

THE BURROW

The Student Newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High School

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McLeansboro, Illinois

October 2008

Obama vs. McCain



**Lauren Potter
Kaitlin Webb**
The Burrow



Obama

With the 2008 Presidential election coming up I find myself a little upset that I cannot vote. I have never felt as strongly for a candidate as I do for Barack Obama. The American public *needs* him to be the next President of the United States. Obama stands for everything that is the American Dream - a loving and devoted family man who cares about his wife, his children, and his country. He sees the issues at hand and wants to resolve America's problems. Obama has stated, "It's time for us to change America," and I agree. We could elect someone who will continue with existing policies by electing John McCain, who has voted with President Bush ninety-percent of the time. But that wouldn't fix anything! We need someone new, someone fresh, and someone who has big ideas for the future. That is why I am such a big fan of Barack Obama.

In my eyes, Barack Obama is the only candidate for the job. I have supported him from the start, and it seems the more I hear the man speak, the more I realize what an excellent President he will make. Obama is intelligent and has wonderful ideas to get our struggling country back on its feet. He wants to help the poor and middle-class, not just the big corporations like his opponent. Maybe that is because of Obama himself did not come from money people growing up. I believe it is these humble beginnings that make us average Americans relate to Obama. He is one of us. He speaks for us. He knows what issues we face. I don't feel that McCain understands the American public the way Obama does.

One cannot deny that our economy is in horrid conditions. Over the last eight years, we have seen gas prices soar, taxes increase, products made overseas, unemployment rates rise, and Americans struggling to make ends meet. Does it seem that we are going in the right direction? John McCain believes that in these past eight years our economy has made "great progress". I'm sorry, but what fantasy is McCain living in? McCain has said we have become, "a nation of whiners." Maybe if McCain started to pay attention to the American public he would realize that we are not "whiners" as he calls us. We are simply people trying to make it in a struggling economy. If this man truly understood the American people, he would not have voted along with Bush as much as he did. The Republican Party says Obama is too young, too inexperienced, but if you look

at it that way, isn't McCain too old?

Among the many issues the future president must face is the U.S. economy. Obama has many excellent plans and ideas. However, the idea that I respect the most is that he wants to help average Americans improve their standard of living. Obama wants to tax the upper-class so that the middle and lower-classes can have more. By creating a Windfall Profits Tax, he plans to give all middle-class American families a minimum of \$1000 to help them pay rising bills. He wants to cut income taxes by \$1000 for working families across the country. Obama wants to reduce the production of foreign made products. Obama wants to strengthen our economy by giving citizens more job opportunities through tax incentives to American employers. He wants to stop buying foreign oil so gas prices will *finally* decrease. Obama wants to give every child an equal opportunity to go to college by giving them at least \$4,000 to start out.



McCain and Obama

Your choice today effects tomorrow. Your vote always counts no matter how small. In the 2008 election democrat, Barack Obama and republican John McCain have quite a competition going on. Several of the students at Hamilton County High School have admitted to putting their vote toward Obama this year. Junior Nathan Owens said, "I really don't know who I want to win. I'm not into politics much, but I know we need a change". A lot of people vote for the candidate who is running in their political party. I do not agree with this. I think that you should vote for the person you believe would make the best president. I do not believe you should vote because anyone tells you to. Vote because you want to. It makes a difference. Your vote always counts. Junior Autumn Schram when asked who her family was voting for, replied, "Obama because my family doesn't want another Bush." McCain has been quoted on saying "I am not George Bush." John McCain may have similar opinions on how to run our country as Bush, but he is not Bush. I believe McCain would make a better president just because he actually fought for our country. Obama did nothing and now he expects us to give him control. I hope that when people vote this year they are happy with the decision they make.



Chorus musical



Jackie Morris
The Burrow

Murder in a house of Horrors? Who is the suspect? Who is the victim? It is a surprise! To find out you will just have to watch the Hamilton County High School Chorus put on the play. It is Tuesday, October 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Commons Area. When asked what the musical was about, sophomore Brooke Robinson, who plays Toni the guard, said, "It is a murder mystery in a house of horrors." She was asked if she was having fun practicing for the big night, and she said, "It is loads of fun. I like the story of the play because it is hilarious." When asked if she liked

the way her character acted she said, she said, "Yeah, you could say that. I think the thing that people will remember the most about the play is the catchy songs." When sophomore Shannen Gollner, who plays Jane Trice a ditzy female, was asked if she was having fun practicing for the big night she said, "Yes I am! It is amazing!" When asked if she liked the story of the play, she said, "Like? No, I love it! It is one of those books I cannot put down!" She was asked if she liked the way her character acted. She said, "Yes! It is me made over!" She said the thing she thinks people will remember the most about the musical is "The gory scene. Sorry not going into detail. You wanna know, buy a ticket for \$5 and come see the show!"



Chorus members listening to a pep talk

The Cast (In order of Appearance)

Dr. Johann.....	Eli Luffman
Elena Newman.....	Linda Wheeler
Lurenda Westbrook.....	Angela Wheeler
Elvira Gray.....	Gloria Arndt
Jane Trice.....	Shannon Gollner
Russ Palmer.....	Brandon Potter
Betty Lange.....	Cathy Martin
Professor Carlton.....	Carlin Depew
Frances Carlton.....	Trudy Luffman
Gahiji Amun.....	Chris Michael
Isis Amun.....	Elizabeth Dykstra
Toni.....	Brooke Robinson
Lt. Dan Morrow.....	Brandon Karcher
Officer Val Holloway.....	Michelle Batteese
Guards.....	Felicia Meyer, Charlie Crow, Dylan DeHart
Monsters, Murderers and Madmen...	Ashley Bowlby, Rebecca Hutchcraft, Britteny Brewer, Amanda Johnson, Gabrielle Martin, Morgan Nalley, Lacey Rapp, Laura Stewart, Olivia Yates, Ashley Cross

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Child Fair is a success



Volunteers busy informing parents of safety hazards

 **Matt Bryson**
The Burrow

Kid's Kingdom was packed October 9th for Hamilton Memorial Hospital's Child Fair. Children and parents alike came and enjoyed the many interesting and educational stations that taught parents and children many safety hazards around their community and homes.

