

The Illinois

ADVANCE

ISSN 075-1539
Volume 149 Number 1
Summer/Fall 2015

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ISSN 075-1539
VOLUME 149 NUMBER 1
Summer/Fall 2015

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The Illinois Advance serves
as a means of communicating school
news to friends, alumni, parents,
staff, and sister schools in the United
States and abroad.

Two issues are published annually
by:

Illinois School for the Deaf
125 S. Webster Ave.
Jacksonville, IL 62650

WEB SITE: www.illinoisdeaf.org

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ILLINOIS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Serena Preston, M.S. Ed. - Interim Superintendent

Illinois School for the Deaf

Founded in 1839 and located on a beautiful 50-acre campus in Jacksonville, the Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) is a state supported school for the education of children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The school is operated by the Illinois Department of Human Services.

The educational program of the school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education and is accredited by the North Central Association (NCA) and the Conference of Educational Administrators for Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD). Comprehensive programming includes 0-3, preschool, elementary, junior high, and high school levels. A college preparatory curriculum and an extensive career/technology program are emphasized in the upper grades. Residential facilities are available for students living 25 or more miles from ISD. Children living in Jacksonville and the surrounding area may attend as day students.

Accessible bilingual communication in a community in which people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing learn and work together without communication barriers reflects the philosophy of the Illinois School for the Deaf.

Extracurricular activities, including scouting and a full athletic and recreation program, are available to all children. The school is a member of the Illinois High School Association and the Illinois Elementary School Association.

The mission of the Illinois School for the Deaf is to educate students who are deaf or hard of hearing to be responsible, self-supporting citizens.

The purpose of the educational program is to instruct students to achieve their highest academic and social potential through the instructional, residential, and recreational programs and related support services. Individualized Education Programs (I.E.P.s) with instructional goals and objectives for each student are developed annually.

Appropriate social development and independent living skills are encouraged through participation in extracurricular and recreational activities. School is in continuous session, except for scheduled vacations, from the fourth week of August through the last week of May.

Enrollment information may be obtained by writing to the superintendent.



Yearbook Time!

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By Serena Preston,
Interim Superintendent.

Greetings to all of you! It is good to be serving as the Interim Superintendent of ISD and I want to say how much I appreciate the welcome supportive comments and gestures from so many of you. As we begin this school year I want to express a common message for staff, families, and stakeholders. The foundation of this message is what should always be at the center of our attention: our mission. Life is naturally filled with conflict and turmoil which can distract us from what is important. If we allow it, the budget crisis, or education reforms and mandates, or disagreements about programming and day to day operations, or innumerable other things can overshadow what we really need to be attending to. When we remain focused on our mission with our individual and group actions aligned to that purpose and when all of our efforts converge in that precise direction, we are likely to see our students experience the success we all desire for them.

The mission of the Illinois School for the Deaf is to educate students to become responsible, self-supporting citizens. This is a monumentally important charge. The immensity of this is magnified further when we consider that each student has an individualized plan for his education, written to meet his specific needs, and to prepare him for his future. Clearly a mission this important requires a whole team to accomplish. "Teamwork involves a set of interdependent activities performed by individuals who collaborate toward a common goal" (retrieved <https://www.boundless.com>). Each of us has a role. It is our responsibility to consistently fulfill that role to the best of our ability and also recognize the value and importance of other team members and their roles.

ISD has a rich history. We have a lot to be proud of starting with our students, alumni, staff, programs, and a beautiful campus. While we focus on our mission the next challenge is to keep alert to opportunities and possibilities all around us. I look forward to the journey this year as we add to the history of ISD and celebrate the accomplishments of our students and our school. Let's set an example for our students by working together toward a common goal to prepare them for their future and to make ISD a great school with exceptional educational opportunities.

Thank you for welcoming me as a member of the ISD team that strives to realize our mission to educate every student to become a responsible, self-supporting citizen.

The ISD Vision Statement

The vision of the Illinois School for the Deaf is to educate students to become responsible, self-supporting citizens. Our school will be a safe learning community that encourages students to attain their highest learning potential in reading, writing, and mathematics. We will empower our students to explore the technological trends and employment opportunities of the future.

