

# Patriot Post

## News

### **Student of the Month**

**By Becca Drezen**

Maggie Bushman has been selected as one of the January students of the month for RMS. She told us that being chosen means that even though this is her last year at Reagan, she still feels that her unflinching courtesy is being noticed. She gives thanks to her parents for bringing her up the way they did. She loves school and says that Social Studies is her favorite class because she likes to learn about history and historical people and events. Maggie even considers every teacher is her favorite because in every class she learns something new and enjoys the different teaching methods of every different teacher. When Maggie grows up she would be elated if she became a lawyer, this is because she fancies solving puzzles and government. Maggie especially plans to go to law school so that she will acquire her dream job. So all in all, Maggie Bushman is a spectacular candidate for January student of the month.

### **Student of the Month**

**By Becca Drezen**

Hannah Derksen was chosen as a January Student of the Month. She says her inspiration comes from everyone around her, her family in particular. Hannah cannot be choose her favorite teacher or class, because she likes each class for its individual studies. She also says that she doesn't have a single favorite teacher because they are all great! In the future, Hannah would like to go into robotics. Technology and robotics fascinate her in every aspect. Hannah thinks that being chosen as Student of the Month shows that you have been showing exceptional respect, responsibility and readiness. Plus that they show good leadership and character qualities.

## **Arizona Tragedy**

On January 8, 2011 a devastating event happened in Tucson, Arizona. 19 people were shot at an open meeting held by U.S. Representative, Gabrielle Giffords. Out of the 19 people, 13 were injured and 6 were killed including a 9-year-old girl and a federal judge. The person that committed this terrible crime was Jared Loughner, age 22 of Tucson, Arizona. It was said that he had notes with his plans to kill Giffords. We are deeply sorry for these terrible losses, and we will be thinking about all of the survivors.

By Hannah Acker

## **Golden Globe Awards**

By Emily Brooks and Erika Renkes

Many people attended the awards with intentions of winning, but for some their hopes were lost. Still, with all the losses there were many winners. Among those lucky few were lead-acting awards for Natalie Portman in her thriller, "Black Swan" and Colin Firth for his role in "The King's Speech". Annette Bening and Paul Giamatti were also awarded with globes for musical and comedic lead roles. Most predict that this will be one of the best red carpet events of the year. For more on the Golden Globe Awards, check it out online.

## **Carnations**

Student Council will be selling carnations soon for Valentines Day. We will be selling them on the 26<sup>th</sup>, the 28<sup>th</sup>, and the 31<sup>st</sup> during your lunch hour for a dollar. Please know your recipients 8<sup>th</sup> hour class so it can be delivered to them. They will be passed out on Friday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your cooperation and we hope you buy a MILLION!

## **Rebecca Caudill Party**

**By Erika Renkes**

In February, Mrs. Bovey will have her annual Rebecca Caudill Party for everyone who has read three Rebecca Caudill 2011 books. This party includes snacks and hanging out with your friends. Also, you get to vote for your favorite Rebecca Caudill 2011 book. Then Mrs. Bovey will submit our votes to an organization and they will be joined with all the other voters in Illinois to decide which will be the winner. You may think this is a party for people who read all the time, but it isn't. You only have to read three out of the twenty best juvenile books in Illinois for 2011. If you feel like it you can even read all twenty and your name will be put on a plaque. For those who want to know if they qualified the list is on the library's door and will be updated every now and then.

## Spelling Bee

Article By: Justin Wilson

“Definition Please.”

“A contest in which competitors are eliminated as they fail to spell a given word correctly.”

“ Spelling Bee. S-p-e-l-l-i-n-g B-e-e”

“Correct!”

Spelling Bee tryouts were Thurs-

day, January 20th at 7:40 am in the library and Monday, January 24th immediately after school in Mrs. Pace's room. You had to spell 50 words during that time. The top 10 people that missed the least amount of words will be on the RMS Spelling Bee Team. You could have a list of words to practice from on

## Young Authors

By Zoey Colglazier

Young Authors is a writing event that many people enter every year. They write stories or poems, and they submit them to be read and evaluated by administrators. The winning submission is sent to a conference in Normal, Illinois on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. At the conference the student may read other entries and talk to authors. At the end of the day there is an award ceremony where the student will receive a certificate for participating and copies of books written by the contributing authors.

