THE PAW PRINT

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2012

Building an opportunity

Faculty member Elaine Chagnon shared her Nigerian experience with Ryan Faulkner in a recent interview.

Imagine living without clean water, electricity or a roof over your head, in a village where there are no roads or police. A place that is foreign to you. A place where there is no assured safety. A place where all you have is your faith and your family.

This place is a town called Guso, situated in Northern Nigeria, and Mrs. Chagnon traveled there last summer as part of a mission trip to help build a secondary school for kids. She described the experience as "life-changing."

Chagnon explained that there is more to building a school in this region than meets the eye. Secular tension runs high within Nigeria, between the Christians and the Muslims; Christians tend to dominate both economically and politically, while Muslims are confined to more poverty-stricken areas. Because the school is located in the north, which is predominantly Christian, it will reflect the religious beliefs of the region. Education is nonetheless very poor, and the state



schools are the only ones that receive funding. Mrs. Chagnon and other participants hope that building more schools will help to solve these problems and improve the lives of people in this community.

The group that Mrs. Chagnon is involved with is called the Africa United Partnership (AUP), which helped build the school in conjunction with Bishop, another association. The AUP is currently pushing for the status of a non-profit organization, meaning it will be eligible to receive grants, and hopefully begin work on several more public works projects.

The one Mrs. Chagnon participated in began in 2006, and evolved into a trip to Nigeria 2011 for the groundbreaking of the school; the volunteers plan to return again in 2013 to complete the school's first floor. Over the summer the organization was even able to raise $36,000 to buy the adjacent land, which will be used for soccer fields and similar athletic spaces; because there are no land protection laws, walls will be

Mrs. Chagnon with the teachers of the future school

built to prevent stealing and destruction of property. Even with the threat of nearby terrorist group Boko-Huran and the fact that westerners are often met with much suspicion, the group was very successful.

Local kids are excited about the new school--especially their new uniforms--and are all eager to learn. Although they will have to pay tuition and the teachers are not well paid, both staff and students are committed to education. As a next step, the school's founders hope to find a bus to take the children to school, since they either have to walk (the standard mode of transportation for most of the country's residents) or be brought in by their parents, often by motorcycle. As such developments continue and the construction process moves forward, more than just a school is being created--to the children of Guso, Mrs. Chagnon and the AUP are build-

The word is R-E-T-A-R-D

Recently, English 11A students read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. As a final project, students wrote rants related to the perils that technology and human relationships cause society. This rant, titled "The word is R-E-T-A-R-D" addresses a prominent issue that we experience every day in school. Please send all comments and responses as Letters to the Editor at pawprint@granbyschools.org.

The word is R-E-T-A-R-D. You put that together and get the youth's favorite comeback.

"OMG, that is so retarded. What were you thinking?" Or how about "Dude, you look like a retard, stop".

Every day I hear someone say this word. I cringe whenever I hear it. The word itself isn't bad but people use it when they are mad. When people use this word casually, it's very offensive to the people whose lives are affected by mental retardation and even the ones that aren't.

Ask yourself, "When was the last time I heard someone say the word retarded improperly?" Was it this morning? Last night? On the bus? Yesterday afternoon? I am sure that everyone in this school has heard the word retard used offensively within the last 24 hours.

The word is spelled R-E-T-A-R-D and it's not only used by the average person, it's used in movies and on TV. Most likely, all of you have heard of the movie *Mean Girls*. Do you recall when one of the girls says, "So then her mom called my mom and started yelling at her. It was so retarded"? Of course you don't! You are so used to hearing this word!

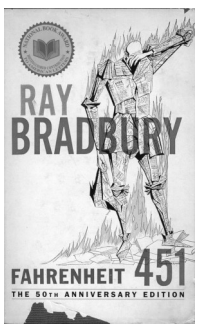
The disorder is spelled M-E-N-T-A-L R-E-T-A-R-D-A-T-I-O-N. Together, that spells mental retardation. It's not a joke, and it isn't funny. It's not a cool thing to say; it's a cruel thing to say.

Imagine having a brother with mental retardation. Every day your brother is made fun of for being different. He hears people say, "You look so retarded. What an idiot" every day of his life. Your brother wonders why the name of his disorder is used to express how bad someone looks. He begins to cry.

What would you want to do to that person if they were making fun of your brother?

