

TIGER TIMES

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Tigers at Your Service: *IBHS* hosts community service day



Photos taken by Tiger Times Staff

By Lillian K. & Ms. Sewell
Freshman Reporter & Adviser

On March 10, Illini Bluffs High School continued its annual Community Service Day, an opportunity for students to engage in various acts of service to help the community. On that day, high school students worked both inside and outside on the school grounds, as well as in places in the Glasford area. These activities included helping the Canton Salvation Army, helping at local horse stables, making Chia Pets and Disney art with elementary schoolers, making blankets for the Ronald McDonald House, helping out at Neighborhood House in Peoria, and picking up litter around Glasford.

This edition contains several stories written by our reporters who participated in these various activities. If you would like to read more about Illini Bluffs’ community outreach, please see “Tigers at Your Service” on P6 and “A Magical Opportunity” below.

A Magical Opportunity

By Anna S.
Sophomore Reporter

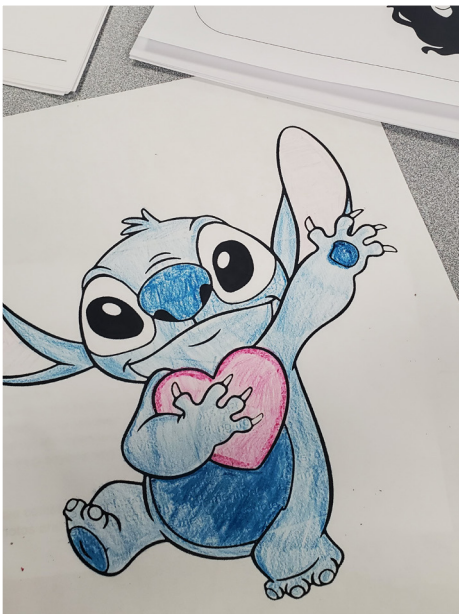
One of the most beloved teachers in our school, Mr. Hallstrom, hit it out of the park again with thinking outside of the box! This year he and his Disney-themed community hour students chose to go help our own elementary schoolers by going to the elementary school library and drawing with grades first through fifth.

The idea was to encourage the young students to go outside of their shell and practice the arts, all while meeting an excellent group of high schoolers for them to look up to.

Ella W., a junior, was a part of this exceptional group of students. Her favorite part of the whole experience was merely “seeing the kids excited to see the highschoolers.” Her friend, fellow junior Nikki O., added onto this with her own favorite part: “when the quiet kids who don’t want to color end up coloring.”

Ms. Parker, the elementary school librarian, was ecstatic to have us there, saying how much she loved it numerous times. When being directly asked how she felt about the whole unique experience, she stated, “[I] love it! It is always nice when the highschool students come to the elementary school! When all our buildings interact it builds a sense of community. The elementary school students really look up to the highschool students and absolutely enjoy spending time with them. I hope we continue building great relationships within our school district.”

In the end this service day was a complete success, more so than expected! Community is an important key to Illini Bluffs’ beliefs, thus participating in this project was an honor to give back and make our own community even stronger. This was a win for our school district, and hopefully we will continue to build upon this foundation of community outreach.



Library News:

Caudill Voting and Media Literacy

By Bre S.
Senior Reporter

As we near Mid-March at Illini Bluffs High School, the high school library has held many engaging events and has several more planned for this month that might just catch your eye.

On Feb. 27, the Illini Bluffs Middle School Book Club had their final meeting where they had the opportunity to vote on their favorite book from 20 Rebecca Caudill Book Award nominees. Mrs. Coulter, head of the Illini Bluffs Book Club, tallied up these votes and came to the realization that there was a tie: “Scratch Scratch” by Lindsay Currie and “Fighting Words” by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

High school members of the Illini Bluffs Book Club will have the same opportunity to vote on their favorite book from the 20 Rebecca Caudill Book Award nominees on March 15, so keep an eye out for the winner; hopefully, we’ll see you in the library soon to check out that popular book, whatever it may be. Besides the vote amongst book club members, there is also other exciting news that is coming up in the library.

Librarian Mrs. Erin Coulter and English teacher Mrs. Rachel Roderick are partnering up to teach a series of media literacy lessons, specifically to freshman students at Illini Bluffs High School. This is an amazing opportunity for many freshman students to expand their knowledge of the media literacy world and allows students to pursue a passion they may have never found otherwise.