The child fair was composed of volunteers who came and helped out. Among these volunteers were hospital employees, EMTs, fire fighters, the sheriff's department, Hamilton County Sr. High students and many others.

The child fair has been an annual event

since 2003 when the hospital realized that they had been educating adults at the wellness fairs that they have two times a year, but had nothing for the kids. "The purpose of the child fair is to educate parents of various safety hazards their children could face," Deborah McKinney said.

One of the greatest things about the child fair however, is that everything is free. All the concessions and other attractions were donated by local vendors. The hospital also has received grant money to the sum of \$1900 dollars.

The children and parents both had a very enjoyable time. The volunteers also seemed to have a great time. "It's the funnest thing we do all year," stated D.O.N. Patty Blaizer. The child fair seems to be growing into a very large event.

Library monitor

 **Lauren Potter**
The Burrow

Most of you have noticed the new monitor located outside of our very own high school library. The monitor was paid for by the school, with the help of Ms. Fries and the Humanities Club. Ms. Fries has her own account in which she helps pay for things in the library. As of right now, the monitor only reads "open" or "closed". There are more uses of the monitor coming soon. "We hope for it to be a message board within time," said Mr. Kirkpatrick. The monitor may read such things as facts about our school and library or even plans for the future. I have heard several complaints such as: why the school can pay for something as simple and unnecessary as a library monitor, but they cannot give us money for a new track. When asked why this is, Mr. Kirkpatrick said, "The money was mainly donated for a good cause, but the school did pay for some." I think that the monitor



is not a bad idea. It makes our school look a little better and adds something new. There is really no harm in it. Junior Brianna Linder said, "I think it would be better if they would make the words a little bigger. It's kind of hard to read from far away." Anytime of the day you can stop by and see if the library is open or closed without walking all the way to that part of the school building. Here at Hamilton County Jr. and Sr. High School we have a pretty impressive building surrounding us. The library monitor is another wonderful addition to our campus.

Boy poisoned by salt in Texas

 **Brittney Brewer**
The Burrow

In 2006, Andrew Burd a 4 year old of Texas was rushed to the hospital. Doctors had no idea what was going on. The doctors ran a lot of blood test. The tests results came back. Andrew had high levels of salt in his blood. He was diagnosed with salt poisoning or "hypernatremia." Andrew died on the same day he was taken to the hospital. The doctors looked at Hannah Overton who was in the process of adopting little Andrew.

Hannah Overton, the mother of four, was in the process of adopting Andrew. She told the doctors that the little boy had thrown a fit after having a full lunch. She then said that she put a few dashes of Cajun seasoning in his sippy cup. After she gave him this he fell to the floor vomiting and complained he was cold. Overton thought it was the flu, but after a few hours he had not gotten better and had gotten worse. She then decided to take him to the hospital.




Hannah Overton

Hannah Overton was immediately charged with abuse and a warrant was issued for her arrest. The prosecutors used the other children to build their case. Prosecutor Sandra Eastwood said, "This case boils down to a woman who, basically, tortured a child."

Overton was recently sentenced to life in prison.

Casey Anthony found guilty

 **Brandi Cahill**
The Burrow



On October 15, 1008 Casey Anthony was tried with the killing of two year old daughter Caylee. Anthony had been named a suspect in her daughter's disappearance, but was only charged with child neglect and lying to investigators in the case. But as of yesterday Casey Anthony was found guilty of killing young Caylee. Caylee Marie Anthony was first reported missing on July 15, over 30 days after she first disappeared.

New documents released earlier this week revealed that she wanted to give Caylee up for adoption when she was first born, but her mother talked her out of it.

Caylee's grandmother Cindy Anthony said that in July her daughter's car smelled like a dead body, she later explained that the scent may have been that of old pizza. Later investigators questioned Casey about the contents in the Pontiac's trunk, she told reporters that she "found rotten - whatever it was - something decomposing in there. Maybe someone put a body in the car after it went to the tow yard. Why don't you call them about their security?" Leonard Padilla, the California bounty hunter, who originally thought Caylee was alive, said he now thinks that the little girl is dead.

Late Friday night the police got a phone tip suggesting that there may be a lethal weapon in George Anthony's car (Casey Anthony's father). The car was parked in his driveway when the Orange County Sheriff's Office found and confiscated the gun. It wasn't clear what significance the gun would have in Caylee's case. But it was later released that George Anthony said that they owned no kind of weapon what so ever.

So as of October 15, 2008 Casey Anthony was tried and convicted of first degree murder on her little girl Caylee. She is being held in jail with no bond until the next hearing. They have not yet released a date as to when it will be.

Let's talk about math

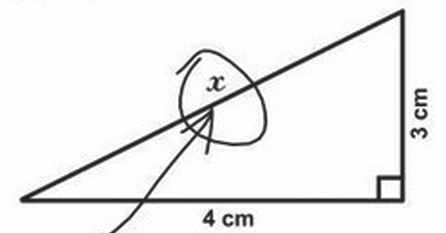
 **Stephanie Smith**
The Burrow

Attention brainiacs and math students! This year's math team is underway. Interested in signing up? If you are a high school student at HCSH and are interested in joining, march yourself over to Mr. Ward's room and put your signature on the list. Once on the math team, it is required to attend 10 practices which are held during club meetings and any day after school from 3:10 to 4:00 in Mr. Ward's room.

This year's team will compete at the Regional Competition in Carbondale on February 21st. However, it is important to get in your 10 practices to be able to compete in the Regional Competition. By attending the required practices and competing at the Regional Competition, students can receive up to 20 bonus test points. If you qualify at Regionals you move on to the State Competition in April. "We've had several qualifiers in the past. Two years ago we had all but one person qualify for state," said Mr. Ward. Mr. Ward has high hopes for this year's team in the competition in February.

However, conflicts do arise when preparing and putting together a math team

3. Find x.




Here it is

to compete. Ward said, "There is always a conflict between the Regional Competition and boy's basketball. They usually have a tournament the same day as Math Regionals so those members are unable to compete." Yet, Ward has made it possible for those members unable to attend Math Regionals to still be able to earn test bonus points. Any student can get bonus points by attending 10 meetings and make the qualifying scores on a written test. No one will be left out.

