

THE TOWN CRIER

Volume 14, Issue 14 phhstowncrier.weebly.com March 27, 2015

Spring Break

By Sarah Knott

Spring Break is finally here. I know we have all been waiting for it! With the weather getting nicer when can finally bring out our shorts and flip flops. What do you plan to do over spring break? Whether you're going to a beach, catching up on sleep or working at your part time job, it's sure to be a blast. Over break, there will still be baseball and track practices. There will even be track meets and baseball games, be sure to come out and support you Patriots. Whether you're going on picnics, spending time with family or sitting on Facebook the entire vacation, enjoy it. We come back April, 7th. Even though we are all bummed out because spring break is only a week long and we wish it was way longer, but hey, it is still a break from school that we are all dying to have. Also with spring break here that means we have only about two months of school left then summer break is here.



Courtesy of Google Images.

ACT

By Seth Boyer

The ACT is a huge part of a student's life, especially if the student plans on going to college. The ACT is an achievement test for juniors, testing what the student has learned in school. The max grade a student can get is 36. The average score is 20-23. One can take preparation classes around the city to prepare for this test, which is highly recommended. Most colleges want a score above average, ranging between 23-36. To get a grade that good, one should go to sleep early, wake up and eat a nutritious breakfast, and take prep classes the following couple weeks. The juniors of Peoria Heights High School took this test on March 17th due to rescheduling. Mrs. Wenzel said that we should receive our grades back in 5-8 weeks. This is also the last year ACT will fund for the test. Next year juniors will have to spend their own money and take it on a Saturday rather than having it paid for them and taking it on a week day. When we get our grades back and decide we want to retake it, we should especially work on our subjects we did not do to good on. This is not just a normal test, it is a test that can determine what college you go to, and can even alter your future decisions. I hope everyone did well on the ACT this year.

Visions of Peoria Heights!

By: Kirstan Bennett

The Peoria Heights Library held their first year art competition. Only students from Peoria Heights High School could submit their art projects. Many varieties of art work came in. From Acrylic Paint, to Soft Pastels, to Water Color, and to Pencil. Mrs. Cocquit had ceramics 4, drawing, and painting all do a project. If they wanted to submit their project that was up to them. She had 23 students submit their projects. The project were judged by creative and technical merits by a panel of judges from the Peoria Heights Library. They are also being displayed at the Peoria Heights Public Library for public viewing. The submission deadline was March 6, 2015. First Place goes to Senior Adrienne Summers-Reynolds and she wins \$75 dollars, Second goes to Freshman Brianna Carnes and she wins \$30 dollars, and Third Place goes to Senior Kaylee Dudley and she wins \$20 Dollars. Thanks to all the students that participated in the Art Contest.



Brianna Carnes, Adrienne Summers-Reynolds, and Kaylee Dudley show off their artwork.

Attention Seniors!

By Madison Schneider

It's time to start applying for scholarships, if you have not started already. There are many scholarships available through our school and community. You can talk with Mrs. Wenzel to get all of the information and paperwork you will need in order to apply for them. The deadlines are fast approaching, so don't wait! In addition to the scholarships available through our school, you may also want to check with any clubs or organizations you are involved in, as well as with whatever college you plan on attending. Many employers and businesses also offer scholarships, so check everywhere!

Most scholarships are very simple to apply for. They often require a very short essay describing your academic abilities, extracurricular activity involvement, and plans for how you will use the scholarship money. It is absolutely worth the effort for the amount of money you can earn to put toward the high price of attending college. With graduation fast approaching, the weather getting nicer, and senioritis steadily setting in for many of us, filling out scholarship applications may seem like the last thing you want to be doing. That's understandable, but putting off this important step is not worth it in the end. Set aside times to work on essays and search for as many scholarships as possible; use your extra time in school and time during advisor wisely; and if you need a little help getting started, Mrs. Wenzel is always there to help.

Convention

By Madilyn Tortat

This year's convention was a success! It was held in Bloomingdale, Illinois last weekend. The officers attended some training meetings dealing with different skills and charities. They learned about various volunteer opportunities to get involved with. The officers also had some downtime when they got to relax and explore the hotel a little. On Friday night, a dance competition was held with the proceeds benefitting spastic paralysis. On Saturday night, there was another dance that a few officers attended. On the last night, Charles Schneider got inducted as the new lieutenant governor for our district. Congratulations Charlie! All the officers had a really great time and are looking forward to next year!



Freshman Charlie Schneider made a new friend at convention.

On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!

By Shawna Stewart

The track and field team has been continuing to practice every day after school for the past few weeks. The indoor track meet on March 27 has been cancelled. So the team's first home track meets will be over Spring Break. These dates include: March 31 against Delevan, Tremont, and Low Point- Washburn, and April 2 against Stark County and Illini Central. There is some tough competition ahead of them but they're hoping to keep improving their personal times and maybe win some medals or ribbons. The team is coached by John Smith, Julia Lowe, and Michelle Barnes. Keep posted during the track season by continuing to read the Town Crier and listening to the morning announcements. Come out and support your Patriots and good luck to the athletes competing!



