



HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Editors: Rebekah Dunn/Whitney Spencer

Asst. Editor: Cameron Markott



Alexis Sandekian and Sara Breene dressed in green for St. Patrick's Day!

Special Points of Interest:

- Don't forget to write to the Guiding Dragons to get great advice! Check out this month's advice column!
- Rebus Puzzles for you to solve!
- Crossword puzzle!
- School Baseball Survey!

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Caribbean Night

Friday, February 28th (four weeks ago), our wonderful school hosted the always fun Family Caribbean Night. There were games, karaoke, swimming, and lots of food. Of course, you needed a ticket to obtain the food, but it was totally worth it!

Caribbean night was definitely an environment for fun with family and friends. In my opinion, that is really all that mattered all through the night! Aside from that, there were endless fun activities for anyone and everyone, and if you

missed it, you missed quite a lot.

In case you didn't notice, the cafeteria was decorated BEAUTIFULLY to accompany the tropical mood. There were awesome fish, bubbles, and even a graffiti wall for you and your family to write personalized messages! Now of course, there were *some* guidelines and restrictions to follow, but that makes pretty good sense, right? Swimming with your family in barely spring (free of charge, yay!) was possible and much enjoyed. Isn't that just

wonderful? Also, thanks to our wonderful principals, Mrs. Persico and Mrs. Cercone!
Happy Spring!!!
- Sara Breene



7th graders Taryn Martorana and Christina Radder holding a chinchilla at Caribbean Night!

All County Music Festival

On the twelfth of March seven students from Hoover Middle School had the honor of performing in the 2011 ECMEA (Erie County Music Educators Association) Junior. This event was located at Amherst Middle School. The students practiced for weeks preparing for the concert.

The SSA chorus, (soprano 1, soprano 2, and alto) was represented by seventh graders Whitney Spencer (soprano 2), and Taylor

Grodesky (alto), along with eighth grader Elizabeth Nikirk (soprano 1). They put on a great performance, singing "O" music including the songs, "With a Voice of Singing," "Shiru," "Ride the Chariot," and "Shenandoah."

The SATB chorus (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass) was conducted by the amazing Kenneth Fick from Niagara Wheatfield. This chorus was made up of 8th grader Alexis Troutman (soprano), and seventh

graders Jonathan Duchene (tenor), Aidan Scherer and Andrew Widmer (basses). The chorus sang "Ave Verum Corpus," "Shut De Do," "Festival Sanctus," "For the Beauty of the Earth," and "O Sifuni Mungu."

The students put a lot of time and effort into practicing for this event. The effort definitely paid off! Congratulations! It was a fantastic concert!

By: Jonathan Duchene



Buffalo Bandits

The Bandits are winning, but barely. The NLL's (National Lacrosse League) Buffalo Bandits currently stand in second place in the Eastern conference at 6-3. They are behind only the Toronto Rock. The Rock has a current record of 9-2.

Unfortunately, none of the Bandits 6 wins have been decided by more than 3 goals. Since lacrosse is a very high scoring game,

games decided by three goals or less is bad for the Bandits. Otherwise, the Bandits are having a good year. 42-year old John Tavares leads the team with 42 points (17 goals and 25 assists). Tavares is 13th in the league in points. 30-year old Mark Steenhuis, who had 90 points last season, is second on the team in points with 34 points. Steenhuis is currently 24th

in the league in points. The Bandits leader in defensive scoring is Chris White with 9 points. He is 9th in the league in defensive scoring.

The Bandits now only have 7 games left in their season as they fight Toronto for first place. (Note: Stats last updated 3/10/11. Stats obtained via nll.com.).

By: Colin Lynch

“From this point forward the Buffalo Sabres reason for existence will be to win the Stanley Cup”.
-Terry Pegula

Welcome to Pegulaville!

Terry Pegula is a billionaire; he is the founder of East Resources Gas which is a drilling company. Mr. Pegula is married, has 5 kids and lives in Boca Raton FL., but he is originally from Buffalo.