Overall, Illini Bluffs library has, and has had, many opportunities this month, both past and present. Between strolling into the library to find a popular book that you may like to freshman students having the opportunity to expand their knowledge on topics otherwise unknown to them, there are plenty of opportunities that Mrs. Coulter and I hope to see students to pursue.

Student Council

By Autumn G.
Senior Reporter

Hi Illini Bluffs High School!

Thank you for all your participation last month! We loved seeing your awesome dance moves at the Valentine’s Vice Versa in early February, and the competition at Anything Goes this year was great! If you took any pictures at either of these events, please feel free to share them with us. We are hoping to make an end of the year recap in the next few months!

March is a pretty quiet month for the Student Council, but make sure you don’t forget to wear your St. Patrick’s Day green on March 17th! Also, Spring Break is just around the corner on March 27th through March 31st. Think about some fun things you can do with your friends over that week to relax and rejuvenate for the last couple months of school!

As always, the Student Council’s goal is to help our fellow students make lots of memories and have fun while in high school. We love to hear from you and are always on the lookout for new ideas and / or feedback on our events! Our Student Council email is ibstuco@ib327.com and our Instagram is [@ibhs_stuco](https://www.instagram.com/ibhs_stuco).

Spring Fling:

Whether you’re taking a vacation or staying at home, we have the perfect spring break playlist for you!



Happy Birthday

- Gabrielle G.- March 4th

Evan N.- March 4th

Adrienne G.- March 5th

Kaylynn S.- March 6th

Annabelle F.- March 7th

Clara L.- March 12th

Christian L.- March 12th

Olivia M.- March 13th

C.J. Grice- March 15th

Morgan L.- March 15th

Mazzi R.- March 19th

Skylar G.- March 21st

Liam M.- March 22nd
- Charlie F.- March 22nd

Katie N.- March 22nd

Levi A.- March 23rd

Isabell D.- March 23rd

Amelia H.- March 24th

Lila H.- March 24th

William A.- March 24th

Madelyn W.- March 25th

Ms. Sewell- March 28th

Emily N.- March 29th

Tessa-H. March 30th

Trevor R.- March 30th

Eli H.- March 31st

Tiger on the Prowl

IBHS students tell us about their spring break plans

By C.J. Grice
Senior Reporter



“My plans are to have Kyline take Bre and I to Starbucks through the drive-through to conquer her fear of going through drive-throughs, and we might also go to Starved Rock.” - Lindsey H.

“It’s gonna start pretty well, and then it’s gonna get, you know, greasy”
- Levi A.



“I’m probably gonna hang out with my good buddy, my good friend, my good pal.”
- Will G.

“I plan to sleep in” - Gab G.



And Then There Were None

By Celine L.
Junior Reporter

This spring, our IBHS drama club will perform “And Then There Were None,” a murder mystery written by Agatha Christie set in England, in 1939 as Europe is on the verge of war. Ten strangers with questionable pasts are brought to Soldier Island, just off the Devon coast. Here, they are entirely cut off from the mainland. To their surprise, their hosts are yet to appear. They are the only ones on the island, but slowly they all start to die, sending them into a panic to figure out who the killer is.

The search for the killer is an intriguing process that is guaranteed to leave the audience on the edge of their seats. “What Agatha Christie does is brilliant in this play. She really twists the minds of the audience making it hard to keep track of possible suspects. Everyone is accused and is accusable,” said Jake T, playing Dr. Armstrong. The cast and crew believe that it will be very difficult to find the killer because of how well they are hidden amongst the group.

The IBHS Drama Club has been working diligently to put this show together. The 24 dedicated cast and crew members are very proud of their work and excited to show it off.

“From the very beginning, I was excited to put on this show. In the first week the actors had such defined ideas of who their characters were and where they wanted to take this show. Truly, that vision has carried us where we are today,” said Ms. Sewell, assistant director.

After seeing the performance of “The Crucible,” which received a great deal of recognition, many people say they are just as excited to see this show, and audience members are expecting a performance just as good, if not better. If you love murder mysteries I highly recommend seeing your classmates perform on Friday, March 17th and Saturday March 18th at 7:30 and Sunday, March 19th at 2:30.



