

March 26, 2018

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 4, Issue 8

2018 Marks Final School Year for Several Staff

GPHS loses multiple teachers to other states, districts

By: Trinity Schaaf & Courtney Syrcle

This year Griggsville Perry High School will be losing several staff members and gaining several new ones.

The Griggsville Perry School District has already posted many job openings on the school’s website and on the state website.

“The [applicants] send in a resume and a letter of application and any of their teachings licenses,” said Mrs. Theis. “Then we pick people to interview from those that we receive.”

The people applying to be a new teacher has to go through numerous steps according to Theis.

“Once a person is approved by the school board, all of our teachers go through fingerprinting,” said Theis. “There’s a whole list of requirements they have to complete before they can work.”

There are also a few expecta-

tions that Theis herself is looking for in the new applicants for the new positions.

“I think Griggsville Perry is a special place where I feel like it’s so small that we are kind of like a gigantic family. And so I want somebody that cares about our students,” said Theis. “I really want somebody who is forward thinking in their teaching.”

Several students have strong feelings about the teachers leaving.

“I’m sad,” said Kaden Bennett. “I’m gonna miss them all especially Mr. Cowell and Mr. Landreth.”

Many students mentioned that the staff leaving could change GP in a bad way.

“It’s gonna be a boring place,” said Bennett. Paige Syrcle stated, “Murphy is the one that I feel like will impact the school a lot because when she told everyone that she was leaving everybody cried.”



Farewell to Scott Cowell// Business and government teacher Scott Cowell was one of many teachers this year moving to a different district. Cowell, featured above, helped provide glasses for students to see the eclipse that passed the school in August. Other students will remember Cowell for one of his quirkier qualities, such as his large supply of gum.

Many students that like Mr. Landreth are sad he is leaving.

“I’m gonna be really sad, [Mr. Landreth] is cool,” said Colton Ivey. “He coached my basketball team for two years, and he’s a cool guy. He told me we could have a snap streak, cool guy.”

The leaving of the teachers is

going to greatly affect the Griggsville-Perry High School.

“It’s sad because [Ms. Murphy] is my IEP manager, and also she is our class sponsor. So, that means that we won’t have a class sponsor,” said Caitlyn Downey. “And then we won’t have a special education teacher either.”

According to sophomore, Joey

Butler his education is going to be affected by the leaving of Ms. Murphy.

“Ms. Murphy really helps me out with homework and stuff,” said Butler. “It’s gonna be pretty bad because then I can’t really [get] special ed help.”

Our staff that are leaving are never going to be forgotten by the school.

Students donate blood to help save lives



Giving for a Good Cause// Science teacher Chris Sheehan and her health occupations class organized the second blood drive of the school year. Students made calls to arrange for donors, create donations, sign-in donors, and manage a marketing campaign for the blood drive. According to Sheehan, the class was very satisfied with the donation rates from both the community and the school population. Part of the monies raised through the event will go toward a scholastic scholarship.



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March Madness: The Griggsville Connection

By: Kaylie Scoggins

Roughly 90 years ago, the GHS basketball team placed fourth at State. The team was coached by Mr. Nichol and had 11 basketball players ranging from all different sizes and they all had different abilities that worked well together.

Over time, as we know, things change. That goes for the game of basketball. We only know the game as it is played now. But back in 1928, after every single basket that was made both teams had to go back in the middle and rejump for the ball.

Along with the rules being different, most of the same towns we know had their own teams. We played against some of the following: Bluffs, Chambersburg, Perry, New Salem, Hull, schools now that are mostly consolidated.

To go onto state, the team had to win District Champs and three different games at Sectionals.

In the District Champ games, Griggsville played against Pittsfield. In the fourth quarter, Pittsfield took a two point lead but we quickly stepped in and Pittsfield barely touched the ball after that. We took the win with a final score of 30-18. We went on to beat Hull (38-14), Chambersburg (29-21), and New Salem (33-10). That gave us a winning streak and we were ready to face the teams at the Sectional tournament.

As the team was breaking records for not just Griggsville but Pike County, they were already a championship team. In the Sectional tournament, we first played against Mr. Pulaski, we were trailing but quickly stepped our game up and took the win with a score of 29-20. The game that we had to work hard for was against Quincy. This game was dubbed as “The Sensation of the Tourney”. It states in

the 1928 yearbook, “the game was nip and tuck all the way” [meaning it was back and forth] with eventually the score being tied at the end of the third quarter. Quincy took the lead in first minute of the fourth quarter and then adding to it by making a free throw. The score was 17-16 with not long left in the quarter when Griggsville’s Harry Brown, center, received a pass and took a long shot. The ball went straight through the hoop and the Tornadoes took the win with a score of 18-17. After that win, the team faced Chandlerlerville winning 35-24.

