

# *The* Maryland Bulletin

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A Publication of the Maryland School for the Deaf  
Fall 2011





# The Maryland Bulletin

Maryland School for the Deaf—[www.msd.edu](http://www.msd.edu)

The Maryland Bulletin  
Volume CXXXII, No. 1  
Fall 2011



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**THE MARYLAND BULLETIN** (USPS 331-660) is published three times a year. Subscription price is \$10.00 per year by Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, Frederick, MD 21705-0250. Postmaster: Send address changes to **THE MARYLAND BULLETIN**, 101 Clarke Place, Frederick, MD 21705-0250.

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### ON THE COVER

A group of kindergarteners is enjoying the fall foliage. **BACK** (L to R) Levi Mott, Qudir Barr-Lewis **FRONT** Noam Omstead, James Upchurch, Elinor O'Connor



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# MSA and CEASD Validation Team Visit

*Marcia Virts, Teacher Specialist/Lead Internal Coordinator, MSA/CEASD Accreditation, [marcia.virts@msd.edu](mailto:marcia.virts@msd.edu)*

On Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, seven Validation Team members arrived at MSD: from Middle States, Chair Dr. Lloyd Chadwick, Ms. Patty Flood, and Dr. Raymond James, and from CEASD, Chair Ms. Claire Bugen from Texas School for the Deaf, Mr. Jeff Bravin from American School for the Deaf, Ms. Judy Vreeland from the Learning Center, and Ms. Rosemary Gallegos from New Mexico School for the Deaf. A welcome dinner and program were held in the Bjorlee Museum on Sunday evening, including an amazing video, made in-house on both campuses, which featured our students, faculty, and staff showing their knowledge of and commitment to our new Mission, Beliefs, and Profile of Graduates. The evening ended with a guided Frederick Campus tour given by our high school student leaders.

Over the next three days, many interviews, meetings, and classroom observations occurred on both campuses. Almost every classroom was visited. The campuses were well prepared for the Validation Teams and the energy and spirit of the students, staff, and faculty was incredible. Three Board of Trustees members were interviewed by members of the Validation Teams: Ms. Laurie Corcoran, Mr. David Martin, and Dr. Benjamin Bahan. On November 16<sup>th</sup>, at the conclusion of the Validation Team visit, Ms. Claire Bugen, Superintendent of Texas School for the Deaf and the Chair of the CEASD Validation Team for MSD, in her exit report to the school, announced that the Validation Team will recommend to the Middle States and CEASD Boards that Maryland School for the Deaf receive full accreditation. The school will receive official written confirmation in 6-8 weeks from each of those Boards.

The reaccreditation process has been extremely beneficial as the school studied and reflected on who MSD is, what it does, and where it is headed. The new Mission, Beliefs, Profile of Graduates, and Student Performance Objectives with Action Plans will guide MSD's strategic planning as MSD moves forward through the next seven-year reaccreditation cycle.

Many thanks to the Internal Coordinator Team representing both campuses: Rick Ballard, Elizabeth Reed, Lisa Brinks, and Tara Holloway. Many thanks also to the Accreditation Planning Team past and present members representing all of MSD's stakeholders: Dolores Abbott-Dixon, Shannon



## MSA AND CEASD VALIDATION TEAM

**(L-R) Jeff Bravin; Rosemary Gallegos; Claire Bugen, CEASD Chair; Raymond James; Lloyd Chadwick, MSA Chair; Patty Flood; Judy Vreeland**



**MSD's Orioles Management Team (OMT) and the CEASD/MSA Validation Team share Accreditation for Growth thoughts during a meeting in the Bjorlee Museum.**

Negussie, Rusty Kestenbaum, Robin Kittleman, David Martin, John Snavlin, Maria Joseph Gousse, Gussie Belasario, Kelly Sicard, Rick Ballard, Lisa Gastelle, Lori Bonheyo, Lisa Brinks, Larry Cohen, Stephen Covington, Kali Doubledee, Sarah Fairbanks, Catherine Goldberg, Chris Kaftan, Jolene Luttrell, Keri Mays, Jenny Perry, Adrienne Rubenstein, Tara Holloway, Elizabeth Reed, Wayne Smith,

Kevin Strachan, Vinny Velotta, and Jennifer Yost-Ortiz. Additional thanks go to our Action Plan Chairs: Chris Duck, Laura Riddell, Shelley McCulley, Vance Rewolinski, Terri Dietz, Sue Hill, and Elizabeth Hill.

The entire MSD Community should be proud of their fine work during the self-study year and the Validation Team visit. Thanks to all!

**MB**





# Maryland Common Core State Curriculum

*Stacey M. Farone, M.Ed., Director of Student Achievement, stacey.farone@msd.edu*

Over the last twenty years, the Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD) has encountered several significant revisions to the curriculum, and each revision has significantly impacted the program offered to students. In 1992, MSD made a dramatic decision to adopt the Frederick County Public School curriculum affording deaf students the same educational program as the one offered to their hearing counterparts. When Maryland designed a voluntary state curriculum in response to the 2001 No Child Left Behind legislation, MSD again met the challenge of the new curriculum. Today another sweeping reform in curriculum, the Common Core State Standards, is slated to impact MSD, and all schools throughout the nation, with full implementation expected over the next several years.

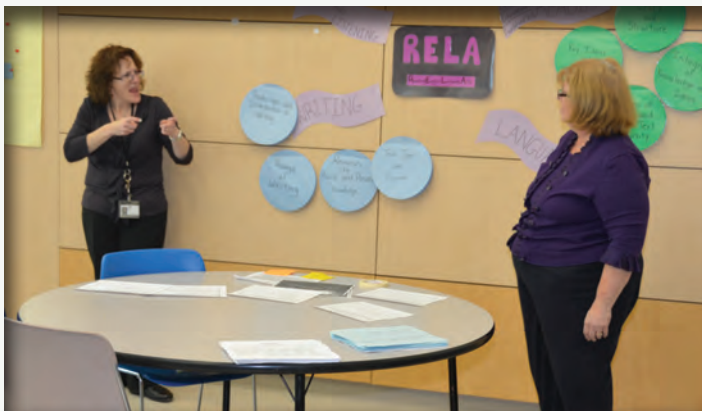
The educational standards of the new curriculum were created to prepare students for success in college or the workplace. Developing common standards will help ensure that students nationwide are receiving high quality education that is equally rigorous and consistent from school to

school and from state to state. This past June, the Maryland State Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and in Mathematics. These Standards became the foundation upon which Maryland is building its new Maryland Common Core State Curriculum (MD-CCSC).

Implementing the new curriculum will provide a challenge for teachers and students across the nation. Over the next several years, MSD will take a variety of steps to ensure a smooth transition between the current state curriculum and the MD-CCSC. This year MSD is focusing on awareness. Staff members at both campuses will be involved in biweekly Professional Learning Communities commonly known as PLCs. Topics will include Universal Design for Learning (UDL), the new Mathematical Practices and math curriculum, and reading and the new ELA curriculum. The goal is to have all staff members become aware of the MD-CCSC and to prepare staff members to begin transitioning to full implementation by 2014.

In the fall of 2012, the elementary school is expected to begin their transition to the new curriculum. Because Maryland's MSA and HSA tests will continue to be based on the current curriculum, the first several years will be transitional. By the fall of 2013, the MD-CCSC is expected to be implemented from Pre-K through 12th grade. In the meantime, Maryland School for the Deaf will implement the new curriculum in concurrence with the current curriculum.

Eventually the MSA and HSA testing will be phased out, and, by 2014, new assessments are expected to be in place. These new assessments are being developed by two separate consortia: PARCC (Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) and The SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium. Maryland is currently a member of the PARCC consortium.



**Andrea Feldman and Sue Hill explain the RELA concepts of Strands, Clusters and Standards in the new MD-CCSC.**



**Robert Lewis, Cam Overs, Nicole Sizemore-Smith, Cara Keith, Sara Lee Herzig, and Marsha Flowers work together to build a swing set out of straws and clay as part of their STEM activity.**



**Shelly McCully and Joanne Geppert lead an activity on the new Math curriculum at Columbia Campus's PLC.**





(L-R) Zuhair Alsaegh, Jay Jordan, Lynn Ballard-Weiner, and Paul Roult discuss the mathematics curriculum in the new MD-CCSC.

One of the most important differences in the new MD-CCSC is the level of academic rigor. Concepts that may have previously been taught during freshmen or sophomore year of high school will now be taught and learned in middle school. Ideas and topics that were previously reserved for Advanced Placement (AP) classes for college-bound students during the latter years of high school will now be an expectation for all students in the earlier years of high school.

The mathematics curriculum at the elementary level will face a major curricular change. Currently the math curriculum is based on a spiral model of learning. Topics are touched upon over the course of several years at increasing levels of difficulty. It is often said that the current curriculum is “a mile wide and an inch deep,” meaning that a large number of concepts are covered each year but only at a superficial level. The new curriculum is said to be “an inch



Nancy Downey, Maryann Swann, Anne Drechsler, Stella Antonio, Pierre Dazé work on building a swing set during their STEM activity at Columbia Campus's PLC.

wide and a mile deep.” The number of objectives and standards at each grade level has decreased significantly, but the depth of knowledge expected to be acquired by the students is much greater. The new MD-CCSC mathematics curriculum

is a mastery curriculum. Each skill should be taught thoroughly until mastery is achieved before the student moves onto the next skill. This is viewed more as a staircase model of learning. In addition, there are eight Standards of

Mathematical Practice that will be imbedded into daily lessons. The Practices describe varieties of expertise in both “processes and proficiencies” in which all students are expected to be fluent by graduation.

English Language Arts (ELA) will have four strands that increase in complexity but are standard to each grade level: reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. Reading has an increased emphasis on non-fiction text compared to our current state curriculum. Writing has been divided into three main types: argumentative, informational/explanatory, and narrative. The emphasis on each type of writing varies throughout the grades.

Speaking and listening focuses on a variety of academic discussions in one-on-one, small group, and whole-class settings. Formal presentations or more informal discussions will both be venues for this strand. The last strand is language which focuses on expanding student vocabularies and conventions of formal and informal English language.

As with the adoption of new curricula in the past, the upcoming Maryland Common Core State Curriculum will mean challenge and change. Honoring our mission to provide an exemplary and equitable education to all students, MSD will do all that it must to prepare our teachers, students, and families for the challenges of the new curriculum. **MB**



Liz Hill and Elizabeth Reed lead an activity on the new RELA curriculum at Columbia Campus's PLC.





# Jr. BDA Students and Youth Empowerment Summit (Y.E.S!)

Barbara Ann Smith, Y.E.S! Director/MSD Teacher Aide, [youth@nbda.com](mailto:youth@nbda.com)/[barbara.smith@msd.edu](mailto:barbara.smith@msd.edu)

Every other summer, the National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA) hosts the Youth Empowerment Summit. This program, commonly referred to as Y.E.S!, is designed to foster leadership skills and meet the social needs of black deaf and hard of hearing youths from thirteen to seventeen years of age. Founded during the 1997 NBDA conference in Washington, D.C., it aims to encourage black deaf and hard of hearing youth around the country to achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

The most recent Y.E.S! leadership summit, "Overcoming Today's Changing World: Change We Need to Reinforce a Better Tomorrow," was held on July 25-31, 2011, at The University of North Carolina-Charlotte in conjunction with the NBDA national conference. Directed by Barbara Smith with the assistance of Corey Burton, this year's program attracted

twenty participants from deaf and mainstream secondary institutions across the U.S. The Maryland School for the Deaf had four participants sponsored by the MSD Foundation: Alice Jones (Junior), Malik Morris (Senior), Courtney Rideout (Junior), and AJ Moody (Senior). Students participated in presentations addressing how to better handle racism, approach gender differences, and advocate for themselves. "Am I a Leader" was a power point presentation given by Corey Parker and Daisy Rivenbark to help participants identify different leadership styles.

Ms. Smith and Mia Sanchez, director of the College Black Deaf Students Leadership Institute (running concurrently), collaborated to encourage interaction between the two youth programs' participants. Y.E.S! and CBDSLI participants participated in activities such as conference workshops

and an outing to an amusement park. The experience gave members of both groups the opportunity to network and form a sense of community.