Once again, anyone interested in joining needs to sign up and attend 10 practices before February 21st to be able to compete or receive bonus points. Best of luck to this year's math team!

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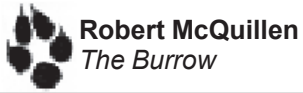
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Life lessons-taught in and out of the classroom



Agriculture's cows



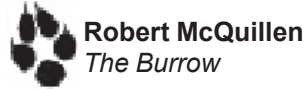
Mr. Sloan's Agriculture class has five calves, three steers, two heifers and 150 quails. On Oct. 3, they purchased six hogs. The class needs to raise them, take care of them and spend money on these animals. The agriculture class learns how to give shots and medications properly, build homes, buy feed and learn how to create their own feed.

The agriculture class uses math and science in different forms from the ones used in classrooms. Sloan said, "I like to give them a different view on subjects." They

use different equations to see how much feed they will need and how much room they will need to care for those animals. For science, they learn and observe diffusion, osmosis and reproduction. Sloan says, "learn by doing" and that is how he teaches his class.

All of the animals are on Hamilton County Senior High school property. They have incubators which hatch the quail eggs without using other quails. One hundred fifty out of 200 quails survived when hatched. This class works hard to keep up on all the responsibility of these animals. These students are being taught a very important lesson about life and preparing them for the real world outside of high school.

Weather spotting



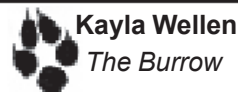
On September 29, 2008 Christine Wielgos, a meteorologist and an instructor for the weather spotting program, came to Hamilton County Senior High to give a brief course on weather spotting. Christine has been in the weather spotting program since March of 2000. When asked what weather spotting is, Wielgos said, "to provide real reports of weather to the weather services so they can provide protection to our communities."

There were at least twenty students who participated in this program. The program consisted of how to determine different types of clouds, different kinds of natural disasters

and the difference between a tornado and a funnel cloud. The program lasted roughly about three hours.

During this program the students were really involved and interested, asking questions and wanting to learn more. The main topic was the difference between funnel clouds and tornadoes. The difference is that a cloud is a funnel cloud as long as it is not touching the ground. When it touches the ground then it becomes a tornado. They both have to have rotation. Students asked why would you choose to teach a weather spotting class and what interesting things have you learned? Wielgos said, "Coming across others that share the same passion for weather spotting as I do gives me inspiration and helps me find more people who are interested in weather spotting."

History of Halloween



For many of us Halloween is a chance to dress up, eat candy and vandalize properties, but does anybody know the true story behind these traditions? Halloween actually originates from the Catholic Church, coming from "All Saints Day" recognized on Nov 1st. All of these traditions did not come from America but instead come from Ireland. People believed that the dead would play tricks on people and cause panic and destruction. So, they would give the Druids (people they believed were haunting them) food as they visited their homes. So that is how "Trick or Treating" came along. Celts worshipped Pomona, goddess of the harvest, who was often portrayed sitting on a basket of fruits and flowers. Apples were the sacred fruit of the goddess. So guess what tradition we got from that, bobbing for apples. Witches are known for being ugly and evil most of the time, and never leaving home without their broomstick so they could fly high in the sky. The word witch comes from the Saxon wica meaning wise-one. They rubbed ointment on themselves that gave them a sense of flying and carried broomsticks to aid themselves when they would go walking and vaulting over streams. Jack-O- Lanterns are actually a simpler story. Irish children used to carve out potatoes or turnips and light them for



their Halloween gatherings, but soon found out that pumpkins grew better and were more plentiful. Then dressing up came from another legend. From the earliest times people believed that hideous masks would frighten off demons and unwanted spirits that caused droughts and other disasters. All of these have changed a lot from the time they first started to how we celebrate them today, but a lot of people are starting their own traditions. Senior Linda Wheeler has a family tradition, "We have a Halloween party and hayride every year." Some of these stories might have even transformed into your favorite part of Halloween. Mr. Fry said, "My favorite part is the free candy and getting out of school." So even though these legends have come along way from what they originally were, they have created a fun time for most people.

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Homecoming 2008 "Can you feel the love tonight"

 **Brandi Cahill**
The Burrow

Miss Sarah Aydt






Queen, Miss Sarah Aydt won 2008 Homecoming Queen on October 4th. She was wearing a black halter top dress, and her homecoming date was boyfriend Mat Owen, a junior here at Hamilton County High School. Sarah enjoys running Cross Country, cheerleading, farming with her dad, and hanging out with her friends.

  
Miss Molly Hathaway






Candidate, Miss Molly Hathaway; she wore a long bright blue halter top dress, and her homecoming date was boyfriend, Seth Thomas, a senior here at Hamilton County High School. Molly enjoys hanging out with her friend Bethany and her boyfriend Seth. She likes to go shopping, going to the movies, and playing basketball.

  
Miss Brandi Cahill



Candidate, Miss Brandi Cahill; she wore a sparkly brown dress and her homecoming date was her boyfriend Ryan Eaton, who attends Rend Lake College. Brandi enjoys hanging out with her friends Crystal and Kaila & her boyfriend Ryan. She also loves going shopping, bowling, to the movies and playing volleyball.

  
Miss Kaitlyn Sloan



Candidate, Miss Kaitlyn Sloan; she wore a black and white dress with swirls all over it, and her homecoming date was boyfriend, Ricky Dasilva, who attends Rend Lake College. Kait enjoys riding Harleys, hanging out with Ricky and Jon. She also enjoys fixing her hair and getting her nails done and loves to listen to Classic Rock music.

Pep Rally for Homecoming

 **Kaitlin Webb**
The burrow

On Oct. 3, 2008, the entire senior high student body was dismissed from seventh hour to attend the Homecoming Pep Rally. It was held in the junior high gymnasium this year so that the Student Council could get a start on decorating the senior high gym for the Homecoming Dance. The students gathered together to get the Varsity football team revved up and ready for the game that evening against Elkhorn/Elverado.

