

# THE TOWN CRUER

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## Homecoming Week is Here!

By Madison Schneider

It's that time of the year again, and everyone is filled with school spirit! Have you been supporting your class during spirit week? This year, Monday was Sports Day, Tuesday was Hawaiian Day, Wednesday was Class Color Day, Thursday was Dress to Impress Day, and Friday, as always, is Patriot Day. We've had great participation during spirit week this year, setting the bar high for the pep assembly today!

Student council members should arrive at the gym tonight at 4:30 to help set up for the dance. The bonfire will start tonight at seven. The bonfire is a great opportunity for students, faculty, and the rest of the community to come together and enjoy a night of fun activities and Patriot spirit! We hope to see everyone out to support the football team and to have a great time.

Come out and watch the parade tomorrow and cheer on your class's float as it passes by. The parade starts at 10:00, followed by the homecoming game against the Rushville- Industry Rockets at 1:30. Come support the team and your school as we battle the Rockets on the field!

Sadly, after the game comes the last event of homecoming week. The dance, that is. The dance will start at 7:00 and we will all dance the night away until 10:00. The theme this year is "Out of This World," so we're all very excited to see how the gym will be transformed. Everyone come out to the dance for a good time and an exciting ending to this year's homecoming festivities!



Michael Jordan (Adrienne Summers-Reynolds) and Dennis Rodman (Mr. Mosiman) pose for a picture on sports day.

## Have you met the substitute English Teacher?

By Kirstan Bennett

Have you met Mr. Mosiman, the new substitute teacher for Mrs. Adkins? He is teaching Sophomore and Senior English. He is from this area, in fact he's from Pekin. When he attended Pekin High School he was a swimmer and a 2 time intermural basketball champ. He graduated from the University of Illinois and then went to ISU to get a teaching certificate. Since he likes reading and writing teaching English is exactly what he wants to do. Not only does he like English, he also likes the students. When Mrs. Adkins returns, he is planning to substitute still for Peoria Heights High School and Grade School and for District 108.

## A Book-Lover's trip to Vegas

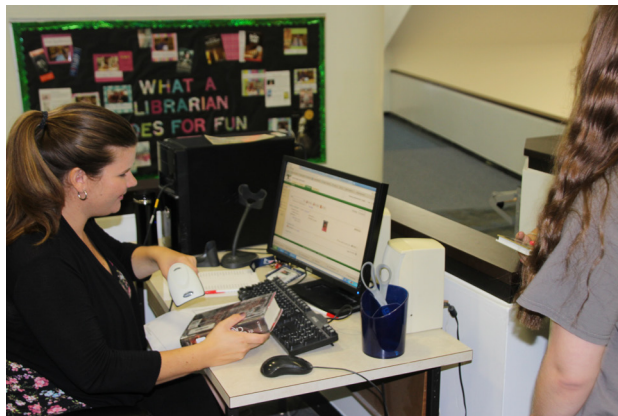
By James Janis

What's the first thing you think of when picturing Las Vegas, Nevada? Casinos, lights, and skyscrapers right? How about books and their authors, and a lot of them? Well, that's what Mrs. Poole experienced when she went out to Vegas this summer for the American Library Conference from June 26 to July 1.

The American Library Conference is an annual event where hundreds of librarians, authors, and book lovers come together for a week of discovering new books and their authors. Some of the authors that were there included: Mark Brown, Louis Lowry, Ally Condie, and even Stan Lee. All of these authors were there promoting their new books and movies.

While meeting all these authors, Mrs. Poole got to take home some free books. The authors, trying to promote their books, gave away hundreds of free copies to anyone that stopped by. Mrs. Poole left the conference with over 50 new books! 15 of which can now be found in our library.

Overall, Mrs. Poole says she had a lot of fun at the conference. She got to bring home some new books, meet some new authors, and would recommend the conference to anyone who is interested in books. The admission price is only \$35 dollars, and the next conference is from January 30 to February 3 in Chicago. For any more info, see Mrs. Poole or check out her bulletin board where she has posted some pictures of her conference



Mrs. Poole enjoyed her summer, but now she's back at what she does best, helping students.

## Get Lowe with it

By Seth Boyer

This year we are treated with a new Study Hall teacher named Mr. Lowe. Even though he looks intimidating to some people, I found out first hand that he is one of the nicest teachers here. He was a substitute for many of our previous years, but now he is a permanent teacher. I sat down and talked to him to see if he had anything to say about his time being here so far. He enjoys being a teacher more than a substitute because it gives him the opportunity to get to know the students of Peoria Heights better. He says that his students have been behaving extremely well so far. My first thought was since the students are behaving so well, he must be pretty strict. So I asked him if he considers himself strict. He says "Not all the time, but at times you have to be." To end the interview with him, I asked if there is any advice you would give to the students. He said "Make sure you enjoy every minute of high school, because it goes by really fast when you look back on

when you look back on it." I took the advice he gave me and realized that it is very true. Continue reading the Town Crier for more updates.



