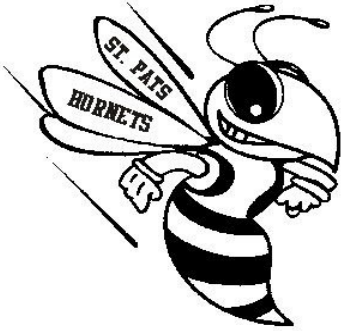


May/June 2011



ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL: HOME OF THE HORNETS

What's the Buzz?

St. Pat's Gives Back

By: Gina L.

Every Easter St. Patrick's Student Council makes Easter baskets for an abuse shelter called "A Safe Place". Before I get too much into that though, I should explain what student council is and what it means to St. Pat's.

The dictionary definition of Student Council is: *a representative body composed chiefly of students chosen by their*

classmates or teachers to organize social and extracurricular activities. The meaning of Student Council to us students, though, is people who are important because they help us

have fun activities and are good leaders. Students also think the Student Council isn't praised and appreciated as much as they should be. Maybe this is true, so it's time to recognize their accomplishments.

Now, let's get back to the Easter baskets. "A Safe Place" is a shelter located in Zion, where women and children go to escape from domestic violence in their homes. These women and children have usually nothing except the clothes on

their back, so St. Pat's wanted to give back by making Easter baskets filled with toys, candy, writing and coloring utensils, and toiletries. I asked Kathleen, a 7th grader, and Emma, a 6th grader, who are apart of student council, some questions on this.

I first asked them how they felt when they were making the Easter baskets. Kathleen responded, "I feel good because I am helping people in need." Emma said, "I feel great because I am giving things to people who don't have much." I also asked them if they enjoyed making the Easter baskets and if they think that it's good that they are doing this.

Kathleen said, "Yes because they need to know that some people care about them after domestic violence has come upon them." Emma said, "Yes, because they don't have much after being treated that poorly."

Helping people is important. A lot of things we just expect to have, but other people have to depend on others to help them get the things they need. St. Patrick's Student Council helps with that, and you can too if you go to <http://www.asafeplaceforhelp.org>.



Disaster Relief

By: Jenna W.

Imagine sitting at home when all of a sudden, your windows are broken by a giant wave and you see your family getting flushed away by strong rapids and undercurrents. This is what happened to most of the people in Japan when the 23-foot tsunami happened on March 11, 2011. Now imagine your town being full of rubble and sad, ill people. Your family is gone, and your friends are, too; wouldn't you like to be helped?

Well, the people in Japan are getting help. But that doesn't mean we should stop helping. Many companies have been promoting Japan. For example, Apple and Macintosh have a "donate to Japan" option in the app store. They also have an album, "Songs for Japan," that many artists have put songs on to help the cause. The artists aren't just doing that, they're also donating a lot of money! Stars like Justin Bieber, Taylor Swift, and Lady GaGa donated over a million dollars each.

There are also many ways you can help Japan too. One is visiting Redcross.org or texting "REDCROSS" to 90999 to donate ten dollars. Another one is going Salvation-ArmyUSA.org to find out how to donate money for clothes. Some people have even started walks and runs or fundraisers to help Japan recover.

There are so many ways to help Japan heal from this terrible event that is so big it might be in history books someday. Just remember, wouldn't you like to be helped if you were there?



Is it possible? A bunch of Wild West settlers' journals and letters all written in one book? What if it was written as a story? Yes! Thanks to Steven R. Kinsella we now have a book of voices from the homestead frontier. He is the author of this outstanding book and made great plains studies actually interesting. It's quite amazing really. It is all of the new, Western settlers, in the late 1800s to the early 1900s looking for a great farming advance. This time it's their stories. The settlers talk about encounters with American Indians and their battle for the land. Many army men were killed and scalped by Indians while trying to vanish them from the plains. This just didn't work at all so they looked at the next thing... the buffalo. The buffalo were needed for the Indians so the army men shot and burned the buffalo. This pushed the Indians onto reservations. The settlers also talked about illnesses. In those times, if you broke a bone, the body part in which the bone was broke must be cut off. This was done because there wasn't yet enough technology to heal a broken bone. Another thing they talked about was the weather. Mostly the blizzard of 1866. In 1866, there was an unexpected blizzard. It ended the day after it started with many school children, horses and buggies, parents, and teachers laying dead on the ground, frozen and choked to death from the coldness and snow.

The book got its name because the settlers lived truly in the middle of nowhere: nine-hundred miles from anywhere near a town. The wild western, Great plains area was North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and eastern New Mexico. In all, from north to south, it stretches 900 miles. Settlers of the Great Plains foresaw the future, experienced stark reality, harbored hopes and feared danger.... and they made it. They succeeded in a hard course of life. They were rewarded with life and free farm land this time. Not Money or fame. They were the true winners.



A Night To Be Remembered

By: Catherine P.

