

April 16, 2019

The Tornado Times

"Journalism is an act of faith in the future."

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Griggsville-Perry High School

4202 North Stanford, Griggsville, IL 62340

Volume 5, Issue 6

Martin elected President of FFA

By: Brookelyn Crone

New officers have been elected to the FFA for the 2019/20 year.

Each year the new officers come up with their main goal for the year. There is a lot that past FFA officers and members have done

"I know [that] this year's teams' big focus was community," Sheppard said.

The 2019-2020 team has a goal of their own that is building off of what they did last year.

"We're going to try to get in the community more," stated junior Sage Martin, the newly elected FFA president.

Not only does the officer team create the goals but they also have other responsibilities.

"We have responsibilities [such as] being a leader for everyone else to look up to and being someone that people can go to to ask questions," said senior Lane Spencer, the

current vice president.

With responsibilities of being an officer there are decisions that can affect the organization.

"The main thing with being an officer is that there are some issues that require voting that we just don't have time to bring up in a meeting," stated Sheppard. "So we kinda let the officers pull."

There are many challenges of being an officer that come along with the responsibility.

"The hardest part of being an FFA officer is getting people to listen to you, and be active in the organization," said Spencer.

"Here we have a small school. We have limited members involvement and getting everyone involved has really been a challenge for us."

As president, Martin plans to get more members at G-P to join in and help the community.

"[I want to] show how much fun FFA can be. Not many people



Pictured above: Christian Clayton, Zach Mountain, Sage Martin, Tyler DeJaynes, Clay Thomas, Avery Bradshaw

know about that in our school. We get out and help a lot of people," stated Martin.

Not just the officers but also the members do a lot for the community such as helping the

Apple Festival set up and take down. Last year, the FFA built the new stage uptown just in time for the festival, and this year they built a new podium.

Next year's officers include

President Sage Martin, Vice President Tyler DeJaynes, Secretary Avery Bradshaw, Treasurer Clay Thomas, Sentinel Zach Mountain, and Reporter Christian Clayton.

Aspiring writers attend conference

By: Jason Crane

The Writers Conference took place at Culver Stockton College on March 27, 2019. Ten Griggsville Students who are interested in writing were able to attend the conference. The conference is a assemblage of workshops that go over different styles of writing and techniques that can be used to help write more efficiently. They also get to talk to professors and college students about these topics.

"Writing is one of my greatest interests. I love to write and I might want to make a career out of it, or at least a career out of English." Fiona Kelley said, who hopes to be published one day. Tim Ayers, who is the world's most grating public speaker and is a Christian fiction author, was the keynote speaker at the conference. He spoke about how to use different things to write correctly and efficiently. After his speech everyone split up into different workshops, one of



Pictured above: Erin Rezba, Ivy McCarter, Payton Woodward, and Sarah Hurst participate in a dramatic writing workshop where students were expected to share their pieces with kids from other schools.

which was about theater and play writing. At this workshop they learned about writing subtexts and how plays are not just about the dialog.

"I learned more about writing plays and improve acting," freshman Sophie Bennett said.

Another workshop was a painting inspired writing class. Here students walked through the art gallery until a picture inspired

students and they wrote something about it. Overall this conference is a trip GPHS students enjoyed.

"[it was] very fact filled and informational." John Bedenbender said.

New Classes take shape at GP

By: Ivy McCarter

There might be some classes changing at Griggsville-Perry for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Dokey says the classes that might be offered are Advanced Placement calculus, computer science and a new anatomy/physiology class. Not all of these are set in stone yet since the schedule still has to be created.

Sophomores through seniors can take the computer science course. For AP calculus, seniors can take it. Anyone who has taken anatomy/physiology in the past would be able to take the new anatomy/physiology class according to Dokey.

AP calculus and anatomy/physiology classes would both be weighted. All classes are worth a half a credit each per semester and they are all a year long.

Kevin Duffy is proposing there be an AP calculus class. He says "The students who take calculus would have to retake it in college because they would not receive college credit for it." Duffy says taking the AP exam provides them with the opportunity to earn college credit if they pass.

"This would be one less credit they would have to have of pay for The AP calculus exam is scored on a scale of one to five, five being the highest," Duffy said. "A passing

score on the AP exam is three. This would be an important opportunity for the students who have earned the right to take it because it will allow them to show something for their hard work other than a credit on a college transcript, it would allow them the opportunity to be recognized by the college for it."

The AP language and composition class already offered works on the same one to five scoring scale and allows for college credit.

Andrew Crivilare is offering a computer science course. He says computer science is about how computers work he says the class will be on a coding and software based level. It is the type of class that would benefit from students having algebra one skills but it is not necessary.

"All classes are hard the first time you teach them," Crivilare said.

Crivilare says he is very excited to teach computer science. He needs at least six to seven people willing to take the class in order to teach it.