He was able to purchase the Buffalo Sabres Hockey Team for 189 billion dollars. The Buffalo fan base is now known as “Pegulaville”. He made a promise to the Sabres fans, where he said, “From this point forward the Buffalo Sabres reason for existence will be to win the Stanley Cup”.

Terry has been a lifelong Sabres fan. He was a season ticket holder from 1980 to 1999. His first game as owner was on February 23, 2011. The Pegula Era started with a Sabres 4-1 victory over the Atlanta Thrashers.

I was there, at the first game, in Pegulaville, the start of the Pegula Era. When the game started, they introduced Terry Pegula and then the French Connection, Mr. Pegula's favorite players of all time. Gilbert Perreault, Rene Robert and Rick Martin. (Sadly Rick Martin passed away recently

on March 14, 2011.) The setting at the arena was very emotional. The game was played with a ton of energy and it was very exciting to watch. It was fun to listen to the fans and hear the chants, “Terry, Terry, Terry”. It was a game that I don't think I'll ever forget.

I think the future of the Buffalo Sabres is very bright because of the fresh ideas and open mindedness of Terry Pegula.

Thank You Terry Pegula!
Let's Go Buffalo!

By: Brock Kowalski



Baseball Survey

I would consider these teams to be the most popular in Major League Baseball: New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Philadelphia Phillies, New York Mets, and San Francisco Giants. This is what other people think.

- Yankees: 58% of the votes
- Red Sox: 27% of the votes
- Mets: 10% of the votes
- Phillies: 4% of the votes
- Giants: 1% of the votes

I personally would say that the Mets are my favorite of the bunch. I would say that the Yankees are the worst team there!

By: Jacob Brill

Breaking Dawn By: Stephanie Meyer

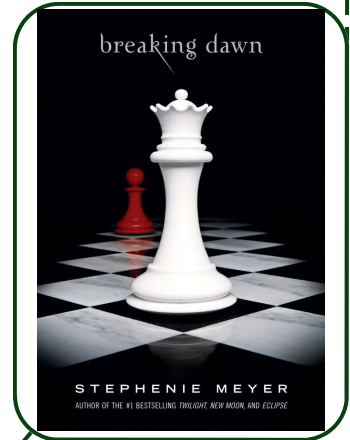
I'm sure you all know what Breaking Dawn is, (if not, what rock have you been living under?), so I'll skip that. It's hard to imagine the saga could get any more dramatic. Suppose that in the past two years you've not only switched schools and moved halfway across the country, but you've also been stalked by two blood-drinkers obsessed with killing you; you've jumped off a cliff before stopping the love of your

life from committing suicide, and started fighting with your BFF because guess what? - he's a werewolf... and he's in love with you. It sounds extreme, but that's just life for Bella Swan.

This book is probably the most emotional of the series. With the lives of dozens of other vampires in danger, the stakes are higher than ever. It's easy to understand the motives for the sacrifices the characters

are forced to make. The plot twists and constant action will definitely keep you up late flipping all 756 pages. Besides, despite the danger, this book isn't always serious. Emmett has plenty of irritating big-brother jokes at the newlywed's expense and its fun to see Bella *finally* be able to kick some butt as a "newborn".

By: Taylor Sinclair



Oscars Review

The 83rd annual Academy Awards, hosted by James Franco and Anne Hathaway was an exciting night for the nominees, presenters, and, of course, the audience and the home viewers. *The King's Speech* was given many awards. Not only did it win best picture, but it also was awarded for directing and original screenplay. Colin Firth was named Best Actor in a leading role for his part in the movie.

The Fighter saw Best Actor and Actress in a supporting role for Christian Bale and Melissa Leo. Natalie Portman won Best Actress in a leading role for her part in *Black Swan*.

Swan.

Toy Story Three was awarded for best Animated Film. It also won Best Original Song. Unsurprisingly, Best Art Design and Best Costume Design were awarded to *Alice in Wonderland*.

Inception won for Cinematography and Visual Effects. The Sound Mixing and Editing were also awarded to this great film. The Film Editing in *The Social Network* was given an award and this movie also won for Original Score and Adapted Screen Play.

