



THE POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT PANTHER PRIDE

March 2008

Volume 3, Issue 6

Important March Dates

- Mar 3
Late Start - 10:30 a.m.
5th Grade BBall Tournament @ Stet
Academic Team @ Gallatin - 4:00 p.m.
- Mar 4
5th Grade BBall Tournament @ Stet
FFA Judging @ Hamilton
4-H Meeting in Cafeteria - 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 5
5th Grade BBall Tournament @ Stet
- Mar 7
End of Third Quarter
FFA Judging @ Brunswick
- Mar 8
Night on Broadway @ Community Center -
Dinner @ 5:00 p.m., Show @ 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 9
Night on Broadway @ Community Center -
2:00 p.m.
- Mar 10
Academic Team @ Hamilton - 4:00 p.m.
- Mar 11
MS & HS Cheerleading @ 5:00 p.m.
Literature Festival Field Trip @ Warrensburg
- Mar 12
MS & HS Cheerleading @ 5:00 p.m.
6th Grade BBall vs. Breckenridge - 6:00 p.m.
- Mar 13
MS & HS Cheerleading @ 3:15 p.m. (optional)
MAP Night for 3rd-6th Grades
Varsity Winter Sports Banquet @ 6:00 p.m.
- Mar 14
MS & HS Cheerleading @ 6:00 p.m.
8th Grade Visit Day
Chemistry Contest @ Northwest
- Mar 17
School Health Advisory Council
Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Academic Team @ Polo - 4:00 p.m.
- Mar 18
Varsity Track Meet @ UCM - 1:00 p.m.
- Mar 19
5th Grade BBall @ Stet - 6:00 p.m.
- Mar 20
Early Out @ 11:30 a.m.
FFA Judging @ Lathrop
- Mar 21
No School - Spring Break
- Mar 24
School in Session
NHS Induction Ceremony @ 6:30 p.m.
5th Grade BBall @ Breckenridge - 6:00 p.m.
- Mar 25
School in Session
Elementary BBall Tournament @ Polo
Board of Education Special Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Academic Team @ South Harrison
FFA @ Gallatin
- Mar 26
School in Session
Elementary BBall Tournament @ Polo
- Mar 27
School in Session
Elementary BBall Tournament @ Polo
Varsity Track Meet @ Wentworth - 4:00 p.m.
- Mar 28
School in Session
Track Pictures - 1:30 p.m.
FFA @ Trenton
- Mar 29
Elementary BBall Tournament @ Polo
Senior Citizens Prom - 5:30 p.m.
- Mar 31
MS/HS Band Concert - 6:30 p.m.
6th Grade BB @ North Davies

The Charms of China

by Beverly Deis

Elementary
Principal

“Charms of China,” a presentation by Randy Nadler, was presented to expand the horizons of K - 6 students at Polo R-VII School on February 15. China is about the same size of the United States but is the largest country by population with approximately 1.3 billion people on the four million square miles.

During the presentation, Mr. Nadler, an educator himself, discussed the history of China by taking the students on a traveling tour of China. Magnificent landscapes, historic sites, beautiful buildings, and many people were pictured throughout the presentation.

Jared Robison said his most favorite part of the presentation was about the Great Wall of China. He was fascinated with how long it was. Hosea Vasquez and Nickolas Myers both enjoyed hearing about the food in China.

Trent Scobee commented he liked learning about the schools in China and Madison Curp thought it was interesting that the teachers parked their bicycles in the school hallways. Cati Boruch liked the pictures of all of the exotic animals and Jessica Barnes thought the clay army was the most interesting. Austin VanOster was impressed when Mr. Nadler said he never saw one child in trouble in all of the schools he visited.

