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ON THE COVER
An illustration of the “Old Main” building, drawn by senior Daniel Katz-Hernandez. Mr. Katz-Hernandez is a student in Mr. Robert Lewis’s Computer Graphics class. (For a short story about the class, see page 16-17)
In the past year, grant funding received by MSD is helping struggling readers, launching a long-anticipated museum, benefiting students in classrooms, and helping teachers break new ground in literacy education. MSD is grateful for these generous grants!

**Verizon Maryland—Check Into Literacy**

The award of a $10,925 Verizon Maryland—Check Into Literacy grant in December 2007 will help MSD Frederick campus students boost their reading comprehension. The grant provides funding for the first phase of a pilot project that, when fully funded, will serve MSD students on both campuses.

This grant allowed MSD to purchase ReadAbout, an award-winning, research-based program that supports reading comprehension, content area knowledge, and vocabulary acquisition. ReadAbout makes reading non-fiction text fun! The multidisciplinary program engages students in weekly cycles of independent work at the computer, individualized reading and writing exercises, and teacher-led instruction. Videos provide a visual introduction to curriculum-based topics, and each student works with sequential instructional materials targeted to their level. The program supports writing skill development, which is closely linked to reading success.

A highlight of the program is the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI), a continuous assessment program that helps teachers track students’ progress and provide individualized instruction. SRI aligns with Lexile Framework levels, which allow teachers to match a student’s reading ability with text difficulty. SRI even generates individual book lists for students! SRI will benefit MSD students in grades 2-12.

Language Arts teachers took the grant-funded teacher training workshop in February. Software is being installed in the Middle and High School computer labs, where some students in grades 8 through 12 will begin to work with ReadAbout this spring.

**Delaplaine Foundation**

A December 2007 grant of $10,000 from the Delaplaine Foundation in Frederick, Maryland, is helping MSD open a museum in the newly renovated Bjorlee building. In preparation for the June 2008 opening, this grant is supporting the purchase of mannequins and display cases as well as restoration of artifacts, including a feature display for the Bjorlee foyer.

The extensive collections include diverse items from pre-Victorian times through the 1950s. The collections are of historical significance and interest to MSD alumnae and the broader Deaf community, Frederick residents, historians of wars (from the Revolutionary War to World War II), and the general public. Eventually, Bjorlee will be part of a museum complex encompassing the adjacent Hessian Barracks, which is recognized as the most important building of its type in North America surviving from the time of the Revolutionary War. The spacious Bjorlee building will also serve as the school’s visitor center and alumnae house, while the entire complex will be a resource for genealogical research and a destination for school groups and visitors of all ages.

**Best Buy Teach Award**

Last spring, MSD was a 2007 recipient of a $2,500 Best Buy Teach grant award. Social Studies teacher Martin O’Brien applied for this award to purchase video graphic equipment and video editing software to help bring history to life for MSD students. Marty has been learning to use the editing software and is putting the technology to varied use. This year’s eighth grade students are creating DVDs based on a trip to Philadelphia and a class project entitled French Settlements in North America. Students in a new after-school club for eighth graders—the Video Production Club—are learning to use the technology by producing an MSD video tour.

When the IRA announced their Teacher As Researcher grant competition in late 2006, Elementary Reading Specialist (FC) Sue Hill saw an opportunity to help MSD current and future students become proficient readers. Fluency is the third of five sequential skill groups that students must master to become proficient readers. The first two of these skill groups are not universally accessible to MSD students because they involve phonics and word sounds.

Working with teachers and MSD’s Curriculum Supervisor, Sue proposed exploring ways of using ASL to measure the reading fluency of deaf elementary school students. Her application was awarded. With a grant of up to $3,925, Sue’s team is now collecting video-recorded data with the goal of creating reading fluency rubrics appropriate for deaf children at each grade level. Fluency assessment is a challenge for all educators of deaf children, and her results will be of interest well beyond the MSD campus.

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Museum Set to Open

Stanley C. Baker, Deputy Superintendent, chad.baker@msd.edu

A museum is a “permanent institution in the service of society and of its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment, for the purposes of education, study, and enjoyment.”

The International Council of Museums

After two years of planning, moving and setting up, the museum in the Bjorlee Building at the Maryland School for the Deaf is set to open the first week of June.

During the last week of March the museum’s symbol, the original weathervane from the central cupola of the Old Main Building, was reassembled and suspended from the ceiling in the main section of the museum.

The formal opening of the museum will occur on June 6, 2008 to acknowledge those people who have worked to make it possible and on the next day (June 7) there will be a special opening for the alumni who will be on campus for the day.

The initial exhibits will focus on the first one hundred years of the school’s history. It is helpful that the school has more items for display than can possibly be shared at the same time. Future exhibit themes that are currently being researched and developed include the history of the communication philosophies embraced by the school, the history of the Maryland School for Colored Deaf and the integration of the two programs that occurred in 1956, the school’s Superintendents – their times and the accomplishments which occurred under each, and the history of the Columbia Campus.

Dedicated in 1953 as the “Bjorlee Library-Study Hall”, its completion represented a long standing dream of Superintendent Ignatius Bjorlee who would retire in 1955 having guided the school since 1918. Designed by Frederick architect Charles F. Bowers, it was meant to compliment the nineteenth century style of the Old Main Building and comprised 4,500 square feet of floor space. Then Maryland Governor Theodore R. McKeldin and many other officials attended the dedication which was the subject of a feature article in the Frederick News-Post.

The Bjorlee Library as it later came to be known served the students and faculty until the summer of 2007 when its books and other educational materials were packed and moved to the Ely Building where space was set aside for a library enabling the school to at last begin the development of a museum. The new Elementary/Family Education Building now under construction will also house a part of the library holdings upon its completion.

The Bjorlee Museum will serve as a visitors’ center/alumni house as well as a community based museum. For further information, please contact:

Stanley C. Baker
Deputy Superintendent
301-360-2011 Voice/TTY/Videophone
301-360-2044 Fax
bakercb@msd.edu

After almost 100 years on top of Old Main and forty years in storage, the weathervane of Old Main’s center cupola takes up its new station as the symbol of the school’s museum in the Bjorlee Building (left).
Above The newly restored lamp fixture from Old Main in her new home

Right The newel post light fixture formerly graced the circular staircase in Old Main.

The newly restored lamp fixture from Old Main in her new home.

Athletes from many years ago are still remembered!

Also on display is the Edwardian style sofa from the home of former MSD art teacher, Miss Florence Doub, donated by the Frederick Art Club.

Memorabilia from MSD Cadets including a wooden drill rifle and rank insignia are on display.

Original ceramic floor tiles from Old Main are newly installed in the Bjorlee Museum foyer.
Parents, teachers, and students in the elementary and middle school departments have been able to settle into somewhat of a routine as regards State testing. Not too much has changed over the last couple of years: the MMSR continues to be administered to our youngest students; the MSA (Maryland State Assessment) to students in grades 3-8, and the Alt-(Alternative) MSA to students with significant cognitive delays (with the addition of five science objectives—in metric—to the ten reading and ten math). It is at the high school level where the biggest changes are taking place as students who must pass to graduate are nearing their senior year.

The State of Maryland has made a large investment of resources to help Maryland schools help students show what they know and can do and earn their Maryland High School diplomas. The first change involves additional administrations of the regular HSA; students can now take the test four times a year—Summer, October, January, and May. For seniors, a fifth chance to pass has been added in April. The highest score in any given content area is the one that “counts.” In addition, any student who earns a composite score of 1602, regardless whether he or she has passed each assessment, qualifies to graduate with a diploma. There is no longer a minimum score which a student must achieve on each test; a 1602—however the student reaches it—does the trick.

This spring welcomes a long-awaited second change to the HSA: the Modified HSA. (A modified version of the MSA will be rolled out in the spring of 2009.) The “Mod” will assess grade-level content using passages which are either shorter or chunked (but which are not easier). The language of the test questions will be streamlined and clarified, but the questions will test the same grade-level content as the regular HSA. Instead of four answer choices, there will be only three. The test is designed for a specific group of special education students: those who are studying and making progress on standard grade-level material but who, due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Assessment Tool</th>
<th>Target Population</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Target Implementation Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alt-MSA</td>
<td>Any special education student with a significant cognitive disability on alternative content and achievement standards</td>
<td>A portfolio-based evaluation of student performance on objectives which are aligned with the Voluntary State Curriculum.</td>
<td>Already in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Program</td>
<td>A high school student who has failed the HSA at least twice but received course credit or has failed to achieve a composite-passing score on the HSAs.</td>
<td>A project-based series of modules which a student must complete with a teacher advisor.</td>
<td>Spring, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod-HSA/MSA</td>
<td>Any special education student on standard content but alternative achievement standards, making progress on grade-level academic IEP goals.</td>
<td>A modified version of the regular HSA/MSA with shorter or chunked passages, 3 answer choices rather than 4, and simplified question language but which tests the same content as the regular test.</td>
<td>High School: Spring, 2008 Elementary and Middle: 2009.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSA/MSA</td>
<td>Any student making expected annual progress in grade level courses (3rd–8th reading and math; 5th &amp; 8th science; 9th–12th English, Algebra/Data Analysis, Government, Biology).</td>
<td>A selected response assessment of grade-level content. (ECRs and BCRs are being phased out.)</td>
<td>Already in place for 3rd – 12th grades.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
to their disability, are not likely to make a full year of progress in a given school year even with the provision of accommodations. The “Mod” student does not qualify for the Alt-MSA but needs alternate achievement standards for grade-level material. A passing score on the Mod will count toward the HSA requirement for the Maryland High School diploma.