In addition to the football team, the members of the other fall sports teams were also brought out and introduced. After the introduction of the teams, the cheerleaders danced and the band played. Student Council sponsor, Miss Katie Crain stated, "I really appreciated the band playing and the cheerleaders dancing." Afterwards, the Homecoming court was brought out to the middle of the gym. The Queen candidates and attendants were partnered with their escorts. They had to draw out the name of an animal and paint it on their partner's face

without using their hands. Let's just say that things got a little messy for all involved in this event.

Every year the FBLA club sells duct tape to the student body prior to the Pep Rally. A teacher is chosen each year to be "taped" to the wall by the members of the club. All proceeds from this event went to the March of Dimes Foundation for premature babies. This year, new English teacher, Mrs. Jamie Ellis, was chosen to help the FBLA. At the end of the Pep Rally, Mrs. Ellis was ready to be taped. The FBLA, using several pieces of tape, stuck her to the wall. With so much tape, she would have obviously stuck there for quite some time. Thanks to Mrs. Ellis, the club was able to make \$100 for the March of Dimes!

After the pep rally, the seniors left for early out, the juniors through freshmen headed back to their eighth hour class, and the Student Council cleaned up the junior high gym and went back to the high school gym to continue decorating for the Homecoming dance the next evening. When asked how she felt the Student Council did, Miss Crain said, "I think the Student Council did an awesome job with the Pep Rally and the dance."



Homecoming Court 2008

Homecoming 2008

 **Kayla Wellen**
The Burrow

The 2008 Homecoming Dance took place Oct. 4th beginning at 7 p.m. The theme this year was a jungle theme. They announced who the new queen was as the song "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" played. Sophomore Paige Rawls said, "I thought it was a very unique theme." This year's Homecoming Court was: The Freshman attendant Xenia Williams was escorted by Matthias Cambell. The sophomore attendant, Jacqueline McGill was escorted by Cal Muehlenbein. Juliana Karcher, the junior attendant was escorted by Ben

Scattone. The four senior candidates were, Sarah Aydt escorted by Jacob Norris, Molly Hathaway escorted by Kane Smith, Brandi Cahill escorted by Bryce Lueke and Kait Sloan escorted by Jarret Warren. Our retiring queen was Jayla Stephens escorted by Brandon Biggerstaff. At 10 p.m. it was time for Jayla to pass down her crown to the new 2008 Homecoming queen. The crown was passed down to Sarah Aydt. A lot of things were different from last year but it sounded like everybody had a great time. According to junior, Violet Jackson "I thought it was awesome and liked having fun with my friends". Another junior, Arissa Vineyard also had some good things to say, "It was the bomb-diggity." This night went off without a glitch.

Teachers

Mrs. Jamie Ellis



Mrs. Ellis

Mrs. Ellis is one of the many new faces walking the halls of HCSH this year. Although we have seen her before, we have never experienced her as part of our daily routine. Mrs. Ellis is teaching junior English and Journalism classes. She says, "I enjoy teaching here and feel very privileged to get the opportunity to work in my hometown." Mrs. Ellis has subbed with us before in English and Math, and she has also been a sub for other schools, teaching subjects as different as Social Studies and Spanish. Mrs. Ellis did her first semester of student teaching at Waterloo, Illinois. While there she taught junior high Literature and Grammar. When asked if Mrs. Ellis preferred teaching full time to subbing, she said, "They both have their pros and cons; I enjoy getting to know my students better and watching them further their education while teaching." It is clear that Mrs. Ellis is glad to be teaching so close to home, and she likes being able to

know the students and their parents as well as possible. On top of her subbing and student teaching, Mrs. Ellis also taught the "Good Touch, Bad Touch" program to kindergarten through 8th grade last year. Mrs. Ellis' homeroom is in the junior hallway, A173. She says, "I enjoy having my own room." Having her own room is probably on her list of pros and cons on why teaching is better than substituting. Mrs. Ellis has 8th hour prep period and is always available when anyone needs her.

Mrs. Diane Kunkel



Mrs. Kunkel

As many people have already noticed, there is something different about room B208. With Mrs. Auten on sick leave, Mrs. Kunkel is here to take over the stress filled day Mrs. Auten has had for quite awhile. Mrs. Kunkel says she is ready to take on the challenge after teaching at Carmi High School for about 36 years. Mrs. Kunkel retired from teaching in 2005, but seems very eager to have a class again, even if it is only for a short time. Mrs. Kunkel said, "I was scheduled to substitute for anywhere from four to six weeks, depending on how Mrs. Auten's recovery goes." Even though Mrs. Kunkel had taught for so long, she has never subbed at HCSH before, although her husband, C.D. Kunkel, was the accounting teacher here at the high school. Mrs. Kunkel says, "One thing I find interesting is that my husband taught Mrs. Auten's accounting

class, now years later I'm helping her out and teaching her class." Mrs. Kunkel seems to know what she is doing, and all the hectic classes Mrs. Auten teaches seems like no challenge for her. At Carmi, Mrs. Kunkel taught business and desktop publishing, but she says she may have some trouble with the difference in grading programs. Mrs. Kunkel told me to add that she felt very welcome here since the first day. Many students and teachers have been so supportive and helpful to her, and she said that we have a great atmosphere here at HCSH.