Special evening events included Family Fun Night, a live comedy show featuring popular black deaf comedian CJ Jones, and the highlight—the Miss Black Deaf America Pageant. Ericka Baylor, a Gallaudet University student, was crowned the new Queen. On Saturday night, the 25th annual NBDA conference banquet and awards ceremony took place. Keynote speaker Howard Rosenblum, C.E.O. of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD), addressed the importance of the NBDA and NAD joining forces in the fight for equal rights for deaf individuals.

Special thanks goes out to the MSD Foundation for their sponsorships. Each of the students has shared how educational and enjoyable the Y.E.S! experience was.

**MB**



Yvonnia Johnson Photography

**TOP ROW (L-R)** Corey Burton (Assistant Director), Shemka Edwards (Peer Advisor), Darnita James (Peer Advisor), Chanae Ladlee (Peer Advisor), Isdiore Niyongabo (Peer Advisor), Barbara Smith (Director) **SECOND ROW** Kyle Jackson, Zashun Long, Chris Wright-Queen, Courtney Rideout, Alice Jones, Saria Webb **THIRD ROW** Richard Blackston, Emmanuel Njoku, Tane'a Brown, Tanasia LaFraizer, Sierra Hardy, James Bridges, Chanel Hardy **BOTTOM ROW** Malik Morris, Lynnette Dawson, Quniton Ferrell, Tuesdae Dunklin, Kanessha Stallworth, Raven Sutton, AJ Moody



MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
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All performances are  
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Please include on your check  
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and the number of  
adults and children.

Contact:  
jane.nowalski@msd.edu  
hrosko@mcdaniel.edu

March 2, 2012, Friday  
7:00 pm  
March 3, 2012, Saturday  
2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
March 8, 2012, Thursday  
7:00 p.m.  
March 9, 2012, Friday  
7:00 p.m.  
March 10, 2012, Saturday  
2:00 p.m.

Designed by Amanda Ames, 11<sup>th</sup> grader in Computer Graphics I Class





## MSD students are our future...

On November 13-16, 2011, the accreditation validation teams from the Middle States Association (MSA) and Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) were at both the Frederick and Columbia Campuses meeting with MSD stakeholders and reviewing our self-study reports and artifacts. At the conclusion of their visit, they announced to members of the MSD community that they are recommending full accreditation for MSD to their respective boards.

I wish to sincerely thank Lead Internal Coordinator Marcia Virts and Internal Coordinators Rick Ballard, Lisa Brinks, Tara Holloway, and Elizabeth Reed for their outstanding work leading each of us through the self-study process. I wish to also thank members of the Accreditation Planning Team, and parents/guardians and students who have contributed much to the reaccreditation process.

A full report from the MSA and CEASD validation teams will soon be posted at our MSD website. Their report is like a report card as validation teams wrote commendations and recommendations for each of the 12 accreditation standards: *Mission/Philosophy, Governance and Leadership, School Improvement Planning, Finances, Facilities, School Climate and Organization, Health and Safety, Educational Program, Assessment and Evidence of Student Learning, Student Services, Student Life and Student Activities, and Information Resources and Technology.*

In a nutshell, MSD stakeholders have collectively repositioned MSD for the next seven years to best serve all MSD students. The students are at MSD today, and tomorrow, they will be members of our larger community fulfilling various roles and responsibilities which will impact all of us. This is why we all must continue to work to provide “an equitable and exemplary education in a nurturing, engaging, and challenging environment” for all students!

The stakes continue to be very high... Providing quality education to all MSD students requires much focus and commitment from all MSD stakeholders. The MSD student population continues to be diverse, and this requires an ongoing and transparent evaluation of our curriculum, instructional approaches, and assessment tools. The new and upcoming Common Core State Standards curriculum will pave the way for increased academic rigor for all students. Greater emphasis will also be given to language acquisition and fluency; and academic and social behavior in the classrooms.

MSD will continue to upgrade its facilities, especially in the area of the residence halls. MSD's 15 year Master Plan is a living document and is periodically updated with MSD Board of Trustees and stakeholders' input. The latest in video and amplification technology as well as computer technology will increasingly become more and more in demand as they are an integral part of everyday academic instruction.

For me, perhaps the most exciting feature of the reaccreditation process is the new section on “Profile of Graduates”. This has helped MSD stakeholders come together and visualize what skills MSD students should demonstrate at the time of their graduation:

### **The Maryland School for the Deaf graduate will be empowered to demonstrate competency in:**

#### **Foundational Knowledge and Skills by**

- Employing skills in literacy and signacy
- Thinking critically and solving problems
- Thinking creatively
- Seeking and retrieving resources for self-advocacy
- Understanding their rights as deaf and hard of hearing individuals
- Understanding the components of a healthy life style
- Possessing independent living skills
- Using and employing technology efficiently and effectively

- Developing a career plan and goals
- Meeting or exceeding state standards, achieving IEP goals, and passing appropriate assessments

#### **Language and Communication Skills by**

- Using American Sign Language and English language effectively
- Demonstrating effective communication skills in a variety of settings
- Demonstrating active listening skills

#### **Using effective conversational skills**

#### **Individual and Community Awareness by**

- Understanding their personal identity
- Possessing knowledge about the Deaf community and Deaf heritage
- Possessing knowledge about the community-at-large
- Practicing open-mindedness and sensitivity to diversity, various communication modes, and different perspectives
- Respecting individual differences

#### **Personal Qualities by**

- Demonstrating positive self-esteem and confidence
- Setting and meeting goals
- Striving for personal excellence and wellness
- Possessing a strong work ethic
- Respecting others
- Understanding and using social etiquette
- Adapting in a variety of situations
- Being a team player
- Contributing to the community
- Valuing lifelong learning

I have read the Profile of Graduates several times now, and this is indeed breathtaking... The reaccreditation process has given MSD a greater sense of direction and purpose. It also constantly reminds each of us that we have an awesome task at hand which is to provide high quality education for all students. We must not fail in our roles as educators for the very important reason that MSD students are our future.

**MB**



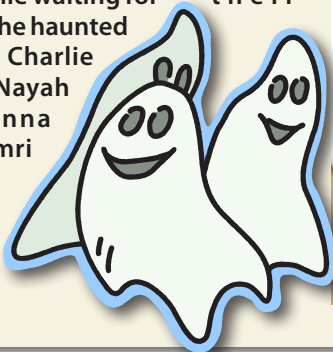
## MSD Board of Trustees 2011-2012



**TOP (L-R)** Robin Kittleman; Khadijat Rashid, Ph.D.; Cynthia Neese-Bailes, Ph.D.; Benjamin Bahan, Ph.D.; John Ertel, Ph.D.; David Martin; Angela McCaskill, Ph.D.; Ricardo Hernandez, Ph.D. **BOTTOM** Roslyn Hannibal-Booker; Ernest Hairston, Ph.D.; Sandra Harriman; Laurie Corcoran; Sheryl Cooper, Ph.D.; Heather Zeolla

### COLUMBIA CAMPUS HAUNTED!

MSD Columbia held annual Haunted House and this year drew over 500 people. **RIGHT** MSD Columbia students eat snacks while waiting for their turn to enter the haunted house. (L-R) Charlie Brennan, Ta'Nayah Waller, Brianna Brennan, Kamri Gooding





# Understanding a Tragedy

To many of us, the attacks of September 11 feel like yesterday. But few school students, even high school students, remember much if anything at all about that terrible day. For them it is history—as hard to imagine as World War II or the Great Depression.

To educate students about the events of 9/11, and to properly honor the many fallen and the many heroes of that day, both MSD's middle school and high school prepared lengthy activities of deep, cross-cultural learning.

MSD's middle school students spent the week prior to the ten-year anniversary learning about the day from many perspectives. Each content area—Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies—studied some aspect of the day while staying true to their curricula. The week of collaborative lessons culminated with a Friday morning assembly to bridge the classroom activities with the realities of the 9/11 attacks and the impact of 9/11 on America. Social Studies instructor Zuhair Alsaegh presented the history of the events including the geography of the Middle East; Language Arts instructor Dina Raevsky, who was living near the World Trade Center, recounted her memories of living through the attacks. Guest speaker Donna Spence was working in the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 slammed into the west side of the building. Ms. Spence shared a first-hand and heartfelt account of her experiences on September 11, explaining the feeling of confusion and uncertainty at the moment of the initial impact and explosion of the aircraft, the subsequent chaos within the building, and the daring escape to safety.

MSD's high school students spent a full day learning about 9/11 in a variety of cross-curricular events. ASL instructors and media specialists filmed students' acrostic ASL poetry; math and science teachers examined the science of the disaster; for example, why was the second tower to be struck the first to fall? And English and Social Studies teachers had students trying to determine the cause of 9/11 by analyzing primary texts including a news broadcast from the morning of



(From l-r) Asa Johnson Jr., Jonathan Solano, Ivana Genievsky, Christy Zendarski and Allyson Bortoletto use words and sign to describe feelings that were felt on 9-11 during their assembly commemorating the event.

the attacks. Students rotated between these activities and were grouped at random so that students from a variety of backgrounds worked together. Teachers from the Career and Technology Education department as well as the High School and High School Special Needs departments collaborated to make the activities accessible and educational for all. It was a model for how teaching can be equitable and exemplary.

Our students left the middle school and high school events with a deep and meaningful understanding of the events of 9/11 and an appreciation for the depth of this human tragedy.

—Kevin Strachan, Assistant Superintendent/  
Principal, FC, [kevin.strachan@msd.edu](mailto:kevin.strachan@msd.edu)



Students from Middle School pay close attention during their 9-11 Memorial Event.



# Red Ribbon Week



During the last week of October, the nation celebrated Red Ribbon Week. The Red Ribbon Week campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the country, bringing millions of people together every year to raise awareness and foster prevention.

During Red Ribbon Week, the Student Life Department of the Maryland School for the Deaf-Frederick hosted several activities and events including alcohol and drug prevention workshops, wear red day, informational booths, a film related to alcohol abuse, and a car crash demonstration.

The car crash demonstration was the most visible part of the program. The purpose was to educate students about the potential consequences of drinking and driving. Follow-up discussions revealed that the demonstration made a significant impact on students, helping them to better understand how drinking and driving can change lives forever.

Today's high school students face a great deal of pressure to engage in risky behaviors, especially during big events such as homecoming, prom, and graduation. It is hoped that the events of Red Ribbon Week encouraged students to take a stand against alcohol and drugs and make a personal commitment to live a drug-free lifestyle throughout the year.

—Neshmayda Bravin, Behavior Specialist, Student Life,  
neshmayda.bravin@msd.edu



High school students watch firefighters do a demonstration with a narrator explaining how to rescue the victim from the wrecked vehicle.



Firefighters are attempting to remove a volunteer victim, James DeStefano, from the vehicle.



# Baker Building Dedication

For over two decades a building housing the Family Education and Early Childhood Department and the dormitories on the Columbia Campus was referred to as the Baker Building without a formal dedication having been made. In fact no one knew for sure for whom the building was named. This all ended on November 2, 2011.

These facts were brought to light when a Building Naming Committee was established by the current Board of Trustees to seek community input to make recommendations for the Main Building on the Columbia Campus and the recently built Elementary Building on the Frederick Campus. This committee began its work by reviewing criteria that had been previously employed in naming other buildings on the campuses, discovering that a Board of Visitors Committee in 1989 had made the Baker recommendation and that the full Board had approved the name, but no other documentation could be found.

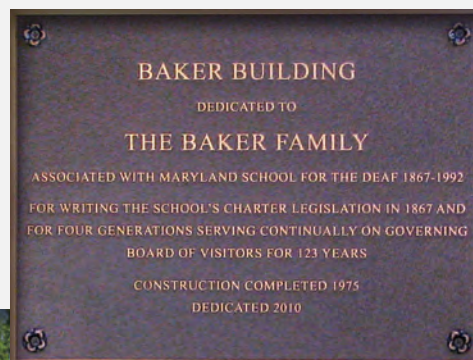
The current Building Naming Committee recommended, and the Board of Trustees and the Board of Public Works approved, that the building be named after four generations of the Baker family; members of whom wrote and introduced the school's charter to the General Assembly of Maryland in 1867 and then served 123 consecutive years on the Board of Visitors.

