



# MATTERS

June 2012



Mead School District Centennial Reception  
April 21, 2012



## Generations Gathered to Celebrate Centennial

**Class of 1932-1954**  
graduates served as greeters  
and shared stories about  
the Mead School District  
"way back when."

Four generations came together at the Mead District Centennial Reception April 21, at Mead High School, chatting with neighbors, classmates and teachers both present and past. Attendees enjoyed snacks while perusing rich historical displays assembled through the efforts of Mead High English teacher and yearbook advisor Carol Tadlock.

Delma Van Leuven, Mead class of 1932 valedictorian, and her younger brother Gordon, class of '46, both attended. "When I started school here, 'horsepower' meant the number of horses you hitched to your plow," says Delma. "We still plowed with horses then, and school was a long walk away."

Brother Gordon adds, "Most people here were rooted in place for generations because no one had the money to move. However, even through the Depression, Mead Schools provided a very good basic education."

Held in conjunction with the annual Eye4Art fundraiser, which raised a record \$6,500 to support the teachers, staff and students of the Mead District with grants for projects, technology and needy students, the Centennial Reception made for a lively day at Mead.

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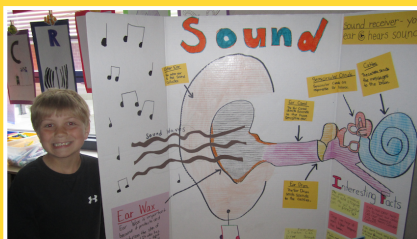
## Fall 2012 Events



- "Battle of the Bell" Mead vs. Mt. Spokane Football Game  
Friday, September 21 - 8 pm Albi Stadium
- Mead vs. Mt. Spokane Volleyball  
Thursday, September 20 - 7 pm Mead High School



## Inside Our Schools



Prairie View Elementary hosted ScienceFest 2012 Energy Extravaganza on May 22 and May 23. This year's focus was the six forms of energy - S.C.R.E.A.M. (solar, chemical, radiant, electrical, atomic & mechanical). Every student in the school created a mini catapult to show potential and kinetic energy and shot them off using marshmallows.



Congratulations to two remarkable young women who were recently selected as Chase Youth Commission Award winners. **Lindsey Anderson**, a Northwood 7<sup>th</sup> grader, earned the Judges' Award for her work in support of the Spokane Humane Society. **Lauren Champlin**, a Farwell 5<sup>th</sup> grader, earned her award by championing the cause to revitalize Moose Park in Lower Gleneden. Lindsey and Lauren are pictured with Farwell principal Barb Pybus.

## Celebrating the Class of 2012

The sounds of *Pomp and Circumstance* filled the air as the 810 members of the Mead School District Class of 2012 proudly participated in commencement exercises June 1<sup>st</sup> for Five Mile Prairie and M.E.A.D. graduates, and June 8<sup>th</sup> for Mt. Spokane and Mead High Schools. Graduation is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of the past 13 years and look forward, with eager anticipation, to the next "excellent adventure" that awaits.

### Valedictorians (4.0 GPA)

#### Mt. Spokane High School

Austin Billeter	Alexa Jose
Molly Cole	Brian Kinder
Gianna Damiano	Jessica Lesniak
Madison Garner	Nathan McReynolds
Emily Grossmann	Serenity Ogle
Brianna Hallett	Max Ralph
Alex Hoffmann	Erica Weiler
Hayley Hohman	Sam Wilkes
Katelyn Howard	Scott Wurst
Cheyenne Johnson	Carissa Yedica

#### Mead High School

Austin Braun	Mariah MacDonald
Stephanie Brune	Brandon Markham
Michelle Chapel	Amedee Martella
Danielle Crow	Mitchell Rogers
Jacob Gilbertson	Ana Ruddlesden
Marisa Graff	Corey Taisey
Alexander Hakes	Austen Tullis
Cassie Jensen	Teresa Tung
Lisa Kissinger	James Volz
Taylor Krieg	Zach Ward
May Lim	Kira Webster
Shawnee Luciani	Dylan Young
Emily MacDonald	