In addition to either passing all four tests—the regular HSA or the Mod—or earning a 1602 on the four tests together, any high school student who meets the following criteria may opt for the Bridge Plan for Academic Validation (“Bridge”):

- has not achieved a 1602 composite score
- has failed one or more HSAs twice
- has passed the high school assessed course
- is making satisfactory progress toward graduation
- has participated in appropriate academic interventions, and
- has satisfactory attendance

The Bridge Plan will consist of project modules that must be completed by the student to make up for the gap between the student’s score and a passing score. The number of modules will depend on the size of the score gap. MSD is presently working out the details of how the Bridge Plan will be administered/monitored. Completed project modules will be reviewed by a local review panel. Meeting the Bridge requirement will not mean that the student will be considered as passing the HSA assessment; it will simply allow the student to qualify for graduation using an alternate path. The Bridge option will be available this summer.*

So...big changes are on deck for the high school assessments. Changes to the MSAs in the elementary and middle school departments are a bit further back in the line up, but some additions are being planned there, too. Keep an eye on future issues of The Maryland Bulletin for updates.

As MSD students become better and better prepared for these high stakes tests by faculty and staff, the State is providing students more opportunities to show what they know and can do.

* A fourth, less-used option for qualifying for a Maryland High School diploma is exemption from HSAs based on a passing score on an Advanced Placement exam in the tested content area.

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### Highlighting HSA Scores in 2007

For years, the high school department at the Maryland School for the Deaf has been chasing the State HSA passing rates. Percentages of students passing the HSA assessments across the State have been generally rising—good news for parents and tax payers. But because MSD’s numbers for each test are small and thus passing rates vary widely from year to year, it is sometimes difficult to see whether or not school scores are on an upward trend. Not this year.

The comparative scores in three out of the four HSAs show MSD soundly surpassing State passing rates with Biology only slightly behind. Among Maryland’s twenty-four public school systems (twenty-three counties and Baltimore City), MSD:

- placed tenth highest in Algebra/Data Analysis
- tied for twentieth in Biology
- placed fourth in English
- placed fifth in Government

So, although MSD as a whole continues to miss making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) by a hair’s breadth, the improvement, especially in the high school program, is dramatic. Seeds planted in the elementary and middle school departments bear fruit in high school.

Although it can be a tough row to hoe, No Child Left Behind has forced MSD to evaluate and reevaluate its programs for areas that can be tightened up; the beneficiaries are clearly the students whose hard work—with teachers and staff—has proven that MSD is the best place for a deaf or hard of hearing child to get an education!

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### Percent Passing HSAs in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>MSD</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra/Data Analysis</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 2008 National Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EDHI) Conference was held on February 25-26, 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This conference, sponsored by The American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, and the National Center on Hearing Assessment and Management, attracted over 500 professionals as well as parents and advocates.

Conference participants were mainly early intervention professionals, audiologists, speech pathologists, pediatricians, and educators. This conference, in its seventh year, has grown in its scope and size as more and more individuals become interested in deaf and hard of hearing infants’ and toddlers’ cognitive, language, communication, auditory, and social development.

At the conference, I had the privilege of being a panelist at the opening plenary with Dr. Harry Lang of the Rochester Institute of Technology, and Dr. Irene Leigh and Dr. Gina Oliva of Gallaudet University. We shared with the participants our experiences with the recent PBS documentary film, Through Deaf Eyes.

We took turns sharing our reflections on the film, and our respective journeys as deaf individuals. Our overarching theme was how early intervention professionals need to understand and appreciate that they greatly influence the decisions that the parents make for their deaf and hard of hearing infants’ and toddlers’ eventual educational placements.

I also spoke of my experiences growing up in a deaf family, in the educational system (both deaf education schools and public schools), and my experiences as a father of a CODA son and a deaf daughter. I also spoke about the utilization of a rigorous public school curriculum and after-school program at MSD as well as our bilingual approach (American Sign Language and English) in our classrooms.

Throughout the two day conference, I was able to sample a wide array of lectures, workshops, exhibits, and poster sessions on various topics related early detection and intervention. To access Power Point presentations at the conference, please go to: http://www.infanthearing.org/meeting/ehdi2008/index.html.

A workshop that stood out for me was titled “Long-Term Consequences of Language and Educational Options” given by Dr. Gina Oliva, Tami Hossler, and Erica Hossler. Dr. Oliva had written about her “solitaire experiences” in her book, "Alone in the Mainstream: A Deaf Woman Remembers Public School” (2004). Her term “solitaire” resonated with thousands of deaf people who were isolated in their public classrooms all over the United States. I, too, identified myself with her as I was the only deaf student in my classes from 2nd grade through 8th grade. Academically, I was earning good marks, but socially I was isolated and increasingly miserable as I moved from elementary to middle school.

Dr. Oliva explained her recent findings on “solitaires”, deaf students who were isolated in elementary, middle, and high school years, and then later “found” themselves through interactions with members of the Deaf community and through learning American Sign Language. One mother interrupted Dr. Oliva’s presentation, asking her “What should I do with my son who is struggling with his peers”. Dr. Oliva said she would gladly address this in a few moments. I looked over to this mother and believe I saw that she did not want for her son to become a “solitaire”. I quietly walked over to her and offered to answer her questions outside in the hallway, and she took my offer.

For about an hour, the mother and I traded “solitaire” stories. The more we shared, the more we realized that my experiences and her son’s experiences were similar. I then offered that her son (now in middle school) could experience all worlds, including the Deaf World. He could and should be able to move freely between the Deaf World and the Hearing World. He could and should be fluent in English as well as American Sign Language. He is attending a public school near home, but he could for now attend camps for deaf children/ youth during the summer months.

I also shared that after 8th grade I attended the Austine School for the Deaf in Vermont where for the first time I was able to fully understand my teachers and my classmates. It was also the first time that I was “one of the boys.” After our conversation, I did not see the mother again at the conference, but I believe I saw a sense of relief in her eyes as she now knows that there is someone out there who had lived the life of her son.

It was very refreshing for me to see that the issue of “social development” of deaf and hard of hearing children was on minds of several people at the EDHI Conference. The field of Deaf Education and Early Intervention may disagree on various education and habilitative issues, but we all should unanimously agree on this one concept: no child should ever be a “solitaire”.

James E. Tucker, Superintendent, james.tucker@msd.edu

Solitaire
Family Education Gets Moving

It’s Monday morning at the Maryland School for the Deaf. On both campuses, Frederick and Columbia, families are sitting with their children in a circle on the floor. For the next twenty minutes, the Family Education teachers will be leading a group activity full of movement, rhythms and rhymes, laughter, and creativity. It looks like the typical Parent-Child activity found at Gymboree, Kindermusik, or any other popular early childhood program around the U.S. While this playfulness happens, families are building language fluency (in ASL and English), modeling and developing social skills, using the visual and auditory channels actively, and learning about their bodies, mathematics, cause and effect, and other curricular goals.

While this may look like a typical “Mommy and Me” class, it is really so much more. These Monday gatherings offer opportunities for playing, sharing, and learning in a language-rich environment. Each session presents occasion for Deaf parents to share their unique language of ASL in a playful environment, the chance for hearing parents to experience the richness of ASL in an open way, and the chance for the children to view ASL not only as a language with which to communicate, but a language that can be played with, enjoyed, and shared.

Columbia Campus PTCA Sponsors Book Fair and ASL Story Time

On November 27th, the Parents Teachers and Counselors Association (PTCA) of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus sponsored an all-day book fair at the Barnes and Noble Booksellers store in Ellicott City. The goal of the book fair was to raise funds for the PTCA. The PTCA advertised the event through emails, posters, and flyers and encouraged staff, family, and friends to shop at the store on the day of the event. A portion of all the purchases made by supporters of MSD was donated to the PTCA by Barnes and Noble.

The idea for the book fair was proposed by Mary Ann Richmond (a MSD family education/early childhood teacher) who also organized an ASL storytelling time at the store. Storytellers presented children’s books in ASL during afternoon and evening sessions. A number of Columbia Campus students and parents attended the evening story telling session. Storytellers included Mary Ann herself, parent Rachel Vollmar, and MSD teacher Stella Antonio-Conley.

The event raised $373.00 for the PTCA and provided an opportunity for the public to become aware of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus. The PTCA officers and the storytellers have expressed an interest in repeating the event again next year.