People need to realize that calling someone or something a retard is terrible. It's very hurtful and can affect the way people feel about themselves.

The word is spelled R-E-T-A-R-D and the next time you are about to say it, **don't.**



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The Paw Print staff admires last year's paper

THE PAW PRINT

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Letter from the Editor

Krista Karlson

February seems to be a transition time for lots of things: the winding down of winter sports, the beginning of new semester classes, the beginning of college acceptances, the cram for spring SAT's, and the time when everyone begins to get antsy about warm weather. (Don't get too antsy, though: tomorrow might be 60 degrees but the day after could be 20. What is it with this winter, anyway?)

In the spirit of transition, *The Paw Print* staff has created an edition that we hope reflects not only the many accomplishments of GMHS students so far this year but also the things that students are looking forward to in the coming months. You can read several students' pieces from this past semester such as "The word is R-E-T-A-R-D" on page 1 and three poems on page 8, as well as read about Senior Projects on page 5 and meet a new staff member on page 4. Looking ahead, you can get the latest fashion advice on page 3, sports updates on pages 6 and 7, and reviews on page 3.

The Paw Print staff has worked tirelessly to produce this edition and we would like to thank everyone who contributed in some way, shape or form. We hope you enjoy this transition edition and as always, all feedback is welcome for consideration or publication in the third edition at pawprint@granbyschools.org.

Krista Karlson

The Paw Print is online! Check out an extended version of this edition on Google Sites: Paw Print 2012. The February online edition will go live on Friday, February 17th.

The Way I See It #386

Freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of assembly—as Americans, freedom is a right. So why not freedom of Internet? If passed, SOPA and PIPA—two bills gaining attention in Congress—would allow the government to blacklist sites and punish web companies, effectively authorizing Internet censorship. Know your rights...this is wrong.

The History of Black History Month

By Jimmy Jack Jones

"You only need a heart full of grace to serve," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reminded students on Wednesday, February 8th in a video made in honor of Black History Month. The video featured King's speech and inspirational quotations from other prominent Americans.

Most students are aware that February is a month in which we honor Black History, but most of us are not aware of the origins of this national focus.

Black History month is based on real events but derives mainly from the philosophies and efforts of one Carver G. Woodson, who wanted nothing more than for the history of African Americans to become a more significant part of American history as a whole. This was why he started Negro History Week in 1926, which eventually grew into African History Month. Both of these events focused and focus on educating American people on African Americans' cultural backgrounds and reputable achievements to better educate people about African American History.

> Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter. ~MLK

It is important to remember that Black History Month is not exclusively an American holiday. It is observed in Canada at the same time. Britain celebrates it in October for some outlandish reason, but it's probably best not to dwell on that. They drive on the wrong side of the road, so they've always been a little off.

Throughout Black History Month, African American history is highlighted in elementary, high school and university levels across the nation. As a result, students learn about the accomplishments and reforms led by people such as a Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, and Martin Luther King Jr. Students also learn about the unique cultural impact African Americans have made on society.

African American history is an extremely important part of American history, and it is almost impossible to find an American History textbook nowadays that does not include passages about black history. This is of course, not true in Middle Earth, where such textbooks do not exist and even if they did they would be written in elvish, so it's a moot point.



1968 / AP

Remembering Martin Luther King, Jr. during Black History Month

Peace of Jewelry

Peace of Jewelry
Custom Jewelry Designed and Handcrafted by Morgan King
Phone: 860.882.7656 e-mail:
morgan@peaceofjewelry.net
Granby, CT

Fashion Review

by Katie Sulzinski

Brown boots of every shade and height are all the rage this season! This month girls of GMHS have really out done themselves with boot possibilities. Be daring: wear an ankle boot with a chunky heel or play it hallway safe with a mid-calf flat.



Ashley Smith, Junior, chose to add contrast to her camel-colored boots with darker jeans! Skinny-Denim from American Eagle Outfitters tends to be comfortably tight, especially at the ankle to conveniently tuck in. Notice the faint print of her circle scarf and sparkly head band balance the array of plain colors.



We should all be impressed by Senior **Megan Hebert**'s splendid matching! The oranges in her shirt are the same as her bag. Megan sports combat-style brown boots to add edge to a girly pattern. As she does, take into consideration the details of any outfit like your complexion and hair color when choosing a plain colored top or matching metals of earrings, bracelets and pocketbook hardware. Her red hair shines against her cream crop top, but she didn't stop there! The layering is brilliant!