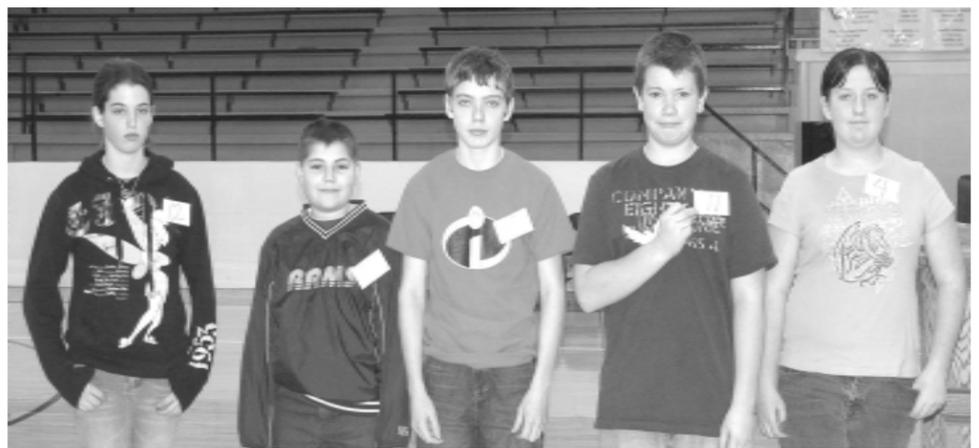
This presentation of the “Charms of China” was made possible by the Parents Teacher Organization.

Polo Spelling Bee

by Joan Ahart

Staff Writer

The Polo Middle School Spelling Bee was held on February 1 in the high school gymnasium. The participants were Brandon Richardson, Aimee Walker, Andrew Holland, Carley Oxford, Kolton Roark, Houston Stone, Monica Fickess, Justin Hicks, Tony Utt, Katie Garrett, and Justin Hazlemen. There were five people qualified to go to the Caldwell County Spelling Bee. The five Polo Spelling Bee Champions were alternate Houston Stone, fourth place Andrew Holland, third place Aimee Walker, second place Katie Garrett, and first place Tony Utt. The spelling bee took about an hour to complete. It took roughly fifteen minutes in the final round to determine the first and second place winners. This event was one of the more exciting spelling bees in Polo history. Good luck Polo super spellers at the County Spelling Bee!!!!



Above: Spelling Bee winners Katie Garrett, Andrew Holland, Tony Utt, Houston Stone, and Aimee Walker.

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Polo Students Help the Ronald McDonald House

by **Joan Ahart**

| Staff Writer

The Polo High School FBLA and FCCLA volunteered their Friday night to cooking dinner for the Ronald McDonald House in Kansas City. The FBLA and FCCLA did this as their service project during National FBLA and FCCLA Week. Students involved in these organizations spent the week collecting and donated household items for the Ronald McDonald House. On February 15, several Polo students traveled to the Ronald McDonald House in Kansas City to prepare a meal of po-

tato soup and tator-tot casserole with salads and desserts. Tasks for preparing the meal were written on slips of paper and drawn by the members. The FBLA and FCCLA members had a fun time and are proud of donating time and materials for the use of others in need.

Ronald McDonald Houses are known around the world as the "Houses that Love Built" because of the tremendous outpouring of support that makes the Houses possible. The concept of the Ronald McDonald House was

founded in 1974 by the Philadelphia Eagles football team. Currently, there is a network of 264 Ronald McDonald Houses in 24 countries providing 7,000 rooms per night to families with sick or injured children.

Ronald McDonald House serves families whose children are receiving care for a serious illness or injury at the Kansas City area hospital or treatment facility. Many of the children the Ronald McDonald House serves are admitted to the hospital for: pediat-

ric intensive care, burns, cardiac care, hematology, oncology, and neo-natal intensive care. Families living 35 miles or more outside the metropolitan area have top priority to stay at the Ronald McDonald Houses.

FCCLA Adviser, Carol Phares said, "I was so proud of the members for donating items and working together to prepare seven dishes for the families that were staying in the Ronald McDonald House. It was a team effort between FBLA and FCCLA for this service project to be a success."