On May, 20th the 8th graders celebrated their last school dance. Everyone dressed in their formal wear: dresses for girls and dress ties and dress shirts.

Everyone said they had an amazing time. Ethan said, "It was Definitely the best dance yet."

The newest music was played, including "Friday" by Rebecca Black. Everyone got their groove on, including some teachers. Lots of cute couples enjoyed the slow songs together. Lots of room was available since it was held in Dyer Hall. Many memories were made and plenty of photos snapped as well. The girls all wore beautiful dresses and the guys looked very handsome in their shirts and ties. Many canned goods were collected for the food pantry thanks to the turn out.

After two and a half hours of great dancing it was time for the 8th grader's closing song. Everyone was moved as the Graduating Class of 2011 all held hands and formed a circle. They all started swaying to the song "Graduation Song" by Vitamin C. Many tears were shed when the song ended and many hugs were given all around. Some teachers were even misty eyed by the end! Even though the dance was officially over, many people hung out in the parking lot for group photos.

I know the school will join in wishing these 8th graders good luck in high school. They have done a lot for St. Pat's and know they have each made a lot of memories here. The dances are a fun time for everybody, but this dance for the 8th grade was truly a night to be remembered!

900 Miles from Nowhere: Book Review

By: Haley L.

St. Pat's Got Talent

By: Izzy C.

This year St. Patrick's school held its second annual Talent Show! The participants of the show worked really hard since the day they had heard about the talent show's try-outs and even before that.

During the try-outs, all the contestants were shaking, but the supervisors did a good job of getting the jitters out of us them. Mrs. Gilmore was helping out a few singers come up with a little act to do that they'll do there best and the judges were very understanding. Out of all the students that tried out, only 25 made it with 19 acts.

On Friday may 13th, the show took place. The school's band started off the show with a nice marching beat. Next was Linell singing to *Chasing Pavements*. This was Linell's first year in the Talent Show and did a fine job of hitting those high notes. The trio, Maddie, Allie, and Catherine, sang to the Dixie Chicks' *Landslide*. Right around the corner was the prep-py Sarah with her hula hoops. Sarah got the crowd pumped and clapping as she hula-hooped to *Right Round* the "chipmunk" version. Eighth grader Becky did a magnificent piano act on *Love Story* by the Beatles. Kara sang a very touching song, *Someone's Watching Over Me*. The popping Abbey preformed a dazzling dance to *Who Owns My Heart?* by Miley Cyrus. Then Maggie got the crowd riled up with the song *Mean* by Taylor Swift. Next, were the Blues Adventure Saxophonists, Stephanie, Ricky, Hayden, and McLain with their rocking shades. The 7th grader Stephanie slowed it down with swiftly dancing to *Someone Like You*. To end the 1st half of the show Maggie sang *Marry You* by Bruno Mars.

Eight grader Emily then sang soothingly to *When I Look at You*. There also were 5th graders Max and Luis bringing the magic to the show with *Hedwig's Theme* from the Harry Potter series. Next was Izzy with Whitney Huston's *I Have Nothing*. Troy was next, baton twirling to *Jumping the Line*. Adi and Maddie sang *For Good* from *Wiked*. Natalie was next, singing the Pochahontas song, *Colors of the Wind*. Olivia danced to *Love Song* wearing such a flowing dress that matched the song. The talented Clover sang *Love Story* with the pianist Julia, who also sang and played the piano to *New York State of Mind*. Last but not least, the school's Jazz Band filled the air with lovely, fast beat harmonies that were very exciting! Overall, it was a show to be remembered!



8th Graders Favorite Memories:

By: Abbey K.

These are some of the favorite memories of the Class of 2011:

Madi - Last 7th grade volleyball home game when everyone sprayed painted their hair green

Angela A. - First 6th grade dance in 2009.

Bernie - The Constitution Test in 8th grade.

Riley - 6th grade projects.

Patrick S.- Making rocket ships in kindergarten.

Sabrina - First day at SPS in 2nd grade.

Maggie - When Cassandra laughed so hard that she spit her milk out all over me.

Brighid - 8th grade May Crowning.

Alexia - Field trips and hanging out with friends.

Carrie - Mrs. Jennings facial expressions in Math class.

Tyler - First 7th grade dance, dancing with the 8th graders.

Matt L.- Mission Impossible.

Mark R Last SPS Basketball home game.

Emily - 8th grade Career Day, when the hair dresser did people's hair.

Kenny - All the people I have met and all the things I have learned.

Tess - When Cassandra laughed so hard that she spit her milk out all over the place.

Cassandra - First Jog-a-thon and hanging out with friends.

Kara - Maggie spiting popsicles in Myles face.

Claire - Was going tadpole fishing in the pond behind the Church with our 8th grade book buddy when I was in kindergarten.

Angela P.- Getting stuck in a canoe at Camp Duncan.

Ally - When I came to SPS.

