

THE TOWN CRIER

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Nov. 24, 2015

College Visits

By Seth Boyer

College visits and researching colleges is a very important part of senior year. One of the best parts is getting out of school to go look at prospective colleges. One place I went to was Western Illinois University. I went to the Macomb campus, and it was a very beautiful place! The campus was very large, so during the college visit there was a lot of walking. Western Illinois has many great offers for students, like a locked in tuition fee, where as many colleges raise their tuition each semester. The cost guarantee is not the only thing that appealed to most students, but there was also wide variety of majors. Along with that, out of all the colleges I have had the time to visit, WIU has the best dorms and food choices. Some other great colleges to consider visiting would include Monmouth, Illinois State University, and Bradley University. Senior year can be a scary time, but have fun exploring colleges and looking for somewhere to spend your next four years.



Courtesy of Western Illinois University

Division 20 West Key Club Banquet

By Charles Schneider

On Friday, November 6th, the Peoria Heights Key Club was part of a banquet held for the 20th Division West Key Clubbers. Division 20 West is part of the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District that the Peoria Heights Key Club is part of. The banquet started off with dinner, as well as a dessert potluck. Next, Lieutenant Governor Charles Schneider conducted a Divisional Council Meeting. At this meeting, topics that were covered ranged from upcoming events to how the nine Key Clubs in 20 West were doing. Finally, there were many games set up, as well as a full gym for basketball, volleyball, and other sports. The banquet was a large success and also raised over \$100 for the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District project-the Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation!



Attendants to the Key Club banquet were from all across central Illinois. Charles Schneider can be seen in the back left

Qu' est- ce qu' il y a?

By Shawna Stewart

On Friday, November 13th tragedy struck Paris, France. Three teams of terrorists planned attacks at six different locations. Some of these locations included a concert hall, two restaurants, and Stade de France, which is a stadium. At least 129 people were killed and 352 injured, including 99 who are in critical condition. ISIS released an official statement saying that they were responsible for these attacks. There were seven terrorists all together, and only a few have been identified. At the Bataclan Concert Hall, where the Eagles of Death Metal were playing, there was at least 89 people killed. The attackers arrived at the hall and opened fire. They took audience members hostage and lined them all up on stage. The police entered the venue causing two attackers to kill themselves by detonating suicide belts. Four people were killed outside Stade de France, three suicide bombers and an innocent man walking by. France was playing Germany in a soccer game at the time the three bombs went off. France's President was attending the game and was immediately evacuated after the attacks. The attackers attacked quite a few restaurants, cafes, and bars. After all of these attacks happened France went on lockdown. They closed all the borders and had points of security. France has carried air strikes on Raqqa, Syria early Monday. Targets included a command center, recruitment center, ammunition storage base, and a training camp. There has been no information on casualties yet. Monuments lit up around the world that night to show their support to Paris, France. We share your grief at this time of mourning. Our sincere condolences to everyone in Paris and those affected by this tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Paris during this time. #PrayForParis



Monuments all around the world light up in support for Paris, while the Eiffel Tower goes dark in mourning. Courtesy of Google Images

Bradley Honor Band

By Kailey Klute

On Tuesday November 17, Brianna Varvil participated in the Bradley Freshman/Sophomore honor band at Dingedine concert hall. To get selected she had to submit an application and a teacher recommendation. Then the Bradley band director chose her. She played several songs including Scramble, Bricks Street, and Nevermore. She played in the band with about 90 other people. She said it went really well and everyone played great, but it was very tiring. She said it was really nice to be able to play in such a big band.



The 2012 honor band. Courtesy of YouTube.