The last member of the Baker family to serve on the Board of Visitors, Joe Baker, was the honoree of the day. He was accompanied by his wife, Fran.

Mistress of Ceremonies was alumna Sara Lee Herzig, current assistant principal of elementary school at Frederick Campus and former student at the Columbia Campus. Opening comments were given by Superintendent James E. Tucker and proclamations were presented by Delegates Steven DeBoy, Sr. and James Malone, Jr. who represent the 12A Election District in which Columbia is located. Family background was presented by Chad Baker, Chair of the Building Naming Committee, and Joe Baker's accomplishments by Dr. Roland Steiner who served on the Board of Visitors with Mr. Baker and later became the first President of a newly constructed Board of Trustees in 1992. Also in attendance was Richard Mullinix, the last President of the Board of Visitors and colleague of Mr. Baker.

After the ceremonies, Joe Baker and his wife visited the Baker Building and its wall plaque and the long overdue dedication was now complete.

—Chad Baker, Director of MSD Museums, [chad.baker@msd.edu](mailto:chad.baker@msd.edu)



The Baker Building



Proclamation is presented by Delegates Steven DeBoy (far left) and James Malone, Jr (far right) to Principal Jennifer Yost Ortiz, Superintendent James E. Tucker and Joe Baker.



Joseph Dill Baker and wife Fran next to dedication plaque on the Baker Building honoring the Baker family for 123 years of continuous service to MSD.



## Girl Scout Mural



An inspiring mural in dorm at Columbia Campus was completed by Kelsey Taylor, a junior at River Hill High School.

Last spring, Kelsey Tyler, a daughter of Deaf parents, wanted to do a Girl Scout project at the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus. She contacted Suzi Behun, a prekindergarten teacher, and asked her to become her consultant. Kelsey proposed several ideas to Suzi before choosing to do a mural in the recreation room of the dorm. She wanted the students to feel at home and enjoy having fun in that room. Kelsey was

able to receive donated items from several companies to help her with the project. She spent a total of forty hours drawing and painting the mural. It is an honor to have her leave her mark of leadership in the dorm for the students to follow.

Suzi Behun,  
Prekindergarten teacher, CC,  
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## MSD Columbia Hosts 2011 Maryland Association of the Deaf (MDAD) Conference



Selected MSD middle school and high school students attended its Youth Leadership Retreat. The students had the opportunity to meet Greg Hlibok and listen to his presentation about leadership and advocacy.

MSD Columbia middle school students pose with Greg Hlibok. (L-R) Jiang McConville, Jorge Aguilar, Paula Hare, Miles Scotto, and Kiser Holiday



BALTIMORE

CENTERSTAGE

# Good Things Come in Threes

There is a saying that good things come in threes. This certainly fits MSD-Columbia's Deaf Orioles Theatre Company. For the third straight year, the company's play was selected as one of the top five plays produced by students for the Centerstage's Young Playwright Festival, an amazing honor as once again over three hundred original plays were submitted to Centerstage for consideration.

Normally, the student plays are performed by professional actors, but after last year's success in which the MSD student playwrights were allowed to perform their own play, "Understanding," Centerstage realized that there is no substitute for the real thing. So once again, MSD-CC was the only school allowed to have its students perform their play. No other school has ever been granted this privilege.

This year's play, written by middle school students, was entitled "Shine"; it represented the hidden talents that lie within all of us – those special talents that allow us all to "shine" – as well as some of the problems students go through in trying to reach their dreams. It was a resounding success when performed at school and again on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Centerstage.

Led by Stella Antonio-Conley, drama teacher; Ms. Susan Maginnis, middle school teacher; and Mr. Oran Sandel, professional actor/artist-in-residence from Centerstage, another creation was born. These three professionals have been

instrumental in the development and expansion of the drama program at the school. In fact, Ms. Antonio-Conley, who also is involved with the Children's Theater in Bethesda, was recognized just this past January for her dedication to the Deaf community when she received the annual Community Leadership Award from Hamilton Relay Outreach Program, a division of Maryland Relay Services.

In honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the annual Young Playwrights Festival, Centerstage gave special recognition to several schools, MSD-CC among them. Along with this honor, the school also received \$1,000 for its drama program as well as a citation signed by the Governor recognizing the school's dedication to the arts. MSD could not be more proud of its students!

Both students and staff worked very hard to make this special event happen. But the benefit is much bigger than the sum of all of the honors. Mr. Sandal may have said it best when he was interviewed by Mr. Frank Hazzard back on March 7, 2011 where he stated that "[Drama] is a great way to practice social skills so kids can feel more comfortable wherever they are . . . It improves problem solving, [teaches] empathy for others, [makes young people] more flexible and resilient, [and helps them] understand the value of taking risks and being in the unknown." (To view this entire article, please refer to [www.elkridgepatch.com](http://www.elkridgepatch.com).)

The MSD community is already looking forward to this school year's project.

—John Snavlin, Assistant Superintendent/Principal, CC,  
[john.snavlin@msd.edu](mailto:john.snavlin@msd.edu)

**Middle School students are proudly holding the "framed" accomplishments of The Deaf Orioles Theatre Company's three-year participation in Centerstage's Young Playwright Festival.**

**BACK** Heather Stanley, Alan Sullivan, Aidan Southard, Paula Hare, Samantha Ivon  
**FRONT** Kiser Holiday, Jiang McConville, Marcus Govan, Miles Scotto, Jorge Aguilar







## Formed at Columbia Campus

In October of this past school year, two students got an idea. Callista Johnson and Laniece Oliver, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders

at the Columbia Campus, had been working on a unit in their reading class about different types of clubs. Together they came up with the idea of starting a book club at school and asked their teacher, Brandie Seaman, if they could. Columbia's first student book club was thus formed with Laniece as the president and Callista as the vice-president. The two students spent the month of October researching what a book club meant, making posters advertising for their club, meeting with other staff members, and gaining support. Before long, there were close to two dozen students interested in joining and the support of the faculty and staff was spectacular. Callista and Laniece took on the responsibility of developing the guidelines for the club, finding the meeting space, deciding on a meeting time, and meeting with staff to work on choosing material for the students to read. After a couple months of planning and preparation, the girls were ready to host their first meeting and get the club underway.

The first meeting was a huge success with a large attendance from grades two to five. The students met every other Tuesday during their lunch and recess time. Callista and Laniece guided the club with support from the advisors, Brandie Seaman and Liz Hill. During meetings students would discuss books that they had been given the previous



**Callista Johnson and Laniece Oliver, the book club founders, read books together.**

weeks by talking about topics ranging from their favorite parts to how some of their books were similar. The club had approximately fifteen core members who met consistently to discuss their love of books. After a month or two of the club meeting, first grade students were asking when they would be able to join! Callista and Laniece had decided that the grade range would be second to fifth, but were excited to see the enthusiasm for what they had started.

Callista and Laniece will move to fourth grade next year, but will continue to be involved with the book club. They are looking forward to welcoming the new members who will be in second grade next year! As word of the book club spread, the idea is being considered for expansion to other parts of the campus as funds and interest allow. Look for information on how your child can be involved in this club coming home in the future school year. Happy reading!

—Elizabeth Hill,

*Reading Specialist, CC, [Elizabeth.hill@msd.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.hill@msd.edu)*

### PUMPKIN BONFIRE



MSD Frederick PTCA hosted their first annual Pumpkin Bonfire. The community had a great time!





# TheatreBridge Project Gets Under Way at Columbia

After a year of intensive planning, students and staff at the Columbia Campus embarked on a summer full of exciting activities provided by the TheatreBridge Project, a federally funded, four-year grant program that supports a partnership with Quest Visual Theatre, MSD-CC, and Gallaudet University. The purpose of the project is to use visual theater techniques to enhance the literacy skills of deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The project is designed with a multi-dimensional approach involving students, staff, teaching artists, and parents, and the impact of the project will be evaluated by an empirical research study which will then be shared with the community.

In July, elementary students participated in a five-day summer camp at Columbia Campus where they were exposed to visual theater techniques and created an original production of a pirate play. During "Pirate Week" Stella Antonio, a drama teacher at Columbia Campus, along with Michael Dunham, a teacher's aide, provided theater activities using the Maryland State Standards. The activities included acting, ASL poetry, animation, and film editing. As part of

the project, *The Night Pirate* was read to the campers. After they learned about the characters and plot, they were introduced to ASL poetry through an ABC story game. From there, they learned about the animation process by building a mini-stage, characters, and props with Lego™ pieces. Then they developed a pictorial storyboard to help them prepare for the stop-animation shooting. Instead of filming, they took pictures of the stage and then positioned the characters on the stage. For each shot, they moved the characters slightly. The campers used Window Movie Maker to turn their series of photos into stop-animation film. They also filmed themselves signing an ASL poetry version of *The Night Pirate*. After editing the film, they were able to display it to their families on Parents' Day and take home a DVD of their work.

The summer culminated with teachers and aides participating in a week-long Teacher/Artist Institute, the first in a series of workshops in which the staff-turned-students found themselves creating tableaux to tell fairy tales using fabric to develop original characters and demonstrating the body

movements necessary to dance through a room full of imaginary syrup. Much laughter and team building ensued as the participants let go of their inhibitions and got in touch with their "inner artists." They then applied these visual theater techniques to mini-lessons related to language arts, math, social studies, and science. They also learned how to use technology to further support these endeavors. The participants completed the workshop full of energy and ready to apply their new skills with their own students. Over the coming school year, this inaugural group of trainees will continue to get together, share their experiences, and help shape the program for future participants.

As the year progresses, the TheatreBridge Project will be providing activities with theater games during the After School Program and offering students and families opportunities to attend plays and shows in the community. The grant is also providing opportunities for Quest staff to work with Family Education/Early Childhood Department to teach parents strategies for developing expressive language and creative thinking skills in their young children.

The TheatreBridge Project is an exciting opportunity to explore a new approach to improving student achievement. Stay tuned for future updates as the project expands and continues.

—Sue Maginnis, Middle School Teacher, CC,

[susan.maginnis@msd.edu](mailto:susan.maginnis@msd.edu);

Stella Antonio, Drama Teacher,

CC, [stella.antonio@msd.edu](mailto:stella.antonio@msd.edu);

Michael Dunham, Teacher Aide,

CC, [michael.dunham@msd.edu](mailto:michael.dunham@msd.edu)



**LEFT** The campers are thinking hard as they set up their mini-stage for their stop-animation film. (L-R) Michael Dunham, Jeri Lombardo, Josiah Armstrong-Allen, Laniece Oliver



# Follow MSD on

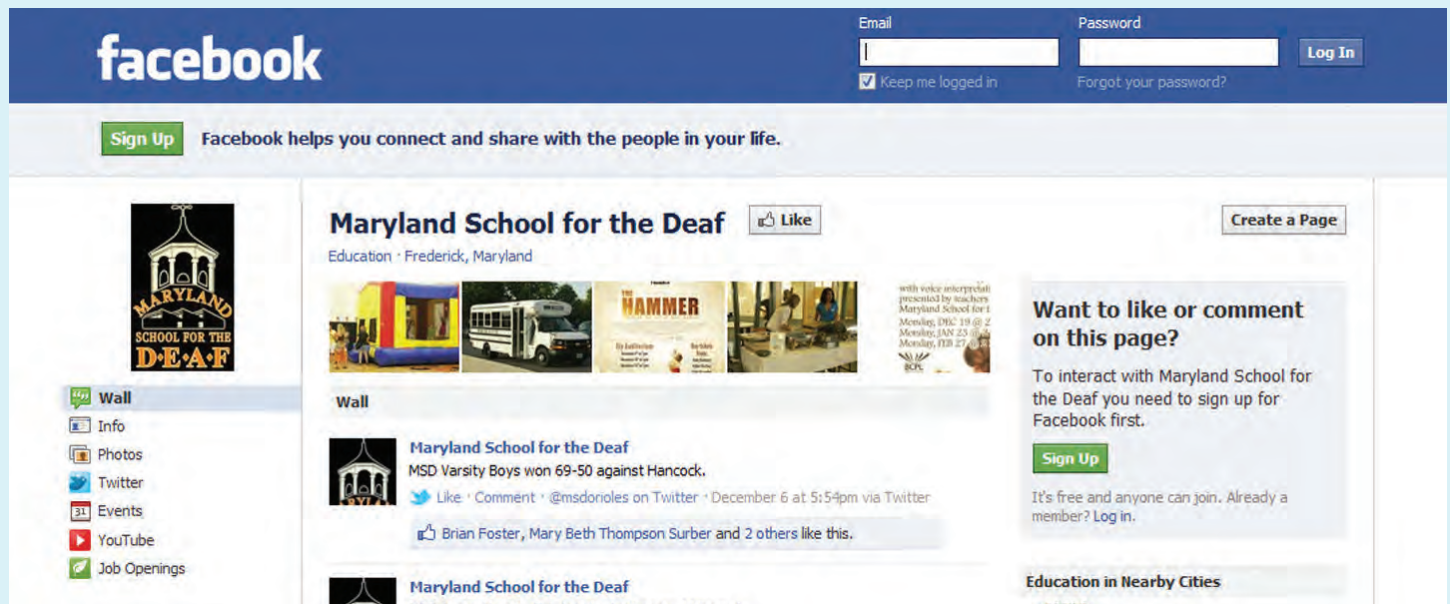



The Maryland School for the Deaf now has Facebook and Twitter accounts. The school will be using these social networks to post information about social or athletic events, workshops, and other events. Anyone who has either a Facebook or Twitter account can access this information. Enjoy and stay posted with MSD's updates!