## Officer Vaughn

By Cody Schindler

Have you seen a uniformed police officer patrolling our building? He is our school liaison officer, Mr. Vaughn. He is here to make our school a safer learning environment, as it has been proven that having a uniformed police officer present reduces school violence. I was able to talk to Officer Vaughn recently, and while we discussed school safety, we really focused on a big event in a neighboring state, the Ferguson riots in Missouri.

I asked Officer Vaughn how he is trained to handle a rioting situation like that in Missouri. He said, "We're actually not trained for such a situation, we would handle a riot the same way as the Ferguson Police, we would contact the Sheriff's Office and county police." Officer Vaughn also has noticed some changes in our community. "In talking with other police officers, we have seen suspects simply go to the ground with their hands up in fear of getting shot." And unfortunately, the problem could continue, as Officer Vaughn said "racial tension between police and minorities will be ongoing."

In our community, Officer Vaughn said he took a class on school violence, where he learned a lot about the psychological aspect of school violence. He learned about actions and behaviors that could display a cue that a violent act could be on the way. And lastly, with it being homecoming week, Officer Vaughn urges kids to "have fun, that's the most important thing, but be respectful of people's property."



Officer Vaughn has his game face on.

# PATRIOT PRIDE

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## Labor Day

By Cole Reilly

Labor Day; the first Monday of September every year, the first Monday that we get off marking our first 3 day weekend, and the first day that we have dedicated to the hard workers of our country.

The idea behind Labor Day is to dedicate a day to all the laboring men and women of our country. So, every year on the first Monday of September those who are employed by the local community are given the day off. This day given to them for relaxation is filled with American flags and parades galore, but I think most just use their time sitting in their pajamas and watching television.

So, who came up with this glorious day? We don't actually know. The 2 most popular candidates for the title of "Labor Day Inventor" are Mathew Maguire and Peter McGuire. Peter McGuire, a secretary, and Matthew Maguire, a well-respected machinist, both are very likely to be the original founders of Labor Day. They both were involved in unions dedicated to the spreading and bettering of the holiday, and Peter McGuire was one of the cofounders of the American Federation of Labor.

This day is truly a blessing in most people's eyes; an extra period of time away from the job you work 50 hours a week, an extension on what could've been a great weekend, and a day that promotes laziness for those who have labored themselves to exhaustion for years. But, some do question the importance the day being a holiday. They don't think just because people serve our community they deserve a day dedicated to them. Do you think Labor Day is just a waste of a day, or do you think another day off is called for, for those who work 223 days a year?

Keep reading the Town Crier for more articles!

<http://www.dol.gov/laborday/history.htm>



Courtesy of Google Images.

## Student Council

By Kensey Schol

Who comes up with all the ideas for homecoming? It's the best of the best, student council. Last week we had a student council meeting discussing all the details about the homecoming dance. We discussed everything from colors of the balloons to spirit week ideas. The sponsor of student council is the lovely, Mrs. Allen. These are your student council members: Tyler Webb, Taryn Minor, Charlie Schneider, Geno Hess, Maikiala Linwood, Shakeysha Collins, A.J. McCumber, Taylor Allen, Anna Kelly, Katie Markovich, Madilyn Tortat, Tanner Cole-

man, Cole Reilly, Kensey Schol, Gabby Williams, Tiffanie Miller, Brayten Hess, and Brittney Williams. The senior class officers are Madison Schneider, Shannon Son, Kirstan Bennett, Aliyah Boyd, and Lanie Lehnhausen.



Mrs. Allen is the Student Council sponsor.

## New year, new yearbook!

By Shannon Son

It's the start of a fresh year, and we are now starting on the 2015 yearbook. We are currently thinking of the theme we are going to go with. We have only a couple ideas, but we're getting there. This year's yearbook will be new, exciting & full of memories!



What will the next yearbook look like?

## Need help with Math? Join the Math Lab.

By: Sarah Knott

Math lab is run by Mrs. Barnes in her room, space 5. Sophomores and seniors are on Monday and Wednesday. Freshmen and juniors are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Everyone has to have a goal for when they start a new group and when I asked her what her goal was, she said, "My goal is that everyone passes their math classes and has a place to get help if they need and want it. Her strategies are to start basic with helping with homework by working with individual students to find out what their weaknesses are and work on improving them. If math isn't your strongest subject and you are struggling a bit, don't be scared to ask for help. It is okay to ask for help if and when you need it.

## AROUND THE SCHOOL!



## 2014-15 Journalism Staff

Kirstan Bennett  
Seth Boyer  
James Janis  
Sarah Knott  
Tiffanie Miller  
Colton Reilly  
Wanda Rogers  
Cody Schindler  
Madison Schneider  
Kensey Schol  
Shannon Son  
Shawna Stewart  
Madilyn Tortat

# EXTRA! EXTRA!

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## Earthquakes

By Wanda Rogers

On August 24, 2014, a moderately strong earthquake shook the San Francisco Bay Area, which includes the Napa, Sonoma, and Solano counties. Over 170 people were injured, and 100 aftershocks were recorded after the quake.

