

THE BURROW

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St. Patrick's Day



Cejay Phillips
The Burrow

Saint Patrick's Day is an annual feast day that celebrates Saint Patrick, one of the patron saints of Ireland. It is also the national holiday of Ireland and although it is celebrated all over the world, it is not a national holiday. Saint Patrick's Day is generally celebrated on March 17th, and has been for centuries. Actress Adrienne Cook said, "St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time - a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic." Saint Patrick's Day is not only a celebration of the Irish culture, it is also a Christian festival celebrated in the Catholic Church because the day almost always falls on lent.

One of the main traditions behind Saint Patrick's Day is wearing the color green to avoid getting pinched. Sophomore Jackie Morris said, "I really don't like the tradition of pinch-



Happy St. Patrick's Day

ing people who don't wear green, because I'm the one who always forgets." No one really knows why or when this tradition began, but many people play along in the fun. Another traditional icon of the day is the shamrock or the "three leaf clover" which Saint Patrick used to describe the Trinity.

Saint Patrick's Day is also well known because of the many parades held across the world. One of the biggest in the United States would be the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in New York City. This year will be the 248th parade in NYC, and is dedicated to The Sisters of Charity. This year the parade will be held on March 17th, 2009 on Fifth Avenue.

One step closer



Kayla Wellen
The Burrow

As all of us at Hamilton County Senior High know we need a new track and there are many people trying to achieve that goal. The "Race to the Finish" committee has been trying to achieve their goal for a very long time.

They recently had a track benefit dinner, where they teamed up with Maurices in Fairfield to put on a fashion show during the dinner. Marilyn Lewis said, "We made \$9,000." For the new track they still need \$150,000 more, the committee has raised \$42,000 so far. Alex Lewis commented, "We should have all our funds in about 1 year."

As far as upcoming fundraisers are concerned they are planning to have "One Dime at a Time" where every class in Unit 10, k-12, will participate by bringing dimes to fill a 20oz. water bottle. When the bottles are filled they will each equal \$100. The winning class at East Side, Dahlgren, Junior High and

High School will receive a pizza party.

There may be more to the remodeling project than people think. The plans for this track include, scraping the existing surface down 6 inches and putting in a drainage system to prevent the track from flooding. Also, they plan to put up a new fence that will separate the track from the football field. They will replace the sand with gravel. Then they will lay down asphalt and put the all weather surface on top.

This project will not only benefit the track students, but it will also benefit everybody in this community. Lewis said, "With fuel costs as high as they are this could maybe eliminate so many field trips and with the focus on fitness and health, this would be a wonderful alternative."

So, when an organization is trying to raise money for a project that only seems important to them, most likely it will benefit you as well. Give back to your community and help the surroundings too: Together, we can make it better.



The old track is worn out

School spirit



Cejay Phillips
The Burrow

Here at HCSH our school spirit varies from game to game depending on how far into the season our boys are. It seemed that once our ballplayers got into sectional play, everyone was behind them, but when the season is just beginning no one seems as interested.



I believe that one way to get more students and faculty involved in the basketball games would be to have more pep sessions throughout the year, not just when a game is important. If the pep sessions were planned out and if they added more activities in them, more students would enjoy and participate in them. It also seems as if during the pep sessions, only the basketball players and cheerleaders get to join in on the activities, which is boring for the rest of the students who sit in the bleachers and watch.

Although I feel that there is a lot of ways our pep sessions could improve, the one we had on March 6th



was interesting. With all of the students here at HCSH dressing up and supporting our basketball team, the energy was amazing. The same goes for the game later that night. Everyone dressed in their green and white to show school pride, and we did it in an appropriate way. Massac County seemed to cheer for their team sort of rudely, but we were mature. Even though the basketball team lost, our fans still stood beside the basketball team. The rest of the community did so as well by escorting the boys back into town. It is nice to be part of such a supportive school.