Parent Institute

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Fun, laughing, learning, bonding and more fun, that is what was happening in our building in the month of June! From June 7- 12, 2015 we hosted the annual Institute for Parents of Preschool Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. This year, 23 families which included 26 kids traveled from all over the state to enjoy this adventure and to learn. These pictures show that it was a positive experience for everyone.



Fire Department Visit



Fireman in training!! **Colin Kuhn** (pictured with his teacher Miss Soat and three Jacksonville firemen) takes his turn at putting out a fire.



The Jacksonville Fire Department came to visit in October and taught us about fire safety and prevention!



John Mahirwe and **Andre Escudero** relaxing after a long morning of putting out fires.

Other Events



During our November Art Club meeting, students made turkey picture frames. Aren't these turkeys adorable! Front row from left to right: **Elvis Garcia, Colin Kuhn, Andre Escudero, Miya Oger and Jadyn Roebuck**. Back row from left to right: **Destiny Kilgore, Olivia Scott, Kamren Johnson, Christian Arthur, Catavia Griffin, John Mahirwe, Jordan Bartosh and Corbin Kuhn**.



Miya Oger and **John Mahirwe** putting on the finishing touches to their ornaments for ISD's Festival of Trees entry.



Jacob Maganda, Clayton Duniphan, Sabu Middlebrook and Jon Sanders take advantage of unusually warm November temperatures to work on their reading assignment outdoors.

Lunch With A Cop



September Lunch with a Cop; **John Mahirwe** and **Christian Arthur** were our first Lunch with a Cop winners this year. They are pictured with Officer **Tino Vasquez**.



November Lunch with a Cop; Officer **Tino Vasquez** is shown here with our November Lunch with a Cop winners, **Aleah Ayars** and **Isaiah Redmond**.



Veterans Day

Loden Hoyt showing patriotism and respect for our flag, our country and our veterans.

Nestle Students of the Month



John Mahirwe was chosen to be our Nestle Student of the Month for the month of September. He is pictured here with **Emily, Cressa & Phyl** from Nestle, and Principal **Angie Kuhn**.



Our October Student of the Month was **Alain Aguilar**. He is shown with **Emily, Phyl and Cressa** from Nestle along with Principal **Angie Kuhn**.



November's Student of the Month was **Alyssa Hilman**. She is pictured Principal **Angie Kuhn** along with our friends from Nestle, **Phyl and Cressa**

Hip Hop Signing



Amber Galloway-Gallego, Hip Hop Interpreter, provided a great performance for ISD students. Amber has been featured in Rolling Stone, appeared on “Jimmy Kimmel Live”, and performed at Lollapalooza! Current Hip Hop hits along with a few classics set the stage for some amazing interpretation! Amber also shared her personal story as a source of motivation for the young people in the audience. She reminded them to reach high with their dreams, and advocate for themselves along the way. The presentation on ASL and Deaf culture was a huge hit among the students and staff!

Nitro Joe!



On Wednesday, November 11th, ISD hosted a Family Fun Night with Nitro Joe in the PreK-8 gymnasium! Joe Higgs, or “Nitro Joe,” is a science enthusiast from St. Louis who loves to teach kids and adults about science and show them how fun it can be. Nitro Joe used fire, balloons, dry ice, various chemicals, as well as a few card tricks to educate and fascinate ISD students during the assembly. All ISD students and their families were invited to attend the show, and the gym was full! Nitro Joe was a huge hit with people of all ages in the audience! Thanks goes to ISD’s PTSO for helping to fund this exciting event.

Volunteerism at ISD

LEO Club

LEO Club has worked to organize our LEO Mart on campus. LEO members also showed the LIFE group LEO Mart and helped them “shop”. We have cooked and served four meals at the New



On the left, **Kajonne Townsell** works in the kitchen and on the right **Natalie Garver** works with **Ryan Dreyer** and **Dajour Wallace** to prepare for cooking.

Directions homeless shelter and helped babysit for ISD’s PTSO meetings. We also just finished helping LIONS Club with their annual fruit fundraiser. We plan to continue cooking for New Directions once a month, keeping LEO Mart organized, and helping out with any other campus and community events this school year.