Above: Students Emma Oyler, Jessica Vassmer, Ambrielle Hicks, Nikita Stottlemire, Rita Stottlemire, Brittany McGinely, Amber Endsley, Emily Powers, Joan Ahart, Paige Ahart, Kelsey Scott, Kasey Claypole, Destiny Freeman, Kim O'Dell, Amber Phelps, Michael Fultz, and advisers Carol Phares and Lindsey Frerking take time for a photo after preparing dinner for the families at the Ronald McDonald House.

Below: FCCLA and FBLA students display all the items that were donated for the Ronald McDonald House. Members collected household products needed by the facility.



Meet the Preschool Day

For 2008-2009 School Year
Cub Construction Preschool
 Polo R-VII School
 Thursday, March 20
 9:00 to 11:00

Children must be three or four by Aug. 1, 2008
 For more information call 354-2200

ANNUAL MAP NIGHT

by **Andrea Kesler**

| Staff Writer

On Thursday March 13 the elementary will be holding their annual MAP night. MAP night this year is for grades 3 through 6. Last year, it was only for grades 3 and 4. It will be held in the multi purpose room where they will be put into different groups. In these groups they will have different themes one group will be science, math, english, and social studies. There will be a parent meeting at 6:00 p.m. to talk about the 2008 MAP testing and how to help your child. The parents will also be

given booklets to take home with more information regarding MAP testing. While the parents are in the meeting with the teachers there will be babysitters there to watch their children not participating in the MAP night.

Mrs. Dies said "In the past parents have appreciated learning what the Missouri Assessment Program is about and I'm excited for this year's MAP night. I hope we have another good turnout."

National FFA Week

by **Emily Powers**

| Staff Writer

National Future Farmers of America week was February 19th through the 22nd. Polo FFA members celebrated this activity with spirit days. Tuesday was hillbilly/camouflage day, Wednesday was drive your tractor to school and wear your tractor and machinery apparel, Thursday was Hawaiian aggie day, and Friday was official dress day. On drive your tractor to school day there were sadly, no tractors in the parking lot because it was way too cold for students to get out their diesel tractors and make the long trips to school. Another activity that took place was the appreciation breakfast Friday morning. The FFA officer

team woke up bright and early to cook the teachers, board members, and other polo staff members a hearty breakfast.

High school math teacher Mr. Guerriero said, "The food was extremely good served by exceptionally polite and pleasant people." The general consensus of the breakfast was very positive and appreciative.

To end the week, Saturday, FFA members took a trip to eat at the Ming Dragon buffet in Liberty and went bowling at Gladstone Bowl. This is a trip that the Polo FFA takes during the winter and this year it was the perfect end to National FFA week.



Left: Math teacher Mr. Guerriero fixes his plate at the Annual Faculty Appreciation breakfast while senior Ryan Barnes take a break from cooking.

2nd Annual After Prom Plans

by Mitch Huntley

Staff Writer

Once again it's almost time for the Annual Junior and Senior Prom. The decorations are being bought, girls are buying dresses, juniors have chosen their traditional prom mugs and glasses, the location has been set, and everyone is excited for the new tradition, After Prom.

This year's After Prom theme is Under the Sea. The Junior and Senior class parents are teaming up to make this year's After Prom even more exciting than last year's. They plan to have new games and excellent prizes for the contestants, along with tasty food and drinks.

Although the junior class raises money for prom, After Prom is funded solely by the generosity of

businesses, the community, and parents, in hopes to keep kids safe on prom night. Soon you will be seeing donation containers featuring the juniors and seniors smiling faces, at local merchants around the community. A lot of work goes into setting up for the After Prom party; donations of any kind, big or small would be truly appreciated by the parents and students of Polo in hopes to make prom night a success.

The parents and students would like to say thank you to those of you who donated last year, it was a big help. Thank you in advance to those of you who donate this year we greatly appreciate your generosity.