—Brian Smith, CC PTCA President, smithbrianw@msn.com

Please continue on page 9
During January 14-27, 2008, Questfest, a visual theater festival in the Baltimore-Washington area, presented two weeks of performances exhibiting excellence in telling stories from a visual base. A group of MSD students at Columbia Campus went on a field trip to Towson University to watch a Questfest production of Alice. During their two-week visit, Questfest artists visited the Columbia campus and treated the students to special visual theater workshops.

The first group of visiting artists was eight members of Theatre of the Silence from Hong Kong. The students were enthralled by the fact that the company consisted of predominantly Deaf actors who were working professionals. The Hong Kong actors were very good at expressing themselves through universal gestures. During introductions and side conversations, the students were also fascinated by the levels of translation that had to occur for the Hong Kong group to communicate: Hong Kong Sign Language to spoken Chinese to English to ASL. The group gave workshops that focused on physical theater, mime, animal movement, improvisation, and visual storybuilding.

The next visiting artist was Ramesh Meyyappan, a world-renowned Deaf actor. Around MSD

1968 Mustang Convertible

The auto body shop students have been working on restoring a 1968 Mustang convertible. They are in the process of removing rusted metal around the vehicle to replace with new sheet metal components. Mike Cumberland, the owner of the Mustang and donor last year of $350.00 for start-up costs, donated an engine hoist, engine level to hook up to the motor, and an engine stand to help pull out the engine. He also gave the auto body shop a metal bender so students can bend metal into different shapes and a spray paint canister with a hose.

Kriste Kovarcik, MSD’s Community Relations Specialist, accepted a generous donation of $1,000.00 from Mr. Cumberland on behalf of the MSD Foundation for the auto shop fund. Van Brewer, auto body instructor, and his students want to thank Mike for helping with this program and giving students an opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience by restoring an older vehicle. These students have been able to get to know the owner of the car and are seeing first-hand the value of the contributions he made.

Recently, the students pulled out the engine for the first time and have just finished preparing it to be sent to a machine shop. The engine will be rebuilt with new parts. Kenny Stine from the Tate dealership was able to help us replace the frame rail and skirt. The students will be replacing the floor with new floor pans and the rear quarter panels. This will be an exciting experience for them.

—Van Brewer, Auto Body Teacher, brewerva@msd.edu
In February, Maryland School for the Deaf was pleased to play host to Dr. Susan King Fullerton, an expert in Reading Recovery with Deaf children. Dr. Fullerton is a professor at Clemson University and runs Clemson’s Reading Recovery Center. In addition, Dr. Fullerton has published several articles regarding literacy and reading in numerous publications. Dr. Fullerton came to MSD’s attention when her article “Reading Recovery with Deaf Children” was printed in the fall 2003 edition of Odyssey.

MSD teachers Sue Hill and Mickey Palmer first met Dr. Fullerton at a reading conference in June 2007. Knowing Dr. Fullerton’s background, Sue and Mickey approached Dr. Fullerton with many questions regarding reading fluency and Reading Recovery with Deaf students. Sue and Mickey were granted a private audience with Dr. Fullerton and spent an hour learning how the Reading Recovery process could be adapted for Deaf students.

This school year, three teachers from MSD, Sue Hill, Mickey Palmer, and Elizabeth Reed, have been undergoing intensive training in Reading Recovery. These teachers-in-training have been under the supervision of Barb Shelley, a Reading Recovery Teacher Leader with Frederick County Public Schools. During this training year, Barb Shelley has been in contact with Dr. Fullerton in order to learn how to incorporate methods and modifications specifically designed for Deaf learners. When Dr. Fullerton suggested that she come to Maryland to help with the training, everyone involved jumped at the opportunity.

Dr. Fullerton spent one day on the Frederick Campus and one day on the Columbia Campus. While she was here, Dr. Fullerton took the time to observe Reading Recovery sessions, analyze student strengths and weaknesses, and provide feedback. Dr. Fullerton even modeled lessons for MSD’s Reading Recovery teachers-in-training.

Dr. Fullerton gave MSD two jam-packed days of observations, training, critiques, insights, and tips. MSD’s Reading Recovery teachers-in-training now have a better picture of how to implement Reading Recovery at Maryland School for the Deaf. MSD is very grateful that Dr. Fullerton took time from her busy schedule to visit the school, and looks forward to continuing this professional relationship with her and hopes that she will visit here again.

—Lisa M. Houck, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, lisa.houck@msd.edu

Family Education
Continued from page 7

The parents tickle: the infants giggle; the two-year-olds predict it will happen again; the three-year-olds extend the finger-play pattern and tickle their parents.

The parents recite a poem: the infants attend to the rhythm and flow, the two-year-olds imitate the repetitions, the three-year-olds create a new line to the poem.

The adults in the circle give a direction to “jump”: the infants bounce on a lap, the two-year-olds jump in place, the three-year-olds hop while holding hands.

The parents watch and learn from other parents: the infants watch and learn from the “bigger kids,” the two-year-olds watch from their peers, the three-year-olds watch and learn from younger children.

Everyone is relaxed and smiling. Not a bad way to start a Monday morning.

—Adrienne King and Pam Kraemer
Family Education and Early Childhood Department, adrienne.king@msd.edu, pam.kraemer@msd.edu
Frederick Campus Elementary School/Family Education Complex Construction in Progress

Construction continues on the new Elementary/Family Education Building.

Construction trailers line the front of the new Elementary/Family Education building.

Ventilation dormer on new building designed after same feature on the main campus.

Imagine how beautiful this will be when landscaped!

The new Family Education entrance to the right

The new building will feature some interesting architecture.

A unique focal point in the building’s design

Good weather helps keep the construction moving forward.
The ceiling of the Support Services entryway takes shape.

The archway over the stage nears completion. The cafeteria eating area is center and left.

Deputy Superintendent, Stanley C. Baker, in the greenhouse which awaits its glass enclosure.

Workmen install insulation around floor-to-ceiling windows at the “elbow” between FEECD and elementary school.

The stone engraving, Maryland School for the Deaf, is proudly located above the main entrance.

The library will be located near the lobby.

FEECD multi-purpose room will have many windows.

The gymnasium, now under roof, holds supplies for work and other parts of the new building.
Maryland School for the Deaf proudly presented its annual “Spring” play, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, this winter. It was originally a short story by Washington Irving contained in his collection *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon*, written while he was living in Birmingham, England, and first published in 1820. With Irving’s companion piece “Rip Van Winkle,” “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” is among the earliest American fiction still read today.

This short story is set circa 1790 in the Dutch settlement of Tarrytown, New York, in a secluded glen called Sleepy Hollow. It tells the story of Ichabod Crane, a lanky schoolmaster from Connecticut (portrayed by Dan Mabashov), who competes with Abraham “Brom Bones” Van Brunt, the town rowdy (portrayed by Jonathan Clapp), for the hand of eighteen-year-old Katrina Van Tassel (portrayed by Tiffany Bridgett), only daughter of a wealthy farmer. As Crane leaves a party at the Van Tassel home on an autumn night, he is pursued by the Headless Horseman, supposedly the ghost of a Hessian trooper who lost his head to a cannonball during “some nameless battle” of the American Revolutionary War and who “rides forth to the scene of battle in nightly quest of his head.” Crane disappears from town, leaving Katrina to marry Brom Bones, who ever after "look[ed] exceedingly knowing whenever the story of Ichabod was related.”

This story was uniquely adapted by Kathryn Schultz who rewrote it into a narrative-style play using the townspeople as narrator/storytellers. The narrating townsfolk (portrayed by Jared Hoel, Corinna Hill, Brittany L. Frank, Hillary Frankowiak, and Jackie Coffren) often transformed themselves from narrator to character. The storytellers sometimes became actively involved in the action, and other times they would drop back from the action. They acted as an ensemble to create a play made up of seamless movement and action. All of this also made for friendly banter between audience and actors.

In spite of unusually early show dates this year, the school was thrilled to see a great turn out. Theater was a new experience for five of the eight actors. MSD Superintendent Mr. James Tucker said that they are the MSD theater’s “new blood.” The three main characters, Ichabod Crane, Brom Bones, and Katrina Van Tassel, were all played surprisingly and wonderfully by freshmen. Corinna Hill and Hillary Frankowiak adapted to theater life remarkably well, showing their dedication and quickly picking up many acting skills. Thanks to the veterans Brittany L. Frank, Jackie Coffren, and Jared Hoel for their brilliant work and their dedication as storytellers.

The theater is sad to bid farewell to seniors Jackie and Jared who have been with the MSD theater throughout high school. The school wishes you the best in all of your endeavors; may one of them be in theater.

Many wonderful people made this show possible. Director Abbey Roin-Thigpen is grateful to the dedicated team of voice readers: Simone Morrison, Cameron Morrison, Milton Hirsch, and Rachel Aldrich. She is also blessed by Mark Brenna, Kris Davis, and Miro Nowalski for their awesome building skills to construct the set with the help of Rita Corey’s cedar shingles and Janet Mertz-Witzcak’s creative artwork. It was a sight to remember.

