

THE TOWN CRIER

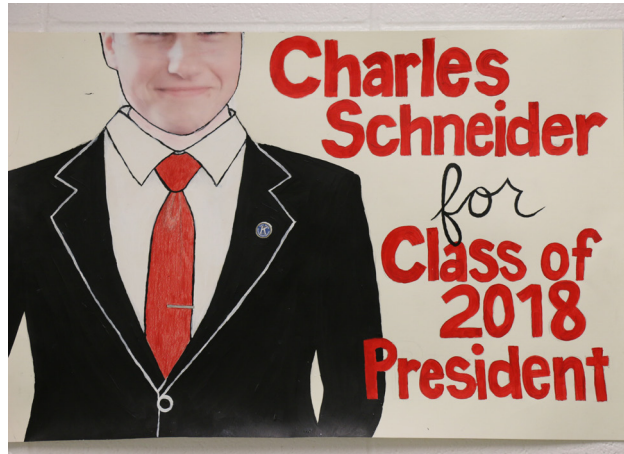
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May 14, 2015

Class Elections

By Madilyn Tortat

This year's Student Council elections just wrapped up. Some new faces were elected, along with some annual winners. Mrs. Allen introduced a new spin in this year's elections. Campaigners were allowed to hang up posters to vie for their peers' votes. Several people hung up posters, with themes ranging from Napoleon Dynamite to Barack Obama and Joe Biden to Michael Jordan. The incoming Student Council officers are President Madilyn Tortat, Vice President Cole Reilly, and Secretary/Treasurer Michelle Dang. The news senior class officers include President Rachel Seitz, Vice President Quinn Miller, Secretary/Treasurer Kensey Schol, and Representatives Dylan Hrdlicka and Emmy Tiethoff. The junior class officers are President Jacob Heid, Vice President Anna Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer Katie Markovich, Representatives David Dellit and Lily Quinn. Sophomore Class officers are President Charlie Schneider, Vice President Brianna Varvil, Secretary/Treasurer Jaron Webb, and Representatives Peyton Marfell and Zak Schneider. Congratulations to all the new officers!



Charles Schneider's Campaign Poster for President of next year's Sophomores

It's time!

By Madison Schneider

Seniors, we made it! That much-anticipated day is finally within reach. The Class of 2015 will be graduating Saturday, May 16th in the high school gym. It is a time of both happiness and sadness as we all leave behind a ton of great memories and move forward to the next chapter of our lives. Some of us will be going off to college or trade school; some will be starting careers; and some are still undecided. Whatever paths we take, high school will always be a time we will remember. Some of us are undoubtedly ready for it to be over and to move on, but for many, it will be very difficult.

The class trip will be Friday, May 15th. The class trip is the last of the many experiences we have all shared together before we graduate, so be sure to enjoy the day in Six Flags!

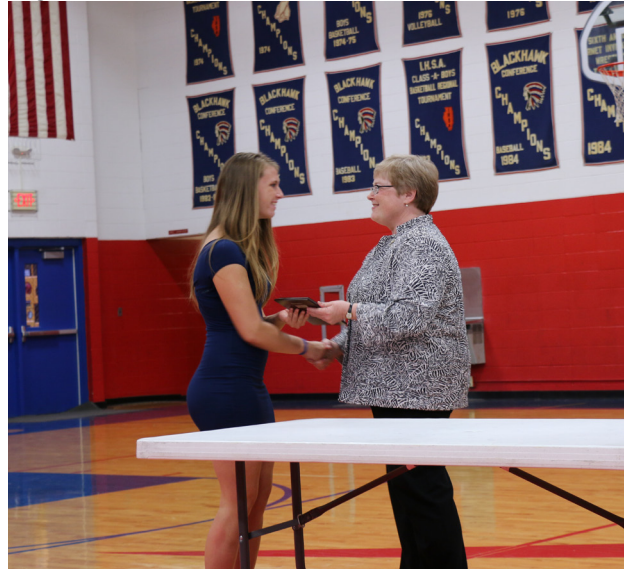
Awards Night!

By Shawna Stewart

Awards night was on May 7th, 2015 in the high school gym. Awards night is where faculty and staff honor their students with their outstanding performance throughout the year. Many students won awards that night, but I can only mention a few in this article. Adrienne Summer-Reynolds won Valedictorian, Marcus Shipmen Memorial, Peoria Heights Police Benevolent, and

Award's Night! (cont.)

many more. Kirsten Bennett won the Marcus Shipmen Memorial. Cody Schindler won the Peoria Heights Congregational Church "Good Samaritan", and the Lincoln Award. Austin Ames won the MTI scholarship. Shannon Michael won Kiwanis Club of Peoria 2014 Key Club Honor Award, Red Cross "Young Minds Change Lives", and many more. Ryan Klute won United States Marine Corps and Salutatorian. Good Job to all the other students who received awards! You deserve it! Keep up the good work!



Shannon Michael receives the Kiwanis Club of Peoria 2014 Key Club Honor Award

Drivers Ed Field Trip.

