

Ohio School for the Deaf

STUDENT LIFE

Student Life Department

Triannual Newsletter

March 31, 2015



Lonnie Pitt, Assistant Director of Student Life



Hello and Happy Spring to Everyone.

Whew! We made it..... Another winter has come and gone and now we can bask in the warmth of spring and soon summer. The Student Life Department is delighted to bring this triannual newsletter to you because we know it's important to you to read about what activities and events our students are engaging & learning.

As you read and view the pictures of our March newsletter, you will see some of our fun and exciting moments we shared at OSD. Are you ready? Ok, go ahead and enjoy your glimpse into the life of our students' time at The Ohio School for the Deaf in the Student Life Program.

Our Student Life Instagram is slow in the making; however, we're going to put it in full gear after spring break. Our Instagram username is [OSDStudentLife](#).

Have a wonderful Easter with friends & family.

Best Wishes,

Lonnie

Celebrating Black History Month 2015

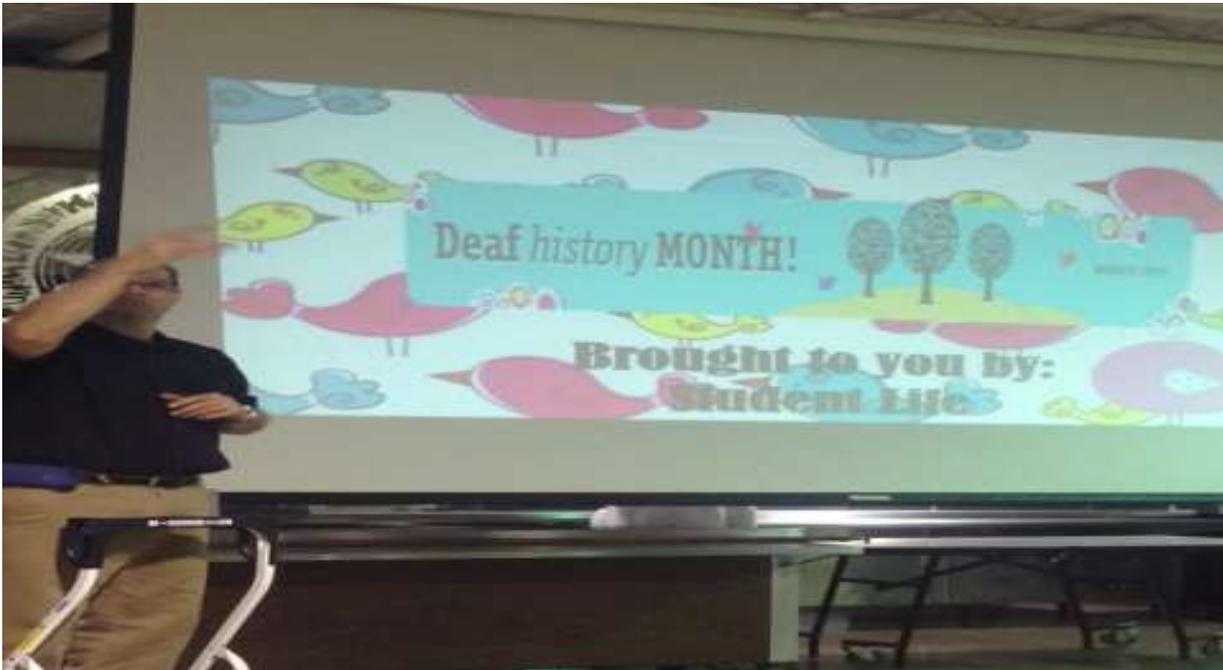


Cake designed by Kroger

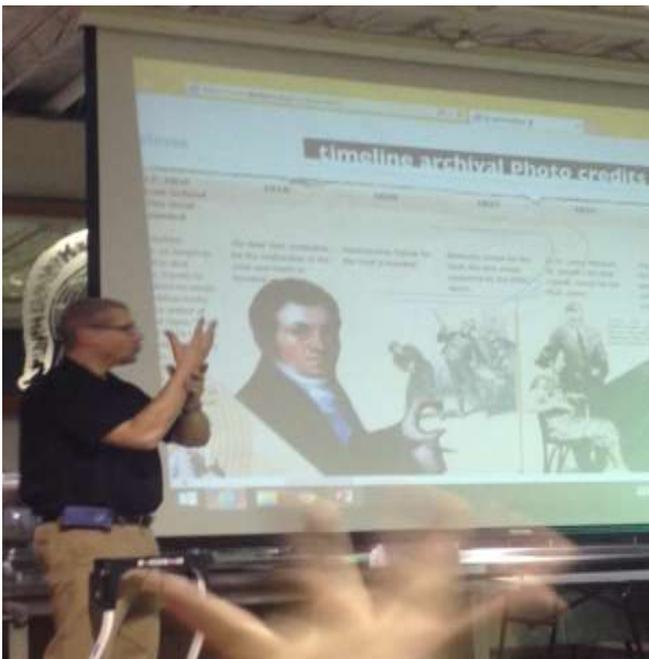
Our residential students enjoyed learning about Black History as well as Black DEAF History during the month of February. Dorms posted awesome pictures and historical facts on the walls. We enjoyed a night of Black History Trivia and eating ice cream and cake!



Celebrating Deaf History & Women's History Month!



March 30, 2015--Students gathered in the café to enjoy a night of watching Deaf History vlogs and testing their knowledge in the Deaf History and Women History Trivia Game! After the game, the students savored the taste of the yummy cupcakes with spring color icings ☺ Mega thanks goes out to Joe DeFalco, YL Supervisor and Rachael Fricke, PM Elementary YL for coordinating this great event!



January Resident (Star) Students of the Month...



From Left to Right...

Cameron Jackson (High School Boys), Stephanie Smith Albert (Director of Student Life), Adriana Berry (High School Girls), Andrew Bonilla (Middle School Boys), Joe DeFalco, YL Supervisor and Luke Greene (Elementary Boys).

February Resident (Star) Students of the Month...



From Left to Right...

Jaimee Peterson (High School Girls), Zachary Davenport (High School Boys), Cheyenne Hayhurst (Elementary Girls) and Mierra Robinson (Middle School Girls).

Qualities to be considered for nomination:

- *Received no write-up in the Dorm for the month.
- *Does duties without reminders.
- *Participates in Dorm-sponsored activities.
- *Has pleasant manners with students and staff.
- *Helps/assists other students/staff members in the Dorm