Burrow Staff



Kaitlin Webb



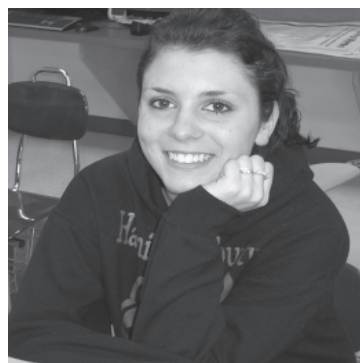
Stephanie Smith



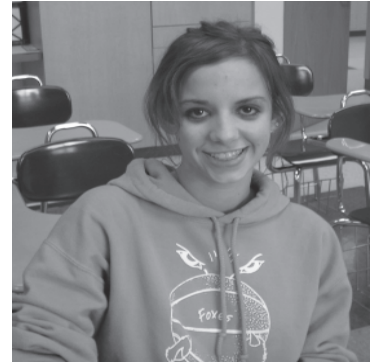
Brittany Brewer



Jacob Haas



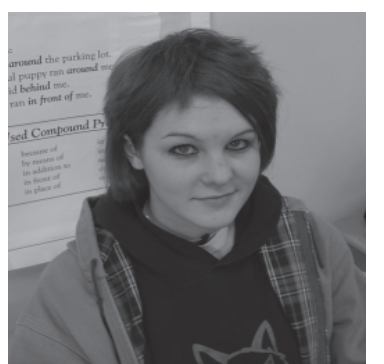
Lauren Potter



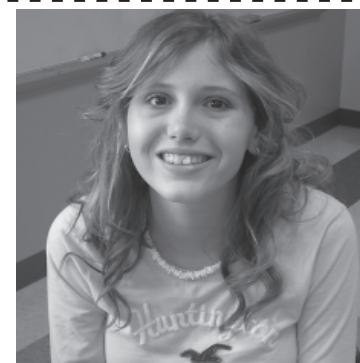
Kayla Wellen



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Jackie Morris



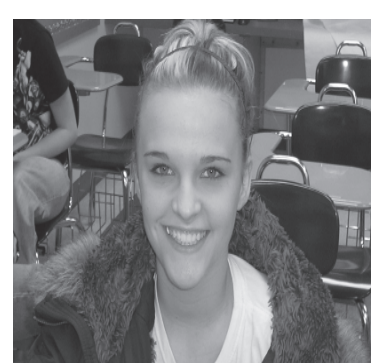
Violet Jackson



Matt Bryson



Robert McQuillen



Cejay Phillips

THE BURROW

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The Burrow is the student newspaper of
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Adopt a rescued pet



Kaitlin Webb
The Burrow

It seems like almost everyone wants a puppy. Why not? They are cute, fun and loving. When most people adopt a puppy, they choose to buy them from a breeder or a pet store. However, people should think twice about this. People need to consider adopting a shelter dog. After all, if people deserve a second chance, shouldn't animals?

We are very lucky to have three animal rescue shelters in our community. Many people do not even realize this! Over the summer, I was fortunate enough to be able to volunteer at one of these shelters. I saw first hand all the hard work it takes to run an animal shelter. Kathy Johnson, the founder of Katz Kennel, an animal rescue located near Dolan's Lake, stated that she started her kennel about eight years ago because she "always had a love for animals." Johnson rescues at least 300 animals a year including dogs, cats and even horses. She usually adopts around 150 out to adopters with the other 150 to 200 going to no kill shelters and rescues all over. Johnson emphasizes the importance of people spaying or neutering their pets. She states that in order to "curb overpopulation" we must be responsible pet owners.

Many of Johnson's dogs have come from puppy mills, places where they are treated harshly. Most pet store dogs come from large breeders and puppy mills. There, Johnson states, "They are bred strictly for profit. The animals are most often living in conditions that are unhealthy, and the animals do not receive the basic vet care they need." Whenever they are no longer useful, the dogs are usually dumped at the pound,



Doodles, one of the dachshund's I adopted from Katz Kennel

where they can be killed if not adopted or rescued. A few mill owners contact Johnson directly when they are through with their animals.

Many of Johnson's other dogs come from local pounds or are dumped somewhere. Again, this problem is largely due to overpopulation. These animals' stories are truly heartbreaking. "You feel good knowing you can save so many lives," Johnson stated. "And give them a second chance at life." I have seen first hand how Johnson takes time to nurse an animal back to health and train it to become a good pet for some lucky family. Johnson takes a lot of care to unite the proper pet with their adopters. She works hard to find the perfect match for all involved – pets included!

Johnson, as well as the other two local rescuers, gets the word out for her shelter by advertising in newspaper ads, including the Shopper's Weekly, and she posts her adoptees on the Internet. Go to www.petfinder.com and type in your zip code for a list of pets available for adoption. I did that a year and a half ago, and now I am the proud parent of two adorable miniature dachshunds. You will be amazed at the love and companionship these animals can give you. Remember the next time you are considering a new pet please at least consider adopting from a rescue. You could be giving an animal a second chance at life!

Gas prices



Jackie Morris
The Burrow

Around the country we have seen the rising gas prices, and people are wondering why it has gone so high. In some places it is up to \$7 and \$8. Why has it gone up so much? Is it going to go down anytime soon? Who should answer all these questions? When asked what she thought of the rising gas prices, sophomore Samantha Braden said, "I think they need to go back down." She was then asked if she thought they would go down or up anytime soon. Braden said, "Hopefully." She also thinks it will go up again. When asked what she thought of the rising gas prices would do to our country she said, "People will not be able to do as much." When sophomore Paige Rawls was asked what she thought of the rising gas prices she said, "I think it is making people lose more money." Rawls was then asked if she thought the gas prices would go down anytime soon. Rawls said, "They might have to decrease it because people can't afford it. Gas may go back up because of the



Gas prices soar

hurricane." When asked what she thought the rising gas prices would do to the country she said, "I think it will bring us to a depression." Could this happen? Only time will tell. As for me, I think the rising gas prices are really going to mess our country up. I really do not know if they will go back down because they go down then up and then way up and then way down. I think the rising gas prices will send us to a depression because if people cannot afford gas they cannot go to work or get groceries and pay bills. And everything in the U.S will crash.

What happened to manners?



Denise Frymire
The Burrow

This article is NOT intended for all of our students, if it is meant for you, your conscience will tell you. If what is described below fits your behavior but your conscience does not say anything, you have bigger problems than you think.

As I stand in the hall every morning greeting students when they enter the building for a full day of learning, I find myself often wondering where are the smiling faces, manners or even common courtesies? What happened to a gentleman opening the door for a young woman? Where is the polite reply when someone greets you with a cheerful "good morning"?

Most of our young men will come through the door completely ignoring a young woman walking in right behind them and will not help her if her arms are full and she may need some help. Over half the time when I greet a student, male or female, with my usual "good morning" I do not get a reply at all, not a smile or even eye contact being made with me. So, I decided to watch our students throughout the day to see how they interact with each other. I was shocked!