—Abbey Roin-Thigpen, Director

abby.roin-thigpen@msd.edu
“Ich-a-bod! Ich-a-bod!”
Jared Hoel

“Are you courting Katrina?”
Corinna Hill, Brittany L. Frank, Dan Mabashov, Hillary Frankowiak

“There gen’rous fruits that never fail…”
Brittany L. Frank, Corinna Hill, Hillary Frankowiak

Both struggle to pull up the broken-down horse.
Jackie Coffren, Dan Mabashov

The Cast of Legend of Sleepy Hollow

(L-R) Dan Mabashov (kneeling), Tiffany Bridgett, Jonathan Clapp, Brittany L. Frank, Corinna Hill, Hillary Frankowiak, Jared Hoel, Jackie Coffren
For the first time in MSD’s history, the Family Education and Early Childhood Department had their three-year-old students participate in the elementary school’s drama class. These young students climbed into their wagons for a ride to the elementary school two or three times a week during the first trimester. At the beginning, they learned the three basic rules of classroom behavior: respect others, play safely, and ask teachers first before touching anything in the classroom. They were very enthusiastic about learning new things and were eager to start participating in all the drama activities.

These young students then experienced five short stories from popular picture books: The Three Bears, The Gingerbread Boy, The Rainbow Fish, The Farm, and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. After each story, they choose a character and experimented with the appropriate body movement and facial expression to “become” the character. They learned to improvise their movements by integrating their understanding of the story and their own experiences. They also had an opportunity to make crafts that were related to the stories. The students were so excited to bring home their projects to share with their parents! It was amazing to see how each child learned and increased his or her drama skills during the trimester.

At the end of the trimester, the students received drama certificates recognizing their accomplishments. The certificates even included their pictures! Currently, they are taking Art with Janet Mertz-Witzak for the second trimester. During the third trimester they will take Paul Roult’s Computer Literacy class. These students benefit from the different areas of communication and education.

—Tamara Jo Ellis, Elementary Drama Teacher, FC, tammy.ellis@msd.edu

Dr. Nathie Marbury speaks about her experience as Black Deaf woman to the student body.

On February 07, 2008, the MSD-Frederick campus was pleased to have Nathie Marbury, PhD, as guest speaker during the celebration of Black History month. Jr. Black Deaf Advocates president Tykeria Ward, vice president Christina Santiful, and treasurer Jared Hoel introduced the speaker and assisted in leading the question-and-answer portion of the presentation.

Dr. Marbury currently works as an ASL professor at Austin Community College in Austin, Texas. She has taught for the past forty years at various Deaf schools, universities/colleges, and community colleges throughout the country. Dr. Marbury was the first Black Deaf teacher hired at the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School located on the grounds of Gallaudet University. She has made many videotapes about American Sign Language and Deaf culture. She is cofounder of HMB Productions which produces ASL and interpreting videotapes.

Dr. Marbury began her presentation describing how she identifies herself as a proud Black Deaf woman who is also a teacher, mother (of two adult daughters), and grandmother (of two grandsons and three granddaughters). She then told the audience of middle and high school students a wonderful story which provided a message that challenged the students to keep striving and never give up on their dreams.

_Toward the end of the presentation, Dr. Marbury answered questions from the audience about her background and past experiences. Students were particularly impressed to hear that Dr. Marbury was one of seventeen children born to her hearing parents in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Marbury was the only member of her family born Deaf, and no one was able to communicate with her using sign language. Her sister attempted to act as her interpreter, but the communication was limited; for a long time she never knew her sister’s name and referred to her only as “sister.” Dr. Marbury attended the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and later went on to obtain an undergraduate degree, two masters’ degrees, and recently a doctoral degree. She is truly an outstanding, inspirational leader and role model for all students everywhere._

—Lisa D. Smith, LCSW-C, Jr. BDA Sponsor, FC, lisa.smith@msd.edu
THE MSD PAGEANT AND DEAF TEEN AMERICA PAGEANT 2008

In December 2007, Maryland School for the Deaf staff, students, and friends congratulated the following students who participated in the MSD pageant: Clayton Grossinger (11th grade) and Chanel Gleicher (11th grade); Clayton McMillan (11th grade) and Shayna Unger (10th grade); and Gregg McConville (9th grade) and Tiffany Bridget (9th grade) who competed in our Mister and Miss MSD pageant. Lauren Benedict and Kevin Berrigan were our fantastic Masters of Ceremony. Every pageant always begins with an introduction, and then features four additional performances: platform, talent, evening wear, and stage interview. The platform and the stage interview were individual competitions; the talent and the evening wear were pair competitions. The pageant lasted for two entertaining hours for the audience—but it was a very short 120 minutes for the contestants. The contestants had to rush to change their clothes for every event and get on stage to strut their stuff.

As Lauren Benedict and Kevin Berrigan, the Masters of Ceremony, announced the overall winners, Chanel and Clayton were shocked and thrilled. The pageant had several individual awards: Best Talent went to Tiffany, and Greg and Chanel each received Best Platform. Unfortunately, Chanel’s original partner, Clayton Grossinger, had a serious shoulder injury and could not compete in the Deaf Teen America Pageant which forced her to find a replacement, Garrett Sims.

On March 5 – 8, Chanel Gleicher, Garrett Sims, and Ms. Janice Randall attended the Deaf Teen America Pageant at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C. Their experience was unforgettable. It was fun reuniting with old friends, meeting new people, and competing in the pageant itself. As Chanel said, “If I could do it all over again, I would because it was worth it. As for you, future high school students, I highly encourage you to participate in our pageant!”

MSD is proud to announce that it won the bid to host the Deaf Teen America Pageant in 2010. More information will be forthcoming.

—Janice Randall, Teacher/DTA Chaperone, FC, janice.randall@msd.edu

Deaf Teen America 2008 winners

Mr./Miss DTA 2008—Indiana
1st runner-up—Texas
2nd runner-up—California
3rd runner-up—Michigan
Best State Spirit—Texas
Best Platform Presentation—
Michigan and Texas
Best Talent—Illinois
Best Formal Wear—Texas
Mr. Congeniality—California
Miss Congeniality—Maryland
(Chanel Gleicher)
Most Helpful Chaperone—
Maryland (Ms. Janice Z. Randall)

Questfest Artists

Continued from page 8

visual theater artist from Singapore. He captivated students with his two-day workshop on creative body movement. The last visitor was Drew Richardson, a hearing theater artist, who presented a lecture-demonstration based on his Questfest solo clown show as Drew, the Dramatic Fool. Drew had our student audience howling with laughter and appreciation at his clown antics, magic tricks, and audience participation skits. Special thanks go to Dean Buck, PE teacher, and Sue Maginnis, middle school teacher, for their tremendous help in interpreting Drew’s presentation.

All of this was coordinated by MSD’s creative drama teacher, Stella Antonio-Conley, who has had a longstanding relationship with Quest: Arts for Everyone (Questfest producer) as an Affiliate Artist. Two years ago, she worked with Questfest to bring to campus the famous Australian Deaf theater artist named Asphyxia, who gave a short acrobatic performance and a visual theater workshop. Then, last fall, Stella was approached by Questfest again to consider bringing more theater artists to present free workshops for MSD students. Principal John Snavin and Assistant Principals Nancy Downey and Rick Ballard gratefully approved this rare opportunity to expose students to the wonders of theater. MSD hopes Questfest will offer more free workshops by international Deaf and hearing theater artists in the future.

—Stella Antonio-Conley, drama teacher, CC stella.antonio-conley@msd.edu
Senior Daniel Katz-Hernandez has mastered computer graphics and design; he did an outstanding job illustrating the “Old Main” building, which is shown on this issue’s cover page. Daniel has a strong desire to strengthen his skills with every lesson that he learned in class—and continues to be very successful!

Other computer graphic students have shown a similar motivation to learn these new skills; MSD is always proud to see their students blossom from having little, if any, experience in computer graphics to become highly proficient in using the latest technology. Many students enter the class wondering if they will like this course, and end up going to college with a strong interest in computer graphics.

—Robert Lewis, Career and Technology Education (CTE) teacher, Computer Graphics, FC, robert.lewis@msd.edu
Dr. Frank Turk’s Visit

Maryland School for the Deaf’s Junior National Association of the Deaf members were recently treated to a visit by an icon of the Deaf community, Dr. Frank Turk. We provided a platform, and he was more than happy to dispense some of his wisdom. Those who watched him take charge of the stage were touched by his words, his personality, and his charisma. He educated us about how important our peers are to us. Dr. Turk explained how we should appreciate our peers and the challenge they provide to our everyday lives. He also reminded us to not take our education for granted because there are few deaf schools in America that have as many high-standard educators in one place at one time.

We, Maryland School for the Deaf students, are more than just fortunate to be taught by the teachers employed at MSD. Dr. Turk also told the members of Jr. NAD to not wait until we are in college to start the process of “finding ourselves.” We should go ahead and try to explore the depths and discover who we are and what we want to become while we are in high school. He also mentioned that we should work on improving our weaknesses more than embracing our strengths because it is important for us to be all-around people rather than being able to excel in one area and fail in others. Overall, he taught us that our age does not make much of a difference in us being able to influence our peers and our community.

