

# THE TOWN CRIER

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## Breast Cancer Awareness

By Kensey Schol

If you didn't know, this month is breast cancer awareness month. First, let's get to know what breast cancer really is. Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the breast. When early detected, the survival rate is 98%. Once a person is determined to have a malignant tumor or the diagnosis of breast cancer, the healthcare team will determine breast cancer staging to communicate how far the disease has progressed. There are several different types of breast cancer; Ductal Carcinoma in situ, Invasive ductal carcinoma, inflammatory breast cancer, and Metastatic breast cancer. Women ages 50-74 should get a mammogram every two years, just to be safe. Lately, schools around the country have been having pink out games. Exactly like our school, we had volley for the cure. The volleyball players sold cookies and gave all of the money to help breast cancer victims. On Friday the 17<sup>th</sup>, a lot of the football players wore pink socks, under armor, etc. Little things like those help raise awareness for breast cancer.



Courtesy of Google Images.

## History of Halloween

By Seth Boyer

BOO! Did I scare you? Probably not, but don't worry, because on the day of October 31, I won't have to scare you. Halloween is a day celebrated on the night of October 31. The name "Halloween" is actually a shortened version of All Hallows' Evening. Traditional Halloween activities are Trick or treating, bonfires, Haunted Houses, carving Jack-o-lanterns, costume parties, and scaring your friends. Halloween has its origins in the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain.

The festival of Samhain is a celebration of the end of the harvest season in Gaelic culture. Samhain was a time used by the ancient pagans to take stock of supplies and prepare for winter. The ancient Gaels believed that on October 31, the boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped and the deceased would come back to life and cause havoc such as sickness or damaged crops. Kind of crazy if you ask me, but if it wasn't for them, today's holiday would have never been created. The most fun part about the holiday in most people's opinion is dressing up.

People usually dress up as famous horror movie icons, such as Michael Myers, Jason Voorhees, Ghost face (From Scream) and many more. In my opinion, you are never too old to dress up and have a good time on Halloween. Every stay safe and have fun this Halloween. Keep reading the Town Crier for more updates.

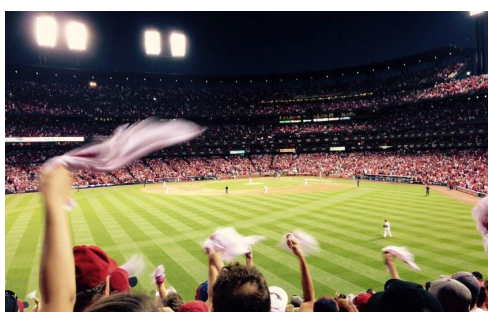


Courtesy of Google Images.

## Three Strikes, You're Out!

By Madilyn Tortat

Imagine you're in a sea full of 47,000+ red clad fans screaming and waving white rally towels. The energy is electric and the crowd is loud. You look around and random strangers are hugging and high fiving each other. The stadium is rocking. That's what Cardinals playoff baseball is like, and that's the scene when Matt Adams hit his game-winning three run homerun. Shelby Miller and Clayton Kershaw were engaged in a pitchers' duel through six, when the Dodgers scored two. Then the 7th inning rolled around. The 7th inning had proved to be the Cardinals' rally time throughout the postseason. Clayton Kershaw may have been the best pitcher in the regular season, but he didn't have his ace form when he took the mound in the 7th. Matt Holliday started off the inning with a hit, and Jhonny Peralta followed with his own. That set the scene for Matt Adams to be the hero. He launched a bomb into the bullpen for a three run homerun to put the Cardinals in the lead. The Cardinals' bullpen held the lead the rest of the game. When Trevor Rosenthal got the last out in the 9th, the stadium erupted and the players stormed on the field. The Cardinals clinched a spot in the NLCS. Being present for the series-clinching game was one of the greatest experiences. As we now know, the Cardinals were eliminated from World Series contention by the Giants, but they still had a great season! If you're a baseball fan, I highly recommend trying to go to a playoff game at Busch Stadium because it was one of the most fun games I've ever attended!