Baseball Pre-Season

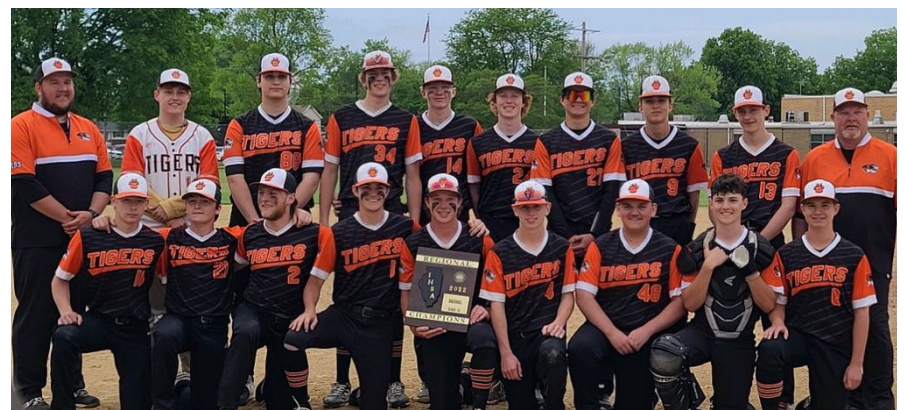
By Chris F.
Contributor

Baseball is all set to go this season, with a stacked team and incredibly good chances for a successful run.

This upcoming baseball season will be exciting, with Brandon Coats coming off a great season and Josh Vaughn expected to do great things this season as well. I feel as though we have the necessary pieces this year to make it far.

Last year, we ended up falling short of the sectional championship after a strong regular season. With a solid but young pitching core the previous season, we showed that we have the potential to shut down lineups. We also showed that we can string together hits to score against anyone.

This year, with a more mature pitching rotation we expect to allow even fewer runs than we did last year. Our lineup is looking solid this year with Chris Drake and Will Giftos expected to generate a lot of runs.



A Legacy to Fill:

Watch out for this softball season

By Anna S.
Freshman Reporter

With the softball season starting up once again, everyone can feel the pressure building. Our softball team has won two state championships back to back. However, with last year’s star seniors leaving, there is a big spot to fill.

When a returning player, Tessa H., was asked how she felt about this gap she responded with, “I know there is a big spot to fill, but we have freshmen that are willing to fill it and people who didn’t play last year... We just need to figure out what’s wrong, fill in the blanks, and have the best nine on the field.” Tessa was self-assured that this year was going to be as strong as any other year.

This all is without mentioning this year’s seniors that will be sure to step up into the spotlight. One of these seniors include Zoe E., who had a total of six home runs last year! The coach, Mrs. Schafer will be sure to work on perfecting the unique skill set each player has out on the field while making everyone work as one team, freshmen and all.

While the stress is already setting in, so is the hope for another state title. It will require the teams’ best efforts, and a lot of practice, but we might just have another championship team on our hands.

The Origin of St. Patrick’s Day

By Lauren B.
Freshman Reporter

It’s almost Saint Patty’s Day! Who doesn’t love to go around pinching people for not wearing green? Although most people like celebrating Saint Patrick’s day for the shamrocks and good luck, Saint Patty’s Day is way more than a fun little holiday.

Here in America, this holiday is a time to wear green, hunt for leprechauns, and even dance an Irish jig, if you’re up for it! The people of Ireland, though, usually take a more traditional approach, attending church in the morning and celebrating Saint Patrick in the afternoon, feasting on Irish bacon and cabbage and drinking various... beverages.

The holiday’s namesake, Saint Patrick, was alive during the fifth century and was the patron saint of Ireland and is its national apostle. Although his birth name is Maewyn Succat, he quickly gained a new nickname of a Saint. Maewyn is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland after being captured from Roman Britain at the age of sixteen and held captive. Legend says he explained the Holy Trinity using three leaves from a native Irish flower, the shamrock or clover.

Since the ninth century, people in Ireland have gathered to feast on March 17. The holiday only became popular in America in 1772 due to Irish military personnel, who were serving the English Military when they decided to start marching in honor of Saint Patrick in New York, which caused enthusiasm to grow rapidly.