By Sarah Knott

The Drivers Ed class went on a field trip on April 30 to Illinois State University. It was called Teen Safe Driving for Tomorrow. They had a seat belt simulator where you got in a car crash without a seat belt going 5 mph. There were also multiple drunk driving simulators, they had to walk the straight line with drunk goggles and also got to drive with the goggles on. There were presentation from paramedics in Florida, mother who had a son die in crash from falling asleep at the wheel, and a semi driver, he talked about how to drive with semi's on the road. This was the first year Illinois State University had has this and it was a great success. Mr. Adkins would love to go back because it was a phenomenal experience for him and the students!!

The Nepal Earthquake

By Seth Boyer

The Nepal earthquake occurred on April 25th 2015 at 11:56 NST. It killed more than 8,000 people and more than 16,000. As you can see, this earthquake was a serious matter. It is known to be the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal since 1934. The earthquake only lasted about 20 seconds, but a lot can happen in that amount of time. Thousands upon thousands of houses were destroyed all across the country of Nepal. Houses were demolished, villages were completely flattened, and many other buildings as well. Many of the most important churches also were destroyed, and more than 500 people died while in church because the earthquake happened on a Saturday, a day in which the Nepal people worship. I wish the best of luck for all the hurt families and people who had to witness this horrible natural disaster. Keep reading the Towncrier for more updates.

Congratulations to Brianna Varvil Student of the Month for April

Congratulations to Freshman Brianna Varvil who was selected student of the month for April. Brianna is the daughter of Cindy and Tim Varvil. She is the youngest of three; her siblings are Taletha Jouzdani and Josh Varvil. Brianna has always attended Heights schools.

Brianna's favorite classes are art, English, and band. An excellent student, Brianna is in the Top Ten as a freshman.

An active member of PHHS, Brianna is involved in Key Club, Scholastic Bowl, WYSE, Band, and had a lead in this year's all school play. She performed at ILMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association) and placed 3rd in English at the WYSE competition, which qualified her for State competition.

As part of the larger Peoria Heights community, Brianna participated in Historical 1855 re-enactments at W.H. Sommer Park. She has played *Taps* at Springdale Cemetery for Memorial Day and for Veterans' Day. She has also been a member of the Girl Scouts.

Her teachers had great things to say about her. "Brianna is an awesome student who is always prepared for class by having her music well prepared, and attends all of the many performances and extra rehearsals that are required as part of band class. In addition to participating in the District 2 ILMEA Band Festival at Augustana College, Brianna also participated in the Bradley University Frosh-Soph Honor Band Festival in November 2014." "Brianna is kind, courteous, and helpful to everyone she meets, which makes her well respected by her peers and teachers. In addition to playing the trumpet, Brianna is an awesome artist, as I have seen many of her sketches." "Brianna is an excellent Key Club volunteer! She is a freshman member that I can count on to volunteer at any event possible. I look forward to having her in Key Club the next three years." "Brianna is a leader in the classroom and in MOJO. Although quiet, she stands up for what she believes." "I think Brianna's a really good choice! I wish I had thought of her. She is always willing to do anything I ask of her, always participates in class, and never has any problems working with anyone in a group. I love having her in class!"

Brianna's future plans include attending a four-year university and then U of I for veterinary medicine. We know that whatever she chooses, she will do well!!



Brianna Varvil poses with Mr. Schlink from the Lions Club, and Mr. Piper. Brianna was April's Student of the Month.

Fish On!

By James Janis

Fishing is one of America's favorite past-times. Sitting on the shore, a bobber in the water, worm on the line, this is how many spend Saturday or Sunday mornings.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Volume 14, Issue 17 phhstowncrier.weebly.com

May 14, 2015

Fish On! (cont.)

But for the Peoria Heights Bass Fishing team, fishing is a day out of school on a Friday and a day in a boat throwing lures into the water and reeling them back in and all the while hoping to catch the biggest fish there for a chance at moving to state.

On Friday, May 1st, the Bass Fishing team competed in the sectional tournament at Evergreen Lake in Bloomington and overall we did great. With two fish caught and a total of 2.2 pounds, we placed in the top 15 out of 24 boats. Catching two fish, we did much better than last year. Charlie Greer and Charles Schneider caught both caught a fish at the tournament.

With such a great turnout this year for the Bass Fishing team, Mr. Stoner has some big plans for the team next year. He hopes to find a coach to teach us fishing techniques and skills. He also hopes to find some summer tournaments for the team to participate in.

If you would like to join the bass fishing team or want any more information on tournament bass fishing, please see Mr. Stoner for information.

Also, this year the Bass Fishing club is selling shirts! For \$13, you can get a tech shirt printed with the bass fishing logo. See Mr. Stoner to pick one up today!



Charles Schneider weighing his fish after a day on the water

Cheerleading Tryouts!

By: Kirstan Bennett

Cheerleading tryouts were held this week. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are workshops for the new girl's coming to the team. Friday is when tryouts will be held.

