

From The Heart



A Quarterly Publication from Mooseheart Child & City School, Inc.

www.mooseheart.org

Volume 1, 2023



The 2022 Christmas season officially kicked off at Mooseheart on December 3, when we celebrated the 57th Annual Wisconsin Tree Lighting Ceremony at the House of God. The ceremony is always a highlight on our calendar each year. It is special to have so many members of the Moose, the Mooseheart Board of Directors, and the Mooseheart community attend the annual ceremony. Traditionally, this event is what begins our Christmas season.

Throughout 2022, we were “blessed beyond imagination,” as we experienced an unbelievable amount of Moose members, associations, families, and corporations supporting our mission and the children we serve. The outpouring of giving was truly remarkable! Being so abundantly blessed is a very overwhelming experience, and I cannot begin to express the gratitude felt by all of us within the community. The joy of knowing that there are so many kind and generous people in the world who support our efforts is “mind boggling.”

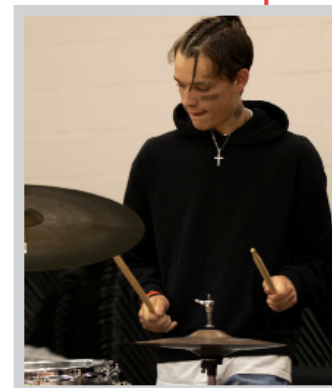
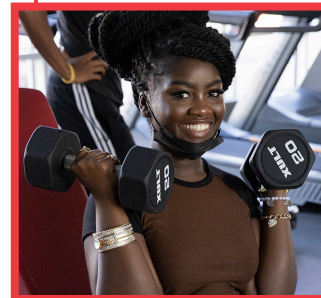
As I reflect on this amazing experience, I am reminded of the word “Joy.” To me, the excitement of “Joy” is witnessing people joining together for a common purpose, uniting with one another for the benefit of someone else. You can create some terrific team chemistry by working together! It is not hard to imagine this is what happens with our Moose members in their unmatched, relentless pursuit to provide and support the children we serve.

Demonstrating a strong sense of team chemistry is also vital at Mooseheart. Honestly, it is the best formula for success. It is something we value deeply and work diligently to teach our students. We rely heavily on our membership to be the “active ingredients” in our formula. Each day we must display team chemistry.

As teams of caring professionals, we aspire to develop, teach, train, and inspire the children we serve. We want the children to experience success and be confident that a brighter future lies ahead. You, the members, being the “active ingredients,” help us by providing reflective moments of our common work, and celebratory times because we ALL had a part in the success.

Thank you to the most incredible, generous, kind, and supportive members of the Moose! With heartfelt gratitude and humility, we say “thank you!” for your unselfishness efforts, dedication, and devotion to our community.

— Gary Urwiler, Mooseheart Executive Director



GARY URWILER - Mooseheart Executive Director • Gurwiler@mooseheart.org

240 James J. Davis Dr. Mooseheart, IL 60539

www.mooseheart.org • Office (630) 906-3601 • Fax (630) 859-6630

By The Numbers



1 Interest in the Primary Sponsor & Sunshine Unit Programs has grown by leaps and bounds this past year. In 2022 **185** Lodges/Chapters requested a Sunshine student and **35** Lodges/Chapters volunteered to become a Primary Sponsor for a student. Many thanks to members who are "Making it Happen!"

26

2 Despite staffing difficulties felt nationwide during 2022, Admissions/Residential Living were able to admit **26** new students! Hooray for **26** new beginnings!



3 Mooseheart students/staff volunteered at "Feed My Starving Children" during Thanksgiving week. They packed enough food to feed **71** children in other parts of our world for an entire year!



Emma before MannaPack™



Emma after MannaPack™



4 Two new students traveled a long distance to make Mooseheart their new home! Tony is from Rwanda, **7,717** miles from Mooseheart. Phaniel is from Nigeria, a distance of **5,263** miles from Mooseheart. We are lucky and happy to have them here!



Exciting Events

Founder's Day Weekend The Mooseheart campus welcomed Moose members and visitors from Ohio and Michigan for our Founder's Day weekend. Below right, Grand Regent Cathy Funkey and Moose International Board member Bob Funkey.



Volunteering Mooseheart staff and students packed food at the local "Feed My Starving Children" event over Thanksgiving break. Thank you for giving your time to help those in need!



Seniors

Heritier, right, shows his appreciation to the Ohio Moose Association and Evelyn received her senior watch.



Pancake Breakfast Students, staff and visitors alike enjoyed a good old-fashioned pancake breakfast at Mooseheart. Santa made an appearance! What could be better?



From The Mouth

Last fall, Mooseheart students had the opportunity to learn from future educators from the Aurora University teaching program. Twice a week, teaching students visited our campus and had the opportunity to “take over” a classroom for the morning with their own lesson plans and teaching methods. This exciting partnership allowed our students to learn in new ways and engage with our local community.