Although March 17 was originally meant to honor Saint Patrick, different people and cultures around the world celebrate the holiday with their own traditions. Overall, Saint Patrick’s day is about enjoying yourself and celebrating the Irish Saint.

Make Your Own Luck



Comic by Mr. Hallstrom

Student Spotlight:

By **Katie A.**
Freshman Reporter

At Illini Bluffs, students who go above and beyond stand out in our IBHS classrooms. Sophia G. is one such student, with her willingness to give a helping hand and her ability to work with anyone setting her apart from her peers. Nominated for her efforts with the Anything Goes banner and her positive outlook during the event, Sophia is a student that is not afraid to step up.

In the fall, Sophia is usually seen playing volleyball here at IB. Not only is she an athlete, but she is also an amazing student. On and off the court, she shows kindness and an upbeat spirit.

Sophia always tries her best in the classroom and strives for excellence, maintaining a dedicated work ethic.

“You get what you work for, the amount of effort you put into something is what you receive,” says Sophia.

Many students and teachers recognize also recognize her leadership ability. An example of her

excellence was during the weeks leading up to Anything Goes. She was always seen after school adding details and leading others with the Freshman banner. Ms. Gorsuch, recognizes her school spirit, “for the ‘finale’ of Anything Goes, Sophia ensured the freshmen class had unique posters to encourage the students to participate in events.” During Anything Goes events, she was quick to jump into any event that needed someone, while still demonstrating her competitive spirit.

As a freshman, Sophia has many plans for her success during her high school career. She hopes of joining publications at IB, and with her good grades, is looking at NHS as well. She has already thought about what career she wants to pursue later in life, the medical field.

Given her knowledge of what’s expected in the medical field, she knows that communication with others is crucial. As such, she is never afraid to talk to someone new or work with new people. High school has helped her develop those social skills that are so important for anyone, let alone anyone in medical services.

Sophia and her pure-hearted personality make Illini Bluffs high school a better place, one smile at a time.



One-On-One Debate:

Which is Better: Creamy or Crunch Peanut Butter?

Oh So Smooth!

By **Cassy G.**
Junior Reporter

Creamy or Chunky peanut butter, that is the world’s biggest question. Which one is better? I’m here to tell you that creamy is no doubt the best, and CJ will tell you otherwise. He will say that chunky is the way to go, and he is wrong!

When making a sandwich, you want a peanut butter that spreads smoothly and easily. Not one that takes longer to spread and might tear up that piece of bread. The importance of spreadability of creamy peanut butter is not only for bread, but it’s so much better on a bagel.

When you are trying to eat a sandwich or bagel, you don’t want the crunchiness that Chunky PB brings. Creamy peanut butter is very smooth, and has a good balance of a sweet and salty taste. You don’t want to change that by having chunks in the peanut butter. Chunky peanut butter gets stuck in your teeth, whereas creamy does not.

When it comes to health, creamy peanut butter is proven healthier. It is loaded with so many good health-promoting nutrients, including vitamin E, magnesium, iron, selenium and vitamin B6. It also has more protein than chunky peanut butter. If you are looking for something healthier, go with creamy.

One of the big questions around the world is, which peanut butter is better, creamy or chunky? CJ says chunky is better, but most of the world will agree with me and say creamy peanut butter is the better choice. Not just the world agrees, but students at IB agree as well. There was a vote, 26 people answered, and 17 said creamy was the better option, only 9 said that chunky was the way to go.

These are just some reasons why you should choose creamy over chunky. CJ will try and tell you otherwise, but he is telling lies. Be a part of the people in the world that agree, creamy is better than chunky!



Chunky For the Win

By **C.J. Grice**
Senior Reporter

Regular peanut butter is boring. You can’t eat that stuff by itself; no one can. It’s too simple and bland. Its dry, and it sticks to the roof of your mouth.

Chunky peanut butter goes well with jelly. Chunky peanut butter makes the jelly stand out because of the different textures. Jelly is slimy and gooey, but chunky peanut butter’s got a crunchy texture that offsets it perfectly. It’s the difference between the two condiments that makes a good sandwich. Crunch and slime: very different, very good together.