Courtesy of Google Images.

## Sports Corner

By Cody Schindler

MLB- Game. Seven. The two greatest words in sports. The Kansas City Royals clobbered the San Francisco Giants 11-0 in game six to force a decisive game seven tonight. The teams split the first two games in Kansas City, and the Giants would win game four and five to take a 3-2 series lead entering game six. The Royals hadn't made the playoffs since 1985 until this season. The Royals won the World Series that year, and after five games they trailed 3-2, just like this season. Perhaps they are a team of destiny. San Francisco is going for their third World Series in five years. A third World Series ring would almost certainly put manager Bruce Bochy in the Hall of Fame. Starting pitcher Madison Bumgarner has been the Giants' ace. In four career World Series starts, he is 4-0 with a 0.29 ERA. And yes, that is the lowest ERA in World Series history. He will not start, but will be available in relief. The Royals fans will be loud, and dressed in blue. Jeremy Guthrie will pitch for KC, while Tim Hudson will go for San Fran.

During game five of the World Series, some awful news came in from the Dominican Republic. Cardinals' outfielder Oscar Tavares was killed in a car accident in his home country. He was only 22. His girlfriend was also killed in the accident. Just two weeks before his death, Tavares hit a home run in the NLCS. Tavares was MLB's top prospect at one point in time, and certainly had a bright future ahead of him. In game six of the World Series, Royals pitcher Yordano Ventura wrote Oscar a message on his cap, saying "RIP O.T. #18."

NFL- We are halfway through the season, and things are not looking good for the local Chicago Bears. The Bears are 3-5 entering their bye week. There has been turmoil in the locker room, as wide receiver Brandon Marshall reportedly called out members of the team, including quarterback Jay Cutler. The Detroit Lions lead the NFC North with a record of 6-2. The Lions scored 22 unanswered points to win 22-21. The Packers are 5-3, as they also enter the bye week. The Packers and Bears will meet at Lambeau Field on November 9th. As for other local teams, the Colts are 5-3, and the Rams are 2-5.

NBA- The NBA season began yesterday. And while one superstar in Derrick Rose returns, another superstar, Kevin Durant, is on the shelf. Durant had a Jones fracture in his right foot, and had surgery. The Thunder will be without the superstar for at least another five weeks, which could be dangerous in the loaded Western Conference. The Cavaliers are the favorites this year, as they assembled a big three of LeBron James, Kevin Love and Kyrie Irving. The Bulls should be their biggest challenger in the East.

# EXTRA! EXTRA!

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## Senior Night Volleyball Game

By Tiffanie Miller

Senior night for girls' volleyball was on Monday 20. The seniors that we have this year include Tiffanie Miller, Shannon Son, Kirstan Bennett, Jessica Carter, Sabrina Sedekum, Adrienne Summers-Reynolds, and Cassy Powers. Seniors Ty Coleman, Tre Connors, and Michael Raices were also announced for participating in cross country. We played against Lowpoint-Washburn and varsity played them to three sets before losing. It was awesome having more students and fans in the gym, it makes it easier knowing there's people supporting you. Thank you for coming out to watch the game and good luck to the seniors in their future!



Coach Barnes hugs senior Adrienne Summers-Reynolds for her efforts this season.

## Volleyball coming to an end

By Shannon Son

We have had a tough season, but it's all coming to an end now. Senior night was Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> against Low-point Washburn. It was a great match of three games, but we came up short at the end of the game. The following day we played against Abingdon. We had a great game, but still didn't end up with the victory. This season has been tough, but we've all stuck together.

JV has had 6 wins throughout our season, so they've had a pretty successful year. On the other hand, varsity captured our first win against Manuel during the Princeville tournament. Yesterday was the first day of Regionals at Williamsfield, and we took on Delavan. The Lady Patriots came up short, but like always, we fought until the end.



The volleyball team held a whacky-tacky practice to recognize the season's end.

## Football

By Cody Schindler

The Peoria Heights football team finished up their season with two Prairieland Conference crossover games, which means teams from the blue conference play teams from the black conference.

