

# Ohio School for the Deaf

## STUDENT LIFE

*Student Life Department*

*Triannual Newsletter*

*May 31, 2015*



Stephanie Smith Albert, Director of Student Life & Editor of SL Newsletter

Life is full of Beauty. Notice it. Notice the bumble bee, the small child, and the smiling faces. Smell the rain, and feel the wind. Live your life to the fullest potential, and fight for your dreams.

---Ashley Smith



**Whoosh**—it's the end of the 2014-2015 school year, your child is another year older and ready to move on to the next grade, college or out in the world. It goes to show that time does move like the speed of light and consequently children grow up so fast! Before you know it, they're out of the house, exploring and conquering the world. If you still have children living at home, I hope you take the time this summer to truly enjoy the pleasure of their company; spend loads of quality time together to play, laugh, learn, explore and create memories that last a lifetime ☺

The 2014-2015 school year has been both **AWESOME** and *challenging*. Our challenges were learning opportunities for us to re-evaluate, refocus and regroup in the ways we do things and strive toward becoming a residential program of excellence. It is our mission to equip our students with the knowledge, tools, skills and experiences that will help them become productive, competitive, confident, proactive and independent deaf and hard of hearing individuals. We want our students to leave OSD feeling empowered, knowing with hard work, determination and perseverance, their dreams can become realities ☺

Enjoy our colorful newsletter! Around July, check out our **PHAT** webpage on our new OSD website—**WHAT A TRANSFORMATION!** You're going to be totally pleased, with a smile on your face, when you surf our new colorful website. There will be a plethora of information on the site to find the answers to your questions about just anything ☺ If you don't see what you looking for, give us a call!

Enjoy your summer and see you in August! Stay cool & hydrated!

Warmly,

**Stephanie**



## Girls On The Run (GOTR) and Girls On Track (GOT)

May 28-30, 2015  
Reva Lorenzo, Youth Leader

**FLEET FEET**  
*Sports*

The GOTR and GOT girls had an amazing few days stay in the dorm (May 28-30) before the GOTR 5K race (May 30, Downtown Columbus), learning to unite and be one team. What an awesome experience seeing staff members from different departments pulling together for GOTR/GOT! To this day, I am still in awe of the time and experiences gained from our days together and am looking forward to the Fall and Spring participation in the GOTR/GOT program. Special thanks to the people who have supported GOTR and GOT in different capabilities. Without your priceless support, our girls wouldn't have experience the feelings of empowerment, pride, resilience and achievement.

Things we have accomplished in such a short time (March-May)...

- Broadcasted on NBC4 News! Mikaela Hunt, NBC4 News, came to OSD to video and interview us!
- Performed community service at Columbus Colony Elderly Care (CCEC) before the race on Saturday; the residents were elated to have us.
- Celebrated one of our GOT member, Averie's, birthday, we painted on a canvas to give to her as a gift.
- Made Tutus to wear at the 5K race on Saturday, May 30.
- Received free sneakers from Fleet Feet Sports!
- Ran the GOTR 5K race!

Enjoy the pictures below! More information about GOTR/GOT can be found at <http://girlsontherunfranklincounty.org/>



Mikaela Hunt, red dress, NBC4 News & Hana Bieliauskas, pink shirt, works in GOTR Marketing-Franklin County





Averie's birthday!



Cheyenne painting on a canvas as a gift to Averie.





# Elementary Dorm News



### Left Picture

Every first Monday of each month we go to Columbus Colony where our elementary students have the opportunity to Adopt a Grandparent. This was our last trip of the 2014-2015 school year.



May 04, 2015



### Right Picture

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, we made oven mitts for the wonderful women in our lives! We hope you had a GREAT Mother's Day and enjoyed your special gift!

Mother's Day 2015



### Bottom Pictures

On May 18<sup>th</sup> we had our End of the Year Luau! The boys and girls had a wonderful time eating, playing and taking FUN Hawaiian pictures! It was almost like we were there!

**THIS NEWSLETTER PAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
PAIGE STAFFORD AND RACHAEL FRICKE**



MS Girl Youth Leaders: Reva Lorenzo, Mary Bachtel,

MS Boys Youth Leaders: Steven Barabas, Vilas Frank

## Middle School News!



Our Middle School Students enjoyed their St. Patrick's Day party with games and delicious leprechaun fun cupcakes. The last field trip in April was to the Polaris Mall where the students enjoyed window shopping and eating dinner at the food court. The end of the year party was a blast with music, dancing and lots of laughter. We wish the graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the best in their **FIRST** year of high school 😊



# HOT OFF THE PRESS!

## High School News!

Jeannette Dreher, Kareem Harris, and Kevin MacFarland

The students got more excited as the time drew closer to the finish of the school year before summer begins. Last April, High School students went to Ohio State University (OSU) to play softball. They had a great time playing and were able to show off their basketball skills!