Paige Swanson, Junior, got her hands on a completely versatile pair of brown boots. These suede lace-ups can either be worn upright or folded over. The unexpected print on her shirt shows her fun nature and the length deems appropriateness over the tight leggings. The solid black is definitely toned down.



Seniors **Cailene Gunn** (left) and **Laura Snyder** (right) show off dark brown leather boots this season. Cailene wears tights and Laura wears jeans with hers – the neutrality and height is easy to work with.

Movie Review

by Justin Ranicar

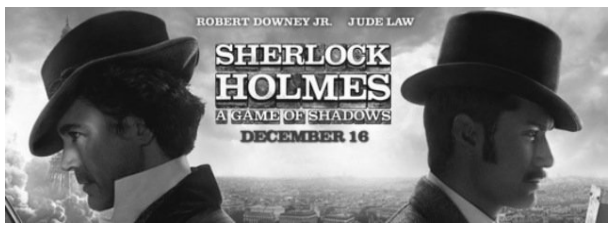
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows

Firstly, "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" succeeds much more at being a sequel to the first movie, "Sherlock Holmes"; one of my personal favorite movies ever, than a tribute or adaptation to the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle stories. More a big-budget action tale than a classic Holmesian mystery; it had the mission of bringing the general audience more of what they liked from the first movie on a grander scale. So if you liked the first "Sherlock Holmes", chances are that "A Game of Shadows" will be a treat for you.

The movie focuses on Sherlock Holmes (Robert Downey, Jr.) and his longtime trusted associate, Doctor Watson (Jude Law) with the help of Holmes's older brother Mycroft Holmes (Stephen Fry) and a gypsy named Sim (Noomi Rapace), take on their arch-nemesis, Professor Moriarty (Jared Harris), who wants to start a World War. Downey and Law have excellent chemistry together; giving solid performances. I liked Law better in the first movie, but Downey is superior here, standing out in his scenes with Jared Harris's Moriarty.

Now on to Noomi Rapace, utterly wasted, as the gypsy Simza: the film's new female lead. She is virtually a walking plot point, so unnecessary, doing little in the grand scheme of the movie. Even Holmes himself seems to forget about her halfway through. Her short-lived character arc isn't even resolved: a gigantically painful step down from the strong and capable character of Irene Adler from the first movie. Speaking of which, Rachel McAdams does return (briefly) as Adler; but her character is terribly wasted even more so than Rapace's! To see one of my favorite characters from the first movie abused so terribly here is so disappointing. She gets some fun banter with Holmes while it lasts, but in the end, the director's horrible treatment of her character stays lingering in my mind.

The best performance of the entire movie comes from Jared Harris, (son of the late Richard Harris; known to some as Albus Dumbledore from the first two "Harry Potter" movies), who does a truly great job as Moriarty, capturing not only the sophisticated and devilishly intelligent sides of Holmes's greatest adversary, but also the brutality and unbridled villainous nature of the character. The definite highlight of the entire movie and his scenes with Holmes are reason enough for at least one viewing. He is superior over the first movie's villain, Mark Strong's Lord Blackwood, by far.



As stated earlier, this was made to be more of an action flick than an intelligent crime mystery, and it shows. It's fun to watch the upgrade of action from the movie predecessor. Guy Ritchie's direction is stronger this time around, and he's allowed to run much more rampant with his action scenes. Sequences such as a fight between Holmes and Simza against an acrobatic assassin inside a gentleman's club and Holmes, Watson, and a group of gypsies being pursued through the forest, all the while battered by cannon fire are absurdly wonderful, while a chase sequence at the opera and a duel between Holmes and Moriarty will take your breath away.

In conclusion, "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" may be disappointing for the die-hard fans of the Conan Doyle mystery tales, but, for those who liked the first movie as I did, or are just a fan of bombastic, fast-paced action movies in general will have a lot of fun with it. The movie is wonderfully created, the humor and acting is top-notch, and the action is some of the best I've seen all year. It's a definite "leave your brain at home" movie, but is that really a good thing for a Sherlock Holmes flick?