Thanksgiving Break

By Cole Reilly

Stuffing and mashed potatoes by the bowls, turkey on the platter, and every flavor of gravy in Grandma's cook book. Thanksgiving is the holiday of full stomachs and full houses. Bringing all of the family together under one common goal; to gain at least 15 pounds from each main meal and still have enough food to take home after to feed your family for another week. Thanksgiving football games bring out the deep family team rivalries each Thursday, and if fending off family members from your favorite dish isn't enough to bring out your competitive spirit prior to game time then I don't know what is. Each person has their own views on holidays, but I believe the general consensus is that, second to the food of course, family is the most important part of Thanksgiving. It's a time to bring people together that may not see each other very often, and what better way to reunite yourself with someone other than over a steaming hot plate of Thanksgiving foods. This is undoubtedly my favorite holiday, and I truly hope everyone shares the love for it that I do.



Courtesy of Google Images

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Councilor's Corner

By Kailey Klute

Have you looked at colleges and degrees and decided that that is not the path for you? Are you more of a person who wants to work with their hands and have a heavy labor job? Well, good news, there are still many non-college options you can do. One of the most popular options is to go to a trade school. You can go to trade school for many things like cosmetology, welding, electrician, and construction, just to name a few. If you are interested in doing that then you should look into ICC, Midwest Technical Institute, Midstate College, or one of the many cosmetology schools in the area. These all have many options available for education and experience in your field. You will be able to graduate with a certificate and go straight to the job. Another option would be to join the military, which will offer a great amount of experience in your chosen field. The last option is you can get a job right out of high school without having to go to college for it.



Courtesy of Google Images

Girls Basketball

By Kensey Schol

It's that time of year for girls' basketball again! The first home game will be on December 7th against Rushville at 6:00 PM. PHHS may be a small team, but it's "quality over quantity." They will continue to work even harder. There are two seniors on the team this year, Jessi Webb and Kelsey Walton, who have been showing great leadership to their fellow teammates. The girls had their first game on Monday the 16th. Unfortunately, they took their first loss, but there is still plenty of time for improvement. It's a tough conference, but we're still confident in the girls. The team is also selling Christmas Wreaths for \$26 each. If you need more information about the wreaths, or would like to join the team, talk to Coach Winters or Coach Lowe.



Leann Tiethoff and Kelsey Walton defend off a player from Washington.

Christmas time is coming!

By Taylor Peterson

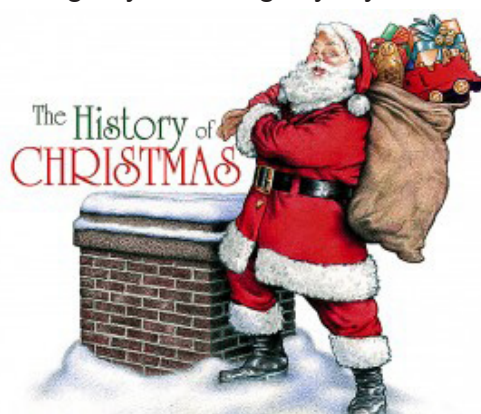
Christmas is officially in 31 days!! At any moment you'll begin to see Christmas lights, wreaths, and trees filling homes and the streets of Peoria Heights. But, do you really know where all of the Christmas traditions came from? Although mostly all of us celebrate Christmas, not everyone knows the true meaning of Christmas! Christmas is actually the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Centuries before his birth, other religions celebrated the winter solstice, which people believe is the other reasoning Christmas Day was chosen to be on the 25th of December. Other traditions, such as Christmas trees and decorations have a historic background also.

The Christmas tree can be traced all the way back to Egyptian times. Trees that stayed green throughout the year had a special meaning to people. Egyptians cherished and worshipped evergreen trees. During winter, they would bring the trees into their homes to symbolize life's triumphs over death. Many other cultures have participated in similar traditions. The first Christmas ornaments were in Germany. They used apples and other fruits as a reminder that life would return again in the spring. As the tradition spread, different cultures took on variations of it.

The Christmas wreath is also a German tradition. In December, they would gather wreaths of evergreens. They did this as a sign of hope for the coming spring.

As for decorations, it was recorded that in London it was the custom at Christmas for every house and all the parish churches to be "decked with holm, ivy, bays, and whatsoever the season of the year afforded to be green". The heart-shaped leaves of ivy were said to symbolize the coming to earth of Jesus, while holly was seen as protection against pagans and witches, its thorns and red berries held to represent the Crown of Thorns worn by Jesus at the crucifixion and the blood he shed.