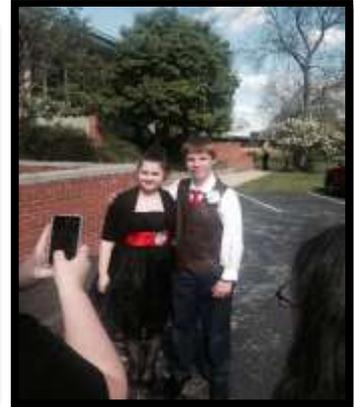
On April 22, the students flocked into the café for a night of poetry! The students had a great time getting on stage and sharing their poem with the audience. At the same time, it was a rich experience learning how to express their feelings in a poem and in public! We thanked Nancy Boone, our Librarian, for setting up such a delightful, rewarding & fun event!



The most excited part for the high school students was going to the prom in their fancy dresses and tuxedos. They looked great—see pictures on the next page. They went over to the Spaghetti Warehouse for dinner and the food was delicious! After that, they returned to OSD and partied in the the Multi-Purpose Room where they had an exhilarating time dancing the night away to great music with a lot of bass! The next day, they went to Kings Island and stayed until closing. The weather was *perfect*-sunny and hot—some students got beautiful tans while others, red from sunburn (ouch!). The students returned to the dorm around midnight and went directly to bed to get enough zzz's in preparation to help out, in the morning, at OSD's annual festival hosted by the OSD Parent and Teacher Association (PTA). PTA provided many cool activities for all ages from 12pm-5pm . The students and public enjoyed great food, great games, great prizes and a great time!



# 2015 OSD High School Prom



# JR.NAD LEADERSHIP RETREAT MAY 6-8, 2015

## LOUDONVILLE, OHIO



This (Century house) unique structure dates back to the 1800s and was once part of the "Underground Railroad" We stayed in this cabin.

Jr.NAD group

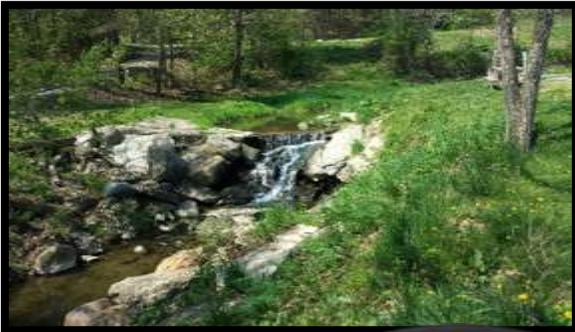


CANOEING

Fun in the pool & Hot Tub!



1..2..3.. GO IR.NAD



Nature is beautiful!

Flip The Raft In The Middle Of Sea-Team Building activity.



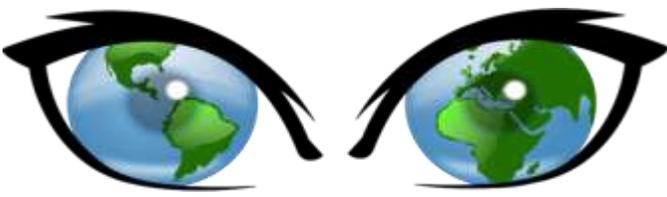
Delicious!



BOOTCAMP and Motto "Promoting the Tomorrow of all the deaf by working with the deaf youth of today"



Bonfire with yummy S'mores ☺



# 4PLUS World News!

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, we had a beautiful day with 70 plus degree weather. 4Plus students decided to have a cookout by the dorm. We grilled hamburgers, hotdogs and had several delicious side dishes. Plus desserts! All students helped put this together. We played "Uno" and kidded around a bit.



Here we are, exhausted, waiting for the bus to take us back to OSD.



On May 6<sup>th</sup> we went to the Short North. One of the most vibrant spots in Columbus. It is home to over 300 businesses, majority of which are locally owned or headquartered. It has received numerous national honors, is



considered a model for urban revitalization, and known as the art and soul of Columbus.

After our visit to the Short North, we went over to the North market to have our dinner.