The Patriots took on Farmington in week 8. It was the Patriots' senior night. Austin Ames, Brayten Hess, and Rafael Menchaca all played their final games on the home field. The three seniors were a very important part of the team, as they were all captains. As for the game, Brayten Hess returned an 80-yard kickoff to the house, as the Heights were within striking distance at the half, down 21-7. However, the Patriots would fall to Farmington.

To end the season, the Patriots were on the road, taking on Elmwood-Brimfield. The Patriots would fall to end the season.

The team is excited about the future though. The JV team won the conference, and will receive the trophy at a later date.



The Patriot seniors walk out for the coin toss with Coach Adkins. The trio played their final home game.

## Patriot Invite

By Kirstan Bennett

On October 17, the Patriot Invite was held at Detweiller Park. Mrs. Cocquit said she was really proud of the runners. Josh Beeney and Brandon Mirabal posted their best times. Also great job to Ty Colman finished 165 out of 315 boys and Brandon Mirabal finished 177 out of 315. Everyone did an excellent job.

On Saturday, the cross country team had regionals at Farmington. Coach Cocquit called the races "very competitive." Ty Coleman was the team's top finisher, and Brandon Mirabal and Josh Beeney recorded their best times.

On Monday, there was a JV meet. Brandon Mirabal was our only runner, and he placed in second.

Seniors Ty Coleman, Tre Connors, and Michael Raices have ran their final races at PHHS, and they were honored with a senior night ceremony during last week's volleyball game. Coach Cocquit hopes for more runners next year, and for returning runners to continue to improve!

## Let the Celebrations Begin!

By James Janis

The Leadership Academy courses have ended, and that was the cause for celebration on Thursday, October 16. The celebration was held down on the riverfront at the Ivy Club at 6 pm and it ran till 8.

The ceremony was a lot of fun to attend. It started out with a great dinner provided by the Ivy Club. The dinner was small, but it was very delicious.

After the dinner, Mr. Rodger Larson gave some welcoming words, and then Mr. Michael Phelan, the Richwoods Township Supervisor, Mr. Heath, Mr. Stoner, and Mayor Mark Allen gave some encouraging words.

Afterwards, Michelle Dang and Cody Schindler delivered an awesome speech that they made together, and then we had our keynote speaker, Mr. Dave Snell, the Assistant Director of Athletics Communications at Bradley University.

After all the speakers, we were all given plaques with our names engraved on them, and we also gave the school a plaque to be hung in the school.

Even though we have already had a graduation ceremony though, the leadership academy class is planning a project to benefit the school, so be sure to listen for more info about the project and other items about the Academy.

## Congratulations Leadership Academy Graduates of 2014

Alex Campbell

Michelle Dang

James Janis

Shannon Michael

Cassy Powers

Cody Schindler

Adrienne Summers-Renyolds

Jessi Webb

Gabrielle Williams



The Academy's graduates take a picture with project leader Mr. Roger Larson (left), and keynote speaker Dave Snell (right).

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# PATRIOT PRIDE

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## Congratulations to Senior Ryan Klute, Student of the Month for September!

Ryan is the son of Mike and Sherry Klute. He has one sister, Kailey who is a sophomore here at PHHS. Ryan and Kailey have attended Peoria Heights schools since kindergarten.

Ryan was nominated by Mr. Piper, our band director, which is not surprising, since Ryan has been in band since fifth grade. Band just happens to be one of Ryan's favorite classes.

As part of the PHHS community, Ryan has also been involved in Scholastic Bowl and WYSE for the last three years, and plans to participate his senior year as well.

Academically, Ryan is at the top of his class. He has been on high honors and is a member of National Honor Society. One of Ryan's other favorite classes is Chemistry 2.

Ryan's future plans include college, of course. He is still considering what area of study. That decision will help him choose which college to attend.