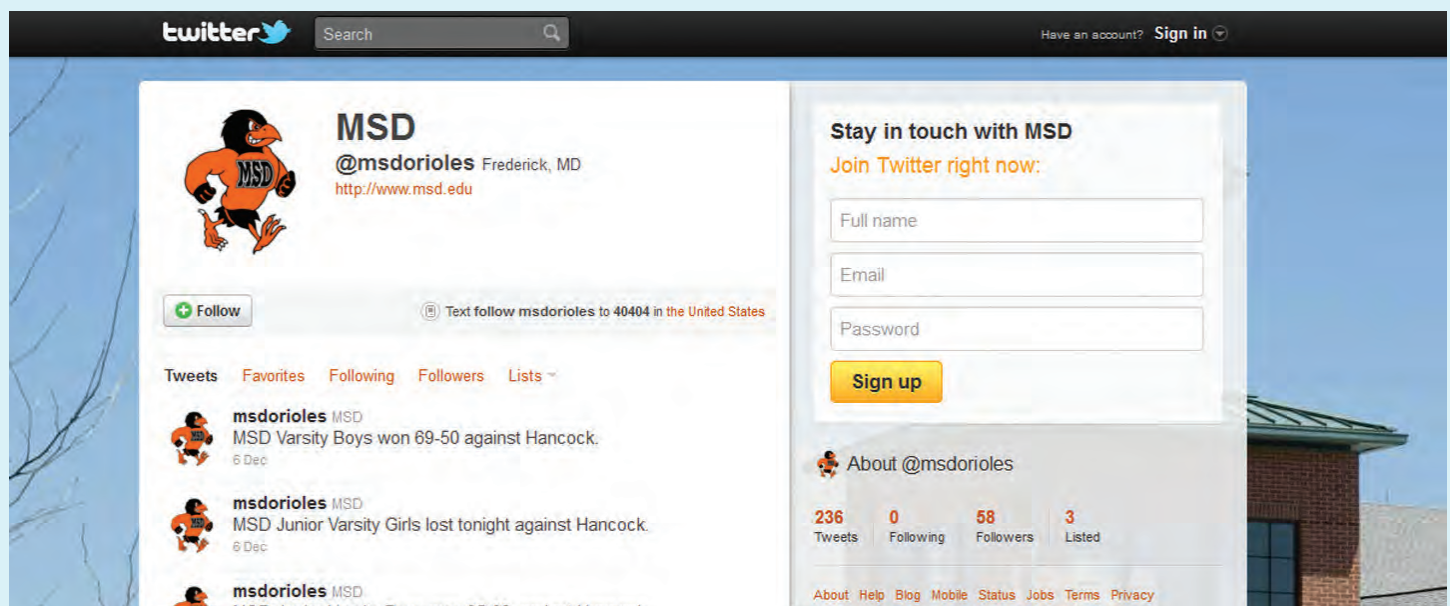
—Alex Simmons, Webmaster, [alex.simmons@msd.edu](mailto:alex.simmons@msd.edu)

To follow school events on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/marylandschoolforthe deaf> and click on the “like” button.

To follow on Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com/msdoriores> (be sure to be logged in your account first), then click on the “follow” button.



The screenshot shows the Facebook login interface at the top with fields for Email and Password, and a "Log In" button. Below the login bar is the Facebook header with the "facebook" logo and a "Sign Up" button. The main content area displays the profile for "Maryland School for the Deaf" (Education · Frederick, Maryland). The profile picture is a logo featuring a building and the text "MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF". The cover photo shows a school bus and a building. The "Wall" section shows a post from "Maryland School for the Deaf" stating "MSD Varsity Boys won 69-50 against Hancock." with a "Like" button. A sidebar on the right contains a "Sign Up" button and a message: "Want to like or comment on this page? To interact with Maryland School for the Deaf you need to sign up for Facebook first." Below this is a link to "Education in Nearby Cities".



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile for "MSD" (@msdoriores) from Frederick, MD. The profile picture is a cartoon bird wearing a jersey with "MSD" on it. The bio includes the website <http://www.msd.edu>. A "Follow" button is visible. Below the bio, there are tabs for "Tweets", "Favorites", "Following", "Followers", and "Lists". The "Tweets" tab is selected, showing three tweets from @msdoriores about MSD Varsity Boys and Junior Varsity Girls games. On the right side, there is a "Stay in touch with MSD" section with a "Join Twitter right now:" link and a sign-up form with fields for Full name, Email, and Password, and a "Sign up" button. Below the sign-up form is an "About @msdoriores" section showing statistics: 236 Tweets, 0 Following, 58 Followers, and 3 Listed. At the bottom, there are links for "About", "Help", "Blog", "Mobile", "Status", "Jobs", "Terms", and "Privacy".



# Lewis & Clark Medallion Unveiling

The Maryland School for the Deaf served as host for a medallion dedication commemorating the role played by the Hessian Barracks in the 1803 preparation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The funds for the medallion were raised by the Frederick Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and its installation sponsored by local businesses. Once the leaves are off the trees, the Maryland Association of Historical Surveyors will get exact GPS coordinates that will then be registered with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The day-long event featured many activities for all ages. Re-

enactors in period dress gave lectures on the central mall while many exhibitors showed period items such as musical instruments (which they played), surveying equipment, clothing, tools, and weapons. Even a precursor of the camera was on display.

National, state, and local officials participated in the unveiling ceremonies which were followed by a short play involving an exchange between President Thomas Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis.

Finally, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, which assisted in the day's events, will be making a monetary contribution toward a permanent exhibit in the

Barracks honoring its role in the Expedition.

—Chad Baker,  
Director of MSD  
Museums, [chad.baker@msd.edu](mailto:chad.baker@msd.edu)

**RIGHT** US Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (District 6) presented a Proclamation of Congress taking note of the Barracks in the Lewis and Clark Journey.

**ABOVE LEFT** Barracks decked out with banners celebrates an event that occurred 208 years ago.

**BELOW LEFT** DAR program Chair Joanne Baum (left) and Chapter Regent Barbara Shealer unveil the commemorative plaques (right).



First load of cement poured to secure the medallion on a four foot deep pedestal.





## Round Windows from Old Main Discovered

It is truly amazing how items from MSD's Old Main Building keep reappearing. Mrs. Blanca Poteat was cleaning out her mother's barn. Discovering three round windows she recalled hearing from her now deceased mother that they had come from the Maryland School for the Deaf. Her mother thought about making tables out of them but never got around to it so they sat in the Dickerson, Maryland barn undisturbed for more than forty years. After contacting the Bjorlee Museum, Mrs. Poteat donated all three to MSD for future safekeeping. By the way there were originally seven such windows. One can only wonder if any of the others, too, will reappear someday!

—Chad Baker,

Director of MSD Museums, [chad.baker@msd.edu](mailto:chad.baker@msd.edu)



**ABOVE** Donor Mrs. Blanca Poteat with one of the windows shortly after removing from storage in the barn.

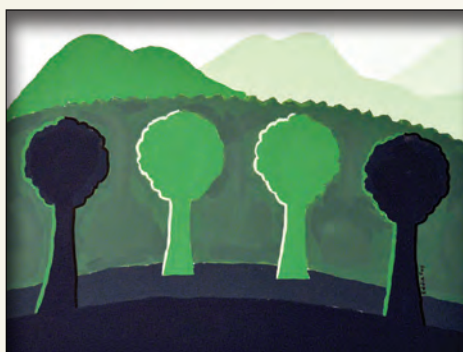


**LEFT** Richard Smith and Jim McKenen deliver recently found windows from Old Main.





# Monochromatic Colors



**THE DANCING TREES**  
Edward Foy, Senior



**FULL OF JOY**  
Emily DeSimone, Freshman



**FANCIFUL FLIGHT**  
Christy Zendarski, Sophomore

Tigh school students in Ms. Mertz-Witczak's Drawing and Painting class learned how to describe design concepts in works of art which encouraged them to examine how feelings, moods, and ideas are communicated through art. One technique was learning how to play with monochromatic colors on the color wheel and to include neutral colors (black and white) as part of their drawings. They were instructed to pick a color of their choice on the color wheel and then add white to make a tint or black to create shades. The results of their acrylic paintings were impressive, and all had a calm, soothing effect. Here are some examples of their work.

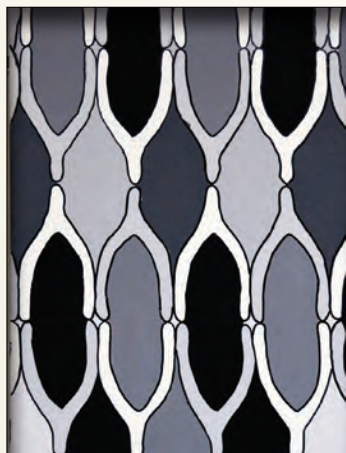
—Janet Mertz-Witczak,  
Art Teacher, CTE,  
[janet.mertz-witczak@msd.edu](mailto:janet.mertz-witczak@msd.edu)



**FLY FREE**  
Carolyn Wiley, Freshman



**DEEP IN THE SEA**  
Bryan Thomas, Senior



**THE WISHBONE COLLECTION**  
James Brooks, Sophomore



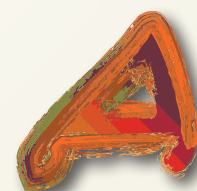
**DOLPHINS IN LOVE**  
Jessica Roach, Sophomore



**THE INTERACTION**  
DanJohn Kerchner, Junior



**ROACH, ROACH EVERYWHERE**  
Tarik Wallace, Freshman





# High Dynamic Range (HDR) Photography

High Dynamic Range images (HDR) is a technique that allows a greater dynamic range between the lightest and darkest areas of an image. In digital photography class, students put together a minimum of three images of the same shot, one overexposed, one properly exposed, and one underexposed. They then use software such as Adobe

Photoshop to process and stitch the three images together using various settings according to their preferences, creating the amazing results seen below. The annual digital photography show in mid-May will include more HDR works.

—Robert Lewis, Digital Photography Teacher, FC, [robert.lewis@msd.edu](mailto:robert.lewis@msd.edu)



ALONG IN THE YEARS SHED—*Sierra McConville, Sophomore*



THE CREEK OF REFLECTION—*Noelle Robinson, Junior*



BOUND TO LOCK—*Jonathan Solano, Junior*



HIDDEN COLOR—*Allyson Bortoletto, Sophomore*



SPOOKYTOWN—*Madison Craig, Sophomore*



THE BUS—*Brodey Craig, Sophomore*



## Construction Technology

Students in the Construction Technology class have been learning about the infrastructure of a city. Additionally, they were given some artistic license to create a futuristic community they would want to live in. Working in teams, they built scale models of 10 acre communities. This required them to refine their fraction and measurement skills. Their task was to design communities that supported a diverse life style, accommodated the needs of different kinds of people and created a minimal impact on the environment. With mixed success, the students learned that being a Community Planner is a very demanding career. We have some budding architects of the future on the way!