At state, Griggsville won the first game 22-21, but fell short the second and third game against West Aurora and Witt. Aurora West went on to get second in the State game losing 18-9 against Canton.

Since then our high school gym has been named after Mr. Nichol. Mr. Stauffer met one of the players,

Gilbert Love, after he got off stage after he received his Coach of the Year award. Gilbert (Gil) Love grew up and actually coached the Tornadoes and also went off to coach at Aurora West and a few others.

In the year of 1928, Mr. Nichol took his team to great heights and he states, “It can be done again!”

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

A new season of softball and baseball begin with a rainy, cold March

By: Brookelyn Crone

As one season ends another one starts with new teammates and new techniques. The long hours and hard work starts to begin just like last year. But every year there are goals that want to be met and strategies that are to be created. This year is different new freshman and returning seniors hope that the season doesn’t end. The Lady Tornadoes has a total of 3 seniors and the Tornadoes has 1 senior baseball player.

Freshman Jenna Kelly thinks that high school and middle school softball are different. And what she expects to hap-

pen out of the season.

“Middle school softball was just the introduction to high school softball.” said Freshman Jenna Kelly. “I expect that we are going to have to try harder to be a better team. And we will be facing a lot better teams.”

Trevor Tipp a new student here at G-P is expecting a lot to happen during the season as he plays for a new team.

“I’m kinda looking forward to basically building up the chemistry with the new team mates and stuff. And to get a little bit better and get more wins than last season,” said Tipp.

This Softball and Baseball season is going to bring some challenges. There are always going to be challenges; up and downs during any sport season.



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About

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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To place an advertisement with The Tornado Times and the Griggoneer yearbook, please contact Andrew Crivilare at crivilarea@griggsvilleperry.org or call 217-833-2352.

Corrections

The Tornado Times is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual errors the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any errors to Bailey Scoggins at scogginsb@griggsvilleperry.org.

Seniors Leave a Mark with Senior Quotes

By: Ashlee Jones

Seniors at Griggsville Perry High School each year have to pick a senior quote for the yearbook. Their seniors quotes are due on February 3rd.

A senior quote is hard to find. The reason why is because you have to find something that describes you.

Senior Mercedes Hanant said, “Whatever I’m feeling.”

Some seniors were to say if they would put their quote towards sad, happy, or funny.

Michael Harris said, “Probably funny and uplifting.”

Seniors find a quote to describe them.

Nathan Walton said, “Funny because it fits my personality.”

The quotes are to be who they are.

Jordan Brite said, “I will be sentimental with mine because

I get upset easily”

Seniors sometimes care about their senior quote and some don’t.

Lexi Walton said, “Happy because it has been an awesome year.”

Most seniors have their quote done.

Paige Syrcle said, “Happy and memorable.”

Senior quotes are to help you remember memories.

Ashlyn Crone said, “Funny and also serious.”

These quotes are to be sad, funny or even full of happiness.

Dustin Street said, “Happy because no one likes sadness.”

Opinions & Reviews

Opinion Policy

Those interested can inquire to Andrew Crivilare, Publications Advisor at 202 North Stanford, Griggsville, IL 62340 for all opinion questions, submissions and letters to the editor. Please note we publish the paper once a month.

The Editor reserves the right to not publish letters.

Letters that are 250 words or less will be prioritized, but longer ones will be considered. As this is a student run publication for the students of the school, the editorial board will prioritize student letters first and foremost.

Please include our name and phone number to verify letters.

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OpEd: A Call to Curb Gun Violence

By: Bailey Scoggins

A statement that gets me is, "Guns don't kill, people do." Guns give people the ability to kill. Guns also make the killing easier.

It is time to wake up, we have a problem that needs to be resolved.

An ongoing issue that the United States deals with is gun violence.

According to the organization Every Town for Gun Safety Support, there have been nearly three-hundred school shootings since 2013. Schools should be a safe place for learning, not for students and faculty to worry about if they are going to make it home or not.

How many more innocent lives will it take to change the gun laws?