## Spelling Bee Tryout Winners

**Congratulations** to the 2011 RMS spelling bee team! The team members this year are: 8th grade- Becca Drezen, Shana Drengenberg, Jacob Harrison, and Abbey Schaefer and 7th grade members are: Daria Bennett, Zoey Colglazier, Jacqueline Fazekas, Katie Hammitt, Erika Renkes, Lauren Turffs, and alternate Uriah Smith. Thank you to all who tried out

## Scholastic Bowl

By Matt Sanders

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have risen up to the occasion and have joined scholastic bowl. Now I bet you wonder what scholastic bowl is. Scholastic bowl is an academic team (or teams) led by Mrs. Countryman where students with more brains than brawn put their heads together and use their knowledge to answer questions from science to English and from sports to history. There are 40 questions split up into two games with refreshments in between. Scholastic bowl will have meets almost every Wednesday with a couple of Monday meets too. Home meets will be on 2.16.11 and 3.16.11. Scholastic bowl officially starts the second of February.

# Sports

## **Wrestling Athlete Spotlight**

By Lauren Turffs

### **This month's athlete spotlight is... Connor Sperling!**

Here are some facts about Connor Sperling:

Connor played football in the summer and fall and baseball in the spring. Connor also is good at basketball but doesn't play it as a sport. He also won the Elks basketball contest in the fourth and fifth grade. In his spare time he listens to music such as soul and pop. His favorite artists are Bruno Mars, Nelly, B.O.B., and Jason Derilo. Favorite songs by these people are Grenade (B.M.), Just a Dream (Nelly), Riding Solo (J.D.). Connor's favorite wrestling moves are the Pancake, and the Double Chicken Wing. He has no wrestling idol, but he is in his seventh year of it. He says, "This should be a great season. We have Coach Thorpe this year and that should help some of the younger wrestlers."

## **Basketball Cheerleading**

Reagan Middle School is lucky to have cheerleaders for the basketball team. Without them, the crowd wouldn't be so rowdy. The cheerleading coach is Coach Fassig and a couple of high school cheerleaders that help out who include Kelsey Wiseman and Kacie Summers. Since the cheerleaders work so hard, they are lucky to be able to do stunts, which can be difficult since you have to hold on to the flyer, the person that goes up, tightly. Even though the cheerleaders work so hard, they do not go to away games. I believe that if they were to go to the away games, the team would be more fired up because people they know are cheering them on. The cheerleaders play a big part of the basketball team and without them the team wouldn't be complete!

By Hannah Acker

## **Iditarod Race**

By Zoey Colglazier

The Iditarod Race, famous for being the "Last Great Race on Earth" is coming up on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The Iditarod started in 1925, when a breakout of diphtheria caused emergency medicine to be rushed to Nome. However, only dogsled could take the medicine, because the railroad would only reach halfway. Musher and their dogs raced from town to town, until the last group got lost in a blizzard. Balto, the lead dog, used his keen sense of smell to guide the medicine to Nome, saving the town. Years later in 1973, there was a full-on race to commemorate Balto and his brave deeds.

## **Iditarod race (continued)**

The Iditarod starts in Anchorage, and the mushers must go through 26 checkpoints. The race starts on the First Saturday in March, and usually last 10-17 days. Each team starts out with 12 to 6 dogs, and must finish with at least 5. The race takes place over the Iditarod Trail, which used to carry mail and supplies from Anchorage to all the other cities between it and Nome.



So, comes this March 5<sup>th</sup>, will you be watching?

# Entertainment

## **Wacky Holidays**

By **Erika Renkes**

Instead of just New Years Day there are other holidays you may not know about. Ever heard about Oatmeal Day? How about Bathtub Party Day? I have! You may have celebrated these days if you read these articles. If not you can start now.