Social Skills Class

The High School Social Skills class recently went shopping for Toys for Tots. Each student was given \$10 to purchase a toy for donation. These students then visited the collection center and dropped them off. This same group also volunteered to ring the Salvation Army bell.

LIFE Club

The LIFE Club (Learning Is for Everyone) holds an annual canned food collection from all over the ISD campus. This year we collected 133 items of food. The Transitional Learning Program (TLP) delivered the donation to the local Salvation Army. The Jacksonville area community will greatly benefit from this gift.



Consumer Education

The Consumer Education classes this semester have been busy not only in the classroom but out and about volunteering their time. On November 13, the classes helped the Salvation Army in Jacksonville set up their new store for their opening the very next day. They hung clothes, set up Christmas trees, gathered jewelry for displays, and so much more to prepare the store for their big day.

PBS Pie Party

October 2015, the Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) Committee asked the students for an all school activity where students could get motivated to: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe. Students shared a variety of suggestions on how to improve the Positive Behavioral Supports program at the high school including things to add to our PRIDE Store, activities and raffle basket



Brave **Natalie Garver** prepares for and gets her pie in the face.

theme ideas. When the total number of tickets earned equaled 1000, a pie party would be planned.

How would the four lucky staff be determined? As a further incentive for the students, raffle tickets could be purchased {1:1 or 5:6} using their PRIDE tickets to vote for which staff members they wanted to see with a pie in the face. Those top four vote getters would get a pie in the face prior to Thanksgiving break. On Wednesday, November 25th one lucky ticket was chosen from each of the winning jars to smooch a pie in the face of a staff member.

It was fierce competition among the students hoping for a chance to toss a pie at a staff person. Staff members were encouraging students to vote for their colleagues and even withholding PRIDE tickets in the hopes of less votes. The students' voices were heard by all. **Peggy Stephenson** was 4th place and drew **Esperanza Garcia**. **Beth Hensley** was 3rd and selected **Shavon Tate** for her cream facial. **JC Hatfield's** pie was tossed by **Josh Sagez**. **Natalie Garver** was the top vote getter who drew **Victoria Brase**. After technical difficulties and not having proof of the first pie tossed by Victoria, the crowd demanded a re-do. Mrs. Garver picked **Shannon McNeal** as the lucky student for the second pie.

After the festivities, students were treated to individual pies from Wal-Mart bakery funded by donations from Jacksonville Wal-Mart and ISD staff. Students had a choice of pie: apple, pumpkin, peach and cherry pies and there was even whipped cream to top them off thanks to **Mrs. Belcher**. A special thank you to ISD staff for being involved and risking a pie in the face as well as to the PBS Committee for setting up the activity.

DAR Award

The Daughters of the American Revolution endeavor to stress the qualities of good citizenship among senior high school students. These qualities include those of dependability, leadership, and patriotism. We are sure that you have young people in your school who demonstrate these in the form of truthfulness, self-control, and a sincere interest in family, school, community, and nation.

ISD school staff voted on the top three senior candidates whom they felt deserved this honor. From that list of three, the senior class voted for their pick, **Chatjuan Rice**. Once chosen by ISD, Chatjuan's information was sent to the local chapter. The Reverend James Caldwell Chapter of the DAR, awarded Chatjuan the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award during a ceremony at the Governor Duncan Mansion on Tuesday, November 10, 2015.



Ms Good-Deal awards Chatjuan with her pin.

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PBS Super Fan

The High School Positive Behavior Support Committee implemented an incentive for students to utilize their PRIDE tickets to be chosen as a Super Fan for home girls' and boys' basketball games. PRIDE tickets are distributed to students for being respectful, responsible, and safe. Students put a PRIDE ticket in the box for a chance to be chosen as a Super Fan to promote positive school spirit. The benefits of being a Super Fan include free admission to the game, special seating for the student and a friend as well as vouchers for a drink and popcorn.