Chunky peanut butter is also the best kind of peanut butter for giving dogs medicine. Some dogs won’t be fooled by simple creamy peanut butter; they’ll easily notice that pill and NOT eat it. Though, with chunky peanut butter, they can’t tell. There are so many chunks they’ll end up just eating the pill along with the peanuts.

Probably the most notorious problem with eating regular peanut butter is that it sticks to your mouth and leaves remains well after the first swallow. With chunky peanut butter, that won’t be an issue. You don’t have to oscillate your tongue up and down, side to side trying to clean the creamy peanut butter off of that mouth of yours. You can just crunch away all the cream and not be irritated any longer. When you’re done eating peanut butter, you should be done—that’s the common belief among crunchy bunch.

Chunky peanut butter is by far the most self-sufficient snack.



Women's History Month

By **Katie A.**

Freshman Reporter

Society told them to stay at home. It told them they didn't have a right to learn or vote and that they didn't belong in a "man's" world. Despite this, innumerable groups of women have blazed their own trail, turned heads, and even altered the course of history altogether.

March is Women's History month, a time to acknowledge women who have often gone unacknowledged.

Let's start this article with the hidden faces, the ones that the history books forget to tell: Henrieta Lacks, or more specifically, her cells that changed the world. In 1951, Lacks was hospitalized at Johns Hopkins, where a tumor was found on her. The experts took a sample of her cancer cells during a biopsy, where they were later sent to Dr. George Grey. The cells were unlike anything he had ever seen before; they didn't die quickly unlike the other cells. Her cells doubled approximately every 24 hours. From that point on, her cells have helped researchers with advances in HPV and Polio vaccinations, medications for HPV and AIDS, and even new breakthroughs such as invitro fertilization. Today her cells are still helping. During the pandemic's start, Henerieta's Cells were used in essential research for COVID-19. Without Henrietta Lacks, medicine would not be where it is today.

Another hidden face of women's history month is Marie Curie. When Marie's name is mentioned in science classes, few genuinely know much about her and her outstanding achievements. She has always had a great hunger for knowledge, working hard to learn and continue reading despite living in abject poverty. She desired to be a teacher, but it was difficult without a formal high school education. Knowing her longing for knowledge, her sister offered her an opportunity to stay in Paris and attend university, where she went in 1891. While in Paris, Curie met her future husband, Pierre Curie, who has the same desire for knowledge. After marriage, the Curies began working on researching invisible rays that are produced by uranium.

Curie believed she had found a new chemical element when researching minerals such as pitchblende, which contains uranium ore. Over the course of their research, they were highly exposed to radioactivity. Marie blazed her own trail in the Science industry, being the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize. In 1903, she received half of a Nobel Prize for physics, while the other half was given to her husband. Later, in 1911, she received a second Nobel in chemistry for her work in radioactivity. To this day, she is the only woman to receive two Nobel Prizes. Without her drive, we would not have some of the modern day technologies that we use in medicine today; she helped search for treatments of cancer and also x rays with her studies with radioactivity.

A modern-day woman who is changing the world one sail at a time is Emily Penn. While hitching-hiking across water on a biofuel boat, she was led through the Pacific Garbage patch. Penn had studied in architecture and was headed for Australia for a job as an architect. But after going through this patch, Penn was appalled and began brainstorming ways to help. Since then, she has worked on collecting information about plastic pollution and ways to prevent it.

On her journey to cutting down pollution, Penn founded eXXpedition, a group of women who go on trips to collect data on the microplastics found in the ocean in order to discover solutions for the pollution issue at hand. In addition to this work, Penn has led community clean-ups, which prompted her to launch a platform called SHiFT in 2020.

This platform allows people to find numerous solutions to help ocean pollution in the best way for them. On the SHiFT platform, there are numerous options to click on that give you in depth information, and the challenges and benefits that come with it. For example, it gives tips. For example, "Utilize plastic-free bubble wrap." It then explains that there is an alternative to the bubble wrap called Flexi-Hex. This is a cardboard option that uses a honeycomb-like shape to protect the package.

For her hard work, Penn has won many awards, such as the Fitzroy Award at the 2016 Ocean Awards. She is also the youngest recipient of the Yachtmaster of the Year, not to mention the only woman. Penn wishes to inspire a whole community of changemakers that, much like her, strive to make an impact on our planet.