The Best Live Action Short

Film Oscar was given to *God of Love* and *The Lost Thing* won Best Animated Short Film. *In a Better World* won Best Foreign-Language Film. Best Makeup was given to *The Wolfman*. The Best Feature Documentary was awarded to *Inside Job*. *Strangers No More* was given the Best Short Subject Documentary.

The Oscar's were very entertaining. The presenters, Anne Hathaway, and James Franco were very funny and amusing to watch. Now all we can do is wonder what next year's Academy Awards will bring.

By: Whitney Spencer

"The presenters, Anne Hathaway, and James Franco were very funny and amusing to watch."

Vampire Diaries Review

Vampire Diaries is television show on the CW. It began airing on September, 2009. The show follows the life of Elena Gilbert, an 18 yr. old girl. Elena immediately falls in love with a 160 yr. old vampire named Stefan Salvatore. The show takes place in Mystic Falls, Virginia.

Stefan has a vampire brother that likes Elena. Both brothers fall for Elena

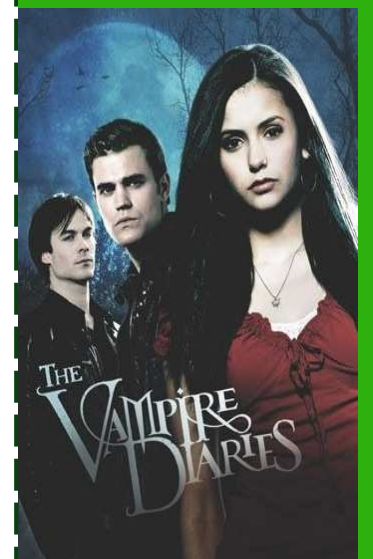
because she is the doppelganger (look-a-like) of a girl Katherine who is a 535 yr. old vampire. Katherine was both boys' girlfriend at one point before the show was started.

Katherine saved herself by becoming a vampire. Katherine enjoys fooling people by pretending to be Elena. During the last episode, Stefan and Damon are getting tired

of Katherine's mind games. Bonnie (a witch) and Stefan try convincing Luka and Jonas (warlocks) to join their side, but they're still suspicious. They break into the Salvatore house and that leads them to their death.

Vampire Diaries is currently on a break but will be returning on April 7th at 8:00 p.m.

By: Paige Phillips



Who's ready for some Maple Syrup?



In Erie County, maple sugar is a big thing because we have a lot of maple trees. Maple sugar comes from maple sap. People put a hole in the tree and then place a bucket there. Then they bring the sap inside and can make it into different things like maple sugar and maple syrup.

Is maple sugar a new thing that people just learned about? No, people have been doing it for years. Even in the pioneer days they made maple sugar so it has been around for a long time.

There are a few places you can go to watch how to make maple sugar and do it yourself. Here is a list of places you can go:

Smith's Maple Farm
Hamburg, NY

Benz Sugar Shanty and
Maple Products
East Concord, NY

Gabel's Maple Syrup
Collins, NY

Kist Maple Syrup
Boston, NY

Maple Glen Sugar House
Gowanda, NY

Here's a fun recipe for using
maple syrup at home:

Maple Snow Candy

Ingredients

1 cup maple syrup

¼ cup salted butter

clean snow or ice cream

Directions:

1). In a medium sized pot over medium heat, heat syrup and butter together until the mixture reaches 220°F-235°F on a candy thermometer,

which is between the thread and soft ball shape stage. If you don't have a candy thermometer, time it for about 5 minutes after it comes to a boil, and then pour a little onto a plate that's been in the fridge. When the syrup is ready, it should thicken up into soft taffy on the plate, if it doesn't, then you should cook it a minute or two longer. Be careful because it is going to be very hot!

2). Let the mixture cool off for a couple of minutes, then pour it by the spoonful over bowls of clean snow (or ice cream), where it will harden into a sweet lump of maple sugar instantly. Then enjoy your tasty maple treat!

By: Cameron Markott

"How to be patient, how to have fun, and how important children's education is."