Pictured above: Students from GPHS pose around the sign outside the Culver-Stockton performing arts center, where most of the day's time was spent learning about writing fiction.



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Griggsville, IL 62340

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“I think its gonna be a fun night”:

Class of 2020 prepares prom for GPHS

By: Hawk Lothridge

It’s that time of year again: prom. A number of students attending this year are getting ready for the big day. Girls are getting their dresses and guys are getting their tuxedos.

Colors for this year are black and gold, which ties into the theme.

“The theme this year is the Roaring 20s,” said Cindy Conkright, class of

2020’s sponsor. “They had it decided this before school even started. They told me last year that’s what they wanted it to be. So they thought about it for a long time.”

There will be a variety of food and decorations also.

“We are having a full buffet meal,” said Conkright. “There will be fried chicken, chicken alfredo, and sides such as mashed potatoes and gravy,

macaroni and cheese, and we are gonna have cakes and cookies.”

Prom is going to be in a different location than from years past.

“Prom is at the Quincy Quality Inn and Suites,” Conkright said. “I think that they wanted a different venue and didn’t want to have it at the Legion and somewhere just a little more fancier.”

After-prom will be held in

an often-used place this year, Scotties Fun Spot.

Prom is May 4th with promenade starting at 5 P.M. with the dance to follow.

“I think it’s gonna be a fun night. Can’t wait.” Conkright said.

Tickets are \$20 for singles and \$30 for a couple. T-shirts are \$10. Deadline for all orders and permission slips is April 18th.

Students and staff reflect on SAT

By: Mya Kattelman

GPHS juniors took the SAT April 9th, 2019. Sophomores and freshman also tested but they took the PSAT test. Both tests are to see where everyone is academically in school.

“It is our state contractual standardized test, and this gives the state and our school district and idea on where everyone is at. It is also a college admissions exam, so colleges can use students scores, to either accept a student or deny admission to a student,” said guidance counselor Allison Dokey.

The SAT has three main parts to it: English language arts, math and

writing.

“The English language arts is mostly reading paragraphs, and then answering comprehension questions about those paragraphs. And then in the math there is a calculator and a non-calculator portion,” said Dokey.

There are multiple benefits to the SAT test.

“Obviously college admission is the big one, two not even a good score but just trying your best on it really gives teachers and administrators a good idea of what you are learning.”

Dokey adds, “The third benefit is scholarship opportunities. Some colleges will give

scholarships for you know what GPA or SAT score you get.”

After the test junior Abby Jones, who took the SAT, explained her thoughts.

“It was challenging, but it wasn’t as hard as I thought it would be,” Jones said.

Jones had a few tips for students taking the test next year.

“Don’t stress over any of the questions, it is not that bad,” Jones said.

Jones adds the test is not difficult as some of the students say.

“Math, I personally just am not a fan of math.” Jones explained.

In her own opinion, the easiest part of the SAT was

the English part because she already loved to read and write.

Jones states, “Don’t be scared of taking the SAT. It isn’t as bad as people say it is.”

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The Tornado Times is produced by the students of Griggsville-Perry Highschool’s newspaper production class. It is published monthly on the last school day of the month, September through May. One copy per month is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained through the Griggsville-Perry High School office.

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Opinion: These are my high school years

One writer explores her own time in high school though the view of a reporter

By: Ashlee Jones

As a freshman I never thought about graduation. I sit here right now thinking about where did the time go, how did my high school life go by so fast? The feeling of graduation is scary but also exciting. I spoke with a few of my teachers that I had my freshman year that have always been there for me in order to find out how I’ve changed. I also asked them to pretend that I wasn’t Ashlee to get an honest answer.

Mr. Pat Apps is the history teacher at Griggsville Perry High School. Apps stated I have made some improvements since my freshman year.

“I feel the biggest improvement that I have seen in Ashlee since freshman year is her confidence and her

abilities. When I had her as a freshman she expressed a lot of time that she couldn’t do it. But she worked hard, and hurdled every obstacle that popped up which led her straight to graduation,” said Apps.

As a freshman I was not mature. I was very childish. I did not care about getting my homework done or what my grades were. Mrs. Allison Dokey, the guidance counselor, noticed how I have changed.

“Ashlee has matured immensely. When she was a freshman we had to work on some things just because she was still in a mindset of being in middle school and I am just so proud of her the way she has matured and can get along with anyone,” said Dokey.

When May 24, 2019 comes

all I will be thinking about is “How is this already happening?” These past four year have been really amazing. To be honest, I never thought the day of me graduating would come to mind. Just always keep

this in mind: never give up, cause only giving up will make things worse. Also always look on the bright side because once you “focus on the positive,” things start to get better.



Pictured above: Reporter and story subject Ashlee Jones, posing during her senior year homecoming pep rally.