Part Time Jobs

By **Kristina Petrey**

Editor-in-chief

With summer approaching, students getting their licenses, and parents yelling at their kids that they're being lazy and need to do something, now is the perfect time to find a part time job.

I would like to think that I am pretty knowledgeable in terms of jobs for high schoolers. At the ripe age of 14, I worked at my aunt's landscaping company pulling weeds out of people's gardens. It wasn't the best. Grueling hours spent outside in the 100+ degree weather trying to decide if something is a weed or an actual flower. But, it built my work ethic. It helped me realize that if you are going to do something, you have to make sure you do it well, you're proud of it, and that you actually complete the job. Despite this job being physically demanding, it truly helped me evolve as a person and I urge everyone to have at least one job where physical labor is prominent.

Shortly after I turned 16, I got my second job working at Dairy Queen in Bartonville. Another unfortunate job. But, honestly, all jobs are unfortunate, so you just gotta deal with it. Here, I learned how to multitask. I needed to ensure that I was taking orders, making food, and navigating around the building to ensure that I would get the food to the customers in a timely manner. I also learned how to navigate customer complaints and improved my communication skills, and, most importantly, I created a sense of respect for every person who works a customer service job because 1. In the words of my mother, "common sense is a fruit that doesn't grow on every tree," and 2. People are rude almost always. Again, I urge everyone to work a job like this because I changed the way I look at work and jobs. I eventually quit this job and moved on to my next before coming back.

After that, I worked at AMC Theatres in Pekin. Now, this job is a whole thing. I learned so much about resolving workplace conflicts, including figuring out how to work with people who are, quite frankly, lazier than you. This job was unnecessary high stress, which eventually led me to quitting, but I have to acknowledge that it helped me improve myself and changed my outlook again.

Overall, my experience with minimum wage jobs has been pretty mid, but these jobs have changed who I am as a person and inspired me to choose the career I want now. I say, if you can work, work. Not only do you get a sense of accomplishment when you watch your bank account grow, but you also build your work ethic, and improve your communication skills.

Keep in mind, you're not above any job, which is something I've noticed in other people. Working fast food doesn't make you any less of a person; if anything, it makes you cooler and gives you a sense of camaraderie with anyone else who's worked in the industry.

How to Build a Mini Garden

By **Kristina Petrey**

Editor-in-Chief

Illinois' conversion from the prairie state to the state in which the amount of corn probably triples the amount of people has been, quite frankly, disappointing. With the warm weather approaching, now is the perfect time to bring back the rainbow beauty that once flooded this state.

Making a pollinator garden is the number one way to #SaveTheBees. Providing an abundance of food will make bee's lives just so much easier. Honestly, it's not that difficult on your end either. No green thumb needed.

Step 1: Pick a location

You have to pick a spot which would work best for you. This area would preferably be a low traffic area with a decent amount of sunshine. Flowering plants typically require a decent amount of sun to create blossoms, so try to find an area that has partial sun, or full sun, to create the best results.

Step 2: Choose your plants

Now, to create a pollinator garden, you want to have plants that create a lot of flowers. Ideally, one would choose plants native to Illinois, but you don't have to. Some beautiful flowers native to our state are Cone Flowers, the Blue Flag Iris, or even some traditional Irises.

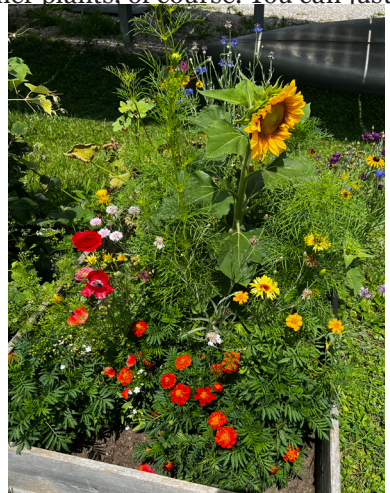
If those aren't your cup of tea, there are other plants, of course. You can just go to the store and find a wildflower seed mix.

Step 3: Check planting dates

Now, different flowers require to go into the ground at different times, requiring a specific temperature, hardness of the soil, or amount of rainfall. It typically says on the packet when to put the seeds in the ground, so make sure to check the package before you plant.