Superfans **Alvino Antunez** and **Laine Defenbaugh**



Programs of Study

In June 2015, the CTE Principal and several CTE educators participated in a two-day curriculum workshop to develop additional Programs of Study for the ISD CTE Program. During this process, several new Programs of Study were developed which resulted in additional classes being offered at ISD. The Programs of Study include Architecture & Construction (Drafting & Construction Trades) as well as Manufacturing (Sheet Metal, Welding, and Cabinetmaking & Millwork). The prerequisite course, Introduction to Technology and Engineering (Industrial), is a course that emphasizes safety and tool recognition as well as technical processes and industrial applications.

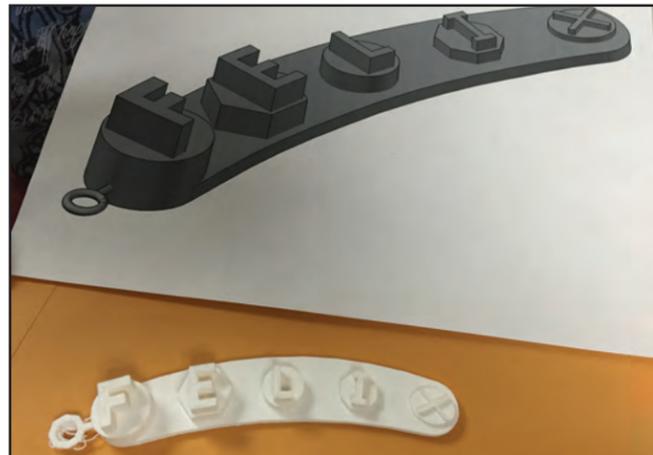
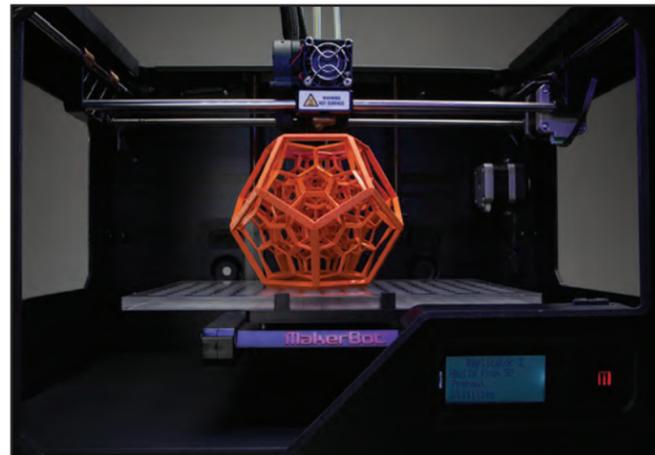
Autobody Improvements

The Career & Technical Education Improvement (CTEI) Grant provides supplemental funds to support CTE programs. The purpose of the funds is to develop the academic and career and technical skills of secondary education students who decide to enroll in career and technical programs. Funds are utilized for supplemental supplies, materials, equipment, subscriptions/licenses, and professional development. This year, it was determined that the lift in the automotive shop was in need of replacement based on the age of the current lift and safety concerns. Through the CTEI grant, a Hunter Engineering four post automotive lift was purchased from an Illinois company and will be installed in January 2016. The CTE Educator, CTE Principal, ISD Business Office, and ISD Power Plant staff have been instrumental in purchasing and assisting in the installation of the new lift. The lift is an important update to the automotive classes at ISD as well as the entire Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics Program of Study.

Contest Win!

In July, **Lana Shea** was informed of a 3D printer contest sponsored by Makerbot Thingiversity. After being granted permission to participate in the competition, Lana contacted ISD's Jacksonville students to see if they would be interested in joining a video entry. Sophomore **Lillie Brown** directed the video starring two of our junior high school students, **Loden Hoyt** and **Ian Fraas**. The video can be viewed here: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=esJPTa89BCY>.