Thomas B.- In 6th grade when I received a gift from Amy.

Joey - First Communion in 3rd grade.

Jaimee - In 7th grade, when my friend thought what my own little world looked liked.

Lizzy M.- Camp Ducan in 7th grade.

Erik - 4th grade Little House on the Prairie project.

Syd - Mrs. Miller in 3rd grade was dancing around for a spelling test.

Jordan - In 5th grade when Lizzy made me fall out of my chair.

Becky - 8th grade Jog-a-thon during the graduation song.

Drew - Stations of the Cross

Myles - Mr. Yelk dancing to the Bill of Rights Rap.

Italy - Was going tadpole fishing in the pond behind the Church with our 8th

Jacob - Got extra recess time for being good in 1st grade.



Pope John Paul Megan G.

Imagine a crowd of over one million people coming from around the world to cheer you on, but you are not even there! This was the situation in Rome on May 1st when over one million people gathered to see Pope John Paul II's beatification.

The beatification is the first step in becoming a saint. The current pope, Pope Benedict XVI, didn't follow the usual five-year waiting period before starting the process to put Pope John Paul II on the road to sainthood just weeks after his death. Pope John Paul II needs one more miracle attributed to him before he becomes a saint.

There were 1.5 million people in Rome watching the beatification and millions more crammed into churches around the world to see the event. The Beatification was heavily guarded.

There were police helicopters, police barricades, police boats patrolled near by rivers, and there were 5,000 uniformed troops at the event. Street vendors sold all kinds of John Paul trinkets such as shirts, key chains, bottle openers, cushions, and calendars.

John Paul II was a great example of a good Christian. He worked very hard to help end communism. He loved traveling around the world preaching the good news of Christ. In 1981 he was shot and seriously wounded in Rome. Later he forgave his attempted assassin.

John Paul II was an extraordinary man. Some people consider him a saint and he is now on his way to officially becoming one.

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/05/01/pope-benedict-xvi-beatifies-pope-john-paul-ii/>

Track Season **By:Ryan T.**

On your marks. . . get set. . . go! The crowd goes wild. Every competitor is hoping to cross the finish line first! This could only mean one thing. It's Track season!!

A Track and Field meet has two separate parts. There is a track part and a field part; hence "Track and Field." There are four main Field events: long jump, high jump, softball throw and shotput. Long jump involves running and jumping into a pit of sand. High jump is when an athlete runs a half-circle path and jumps sideways over a bar onto a big mat. Shotput and softball throw both involve throwing heavy balls as far as one can. There are several track events and they all involve running around the track. There are two kinds of races. One type of race is a distance race. One example of this is the 1600 meter run also known as the mile.

Each lap around the track is 400 meters. Therefore, a runner must complete 4 laps to make a mile. A runner needs to pace himself in order to do this race successfully. Another distance race is the 800 meter which involves 2 laps around the track. The second type of race is a sprint. An example of this race is the 100 meter dash. The runner must go a short distance as fast as he can! Other sprint races are the 200 meter and 400 meter runs.

Some of the races are relays. A relay team is made up of 4 athletes. One athlete begins the race and after running a certain distance, hands off a baton to the next teammate waiting to run. This goes on until the fourth runner crosses the finish line. Examples of this relay race are the 4 X 100 meter relay and the 4 X 200 meter relay.

Many things can happen at a Track and Field meet. Everything from dealing with freezing cold temperatures while trying to do the high jump, to trying to finish running the 800 meter while dealing with the pouring down rain. However, the most important thing that may happen is that an athlete may discover how good they are at an event. So if this sounds like fun to you, join the track team!



The Sounds of St. Pats

By Isa A.

On May 18th, 2011, was the St. Pats Spring Concert. Mr. Sobaki has yet again given endless sheets of sheet music and books for the Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced bands. Thanks to Mr. Sobaki and Mrs. Bosnak, each band concert is nearly perfect every time. Every band player has worked for about a whole year, fine tuning their instruments, staying with the beat of the conductor, Mr. Sobaki. As the last concert for the 8th Grader band players and a new era for future band players, everyone worked very hard for this band concert to be perfect.

This time, the Beginning Band played songs from around the world: Snake Charmer, Big Rock Candy Mountain, First Chorale, Mexican Jumping beans, Frere Jacques, Eagle Summit March, Blues Adventure, Minka Minka, and Aloha 'Oe.

Intermediate Band players changed it a little

bit playing songs from different composers. the songs included Anchors Away, Roman Festival March, Castles and Kings, and Harry Potter: Harry's Wonderful World & Hedwig's Theme.

Advanced Band players played many different kinds of songs like General Greene, Espana, Little French Suite, Land of a Thousand Dances, and That's All Folks from the Bug's Bunny television show.

The audience participated more and more in the show as it went on. The clapping got louder and louder!

In the end, everybody did a great job, and the school enjoyed it as well.