Elementary Dorm News



Clay Sculpture Class

Left Picture

Every Thursday we go to Woodward Park Recreation Center where the kids learn to make clay sculptures. So far, they have made Monster sculptures and Relief Tiles. The kids have enjoyed it so much during the cold winter months. We are signed up for spring classes that will continue until May 7th!

Right Picture

On February 24th, we went snow tubing at Mad River Mountain and had a ton of fun! Thanks so much to Perry Mott and Dawn Johnson in the Rec department for planning the trip! WE HAD A BALL!!!



MAD RIVER MOUNTAIN

Bottom Left Picture

During the entire month of March the Elementary Student Life Department will be learning about nutrition. We recently played a game that made the kids think about which foods belong to which food groups. They learned a lot and really enjoyed the game!



Bottom Right Picture

During Black History Month our students learned about many African Americans who were vital to the Civil Rights Movement and overall positive changes in America. Stephanie, Director of Student Life hosted a Black History Trivia night where the students answered questions from the information the Youth Leaders had posted in the dorms.



EVENTS COMING SOON:

April will be Green Month, learning about the Earth.
April 30th-Beauty and the Beast Play
May will be Get Fit month, learning the importance of exercise.

**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!



Snow Tubing at Mad River



Sewing



What a fun time we had during Winter Season! We had a wonderful time at SignFest where our students were involved and parents/friends came out to support them. The students' performances were outstanding and at the end, everyone left to go home feeling joyful.

Winter brought us..to...the MAD RIVER MOUNTAIN! We went snow tubing down the hill. There weren't many other folks there so we were able to go up on the hill over and over again! At the end, we were treated to a nice HOT cup of chocolate.

We had student electives on most Tuesdays. They were Sewing, Health Fitness, Cooking, Budgeting, Sport Orientation, and Technology. The classes were conducted by the Youth Leaders to expose the students to different skills that they can learn and apply to their daily lives.

OSU Monthly trips..... The past couple of months' activities were Knocking over the OVERsized bowling pins, and Swimming.

We had our "Resident (Star) Students of the Month". January was Andrew Bonilla for Middle School where he got the plaque award and was treated to a wonderful dinner at Applebee's along with other Resident Students from different dorms. Mierra Robinson was chosen for February Resident (Star) Student of the month.