Thanks to Dr. Frank Turk, a godfather of Deaf culture, for being willing to give a presentation that Jr. NAD members will not soon forget!

—Alyssa Romano, Junior

Dr. Frank Turk encourages Jr. NAD members to take advantage of MSD’s superior education.
Everyday, since the first day of school in August, we first graders have been counting how many days we have come to school. We have enjoyed adding a new number every day. We have practiced and practiced with the numbers! Now we can count to 100 by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s, 10’s.

February 4, 2008, was the 100th day of school! The week before the big day, we got ready. We read books about 100 school days. We made special pins to wear. We made special cookies. We each gathered 100 small things at home to bring to school. We brought special snacks to school. We helped to make a huge 100 to hang in the hallway.

Finally, the day arrived! We each displayed our 100 things from home on the bulletin board with a sentence. We drew pictures with the number 100. We put 100 on each cookie. We tried to guess which jar had 100 pennies. We glued groups of 10 different colored strips to make a paper chain of 100. We painted hand prints in different colored groups of 5 to make 100 handprints! We wrote all the numbers 1-100. We counted by tens until we had 100 different snacks—and then we ate them all! In the afternoon we played a game and had a party to celebrate.

100 school days was fun!
—Hannah Aitken, Kay Onobiyi, Tylique Gross, Christopher Bell, Brooke Tochterman, 1st Graders

(Teacher’s note: Counting 100 school days has taught the students both Language Arts and Math goals and has helped them to meet many first grade benchmarks.)

MSD Key

Last semester I took a Photography II class under Ms. Lorraine Stoltz; one of the class requirements was to develop a project reflecting my photography work and put it on display. I thought about doing the same thing the city of Frederick did last fall: they had large key-shaped statues that were designed by different artists and placed around the city. Since this was a creative idea, I asked Mr. Brizendine and his Woodshop class to cut a large key out of plywood for me.

The next step was to take pictures of MSD’s Frederick campus, students, buildings, historic items, and anything else that represents our school. After I printed out the pictures, I asked two of my photography classmates, Corinna Hill and Brittany L. Frank, to help me put the pictures together in a collage on the large plywood key. Ms. Stoltz emphasized that the pictures needed to be in the right position to contrast each other.

After the project was completed, Ms. Stoltz was very impressed and decided to put Plexiglas on the key to protect the pictures. It is now hanging on the wall near the entrance of the Veditz Building. Many people stop to look at it! I am very proud of my project and MSD; I would like to encourage other students to display their projects around campus. This will show our pride in MSD!

—Marissa Andrade, Senior

Senior Marissa Andrade and her MSD Key project
The RIT National Science Fair

On March 14-16, the Rochester Institute of Technology National Science Fair was held in Rochester, New York. Jenna Richmond, Dina Raevsky, Janice Randall, and I traveled six hours to get there. There were so many students—all eager to show their projects and what they have learned. Fourteen different schools were involved including Arizona and Pennsylvania. On Saturday morning Jenna and I were interviewed by judges. We were nervous; Maryland School for the Deaf has never been involved in the RIT Science Fair before. We spiced up our presentation with blue-framed glasses and lab coats.

Our project was based on sugar in foods. Jenna and I had three different analyses; our first was the sugar content in bread, crackers, an apple, and old grapes. The bread and crackers had refined sugar; the apple and old grapes had natural sugar, which is good for our bodies. In the second analysis, we focused on glucose, sucrose, yeast extract, and water. We wanted to see what kind of simple sugar would result if glucose and yeast, sucrose and water, sucrose and yeast, and yeast and water were combined together. In our third analysis, we wanted to see if diet soda products were telling the truth about not having any sugar and starch in them. We combined starch and sugar indicators with Coke. It came out as a negative for starch but positive for sugar. Diet Coke came out negative for starch and sugar. Diet Coke was telling the truth about their product; there was no sugar in it.

Sugar
Bread
Crackers
Apple
Grapes
Glucose
Sucrose
Yeast extract
Coke
Water
Starch

It was a tough competition because everyone had different types of projects in chemistry, physics, and biology. When they announced that we had won second place, we were thrilled. We never thought that we could have made it this far; it was only our first year. We received an award of three hundred dollars. My overall experience at the science fair was very beneficial. I would definitely recommend everyone to participate.

—Céline Dazé, Senior

Jenna Richmond and Céline Dazé got in second place with a winning prize of $300. Sponsoring them are Ms. Janice Randall (left) and Ms. Dina Raevsky (right).
High School Cheerleaders

The MSD varsity cheerleaders who cheered our varsity basketball team through a great season were a very dedicated and experienced group. After two months of practices and games, varsity squad members Lauren Benedict, Céline Dazé, Chanel Gleicher, Chenae Laldee, Michelle Mansfield-Hom, and Rachella Shephard were selected to represent MSD at the cheerleading competition at the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf during the Clerc Classic VIII in January. The team members’ practice paid off as their creative dance and chants/cheers wowed everyone. The MSD team came in third place, and Céline Dazé was selected to the All-Tournament team. Head coach, Janice Randall, felt that the MSD cheerleaders were remarkable and certainly champions in her eyes!

Coach Randall was very proud of MSD’s varsity squad: Marisa Andrade, Lauren Benedict, Céline Dazé, Markeis Dobbins, Chanel Gleicher, Nicole Gleicher, Chenae Laldee, Michelle Mansfield-Hom, Rachella Shephard, and Brittany Wiggins. They devoted long hours to practice every weekend, working hard to make up their different creative movements, sidelines, and the two cheers they would use at tournaments. The hard work paid off as MSD’s varsity team took first place at the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Tournament held at the American School for the Deaf. This was their first championship since 1998! The MSD team was overjoyed that they also won the Creative Movement category. Céline Dazé won Individual Jumps and All-Tournament while Chanel Gleicher won Individual Cheer. Our MSD cheerleaders, spotters, and drummer all chipped in to do a great job.

Senior Night was a tough night for coach Janice Randall as she had to say goodbye to four senior cheerleaders (Marisa Andrade, Céline Dazé, Markeis Dobbins, and Brittany Wiggins), two senior spotters (Natalie Jones and Tykera Ward), and drummer (Tony Bush). They will be missed by MSD coaches, staff, and students.

Junior varsity coaches Janice Randall and Cyndy Stieffenhofer are proud to say that the JV squad (Jakia Crews, Skye Dreumont, Nicole Gleicher, Rachael Richards, Courtney Rideout, and Karla Wiener) worked hard to create their sidelines and half-time dance.

Thanks to Cyndy Stieffenhofer for being an outstanding assistant coach and devoting her time to work with junior varsity cheerleaders for this winter’s basketball season.

—Janice Randall, Head Coach, FC
Janice.randall@msd.edu
High School Girls’ Varsity Basketball

The 2007-2008 Lady Orioles got off to a great start and ran their record to 9 wins and 0 losses. Head coach, Terry Berrigan, and his assistants, Scott Morrison and Laura Lohmeyer, thought they had captured lightning in a bottle by the way the team coolly handled every opponent and how cohesive they became in functioning as a team.

The Lady Orioles were led by two senior captains, Andrea Amati and Brittany Frank, who both had great seasons that culminated in a final team record of 20 wins and 4 losses. Against Carroll Christian, Andrea stole the ball and made a tough buzzer beater shot for an amazing “come from behind” 41-39 victory. Andrea scored the 1,000th point of her career against Cumberland Valley Christian School and finished with 1,048 total points! Brittany was the team’s 3-point specialist and had one game with four 3-pointers and one with five 3-pointers. This was the second time in her career she hit five 3-pointers in one game setting an MSD record!

Another senior player, Stephanie Kurth, always gave her best effort every time she was called upon, and it was a pleasure to have her on the team. Junior Danielle Berrigan saw extensive playing time as either a starter or 6th “man” and contributed significantly to the team in various areas while junior Jennifer Rand was a physical player who never hesitated to mix things up with opposing players. The three promising sophomore amigos, Shayna Rose Unger, Tandy Lewis, and Trista Taylor, led the team on many fast breaks and will be a force to be reckoned with for seasons to come. Shayna Rose played the point guard position throughout the season and did extremely well. Tandy demonstrated power moves inside on offense and attacked the boards with force along with Trista, who was our best low-post player. The Lady Orioles’ two freshmen, Claire Tucker and Raquel Roult, provided many promising moments and contributed in different ways. Claire improved with each game and was the team’s third leading scorer at the Clerc Classic tournament. Her smooth, long strides down the court lead the team on fast breaks and she floated between guard and forward on both offense and defense.

The Lady Orioles traveled to the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf for the Clerc Classic Tournament during the weekend of January 17th. In the opening game, MSD mowed down Fremont School for the Deaf, 59 to 31; and in our semi-final game, the Lady Orioles ran Model Secondary School for the Deaf out of the gym with a final score of 57 to 33. In the championship game against Texas School for the Deaf, the players suffered through a cold shooting night where it seemed someone had secretly placed a lid on our basket. The Lady Orioles shot a horrible 14 out of 69 field goals (20%) and bitterly swallowed a heartbreaking 43-41 loss.