The traditional colors of Christmas decorations are red, green, and gold. Red symbolizes the blood of Jesus, which was shed in his crucifixion, while green symbolizes eternal life, and in particular the evergreen tree, which does not lose its leaves in the winter, and gold is the first color associated with Christmas, as one of the three gifts of the Magi, symbolizing royalty.



Courtesy of Google Images

Sports Corner

By Sarah Knott

The Chicago Bears won against the St. Louis Rams 37-13. The Bears (4-5) improved to 3-1 on the road after their top offensive showing. They brought thousands of fans to the Edward Jones Dome, which had a season-best 58,663 tickets distributed. Langford was untouched on an 83-yard TD on a screen and also had a 6-yard scoring run. The running back, filling in for the injured Matt Forte, had seven catches for 109 yards and 73 yards on 20 carries. Todd Gurley had a 6-yard scoring run on the opening drive for the Rams (4-5), who have lost two straight since entering November with a winning record for the first time since 2006.

The Green Bay Packers lost against the Detroit Lions 18-16. Mason Crosby missed a 52-yard field goal as time expired after the Packers recovered an onside kick fumbled by Johnson with about 31 seconds left. Detroit (2-7) had stopped Green Bay on a 2-point conversion attempt after Aaron Rodgers hit Justin Perillo for an 11-yard touchdown pass on the previous drive. Stafford threw for 242 yards for the league-worst Lions, an organization that had been reeling following the midseason firings of the team president and general manager. The Packers (6-3) lost their third straight game, but this was a new low after their two previous defeats came on the road to Super Bowl contenders Denver and Carolina.

The Vikings are first in their division. Payton Manning broke the most passing yards with 71, 871 against Brett Favre with 71, 838. Payton Manning in out with partially torn plantar fascia in his left foot and will not be playing against the Bears this coming Sunday. Brock Osweiler will be starting in his place. The Carolina Panthers and the New England Patriots are undefeated so far this year.

The NBA has just started their regular season games on Wednesday the 18th. Chicago Bulls point guard Derrick Rose is temperately out with an ankle injury.

In the NHL the Dallas stars are in the lead with 15 wins and 4 losses. The Montréal Canadiens are right behind them with 14 wins and 3 losses.

Courtesy of <http://www.nfl.com/gamecenter/2015111501/2015/REG10/>



Courtesy of Google Images

EXTRA! EXTRA!

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Boys Basketball

By Madilyn Tortat

The annual Turkey Tournament is right around the corner! The game times have officially been released. The Patriots will play Dee-Mack Tuesday at 7:30. The next game on Wednesday will be against Quest, starting at 6. Peoria Heights vs Peoria Christian will be Friday at 7:30, with the tournament wrapping up on Saturday vs Illini Bluffs at 5. The Red Storm has set themes for each of these games. The first game will be a red out. See Alex Wilts for more details about the other themes. Come out each day and pack the storm!



Jarin Wallace and Josh Laceford defending against Quest at last year's PHHS vs. Quest game.

All Conference Football Players

By Noah Nelson

Congratulations to all the football players that made All Conference. This year the Height/Quest Patriots had 12 people make All Conference. Blake Begner got 1st team quarterback, Geno Hess got 1st team running back, Jarin Wallace got 1st team unanimous wide receiver and 1st team defensive back, Riley Gregory got 1st team offensive lineman, Rylee Miller got special mention offensive lineman, Quinn Miller got special mention tight end and 2nd team punter, Cody Stewart got 1st team defensive lineman, Isaac Ponce got 2nd team defensive lineman, Markus Casley got 1st team linebacker, Ryan Hamilton got 2nd team linebacker, Tanner Doerr got special mention defensive back, and Jose Perez got 2nd team kicker.

Thanksgiving came early at PHHS!

The family and consumer science department turkey dinner smelled wonderful on Wednesday while they made a traditional feast followed by pumpkin bars. Senior Shawna Stewart told us, "The pumpkin bars were delicious – I had a bite of one!"