Over the months, we had Movie Night at the Lounge where we watched different movies and eating popcorn.

Valentine's Day was a warm and fun filled evening with exciting games, food, ice cream and fruit punch. Special thanks to Christina Felter for her generosity in providing the chow and treats.



HOT OFF THE PRESS!

High School News!

Reva Lorenzo, Jeannette Dreher, Kareem Harris, and Kevin MacFarland

The last few months have been very exciting at OSD. Although, students are awaiting spring to arrive they are busy with many winter activities. Last month, Pam Estes enlighten our students on Cyber Bullying, educating them about the dos and don'ts when accessing the internet especially social media sites. With technology being one of the main source of entertainment, it is imperative that students are fully informed as to how to use technology properly.



One thing that we pride ourselves on is exposing students to activities outside of OSD. Students were thrilled when we told them that we would be going Snow Tubing. Although it was cold, it did not stop them from enjoying sliding down the slopes.

Last week, we were invited by Columbus State Community College to view a very cool movie titled "Super Deafy! ". The movie was about a Deaf superhero, and his television show connecting the hearing and deaf world. It was very empowering, we suggest you watch it on DVD when you have the opportunity.

We would also like to congratulate all of the seniors that were accepted to college! Our resident student, Zachary Davenport, is going to Gallaudet University in the Fall! We are honored to be able to share many years with students and to see them move on and seek higher education. The thought.... just makes us smile.

Cameron Jackson and Adriana Berry were awarded Resident (Star) Student of the Month for January. They both demonstrated leadership skills that all High School Youth Leaders recognized and wanted to award them. They both were rewarded by going to Applebee's and eating good food. Zachary Davenport and Jaimee Peterson were the February recipients of the same award and will be going out to a nice restaurant soon.

We are also excited to announce that John Michael Taylor and Jenny Mendis have been accepted to the Youth Leadership Camp (YLC) this summer, leaving in the middle of June for a month. The camp takes place in Oregon and works with students on developing leadership skills. The students will come back to school in the fall and teach their peers at OSD to become productive leaders.



4PLUS World News!

There are 11 students in the -4 Plus dormitories. We have been participating in several community events these past few months including trips with Columbus State Community College students to the Spaghetti Warehouse, OSU Ice Skating and many more. Last February, the group decided to have a special outing on Valentine's Day to D B Mongolian BBQ restaurant in the Easton area. After our special meal, we strolled around the area in freezing weather (10 degrees). Our students had a (freezing) blast time!!!



(Picture at D B Mongolian BBQ restaurant)

We went to Tesla Motors in the Easton area, which is the only Ohio location. Tesla Motor aims to accelerate the world's transition to electric mobility. Today, Tesla has already sold over 2,300 Roadsters, the world's first fully electric sports car, and astounds audiences with its Model S, the first premium electric sedan. Students asked the salesperson about the value of the cars. They were told that a fully loaded car w/high tech features is worth over \$90,000 and the ones without the "works", the standard car, would sell in the \$60,000 range.



(Picture at Tesla Motors @ Easton Mall)

(More on back)

In the next few months, places we will be making trips to: the Short North, Easton mall (this time in warm weather), Columbus Metropolitan Library Main campus (downtown of Columbus), and many other exciting destinations. We will be providing some workshops for students such as Social Security, Social Security Disability, Social Security Disability Insurance and explain the differences between the plans. We will also discuss the differences between Medicaid Part A, B, C and D and Medicare and its rules. Today, the Social Security Administration (SSA) have undergone a lot of changes in benefits eligibility. The workshops will help our students become more knowledgeable about Social Security to help them make informed decisions upon their completion of 4 Plus Program.

We have been working on teaching our students to do “family style” dinners in the dorms. Both the ladies and gents are learning to look up recipes, list ingredients needed for shopping and plan meals ahead. They have all prepared some wonderful meals; from Asian stir fry chicken, spaghetti, to cheesy broccoli soups & etc... There will be more of these fabulous meals to come. *Bon appetite!*



(4Plus Students putting on their skates) (No idea what Jazzie is doing here ☺)

Spartan Center

Recreation Department

BY DAWN JOHNSON & PERRY MOTT

2015

We took all Elementary residential students to Woodward Rec. Center for clay classes every Thursdays for a 10-week session. We had two groups of students (older and younger). They took turns experiencing molding clay. While one group was in the art room, the other group was in another room engaged in a fun structured activity.