Matt Bryson shows his school spirit

Stories worth skipping to:

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Events to Remember

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--------------------------------|
| March | 27 | Jr./Sr. High Jazz Band Concert |
| April | 3-4 | IHSA Organizational Contest |
| | | FBLA State Leadership Conf. |
| | 5 | Easter |
| | 10-17 | Spring Break |
| | 22-23 | PSAE Test/Plan Test |
| | 24 | Progress Reports |

Harder everyday

 **Lauren Potter**
The Burrow

With the economy the way it is today it is affecting lives around the world. Money is tight. Stress is put on and families are torn apart. The one important thing that everyone tends to forget in their struggles is that love is all you need. When you figure out just how much love means you realize just how small everything else is.

It is impossible to find a job that you can stick with. When adults with college degrees are getting laid off from their jobs then what do you expect from teenagers trying to find their first job? I have put in several applications and had no luck. Without the experience of a first job it is hard to get hired anywhere. The later you start at your first job the harder it is in life. You put application after application in and still get no call. The typical disappointment gets really old.

Everyone has high expectations for Obama, but what happens when he cannot automatically fix all of the problems that we have created in this world? More opportu-



Cody Barnett is one of the fortunate!

nities for employment would be a big help. More jobs are needed around McLeansboro. With the gas price going up, it is hard to work in a different town. We all know we are suffering, but what can be done about it?

Moving forward

 **Lauren Potter**
The Burrow

Sick of being inside all day? Open campus has been discussed over the years. The talk had been either about keeping it out or bringing it back. Since the school board will not seem to let us have open campus again, we need the next best thing.

The sidewalks outside seem pretty pointless right now. They basically lead to no where. It would be nice if they would extend the sidewalk to the next hallway or classroom. Mr. Johnson suggested that on the warm summer days we could go outside to get to our next class. However, this would require the sidewalks being extended.

I believe if we were able to get some fresh air after every class that we would have a better attitude about our work and school in general. We would also not be so anxious to get out of school to be outside in the nice weather. The hallways would not be as crowded. The sophomore/junior hallway is




Where the sidewalk ends!

so crowded that it is almost impossible to get through.

There is a possibility that extra sidewalks might reduce some of the drama. Some town citizens who attended the old high school such as my grandmother said, "There was a lot less drama at the old high school because there was more than one floor. All the kids are so close now that they all get sick of each other."

With fresh air and a little more room to move, student's attitudes would be more positive and their minds would be refreshed.

Caylee Anthony found

 **Brandi Cahill**
The Burrow

Two year old Caylee Anthony's body has been found lying less than a mile away from her mom's house. Little Caylee had duct tape around her body and was thrown in a plastic garbage bag. There have also been reports that they found a book that Caylee had been pictured reading out in the woods not far from the body. Casey Anthony has been going through trials and will more than likely be found guilty on account of first degree murder. Reporters said, "Anthony has shown no remorse during the months of searching for her child or upon the news that the young girl was dead." Also, in many taped sessions of her and her parents talking while in jail, the only thing that she ever seemed to be concerned about was herself. When something was said about Caylee, her response almost always was, "Well, what about me?"

Psychologists believe that she is a sociopathic criminal, someone who takes a

strange pleasure in getting away with illegal and irresponsible behavior. These types of criminals also have no desire to change and no insight into their own behaviors and motivations. To a sociopath, everyone else is always responsible for their behavior, whether they are family, friends or just people that they happen to know. Reporters also said, "Anthony rarely ever mentions her missing her daughter, never asked if there are any new leads, never asked about areas searched or how many people were out there searching for little Caylee."

Casey Anthony will more than likely go through the rest of her trials emotionless and not say a word about whatever the sentencing may be. Because she is a sociopathic criminal, if she is found guilty and the death sentence is imposed (which is allowed under Florida law) then Anthony will more than likely die feeling as if she has won against the law enforcement, her family and the public. Keeping secrets makes her feel as if she is better than everyone else and that she has complete control over everyone.



*Caylee Marie Anthony
2005-2008*

Snapshots of Caylee from www.blogspot.com

Taking the chance

 **Lauren Potter**
The Burrow

The 2009 winter storm has been a topic all over the world for a while now. It affected many people in many ways. Even though the majority of Southern Illinois has recovered and are back to their old lives, there are still some without power and other needs. Kentucky seemed to have been hit the worst.

As the roads cleared up we were sent back to school after almost having a week off. The school parking lot did not seem to be touched a bit. The parking lot was still covered with

snow and ice.

