

The Patriot Post

February Student of the Month

East Coast

Keenan Longan

A pat on the back to Keenan Longan for becoming February student of the month for the east side! When asked about how he felt about becoming student of the month Keenan said: "I feel rather proud" Keenan's biggest inspiration is his parents because they are always pushing him to do his best. Keenan thinks RMS has great teachers and that it's a stepping stone into high school. When asked what he'll be doing in the future, Keenan sarcastically replied "World Dictator Of Course!" but he thinks he will be an orthodontist just in case that doesn't happen. Keenan's favorite teacher is Mrs. Renkes. As student of the month, Keenan's advice to the student of RMS is "don't do drugs."

Article by Matt Sanders

March Student of the Month

East Coast

Amy Rotella

A big round of applause for Amy Rotella, for becoming student of the month for March on the East coast side! When Amy grows up, she has the a big aspiration to become the first woman president of the United States. When asked what she likes most about Reagan Middle School Amy said: "I think the teachers are very nice and I like all of the activities they have to offer." Amy's favorite Reagan activity is volley ball. Her favorite subject is Algebra I and her role model would have to be Mrs. Renkes.

Article by Molly Fane

February Student of the Month

West Coast

Christian Hicks

Congratulations to Christian Hicks! He is the February Student of the Month for the west coast side! Christian Hicks's favorite subject is social studies. Christian's favorite school sport is basketball, though he also enjoys soccer. In soccer his jersey number is seven and his nickname is "water boy." Right now, Christian doesn't really know what he's going to be when he is older. Christian's favorite color is blue and his favorite teacher is Mrs. Breedlove.

Article by Justin Wilson

Civics Essay

By Zoey C.

The Department of Illinois has issued its annual Americanism essay contest theme. This year is "Celebrating America and Our Heritage". Many people, from seventh grade to seniors in high school, entered this contest, submitting hard-worked essays to their nearby American Legion. Many Reagan students entered also. Where you one of them?

The essays are due February 4th. The essays have to have no more than 500 words, not counting an, a, the, and and. The essays are judged on content, organization of subject matter, and correct usage of words for a total of 100 points. For Class 1, 7th and 8th grade could win \$200.00 in cash.

For more information please contact Mrs. Countryman, room 223.

Happy Birthday Ronald Reagan!

By Molly Fane

February 6th 2011 was Ronald Reagan's birthday. This wasn't just his ordinary birthday though; this was his centennial birthday, which means it has been one-hundred years after the day Ronald Reagan was born. As you probably know, our school, RONALD REAGAN middle school, had a big celebration for his centennial birthday. Reagan's centennial was more important than just getting you out of class for a little while for an assembly. Because of the centennial, people looked back on the decisions Reagan made while in office and what Reagan did for our country. They took a look at how Reagan helped shape our country to what it is today.

Egypt: What Happened??

By: Katie Hammitt

As of January 25th, 2011, Egypt's government has started leaning toward the democratic ways. In ancient times, they had theocracy/monarchy- involving a pharaoh. Then they switched to a republic, but when their "president" took the twentieth year on his seat, the people of Egypt knew that it was time for change; that started the fateful Egyptian uprising of 2011.

On the 25th of January, the people of Egypt said enough was enough. They had already made their signs and prepared the marches. The clock ticked, and the Egyptians started a peaceful revolution that soon led to victory. Of the many signs were many of these messages:

Put the president out!

Leave already- my arms are tired.

AND

Nobody likes you.

All of these were non-threatening messages, but they had a huge impact. In fact, it had such a huge impact that eventually the president stepped down. So, for those of you who didn't know, that is what happened in Egypt!

Attention All Eighth Graders!

By Matt Sanders

Graduation is taking place very, very soon! So girls, go get your pretties dresses, and guys, try to dress up, and remember to circle June 3rd on your calendar and be prepared for graduation!

Graduation will take place at Lancaster Gym, at 6:30, where many other events take place like the gymnastics show and Relay For Life. If you still don't know where it is, it is the building right next to the DHS track. Remember **FRI-DAY, JUNE 3rd!**

Make sure your clothes are "eligible" for the graduation too. Graduation practice will be near the end of the year.

The dance will also take place on June 3rd at 7:30, fee food will be provided and it should be awesome!

History of St. Patrick's Day

By Maggie Bushman

Coming up is a holiday that at times flies under the radar. March 17th is St. Patrick's Day. This holiday was originally a religious holiday to celebrate St. Patrick, but as years have gone by, it has represented the Irish culture more than anything else. Some people ask how the shamrock came to represent St. Pat's Day. Well, one folktale says that he used it to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish people. And the original color associated with St. Patrick was blue which was symbolic to the people of Ireland. Many things have changed about St. Patrick's Day. Who knows what else will change about this holiday in the next one-hundred years?

Poe Toaster

By Megan Cooper

Most everyone knows about the Poe Toaster. His last year no-show struck depression throughout the U.S. when fellow Poe lovers heard the news. About two years ago a note was left when the Toaster, as usual, left a half empty bottle of cognac and three roses on Edgar Allen Poe's grave. The note said: "The torch has been passed." Obviously, the man who has received the torch hasn't shown up. Many online Poe sites say that the tradition has officially stopped.