Upon returning home, the Lady Orioles regrouped and ran off three straight wins before the team traveled to Cumberland Valley Christian School without our starting point guard, Shayna Rose, who stayed behind with the flu. Despite this, MSD players picked up the slack with Brittany Frank’s five 3-pointers but, alas, the team suffered on the defensive end and lost the game in a double overtime thriller by a score of 77-75.
The very next day, the Lady Orioles traveled to Lexington School for the Deaf (NY) to complete the team’s long season mission to win the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Tournament. The Lady Orioles had heard all season how good the Galloping Ghosts of The Learning Center (TLC) from Massachusetts were and that they were undefeated and unbeatable. MSD girls started off the tournament beating The New Jersey School for the Deaf by a score of 51 to 15. The next day, the team played against the New York School for the Deaf, tuning up for the championship game by winning handily 44 to 16.

In the championship game against TLC, the MSD coaches reached up their sleeves and pulled out a trick defense very much like a bulldog (The Lady Orioles) going after a meaty bone (the basketball). TLC had two highly skilled, strong inside players that MSD would triple team every time one of them touched the ball down low. The game went back and forth, but the MSD team went to the locker room at halftime leading 21 to 20. The Lady Orioles opened the second half with a 10 point burst and were leading 31 to 20 before TLC called timeout. The MSD defense remained tenacious which prevented TLC from operating their offense they were accustomed to, taking a toll on their star players.

Late in the third quarter, the Lady Orioles had a scare when Andrea Amati went down with what seemed like a serious ankle injury. But she would have none of it and came back playing with a heavily taped ankle. It fired up the players, and the team refused to let TLC get back in the flow of the game. Entering the fourth quarter leading 40 to 28, MSD was very patient on offense, taking time off the clock which forced TLC to foul and the Lady Orioles answered well, hitting 8 out of 12 free throws. The final horn set off a wild celebration that included all of the players, parents, and coaches.

Head Coach, Terry Berrigan, and his two assistant coaches, Scott Morrison and Laura Lohmeyer, would like to thank the parents first and foremost for their support throughout the season and to Dave and Audrey Frank for their help with scorekeeping and statistics. And most importantly, the coaches wish to express their heartfelt thanks to three departing senior players, Andrea Amati, Brittany Frank, and Stephanie Kurth who will be sorely missed next year. They went out as champions and highly deserved the credit for keeping the team together throughout its successful 2007-08 basketball season.

Adieu ‘til next year!

—Head Coach Terry Berrigan, Assistant Coaches Scott Morrison, Laura Lohmeyer, FC terence.berrigan@msd.edu, scott.morrison@msd.edu, laura.lohmeyer@msd.edu

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Top row (L-R) Jennifer Rand, Reina Bravo, Tia Duval, Mieasha Rahman, Racquel Roult, Nadasha Harvey, Kevina Kerchner Bottom row Manager Danielle Harris, Assistant Coach Scott Morrison, Coach Laura Lohmeyer, Manager Vanishe Buchanan
The 2007-2008 boys’ varsity basketball season was a roller coaster ride for Head Coach, Vance Rewolinski, and his assistants, Mike Kent and Darius Brown. The season alternated between winning and losing streaks as the team struggled to find its identity. The team opened with a two game losing streak, ran off four straight wins, lost three, won five, lost two, won three, lost four, and then won the last four games of the season to finish with a record of sixteen wins and eleven losses. Though the season was fraught with many highs and lows, a strong nucleus of players is returning next year to help us reach higher.

The team won the New Life Tournament easily as they defeated the tournament host, New Life Christian Academy, in the championship game by a score of 75-63.

MSD traveled to the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf the weekend of January 17-19, 2008, to participate in the Clerc Classic Tournament. The opening game against the Kansas School for the Deaf became a track meet as MSD’s run and gun offense resulted in a rather easy 79-50 win. The semi-final game against Model Secondary School for the Deaf ended in similar fashion as MSD romped off the court with a 69-55 victory. The championship game against the Indiana School for the Deaf opened with MSD pulling out to a big lead despite the loss of one of our starters due to illness. The team put a scare into Indiana, but they dug down and rallied to defeat us 64-49.

One of the highlights of the season came on January 25 when we hosted Catoctin High School and pulled out our high octane offense in running to a 93-83 victory. Three players scored over twenty points each led by Brandon McMillan’s thirty-one points. Kevin Berrigan scored twenty-four points and Ryan Bonheyo finished with twenty points to round out the team’s balanced scoring output.

Other highlights include Brandon McMillan scoring his one thousandth point against Highland View Academy on January 11, 2008. This was a thrilling moment despite the team’s losing on a buzzer beater in overtime 70-67. Not to be outdone, Kevin Berrigan scored his one thousandth point against Pennsylvania School for the Deaf on February 23, 2008. Brandon finished his MSD career by scoring 1089 points as well as setting a new school record with 133 three-point shots. Kevin Berrigan finished with 1011 points and also set a school record with 497 assists.

MSD continued to dominate at the Eastern State Schools for the Deaf (ESDA) tournament by winning its sixth straight championship! This ties the record with St. Mary’s School.
for the Deaf (NY) which accomplished this between 1951 and 1956. The first two games at the tournament were blowout wins against American School for the Deaf by a score of 91-60 and in the semi-final against Pennsylvania School for the Deaf with a score of 92-29. The championship game against the New Jersey School for the Deaf ended in a 73-56 win for MSD.

Another positive moment in our season came as Coach Vance Rewolinski collected his one hundredth victory as a coach by defeating Heritage Academy on January 10, 2008, by a score of 58 to 56. Coach Rewolinski was also selected to coach the City All-Star team against the County All-Stars on March 28, 2008, in which Mark Korn played for the City All-Stars. Other honors rolled in as MSD seniors Kevin Berrigan and Brandon McMillan were selected to play in the United States Deaf Basketball High School East-West All Star game in Orlando, Florida, on April 12, 2008.

Coach Rewolinski would like to thank his assistants, Mike Kent and Darius Brown, who always put the team on the positive side of things. The coaches would like to wish all the best to the five departing seniors—Brandon McMillan, Kevin Berrigan, Travis Oshman, Joseph Solano, and Mark Korn—who gave their hearts to the team and finished the season as champions.

—Vance Rewolinski, Head Coach, FC
vance.rewolinski@msd.edu
The 2008 Varsity Wrestling program looked promising when the season began with twenty-eight students coming out for the team. This included ten freshmen which meant a young and inexperienced group for the coaches to work with. Fortunately, the patience of head coach Chris von Garrel and his assistants, Eric Woods, John Jones, and Tim Taylor, allowed the team to gel and develop as a cohesive unit. The coaches focused on teaching skills and improving conditioning and mental toughness to prepare their grapplers for a long season and succeeded with a final season record of 11 wins and 8 loses.

Team captains and seniors Daniel Katz-Hernandez, Colin Hill, and Kelly Kuhna provided excellent leadership, encouraging the younger wrestlers if they lost a match with the “keep your head up and do better next time” attitude.

A highlight of the season was when the team flew to the Indiana School for the Deaf in January to participate in the National Wrestling Dual Tournament. Daniel Katz-Hernandez and Mark Cross won all the matches in the dual tournament. Daniel also tied with two other wrestlers for the total take-down award. MSD finished in third place and brought home a beautiful trophy to add to the trophy case.

The team trained hard and it paid off; three wrestlers won over 20 matches each! Mark Cross won 29 and lost 3 while winning first place in three different tournaments. He also finished in fourth place at the Maryland Independent School Championship held at McDonough School. This year Mark earned 59 takedowns and 18 pins. Brett Ches won 25 and lost 7, earning 38 takedowns and 14 pins. Daniel Katz-Hernandez won 24 and lost 2. He won first place in the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Open tournament, and referees voted him as Most Valuable Player (MVP). Daniel earned 52 takedowns and 15 pins this year. Clayton Grossinger wrestled at 189 pounds and really impressed the coaching staff. Over the course of the season, Colin Hill flourished and became a wrestler to be reckoned with. He won first place in the ESDAA in the 171 pound weight class which thrilled the coaches.

The MSD wrestlers participated in five tournaments this year and walked away with awards in four of them:

- Holloway Invitational Tournament—Third place
- Progressive Christian Tournament—Third place
- Massanutten Military Academy Tournament—Third place
- National Dual Tournament at ISD—Third place

Head coach Chris von Garrel would like to offer his appreciation to his assistants, Eric Woods, John Jones, and Tim Taylor, for their patience in teaching the young wrestlers while helping the veterans improve their techniques. He also offers his best to the three seniors who will be sorely missed: Daniel Katz-Hernandez, Colin Hill, and Kelly Kuhna.

With a strong nucleus of wrestlers returning next year, the future looks bright!