So what are your guys' thoughts on "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows"? Did you like the first movie? What early 2012 movie should I review next? Send your thoughts to pawprint@granbyschools.com and they could be posted in the next issue!

FEATURED RECIPE

Lemon Cheesecake Squares

Prep Time: 15 Min Cook
Time: 45 Min
*Ready In:*1 Hour

Ingredients:
3/4 cup shortening
1/3 cup packed brown sugar
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup rolled oats
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam

Filling:
4 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
1 1/2 cups sugar
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
4 eggs
1/3 cup lemon juice
4 teaspoons grated lemon peel

Directions:

1.In a mixing bowl, cream shortening and brown sugar. Combine the flour, oats and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture. Press dough into a greased 13-in. x 9 -in. x 2-in. baking dish. bake at 350 degrees F for 15-18 minutes or until golden brown. Spread with jam.

2.For filling, beat the cream cheese, sugar and flour until fluffy. Add the eggs, lemon juice and peel just until blended. Carefully spoon over jam. Bake at 350 degrees F for 30-35 minutes or until center is almost set. Cool on a wire rack. Cover and store in the refrigerator.



Restaurant Review

By Callista Platt

Sharon's Cookie Jar Deli and Bakery is a small Deli/Bakery with a lot to offer. It's a local restaurant located at 498 Salmon Brook St (Route 10/202), close to State Line Oil.

The Cookie Jar has been able to establish quite an ambiance. In a quiet and calm atmosphere, not only are diners able to have a small sandwich or coffee while socializing with a friend or two but can also pick up any essential food items such as milk or bread.

Sharon's Cookie Jar Bakery, Deli & Market

The owner Sharon Pisiakowski is also quite a character. She's a mother who was looking to open a business while also raising her child within said business. Sharon has thus created a family oriented business structure.

Regrettably, for the high prices of this establishment, the food may not be worth it when compared to other restaurants. However, if you're looking for a small snack or a quiet place to hang out with friends, Sharon's Cookie Jar Deli & Bakery is just the place!

This isn't the only thing the Deli and Bakery is useful for. If you're planning a party, include Sharon's in the planning! Catering is offered through the Deli and Bakery.

http://www.sharonscookiejar.com/

Hours:
Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 7:00 AM to 1 PM

THE SLEUTH REPORT

Did you see the shadow?

By Catie Yanchak

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" Almost everyone has been asked this question at one point in his/her life, but as high school students, whether we like it or not, this is the time in our lives when this question matters the most. However, many people are still not sure what they want to do after they graduate.

To attempt to assist students in the process of finding a career, GMHS is participating in Job Shadow Day. On Thursday, February 2, students spent the day outside of school at a job in the field which the student's potential career choice might be. This ranged anywhere from teaching to medicine. Hopefully many students learned what is expected of employees in the respective field and what the qualifications are.

This information is not only important to upperclassmen, because the jobs students are considering do not only affect what the student wants his/her major to be in college, but what classes underclassmen should take in high school too.

If you had a noteworthy job shadow experience, whether it be fantastic or traumatic, let us know! Send a quick email to pawprint@granbyschools.org.



Inside the CCC

By Joe Lavitt

The College Career Center is well known throughout the school, but there are some general questions that students may have. How difficult is it to use? Is it important for my future? What if I don't want to go to college? What are the CCC's motives? This article will attempt to answer all of these questions, excluding the last one. No mortal can know that.

The College Career Center is basically what the title implies. Just walk in to the cafeteria and you'll see a room with a bunch of state of the art equipment. Sure, is has computers and college posters on the wall, but what really stands out is the leather swivel chairs.

Ask Mrs. Phillips, the woman at the desk, any questions you may have. If you want to visit a college, she can check for openings. If you're interested about college and know what type you want to go to, she can help you generate a list of possibilities. If you know what field you're interested in but have no idea about college, just ask her about that. Give her your email and what you'd like to be told about. Say you want to be a lawyer, and tell her you're interested in law. She can put you on a list and then notify you about upcoming court visits, possibly days before the information is released to the public. As you can see, the CCC is not a complicated system.

Now you may be wondering if college is important and required for your future. No, of course it isn't required. But it's a good idea. Imagine college and high school is poker. The CCC can be the full house you keep in your sweater vest. Granted it doesn't bring about the wonderful feeling of cheating someone out of money, but it does increase your chances of success.