The North Market was established in 1876. More than 30 merchants vend a wide variety of fresh, local, authentic food. Offerings include

organic produce, grass fed meats, pastured poultry, & raised seafood. Cheese, coffee, baked goods flowers and various artisan food items.



about the difference between organic food and processed food. Students were educated as to the reason "why" the organic foods were expensive compared to processed foods. We received a tour of the store plus we got to sample some of their smoothies and their

homemade peanut butters. We plan on going back there real soon!





# 4PLUS World News!

May 18<sup>th</sup> we went to the Westerville Community Center and used their wonderful pool. The leisure pool includes water slides, a lazy river, and a hot tub. Also have an 8-lane, lap/competition pool with a diving board. What a fun and relaxing thing to do just before summer recess.



Here 4Plus on May 20<sup>th</sup>, our end of year cookout. You should have seen all the stuff they put together for this cookout.



On top of the many things that our students learned to do, we have to say that they really knew how to put a meal together. Over the past several months, our students have learned to put together some fantastic breakfast and dinner menus. Below are some pictures of the delicious dishes they have made. We're so proud of them!



***Dishes from Top Left to Right:***

Breakfast Casserole, Philly Steaks  
Sandwiches, Chili, Garlic  
Bread/Meatballs and Spaghetti Squash



***Dishes from Bottom Left to Right:***

Strawberry Crepe and  
Hawaiian Breakfast  
Pizza

We now have 2 girls and 5 boys that will graduate this summer. We wish them all the very best in their life journeys.



**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!**



Larry



Carolyn



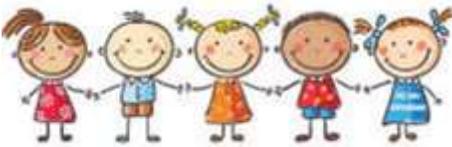
Bob

We collect ...

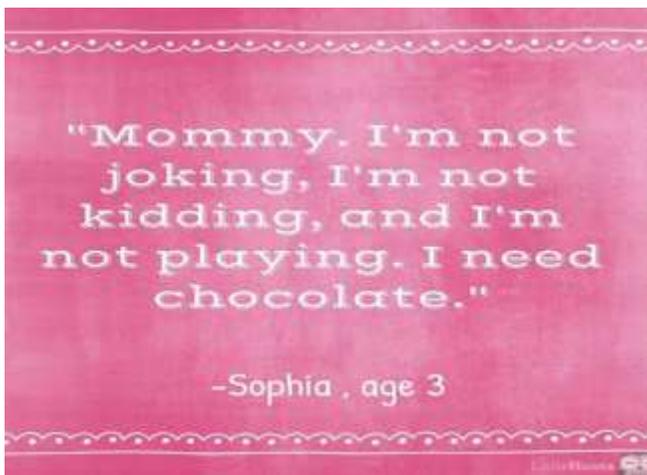


We need your help...please cut out and donate Box Tops coupons to our school. The money will help us pay for incentives/rewards that will both the residential program and the school.

### ***DARNEST THINGS***



***SAY...***



[justfintech.com](http://justfintech.com)

Special "Thank you" goes out to ...

My Student Life team for a great 2014-2015 school year...it wasn't easy but we made it, *together!*

Congratulations to Class of 2015 ... We wish you nothing but the best in all your life journeys!



Hello High School & 4PLUS Students/Parents/Guardians,

# BIG SAVINGS

at Harris Communications!



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Vibrating Alarm Clocks • Signaling Systems • Emergency Warning Devices  
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New for the 2015-2016 school year, all juniors, seniors and 4PLUS students are mandated to bring their own alarm clock as part of learning to become more responsible and independent in making life decisions for themselves. They will not always have someone waking them up to go to work, appointments or college classes; best they start practicing, now, waking themselves up in the mornings while they are still in high school. Their Youth Leader will wake the students up if they sleep past a set agreed time. All freshmen and sophomores are not required to bring an alarm clock but it's never too early to start practicing.

Cellphones have built in alarm clocks, those seniors in the Senior Independent Program (SIP) and 4Plus Students can use their cellphones in place of purchasing an alarm clock but cellphone vibrations are not as strong vibrating/alerting alarm clocks. Students also need to make sure their cellphone is fully charged before taking the phone to bed with them. There are known hazards to sleeping with a plugged in cellphone (it could get hot and catch fire), best to just get a vibrating/alerting alarm clock.

Harris Communication is offering great deals on vibrating alarm clocks (see AD). You can also google for other vibrating/alerting alarm clocks at budget friendly prices ☺