—Cameron Overs, Teacher, FC,  
cameron.overs@msd.edu



Heather Mansfield-Hom, Malik Morris and Torey Carver plan the infrastructure (roads and sidewalks) before they begin building their community.



Courtney Rideout, Jodi Withrow and Daphne Jones collaborate and double check their layout before they began to build their community.

## Our Visit to Johns Hopkins Hospital



**BACK** Teacher Cameron Overs, Dr. Jamie Laubisch, Alexandra McKee, Rachel Richart **FRONT** CT Technician Mitch Wagner, Josiah Withrow, Jodi Withrow

On November 9, 2011, our Medical Technology class went to John Hopkins Hospital to see some of the technology that we learned in class. We went to the Catheter Lab, and it was really fascinating because we looked inside peoples' hearts. Then we met a CAT scan technician in the CT Scan Lab where the images were produced, and it was amazing to see the inside of peoples' brains and spines!



One of my classmates, Alex, had an opportunity to lie on the table and get a CT scan to see what it was like. We then met a researcher who was developing a wireless Pulsox, which allows doctors to observe and keep track of all their patients' vital signs from their I-phone. Some patients were very sick and will be in the hospital a very long time. We also saw doctors and nurses who were very kind to their patients, and tried to keep them comfortable.

The Hospital has many different kinds of careers; for example, you can work in the fast-paced, noisy Emergency Room or in a quiet, research lab. There are some jobs you can get at the hospital with a high school diploma, whereas others require you to go to college for 12 years to be a specialist in one area of medicine. There are so many choices to choose from, and all of them lead to good jobs.

**MB**

—Rachael Richart, Senior





## at Camp Taloali, Oregon

split into our four teams: Blazinferno, Energizers, Laffy Taffy, and Oompa Loompas. Every camper truly had the time of his or her life and developed a network of friendships that will last for a very long time.

A camper during this adventure would be found participating in one of many fun-filled activities:

In the Leadership Development Program (LDP), campers are given a chance to learn effective methods of leading or working with a group. Moreover, campers have group processes where we explore our improvements over the course of the month.

Advocacy, Outdoor Living Skills (OLS), and Discovery classes teach

skills that we would never have learned on our own such as how to confront problems, work with a group regardless of participant backgrounds, and build a fire, the difficulty of which many people have underestimated!

Since “all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy,” fun activities are incorporated into the daily YLC routine. During the evenings, everyone huddles with his or her team to compete in exciting games that reward winning teams with points. Additional events truly tested our ability to work as a team.

During my month at YLC, I experienced great personal growth in my leadership skills as did many other participants as we unite in trying times. I highly recommend attending YLC Deaf Youth Leadership Camp because the experiences you have there will stay with you forever, a change which starts at a little camp called “Camp Taloali.”

—Ethan Sonnenstrahl, Junior

The National Association of the Deaf Youth Leadership Camp at Camp Taloali, situated in Stayton, Oregon, is a month-long camp filled with fun and enriching experiences to be found nowhere else. Among the sixty-one campers in attendance this summer were seven students from MSD: Zachary Bridgett, Derek Frank, CJ Hirsch, Dalton Kramer, Liv Polzin, Leeann Wadsworth, and myself—Ethan Sonnenstrahl.

YLC was nothing like I expected. When I met the first group of campers at the airport, I saw few familiar faces; the dreaded awkward silence ensued until the staff broke the ice by engaging us in conversation. Suddenly the prospect of an entire month with these people became less daunting.

There was plenty of time to get to know new friends after we were



Leeann Wadsworth, Dalton Kramer, CJ Hirsch, Liv Polzin, Ethan Sonnenstrahl



2011 YLC Campers!



# STUDENT BODY GOVERNMENT



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**TOP (L-R)** Sergeants-at-arms Anna Wood-Jacobowitz, Egan Sere-meth, Rex Shephard, John Werner Jr., Brady Perry **MIDDLE** Advisor Terri M. Dietz, Secretary Kaitlyn Weeks, Vice President Juliana Bahan, President Davy Bahan, Treasurer Eve Wood Jacobowitz, Advisor Kimberly Rogers **BOTTOM** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade representative, Freya Sere-meth; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade representative, Kaela Luttrell; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade representative, Jason Dunham **NOT PICTURED** Sergeant-at-arms Gillian Lawrence

## HIGH SCHOOL

**(L-R)** Andrew Biskupiak, Secretary of Dorm Relations; Kali Doubledee, Secretary; Tarja Lewis, Treasurer; Ethan Sonnenstrahl, President; Asher Kirschbaum, Treasurer; Darius Doe, Secretary of Academic Affairs **NOT PICTURED** Stephen Farias, SBG Sponsor





## Jr. NAD CONFERENCE in Riverside, California



Jr. NAD Chapter officers (L-R) Edna Johnston, Advisor; Leeann Wadsworth, Secretary; Jehanne McCullough, Vice President; Dalton Kramer, President; Linda Stoltz, Advisor

Leeann Wadsworth, senior; Dalton Kramer, junior; and Jehanne McCullough, sophomore; along with Jr. NAD advisor Linda Stoltz, flew to the California School for the Deaf Riverside for the four-day Jr. NAD Conference the weekend before Thanksgiving.

It was an amazing experience as participants learned how to be better leaders and to improve the Jr. NAD chapter at MSD. There were eight workshops led by Deaf people of various backgrounds on important topics such as diversity, attitude, the power of media, and assertive leadership. Legend Bummy Burstein, the Father of Parliamentary Procedure in the Deaf community

and the only living certified Deaf Parliamentarian, reviewed how to use the rules of Parliamentary Procedure correctly.

All the workshops really taught us how to be better leaders and especially how to help Jr. NAD at MSD. On the last day of the conference, the General Assembly was held; delegates (Dalton and Jehanne from MSD) voted on or against proposals brought up by the people at the Round Table. There were four special projects on the table including the Pageant and the George Veditz video project. The Round Table made proposals for the delegates to debate and vote on at the General Assembly. It was a really interesting experience!

Jehanne was elected to be on an Action Plan Committee of Jr. NAD which will continue until May 2012 when the proposals will be brought to the NAD conference. The Action Plan committee has to prepare those bills to ensure that they are passed at the NAD conference, and she is ready to work on them! On the last day, it was really hard to leave everyone and the State of California, but it was definitely worth the trip as we all improved our leadership skills tremendously with many ideas for the Jr. NAD chapter at MSD! **MB**

—Jr. NAD Chapter  
President

Jehanne McCullough, Sophomore



# High School Girls Volleyball

The 2011 girls' volleyball season got off to a great start with MSD players attending a team camp at Penn State in July which fostered team chemistry. During the course of the season, Maryland played well in each tournament in which they participated. They won the New Life Fall Classic championship, placed second at Spike Out, advanced to the semi-finals at the Oriole Classic, won first place at the Independent-Parochial School League Tournament, and defended their Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association title. Maryland was also invited to participate in the MD/DC Private Schools Tournament as a number five seed where they advanced to the semifinal round.

To recap the team's achievements, the season started in early September when Maryland captured the New Life Fall Classic at New Life Christian School. In the pool play, Maryland beat New Life Christian, John Carroll School, and Greater Grace. In the semi-finals, Maryland defeated Carroll Christian, 25-23 and 25-21, and then in the finals beat Covenant Life in two sets, 25-19 and 25-21.

The Indiana School for the Deaf hosted Spike Out the weekend of October 7. In the pool play, Maryland defeated the California School for the Deaf at Riverside, Illinois School for the Deaf, Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, New Mexico School for the Deaf, and Texas School for the

Deaf. In the quarterfinals, Maryland met the New Mexico School for the Deaf and won. In the semifinals, Maryland beat the California School for the Deaf at Fremont, 25-3 and 25-20, thereby advancing to the finals where they played the Indiana School for the Deaf, losing a close, wrenching match, 25-23 and 26-24. Mia Goldberg, Tarja Lewis, and Janna Oshman were selected for the all-tournament team.

The competition was exciting at the Oriole Classic. In the semi-finals match, Maryland lost to Covenant Life, 23-25, 25-23, and 14-16. Covenant Life advanced to the finals but lost to Heritage Academy. Tarja Lewis was named to the all-tournament team. Maryland Junior Varsity beat Mt. Airy Christian



**VARSITY—TOP (L-R)** Head Coach Vicki Kitsembel, Liv Polzin, Janna Oshman, Manager Andrew Biskupiak, Augusta Seremeth, Alexandra McKee, Assistant Coach Patrick Rosenburg **MIDDLE** Rebecca Washington, Mia Goldberg, Tessa Lewis, Lauren Goldberg, Tarja Lewis, **FRONT** Sierra McConville



Academy, 25-16 and 25-16, in the semifinals and beat Covenant Life in a see-saw match, 25-14, 21-25, and 15-12. Emily DeSimone was selected for the all-tournament team.

Maryland hosted the first annual Independent-Parochial School League (IPSL) tournament and won the championship by defeating St. John's College Prep, 25-16, 25-11, 25-11, in the semifinals and then Mercersburg Academy in three sets, 25-16, 25-14, and 25-19 in the finals. After the season, Tarja Lewis and Augusta Seremeth were voted onto the IPSL All-League Team.

The Lady Orioles won the ESDAA championship for the thirteenth consecutive year. Maryland steamrolled all schools in the round robin and bracket competition. In the semifinals, Maryland outplayed Lexington School for the Deaf, 25-8 and 25-6. In the finals, Maryland knocked out The Learning Center in two straight sets, 25-8 and 25-8. Mia Goldberg, Tarja Lewis, Janna Oshman, and Augusta Seremeth were selected to the all-tournament team.

In the MD/DC Private Schools Tournament, seeded five Maryland defeated seeded four Pallotti 25-11, 25-14, and 25-22. Maryland advanced to the semi-finals against seeded one Good Counsel where they played hard but lost in three straight sets, 16-25, 14-25, and 19-25. Good Counsel went on to win the championship, beating Mount de Sales. The Lady Orioles ended the season with thirty-nine wins and five losses.

Head Coach Ursa Rewolinski and assistant Nancy J. Lewis led the



**JUNIOR VARSITY— TOP (L-R)** Assistant Coach Nancy Lewis, Carolyn Wiley, Alexa Paulay-Simmons, Monique Johnson, Marika Lewis, Emily DeSimone, Jaqqie Boese, and Head Coach Ursa Rewolinski  
**FRONT** Manager Katie Zendarski, Corbin Register, Allyson Bortoletto, Christy Zendarski, Manager Jehanna McCullough

Junior Varsity girls to an impressive season with a record of 17-8. At the Oakdale Junior Varsity Tournament, Maryland was 2-1 in the pool play. They beat Catoctin High School and Frederick High School but lost to Walkersville High School. Maryland advanced to the quarterfinals, losing to Winters Mill, 25-22, 16-25, and 10-15.

The coaches were exceedingly proud of the volleyball teams' accomplishments for another great season. The coaches would also like to express a special thank you to team managers, Andrew Biskupiak, Jehanne McCullough, and Katie Zendarski. Heartfelt thanks to everyone for their help, support, and encouragement throughout the season, especially for the endless support of the parents. Many players will be returning with promises for another great season.

—Vicki Kitsembe,  
Head Coach, FC,  
vicki.kitsembe@msd.edu

**Deafdigest.com  
All-American Team**

*First Team*  
Tarja Lewis  
Augusta Seremeth

**National Deaf Interscholastic  
Athletics Association  
All-American Team**

*First Team*  
Tarja Lewis  
Augusta Seremeth

*Second Team*  
Mia Goldberg

**Frederick News-Post All Area Team**

*Second Team*  
Tarja Lewis

*Honorable Mention*  
Mia Goldberg  
Tessa Lewis  
Liv Polzin  
Augusta Seremeth

**Frederick All-Gazette Team**

*Honorable Mention*  
Tarja Lewis  
Augusta Seremeth

**Independent-Parochial  
School League**

*All-League Team*  
Tarja Lewis  
Augusta Seremeth



# High School Football

Although the 2011 Maryland School for the Deaf football team lost 13 players due to graduation from last year's 12-0 national championship squad, they exceeded everyone's expectations by going 12-0 for the second consecutive season. MSD has been named the 2011 Deaf School Football National Champions by both National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association (NDIAA) and *Deafdigest.com*. It is MSD's ninth consecutive national championship and the Orioles have gone 96-3 since 2003, which includes six undefeated seasons.