Even if you don't want to go to college, the CCC can be of vital importance to you. While job openings are more Mr. Neil's area of expertise, there is some great advice and opportunities about paying jobs in or right out of high school!

Now I'd like to clarify, Mrs. Phillips cannot do everything and the College Career Center does not guarantee success but it does help. Think of it this way. If you're in trouble and Bowser is six places ahead of you, the CCC may not win you the race but it could hand you a few blue shells down the road.



Mrs. Phillips

Thank you, Granby Education Foundation!

The Paw Print would like to thank the Granby Education Foundation (GEF) for their continued support. The GEF supported our request for a grant and this will enable us to publish our newspaper again this year.

GRANBY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Teacher Feature

By Briana Haggerty

Mrs. Burke has come to GMHS as a permanent sub to Mrs. Duclos, who is retiring.

Mrs. Burke went to Virginia Tech and received her Bachelor's degree in teaching. She also received a Master's in Health at Southern Connecticut State University. She has worked for GMHS in the past from 1989 through 2000, as well as one year at the middle school. She has coached track, cross country and gymnastics.

Mrs. Burke is the mother of a 14-year-old son, Austyn and a 10-year-old daughter, Sheralyn. As a mom, she hopes she can relate well to students in the school. She spends much of her time with her kids; Austyn enjoys running and Sheralyn enjoys dancing. Other hobbies Mrs. Burke has are skiing and jewelry making.

Mrs. Burke says her favorite part about GMHS students is that they're a nice, patient and supportive close knit community that also holds a lot of diversity. When asked what she would like the students to know about her, she responded that she is human. She also wants students to know that her job is not just about a paycheck and she cares about students' success.



Mrs. Burke

Sudoku

Answers on page 8

2		3	9		7	1	5	
5		9	4	6	3	7		2
	7		2				9	3
1	3	6		9			7	
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	5			3		9	4	1
3	2				9		1	
4		1	7	2	6	5		9
	6	5	3		1	8		7

THE SLEUTH REPORT



Senior Project

The culmination of the Senior Project course took place on January 18th in the community gym. Each senior created an exhibit showcasing their work. The sixteen students answered questions, shared their learning experiences, and showed evidence of their work throughout the semester. Projects ranged from creative fundraising events to dance choreography.

Currently, the senior project course is an elective open to seniors in the fall semester.



Austin Ebersole's "Through the lens of time" project

<u>Seniors and their projects:</u>

Sam Arnone- Teaching

Gabby D'Aleo- Art Auction

Steph Dantos- Granby Tattoos

Austin Ebersole- Granby photos

Kristen Endorf- Badminton Tournament

Matthew Even- Hipnosis

Megan Griffin- Badminton Tournament

Isabel Hall- Fashion Show

Eric Karadimas- Psychology Research

Kate Mooney- Art Auction

Meghan Neagle- Cookbook

Callista Platt- Health Fair

Katrina Rambush- Choreography

Nichole Reigins- Autism Awareness Concert

Michelle St. Amour- Fashion Show

Katie Sulzinski- Fashion Show



Steph Dantos's Granby tattoo project to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital





From the Badminton Tournament…

By Kristen Endorf

Megan Griffin and I selected a badminton tournament as our project because throughout high school in gym class we always played badminton and everyone seemed to enjoy it. The sport is cool because it doesn't really matter if you're the most athletic in the class, and everyone always has a good time participating. Also, it was definitely our favorite gym activity and no one has ever held a badminton tournament.

The tournament was a great success and we got a lot of positive feedback from players saying that they all had a great time participating!

What students are thinking about…

By Mike Drennan

As was discussed on page 1 of this edition, English 11A students wrote rants in response to *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Here is another rant. For the full text, go to *The Paw Print* online on Google Sites.

Ya I'll admit there are some pretty cool new stuff coming out, but a sneaker that can juice a carrot mid-stride, really? 16 types of iPads, which all suck by the way, and another 20 types of computer virus scanners? I guess they need them because of all the new computers turn out to be an 8 thousand dollar paper weight because a month and a half after facebooking constantly and seeing if you are Justin Beiber's true love, they break down and commit suicide.