Congratulations to the following varsity members for making the team: Madilyn Tortat, Kayla Martin, Taylor Hess, Jessi Webb, Kelsey Walton, Trisha Shepard, Shawna Stewart.

Congratulations to the following Junior Varsity members for making the team: Taylor Allen, Taryn Minor, Kierra Morrissey, Jayden Sargent, Summer Royer, Erianna Brock.

Congratulations!

World Record!

By Kensey Schol

Some of the journalism class went for a little trip to 102.3's radio station. They went to help break the world record for longest tag team radio broadcast. They just had to beat 82 hours. The radio station made a new record, making it 102 hours! The journalism class got to talk a little on the radio and choose some songs. One of the DJs also gave them a lesson on how they choose their songs for the radio. Also, why they play the same song over and over and over again. It's basically because they have a playlist with the most popular songs and those songs play randomly

World Record! (cont.)

about 70 times a week. It's not in their control, even though they can pick literally any song they want to put on the radio. Overall, it was a great experience.



Cole Reilly, Kensey Schol, and Madilyn Tortat at the radio station when they pass the previous record.

Race for the Cure

By Tiffanie Miller

Many people look forward to Mother's Day weekend. Most enjoy this weekend by spending time with their mothers and grandmothers, while others dedicate themselves to the 5k run near the Metro Centre in Peoria, IL. On May 9th, around 8 A.M., hundreds of men, women, and children of all ages will line up behind the starting line to help reach a life without breast cancer.

Race for the Cure began after Susan G. Komen, a victim of breast cancer, died at the age of 36. It was launched by Susan's sister, Nancy G. Brinker, who promised Susan that she would do everything possible to end the shame, pain, fear, and hopelessness caused by this disease. Nancy began the uphill battle in 1982 and has invested more than \$2.2 billion in breast cancer research, education, screening, and treatment.

The negative effects of breast cancer are known around the world today. One in eight women in the U.S. are diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. Because of this, every minute someone in the world dies from this deadly disease.

With the hard work done by Nancy and the outpouring of love and dedication from people around the world, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure has increased the relative survival rate from 74% in the 1980's to 99% in 2015.

This Race, along with multiple charities and events aimed around breast cancer, helps to turn millions of breast cancer patients into breast cancer survivors.



Courtesy of Google Images

Baltimore Riots

By Cole Reilly

Freddie Gray, the man who indirectly started all of the chaos in Baltimore. Arrested for fleeing Baltimore PD upon making "eye contact", beaten with batons,

and then neglected during transportation. Gray died on April 19th, one day before the rioting began in his city of residence. It all started with a term deriving James De-Monaco's *The Purge* when a "purge" was called for to avenge the death of the fallen citizen. Stores were looted, citizens were assaulted, and property was destroyed. Nothing positive has come from this pathetic excuse of a liberation of police brutality except more of exactly that. Along with, an astounding number of Baltimore PD injuries caused by the rioting citizens. Their methods were going to do nothing except make conditions worse, and they stopped as soon as the 10 P.M. curfew was set in place. They are fools and cowards, and they are ruining the lives of their neighbors. A temporary calm has set in, but if it does not continue the city of Baltimore is in for a ton of trouble still.

Sports Corner

By Cody Schindler

MLB- We in now into May, and that means we are in the second month of the MLB season. The St. Louis Cardinals appear to be the best team in the league, as they entered last weekend with a 21-7 record, and a solid 6.5 game lead on the Cubs. The Cubs entered the weekend with a 14-13 record. The Cubs have five every day starters under the age of 25. Their youth showed in a recent series with the Cardinals. St. Louis would take 3 of the 4 games. The Cubs held big leads in the first two games of the series, but could not hold on.

NBA- Four teams remain in each conference, meaning that eight teams are battling for NBA title. In the Eastern Conference, the Chicago Bulls are in a competitive series with the Cleveland Cavaliers. The series was tied at one entering game three. In the other semifinal, the Wizards and the top-seeded Atlanta Hawks are also tied at one game apiece heading into game three. In the Western Conference, top-seeded Golden State is taking on Memphis. In the other series, the LA Clippers are facing off with the Houston Rockets. Both of these series are also tightly contested, with both series tied at one heading into game three.

NHL- The Chicago Blackhawks will be making their fifth appearance in the Western Conference Finals in the last seven seasons! The Blackhawks got by Nashville in the first round, and recently swept Minnesota to advance. They will take on the winner of the Anaheim-Calgary series.

NFL- The NFL Draft was held recently, but the top story involves something that happened last January. Do you remember an incident called "Deflategate" by the media? The story involved the New England Patriots, and the claim was that they used deflated footballs in the AFC Championship Game against the Indianapolis Colts. Last week, the Wells Report said that Tom Brady was at least "generally aware" of New England's locker room attendants tampering with the game balls. I believe that most people do not care about the balls being underinflated, as they had no effect on the Patriots blowout win over the Colts. However, a lot of people have taken issue with how Brady responded to those allegations at a recent press conference. Brady side-stepped and avoided each question about the incident. Brady at some point will have to man up and face the music.