I realize times have changed, but we are in serious need of taking a good look at ourselves and just how we treat one another. Many students are not only rude to each other, but rude to our staff. If you accidentally run into someone, a civilized person should say, "excuse me" not "move it" or "get out of my way".

The language in the halls of our school is horrible! I hear more foul language on a daily basis than I ever heard when I was in high school. Foul language makes a person look uneducated and obnoxious in my opinion. Many people slip from time to time, but they do not make dirty language the main part of their communication skills.

Our staff should be treated as professional, educated, mature individuals, not as one of the students. Our staff has completed classes beyond high school. The majorities have their Bachelor degree and many of our staff has completed their Master's degree. How dare any student argue

Just another bump on the road



Lauren Potter
The Burrow

For years, we have all heard the sad saying "Teenagers can't drive!" But truth be told it is not all of us. Why should all teenagers be punished and the driving age be higher because some teens have wrecks mostly due to their own stupidity? Current Secretary of the State, Jesse White agrees. White recently decided he is not going to raise the driving age. I am sure this makes a

lot of students happy. I know how I felt before I got my license thinking I was not going to get them until I was 18. Sixteen years of age is old enough to drive. We may not be adults yet, but we have some common sense. At least most of us do even if we do not use it. It is true that a lot of 16 year olds have been seriously injured or died in a car wreck. How many of those had been drinking or driving like a crazy person before it happened is the question. If those teens were dumb enough to get out and drive after partying then they should take the heat for it. All of us should not be punished for their actions. If they want to drink they are going to do it anyway. If we all have noticed the world today, not that many people like to abide by the laws. More teenagers drink now than probably ever before. So what is going to stop us from driving if the law says not to? You have to learn a lot of lessons in life while you grow up, One important lesson is that driving a car is a privilege but one that should not be taken away from us.

with any staff member, being disrespectful or treat them as if they are somehow smarter than they are. There is a reason our staff should be treated with the respect due to them. WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL! We have lived long enough to know what it takes to succeed in life.

Stop and think, you go for your first big job interview, a job you really want. Its has good pay, great benefits and descent work hours. You walk in as a woman is coming in behind you. You do not bother to open the door for her because all you can think about is your interview. As you are waiting to be called into the boss's office someone else bumps into you accidentally. You turn to them and say "watch it". Then someone else sits by you and accidentally dribbles coffee on your shoe. You let loose with a foul word. The person gets up and goes into the office.

Your name is finally called. You are confident this job is yours. As you enter the office you recognize the people sitting at the table. The woman you let the door hit in the face is the owner of the company. The person you so politely told to "watch it" is the Vice President. The person you just cursed is the head of the personnel department. Did you get the job? I think not.

As you walk the halls of Hamilton County Sr. High, try to think of it as training for that job interview. Good manners should be a habit, one needs to practice them to develop them. A kind word to someone having a bad day just might make all the difference in how they feel about the rest of that day. Try to think of how YOU wish others would treat YOU, and then just do it. And remember, our staff is a great group of well educated individuals. Please treat us that way. We are not here to make your lives miserable. We are here to teach you what it takes to be a success in life. This not only includes math, science and English but manors and respect for your fellow human beings. These are lessons that along with your education, can take you anywhere in your lives.

As for those students who every morning smile and return a kind "good morning" to me, thank you. You are the ones who start my day off not only happy, but with the hope and encouragement I personally need. It is nice to know there are still polite and considerate people who notice just how hard it is to be cheerful every morning.



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Cross Country team

 **Kaitlin Webb**
The Burrow

The Cross Country team has had a good season this year. The boy's team got first place at the Benton 6 Plus meet and placed second at the Marion and the DuQuoin Invitational. The girl's team won the Norris City Invitational and finished second at both the Marion and the DuQuoin Invitational. The Black Diamond meet was held on Oct. 16th.

This year there are four seniors on the Cross Country team: Sarah Aydt, Jacob "Chuck" Norris, Matthias Campbell, and Bryce Lueke. Coach Roger Lee had good things to say about all his senior runners this year: "Sarah has a great attitude and loves the sport. Jacob is having his best season. He works really hard in practice, and it has paid off. Matthias was a member of the top seven this season, and Bryce has consistently been one of the team's top three runners the past two seasons."

According to Coach Lee, junior Mat Owen is the top runner for this season. "This is Mat's first year of running," Coach Lee

states. "And he has adjusted well to the sport." Other members of the top seven this season are seniors Bryce Lueke and Jacob Norris, junior Logan Frymire, and sophomores Henry Dysktra, Clayton Smith and Dakota Watkins.

Junior Kelci Thomas is also having a great season. She made the Black Conference team the past two seasons and was selected to the All South team last season. Coach Lee said, "Her success so far this season should help her make both teams again this season. She missed going to state last year by only two seconds." Other members of the Lady Foxes top seven include senior Sarah Aydt, juniors Alex Lewis, Cady Ragan and DJ Zachman, and freshmen Hollie Cocke, Faith Irvin and Paige Rawls.

The 15th Annual Hamilton County Cross Country Invitational was held on Oct. 14th at Dolan Lake. Fourteen teams participated this year. On Oct. 16th, the Black Diamond meet was held at Dolan Lake. Both the Foxes and Lady Foxes teams will travel to Olney for the regional on Oct. 25th. The following Saturday, they will travel to SIUE for the sectional.



Junior Kelci Thomas running at a cross country meet

MLG Halo 3 playoffs at Dallas

 **Jacob Haas**
The Burrow

The MLG Halo 3 Playoffs at Dallas was said to be "A memorable experience in the history of Major League Gaming" by the many members of Major League Gaming. Over 200 teams participated but the most memorable moments were in the last match as the last two teams, Triggers Down and Str8 Rippin, had to do two five-game series to decide a victor. In the end, Triggers Down managed to pull off the victory and was declared the champions at the Playoffs. In the first series, both teams won 2 matches with the last game ending in a tie. During

the second match, each team won two games each, with the last game being won by Triggers Down. The last game was a Team Slayer (or Team Deathmatch to some). The game was a very close one. Triggers Down had an early lead but Str8 Rippin started to comeback and soon the teams were neck and neck, especially near the end of the game when Tsquared, a member of Triggers Down, tied the game 46 to 46. A few well thrown grenades wiped out three of the members of Str8 Rippin, leaving only one member left. Soon, the final member of Str8 Rippin was cornered by the remaining team members of Triggers Down. The group attacked the final member, scoring the final point and winning the game. After Triggers Down won the match, the audience went crazy. After their victory, the team had declared "We are ready for Vegas."