Four imposters showed up leaving the roses and bottle of cognac. So, I guess it is in order to say that instead of passing the torch to an individual, he passed it to all of us.

Scholastic Bowl

By Molly Fane

Scholastic Bowl may sound like a nerdy bowling team, but it's really a game of quick thinking and knowledge. It's a lot like Jeopardy!, there's five people on a team and after a question has been read, the first person to buzz in by pressing a button and answers the question correctly, their team gets 10 points. Then there is 3-5 bonus questions that the entire team works together to answer. Those are worth 20 points all together. Scholastic Bowl is fun game that I think anyone who enjoys collecting and showing their knowledge should take part in.

The Regional Spelling Bee

Katie Hammitt
On February 24th,
2011, Reagan Middle
School's Zoey Colglazier
participated in the Lee/Ogle
county spelling bee. There
were 29 contestants and 102
words. Mr. T. Wadsworth
was the pronouncer of
words. Zoey got 5th place-
she got out on the 85th word,
which was consensus. Paige
Myroth, a 6th grader from
Rochelle Middle School,
won the entire contest, and
now gets to go compete in
Washington D.C. for nation-
als. Here are some fun facts
about the bee:

Word# 1- Sultan

#10- jovial

#20- borax

#30- feldspar

#40- plateau

#50-caribou

#60-providence

#70-synergy

#80-incredulous

#90-implement

#100-cache

The Last Word

#102- odyssey

Crowds Favorite Word

#92-babushka!

We hope that next year you
will try out for the spelling
bee, so that you may enjoy
the joys of spelling too!

Young Authors Winner

Article by Katie Hammitt

This is the poem that completely won young authors
this year-
Enjoy!!!

Who am I?

By Lauren Turffs

I dedicate this to Ana Bay, because she has always
been there for me.

Swirling, and whirling, I am the pounding ache
in your chest. I am the firework explosions behind your
eyes that drive you to your knees and make you cry out
in pain. I am the predator who stalks you in the dead of
night, in your vulnerable hour when you least expect it.
Then, all of a sudden I make your guilty-filled memo-
ries come back. I release you tightly controlled sorrow-
filled memories and make those crystal clear drops of
water cascade down your cheeks in torrents. Who am
I?

Chattering, and clacking your teeth together
from the great power of me. I assault your senses and
make a hammer pulverize your skull. I am the one who
clears your head, yet I am also the one who can fog it. I
am good, and I am bad. I am the price you pay for your
disappointments and failures. I am inside every person,
although some can control me better than other people,
sometimes. Other times I control them.

Tick Tock goes the clock as my grip tightens
around you until you fall into a restless sleep. I leave
remnants of my self to dry on your face and pillow,
memories of me in the morning. When you wake up, I
will always be there but better buried in the light of
day.

Colors and patterns, Many times I am associated
with the shade of blue and black. I'm not a bruise ei-
ther if that's what you're thinking.

I.

Am.

Grief.

I would bet that we've met before!

History of Valentine's Day

By Samantha Odenthal

St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. One legend says that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When the Emperor decided single men made better soldiers. He outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine defied the Emperor and continued to perform marriages for young couples in secret. When the Emperor found out, he ordered Valentine to be put to death.

Rebecca Caudill Party

By Erika renkes

The Rebecca Caudill Party was hosted by Mrs. Bovey, the librarian. At the party you could vote for your favorite book. Also, you could eat cookies or other treats. Mrs. Bovey announced and rewarded people for reading all twenty 2011 Rebecca Caudills like Hannah Acker, Katie Hammitt, Kenzie Barnhart, Zoey Colglazier, and many more. Mrs. Bovey also announced that the Rebecca Caudill list is out, so get reading! Another Rebecca Caudill party will be hosted at the Dixon Public Library for people who read three or more Rebecca Caudills.

The Pancake Breakfast

By Katie Hammitt

Calling one! Calling All! Come to the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast at Dixon High School on March 19, 2011 from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The RMS Builders Club will be working a 50/50 drawing and the DHS Key Club will be hosting a bake sale. We hope to see you there. The pancakes are fantastic, and the prices are low. Adults are \$6.00 and children 12 years old and younger are \$3.00. It's really not a bad cost, and you really get what you pay for. So, do what your stomach tells you, and come to the Kiwanis pancake breakfast in the high school cafeteria on March 19, 2011!!!!

Rebecca Caudill Party

By Erika Renkes

This past Thursday and Friday Mrs. Bovey held the annual Rebecca Caudill Party. To attend this party you had to read at least three of the twenty Rebecca Caudills. At the party you voted for your favorite Rebecca Caudill and ate cookies and donuts. During the party Mrs. Bovey announced that Erika Renkes read all twenty books first. She was awarded a ten dollar gift certificate to Books on First. Also, she said that the 2012 Rebecca Caudill list is out, so prepare for next year's party!