The school was notified in mid-August that we had been selected as a top 10 finalist. Selection of winners would be done by previous winners of Makerbot competitions, and based on our



On the left is a picture of the Makerbot at work. On the right is a sample of one of the first projects produced by a student.

online participation at the Thingiversity website. On Friday, August 31, we were notified that we had been selected as one of 5 winners of the competition! Already being shipped are the following items:

- one MakerBot Replicator Desktop 3D Printer (Fifth Generation Model) valued at \$2,899.00
- two MakerBot Smart Extruders valued at \$350.00
- two spools of MakerBot PLA filament, with a retail value of up to \$100.00
- one year of MakerBot MakerCare valued at \$350.00

The planning and designing for uses of the 3D printer in support of our students' 21st century employability skills has already begun.

Special congratulations to Lillie Brown for her hard work on producing the video entry, her stars, Loden Hoyt and Ian Fraas, and behind-the-scenes support from Lana Shea and **Colleen Belcher**. To check out the project that was submitted along with the other top ten finalists, visit this website: <http://www.thingiverse.com/groups/needaprinter/topic:2839>.

Advisory Committee Report – Career/Technical Education Center

The Fall Career & Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Meeting was held on October 21, 2015. Members of the CTE Advisory Committee include ISD students, educators, instructors, and administrators as well as individuals from the Illinois State Board of Education, Curriculum Revitalization career & technical education staff, Lincoln Land Community College staff, representatives from local businesses such as Nestle, and Division of Rehabilitation Services staff.

The fall meeting highlighted the newly developed Programs of Study in Architecture, Construction, and Manufacturing as well as the new Makerbot 3D Printer. The committee was able to view the 3D Printer at work and see several student projects. Throughout the meeting, ISD students presented about their CTE classes and showed projects created in their classes. The meeting also

included information about Career & Technical Education Improvement (CTEI) & Perkins grant purchases for the school year. Lastly, the importance of safety in CTE was emphasized and the committee reviewed the CareerSafe Online Safety Program as well as information gained from a fire safety presentation to students by the Jacksonville Fire Department. The Spring CTE Advisory Meeting will be held on April 27, 2016.



Cody Northrup works on a project in metals class.

career and technical literacy and life skills. Implement strategies to emphasize vocabulary development & mathematics in all CTE classes.

Goal 2: To use Career and Technical Education Improvement grant monies effectively.

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Christian Casteneda measures for a project in woods class.

2015 Sports Camp

From June 14-19, the ISD campus was full of 14 sport campers running around and playing games. This year's camp was probably the wettest camp we have ever had but that didn't stop us! The campers were 5th graders through 8th graders, that came from all over the state. Registration took place on Sunday, June 14, and the activities started that evening through Friday afternoon, June 19th.

The camp's goal is to provide the campers the opportunity to improve communication, socialization skills, teamwork, and practice good sportsmanship. They improved their skills by participating in a variety of fun games and activities.

From 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, they had a lot of fun competing in the activities of the day. Some activities were easier and some were harder but no



ties



one gave up. A lot of fun recreational activities were happening during the evenings.

These campers had no time to rest! The

activities included bowling and a trip to Knight's Action Park which was cancelled due to the weather. They went indoor glow golfing in Springfield instead. The movies and swimming. An awards program that recognized every camper was held on Friday afternoon for the campers and their families. We are already looking forward to Sports Camp in 2016!

Along with the excellent dorm and dining room staff, the camp had a fantastic coaching and evening recreational staff: **Mike Austin, Joe Lee, Nancy Miller, Kathy Mansell, Craig Kuhn, Leslie Lynch, Tom Card, Stefanie Ortman, Chris Kuhn, Suzanne Meyer, Rich Howard and Ed Hoyt.**



The 2015 ISD volleyball teams continue to rebuild. This year's varsity team was young and fought hard all season long; they didn't give up. The final season record was 2-18. We beat Wisconsin School for the Deaf and Westfair. In both of our wins the girls really played hard and showed a lot of Tiger Pride! In almost all of our losses this year, the scores were a lot closer than they were a year ago, so there is a lot of promise for the future.

The volleyball team will miss the seven seniors who will graduate in May. The team is already looking forward to next season. The volleyball team was led by head coach **Taylor Soat** and assistant coach **Beth Hensley**.