-Mr. Kubala on what being an art teacher has taught him.

Interview with Hoover Art Teachers

Christina: Mrs. Indrison, if you weren't an art teacher what would you be?

Mrs. Indridson: I would be something in gardening.

Christina: Who inspired you to be an art teacher?

Mrs. Indridson: My own art teacher inspired me.

Christina: Is art a great opportunity for students?

Mrs. Indridson: Oh my

gosh, yes!

Christina Dang: Who inspired you to be an art teacher?

Mr. Kubala: Rosemarie Cardoso, my art teacher at Kenmore West.

Christina Dang: If you weren't an art teacher what would you be?

Mr. Kubala: An artist, or drummer in a jazz band.

Christina Dang: Do you enjoy your job?
Mr. Kubala: Yes.

Christina Dang: Being an art teacher, what has it taught you?

Mr. Kubala: How to be patient, how to have fun, and how important children's education is.

By: Christina Dang



St. Patty's Day History

Even though St. Patrick's Day happened last Thursday, we here at the newspaper thought it would be nice to know the history of this holiday and how things like wearing green and getting ourselves pinched came from.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated each year on March 17th. This day marks the accepted date in 493 CE of St. Patrick's death. This Holiday is celebrated by the Roman

Catholic Church in Ireland as a solemn and holy day of obligation. Few accurate historical details are known about St. Patrick's mission to Ireland; but a lot of popular legends are related to his work and have a major role in Irish culture.

The shamrock's relation with St. Patrick's Day comes from the popular myth that says St. Patrick used the three leaves of the plant to explain

Catholicism's holy trinity to the Irish. The holiday is also widely celebrated as a secular celebration of Irish culture. Cities around the world hold St. Patrick's Day Parades and festivals to mark the holiday, with many people participating in the "wearing of the green," and eating Irish food. Hope you enjoyed St. Patrick's Day!

By: Rebekah Dunn

Congratulations to our winning submissions from our "Guess Who" trivia from last issue. We chose one entry for the prize giveaway.
 Answer: Robert Pattinson
 Winner: Nicole Czamara
 Please stop by Miss Campanella's room for a prize! Please don't forget to submit a question to get some advice from the Guiding Dragons! You can also submit answers to this month's Rebus puzzles to the box outside room 243!

REBUS Puzzles by: Matthew Sternin

1. **VA DERS**
2. **ECONOMY**
3. **1,2,3,..., 40 LIFE**
4. **ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ**
5. **give get**
give get
give get
give get
6. **L**
O
V
E
7. **KNEE**
UR FULL OF



We're on the Web— Just go to the Hoover Middle School Homepage and click on the Dragon Chronicle Tab!

Colors Word Search by: Alyssa Weber

E	D	Y	E	D	Z	V	D	S	G	K	Y
G	C	C	W	U	W	O	E	H	R	N	I
N	N	O	Q	H	L	G	C	Z	E	I	Z
A	E	P	I	F	W	B	U	L	E	P	Y
R	C	T	H	D	U	O	P	F	N	Q	Y
O	E	K	L	X	B	R	L	G	M	Z	A
Q	I	O	M	U	U	L	Y	L	U	G	A
P	G	Y	L	P	O	V	A	X	E	C	H
R	E	D	X	E	Y	A	E	C	L	Y	I
X	W	L	E	B	N	H	O	J	K	J	U
S	I	L	V	E	R	H	N	C	H	U	I
B	M	F	J	I	S	N	W	O	R	B	V

WORD BANK

BLACK	BLUE	BROWN
GOLD	GREEN	ORANGE
PINK	PURPLE	RED
SILVER	WHITE	YELLOW

ADVICE

Dear Guiding Dragons,

I am so stressed out. I am doing so many clubs and sports and keeping up with my school work seems impossible! Please help!

From,
 Stressed-to-the-max!

Dear
 Stressed-to-the-max,

Life can be stressful sometimes! Try using your agenda to keep up with your homework. Maybe drop a club or two. Remember, school work comes first!

From,
 Guiding Dragons