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>- New Year's Day

Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>- National Motivation and Inspiration Day

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>- "Thank God it's Monday" Day

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>-World Hypnotism Day

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>-Bean Day

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>-Three Kings Day

Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>- I'm Not Gonna Take It Anymore Day

Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>- National Joy Germ Day

Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>-Positively Penguins Day

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>-National Clean Off Your Desk Day

Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>-Cigarettes Are Hazardous to Your Health Day

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>-Rubber Duckie Day

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>- Dress Up Your Pet Day

Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>-Bald Eagle Appreciation Day

Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>-Appreciate a Dragon Day

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>-Kid Inventors Day/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>-Do Dah Parade Day

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>-Tin Can Day

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup>- Women in Blue Jeans Day

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>-National Hugging Day

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>-Answer Your Cat's Questions Day

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>-National Writing Day

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>-Belly Laugh Day

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>-National Speak Up and Succeed

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>-Cockroach Race day

Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>-Thomas Crapper Day-Distributed to toilets

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>-Fun at Work Day

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>-National Seed Swap Day

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>-Inane Answering Message Day

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>-Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day

**Book Review**  
**On “The Newcomer”**  
**By: Micheal Scott**  
**Article By: Samantha Odenthal**

I read The Newcomer by Micheal Scott. As Josh and Sophie continue their adventure, more trouble pops up. And when Josh is in trouble, Sophie and the rest of the gang have to hurry to save him... or it will be too late. The 4<sup>th</sup> book of The Alchemyst series is even more thrilling than before.

## Mystery People

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Initials: P.J.

He plays in the band.

His mom is a teacher.

He has brown hair.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Initials: E.B.

She has blue eyes.

She has one sibling.

She played volley ball.

### 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Initials: J.W.

He has brown hair.

He has glasses.

He plays tennis and Hockey.

### F.I.S.H.

- S.D. walked into a room and yelled “Hello,” while 7<sup>th</sup> graders were MAP testing.
- M.S. tackled B.M. randomly in front of teachers.
- S.K. and L.H. tackled Miss Duncan.
- S.B. and T.C. had to dance in front of Mrs. W’s class.
- L.P. smacked a kid hard when turning around.
- T.D.’s Friend farted during ISAT.
- K.W. fell up the stairs and hit her face on the ground.
- E.G. touched A.R.’s elbow and A.R. accidentally punched him in the face.
- M.J. fell in a trash can and A.B. broke her arm.

## Despicable Me

**By Katie Hammit and Justin Wilson**

Five stars and 700 thumbs up for despicable me! It was a wonderful thing to watch. It’s a great movie to sit down and eat some popcorn with your family. We recommend it to people who like to laugh. Please make time to watch this fantastic, hilarious movie!

## **Random Facts**

**Article By: Justin Wilson**

### WARNING:

SOME OF THE FOLLOWING FACTS ARE RANDOM.

READ AT YOUR OWN RISK!

The 57 on Heinz ketchup bottles represents the number of varieties of pickles the company once had.

In the average lifetime, a person will walk the equivalent of 5 times around the equator.

When you die your hair still grows for a couple of months.

The most money ever paid for a cow in an auction was \$1.3 million.

Elephants are the only mammals that can't jump.

The international telephone dialing code for Antarctica is 672.

There are 10 human body parts that are only 3 letters long (eye hip arm leg ear toe jaw rib lip gum)

Diet Coke was only invented in 1982.

Stressed is Desserts spelled backwards.

On average, there are 178 sesame seeds on each McDonalds BigMac bun.

The plastic things on the end of shoelaces are called aglets.

Minus 40 degrees Celsius is exactly the same as minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Children grow faster in the springtime.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~bingbin/>

## **Are you smarter than a fifth grader?**

*Who wrote the night before Christmas?*

- A) Samuel Clements
- B) Elizabeth Browning
- C) Clement Clark Moore

Last Month's Question's Answer: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

# Opinion

Winter Break vs. Spring Break

Winter Break

38

Spring Break

122