Sports

Track and Field

By Molly Fane

Track and Field has begun and lots of seventh and eighth graders have signed up. Track is a combination of events that include: shot-put- where you throw a heavy sphere into the air and try and get it as far as possible; discus- the same concept as shot put but instead you throw a heavy disk; running events- you can run 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters, 800 meters, and 1600 meters (a mile); long jump- you jump as far as possible into a pit of sand; triple jump- similar to long jump but you hop into the sand pit kind of like you would in a game of hop scotch; high jump- you run and jump over a bar and land into a cushioned pad behind it; baton racing- the only team events in track and field, people run they're designated distance and then hand the baton off to the next person. Track is great sport that many Reagan Middle Schoolers take part in. I hope sixth graders will want to try it next year; it's a wonderful athletic experience.

Entertainment

Zorbing

Justin Wilson

Zorbing (globe-riding, sphereing, orbing) is the recreation of rolling downhill in an orb, generally made of transparent plastic.



Zorbing is a type of sport in some types of country's. It is really fun! There are different types of Zorbing. Rolling down a hill or walking on water. I have zorbed before at Ogle County 4-H Fair. This is a very interesting sport. If you are interested this you could go to <http://www.zorb.com/>

Laws to be followed

By Erika Renkes

Laws to be followed include buckle up, no murdering, and barbers are forbidden to eat onions after seven a.m. Did you notice that there are many laws that you don't pay attention. Pretty soon that will change and you'll be a dumb laws expert!

- Cattle rustling is punishable by hanging in Mississippi.
- Installation of bathtubs with four legs shaped as animal paws are prohibited in Kansas City, Missouri.
- No person shall raise pet rats in Billings, Montana.
- Barbers are forbidden to eat onions after seven A.M.
- It is illegal to drive a camel down the highway in Nevada.
- It is illegal to pick seaweed up off the beach in New Hampshire.
- It is against the law for a man to knit during fishing season in New Jersey.
- You may not carry a lunchbox down Main Street in Las Cruces, New Mexico.
- The penalty for jumping off a building is death in New York.
- Elephants may not be used to plow cotton fields in North Carolina.
- It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep with your shoes on in North Dakota.
- It is illegal to display colored chickens for sale in Akron, Ohio.
- Oklahoma will not tolerate anyone taking a bite from another's hamburger.
- Dishes must drip dry in Oregon.
- It is illegal to sleep on top of a refrigerator outdoors in Pennsylvania.
- No one may bite off another's leg in Rhode Island.
- Horses may not be kept in bathtubs in South Carolina.
- No horses are allowed in the Fountain Inn unless they are wearing pants in South Dakota.
- It is illegal to use a lasso to catch a fish in Tennessee.
- It is illegal to sell one's eye in Texas.
- Throwing snowballs will result in a 450 fine in Provo, Utah.
- It is illegal to tie a giraffe to a telephone pole in Vermont.
- Citizens must honk their horn when passing other cars in Virginia.
- All lollipops are banned in Washington.
- Road kill may be taken home for supper in West Virginia.
- It is illegal to throw rocks at a railroad car in Wisconsin.
- You may not take a picture of a rabbit from January to April without an official permit in Cheyenne, Wyoming.
- Thanks to dumblaws.com

F.I.S.H.

By Amy and Becca

S.K. annoys S.D. on Science daily.

A.S. slapped E.G. and he laughed.

K.S. fell down the stairs.

C.M. fell in the trash can.

M.C. tripped up the stairs.

H.A. stared at a Rubix cube for 10 minutes after J.H. solved it.

K.S. broke M.S.'s phone.

J.S. fell on her face in gym.

Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader?

By: Maggie Bushman and Becca Drezen

In poetry, how many lines are in a quatrain?

A) 3

B) 4

C) 7

D) 2

Radical Holidays

By Erika Renkes

More and more holidays are established throughout the years and more will be established. Just like this month's holidays. Over the years we gathered these awesome holidays.

March 1st-National Horse Protection Day

March 2nd-Dr. Seuss Day

March 3rd-I Want You to be Happy Day

March 4th-Toy Soldier Day

March 5th-USA Memory Day

March 6th-U.S. Snowshoe Day

March 7th-Fun Facts About Names Day

March 8th-Mardi Gras

March 9th-Panic Day

March 10th-Mario Day

March 11th-Middle Name Pride Day

March 12th-Girl Scout Day

March 13th-Donald Duck Day

March 14th-Potato Chip Day

March 15th-Napping Day

March 16th-Freedom of Information Day

March 17th-St. Patrick's Day

March 18th-Awkward Moments Day

March 19th-National Chocolate Carmel Day

March 20th-Snowman Burning Day

March 21st-Spring Fairy Fun Day

March 22nd-International Goof-Off Day

March 23rd-World Meteorological Day

March 24th-World Tuberculosis Day

March 25th-Tolkien Day

March 26th-Make Up Your Own Holiday Day

March 27th-Quirky Country Music Song Titles Day

March 29th-Texas Loves the Children Day

March 30th-Pencil Day

March 31st-Mule Day