Junior RJ Bachman, a member of the fourth hour Nutrition and Culinary Arts Class, gave us the run down. "In celebration of Thanksgiving in cooking class, Mrs. Kahn made us turkey while my class and the other cooking classes made the sides to go with the turkey. In my foods class we made mashed potatoes from scratch as well as stuffing. In addition to the turkey, potatoes and stuffing, deviled eggs, corn bread, broccoli casserole, and corn casserole, there was also a type of pumpkin dessert. All of the food was amazing. The turkey was to die for, and I personally do not like turkey! The turkey was so tender and moist that the meat fell right off of the

Thanksgiving came early at PHHS! (cont.)

bone. The broccoli casserole was pretty good even though it was 'healthy.' The mashed potatoes were creamy, but not too mashed. The stuffing was delicious; it was not crunchy or too creamy, it was just right. The dessert was sweet, but not so sweet that you couldn't taste the pumpkin. Nothing overpowered it. These few words can hardly describe how amazing the Thanksgiving dinner really was!!"

It sounds like the foods had a great dinner and learned a lot in the process!! Happy Thanksgiving to all!!!



Jarin Webb and DJ Huggins cutting an onion for the stuffing in foods class.



PHHS students feast for Thanksgiving.

Spectre Review

By Charles Schneider

On Friday, November 6th, the new James Bond movie was released. *Spectre*, which is the fourth movie with Daniel Craig playing James Bond, was a big hit at the box office, bringing in more than \$70 million in the first weekend. The movie, held together with that classic James Bond theme, had many twists and turns. While keeping its James Bond originality, the movie showcased the newest gadgets and devices available in the James Bond world, including the newest sports car to be added to the 007 series, the Aston Martin DB10. What should you expect out of the movie? High action, flipping cars, and chase scenes can all be expected out of *Spectre*. The movie was a big hit with critics and viewers, and I would highly suggest going to see it!



A movie poster for Spectre. Courtesy of Google Images

Congratulations to Emmy Tiethoff, student of the month for October!

Senior Emmy Tiethoff, daughter of Leesa and John Tiethoff, has an older brother, PHHS 2010 alum Alex Tiethoff, and a younger sister, freshman Leigh Ann Tiethoff.

Emmy was selected student of the month for the wonderful job she did singing the National Anthem at Senior Night of the Volleyball Season, as well the particularly effective job she has done as a Mojo leader.

Music has been one of Emmy's main interests and she has been a member of the PHHS concert and marching band since she was a freshman. She has participated in IHSA Solo and Ensemble contests as well since she was a freshman and has frequently been awarded first place. Her junior year she was selected for IMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association) choir and performed for that occasion. This December she will be singing a solo for the Christmas concert.

An active member of the PHHS community music has not been Emmy's only interest. An honor student, she has been in the top ten every year. Emmy has been a member of Scholastic Bowl and Key Club all four years, and has participated in the all-school play every year as well. Junior and senior years, Emmy has been a member of National Honor Society, the WYSE team, the Bass Fishing team, and the Library Club.

Faculty members had some great things to say about Emmy. "I nominate Emmy Tiethoff who volunteered to sing the national anthem at senior night. She did a wonderful job. Additionally, Emmy is one of the MOJO leaders who conducts and coordinates activities for all of the other students." "Emmy sang the National Anthem at the girls' volleyball game. Performing such a challenging song, a cappella, in front of friends, family, and complete strangers takes courage as well as skill and talent." "I vote for Emmy, even though I don't have her in any of my classes anymore she still comes by to help me all the time."

"My vote is for Emmy Tiethoff. Emmy is very active with the praise band with her church, a job, and various co-curricular and extra-curricular school activities."

Emmy's future plans include a four year university, at the moment she is considering Monmouth and a major in psychology. Her professional goals will probably include a graduate degree to become a counselor.



Emmy Tiethoff with Mr. Bob Schlink from the Lion's Club and Mrs. Tallon as she is awarded the \$50 check for student of the month.