The MSD football team set a school record for least points allowed in a season (35). The team did not allow more than 8 points in a single game and they recorded 5 shutouts. 10 out of 11 teams were held scoreless in first half. Offensively, the team scored a total of 477 points and won 9 games by at least 30 points. There were several highlights during the season. The first one was against Frederick County Eagles when the game was tied 0-0 with 3 minutes left in 4th quarter before MSD was able to score and win the game 8-0. Cody Paulay-Simmons had a career

night rushing for 134 yards. Frederick County Eagles ended their season with 9-3 record. The second highlight was when MSD faced the Alabama School for the Deaf for their homecoming game. Alabama had a high octane offense, averaging almost 50 points a game. MSD was able to shut them out 50-0 and allowed only 40 yards total offense. Alabama finished their season with a respectable record of 8-2. MSD defeated three teams with 7 or more wins and six teams with 5 or more wins.

Although MSD graduated nearly the whole starting backfield from the 2010 squad, they continued to use a combination of rushing and passing to attack its opponents. Senior Derek Frank was MSD's most productive all-around player as he led the team in both rushing and scoring. Derek rushed for 1,004 yards on only 88 carries, averaging 11.4 per carry and scored 113 points. Derek became the 9th 1,000 yard rusher at MSD. He also set a school record for longest kickoff return with 99 yards against the Fairfax Kings. For Derek's outstanding accomplishments, he was picked on *The Frederick News Post* All-Area first team.

Senior Jesse Steingieser started as varsity quarterback for the first time and he played like a three year veteran. Jesse completed 63 out of 97 passes for 954 yards and 19 touchdowns. Jesse completed 64.9% of his passes and his passing statistics rank among top quarterbacks in school history.

Senior receiver/outside linebacker James Steingieser led the team in both receiving and tackling. James was the top defensive player recording 68 tackles (38 solos, 27 assists and 3 QB sacks). With him playing OLB, it was "impossible" to run around him or throw on him. On offense, he had 29 receptions for 425 yards and 5 touchdowns.

Senior Zachary Israel was our top lineman on both sides of ball. As the starting strong side guard, he had a total of 15 pancake blocks and won the sledgehammer award twice. On defense, with his agility and speed, he excelled at any defensive line position.

Senior running back/linebacker Malik Morris was another outstanding all-around player. Malik ran for 704 yards (8.9 per carry) and 7 touchdowns. On defense, Malik was one of the hardest hitters. He was 2nd leading tackler with 58 tackles (29 solos & 29 assists).



**VARSITY—TOP (L-R)** Chaz Seremeth (Manager), Sarah Treese (Athletic Trainer), Wendell Pratt (Video Technician), James Brooks, Jad Gore, Cody Moers, Kratt Brown, Billy Millios, Tarik Wallace, Ronnie Taylor (Assistant Coach), Tim Taylor (Assistant Coach) **MIDDLE** Mathis Hediger (Assistant Coach), Joshua Doudt (Defensive Coordinator), Darrius Doe, Cody Paulay-Simmons, Sam Lundquist, Brady Bartell, DanJohn Kerchner, Ryan Carr, Taran Taylor, Nerville Nde, Jake Grindstaff, Andy Bonheyo (Head Coach), Chester Kuschmider (Assistant Coach) **BOTTOM** Robert (AJ) Moody, Derek Frank, James Steingieser, Zachary Israel, Jesse Steingieser, Kyle Tharpe, Asher Kirschbaum, Zack Barron, Malik Morris **NOT PICTURED** Jonathan Solano



Another key contributor to the team was senior Zack Barron as the starting wide receiver, defensive back and punter. Zack led the team in two categories, most touchdown receptions (8), most interceptions (3) and averaged 28.5 yards per punt. Zack also scored 10 TDs, 11 2-pt PATS for a total of 82 points.

Senior fullback AJ Moody went down with a very bad ankle sprain at the beginning of second game. Although he was not 100% healthy throughout the season, he was still able to run for 526 yards (8.5 per rush) and 12 touchdowns. He was the team's 2nd leading scorer with 98 points. AJ was picked to play in the annual Baltimore Touchdown Club Senior all-star game.

MSD had several outstanding offensive and defensive linemen who probably did not receive much recognition as other skilled positions. They are as follows: Asher Kirschbaum, Cody Moers, Neville Nde, and Kyle Tharpe. Those players made it possible for the team to average 7.6 yards per rush and complete 65.7% of their passes with good pass protection.

The 2011 team will graduate 10 players. Most of them have played

#### Deafdigest.com

##### Team of the Year

Maryland

##### First Team

Zack Barron

Derek Frank

Zachary Israel

AJ Moody

Malik Morris

James Steingieser

Jesse Steingieser

#### National Deaf Interscholastic Athletics Association (NDIAA)

##### Team of the Year

Maryland

##### First Team

RB/CB – Derek Frank

OG/DL – Zachary Israel

RB /LB– Malik Morris

OLB/TE – James Steingieser

QB – Jesse Steingieser

##### Second Team

FB/DL – AJ Moody

##### Honorable Mention

WR/DB – Zack Barron

DL/OT – Neville Nde

#### Small Schools All-State

##### Honorable Mention

RB – Derek Frank

#### Frederick News Post

##### First Team

DB – Derek Frank

##### Second Team

LB – James Steingieser

OL – Zachary Israel

##### Honorable Mention

#### Honorable Mention

Malik Morris

AJ Moody

Jesse Steingieser

Zack Barron

Neville Nde

#### Frederick Gazette

##### Second Team

QB – Derek Frank

together for a long time. When they were in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, they won the Frederick Youth Football League championship with 12-0 record. The graduating seniors are as follows: Zack Barron, Brady Bartell, Derek Frank, Zachary Israel, Asher Kirschbaum, Robert (AJ) Moody, Malik Morris, James Steingieser, Jesse Steingieser and Kyle Tharpe.

MSD's stellar season was made possible with outstanding coaching staff. Defensive coordinator Joshua Doudt and Chester Kuscmider were new to the staff and they made a huge impact on MSD's success. Rounding up our staff are Mathis Hediger (JV head coach), Ronnie Taylor and Timothy Taylor.

Andy Bonheyo, Head Coach,  
FC, [andrew.bonheyo@msd.edu](mailto:andrew.bonheyo@msd.edu)



**JUNIOR VARSITY— BACK (L-R)** Head Coach Mathis Hediger, Trainer Sarah Treese, Tarik Wallace, James Brooks, Ryan Carr, Jake Grindstaff, Sager Patel, Assistant Coach Chester Kuscmider, Assistant Coach Tim Taylor **FRONT** Manager Austin Cerasoli, Kratt Brown, Jad Gore, Brady Bartell, Billy Millios, Taran Taylor, DJ Kerchner



## Fall Cheerleaders



**TOP** Alice Jones, Courtney Rideout, Coach Cheri Winnings, Kali Doublee, Noelle Robinson **BOTTOM** Briana Pendles, Brittney Little

This year's team was composed of only juniors and sophomores who greatly assisted head coach Cheri Winnings, who served without an assistant and relied on the girls to pull together and act as one. Coach Winnings would like to greatly thank Kali Doubledee, Noelle Robinson, Briana Pendles, Courtney Rideout, Alice Jones, and Brittney Little for their dedication to cheerleading this fall.

For Homecoming, the cheerleaders worked hard to prepare their routine. Kali and Brittney honorably interpreted a rendition of the Orioles song during the Pep Rally which was presented again during homecoming's half-time. As Mother Nature unexpectedly challenged us, we all worked together and survived the cold rain during the Homecoming game. The cheerleaders showed great spirit throughout the game that ended in victory.

The girls enjoyed cheering for the undefeated football team; winning twelve games in a row. Each game holds a memory they can smile about and reminisce for years down the road. Each cheerleader felt it was a pleasure representing Maryland School for the Deaf. Go Orioles!

—Coach Cheri Winnings,  
FC, [winninch@msd.edu](mailto:winninch@msd.edu)



**TOP (L-R)** Assistant Coach David Wilcox, Head Coach Tony Ortiz, Assistant Coach Travis Guettler **MIDDLE** Keanu Herzig Wilcox, Skyler Renfrew, Zion Ortiz, Citrine Lummer, Ethan Guettler **MIDDLE** Alex Antal, Tyler Dees, Nathaniel McGuire, Ryker D'Angelo, Maverick Finkle



## Middle School Football



**TOP (L-R)** Assistant Coach Andrew Pellicer, Head Coach Jerry Mabashov, Assistant Coach Tim Schwarzenberger, Assistant Coach Nathan Caldwell **SECOND** Jake Bortoletto, Jeffrey Navarro, Daren Tharpe, Davy Bahan, Rex Shephard, Austin Latin **THIRD** Maurice Braxton, Jiang McConville, Maverick Obermiller, Egan Seremeth, Blake Brewer, Dayton Newman **BOTTOM** Jazob Monroe-Caldwell, Arnold Hatton III, Brady Perry, John Werner Jr, Zeke Martinez, Maguire Hause, Quincy Johnson

## Youth Football



**TOP (L-R)** Assistant Coach Rick Baker, Head Coach Robert Lewis, Assistant Coach Jason Dietz **MIDDLE** Lance Good, Maguire Hause, Andre Pellicer, Joshua Wojnar, Andrew Baker, Romeo Good, Cole Moran **BOTTOM** Celso Martinez, Jason Werner, Rory Lewis, Cassidy Perry, Zack D'Angelo, Rory Dietz



## Middle School Varsity Volleyball



TOP (L-R) Assistant Coach Lisa Monroe, Kaela Luttrell, Juliana Bahan, Brooke Bonheyo, Karita Lewis, Madison Givens, Eve Wood-Jacobowitz, Head Coach Tamara Majocha BOTTOM Isabella Walker, Kaitlyn Weeks

## Middle School Junior Varsity Volleyball



TOP (L-R) Head Coach Lisa Monroe, Cara Bielucke, Kylie Frelich, Tamia Harris, Rose Viola Shephard, Freya Seremeth, Assistant Coach Jacelia Washington BOTTOM Victoria Moran, Alina Kenina, Liora Selzer



# MSD Summer Camps

The MSD elementary academic/fun summer camp was a wonderful experience for a group of 14 second through fifth graders during the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>. In the mornings, the campers explored various topics via smart board, and worked on improving their reading and math skills through creative methods designed by instructors Mark Denton and Dina Raevsky. Afternoons, the group enjoyed swimming at the MSD

pool or Baker Park as well as a trip to Rita's Italian Ice. The campers were also treated to an afternoon at "I Made This" pottery store where they painted their pottery selection and were given the finished project a week later.

From July 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, 12 girls and 11 boys participated in MSD's Triple Threat Basketball Camp with one group in the elementary gym and the other at Benson gym. At each

camp, instructors Amy Mowl for the girls and Jim DeStefano and Peter Badavas for the boys worked on fundamentals and improving skills among the campers, who ranged from fourth through eighth grade. Several high school students volunteered during the camp and did an excellent job as role models to MSD's future players.