Junior Varsity Team

Back, L-R: Lesley Acosta, Estrella Gomez, Esperanza Garcia, Vianca Leon, Farenica Onuegbu, Phyllis Appiah
Front, L-R: Kermisha Anderson, Alexis Biles, Tianna Lynch, Shavon Tate, Chatjuan Rice

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Junior High Girls' Basketball

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The junior high girls had another tough season this year, but we won one game this year vs Missouri School for the Deaf. There were only enough girls on the teams to play an 8th grade schedule. The girls showed great improvement at every game and represented ISD well with great sportsmanship. We have only four girls returning next year. Hopefully we will have more players next year! The junior high girls' basketball team was coached by **Jean Brown** and **Craig Kuhn**.



Front, L-R: JoAnna Drew, Ayomide Agboola, Destiny Kilgore, Aleah Ayars
Back, L-R: Olivia Scott, Alyssa Hilman, Rashawna Ezell, Ariana Biggs, Doniyah Brown

High School Football



Front row, L-R: Cody Durbin, Luis Carrasco, Hermilo Villazana, KaJonne Townsell, Edwin Lazaro, Twan Wheeler
 Back Row, L-R: Demitri Charity, Antonio Hernandez, Christian Castanada, Xavier Markey, Daniel Harper, Shannon McNeal, Laine Defenbaugh, Sherron White, Gabe Deluna, Dajour Wallace

This was the second year that the football team did not play any WIVC schools for football. We played a full football season playing against other deaf schools. The football team played six games. The football team started the season strong by beating Tennessee School for the Deaf. That was the only win we were able to get this year. The football team finished with a record of 1-5. The football team did a great job competing with other deaf schools. The coaches are proud at the level of commitment these players showed regardless on how the season was going. We finished the season with 14 players and 6 of them were seniors. We will miss the seniors. The football team and coaching staff look forward to next season! The challenge next season will be replacing the large number of seniors that have graduated over the last two years. The football team was coached by head coach **Dave Cook**, assistant coaches **JR Harper** and **Drake Williams**.

Volleyball



Varsity Team

Back, L-R: Kyla Claybourn, Leigh Middlebrook, Trashauna Tate, Daniella Bernal, Courtney Langford, Vianca Leon
 Front, L-R: Chatjuan Rice, Shavon Tate, Phyllis Appiah, Danielle Wiedman, Farenica Onuegbu, Elaina Burgund

ISD's Outreach mission is to support families, programs, and services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing throughout Illinois. ISD's Outreach Services are free and available to parents, teachers, students, and educational personnel who work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing in Illinois.

Services Outreach offers are:

- Training on topics associated with hearing loss
- Consultations and technical assistance
- Parent conference for educational personnel
- Annual conference for educational personnel
- Assessments to identify educational and vocational needs
- Cochlear Implant support

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact us! Outreach's website; <http://www.illinoisdeaf.org/Outreach.html>

Illinois School for the Deaf Summer Camps

ISD provided Creative Arts Camp, Sports Camp and STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts and Math) Camp June 14-19, 2015. Creative Arts Camp is for deaf and hard of hearing students who are in 3rd to 6th grade. Creative Arts Camp provided dancing, making a masterpiece and designed a memory performing it in ASL. Sports Camp is for deaf and hard of hearing students who are in 5th to 8th grade. Sports Camp provided different sporting activities for campers to learn and experience during the camp. STEAM Camp is for deaf and hard of hearing students who are in 7th to 10th grade. STEAM Camp provided the opportunity to enhance campers proficiency in Science, Technology, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) through team and individual challenges.



Illinois School for the Deaf also provided a Tiger Kids' Day event. This event is for deaf and hard of hearing students who are in pre-school to 12th grade. ISD Outreach provided two water park events in Bensenville and East Peoria.

ISD Youth Soccer And Basketball Teams



ISD participated in the Jacksonville Soccer Association's 8 and under league in the fall of 2015 and in the spring of 2016. Both the fall and spring leagues consisted of 6 games and a tournament. ISD joined the YMCA Youth Basketball League during the winter months. First and second grade girls and boys are eligible to participate.

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Spotlight On Deaf-Blind Runners

Kevlasha Humphrey is from Jacksonville, Illinois. She attended the Illinois School for the Deaf from 2004 through 2007. She will graduate from Gallaudet in May 2016 with a Bachelors in Social Work. She's in her third year of GU cross country and track & field.