We at PHHS expect great things from Ryan, as members of the faculty commented, "Ryan is a hardworking and conscientious student. His work is consistently among the best in the class. He has the ability to integrate information from many sources to solve new problems or to answer questions beyond the scope of the class." "Ryan Klute is a dependable and polite young man. Ryan is always prepared for class and rarely misses an extra rehearsal or performance. Although Ryan is very quiet, he always conducts himself in a way that is an example for all to follow. It has been my pleasure to have Ryan in band for eight years."

Congratulations to Ryan Klute: first Student of the Month for 2014-2015!!



Ryan Klute poses with his check for Student of the Month.

## Illinois State University

By Madison Schneider

19,924 students, an 18:1 student to faculty ratio, an average ACT score of 24; these are all facts that you may learn as you look into different colleges. These, specifically, are statistics of Illinois State University as of 2014. Illinois State is one of the top 100 public colleges, top 50 "best bang for your buck" colleges, and in the top 10% graduation rate in the nation. I recently visited ISU for an open house, and I was amazed by the size of the campus and the number of people there.

Unfortunately, due to the large number of people who attended the open house, I was not able to sit down and talk with anyone about the cost of living there or what kind of scholarships I am eligible for. I will be attending ISU's Redbird Day on November 8th for accepted and perspective students, and I hope to be able to sit down and talk with someone that day.

If you are considering going to Illinois State University, go for a visit! You're only about 45 minutes away, making it reasonable to be able to get to know the campus and the people there. There is another open house on November 10th. If you cannot attend the open house, there are daily campus visits offered most weekdays, Monday through Friday throughout the year, and on scheduled Saturdays from September through April. If you're serious about attending ISU, apply as soon as possible! They're preferred filing deadline is November 15th. Good luck to all students applying to ISU, along with other colleges, in your search for where you'll spend the next chapter of your life!



Courtesy of Google Images.

## ILMEA

By Shawna Stewart

Emmy Tiethoff, Briana Virgil, Logan Monest, and Zach Piper all auditioned for the chance to play at the ILMEA concert. ILMEA stands for Illinois Music Education Association. ILMEA provides leadership for music education and promotes lifelong music learning. Emmy, Briana, and Zach auditioned October 4<sup>th</sup>, and Logan auditioned October 11<sup>th</sup>. They all auditioned at Geneseo Middle and High Schools. There will be a concert November 8<sup>th</sup> at Augustan College. Emmy will be singing *I Am Not Yours* and *Magnificot*. Emmy also plays the flute in the PHHS band, and she is a part

of the choir club. Briana will be playing the trumpet. She will be playing *Hands Across the Sea* and *San Antonio Dances*. Outside of school Briana plays at Springdale cemetery for memorial veterans' ceremonies. Zach plays the tuba and the music he is playing is not yet decided. Logan plays the violin. He will be playing *Dance of the Sprites* and *Hungarian March*. After High School he plans to join an orchestra. We're proud of all our ILMEA students, and we know they will excel at their concert.



The group of ILMEA students.

## Book Review

By Wanda Rogers

☆☆☆☆☆: 5 Stars

Have you ever felt like a stranger in your own skin? Katie Rain Hill did her entire life: she was born a boy, but she was actually a girl.

In Katie's new memoir, *Rethinking Normal: A Memoir in Transition*, she tells exactly what it was like to grow up knowing she was different. In Katie's case, she is transgender, but people may feel different for many reasons: for the color of their skin, for their sexuality, or even just for their sense of style. Katie wrote her book wanting to redefine normal—to show people that "normal" doesn't exist.

Katie was born as Luke. She knew from a young age that she wasn't in the body she was supposed to be in. She tried to convey her feeling to her mother multiple times, but her mother wouldn't listen, insisting she would "be okay." It wasn't until Katie was fifteen years old that she finally came through to her mother and was able to start hormone treatments.

Katie's story was very inspirational, and I recommend her memoir to everyone. She described the ups and downs of her life thoughtfully and openly, which allows her readers to connect with her and relate to her. Katie has truly succeeded: she has redefined normal for me, and hopefully for many others.

If you're in any way interested, pick up a copy of her book. You won't regret it.