Heck i would too if i had to keep up with what Cindy in Ohio that you met on chat-roulette 6 years ago is doing. The Internet which is supposed to be the crowning Jewel of human accomplishment is more full of pornography and viral videos than midgets at a carnival. There's no end to the useless crap people think are worthy enough to be immortalized on twitter and YouTube and really? Is "your life so average" that your cat attacked your chuwawa and won?

I DON'T CARE get off my screen so I can look up my science homework for once without being bombarded with nonsequetors and brain-damaged attempt at selling me Viagra.

Maybe if we weren't so numbed out to life from video games and movies we could actually live it and see how screwed up our world is becoming. The middle east is a powder keg ready to take half the damn world with it and Africa is slowly choking on its own dead...but we here in America sit back and **don't** relax because my god...Lindsey Lohan is back in rehab? what???!?!?!?!? when did that happen?

For the rest of this rant, go to *The Paw Print* online at Google Sites, live on Friday February 17th.

Valentines Search

R	X	P	E	O	W	L	N	L	Q	O	R	I	R	I	F	N	B	Q	O
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ROMANTIC
VALENTINE
AMOUR
ADONIS
CASANOVA
SWEET
HEART
LOVE
CANDY
HUGS
KISS
ROSE

BEAST ATTACKS

SPORTS NEWS

Hockey Co-Op has a dedicated team

By Jimmy Jack Jones

The Granby/Suffield/Windsor Locks Ice Hockey Team has a number of proud Granby players. Because the team doesn't play in Granby, players must travel even just to practice. This makes for a dedicated team of hockey players who love the game.

Now for those of you who need a refresher on hockey, it's a fast paced and exciting sport to watch. It certainly beats football. Who wants to watch men chase a ball while running around in tight leather when you can watch people wield sticks in a not exclusively non-violent matter? In hockey, men chase after a tiny object that could fly into the stadium, all while gliding atop a frozen atmosphere using sharpened steel to carve his mark into the very soul of hockey. What's football got on that?

The most important part of any sports team is the people who make it work. The upstanding team coaches are Nick and Peter Boorman. The wonderfully

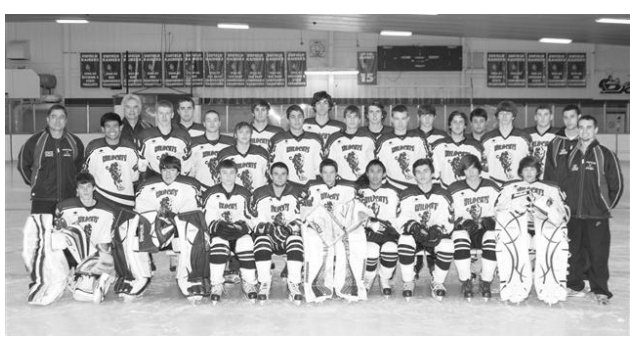


coordinated captains in Granby are known as Ryan Ketainis and Ryan Dineen. Also, it's important to keep in mind that this year Granby has a large number of players on the co-opt team.

The highlights of the this season have been an upset win of 1-0 over Northwest Catholic and a win against Milford where the team scored with less than 20 seconds left, then won a decisive victory in overtime.

Hockey games are Wednesdays and Saturdays. Granby Hockey Night is this coming Saturday night, February 11, at 8 pm at the Enfield Twin Rinks. Come support the team in an exciting home game!







Coach Hansen talks strategy with his team

Boys Basketball isn't over yet

The Granby Boys Basketball team has had a patchy season, but hopes to have a go at post-season victory. Coach Hansen says, "If we can get our act together, we could have a very successful post season."



Junior Mike Noyes goes up for a layup

Nick Mazzotta, the team's captain, has been having a great year and has been an instrumental leader. This year the team's record is 6-8, even boasting a win over Simsbury.

The next boys' basketball game is Friday February 10th, away at Avon High School at 7 pm. Be sure to show up and cheer the Bears on. They need all the help they can get going into the final stretch of the season. Go Bears!



Senior Captain Nick Mazzotta powers through the Canton defense

Behind the glitter

By Jimmy Jack Jones

Like most High Schools, Granby now has its own cheerleading squad, appropriately dubbed Granby Memorial High School Cheerleading. Cheerleading has been a well-known sport for a long time and it is a notable achievement for Granby to finally have a cheerleading squad of its own.