Kevlasha was interviewed along with two other runners for the November 13, 2015 issue of the Buff and Blue, by **Chrissie Marshall**. All three ladies are Deaf-Blind, and they all love to run. Cross country is their thing, and they're not afraid to say so. To look into the minds of these great runners, Chrissie sat down with them for an interview. This article will focus on the interview with Kevlasha.

How long have you been running?

I joined track & field when I was in the 6th grade and I kept at it until I graduated from high school. I did not just join track and field, I also was a cross country member for two years on the Jacksonville high school team. Now, I have just completed two seasons of Cross-Country and one year of Track & Field while here at Gallaudet University. I have been a runner for 11 years. Running is my passion!



How do you run Cross-Country as a Deaf-Blind person?

Of course running can be challenging but I'm not a quitter. Running on different courses is a struggle. I have to run slow, due to my balance. I often stumble over sticks and rocks. I also do not run well in the dark, sometimes, during early morning practices when the sun still hadn't risen yet, so my solution is to run around on the track, and wait til the sky is bright then I run off campus so I can see better in the bright sky. As for meets, I study the course map and do a walk through the course to become familiar with the course before the race. I also staple a paper sign, "Deaf-Blind Runner" on my back while running at the race so other runners can be aware of me.

What have you learned as a Deaf-Blind runner?

Two years ago, I had an amazing experience with three other deaf-blind runners: Ivan Alfredo, Lisa van der Mark and LaQuita Caroll. Before that, I was always the only Deaf-Blind runner. We bonded very well. Because of that experience, I am more confident as a deaf-blind runner. I learned to speak up for myself and for other deaf-blind runners too. I educate others on what it means to be deaf-blind and I show others that we do have the ability to be successful too.

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During the rehabilitation of Horner Hall, the museum was moved to the third floor of the Main Building. The museum is staffed by volunteers who have worked hard to make the best of the space that they have.

The Museum is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The staff pictured here are, L-R: Maureen Mattern, Elaine Cady, Joseph Dearing, Rosie Jacobs, and Janet Pyers



The Sports Room



The Cheerleaders Room



The Vocational Education Room



The Art Room

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Fire Safety

Auto body teacher **MJ Martin**, arranged for demonstration of fire extinguishers in September. MJ said "As I was going through a safety lesson in a morning class, I asked my students if anyone knew how to operate a fire extinguisher. They all shook their head no." That prompted an email to the Jacksonville Fire Department with an inquiry to see if they could do a fire safety lesson/ demonstration. The chief replied back and said they would be happy to do one. MJ then sent an invitation to all the high school teachers. The teachers selected students who were interested or students who also needed to know how operate an extinguisher and sent them to the demonstration. The fire department focused on the different kinds of fire and which type of extinguisher should be used for those types of fire. Thank you to the Jacksonville Fire Department for the great demonstration!



Spotlight On Deaf-Blind Runners *continued*

"Kevlasha has been a part of the cross country and track & field teams since her arrival to Gallaudet. Over the years I have watched her improve through her perseverance and willingness to put in extra work when needed." – Coach Moore.

What is your mission goal?

My primary goal is to raise the awareness of Deaf-Blind runners and to make sure they are welcomed into the team for years to come. I also want to improve my time in the 6k and 800m runs.

Do you have any advice or remarks for other Deaf-blind runners?

I advise all Deaf-Blind runners to speak up for themselves. Do not give up. Love yourself and communicate with the coaches and teammates. Having a strong support system is a very significant factor in future success. Please do not let others stop you. Do whatever you want!

continued from CTE page 10

Goal 3: To maintain community relationships with Nestle, Lincoln Land Community College, Jacksonville High School, the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, the Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living and utilize the Jacksonville Community as a resource.

Goal 4: To develop at least one additional Program of Study for a CTE Area

Goal 5: To send at least three CTE educators/instructors/staff to attend CTE related conferences such as the Connections Conference, IACTE, & content specific conferences.

Goal 6: To continue to host both a fall & spring CTE Advisory Meeting annually.