Step 4: Plant the seeds

Finally, just put the seeds in the ground. Water when needed, and witness the fruits of your labor grow!! It's honestly easier than you anticipate. You can jazz it up for your family friendly pollinators by adding a hummingbird feeder filled with a white sugar syrup or a little bird bath for both birds and bees alike. I recommend adding cute little mushrooms and fairy-like decor to create a magical area all your own!





Tigers At Your Service



Glasford Clean-Up

By C.J. Grice
Senior Reporter

The Movie Magic and Local History community hours spent hours going around Glasford and cleaning up trash for community service day. Many buckets of trash were collected, and, by the end, the sidewalks looked much cleaner.

The cleanup was ran by two teachers, Mr. Adamczyk and Mr. Waters. Mr. Adamczyk had this to say about the volunteersim: “I think we’re doing a nice service for the community trash around town we’ve gotten quite a lot already so I think its helping getting the environment clean.”

Mr. Waters had this to say about the community hour project: “When I thought about this idea I lived in Peoria, and when I go to Peoria sometimes its not always like the cleanest looking place in certain areas and to me sometimes that affects my mood a little bit. I just feel like doing this around the school and then right down Main Street [will allow residents] to feel a bit better.”



A ‘Warm’-hearted act of Service

By Kristina Petrey
Editor-In- Chief

On March 10, Mrs. Edmonds’ “Pay it Forward” community hour handmade blankets for the Ronald McDonald house, a charity dedicated to helping children who are admitted to hospitals. Charity work has always been a passion to Edmonds, who stated that she hopes it will encourage students to keep the good work going in the future.

“It’s a time for students to learn how to help. And hopefully, it will encourage to donate time in the future and cultivate the good feeling you get when you do.”

Freshman Christian M. talked about how awesome it is that everyone highschooler spent their time working together to help people in need.

Of course, this isn’t the first time this community hour has been helping people. They have also gone to the Dream Center, Salvation Army, and Sam’s Pet Shelter, spending their time providing assistance wherever they’re needed.



Students Learn to Save the Planet:

By Lauren B.
Freshman Reporter

The annual community service day is always a wonderful time, with students coming together to help the greater good. This year, first-time freshman math teacher, Miss G, held a recycling project to teach the younger generation all about preserving the materials on our planet.

The vision of the project was simple; the community hour decided on teaching IB third graders all about our environment, followed up by an activity: chia pets.

Ms. Gorsuch, the freshman math teacher in charge, said, “My vision was to get students to be a little more aware of the environment, and then give them a piece of the environment to take back home with them, hence the chia pets.”

After starting the morning with breakfast pizza, the third-grade class began creating their chia pets with pantyhose and painting the pots.

The chia pet community hour was a huge success, and kids loved it! Most kids decided to decorate their pots with the help of the high schoolers, and had so much fun painting different characters and facial expressions.

Adam L., a third-grade student, said, “My favorite part is that my grass looks like it has a giant brain.”

Overall, the community hour was definitely a hit, and an idea to save for the future.



Captain of the Custodians: Shirley Lee

By Lauren B.
Freshman Reporter



Everyone loves coming to school in the morning and having a clean and tidy environment, but have you ever thought about who cleans up everything? Surely it can’t be little cleaning fairies, so who is in charge of keeping everything tidy?

Shirley, the head custodian of the Middle School, ensures everything is perfect for IB students. When asked about her everyday duties, she explained what her job is all about.

“I clean, sanitize, make small repairs as I can, and just generally do whatever I can to make our school as safe and clean as I can. I do my job so the teachers can do theirs without the stress of worrying about unsanitary or unsafe surroundings”.

Shirley is in charge of most clean-up in the school and stays late into the night to make sure everything is clean and tidy for the students and staff. Shirley is certainly an important member of the school staff, and the people that keep her going are the students and staff she surrounds herself with daily.

“Our staff and students throughout the entire district have kept me going when I have rough times. They have given me moral, spiritual, and financial support and even physically helped me with things I can’t do. I’m positive that I wouldn’t have been able to carry on at times without the support of our entire village.”

Although Shirley is primarily the middle school custodian, she also cleans the English hallway, and many of our high school students adore Shirley for her lovely personality.

When asked about her favorite thing about Shirley, freshman Katie A. had this to say:

“She always has a smile on her face that brightens my day.”