The leaders of this squad have made quite an impact. With Christina Zarotney as the squad's coach and the trio of team captains known as Brooke Alix, Katie Boyle, and Megan Lira, it's no wonder GMHS was able to have a successful winter season.

There are four major competitions still down the road. The first of these competitions is on the 18th of February. It is important to note that all are free to attend practice every week day except Wednesday. It is forbidden to attend practice on Wednesdays unless one possesses knowledge beyond what is normally presented to the residents of reality.

Contrary to certain common belief, cheerleading is a highly competitive sport that deserves respect. Cheerleading takes an enormous amount of effort that is not necessarily presented to the public as a whole. Other teams can be vicious, and practice is rigorous. Also worth mentioning is the similarities cheerleading has to combat. The stances and coordination are not as far away from street fighting as the average spectator may assume. An experienced cheerleader who has picked up a pom-pom wouldn't have a hard time with fencing. Pom-poms can kill.

All in all, cheerleading is a true sport deserving national recognition and respect. Granby's recent participation in this phenomenon is sure to boost morale and leave a lasting impression on the student body.



Granby has a spirited group of super fans

Photos courtesy of the Granby Patch

BEAST ATTACKS

SPORTS NEWS

The finish line is fast approaching

The Girls Indoor Track team has been doing well this year. The team is led by Coach Bob Casey and Captains Meg Almagro, Paige Kibby, Taylor Rogers and Marianna Sticca.

NCCC's went very well for the bears, with Meg Almagro placing 1st in the two mile, Alexa Cipkis placing 3rd in the mile and Ashley P-H placing 3rd in the 600m dash. Also, the 4 X 8 team is going to the state meet.

As Alexa, Ashley and Meg have said, the "A-team is going strong". It is indeed. States is this Friday, February 10th. Cheer the girls indoor track team on this Friday as they cross their last finish line of the year!

Swimming and Diving makes leaps and bounds

The Granby Swimming and Diving Team has had one of its best seasons yet. The season has been full of individual accomplishments and team wins, and the team currently has a 5-4 record. As one parent says, "The swim team shows what true team spirit is all about. It is as much fun to watch the team members cheering their friends on as it is to watch them win their races."

The Swimming and Diving Team has grown in the past few years from around 6 swimmers to almost 40, with the help of parental and coaching support. Captains MaryKate Thompson, Jon Budlong and Connor Bowman (from Canton) are veteran swimmers who bring not only skill and leadership but also fun to the team.

The Swimming and Diving team is coached by Rich Gadory, who is described by his athletes as "very invested in the progress and success of the team."

This Granby team is only half funded, so they have to raise a significant amount of money on their own. The team's cupcake sales every Friday during the fall helped to fund the team, and the swimmers thank everyone for the support.

The team has two more regular season meets, both at the Y in town. The fist is on Tuesday, February 14th at 8 pm against Simsbury and the second is on Tuesday February 21st at 8 pm against Lewis Mills. Come cheer on your swimmers and divers!

The Paw Print needs a Sports Editor!

Attention sports lovers: *The Paw Print* needs a Sports Editor! Do you love to attend sports games? Are you versed in the rules of the game, the history, or is your best friend the star of the team?

Write for *The Paw Print*! A dedicated Sports Editor is needed to keep the school informed of the ins and outs of Bears sports. Let us know what you envision for this page.

Newspaper meetings are usually Monday or Thursday nights. Send an email to pawprint@granbyschools.org or pricek@granby.k12.ct.us to express interest.

Girls Basketball photo gallery



Junior Emily Stone knocks the ball away from East Granby



Freshman Krista Iwanicki

GMHS Wrestling is small but strong

The Granby Memorial Wrestling team is small and doesn't have many matches, but is comprised of a group of solid wrestlers who have a good chance of placing at States. The team also hopes to advance to the State Open tournament.

The Wrestling team is captained by Zach Rivera, Jordyn Hurley and Nick Paolino. The captains led their team to its first win against Fermi High School 2 weeks ago.

Zach Rivera also placed 3rd at the Hall High School Tournament. Jordyn Hurley placed 2nd at the Monument Mountain Tournament, and Nick Paolino placed 3rd.

The GMHS Wrestling team is going to the NCCC tournament on Saturday February 11th, and the State tournament is February 17th and 18th. Come support the Wrestling team as their season comes to a close!