—Scott Morrison, Director of Summer Camps, FC, scott.morrison@msd.edu

## Academic Camp



**TOP (L-R)** Cheri Winnings, teacher aide; Dina Raevsky, teacher; Mark Denton, teacher; Roberta Monroe, teacher aide **MIDDLE** Megan Montoya, Victoria Moran, Erica Smith, Leah Kaftan, Skyler Renfro, Romeo Good, Cole Moran **BOTTOM** Jalina Dietz, Bradley Brick, Marisa Montoya, Sasha Tansky, Clarissa Wojnar, Citrine Lummer, Ava Greedor



## Girls Camp Basketball



**TOP (L TO R)** Volunteer Coach Rebecca Washington, Brooke Bonheyo, Isabella Walker, Camp Coordinator Amy Mowl, Eve Wood-Jacobowitz, Juliana Bahan, Volunteer Coach Sierra McConville **BOTTOM** Cassidy Perry, Victoria Moran, Anna Wood-Jacobowitz, Gemma Mochi, Kaela Jo Luttrell, Brigitta Lyn Luttrell

## Boys Camp Basketball



**TOP (L-R)** Camp Coordinator Jim DeStefano, Volunteer Coach James Steingieser, Blake Brewer, Brady Perry, Davy Bahan, Austin Latin, Brett Sonnenstrahl, Volunteer Coach Cody Moers, Volunteer Coach Jake Bonheyo, Assistant Coach Peter Badavas **BOTTOM** Rory Dietz, Celso Martinez, Zachary D'Angelo, Zeke Martinez, Jazob Monroe-Caldwell, Austin Adamson, Cole Moran



# Robert “Lefty” Grove and MSD

The recent death of MSD alumnus Theresa Dixon (Class of 1945, see page 34) on Sept. 17, 2011, in Lonaconing, Maryland, prompted her fellow alumnus Fleet Bowman (also Class of 1945) to contact MSD and recount the following memories.

During Ms. Dixon’s time at MSD, Maryland School for the Deaf students were fortunate to have the friendship of famous baseball player Robert “Lefty” Grove who was one of the best-known left-handed pitchers in the annals of the major league. Hailing from Lonaconing as did Ms. Dixon (whose father was acquainted with Lefty), he began playing in the Baltimore area in the early 1900s, later joining the Martinsburg Mountaineers of the old Blue Ridge League for several games. He then joined the Baltimore Orioles in 1920 when that team was minor league.

In 1925 Orioles owner, Jack Dunn, sold Grove’s rights to the Philadelphia Athletics for \$100,600, a huge sum for a player at that time. After a run of successful years with the Athletics

(in 1931 he was chosen league MVP), he was traded to the Boston Red Sox. Grove continued his success with the Red Sox, retiring in 1941 with a career record of 300-141. Lefty Grove was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1947.

Because of his acquaintance with Thelma and the Dixon family, Lefty visited the school on several occasions. Fleet Bowman recalls times when Lefty would drive Thelma back to MSD after visits home.

In 1941 he again visited MSD with friends from Lonaconing, including Thelma’s father, to share film footage of scenic views of the Rocky Mountain area which highlighted his hunting expedition to Wyoming. Needless to say the students were thrilled by the interest and kindness of such a legendary ballplayer.

*The Maryland Bulletin* of February 1941 paid Lefty Grove this compliment: “[Lefty] is the type of athlete who exerts the very best influence upon youth, and we wish for him the attainment of such



1933 Goudey baseball card of Lefty Grove of the Philadelphia Athletics

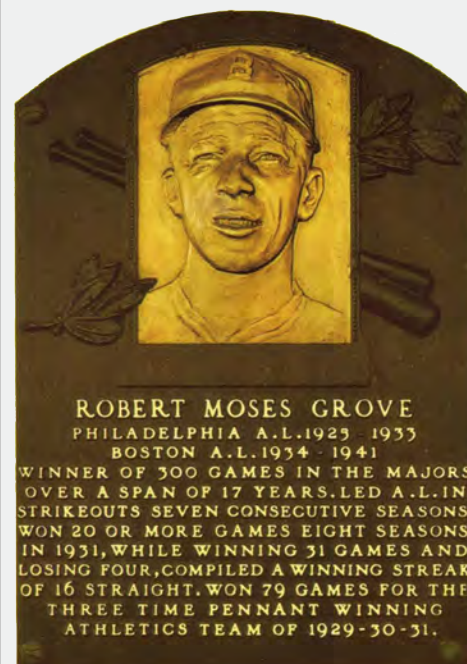
further honors as he may still hope to achieve, whether it be on the diamond in the capacity of manager or a berth in the front office.”

Robert “Lefty” Grove passed away May 22, 1975, and is buried in Frostburg, Maryland.

—Linda Stull, Bjorlee Museum Curator, [linda.stull@msd.edu](mailto:linda.stull@msd.edu)



**BACK (L-R)** George Faupel, James McVernon, Thomas Holmes, Harry Dixon, “Lefty” Grove, MSD Superintendent Ignatius Bjorlee **FRONT** Edwin Markel, Murray Rothstein, Herman Schwartz, Scott Snyder, Joseph Gelmini



National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum in Cooperstown, New York





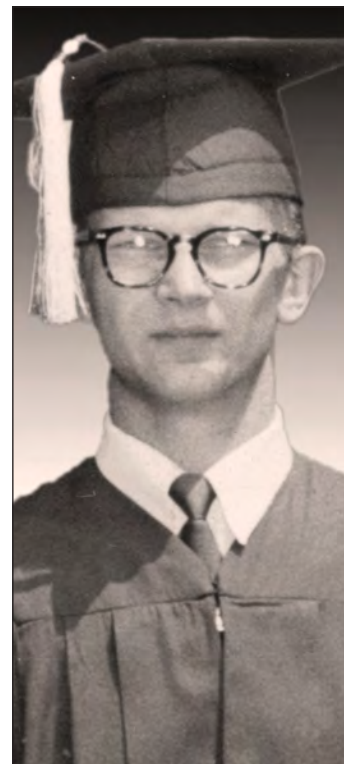
**1941—Olive C. Kelly**, passed away on October 15, 2011. She had just turned 90 on August 27<sup>th</sup>. She was the daughter of the late Stephen and Mary Farrell, the wife of William Kelly (MSD Alumni, Class of 1935), the mother of Brenda Kelly-Frey and grandmother of Frederick William and Caroline Rebecca Frey and her husband Frederick L. Frey. Olive and William Kelly would have been married 67 years had she lived on November 18<sup>th</sup>. A service was held at St. Louis Church in Clarksville, MD, and burial took place at Crest Lawn Cemetery. Donations in Olive's memory can be made to the Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation, 101 Clarke Place, P.O. Box 250, Frederick, MD 21705 or Bertha Coughlin Memorial—Camp Mark Seven, 144 Mohawk Hotel Road, Old Forge, New York 13420. ([www.harrywitzkefuneralhome.com](http://www.harrywitzkefuneralhome.com))



**1945—Thelma L. Dixon, 85**, passed away on Saturday, September 17, 2011, at the Egle Nursing and Rehab Center in Lonaconing. She was the daughter of the late Harry Baker Dixon and Estella (Roberston) Dixon. Thelma graduated from Maryland School for the Deaf in 1945. She continued to work at MSD upon graduation and later worked as the residential supervisor for Indiana School for the Deaf, retiring from there. A service was held at Eichhorn-McKenzie Funeral Home in Pennsylvania and interment will be at Oak Hill Cemetery (Lonaconing) at a later date. Memorial donations can be made to the Egle Nursing and Rehab Center, 57 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD 21539, or the Indiana School for the Deaf at 1200 E. 42nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46205. (*Cumberland Times-News*)



**1946—Robert S. Baylor III, 83**, better known as "Big Bob," passed away on Saturday, August 20, 2011, in Hagerstown, MD. Baylor, 83, who graduated from Maryland School for the Deaf (class of 1946), was known for his involvement with Boy Scouts of America; he earned the Boy Scout Eagle medal. Robert married his fellow MSD alumni Dorothy F. (Collins) Baylor (class of 1959) in 1971. He worked as a printer at the Gettysburg Times, the Washington Post, the Washington Star, and the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C., prior to his retirement in 1980. Mr. Baylor enjoyed the outdoors through camping, canoeing, and various Boy Scout activities. He was an avid member of the Eagles Club in Waynesboro, PA and Boy Scouts of America. A service was held on August 25th in Grove Bowersox Funeral Home and burial took place at Green Hill Cemetery, Waynesboro. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com). ([www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com))



**1959—Franklin R. Price, 71**, of Aberdeen, MD passed away on July 20, 2011. He was the son of the late Clifford and Ruth (Homer) Price. Franklin graduated from Maryland School for the Deaf in 1959 where he excelled in both sports and academics. After graduating, he worked for Martin Marietta for many years before retiring. He was a certified and licensed residential electrician and a skilled cabinet maker. He enjoyed playing basketball and the drums. Franklin is survived by his sister, Dorothy Carry, of Aberdeen and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Maryland School for the Deaf, 101 Clarke Place, P.O. Box 250, Frederick, MD 21705. Online condolences may be made at [www.Tarringcargocom](http://www.Tarringcargocom). ([www.Tarringcargocom](http://www.Tarringcargocom))





**E-1988—Sheila Ann (Monigan) Lyman, 49**, of N. Baltimore, MD, passed away peacefully on Monday, September 12, 2011. She was a student at MSD from 1980 until 1986. She will be remembered for her love of music and butterflies. She relished singing songs from the jukebox and cheering for the Baltimore Orioles. She also loved spending time in her garden and quilting with her friends. She was the devoted wife of the late Jeffrey Lyman; loving mother to Christina Curry, Samantha Curry (MSD alumni '08), and Jeremy Cormier; a dear sister to Timothy Monigan (MSD alumni '89), Amy Monigan (MSD alumni e- '86), and Belinda Carroll (MSD alumni '85); and a cherished daughter to Carol A. Monigan and her partner, Betty York. A celebration of Sheila's life took place at Connelly Funeral home in Dundalk, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1948 E. Third St., Williamsport, PA 17701. ([www.connellyfuneralhomeof-undalk.com](http://www.connellyfuneralhomeof-undalk.com))



**Louise Virginia G. Englebrecht, 97**, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 24, 2011, at Coffman Nursing Home, Hagerstown, MD. She was the daughter of the late George G. and Margaret Harrison Englebrecht and a 1932 graduate of Frederick High School. Louise worked for the G&L Bakery, The Hosiery, Price Electric, and the Maryland School for the Deaf, retiring from the school in 1984 as overnight dormitory counselor for primary students. She enjoyed being a member of St. Barnabas Chapel, All Saints Episcopal Church of Frederick, and served as a Sunday school teacher and pianist there for over forty years; she was also an active member of the Ladies' Church Guild. Service was held at Keeney & Basford Funeral home and Interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at [www.keeneybasford.com](http://www.keeneybasford.com). ([www.keeneybasford.com](http://www.keeneybasford.com))



**David N. Carlson, 84**, of Meadow Bridge, WV, passed away Saturday, November 5, 2011. He was born June 25, 1927, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to the late Oscar and Mabel Woodbury Carlson. David loved football, Boy Scouts, and wrestling. He graduated from the Wisconsin School of the Deaf and Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. He taught and was a coach at the West Virginia School for the Deaf, the South Dakota School for the Deaf and the Maryland School for the Deaf. He attended the Church of Christ in Springdale. In addition to his parents, David was preceded in death by a brother, Orville Carlson. Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife, Bettie Carlson of Meadow Bridge; a sister, Greta Queen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and a niece, Laurie Graebert, also of Milwaukee. He is also survived by many of his wife's family and a host of students and friends. In keeping with his wishes, he was cremated and no services were held. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.blueridgefuneralhome.com](http://www.blueridgefuneralhome.com). ([www.tribunes.com](http://www.tribunes.com))



**Joan Lee (Riffle) Comer, 76**, of Jefferson, peacefully passed away at her home on Monday, August 15, 2011, after a nearly two-year battle with lung cancer. She was the wife of Roy Lee Comer and the daughter of the late Leo Edward and Betty Lee (Creeger) Riffle. A graduate of Hagerstown High School in 1953, Joan became a nurse receiving her nursing degree from the Washington County Hospital School of Nursing. She came to Maryland School for the Deaf's health center in 1980. She retired in 1997 after forty years in nursing. Mrs. Comer was a past president of the Frederick Junior Women's Club and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She enjoyed the ocean, needlework, gardening, and bird watching and was an avid reader. Funeral services were held at Evangelical Lutheran Church and interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Frederick County, P.O. Box 1799, Frederick, MD 21702. ([www.Keeneybasford.com](http://www.Keeneybasford.com))



