

## Montford Holocaust Memorial Museum

By: Olivia Sickler



The Kalamazoo Gazette newspaper headlines Nazi Germany surrender, 1945

The Holocaust was the mass genocide of the European Jews between 1941 and 1945. Nazi Germany murdered 6 million people, about two-thirds of the Jews across German-occupied Europe. Montford knows the importance of educating students about this horrific historical event, and Holocaust education is also a state statute. This year, Montford engaged students

by creating a memorial museum, showcasing student-created projects and educational videos. The museum had exhibits such as a student wax museum and a holocaust memorial quilt. The museum was organized by Mrs. Thompson, and students toured the museum with their social studies classes. This was a memorable and educational experience for Montford students.

## Frontiers in history

By: Dakota Davis

Every year Montford Middle School participates in National History Day, creating projects for history fair. This year's theme was, "Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideas." Students were encouraged to dive into research on historical frontiers in all sorts of fields such as science, art, technology, and medicine. At the district level of the contest, George Day placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the individual documentary category, with the



2023 History Fair Winners

topic: Over the Rainbow: How the John's Committee Changed Pride in America, advancing to the state level! Montford also had 21 students compete at the district level. Great work!

## Civics Field Trip

By: Amiya Robinson

During the week of March 22, Mustangs enjoyed the Civics field trip to the courthouse, The Riley House, and Smokey Hollow. While at the courthouse, students viewed some cases and participated in a mock trial where they learned about being jurors and other roles of members of the court. In the Riley house, they got the chance to look at life in the 1800s through the eyes of the Riley family. In Smokey Hollow, students got to see the beautiful herbs and plants as well as how houses were built in Smokey Hollow. They even saw an old-fashioned barber shop!



Students view the Capitol Building, Historic Old Capitol, and City Hall from the Leon County Courthouse



Braylon Johnson makes his case before the jury at the Leon County Courthouse

## Grade level field trips

By: Madelyn Hayes

Students embark on a day of fun at the end of every school year with field trips for each grade level! With final exams and state assessments coming up, Mustangs enjoy spending a day off of school having a good time with their classmates. 6<sup>th</sup> graders spend the day at Wild Adventures, exploring exotic animal habitats or cooling off in Splash Island. 7<sup>th</sup> graders enjoy some of the most thrilling roller coasters in America and visit animal attractions at Busch Gardens. 8<sup>th</sup> graders kick off the end of their middle school careers at Universal's Gradventure, with access to both Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. Montford students enjoy the exclusive night with other 8<sup>th</sup> graders with live DJ's and exciting rides and attractions. Mustangs had a blast celebrating the end of the school year on their grade level trips. Thank you to Montford's staff for planning and chaperoning these events for the students!

## Girls' softball knocks it out of the park!

By: Alyssa Lowe

The Montford girls' softball team started the season out with a bang, playing some impressive games! They will play a total of 8 games this season or more if they make it to the championship. The team beat Swift Creek 24-0, and defeated Cobb in two games. So far, the team is on a good path to make it to the championship. I asked starter Scout Joyner about her favorite part of being on the softball team. Joyner said, "the friendships that were built between the girls and the

coaches...I am so grateful to be on a team full of the most kind-hearted people I have met!" Congrats to the players that made the 2023 team: Leah Ellis-Miller, Charlotte Ely, Juliette Gibbens, Rosalie Gibbens, Avery Jones, Scout Joyner, Ayden Keith, Addison Middlebrooks, Lilly Pope, Faith Rigdon, Amiya Robinson, Paisley Smith, Kennedy Spears, Danni Sweeting, Savannah Weiss, & Maycie White. Special thanks to team manager, Ellasyn Jones!



The 2023 Mustang Softball team with Coach Davis and Coach Lopez

## Boys' soccer kicks it in high gear

By: Raciell Matthews

The Montford boys' soccer team had a great season with 8 wins and 2 losses. This season there were two leading scorers, #7 Salvatore Giove and #10 Elijah Veloza. Though they did not win the championship they had an incredibly good season. We may have been defeated by

Deerlake, but that's just more motivation to come back next year and win the championship! I interviewed 6<sup>th</sup> grader, Allan Juarez, about his experience on the boys' soccer team. He said, "it was good because everyone was friends with each other and it's fun to represent Montford." One of his best moments playing was when he scored a penalty and the Mustangs got to the championship. Great season boys!

## New Weight Room

By: Mariam Randeree & Emily Redfern

Montford has been making improvements all across campus. Principle McQuade had the wonderful idea to transform an unused classroom into a weight room that everyone can use. The Montford football team used it during their season to improve their strength. Many of Montford's teachers also work out there before and after school to improve their physical health. Ms. Lopez, 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher, commented that, "the weight room has so much potential, and it has been such a joy to see it be transformed into this great idea, thanks to coaches and administration... I am so excited to see the positive impact it will have on students and sports teams." Coach Cottrell said if you check out the weight room, you'll find free weights, a Smith machine, medicine balls, and TRX bands. Cottrell says, "the room has been an amazing bonus to our school!"

## Track & Field

By: Will Trexler

The Montford Track & Field team is off to a great start this season! The 8<sup>th</sup> graders on the boys' team this year are: Jeremiah Clark, David Clement, Bryan Duff, Tyler Edwards, Salvatore Giove, Dawson Goehrig, Mason Mansouri, Brodie Oneal, Trent Parson, Torrian Sims, Dylan Stich, Conner Whitney, Reggie Thompson, Javen McFadden, Taylor Beener, and Kaydin Slappy. Congratulations to these 8<sup>th</sup> graders who made the girls' team this year are Teagan Brown, Alyssa Christie, Lainey



Track & field athletes after meet at Lincoln

Crisafulli, Hailey Fisher, Ali Harlee, Haley Heitmeyer, Abby Mansouri, Taliah McClain, Savannah Stanley, Andi Vilardo, Isabella Youngberg, Anne Maria Copelin, and Avery Bruce. There are track meets every Wednesday, so come out and show your support!