True Colors

by Joan Ahart

Staff Writer

Mr. Dave Lankford, the Vice President of Educational Foundation for the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, presented at the District 19 FBLA Leadership Conference on Monday, February 18 at Polo High School. Mr. Lankford travels around the state presenting various workshops and training sessions over a variety of topics including personal finance and leadership.

Dave Lankford met with District 19 FBLA members and presented his workshop entitled True Colors. During the hour and a half interactive workshop, Lankford discussed with them about how individual's personalities are broken down into four different colors during this presentation: Orange, Blue, Green, and Gold. The Color Orange stands for Adventurous; You love action, you go for it on a moment's notice, you are witty, charming, and bold, you see life as a game, and you act on an impulse, like adventure, compete,

and skillful in what you do. The color Blue stands for Harmonious; you look for the meaning in life, you like to get along with people and look after them, you like to express yourself, and your honest and do what your told. The color Green stands for Curious; you are investigative and form your own ideas, you like to look at the big picture, your cool, calm, and collective, you are smart and enjoy activities that require problem-solving. The Color Gold stands for Responsible; people can count on you, your actions can be predicted, you are always ready for tomorrow, you are loyal, giving, and like to take care of others, you need to be useful, and you are practical and sensible.

The Polo FBLA chapter President, Emily Powers says, "This motivational speaker was interesting. I think it is cool that people you do not know could have the same exact personality as I do. It was a good way to make new friends with other schools."



Above: Polo FBLA members Kaylie Sorensen and Alex Templeton work in a group during the True Colors presentation. Groups created posters with aspects of their specific personality 'color'.

Faculty Spotlight

-PAM THRASHER-

by Ashley Strickbine

Staff Writer

Polo High School welcomed a new high school language teacher halfway through the school year. It's about time that the community meets Polo's newest addition.

Full Name: Pamela V. Thrasher

Birthday: March 10, 1968

Hometown: Kansas City, MO

About You: I am the oldest of six children and the only one still living in Missouri. I am a perfectionist; I love work and believe honesty and respect are critical to really enjoying life. I am fiercely competitive- I try not to play games with anyone but my family. They have to still like me afterwards. My sons and I play a pretty mean game of Rock Band and our house is usually full of their friends (most of them call me Mom, too.)

Interests/Hobbies: I love to garden, shop (shoes are a particular weakness), read, ski and fly-fish. I've played the piano since I was five and learned to sing alto when I was seven. If you cut me, I bleed music (as does my entire family.) My car stereos on- always!

Married: Yes, we met at work. I was the IT manager for an insurance rating system, and he was the business manager of the employees that used that system.

New Music Based Classes

by Andrea Kesler

Staff Writer

This school year has been a year for great changes. There have been many new classes that the students were really excited about taking. Mrs. Limyao the band director at Polo for three years, has started two new classes this year, advanced band second hour and show choir fourth hour. In second hours advanced band class there are five students Seniors Amber Endsley, Andrea Kesler, Saren Thomas, and Juniors Emma Hindman, and Austin Okorn. In this class they learn the theory behind music such as how to transpose, also they practice for upcoming events such as Honor band or Solo contests.

The fourth hour show choir class consists of 14 students, seniors Amber Endsley, Emma Oyler, Meghan Plum, Nikita Stottlemire, Juniors Ambrielle Hicks, Julie Spilman, Kaitlyn Taylor, Kesli Clark, Sophomores Michael Fultz, Ashliegh Jones, Brittney McGinley, Linda Pilger,



Children: Two, J. Michael "Mike" and Charles "Charlie."

Pets: Two English Springer Spaniels: Edgar Aloysius and Arthur Conan Dog.

Where did you attend College? Park University

Did you ever change your major? My B.S. in Management of Information Systems. Yes, I was a proud member of the "nerd herd" for twenty years. My master's degree is in Education and I graduate this May.

Why did you choose teaching high school language? All my electives were Language Arts electives, and I've always loved to read and write. It seemed like a perfect fit.