#### Five Mile Prairie School

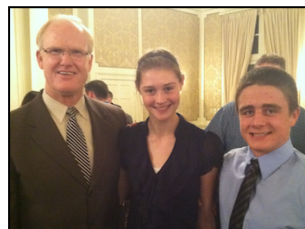
Jacob Viel

### Scholar Athletes

Excelling in academics and athletics, and pictured with Mt. Spokane principal John Hook, immediate right, are **Molly Cole** and **Sam Wilkes**. Both Molly and Sam have 4.0 GPAs. Molly is a cross-country and track athlete, and Sam took part in football, wrestling and track.

Representing Mead High are **Kendra Sherman** (3.98 GPA) and **James Volz** (4.0 GPA). Kendra is a gymnast and cheerleader while James participated in football, wrestling and track throughout his four years of high school. Kendra and James are pictured with Mead principal Ken Russell.

Scholar athletes from each area high school are honored at the annual GSL Scholar Athlete Luncheon.



### Spokane Scholars

Each spring 125 of the brightest students in Spokane County are honored at the annual Spokane Scholars Awards Banquet. Monetary awards are presented for first (\$4,000) through fourth (\$1,000) places in each of six categories. Mead District nominees and winners were:

#### Mt. Spokane High School

Emily Grossmann - 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Nikki Ziegler  
Hayley Hohman  
Scott Wurst - 4<sup>th</sup> place  
Richelle McDermott  
Kyle Madsen

**World Languages**  
**English**  
**Mathematics**  
**Science**  
**Social Studies**  
**Fine Arts**

#### Mead High School

Emily MacDonald  
Mitchell Rogers  
Devon Carlton - 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Zach Ward  
Alexander Hakes  
Eun-Song Koh - 2<sup>nd</sup> place



Golf Tournament &  
Silent Auction  
September 15, 2012  
catscramble@hotmail.com

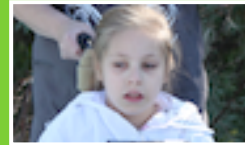
### National Certification for Engineering Program

The Project Lead the Way Pathway to Engineering program, in existence since 2008 at both Mt. Spokane HS and Mead HS, recently received national certification. They are two of only three high schools in the entire state to earn this recognition.



"The beauty of PLTW courses," says Mead teacher Andy Arnold, "is that kids get to experience how a concept they learned in science applies to real-world projects including robotics. It's the kind of hands-on experience that will engage more students in science, technology, engineering and math - fields that they might otherwise never have considered."





## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Mead Developmental Olympics

### The community gathers each spring to cheer for Mead Olympians.

Excitement, energy and enthusiasm filled the air as 95 developmentally disabled students took part in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Mead Developmental Olympics at Mead High School on May 25.

According to DLC committee member Lindy Terry, this event is "a high point of the year for students, parents, grandparents and staff. Most children, as they grow up, have many opportunities to participate in team sports. For these kids the Mead Developmental Olympics may be the only opportunity they have to be part of a team where their parents and grandparents sit in the stands and cheer them on."

Teams have jerseys, and thanks to the fund raising efforts of the Mead High School Breakthrough class and private donations, all teams received and wore a jersey color specific to their school. A badge with the letter "L" was visible on jersey sleeves in remembrance of Mead High classmate Lizzie Jensen, who passed away unexpectedly earlier this spring. (Breakthrough is an elective class addressing personal barriers to learning and success.)

The event included an Opening Ceremony with music courtesy of the Mead High School band and, at the conclusion of the morning's competition, participation ribbons were presented to each child. It was a very special day. We can only imagine the fond memories each student athlete will enjoy when they pull on the team jersey and relive a special moment of inclusion and participation.



Special thanks to Breakthrough student Taya LaVigne (pictured) for designing the Mead Developmental Olympics team jersey. We would also like to extend appreciation to the Scott & Kimberly Chaffin family, Performance Resource and Hotstart for their donations.