Junior Kourtney Reyling said, "I was not allowed to drive until the parking lot was clear. My dad seen how it was the night before returned to school and he almost got stuck" I was not going to take the chance myself since I drive a rear-wheel drive car. I picked a ride up from some of my friends until the remaining ice was gone.

There was at least one wreck from a student sliding on the ice into someone else's car. The ice kept melting and refreezing. Students and staff need to remember to be careful when driving on the ice and snow, not only in the parking lot but also on the roads.

Australia blazed by wildfires

 **Jacob Haas**
The Burrow

On Feb. 7, a massive wildfire erupted in Southern Australia. The wildfire killed over 180 people, but the police estimate that the toll could reach up to 300. It is not known what exactly caused the wildfires. It has been suspected that arsonists were the cause while others believe that it may have been a natural occurrence as Australia's environment makes it easy for wildfires to appear. Some people even believe that human-caused global warming was the deadly source of these horrific wildfires. One of the fires was said to be 60 miles long and was said to be located northeast of Melbourne. The winds were blowing at 62 miles per hour with temperatures reaching 117 degrees.

A spokesman for the firefighters said, "The threat will remain for weeks to come." Firefighters have been fighting the fires for weeks and recovering people, whether they were dead or alive. There are also several



The blazing inferno

people who are listed as missing and could possibly be dead. It was said that it would take weeks for investigators to find most of the bodies. Not only have people been killed, but over 750 houses have been either damaged or burned to the ground. The police have already arrested people whom they charged with arson. One of the states that was hit the hardest by the wildfires was Victoria. The premier of Victoria, John Brumby, said, "Victoria has experienced the worst fire conditions in history."

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One last chance

 **Cathy Martin**
The Burrow

The Lady Foxes varsity basketball team had a very rough season with a new coach and all the changes. The girls fought and fought but lost many of their games. On February sixth the Lady Foxes played their last regular season game. It was a home game against the Fairfield Mules. The Lady Foxes started out good and in the end the Lady Foxes won the game. That game brought a lot of the girl's confidence up for the regional.

On February 9th a Monday evening at six fifteen the girls had a three point shoot out. The girls that got to attend the event were, Senior Molly Hathaway, Junior Cady

Ragan, Sophomore Anna Morton, and Freshman Ali Zachman. Only two girls made it to the second round Hathaway and Morton. At seven thirty the Lady Foxes went head to head with the Eldorado Lady Eagles for the first round of the regional. The girls fought and won. The Lady Foxes were ready for the next night or so they thought. On February 10th they had another three point shoot out. Hathaway was the only one that made it to the next round. The Lady Foxes fought and fought but lost to the Carmi Lady Bulldogs. This ended to Lady Foxes regional.

Many of the girls were glad that the season was over, but the two seniors would not be coming back next year. Hathaway has one more three point shoot out.

The fans and players will be ready for another successful year next year.

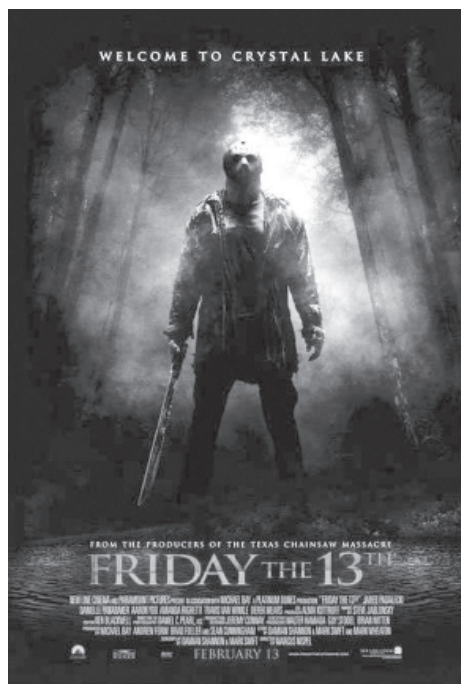
Friday the 13th

 **Jacob Haas**
The Burrow

Returning to Camp Crystal Lake to exact vengeance on unsuspecting teens is the machete-wielding, hockey-masked, psycho Jason Voorhees in an updated version of "Friday the 13th." This movie is actually a reboot of the series and is based mainly on the first three "Friday" movies. This is the 12th movie in the "Friday" series with the first one being made in 1980. Derek Mears, who portrays Jason in the movie, said, "It was decided that this version of Jason was going to be leaner." Brad Fuller, producer of the film, describes Jason, "He is a killing machine, plain and simple."