Keep reading to see what our students had to say about this experience!



Working with the AU students gave me a new learning experience and insight as to how the next generation of teachers will be educating the youth of our future! — **Tilar, 11th grade**



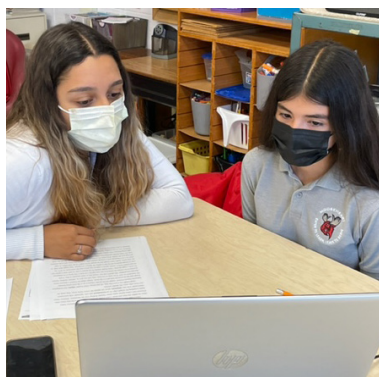
My AU teacher explained the topics we learned about and made it fun. — **Star, 5th grade**



I liked how my AU Teacher showed concern for me by coming to my basketball games. My favorite lesson was when we got to dissect owl pellets. — **Kevin, 5th grade**



I really liked having the AU Teachers in our PE class because they were fair, nice and fun! — **Cadence, 2nd grade**



I learned lots of things that I didn't know and they were super nice. — **Sophia, 4th grade**



I really liked the AU students because they taught us about the world. — **Jozlyn, 6th grade**



Rambler Roundup

Visit Facebook for the full collection of Mooseheart photos.



Soccer
The Ramblers fought hard every game and enjoyed another successful season. The team was led by great upperclassmen and benefitted from encouragement in the stands from Mr. Urwiler.

Fun In The Fall

Kevin and CEO Mr. Hart concentrated on creating a jack-o-lantern masterpiece. Below, the 2022 Homecoming Court posed for a picture at the big game.



New Students This past fall Mooseheart welcomed many new faces! We are grateful for our new students and all of the different personalities they bring to our campus.



Veterans Day NJROTC students honored our veterans with a meaningful program in the House of God.



Enter to Learn ...

Penelope was a single mother, working long hours and multiple jobs to support herself and her two sons. Living far away from relatives and extended family, she was unable to provide Robb and Ben with the proper amount of support and supervision. As Robb and Ben grew older, the neighborhood where they lived began to deteriorate and soon became dangerous. The boys often had to face violence both at school and in their community. Penelope struggled to find safe community resources and activities for Robb and Ben, and worried about them being negatively influenced by their environment. Penelope reached out to Mooseheart after learning about it from a family friend. Robb and Ben now live in a safe and healthy environment, where they enjoy being active in the community and participating in school and sports without worry. Penelope is reassured knowing that her boys are now surrounded by positive influences and opportunities.

... Leave to Serve

All Mooseheart students are familiar with the motto, “Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve,” and the students in the Medical Explorers Club are preparing to do just that – serve others. The Medical Explorers Club was started in the 2021-2022 school year by Mooseheart’s campus nurse, Kelsey Zollinger. Created for high school students who are interested in pursuing a career in the medical field, the club meets twice a month. Club members hear guest speakers, ask questions about the medical field, and learn new skills.



Dove Soko, a senior living in Illinois home, has plans to become a travel nurse before getting her Master’s degree to become a nurse practitioner. She is excited to make a positive contribution in the lives of others as a medical professional. Sophomore Anthony Hopkins-Horton, living in New England home, would like to eventually work in hospice care. According to Anthony, “There is something special about being able to help people, especially those who don’t have much time left.”

While reflecting on their favorite parts on the Medical Explorers Club, both Dove and Anthony said they enjoyed the hands-on experience of learning how to measure vital signs. Chris Wallace, a junior who would like to become a pediatrician, likes the variety of guest speakers and being able to ask questions about college and medical school. Chris also says, “It’s nice to be around others with the same goals for the future.” Senior Dakota Williams from Illinois home appreciates how everyone in the Medical Explorers Club is interested in different areas of the medical field. She wants to pursue a career as a midwife.

Evelyn Beh, also a senior, is interested in the medical field because, “You can really make this field what you want it to be. You can find a specific area that you like and enjoy doing.” Evelyn and Dakota feel that all of their peers, no matter their future goals, can benefit from the Medical Explorers Club. “Things like CPR are helpful to know even if you’re not in the medical field,” says Evelyn, while Dakota feels like it’s important for everyone to be exposed to new things and ideas. The Mooseheart community is so excited to see where these students go and how they “leave to serve” in the medical field!

The MAC Is Open!

Construction of the Mooseheart Activity Center is complete! The MAC is open for all students.



Mooseheart Activity Center (MAC) Receives Award

The Construction Industry Service Corporation's Board of Directors has selected the Mooseheart Activity Center (MAC) as the award recipient for its New Construction below \$20M category in Chicago and its suburbs. Mooseheart will be honored at a breakfast on February 10 to receive recognition and the amazing award. How awesome is that! Thank you to all our Moose members who helped "Make This Happen!"