I am not saying that we should take

the guns away. I totally understand that people deserve guns, and I partially agree. However, I believe the requirements should be more strict. For example, I think the background checks should be more complex, and tougher.

If someone or a close family member is not in the right mindset, they should not be able to get a gun. Nikolas Cruz, the gunman in the Florida school shooting, owned an AR-15. His relatives whom he lived with, knew he was both mentally unstable and owned a dangerous weapon, but made him keep it locked up, even though he had the key.

Cruz was known to have a dark personality and had made threats to the

school before. He also posted harsh things on social media. So why was he allowed a gun?

Also, I believe that people should not be able to buy military grade guns. I do not think anyone needs an AR-15. I just do not think they are necessary for people to have.

I am not trying to say we should ban guns, I do not think that. Guns are great for hunting, but that is it. Until we do something to stop school shootings, nothing will change.

Gun control laws would be a good start. It might even bring justice to those families who have lost a child to a school shooting or gun violence accident.

OpEd: The Reasons Americans Own Guns

By: Mary Nash

There are reasons to keep gun laws the same.

We may not need to change gun laws but to be more aware of the people owning them.

The people who own them may not be the most stable.

The United States has 88.8 guns per 100 people.

The United States has the highest number in the world at 270,000,000 guns.

More men than women own guns. Around 22% of Americans own one or more guns. Out of those Americans 35% of men and 12% of women own guns.

Changing gun law may restrict the fun, personal protection, and family tradition. However, 60% of Americans own guns for personal safety, 36% of Americans own guns for hunting and 13% own for recreation and sport.

Those are the largest percentages that I have found, there are also other reasons Americans own guns like family heirloom, family tradition, related to work, target shooting and some because of our Second Amendment Right.

These reasons people own guns are not to kill but they have them to have fun and some have meaning. We should keep better

look out for who the people are behind the gun.

Also listen when someone who has a gun is threatening people or has a bad background. But changing these laws may take away some people's protection and also them feeling safe. For most would take away their fun.

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Book Review: The Iron Fey Series

By: Trinity Schaaf

Most books about magical creatures think of fairies as small weak creatures. But, in this book, the fairies are human-like, tall, and majestic with all sorts of powers.

The fairy magic is called glamour. With glamour, they can change shapes, sizes, and control other things that live in each of these specific courts.

There are two courts the sum-

mer and the winter. Then there is the iron kingdom. Iron kills and poisons the fairies.

The main character in the book series is Meghan Chase. She is half human half fey. She is the daughter of a mortal woman and the daughter of King Oberon, king of the summer court. She falls in love with the winter prince named Ash, the son of Queen Mab, the queen of the winter court. I really love this book series.

I love fantasy style books they make me feel like I'm the main character in the book which is the best feeling ever when your favorite characters fall in love.

I honestly would rate this book 10/10 stars, and I would definitely recommend this series to a friend.

Anyone who loves fantasy and mythical creatures will surely love this book. And I have to say this is my favorite book series.

Book Review: The Asylum Series

By: Trinity Schaaf

The Asylum series isn't your typical scary ghost nonfiction book. It's much scarier and different beings the pictures in the book are from real mental Asylums.

The New Hampshire college bought the old mental asylum to use as dorm rooms for their college. Terrible unhuman like stuff happened in this mental asylum and it's all starting to happen again to the college students.

The main characters are Dan, Abby, and Jordan. Mysterious unexplainable things begin to happen to them. Like Dan getting mysterious emails that seem like they're from a doctor or nurse that disappears minutes

later, to find out he's related to the old warden who did terrible things to his patients.

And worst of all people begin to be murdered and left in weird positions just like how the serial killer Dennis Heimline who would kill the victim then leave them in positions like they were dancing, sitting, or eating.

He was brutally killed in the asylum and is now back and killing again inside the body of a normal college student that is Dan's roommate.

I absolutely love this book series it's so good and well written. I

would rate this book 9.5/10 stars.

I would absolutely recommend this to a friend especially if they love creepy horror stuff like I do.

This book kept me on the edge of my seat at all times wondering what could and would happen next.

This is by far one of my favorite book series.



Senior Profiles *Getting to know G-Ps students before they graduate*

Man on the Street? It's Dustin!

By: Ashlee Jones

Dustin Street is a student at Griggsville Perry High School. Dustin is someone who tells the truth but most people are not happy for what he says.

Dustin has lived in Griggsville for the past two years. He started his junior year here.

Street said, "This town sucks and there is a lot of noisy people."