A Race to the Finish

 **Kayla Wellen**
The Burrow

A group of people called Track Remodeling Community has started a program called "Race to the Finish." They are trying to raise money to rebuild our school's track. Their goal is to raise \$300,000 to rebuild the track. Many of the students in our school are involved in this project along with some of their parents. They started their fund raising with a donation from the Firecracker Race on the fourth of July. John and Irene Biggerstaff donated \$1,000 from that race. The committee held a "Race to the Finish" (3.1 mile) run at Dolan Lake in August, from that they raised \$1,000. The Dick Weinman Trust donated \$25,000.

The Rotary Club donated \$200 from when they sold homemade ice cream at the last home football game. The FBLA challenged the school clubs to donate \$25. The Race to the Finish received \$25 from the FBLA and FCA. They have just now hit the \$30,000 mark. They have sold 250 t-shirts and recently received a \$1000 donation from Wal-Mart. They are hoping to buy some raffle items and sell raffle tickets at the basketball games to raise money. With your help, the money can be raised and a new track can be built, but this group of people cannot do it alone. They need our help. If you have any questions talk to Marilyn Lewis, Alex Lewis or Sarah Aydt. All donations are appreciated.

A big thank you to Marilyn Lewis for providing "The Burrow" with all of this information.



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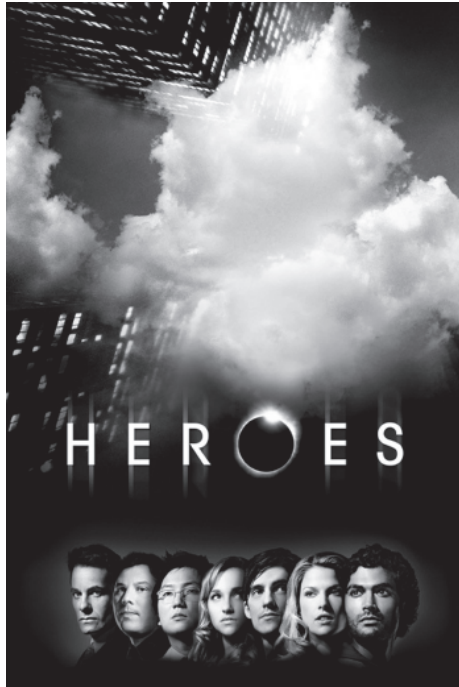
New seasons and new shows make premieres

Brittney Brewer
The Burrow

School has started that means new seasons and new shows. Some new seasons that have started are Heroes, Prison Break, Degrassi, South of Nowhere, The Hills, Ugly Betty, CSI: Miami and Army Wives. There are a few new shows that have started: The Starter Wife and Paris Hilton's My New Bff.

The new season of Degrassi, "goes there". This season has more drama than ever. The first episode aired on Friday Oct. 10, 2008. It was mainly about Mia trying to make it as a model to make something better of her and to provide a better life for her daughter. That is only half of it. Tune in every Friday at 7:00 p.m. to watch this teenage drama. Junior Becky Hutchcraft said, "I absolutely love Degrassi. I like the fact it has real issues that teenagers go through everyday. It makes sense to me." On the same channel right after Degrassi, another dramatic but good show appears called South of Nowhere.

Heroes is all new with more secrets revealed. Claire is forced to share her special power. Her power is to heal herself, if she fell from an airplane she wouldn't die. The healing power is in her blood. In the shows ahead a massive secret will be revealed. Heroes comes on at 8:00 p.m. on Mondays. Freshman Chris Micheal said "I don't really care for the show. Sometimes it will catch my eye, but other times I have to watch it because my mom and my older sister are



The cast of Heroes.

huge fans of Heroes."

Prison Break is an absolutely amazing but dramatic show according to some critics. Prison Break is about several guys who break free from a prison. In this season, some are still hiding from the Feds. It is full of action but also very serious. Tune into Fox, Monday nights at 8:00 p.m.

If you are at home and do not have anything else to do, grab the remote and put one of these amazing shows on.

Max Payne movie review

Matt Bryson
The Burrow

The video game community is in pandemonium as Max Payne has reached theaters. Upon releasing in theaters it has already broke through the box office like a bull in a china shop smashing the competition.

The movie is based on the award winning video game Max Payne. **Max Payne** is a third-person shooter **video game** developed by the Finnish company Remedy Entertainment. The game runs right along with the movie story line but has a few twists with it. "I liked the game and the movie makes me want to play it again," Junior Blake Johnson stated.

The movie starts with Max Payne trying to surface in an ice cover river. Then the movie takes a turn to a week earlier with Max Payne sitting at his desk in the cold case unit and trying to search for his wife's murderer. When going to meet an old friend he meets a woman who gets Max mixed into a homicide case after being found dead the next day and finds out that the killings were associated with each other. Evading the police he teams up with a contract killer to hunt down the killer.

The movie continues on with multiple action packed scenes. "The movie kept you guessing and I am getting it on DVD when it comes out," stated Sophomore Jalen Heil.

Max Payne is rated PG-13 for violence including intense shooting sequences, drug content, some sexuality and brief strong language.