The 2014 track team.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Volume 14, Issue 14 phhstowncrier.weebly.com March 27, 2015

Family & Consumer Sciences

By Wanda Rogers

A few weeks ago, Mrs. Kahn's classes made food for the Basketball Regional Tournament's hospitality room. Their main dish was chicken spaghetti! Here is the recipe.

CHICKEN SPAGHETTI

Ingredients:

- 3-4 chicken breasts
(cooked & cubed)
- 1-1 ½ lbs. spaghetti
(broken into thirds)
- 1 large can of spaghetti sauce
- 1 can of Rotel-brand tomatoes w/ cilantro
- 2 cans of chicken broth
- 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can of cream of celery soup
- 1 lb. of Velveeta-brand cheese, cubed (do not use light)

Optional:

- 1 med. onion, chopped
- salt & pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Spray 9x12 inch pan with cooking spray.
3. Cook spaghetti until al dente (firm). Drain.
4. Mix together sauce, Rotel, broth, soups, onion, and salt and pepper to taste. Melt Velveeta in a microwave-safe bowl until smooth. Add to mixture.
5. Add chicken and spaghetti. Mix together well. May add ½ - 1 c. water if it seems too thick.
6. Spread into baking pan.
7. Bake in a 350 degree hot oven for 20-30 minutes—or until bubbly.



Lashley Marfell bakes cookies in class. YUM!

Congratulations to Austin Carter, Student of the Month for February!!

Junior Austin Carter was chosen student of the month for February. Austin is the grandson of Pat and Tony Gregory. His dad is Chad Gregory, and he has two brothers Tyler and Riley. Austin has always gone here to the Heights Schools.

Austin tells us that he likes school and that his favorite classes are history, PE, and ceramics. He is also interested in sports and has been involved in several. Austin was water boy for the football team this fall and played on the basketball team this winter. He was also a member of the track team, planning on the 200 m dash and the long jump.

An active member of the larger Peoria Heights community, Austin has done lots of volunteer work. He has volunteered at the Red Cross and at the Salvation Army. He has also helped out at the Midwest Food Bank and at the Benevolent Center.

Austin's future plans include going to ICC and possibly to Bradley to become a teacher's assistant. Austin's teachers had some great things to say as well. "Austin Carter has been working 10 hours a week during the school day through the STEP program, keeping up with all of his homework and assignments in his classes, is helpful to others and willing to run errands or do anything that I need done."

"Always willing to help out-He volunteers at lunch to take care of trays. Does a great job of looking out for his classmates." "Austin has been a joy to have in class. He is a hard worker and is very well-behaved! I am so proud of him working and keeping up his grades. Way to go Austin!" "Austin Carter is a really great kid that tries really hard in everything that he does. He always gives 100 percent and is eager to ask questions and learn new things. He has improved so much in Ceramics over the course of the year. His willingness to help others also makes him an excellent addition to any classroom or activity." "Austin is always really pleasant and helpful. If I need anything done, Austin is willing to do it."

We at PHHS know Austin will do well with whatever he chooses to do. Congratulations, Austin!



Austin Carter poses with Mr. Schlink from the Lions Club, and Mrs. Medlin. Austin was February's Student of the Month.

Baseball

By Cody Schindler

On Saturday March 21, the Patriots began the season with a doubleheader against the Monmouth-Roseville Titans. In game 1, the Patriots would fall behind 9-2. However, the Patriots' bats would come alive. The Patriots were able to cut the deficit to 9-6, and would then score six runs to take a 12-9 lead. Sophomore Tyler Gregory would close out the seventh inning to get credit for the win. In game two, the Patriots and Titans would battle, but Monmouth-Roseville won, 6-3, to earn a split.

On Wednesday, the Patriots hosted Williamsfield/ROWVA. The Patriots played well defensively, only committing one error, but they could not rattle the bats and lost 5-2. Josh Lansford earned his first career RBI in the game.

On Thursday, the team hosted Peoria High. The Patriots would hold on to win a back-and-forth game by a final score of 8-7. Junior Quinn Miller earned his first varsity win on the mound. The team hosts Havana in a doubleheader on Saturday. The game starts at 10 a.m.



Junior Quinn Miller winds up to deliver a strike.

Senior MOJO Day

By James Janis

The senior mojo day was this week, and it was a huge success! The seniors had a fun day focused on memories from high school and even grade school.

The day started off with dancing, same as every other mojo day, but after that we changed it up for the seniors. The seniors filled out favorite memory cards and put them on the banner you can see in the gym. We then had a game of memory trivia with memorable events from grade and high school. Then were some fun relays, such as pushing a marshmallow with your nose, or even a three legged race. And to wrap up the day, we had one of their most favored events, the positivity cards. Each student was given a bag and comment slips, and students went around and put positive comments in each person's bag.

We had a lot of fun on Wednesday with you guys, and we will hate to see you go. From all of us MOJO student leaders, we hope you guys had fun and we wish you the best success in life. As for everyone else, we look forward to having you next year in MOJO and we will have a lot of fun activities planned for you!