

THE TOWN CRIER

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Oct. 23, 2015

Key Club

By Cole Reilly

Key Club has been participating in many organized volunteer events so far this year, and have many more just around the corner. The admissions due date for Key Club dues is coming up very soon, but I have a good feeling we'll be winning consecutive early bird awards because of our stellar officer work. Hall-Zoo-Ween, United Way meetings, run for dyslexic awareness, these are just some of the events that have already taken place, and we have multiple events coming up. Most importantly, the blood drive is in early November, and I encourage spreading the word about it now. The success determines the amount of a scholarship that is given out to a worthy senior at the end of the year, and I believe the recipient would greatly appreciate the support, especially connected to such a good cause.



Last year Austin Ames donated blood to the Red Cross. Don't worry - He survived!!

Recycling Club

By Taylor Peterson

Reduce, reuse, RECYCLE! Mrs. Thornton is founding a new club for this year, the recycling club. With starting this club, the school has received a grant called the Peoria County Waste Club grant. Along with this grant, we have gotten more recycling bins for the classrooms. Each teacher will have two recycling bins in his/her room. Also, we have received many portable white erase boards for the classrooms, to reduce the amount of paper being used. Recently, Charlotte Walsh was chosen to be the president of this club. If you have questions or if you would like to be a part of the recycling club, see Mrs. Thornton.



Noah Nelson displays the blue recycling bins found around school.

Congratulations to Skylynn Goett: Student of the Month for September!

Skylynn Goett was nominated student of the month for September by Mrs. Lindsay Cocquit, art teacher here at PHHS. Skylynn is the daughter of Jennifer Goett, and she has one sister who is a student at PHGS. Their family pets are a dog and a rabbit. Skylynn has lived in Peoria Heights and attended Peoria Heights schools since second grade.

Her favorite subject is art, and in her free time, she enjoys listening to music and spending time with friends.

Skylynn has faced some serious challenges in her life. She was born with spina bifida. Because of that she has had to have several spinal surgeries, as well as surgery on her feet and legs. In spite of all this, Skylynn has made incredible improvements in her work and attendance. We at PHHS are all proud of her accomplishments in the face of so many incredible difficulties. We know she'll keep up the good work!

Faculty members have had some good things to say. "I second Skylynn Goett. She's had great attendance and is always eager to learn. She comes prepared for class, never needs to be reminded to get her supplies out to work, and isn't afraid to ask for help. I have been impressed with her performance so far this year!" "I also have Skylynn Goett in class and I have been so impressed with how hard she is working this year with coming to school almost every day and making up her work. I know she has some rough days, but she still manages to tough it out and I think it would be awesome for her to know that we as teachers see and acknowledge her efforts." "Skylynn definitely deserves Student of the month recognition. It is so wonderful to see her every day in the halls here at PHHS. She always has a smile and says "hi." For a student who barely attended school last year to do a complete 180 and attend regularly this year is definitely noteworthy. She is a real student success story, and many of the teachers here are extremely proud of her!" "It has been a joy to see Skylynn working so hard this year. It is wonderful to have her in advisor and to be able to see all her hard work and many improvements! Keep up the good work Skylynn!"

The Student of the Month program began five years ago here at PHHS. It was felt that we needed a new means by which to recognize students in a positive way. Each month, teachers nominate students that they feel have met or exceeded the following guidelines: excelled academically, athletically, or musically; shown good citizenship or leadership; shown great improvement in any way; have been recently honored; have been very involved in school activities; or any other accomplishment which is reason to receive recognition. The faculty then votes from the list of nominees and the winner receives \$50 from the Lions Club.

Race for the Presidency

By Charles Schneider

It's that time of year again! More specifically, that time of every fourth year. It is the time where we start seeing endless commercials on the television about why this candidate is horrible and that one is the solutions to all our problems. That's right, it U.S. Presidential race time! Until next November, we will probably see a lot of these ads on television and in other various places. Campaigning as well is well under way for the race. Candidates have been traveling all over the country meeting with people and discussing their beliefs. There are currently four Democrats in the race: Lincoln Chafee, Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley, and Bernie Sanders. For the Republican party, the list of candidates is much larger: Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Jim Gilmore, Lindsey Graham, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, George Pataki, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum, and Donald Trump. The candidates will soon be narrowed down in the upcoming primaries. Illinois's primary will be on March 15th, 2016. From there we will elect our next U.S. President in November 2016!

Skylynn Goett: Student of the Month for September!



Mr. Bob Schlink of the Lions' Club with Skylynn Goett and Mrs. Lindsay Cocquit.

Counselor's Corner

By Kensey Schol

There's some new information coming from Mrs. Wenzel about upcoming events. This year there will be no PLAN test. The PLAN test is a test that the sophomores would take every year to prepare for the ACT and SAT, but for some reason they're cancelling it. Another thing not available this year is the ACT. The school will no longer be providing the ACT for the juniors. Mrs. Wenzel will be going around to all the juniors in November teaching them how to register for the test. Speaking of the ACT, the juniors should probably start preparing if they want a decent score. October is national college application month. It's encouraging all the seniors to fill out their applications if they haven't already. Most early admission deadlines are coming up soon, so get them all turned in. This year we're getting all the students ready for college. Each class will be taking a college visit. The freshmen will be visiting ICC, the sophomores will be visiting Bradley, the juniors visited Eureka on October 16th, and the seniors visited ISU on October 22nd. I think it's a really cool idea that we're all visiting.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

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Cross Country

By Kailey Klute

The cross country team had their invitational meet on Saturday at Detweiller Park. There was about 62 schools participating. Everyone did their best and tried their hardest. On Tuesday Mason Hill finished first in the boys and Kelsey Walton finished first in the girls against Manuel. Seth Boyer and Zephen Schaihl finished in the top 10. Good luck at regionals this weekend!