Max Payne movie poster

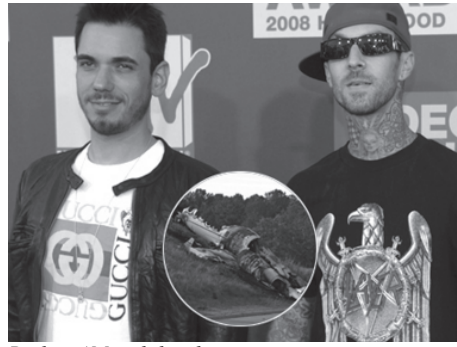
Movie review: Eagle Eye

Jacob Haas
The Burrow

"If you want to live you will obey," that is the tagline for *Eagle Eye*, one of the most recent movies to come out in theaters. The popular thriller movie stars Shia LeBeouf and Michelle Monaghan. The plot is about a man and a woman named Jerry Shaw (played by Shia LeBeouf) who is captured by the FBI for having weapons stored at his house. He is shortly saved by an unknown woman. Jerry is later joined by Rachael Holloman (Monaghan), who is forced into helping the unknown woman or her son will be killed. The unknown woman turns out to be this supercomputer called ARIA, who can

control any electronic device. ARIA is planning to destroy the Executive Branch as the computer deems it a threat to the public good and decides to eliminate it. She plans to do it by having an explosion that Rachael has blown up at the President's State of the Union address. The bomb would detonate when Rachael's son, Sam, plays a high F (which corresponds with the word "Free") on his trumpet. Jerry manages to interrupt the speech and in the process stop the bomb from going off. ARIA is destroyed and the government stops the plan to create another supercomputer. In the end, Jerry earns the Congressional Gold Medal for his heroics. The movie is filled with plenty of action and surprises. So "Don't walk. Run," to the nearest theater to see *Eagle Eye*.

Barker, AM in plane crash



Barker, AM and the plane

Jacob Haas
The Burrow

Former *Blink 182* drummer Travis Barker and LA disc jockey Adam "DJ AM" Goldstein were in critical condition on Sept. 20, 2008 after the private jet they were riding had crashed. Barker and AM were the only survivors in the fiery crash; the four other passengers died in the accident. The pilots

were also confirmed dead. Paul Owens, an eyewitness to the accident said, "I didn't know what I had seen." He came closer to check the area when he saw Barker and AM were on fire and they were trying to remove their clothes. Owens asked them if there were any survivors. "We turned to the jet to try and see if there was anything we could do, but immediately, there was nothing anyone could do," Owens said. Both Barker and AM had just done a concert at Columbia, SC. Barker has major burns on his torso and lower body while AM has extensive burns on his arms and his face. The authorities are trying to figure out what exactly caused the plane to crash. It is suspected that a tire had blown out before lift off but it was too late to replace it. Parts of a tire were found along the runway, which also increases the possibility that the tires caused the accident. Both men are expected to make a full recovery in a few weeks.

Student creates art

Stephanie Smith
The Burrow

The art classes seem to always have pieces set up on display to feature the creativity thriving in our school. Sophomore, Jesse Brown happens to be working on his newest ceramics creation. He was caught glazing a clay mask one day 7th hour in Ceramics I. He says for now it is just a mask, with no name, a face of no one. "It's just something I made one day because I needed the grade," Brown said. Starting two weeks ago, he was able to mold the mask out of earthen wear clay; he then fired it, and is now starting to glaze it. Though he does not know when he will finish his project, it is a piece worth stopping by and admiring.

While busy in ceramics working hard on his mask with no name, Brown happens to mention a clay whistle that he recently made in Art I. With all of this recent production of clay work it is not hard to guess what type of art Brown is most interested in, as he loves architecture, ceramics and making different types of art with his hands.

Yet, where exactly does one get the inspiration to do any piece of art? Brown says, "It depends on what it is really. Ms. Fries gives the inspiration at times, but other



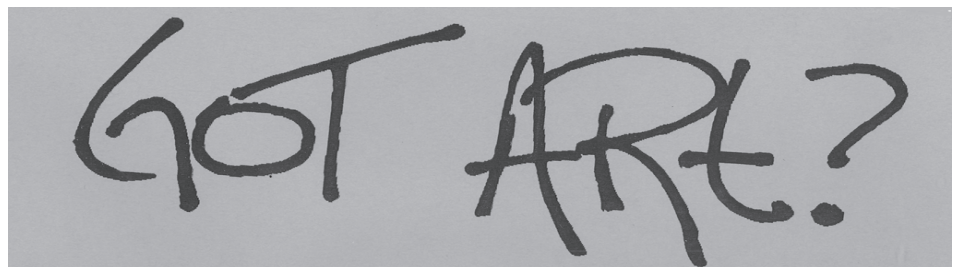
Jesse Brown hard at work

times it is just out of nowhere."

However, Brown's love for art did not just come from the blue. It happens to run in the family. "I realized I was interested in art at a young age. My grandma always seemed to be making things when I was younger and even now. Art has just always been there," Brown said. Though he does not believe he will take up his grandmother's newest projects, candles and jewelry, he gives his grandma the credit for his artistic abilities.

As Brown enjoys his time working in the many art classes taught by Ms. Fries, the students of Hamilton County Senior High will be able to enjoy the art that he, as well as many other talented artists of our high school, creates.

Humanities to sell art



Stephanie Smith
The Burrow

Looking for that perfect piece of art to put up in your room? Are you at a loss for what to get that person who has everything something for Christmas? Do you happen to be an artist who has their creations ready to be put into the world? Then may the Humanities Club have your attention please! This year, the Hamilton County Senior High Humanities Club will be hosting an Art Fest on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Old High School Gym. The plan is to feature area artists and sell original works of art. Senior Sarah Hodge, Vice President of the Humanities Club, commented on the event, "It's a great chance for area artists to showcase their work and gives other people a chance to buy one of a kind masterpieces." The day will also include a bake sale. So, even if you do not find that perfect piece of art or just happen to be craving some home baked goods, stop by and get those sweets you just can not pass up.

In preparing for the event, members are making art individually and the club, as a group, plans to make hemp jewelry for the occasion. The club will be setting up a table to feature and sell the art that they make. Hodge said, "I think it's a swell idea, I plan on making art myself and am hoping for a good turnout." For a new event, the club hopes for a successful start and would like to make it a traditional event if all goes as planned.

At this time, the club is seeking area artists who are interested in showcasing and selling their works of art. The cost for setting up at the event is \$10 for one table and \$15 for two. If you are interested in being a vendor or have comments or questions, please contact Stephanie Smith for more information. Remember to save the date of HCSH Humanities Club Art Fest, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Old High School Gym. Be a Part of Supporting the Arts!!