—Chris von Garrel, Head Coach, FC
Chris.vongarrel@msd.edu
Middle School Varsity Boys Basketball-FC

Back row (L-R) Andrew Biskupiak, Asher Kirschbaum, DanJohn Kerchner, Kyle Thorpe, Michaelson Liddle, Jesse Steingieser, James Steingieser, Tyler Lewis, Derek Frank, Zack Barron Front row Assistant Coach Jeff Lewis, Head Coach Lindsey Heisey

Middle School Varsity Girls Basketball-FC

Back Coach Jeff Lewis Middle Manager Leeann Wadsworth, Assistant Coach Michelle Vigliotti, Tarja Lewis, Lauren Goldberg, Corbin Register, Mia Goldberg, Assistant Coach Lindsey Heisey Front CJ Hirsch, Augusta Seremeth, Liv Polzin, Raquel Grindstaff Not pictured Kaliah Doe and Janna Oshman
Sportscope—For complete win/loss records, go to www.msd.edu

Middle School Junior Varsity Boys Basketball-FC

(L-R) Co-Head Coach Johnston Grindstaff, Austin Cerasoli, Corey Rosko, Ethan Sonnenstrahl, Cody Paulay-Simmons, Dalton Kramer, Evan Kurth, Jad Gore, Darrius Doe, Jake Bonheyo, Jake Grindstaff, Co-Head Coach Lee Kramer

Middle School Cheerleaders-FC

Top (L-R) Emily DeSimone, Brittany Little  Middle  Kali Doubledree, Allyson Bortoletto, Sierra McConville, Jehanne McCullough  Front Coach Cheri Winnings, Assistant Coach Brenda McConville (not pictured)
Middle School Girls Basketball-CC

Top row (L-R) Assistant Coach Clarence Taylor III, Justine Fontenot, Amanda Ames, Shanta Hicks, Tamia Hannis, Head Coach Andrew Francis
Front row Nova Schenk, Sara Young, Haley Rhyanes  Not pictured Carolyn Wiley and Lai’Yonea Branch

Middle School Boys Basketball-CC

Top row (L-R) Head Coach Daniel Rinas, Max Olson, Brandon Garrett, Rhyshem Bagley, Carroll Barnes, Sagar Patel, Angelo Archibald, Assistant Coach Karen Whitaker  Front row Noah Coakley, Bama Nde, Jason Green, Char’Vez Creek, Brodey Craig  Not pictured Ryan Carr and Joshua Cadondon
Under 12 Boys Basketball
Back row (L-R) Assistant Coach Rick Ballard, Chad Seremeth, Billy Millios, Joey Hoffman, Coach Ray Brooks Back row Lance Brewer, Carey Ballard, James Brooks, Brett Sonnenstrahl Not pictured Tarik Wallace

Under 12 Girls Basketball
Back row (L-R) Coach Gregg McConville, Emily DeSimone, Sierra McConville, Allyson Bortoletto, Assistant Coach Dyan Newman Back row (L-R) Tessa Lewis, Tayla Newman, Alexa Paulay-Simmons

Under 10 Boys Basketball
Back row (L-R) Assistant Coach Ben Bahan, Coach William Johnson, Assistant Coach Rosemary Latin Middle Jake Bortoletto, David Bahan, Austin Latin, Maverick Obermiller Front Egan Seremeth, Blake Brewer, Quincy Johnson

Under 10 Girls Basketball
Back row (L-R) Assistant Coach Lynn Jacobowitz, Assistant Coach Kevin Lawrence, Coach Risa Lewis Middle Eve Wood-Jacobowitz, Juliana Bahan, Gillian Lawrence, Brooke Bonheyo, Kaitlyn Weeks Front Karita Lewis, Eve Wood-Jacobowitz
1936—Phoebe Ellen (Hughes) Tharp, ’36, passed away October 13th, 2007. She was recently a resident of the Valley View Nursing Center for the Deaf in Pennsylvania and is survived by sons Robert and Bill Tharp, and other family members. Born November 15th, 1915, Mrs. Hughes Tharp was a member of the MSD Class of 1936 and was honored as its Valedictorian, and was a member of the Ely Literary Society. In the 1990s she worked at the National Association of the Deaf as a volunteer. For over fifty years she was a member of her church, St. Barnabas’ Episcopal Church of the Deaf.

1941—On October 10, 2007, Ethel May Huff, ’41, the beloved wife of the late Ray Clifton Chittum, passed away. She graduated from the Maryland School for the Deaf in 1941. A funeral service was held at the Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church of the Deaf, 1040 S. Beechfield Ave., Baltimore, MD 21229.

1941—Edwin Markel, ’41, and his wife Lois celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 21st, 2007, at the Comus Inn in Dickerson, Maryland, with all five of their sons (Allen, Ron, Ben, James, and Sean) and their wives. This was followed by a surprise anniversary party hosted by the family and loved ones at the Gethsemane Baptist Church in Glenwood, Maryland. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner and anniversary cake with a showing of old photos on a slide projector. Edwin and Lois (Cooper) were married on June 21, 1947, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, at the bride’s home, and Lois made her own wedding gown and arranged the garden wedding flowers. Edwin is a graduate of the Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick, Class of 1941, and Lois attended the North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton, North Carolina. They have fourteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

1970—Governor Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas has re-appointed Gregory Heller, ’70, to serve as the Commissioner of the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; he has served in this position since 2001. This makes his third term as the Commissioner. Mr. Heller is also in his second term as the president of the Kaw Valley Chapter of Kansas for the Gallaudet University Alumni Association. He has worked for the Ferrellgas of Liberty, Missouri near Kansas City as an Accounting Specialist for eight years.

1984—Barbara Eyler Garcia, ’84, and her husband James Garcia proudly announce the birth of their first child, Sterling James on July 11, 2007. The family is doing well and residing in Clearwater, Florida.

2001—Charles “Pike” Sterling,’01, is a new member of the tax preparation team of DeafTax.com due to the growing demand for tax preparation services from the deaf community nationwide. Mr. Sterling holds a B.S. in Business and a M.B.A. in Finance.

Allen Markel, former student of the Maryland School for the Deaf, was interviewed and photographed by the Baltimore Sun while teaching ASL to students in a small classroom at the Indian Creek Upper School in Crownsville, Maryland. He currently holds a bachelor’s degree in ASL from Gallaudet University. The popularity of the ASL classes among students seeking to learn sign language is a growing trend in Maryland schools.
By an act of the January 1867 General Assembly of Maryland authored by Frederick County Delegate Henry Baker, the Maryland School for the Deaf was established under the corporate name, “The President and Visitors of the Asylum for Deaf and Dumb Mutes of the State of Maryland.” The Act of Incorporation was passed by both Houses on March 22nd of that year. The following thirty Marylanders were named as members representing every county in the state:

William J. Ross  Lawrence I. Brengle
Thomas Sims  H.C. Naill
James M. Coale  Grafton Duvall
Fuller Crane  Joseph B. Brinkley
Enoch Pratt  Grayson Eichelberger
Philip F. Thomas  Richard D. Carmichael
Isaac D. Jones  Albert C. Green
William Galloway  J.P.R. Gilliss
Daniel Weisel  Oliver Miller
Jacob Reese  Richard John Bowie
William J. Albert  George Vickers
John A. J. Creswell  James T. Briscoe
Curtis Davis  Barnes Compton
George F. Maddox  Oden Bowie
Chas. F. Goldsborough  William H. Watkins

While several petitions supporting a program for the deaf in the state had been presented in the House of Delegates, such as one signed by ninety citizens of Frederick County and another submitted by a group including future Board President A. Fuller Crane, one protest was recorded. It seems a Mr. R.A. McAllister of Baltimore was not in favor of the plan and submitted his objections though the nature of his protest is not in the Board records. Before this legislation, Maryland’s deaf children had been educated at the Pennsylvania Institution and the Columbia Institution in Washington, D.C., at the expense of the state and Baltimore City, and sometimes in Virginia privately.

The Board of Visitors was to meet in the City of Frederick the first Wednesday in July 1867 to select a President and officers and adopt by-laws. This meeting was held as scheduled in the offices of the Hon. Grayson Eichelberger, but, as only seven members attended, no business was conducted because this number did not represent a quorum or majority. Another meeting was held August 14th still without a majority of the members. Yet another attempt was made on August 28th and finally on October 3rd of 1867 it was resolved that no further endeavors to obtain a quorum would be made. Instead the Board, or the members then present, would proceed to organize and begin the work of establishing the school. They would afterwards apply to the Legislature to ratify this move. This October meeting was held in Baltimore at the Farmers and Planters Bank. Perhaps as the members were spread all across the state, travel in the 1860s made attendance difficult.

Subsequently, in January 1868 the Legislature passed an act ratifying the Board’s fall actions and also increased their number to thirty-five and made seven a quorum. The following April at the Board of Visitors’ next meeting, members took an oath to faithfully exercise their duties and their work began in earnest.

The first President of the Board of Visitors was A. (Andrew) Fuller Crane from Baltimore. Mr. Crane was born in Richmond, Virginia, January 17th, 1820. In 1841 he married Mary Clement Levering and the couple had four children. He was one of the first to promote educating the deaf of Maryland within the state and the successful establishment of the school was due in large part to his energy and enthusiasm. As Board President he was an important participant during the imposing ceremonies for the laying of Old Main’s cornerstone on May 31st, 1871, and his remarks were “loudly cheered” and accompanied by frequent applause.