### Good News for Mead Taxpayers!

- Levy Equalization Funding Continues
- District Refinances Construction Bonds

We are pleased to report good financial news on two fronts for property owners of the Mead District.

After debating down to the wire, the State Legislature voted to continue fully funding levy equalization. As you may recall from the February M&O Levy Renewal campaign, that funding was in question. As promised estimated school taxes in 2013 will be \$4.45 – down from the voter-approved \$5.17, resulting in savings of \$0.72 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

An unexpected bonus is the favorable refinancing of \$9,360,000 in district construction bonds. Interest savings from this refinance will be passed through to Mead taxpayers. We estimate overall finance charge savings of \$762,000.

MEAD MATTERS  
Mead School District #354  
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### Upcoming Events

June 1	Five Mile Prairie Graduation, Mead HS Theatre 6 pm M.E.A.D. Graduation, Mead HS Theatre 7:30 pm
June 8	Mt. Spokane HS Graduation, GU McCarthy 5 pm Mead HS Graduation, GU McCarthy 8 pm
June 15	Last Day of School
August 15	High School Football Begins
August 20	High School Fall Sports Begin
Sept. 4	First Day of School
Sept. 15	Cat Scramble Golf Tournament
Sept. 20	Mead vs Mt. Spokane Volleyball, Mead HS 7 pm
Sept. 21	"Battle of the Bell" Football, Albi Stadium 8 pm

### Thanks For Another Great Year! A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller

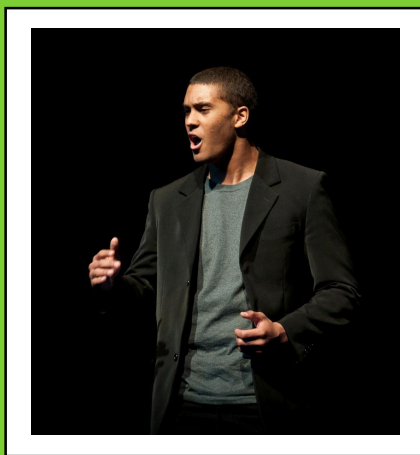


Mead prides itself on high achievement in academics, athletics and activities. This past year is no exception.

As we celebrate the graduation of the 810 members of the Class of 2012, I want to take the opportunity to say "thank you." Mead is a special place and it is because of strong community support that we continue to thrive.

I invite you to mark your calendar and plan to attend the Mead vs Mt. Spokane volleyball match (Sept. 20, 7 pm - Mead HS) and the "Battle of the Bell" football game (Sept. 21, 8 pm - Albi). These events, along with the continuation of our Sunset Concert series (dates tba), are wonderful opportunities for us to connect as a community.

## Mead Junior Wins Honors in National Poetry Competition



Langston Ward competed in National *Poetry Out Loud* held in Washington D.C. in May

Langston Ward is a junior at Mead HS and a man of many talents. One of those talents earned him an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. May 13-15 to compete as Washington State's representative in the national *Poetry Out Loud* contest.

Ward managed to use his skillful recitation of poetry to win school, regional and state competitions and earn his way on to the national stage while managing a heavy load of advanced placement classes, and competing in football, track and debate. Langston also plays the cello and bass.

Langston's recitations of *Dover Beach* by Matthew Arnold, *The Truly Great* by Stephen Spender and *Chicago* by Carl Sandburg brought him top ten honors at the national event. Competitors are judged in the categories of: physical presence, accuracy, articulation, level of difficulty and evidence of understanding.

This is the second year Ward has reached nationals. His interest in the *Poetry Out Loud* competition began in a freshman humanities class with an assignment to memorize and recite a poem - an assignment that obviously sparked an outstanding talent.

Ward plans to compete again next year and hopes post-high school plans can include both football and an eventual career in political science. Seventeen year old Langston Ward just might qualify as a true Renaissance man.