We played dodgeball with multiples different rules for Middle School and High School students. They loved it! We had a variety of games such as, Frozen, Chances, Atomic Black Ball, Slide Back, Kidnap, Doctor's, Basket Bomb, Bowling, 5 Seconds One Ball, Partners In + Out and many more. We had lots of fun learning many different COOL activities.

On February 12th, our Valentine Day Party was hosted by Class of 2016 and the Recreation team. We worked together and planned the party for OSD students and Westerville Central High School (WCHS) ASL students. Thanks to WCHS for supporting and mingling with our students.... It was a fun & sweet time for all.

The last few months of our monthly trip to Ohio State University with our Middle and High School students involved activities such as swimming, bowling with oversized pins and softball.

It was an excellent experience for our Middle and High School students who went to the Food Bank and helped pack food for needy families. The students felt good giving back to the community.

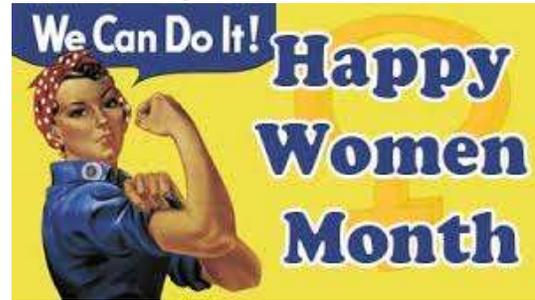
All Elementary and Middle School students went to the Mad River Mountain Avalanche Tubing Park on Tuesday, Feb. 24. They had a blast! A few High School students went there on Thursday, Feb. 26. Luckily, the weather was ideal on both days. The facility had a heated shelter for our students to stay warm until they returned to tubing again. Thanks to students' parents for letting their children go tubing. They enjoyed it very much.



Extras...



United They Stand!



Beautiful Picture of Allyson G., Mierra R., Averie P., Sellers and Tashiana GJ!



Dominic J. (in grey sweatshirt)...

Future Career Goal: Becoming the First Deaf African American HULK!



Future President of AFSCME, Doug L.!





Emarie P. and Harley E.

Who's cuter, us or the Cat?



Jenny M., practicing for her career as a
Broker on Wall Street!



Zachary V.—
Future



Contestant!



New sitcom in the making: **“Friends, The Next Generation!”** starring Andrew K., Chris A., Anthony G., Averie P., Mierra R., Harry E. and Allyson G.



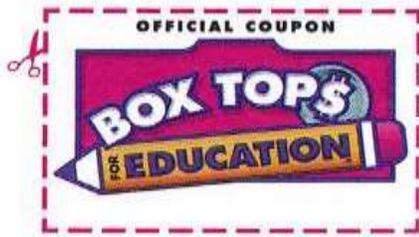
Johan M., smiling as he scouts out new talents to star in a new comedy movie with his twin brother, Actor John Stamos. Ain't the identical twins handsome?!



Oh Dear, Abby A...



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 benefit both the residential program and the school.

DARNEST THINGS



SAY...



**“Tell me
and I forget.
Teach me
and I remember.
Involve me
and I learn.”**

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Student Life Team:

Elementary Team Youth Leaders: PM: Rachael Fricke and Paige Stafford

AM: Mary Bachtel and David Pirc

Middle School Team Youth Leaders: PM: Steve Barabas and Reva Lorenzo

AM: Mary Bachtel and Vilas Frank

High School Team Youth Leaders: PM: Jeannette Dreher, Kareem Harris and Kevin McFarland

AM: Henry Cook, Chris Somnitz, Gina Williams and
Karen Wilson

4PLUS Team Youth Leaders: PM: Larry Diley (Transition), Helen Drosak and

Chris Johnson

AM: Bob Kolb and Carolyn Voelker

Recreation Team:

Dawn Johnson and Perry Mott

Administrative Assistant:

Terry Lineberry

Youth Leader Supervisor:

Joe DeFalco

Assistant Director of Student Life/Co-Editor of Newsletter: Lonnie Pitt

Director of Student Life/Editor of Newsletter:

Stephanie Smith Albert



goes out to the whole team for their contribution to March's newsletter!