nick finished 2nd in his heat with a time of 51.84; that time was the 3rd fastest overall time in the event. After a little rest, Nick put on his spikes to compete in the 200M Dash prelims where he qualified for the finals by running the race in 22.70 seconds, again posting the fastest time in the race. After finishing his last race for the day, Nick, his Coach Kevin Voelker and we went out to eat at a Chinese Buffet. We watched in amazement as Nick, one by one, threw down (consumed) 7 plates of food with very little effort!

Day 2-Finals. Again Nick with his calm, cool and confident self, gathered his spikes and headed down through the tunnel. Upon emerging from the tunnel, he headed to the bull pen to check-in and stretch for the race to come, the 100M Dash final which he won with a time of 11.22 seconds. (Not as fast as the current MSD boys 100M record of 10.9 set by Nick's father the late Hardy Jones, but Nick is determined to take another shot at it.) With the gold medal around his neck, Nick set his focus on the 400M race. Soon the call for the race came. Nick took off his medal and again grabbed his spikes and headed to the tunnel. While in the bull-pen, the clerk of the course put the runners in their lane assignments and gave them numbers to put on their uniforms. All of the competitors were a bit nervous. Soon the runners were called to their blocks. Before the gun, the runner who had the fastest qualifying time false started and was eliminated from the race. Once again the runners were called to their blocks. This time it was a clean start. Nick ran his fastest time of 51.36 seconds and finished in second place. With only one race left to run, again Nick is focused on the race; the 200M Dash. As the runners were directed by the Starter to their "Mark", each runner settled into his starting blocks. On the gun, Nick blasted out of the blocks. He led the race from start to finish and posted the winning time of 22.41.

To recap Nick's weekend performances. He won gold in the 100M Dash and 200M Dash; silver in the 400M Dash and Bronze in the Long Jump. Nick's strong performances were enough to win a 4th place Team trophy for Missouri School for the Deaf. Way to go Nick!!!! We are MSD PROUD of your accomplishments.

The medals that Nick earned.

Winter Homecoming King Michael and Queen Courtney.

Azara and Jeff.

2013 Fall Homecoming

Theme: Eagles Lead The Way

Special thanks to Lucille Blackwell and Luis Rivera for chairing the Homecoming Committee. You two did a fantastic job! Members of the committee include: Susan Peterson, Gary Bonsall, Shanda Collins-King/Queen ; Eddie Ross and Angela Russell-Decorations; Sandy Hudgens, Ron Danuser, Jamie Studer-Dance; and Heather Dunn, Bobby Morris Jr., Ella Washington-Program. Students' and teachers got into the homecoming spirit by participating in the class dress up competition: Monday-Iron Eagle, Tuesday-Deaf Can Do, Wednesday- Class Color, Thursday-Eagle University, Friday-Green Gold

Friday evening the senior class held a cake walk under the directions of their

Sports

class sponsors Bethany Peterson and Bob Peneston. Lots of yummy donations for the cakewalk were donated by MSD staff

Saturday, September 14th the Eagles culminated their week long Fall Homecoming celebration by posting a win by the Lady Eagles' varsity volleyball team over the Leopards of Arkansas School for the Deaf (25-19, 25-20, 16-25, 25-14), on Saturday morning. The JV team lost their match 9-25, 25-27. Later that evening the Eagles soared onto McClure field to take on the Leopards. The Leopards fought valiantly, but the Eagles won the fight 48-12. The game was attended by over 300 alumni, family and friends.

The Coronation ceremony took place at halftime. Homecoming candidates were Sr. Courtney McCarty, Jr. Azara Macker, Jr. Michael White and Jr. Jeffery Porter. Taking the honors for the 2013 Fall Homecoming King and Queen were Courtney McCarty and Michael White.

GPSD Volleyball Tournament

Hosted by Arkansas School for the Deaf

This year marked the first year for Arkansas School for the Deaf to host the GPSD Volleyball Tournament. We enjoyed the drumline from Little Rock Central High School, who performed at the opening of the tournament. Athletic Director, Jon Parker and the Arkansas School for the Deaf staff did a terrific job!

The Lady Eagles finished 4th in pool A, winning 2 sets and losing 7. Overall the Eagles finished in 7th place. Head Coach Heather Dunn and I were very proud of the girls' efforts. Their efforts were rewarded by the coaches of other schools and the staff of Arkansas School for the Deaf who voted for the Missouri girls' team to receive the Sportsmanship Trophy. Way to Soar Lady Eagles!

Drumline from Little Rock Central High School.

Volleyball Girls with their Sportsmanship Trophy.

Westiminster Lady Blue Jays practice with MSD Lady Eagles.

Westminster Lady Blue Jays Partner With The MSD Lady Eagles

On Wednesday December 11 the Lady Blue Jays came Harrison Gym on the campus of Missouri School for the Deaf, to help the Lady Eagles improve their confidence and basketball skills. The teams enjoyed interacting while running their plays and practicing their defensive skills. The Lady Blue Jays will return to Harrison Gym to cheer on the Eagles at the GPSD Tournament, hosted by MSD February 13-15, 2014.

Westiminster Lady Blue Jays Basketball team with MSD Lady Eagles Basketball team.

Please check Website for updates to sports schedule.

http://www.msd.k12.mo.us/sports/