Street started going to school here the beginning of his junior year.

Street said, "The year started out really good and I'm excited to graduate."

Street's favorite subject is PE

Street said, "PE is my favorite sport because I can be active and run

around."

Street will be graduating from Griggsville Perry in May.

Street said, "I feel like weight will be lifted from my shoulders knowing I made it this far by graduating."

Street does not like pets.

Street said, "I don't like pets, but I like tigers because they are fierce."

Street is a lover of food.

Street said, "Spaghetti is my favorite kind of food."

Street likes to sit back and listen to music all the time.



Street said, "Country is not my favorite type of music but I like a little bit of RNB and pop music."

Street has hobbies.

Street said, "I like to sing and dance and go swimming."

Mrs. Dokey is the guidance counselor here at Griggsville-Perry High School.

Mrs. Dokey said, "I really admire Dustin's honesty because he is not afraid to say what is on his mind and some people might think that is a bad thing but it also is a good thing because he is telling the truth. I think

over all he a nice kid and I'm excited to see him graduate he has worked really hard this year to and I can't wait to see what his future holds.

Mr. School Spirit: Getting to Know Jadon Huddleston

By: Mary Nash

Senior Jadon Huddleston has big plans after high school. Huddleston plans on attending John Wood community college for two years then transferring to blessing area at Quincy to finish the rest of his schooling to become a nurse.

Huddleston is just the right person to be a nurse.

"I just like to help out people and I love science and studying the human body," Huddleston said.

Throughout high school Huddleston liked to play football.

"I wanted to play football because Michael Harris got me into it so

did Jakob Freeman and I promised Cody Pittman that I'd play for him one of these years," Huddleston said.

One of Huddleston's friends is Freeman.

"Jadon and I have been friends since the fifth grade when I ran track and he was in seventh," Freeman said.

Huddleston and Freeman seem to be very good friends, the kind of friendship anyone would want.

"I'm friends with Jadon because he was there when no one else was, and he just listens to all my problems and we kind of just hit it off as

friends and been there with each other ever since," Freeman said.

Every accomplishment is exciting but one of Jadon's greatest accomplishment so far is getting student of the month his sophomore year.

"Yes, hard work does pay off!" Huddleston said.

I think most of us can agree Huddleston is a very caring person and also a good friend!

"He's a really good listener, he will always be there when you need someone to talk to. Hard working, always gets the job done and he's super funny and smart and I see he has a

bright future ahead of him," Freeman said.

Even though high school has a lot of good memories Huddleston is ready for life after high school.

"Definitely, it's going to be exciting, I can't wait to accomplish my goals in the future," said Huddleston.

Enjoying the Ride of Life: Dakota Shoemaker

By: Courtney Syrcle

During homeroom, most people are doing their homework, but not this senior. Senior, Dakota Shoemaker assisted a teacher, during his homeroom, with vehicle troubles.

Shoemaker has planned at least the next four years of his life.

"I plan on enlisting in the U.S. Army for four years and

hopefully attending college afterward," said Shoemaker. "I plan on doing a cavalry scout 19D which is just a reconnaissance team. It'll be overseas for four years."

There are some reasons why he decided the military for his future career.

"Both sides of my family are both military involved," said Shoemaker. "It's something that I have always wanted to do. And

it has great benefits for college and job purposes."

Shoemaker is a co-class president this year for the senior class.

"It's pretty good [to be a co-class president]," said Shoemaker. "I think it is a pretty big honor to be voted class president by your peers, and I like working with Bailey."

Like all seniors, Shoemaker is

ready to leave Griggsville-Perry and continue his life.

"I've spent four years here and I'm ready to get out," said Shoemaker. "I like GP being a smaller school, get to know everybody at all grade levels all ages, all of the teachers. It's a lot more hands on. I feel that they actually try to help you out more in class and get you ready for the real world."

According to this senior, fall is the best time of the school year.

"[Fall] is the best time to go

driving around after school," said Shoemaker. "And I love the weather, and it is when all of my sports are."

Football and basketball are the sports that Shoemaker is involved in.

"I like to play football and basketball because I like to challenge myself physically and mentally," said Shoemaker. "They are all team sports. They require a lot of teamwork."

News in Brief: Students Protest, Walkout

Seven students walked out of GP high school on Wednesday, March 14.

The students walked out and sat on the sidewalk near the school for 17

minutes for the 17 students that died in Parkland, Florida on February 14. The school administration did not approve the protest ahead of time.



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