Earthquakes are caused by a sudden burst of energy in the earth's crust, which results in seismic waves. Earthquakes are common in California because of the San Andreas Fault, but they can still happen here in Illinois, too. If an earthquake ever were to happen, it is important to know the steps to protect yourself, so I will detail them here.

As soon as you feel the first tremor of an earthquake, drop down to your hands and knees. This will prevent you from being knocked down by the force of the earthquake, and you will still be able to move around if necessary. If you are indoors, get under a sturdy table or chair, and protect your head and neck. If you are outdoors, move to a clear area, and protect your head and neck. Until the earthquake passes, hold onto something sturdy. Earthquakes are dangerous and can injure many people, so make sure you are properly prepared!



Courtesy of Google Images.

## Sports Corner

By Cody Schindler

MLB- It is now September, and the season-long marathon is turning into a sprint. The St. Louis Cardinals are atop the NL Central standings, as they passed up the Milwaukee Brewers, who lost nine in a row from August 26<sup>th</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup>. Last weekend, the two teams met in Milwaukee for a four game series. St. Louis took three of four games and knocked Milwaukee out of second place. The Cardinals now lead Pittsburgh by 3.5 games.

As for the Cubs, they will not make the playoffs but there has been some excitement at Wrigley Field. The Cubs have called up two prized prospects in outfielder Jorge Soler, and infielder Javier Baez. Both players have great power and should be part of the Cubs lineup for years to come. Soler is hitting over .300 in his time with the big club, while Baez has hit 7 home runs. However, the difference between these players is that Jorge Soler is much more disciplined at the plate, and is able to lay off bad pitches and take them for balls. Baez, on the other hand, chases a lot of pitches out of the strike zone, and that is why he

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Elsewhere around the league, the Washington Nationals have a big lead in the NL East, and the LA Dodgers are trying to hold off the San Francisco Giants in the NL West. In the American League, the Baltimore Orioles have wrapped up the AL East, the Los Angeles Angels have pulled away from Oakland in the AL West, and it's a two team race in the AL Central, as Kansas City holds a slim lead on Detroit.

College Football- The college football season is heading into week three, and a couple teams have left their mark. The Oregon Ducks, ranked third in the country hosted seventh ranked Michigan State. The game was back and forth before the high-powered Oregon offense pulled away and won 46-27. The Ducks picked up 491 yards against the Spartans' defense, which was the second best in the country last year in yards per game. In another battle of ranked teams, fourteenth ranked USC traveled to Stanford, to take on the thirteenth ranked Cardinal. USC won on the road in a low-scoring battle 13-10, despite Stanford racking up over 400 yards of offense. Lastly, sixteenth ranked Notre Dame rolled over Michigan at home. The Irish shut out Michigan in a rivalry game 31-0. Notre Dame quarterback Everett Golson threw for three touchdowns in the win. Unfortunately, the series between the two teams is not scheduled to continue due to a scheduling conflict. Defending champions Florida State are 2-0, and atop the polls.



Cubs players Javier Baez and Jorge Soler take a pose at Spring Training.

## Whose year is it?

By Shawna Stewart

Who's your favorite NFL team? The NFL games take place on Thursdays, Sundays, and Mondays throughout the week. The first NFL football game was on Thursday, September 4 between the Seahawks and the Packers in Seattle. Seattle, protected their home turf after last year's Super Bowl win, beating Green Bay 36-16. Some upset games on Sunday were the Dolphins beating the Patriots 33-20, Buffalo Bills beating the Bears 23-20 in overtime, the Falcons beating the Saints 37-34 in overtime, and the Broncos beating the Colts 31-24. Some teams that have improved from last year include the Dolphins, the Falcons, and the Jets. There is a lot of speculation about who is going to win Super bowl XLIX, but nobody really knows for sure, so we'll just have to wait and see what happens!



Courtesy of Google Images.

## Volleyball has begun!

By Tiffanie Miller

The Patriots volleyball team has started off a little rocky, but we're only getting better. Our first game was supposed to be held on Labor Day, playing Henry at home. Our team was in the gym warming up, stands full with family and friends, when we got the call that Henry rescheduled the game to Monday the 8, which was then canceled again due to float building. Our second game was last Tuesday against Williamsfield, in which we lost. After a tough loss against Williamsfield, the Lady Patriots played with desire against Lewistown but lost two tough games. This team will bounce back from these losses and only move up from here.

This week, the Lady Patriots traveled to Bushnell and Farmington. Bushnell had some experience on us, as they had already played 11 games. Despite a valiant effort, we lost in two sets. On Thursday, we took on Farmington. The Lady Patriots came up short in two sets, but we are starting to show improvement. Cassy Powers and Kirstan Bennett each had two kills, and Taylor Peterson had two digs. The Lady Patriots play their next game on Monday at home against Midland.