Basketball

By Madilyn Tortat

Basketball season is right around the corner! Boys' basketball games will begin during the annual Turkey Tournament, and the girls' basketball games are also starting in a few weeks. The red storm is back and ready to cheer on both teams. This year, the storm will incorporate several new themes and activities. A schedule will be posted in the coming weeks regarding themes for all of the home games. Boys' basketball will also have a brand new head coach, Mr. Youngren! We are all excited to see what the season has in store for both teams!

MLB

By Noah Nelson

Have you baseball fans been watching the playoffs this season? There are four teams left in the postseason. The Chicago Cubs are playing the New York Mets and The Toronto Blue Jays are playing the Kansas City Royals. The Cubs beat the Pirates in the National League Wild Card game. Then the Cubs played the Cardinals in a 5 game series and beat them 3 games to 1. The Mets beat the Dodgers 3 games to 2 in a 5 game series. The Mets beat the Cubs in the National League Championship Series 4 games to 0. With that series win the Mets will be advancing to the World Series. On the other side of the bracket the Astros beat the Yankees in a 1 game American League Wild Card game. Then the Astros had to face the Royals in a 5 game series. The Royals beat the Astros 3 games to 2. The Blue Jays played the Rangers in a 5 game American League Division Series. The Blue Jays Beat the Rangers 3 games to 2. The Royals are now playing the Blue Jays in a 7 game series for the American League Championship Series. The Royals are beating the Blue Jays 3 games to 2. The winner of this series will be facing the Mets in the World Series.

Red, White, and Blue!

By Shawna Stewart

On Friday, October 16th, the Heights-Quest Patriots faced the Farmington Farmers in Farmington. The Patriots played hard throughout the entire game and stayed in the lead until the fourth quarter when the Farmers came back and took the lead away. The Patriots did not give up though and they kept fighting, but it wasn't enough to take the win back. The Patriots lost 49-40. Geno Hess had 178 Rushing yards, Blake Begner had 253 passing yards, and Jarin Wallace had 151 rushing yards. On Saturday, October 24th the Patriots will find out if they scored enough points to hopefully make it to the playoffs. There will not be a game this Friday night, but there will still be a ceremony held for the seniors. Senior night will be held on October 23rd for the football, band, cheer, and dance teams. Dinner will begin at 5:45 and the fee is \$5. Ceremony will roughly begin around 6:30. Please come out and support your Patriot seniors as they get recognition for all their hard work this season.



Volleyball- It's not Just a Game.

By Sarah Knott

The volleyball team's regular season is coming to an end, but regionals are right around the corner! This week on Monday, October 19th the Lady Patriots went to Low-Point Washburn. The JV team lost in two games and the varsity team lost in three games. That game was a win for the varsity team though because we played like a team, never gave up, and were helping each other out. It was one of the best games we had played all year and it was also a volley for the cure night, so the Patriots got to be a part of two this year, which was great.

Tuesday, October 20th, was an emotional night for the team because it was senior night. Our Seniors that are leaving us this year are: Sarah Knott, Trisha Shepherd, Jessi Webb, and Kelsey Walton. These four seniors worked hard all year and do not want their season to end. Tuesday's game results were: the JV team won in two games and the varsity team lost in three games. It sucks that the seniors

Volleyball- It's not Just a Game.(cont.)

lost their very last regular season game at home, but it counts as win to us because if you were there, you would have seen how we played as a team and how we were not giving up; we were fighting point by point. The seniors will be missed greatly and we all wish them the best of luck after high school.

The Patriots have their first regionals game next Monday, October 26 against Delavan at Roanoke- Benson. Come out and support your Lady Patriots at regionals!



Senior Sarah Knott and her mom accept good wishes from Coach Michelle Barnes.

NFL

By Seth Boyer

The NFL has already had some twists and turns in it so far this year. The year started with a few big name players getting injured; some being Drew Brees, Ben Roethlisberger, Tony Romo, and many more. This allowed some backups to come in and shine. Brandon Weeden attempted to come in for Tony Romo, but Brandon did not shine when he had the chance, so Cowboys are resorting to former Chiefs starter Matt Cassel. Former first round draft pick and Pro - Bowl quarterback Michael Vick gets to take over the deadly Pittsburgh offense. Vick is gaining chemistry with his receivers, and it showed in their game versus the Chargers. Vick threw for 203 yards, including 1 touchdown that was 72 yards. Not only did he hurl them through the air, but also he gained close to 30 yards on the ground in just one running attempt. Needless to say, Vick is getting use to the Steelers offense and he has potential to take the team far while he is their starter. In other news, the Atlanta Falcons' undefeated streak came to an end on October 15th against the New Orleans Saints. The remaining teams that are undefeated are: the Carolina Panthers, the Green Bay Packers, the New England Patriots, the Cincinnati Bengals, and the Denver Broncos. This season is going to be an exciting one!