Mr. Crane served in this position on the Board until June 26th, 1877, when

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Everyone knows Alvin Amberg, a Student Life Counselor here at MSD, known by the students for his kindness and willingness to listen. What many people do not realize, though, is that Alvin has a long history at MSD.

Alvin was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 2nd, 1945, to parents Leroy and Evelyn (Wenner) Amberg. Alvin's parents had graduated from MSD—Leroy in 1932 and Evelyn in 1934—and were always very active at MSD; both are in the MSD Sports Hall of Fame. Leroy Amberg's brother, Howard also graduated in 1935. Alvin started attending Maryland School for the Deaf in January of 1954—fifty-four years ago—and graduated in 1962. But his history with MSD does not end at graduation. He has been under four Superintendents, two as a student and two as an employee. When he was a student, he was under both Superintendent Bjorlee and Superintendent Ambrosen. Later on, when he became an employee of MSD, he was under Superintendent Denton and currently Superintendent Tucker. That is certainly more than most MSD employees can say!

While he was at MSD, Alvin was very active in various clubs, participating in the school play and different sports. He had the leading role in the annual play The First Shave and The Time Machine. Alvin also always went to the sports field or the gym to set up before the teams came in for their games and practices. Teachers often scolded him for getting sweaty before class. Even though he participated in sports activities, Alvin did not play football while he was at MSD; however, he got plenty of football knowledge from his father. Also, throughout school, Alvin always looked forward to the annual trip to the Great Frederick Fair which we still have today. Alvin also had many conversations with his houseparent James Behrens about sports because Behrens was an excellent baseball player in Carroll County.

After graduating from MSD, Alvin went on to attend Gallaudet University. He worked as Intramural Manager, became a member of Kappa Gamma fraternity, and was a member of the soccer team for four years. After graduating in 1967, Alvin started working at the Washington Star as a printer. He married Christine Beverage (class of 1970) on May 11, 1973. They have two daughters, Alvita and Jana. (Alvin and Christine currently have one grandson named Charley.) When the newspaper "bought him out", he started working at Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia Campus, in 1985.

There are several reasons why Alvin decided to return to MSD to work. The first reason is that he cannot recall any time that he spent here when he was unhappy as a student. Second, his parents had instilled into him MSD pride because they were both MSD alumni. MSD also made him a complete person, so he wanted to share his experiences and knowledge with students. He feels as if the MSD community is his family, and he loves to see the smiling faces of students and staff.

Alvin has always been a part of MSD, attending every quadrennial reunion since the age of one. To this day he still attends Community Forums every six weeks.

He is very happy to see the new MSD Alumni Museum being erected; he feels that the school history and memories have to be preserved because, as the years go by, the times change. Alvin has seen so many changes since he was a student at MSD.

Alvin's advice: “Be involved in activities so you will have many good memories afterwards.”

MB
Language is obviously a vital tool. Not only is it a means of communicating thoughts and ideas, but it forges friendships, cultural ties, and economic relationships. For these reasons, and an honest interest in learning more about the Deaf community, twenty-one Frederick businesses and organizations have participated in MSD’s Introductory ASL Course for Businesses.

The course is provided through a PowerPoint presentation and is usually held at the location of the business. Community Relations Specialist, Kriste Hartman Kovarcik, begins each class with a fun and interactive quiz on deaf awareness. Through a series of multiple choice questions, participants are educated on the social, historical, educational and cultural aspects of deafness.

Erin Buck, Student Service/Work Study Coordinator, and MSD high school students conclude the class with a sign language instruction. The sign vocabulary is customized to match the specialized business needs and includes finger spelling and numbers 1 – 10. With this newly learned knowledge, business employees can understand how to better serve and communicate with their Deaf and Hard of Hearing customers.

Since the end of the 2007 school year, twelve MSD students participated as “student teachers” and earned student service learning (SSL) hours required for graduation. MSD junior, Mike Tota, thinks the course is beneficial for students because it is a fun way to earn SSL hours and it is an opportunity to “connect to the hearing world.” Bobby Harris, senior, agrees and adds it is important for local businesses to participate in the course because “it makes it easier for employees to communicate with deaf customers and shows their effort to learn more about Deaf culture and ASL to the Deaf community.”

To receive more information pertaining to the introductory course, businesses may contact Kriste and high school students may contact Erin.

MSD Students Teach Frederick Community ASL

Jehanne McCullough Honored by the Maryland Association of the Deaf

MSD-Frederick Middle School student Jehanne McCullough was honored by the Maryland Association of the Deaf in December 2007. A sixth grader, Jehanne received the Youth Leadership Award for her involvement in politics at both local and national levels. She testified at the Washington, DC, Federal Communication Commission’s hearing on captioning issues, during which she expressed her support for continued federally mandated captioning of television programs. Jehanne also rallied for American Sign Language rights for all deaf children at the Deaf Bilingual Coalition’s demonstration during the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf’s summer 2007 conference in Arlington, Virginia.

In addition to these activities, Jehanne maintains a vlog that appears on her website, www.jehanne.wordpress.com. Through her vlogs, which are video clips in American Sign Language, Jehanne shares her views on a number of political and personal issues. Topics she has covered include “My Visit to Deaf-Run KFC in Egypt,” “Should Kids Protest or Not?” “Can’t I Use a Boys’ Basketball?” “Keep My School for Deaf Students,” and “Stop the War, Bush.”

—Julie Bourne, ’96

First Board of Visitors

Continued from page 32

he resigned the presidency due to failing health. He did, however, remain an interested member of the Board until his death in Baltimore on January 11th, 1885. The Board of Visitors issued a written statement praising his long and valuable service which can be found in the Fourth Biennial Report to the Legislature of Maryland, 1883-1885.

The mall area in the center of MSD’s campus between the Bjorlee and Ely Buildings is named the A. Fuller Crane Memorial Mall to honor and remember the man who was so instrumental in establishing the Maryland School for the Deaf.

—Linda Stull, Administrative Assistant, linda.stull@msd.edu

(Special thanks to Dirk Albrecht, Dean of Students, for his genealogical research regarding the Crane family.)
The Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation, Inc., is a professionally managed, not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization. It was formed in 1987 to attract contributions from the combined generosity of individuals, businesses, and private foundations. With these contributions, the MSD Foundation can provide the Maryland School for the Deaf with the necessary resources to respond to changing times and evolving needs.

The Maryland School for the Deaf Foundation has several interrelated missions:

- to develop and grow an unrestricted endowment,
- to assist in raising the overall awareness of the educational, social, and cultural characteristics of Deaf students and their families,
- to support the rapidly changing and expanding educational programs at MSD,
- to provide a means and a service for donors with varied charitable interests, and
- to serve as a resource, broker, and catalyst among various individuals and groups with the aim of achieving the greatest good for MSD.

In 2007, the Foundation funded programs and initiatives at both the Frederick and Columbia campuses, including:

- Mr./Miss Deaf Teen Pageant
- USA Deaf Basketball Tournament
- Youth Leadership Camp Honors and Awards Program/Outstanding Students
- Laura J. Struthers Memorial Scholarship
- Margaret Kent Scholarship
- Bernice Shockley Scholarship
- 10 new sewing machines and supplies for the Home Economic class
- West River Deaf Camp
- International Orioles Reading Rally
- Camp Mini Deaf Olympics
- Elite Deaf Volleyball Camp
- Camp Mark 7
- Junior National Association of the Deaf

During the past five years, the MSD Foundation has provided over $73,000 to support the students and staff of MSD by providing scholarships, awards, camp tuition, classroom materials, equipment, and much more.

The MSD Foundation is able to provide funding thanks to the generous contributions of individuals and businesses. Each year, the Foundation conducts three major fund-raising events: the Annual Giving Campaign (which raised over $8,200 last year), the Golf Tournament (which netted over $33,000), and the 5K Run/Walk (which brought in nearly $16,000).

For more information on these events, or if you would like to make a contribution, please check the website at www.msd-foundation.org. If you have a need for funds in support of scholarships, educational programs, equipment, or study enhancements, you can request funds from the Foundation by completing an Application for Funds, located at www.msd-foundation.org/default.aspx?kw=scholarship.

In late 2007, the MSD Foundation was notified that they would receive $317,000 from the estate of Mr. John Sydnor (a.k.a. John S. Giles). Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Sydnor, the bequest will produce additional earnings that will be used in support of MSD. Although very little is known about Mr. Sydnor or his connection to the school, his kindness and generosity to the Maryland School for the Deaf will be long remembered.

—Gwena West, Program Coordinator, MSD Foundation, Gwena.msdf@comcast.net

Standing (L-R) Mitch Goldberg, Liaison from Board of Trustees; Bill Millios, Mary Ouimette, Gwena West, Program Coordinator; Brian Ross, Guy Palmer, Lee Kramer, Don Eichelberger, James E. Tucker, MSD Superintendent Sitting Kristie Kovarclik, Community Relations Specialist; Fred Weiner, past President; Sam Fava (Vice President), Marisa Shockley (President), Denise Phelps (Treasurer), Myron Randall, Jr.
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