The movie starts with Jason's mother, Pamela Voorhees, being killed by a camp counselor with a young Jason witnessing his mother's death. Contrary to popular belief, Jason Voorhees did not die in the drowning accident and had managed to escape into the forest, living off of the forest. He would continue this for about 30 years until some campers decided to stay at Crystal Lake. Jason began picking off the campers one by one before capturing the last one, a girl named Whitney. Six weeks later, Clay, Whitney's brother, goes to Camp Crystal Lake to search for the whereabouts of his

sister. With Jason spotting the new group of campers, he starts taking them out one by one while Clay eventually finds Whitney. Clay and Whitney are the only survivors left and the two reunited siblings manage to defeat Jason.



Return to Camp Crystal Lake

Goodbye Senior Athletes

 **Kayla Wellen**
The Burrow

Hamilton County Senior High said good bye to their Senior athletes on February 20th at Senior Night. This presentation included all senior basketball players and cheerleaders.

There were six senior basketball players represented at Senior Night. They were: Brandon Biggerstaff, Kane Smith, Shelby Williams, Jacob Denham, Seth Thomas and Tyler Reyling. There was only one senior cheerleader, Sarah Aydt. The ball team presented Tony and Irma Williams with a special gift to show their gratitude for giving them a place to "hang out" in between practices and games. Robert Rubenacker said "I am good friends with all of them and will really miss them."

Since there were six senior basketball players and only five starting places, they had to draw names to see who got to start the night's basketball game. The starting five

were: Brandon Biggerstaff, Shelby Williams, Jacob Denham, Seth Thomas and Tyler Reyling. The Foxes had a victory over Johnson City with a score of 81-38. The Foxes finished their regular season with a record of 20-9. Thomas led the scoring with 16 points and 1 steal. Williams had 15 points, 11 rebounds, 2 steals and 1 blocked shot. Smith also had 15 points, including 4 treys and a steal. Denham had 6 points, 2 steals and 2 blocks. Biggerstaff had 4 points, 4 rebounds and a steal. Reyling also had 4 points and 3 steals.

Sarah Aydt has cheered for this school since she was in 7th grade. It will be hard for the crowd and the teammates to let this peppy cheerleader go. Aydt always knew how to get the crowd pumped, no matter what the score was.

Aaron Cravens said, "Since this was my first year on the team, the seniors really helped my out." Hamilton County just lost a lot of talented athletes that can never be replaced.

Coraline

 **Cejay Phillips**
The Burrow

Coraline is the newest 3D animated stop-motion production from the makers of The Nightmare before Christmas. The movie was based on the novella written by Neil Gaiman in 2002. Sophomore Joseph Rush said, "I loved the book Coraline, and the movie just made the book better to me."

In the movie, Coraline finds a secret doorway in her new home that takes her to a world parallel to the house grounds. There she encounters beings who say they are her "other" parents with the exception of them having black button eyes. To Coraline this world seems exactly like her own...only much better. "You probably think this world is a dream come true... but you're wrong," says Coraline's feline friend. Her other mother convinces her that she would be a better parent than her real ones are, and she caters to Coraline's every need to make her stay. The only catch to Coraline staying in this new and interesting world is the fact that in order to stay, she has to become one of them by sewing on button eyes.

She also finds out about the many souls



"be careful what you wish for"

of other children the parents had taken before, and when Coraline returns to her real home and family, she finds that her real parents are missing. They do not return by the next day and Coraline, discovering they were kidnapped by her other mother, resolves to rescue them. Coraline then went back into the other parents' world to challenge the other mother in a game to find the children's souls and her parents within the other parents' world. Coraline finds the others' souls and escapes to the real world, forcing the door closed on the other mother and severing her hand. Back in her home, Coraline finds her parents safe and sound.

Defeat over Indians

 **Kayla Wellen**
The Burrow

The Hamilton County Foxes entered Sectionals on March 3rd with high hopes, along with some doubt.