Speaking of teams…

English 11H students recently engaged in "The Great Debate" over whether every American citizen has the opportunity to attain happiness. Here are some team photos from the debate.

What do you think? Does every citizen have the opportunity to attain happiness? Send us your thoughts to pawprint@granbyschools.org.



"A few good men"



The affirmative team





Poem Corner

How to Cure the Ache

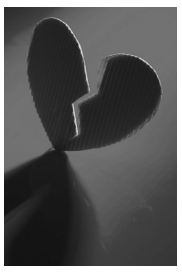
By Rachel Rising

The pain is overwhelming,
seemingly never ending,
you're trapped inside the hurt.
You wish, you hope, you sit, you pray,
that the pain could somehow be taken away.
The aching is raw; your brain goes numb,
it feels as though hope has been overcome;
consumed by truth, so bitter and cold,
engulfed by reality, nowhere left to go,
nothing left to say,
although everyone says "it'll be okay".

Look back on your life and you will see,
that everything has worked out eventually.
We're bound to lose sight of the path we choose,
but that's only to realize what we have to lose.
From there we can understand how precious life is,
and learn to take nothing we have for granted.

We learn that life is like a forest with trails,
diverging at times, yet the main path prevails.
No matter the things you may endure,
in the end you will be wiser, now more mature.

These words for you will not mend your heart,
nor be quick to fix all that has been torn apart.
But remember with time,
you will only grow stronger,
whole once again,
broken no longer.



Where I'm From

By MacKenzie Brower

I'm from jump ropes and fast roller blades
From the tree forts that my brother and I made
I'm from the Lion King and Winnie the Pooh
From the AristaCats and the 101 Dalmatians too
I'm from stuffed animals and beanie babies
From "share", "be nice", and "maybes"
I'm from tire swings and scraped knees
From climbing rocks and stinging bees
I'm from playing house and loving hugs
From dirty jeans and catching bugs
I'm from old pine groves and mountain air
From winding roads and golden hair
I'm from riding bikes and flying kites
From making leaf piles and getting bug bites
I'm from playscapes and paper planes
From rec. soccer and grass stains
I'm from New York and 9/11
From losing family and believing in heaven
I'm from N'sync and Britney Spears
From loads of laughter and some tears
I'm from apple picking and trips to the zoo
From awkward haircuts and ice cream cones too
I'm from Halloween costumes, pumpkins and witches
From a pop-fly to the face that ended in stitches
I'm from learning to read and learning to write
From learning what is wrong and what is right
I'm from high school, start to finish
From decisions both smart and foolish
I'm from dealing with my brother's cancer
From "play for the cure" to try and find an answer
I'm from three varsity sports and state championships
From hanging out with my friends and future planned road trips
I'm from getting my license and learning to drive
From setting high goals and dreams and having to strive
I'm from summer and a celebration
From growth and soon a graduation

Dream

Anonymous

There is a world where your mind resides,
Where dreams and memories collide.
Darkest ways and brilliant light,
times of day and blackest night.
What was false and what was real.
The bell tolls out a mournful peal.
All will fade out of sight,
and you awake without your fright.
Where worlds were erased and buildings fell,
was it all a dream as well?
Endless colors, twists and turns,
for those lost worlds your mind yearns.
But all is gone and lost away,
with the colors, Shades of of grey.

Do you have any writing you'd like to share in the third edition of *The Paw Print*? Send it to us at



Check out the survey on *The Paw Print* online. The digital version will go live on Friday, February 17th, and we want to hear from you!

ON SALE, SINGING VALENTINES! **Today, Friday February 10, 2012 is the last day they will be sold.** They are 3$ for a card, and your choice of either You Are My Sunshine , Lolli-pop, or Sh-Boom, sung by the GMHS chorus, which you can send to any student or teacher, any period of the day, on Valentine's Day, February 14th. Add a flower too, for an extra dollar.



Answer to Sudoku on page 4

7	2	8	1	4	3	5	6	9
9	3	5	6	2	7	1	8	4
4	1	6	9	5	8	7	2	3
1	4	9	8	3	6	2	5	7
5	6	3	2	7	1	4	9	8
8	7	2	4	9	5	6	3	1
3	9	4	5	1	2	8	7	6
2	8	7	3	6	4	9	1	5
6	5	1	7	8	9	3	4	2

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