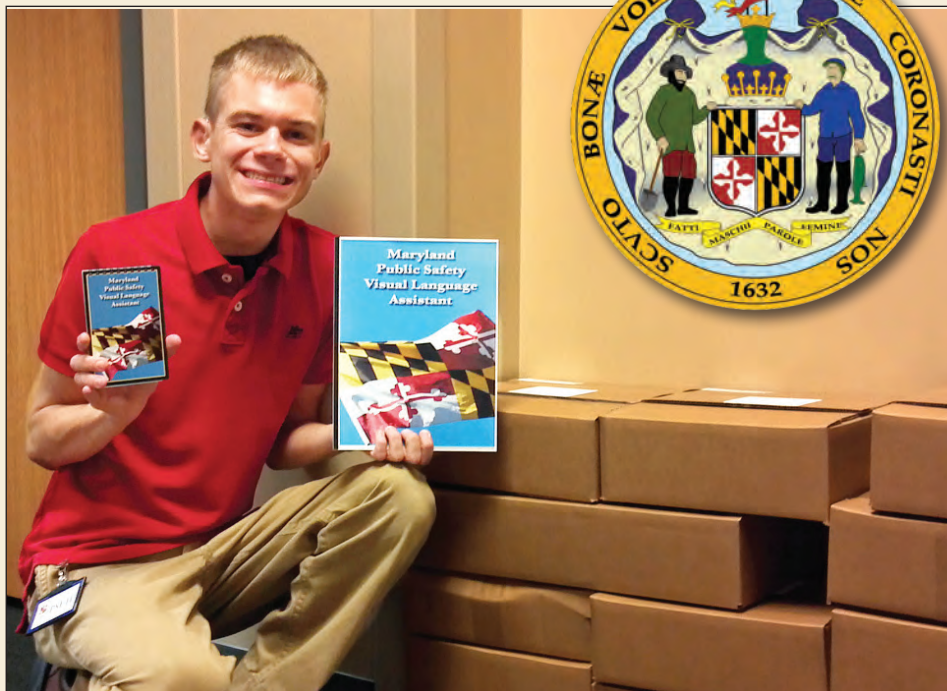
**ALUMNUS  
MICHEL DAZÉ, '06,  
VISITS MSD**

Michel "Mike" Dazé, '06, right, graduated from Gallaudet University last June with a BA in history and has landed a job there as a recruiter which involves travelling and speaking to students at schools for the Deaf as well as public schools across the United States. On October 4th, Mr. Dazé stopped by his alma mater, the Maryland School for the Deaf, and gave his presentation to juniors and seniors about life at Gallaudet; he was glad for the opportunity to visit with former teachers and staff. Mike plans to earn a Masters degree in administration in the coming years.



**ALUMNUS BOBBY HARRIS,  
'08, COLLABORATES WITH  
MARYLAND CHIEFS OF POLICE  
ASSOCIATION**

2008—Bobby Harris, left, '08, started out as an intern for the Frederick Police Department in 2008, working on a project which is now in its final stages with the assistance of Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Together they have developed a new communication aid for first responders. "The Point to Picture communication aid is filled with illustrations that are easily understood by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as persons with limited English proficiency. This booklet does not replace the use of a qualified interpreter, but it does improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the first responder's attempts to obtain critical information," said Chief Bernard Gerst, President of MCPA. Bobby assisted with the development of this visual aid, making changes so the booklet is more versatile and applicable across the state.



**Bobby Harris**



# MSD Foundation's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Nets Over \$31,000!

On September 16, 2011, the Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation held their eighth Annual Golf Tournament. The breezy, sunny day was perfect for playing golf at the beautiful Hollow Creek Golf Club in Middletown, Maryland. Just ask the 136 golfers who attended!

Thanks to the sponsors, golfers, donors, and volunteers who helped ensure the success of the tournament, the foundation netted over \$31,000. Proceeds from this event have been added to the MSD Foundation's fund to benefit the students of the Maryland School for the Deaf. The money will help provide scholarships, awards, computer technology, learning enhancements, and other supports for MSD students.

This year's Presenting Sponsor was the Thadikonda Research Foundation. Gold Sponsors were Purple Communications, First United Bank & Trust, and Shockley Honda. Silver Sponsors included Maryland Automobile Dealers Association, Bray and Scarff, ZVRS (The Z), and new sponsors Petersen's Carpet & Flooring and Rita's Ice of Frederick.

In addition to the delicious food provided in the clubhouse, three food vendors were available on the course. Beaux's Catering served up some tasty slider sandwiches, Flamers Charbroil of Prime Outlets in Hagerstown provided awesome hot dogs grilled and served by members

of the Air Force Medical Operations Agency from Fort Detrick, and Rita's Ice was on hand to provide the best Italian ice around!

The tournament winner this year was Team Merrill Lynch, second place went to the team from Firestone's Culinary Tavern, and third place went to ZVRS.

The MSD Foundation was delighted to have two MSD students as volunteers for this event, Brady Bartell and Sam Lundquist, who assisted in the contests during the day and enjoyed learning about golf.

A very generous Lori Rovito, owner of Rita's Ice of Frederick, gave her foursome back to the Foundation which offered it to a team from MSD consisting of three MSD students and one teacher. Students Jake Grindstaff, Jake Bonheyo, and James Brooks were accompanied by teacher Jerry Mabashov. Reportedly, the

group really enjoyed their experience.

The MSD Foundation is always looking for new sponsors and players for this annual event. The next tournament is tentatively scheduled for September 14, 2012. Contact Gwena West at [gwena.msdf@comcast.net](mailto:gwena.msdf@comcast.net), (voice) 240-394-0330 for an update. **MB**

—Gwena West, MSD Foundation's Program Coordinator, [Gwena.msdf@comcast.net](mailto:Gwena.msdf@comcast.net)



(L-R) Jake Bonheyo, Jake Grindstaff, Lori Rovito, Jerry Mabashov, and James Brooks take time out for a picture at the MSD Foundation's Golf Tournament.

Photo credit—Bill Millios



# Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin

## 53<sup>rd</sup> Governor of Maryland, 1951-1959

### ...and Great Uncle of 1967 MSD Alumni

During his two terms as Governor of Maryland from 1951-1959, Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin was an ardent friend of the Maryland School for the Deaf. Born in Baltimore on November 20, 1900, he served as Mayor of that city from 1943-1947 before his election as Governor. McKeldin again returned as Mayor from 1963-1967. He passed away on August 10, 1974.

Interestingly, his great-nephew, John Norris, is a 1967 graduate of the Maryland School for the Deaf. Perhaps this, as well as his friendship with MSD graduate, Rev. Daniel E. Moylan, with whom he mastered fingerspelling and basic signs, helps to explain his "intense interest" in the affairs of the school. Rev. Moylan's son, Judge Charles E. Moylan, who served as president of MSD's Board of Visitors, was a friend and former law partner of Governor McKeldin.

McKeldin's visits to the Maryland School for the Deaf were numerous. When his role as Governor brought him to Frederick he seldom failed to include a stop at the school,

**GOVERNOR THEODORE R. MCKELDIN delivers remarks prior to awarding the first place trophy to the District of Columbia team during the Southeast Athletic Association of the Deaf Basketball Tournament held in Baltimore, February 27-28, 1953. From left to right are James Barrack, General Chairman of the Tournament; Dr. Ignatius Bjorlee, Superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf; and Maryland Governor Theodore R. McKeldin. At the end the Governor turned to an interpreter and said, "Let me finish talking in the language familiar to all of the deaf." He then turned to the audience and spelled, "G-o-o-d N-i-g-h-t!" to the delight of all in attendance.**

surprising students and staff in the classrooms and dining hall. He was famous for always wearing the state flower, a Black-eyed Susan, in his lapel.

The Governor was instrumental in obtaining funding in the state's budget for the school's new heating plant and library. He was the guest speaker at the well-attended groundbreaking for the heating facilities on December 4, 1953. McKeldin later formally dedicated the Bjorlee Library (currently housing the school's museum) on May 13, 1954, followed the next year by his dedicating the new state of the art heating plant.

He visited the Great Frederick Fair when MSD students attended, stopping to talk with them. In 1955, Governor McKeldin personally presented Miss Hazel McCanner, Dr. Bjorlee's Administrative Assistant, with her merit award certificate honoring 33 years of service. Both the Governor and his wife made another visit that year to examine the school's newly acquired auditory training equipment. The Maryland School for the Deaf's archives contains several photos of the Governor's time spent at the school.



Gov. Theodore R. McKeldin

Governor McKeldin was the guest speaker also in 1955 at the local Rotary's luncheon meeting, "Ignatius Bjorlee Day", to honor retiring Superintendent Bjorlee, a good friend.

The record of this wonderful gentleman in serving Baltimore and the state of Maryland is outstanding, but nowhere more so than in the testimony of his friendship to the Maryland School for the Deaf.

**MB**

—Linda Stull, Museum Curator, [linda.stull@msd.edu](mailto:linda.stull@msd.edu)



MSD graduate John C. Norris in 1967. He is related to Governor McKeldin on his mother's side.







By Kyle Tharp, Senior

## Keith Robert Nolan, '01

**K**eith Robert Nolan, one of the thirty-three members of the Maryland School of the Deaf's class of 2001, was born in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, on July 11, 1982, to a deaf family. His parents, Kevin and Linda, taught at the Maryland School of the Deaf from 1971 to 1974.

Linda was first a typing teacher assistant and then a teacher aide while Kevin was a Consumer Education teacher.

Throughout high school, Keith participated in varsity football. He was also a member of the Academic Bowl team, Judicial Board, Jr. NAD, and Drama Club and always loved adventure-filled activities. After graduating from MSD in 2001, Keith visited a Navy recruitment center but was denied enlistment because he was deaf; he went instead to California State University Northridge (CSUN) where he received a bachelor's degree in Political Science in 2005. He studied abroad at the University of Bristol in England for a year while he was

a college student. He was planning to begin work on a master's degree but decided to take a year off and live on a sailboat, during which he studied navigation and seamanship skills while volunteering at the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In 2007, he returned



Keith R. Nolan  
as senior in 2001

to CSUN for a master's in Deaf Education, which he completed in two years. He then taught at a mainstream program for the deaf at Birmingham High School and Taft High School—both public schools in Los Angeles.

Keith Nolan had wanted to join the Army ever since learning about the experiences of his grandfather and great uncles who fought

in World War II. He spent a decade applying repeatedly to the army's Reserve Officers Training Corps program until a commander finally let him audit classes from Fall 2010 to Spring 2011. Nolan became a top performer in the ROTC program's Bravo Company at California State University at Northridge, and his

instructors were so impressed that they let him wear a uniform. He was distraught when he had to turn it back in and say goodbye to the other cadets in May. He could advance no further under the military's policy that requires cadets to pass a hearing test to be commissioned by the army. But Keith decided to fight the policy.

To help make his case, Keith interviewed ten deaf Israeli soldiers, who said they have no conflicts being soldiers. All of Keith's fellow cadets were also supportive. Keith went to Washington D.C. to lobby for a change to the current military policy that bans deaf soldiers. It is truly unbelievable that, although he is deaf, he was able to accomplish at least part of his military goal. For a few months, he was actually a soldier! Maybe someday, because of Keith, deaf people will be able to serve in the military. Keith never gave up, and we can all be proud of him.

His tried and true advice to MSD students is to do well in school. *"You should always have goals, both big and small, something you have always wanted to accomplish in life because, if you don't, you will drift aimlessly. Goals help motivate you as you navigate through life."* **MB**



Keith Nolan (R) and Bravo Company of the Bruin Battalion stand at attention after one of their patrolling labs.



Mr. Nolan's presentation about his military experience inspires the student body during his visit to his former school on October 27<sup>th</sup>.



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## *2011 Homecoming Royalty*



The 2011 Homecoming King Andrew Biskupiak (fifth from left) and Queen Augusta Seremeth are flanked by the members of the Royalty. (L-R) Austin Cerasoli, Miriam Goldberg (Juniors); Malik Morris, Janna Oshman (Seniors); Jad Gore, Christy Zendarski (Sophomores); Jake Bonheyo, Tessa Lewis (Freshmen) FRONT Pre-Kindergartners Dwayne Collins and Leia Klusza (crown bearers)