The starting five included: Brandon Biggerstaff, Tyler Reyling, Kane Smith, Seth Thomas and Shelby Williams. The Foxes started off the game as Seth Thomas got the jump. Even within the first minute the crowd could tell that this was going to be a tough game. The Foxes would score two and then the Indians would retaliate, and that went on for a good while. The lead would also go back and forth but only by a couple of points.

During the first quarter, it was a very close game and it looked like we were not going to be able to pull it off. At the end of the first quarter Jacob Denham went into the game for Tyler Reyling and Justin Webb went in for Brandon Biggerstaff. At half time the score was DuQuoin: 23 and Hamilton County: 20. There were many hard calls for



the referees to make. Shelby Williams was involved in a technical foul, after #24 of DuQuoin punched Shelby in the head. Also, there was a close call with the DuQuoin coach, he came very close to getting a technical but ended up calming down before the call was made. The Foxes had a major comeback in the 4th quarter, when we ended the game with the victory of 67:60. The players stats were: Shelby Williams had 28 points and 14 rebounds, Kane Smith had 19 points, Seth Thomas had 12 points and Denham had 8 points. Kelci Thomas said, "It was a great game and I loved how there was a ton of school spirit there." Thomas was not the only one that thought it was an awesome game. Alexis York said, "The game was one of the best ones I have seen all year."

On Friday, March 6th the varsity boys put up a very good fight against Massac County. The night ended with Hamilton County falling to Massac County by 11 points.

Watchmen

 **Jacob Haas**
The Burrow

Based on the critically acclaimed graphic novel written by Alan Moore, drawn by Dave Gibbons, and colored by John Higgins is the new movie "Watchmen". The movie is by Zack Snyder, well known for directing the remake of Dawn of the Dead and the movie adaptation of the graphic novel "300". The movie takes place in an alternate 1985 America and the tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union are high. Rorschach, a former superhero now turned vigilante is investigating the death of person named Edward Blake who turns out to be a fellow superhero called The Comedian. As Rorschach investigates further into the murder, he, along with some of his other fellow superheroes such as his old friend Nite Owl II, Doctor Manhattan, and Silk Spectre II soon discover a huge conspiracy that has connections to each of the heroes and it may cause a major catastrophe if it is not stopped.

Alan Moore, writer of the Watchmen comics, was somewhat adamant about the idea of Watchmen being a movie. Moore said, "I didn't think it was filmable". The movie has been getting mainly positive to



Who watches the Watchmen

mixed reviews. One of the bad reviews for the movie came from The New York Times. The article said, "Perhaps there is some pleasure to be found in regressing into this beligerent, adolescent state of mind. But maybe it is better to grow up". The movie comes out March 6, 2009 and is rated R.

Race to the Finish
Hamilton County Jr. & Sr. High School

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~KEEPING OUR KIDS ON TRACK~



FEATURES



Student Profiles



Felicia lived in Pontiac before she moved here. Billings said, "I like my old school better because there wasn't a lot of drama and all my friends are there." During her free time she usually drives around and hangs out with her friends. She does not participate in any sports.



"I lived in Carmi before I moved here," said Renda Williams. When asked about which school she liked better and why, she said, "I like my old school better because I have more friends there and I had more fun there." During her free time she enjoys four-wheeler riding, reading and hanging out with her friends. As of now Renda does not participate in any sports, but she is going to try out for volleyball next year.



Tina Veltman said, "Before I moved to Hamilton County I lived in Ponca City, Oklahoma. It was kind of small, it only had 3,500 people." When asked if she liked her old school or this school better she said, "My old school, people there if they didn't know you they would get to know you and decide how they felt about you rather than start rumors and have people not talk to you because they thought the rumors were true." During her free time Tina usually hangs out with friends, goes fishing and four-wheeler riding. She also likes to dance a lot and play with her little sister. Tina does not participate in any sports, but she does enjoy paintball, dancing and rollerblading.



Before Megan moved here she lived in Denver, Colorado. Richards said, "I was home-schooled for about two years before I came here and I like this a lot better because it's not boring like home-schooling is." During her free time, Megan usually hangs out with friends, rides her horses, go to horse and rodeo events and watch movies. She does not participate in any sports.

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