Favorite Quote:

"The cruelest lies are often told without a word. The kindest truths are often spoken but never heard." -Ben Folds

Karlie Schafer, and Alyssia Scobee. The show choir class includes singing, dancing and making up choreography for the Night on Broadway show. They practice songs, dances, and solos for the upcoming Night on Broadway show, also practice the National Anthem so the students have a chance to perform before games.

Night on Broadway is coming up really soon, the tickets are halfway sold out for Saturday night's performance. The students are preparing to have dress rehearsals to be really prepared for the show.

Mrs. Limyao said "These are the best classes I could have added. These are the hardest working students I have experienced. The advanced band class is prepared for solo contest or honor band tryouts and the show choir class are extremely excited for the Night on Broadway performance."

Senior Nikita Stottlemire said "Show choir is wicked fun."

Advice from the Cafeteria Ladies

by Ashley Strickbine

Staff Writer

There are four lovely women in the cafeteria at Polo High School. These strong, wise and compassionate women supply the students with nourishing meals everyday. Now, these women have agreed to give the students their views and advice on topics the students deal with everyday. This month the women are giving students advice on love, friendship and relationships.

Mrs. Tina Bell, 11 years serving, says:

"I think you need to believe and trust in yourself before you can have any kind of friendship or relationship. Falling in love too young, keeps you from getting what you may want out of life, you need this time for your self."

Mrs. Marsha Holt, 4 years serving, says:

"Be true to your friends, and really know what you want before getting into a relationship."

Ms. Samara Wormsley, 15 years serving, says:

"I am very fortunate to have many wonderful friends. I have found, in order to have a friend, you must first be a friend. You get out of a relationship only as much as you put into it. And, on a brighter side, be sure you obtain unconditional love and faithfulness, I would stick with a cat or dog."

Mrs. Lynette Zinna, 10 years serving, says:

"Keep in mind; you have to live with your decisions for the rest of your life."

Lynette Zinna also contributed two recipes dealing with love relationships.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE LADIES OR QUESTIONS THAT YOU'D LIKE THEM TO ANSWER PLEASE SEE ASHLEY STRICKBINE.

LOVE POTION TEA

1 pinch of rosemary
2 teaspoons of black tea
3 pinches of thyme
3 pinches nutmeg
3 fresh mint leaves
6 fresh rose petals
6 lemon leaves
3 cups pure spring water
sugar
honey

To make another person fall in love with you, brew this tea on a Friday during a waxing moon (moving from empty to full)

Place all ingredients in a copper tea kettle, boil spring water and add to the kettle.

Sweeten with sugar and honey. Before drinking recite this rhyme:

BY THE LIGHT OF MOON
WAXING

I BREW THIS TEA
TO MAKE (name) DESIRE
ME

Drink some of the tea and say:
GODDESS OF LOVE
HEAR NOW MY PLEA
LET (name) DESIRE ME
SO MOTE IT BE
SO MOTE IT BE

FRIENDSHIP RECIPE

1 cup Courtesy
½ cup Patience
¼ cup Forgiveness
1 cup Encouragement
2 tablespoons Unselfishness
Stir in pinch of praise
Add a dash of wit and humor
Season with faith and confidence
Bake for a lifetime
Serve with generous portions of love and kindness

This is my way of giving advice to anyone at any age on friendships and relationships at any level. It's corny but true.

Polo FBLA Compete at DLC

by Saren Thomas

Staff Writer

Monday, February 18th, 2008 the annual FBLA Districts 19 Leadership Conference was held at Polo High School. 19 FBLA chapters from around the area, including Grand River Technical School, Tina-Avalon, Penney High School traveled to Polo for the event. FBLA students sacrificed their President's Day to attend the conference and participate in the day's activities.

While some students competed in performance events such as Job Interview, Business Ethics, and Public Speaking, there was a leadership workshop called "True Colors" by David Lankford for other members in attendance. After the workshop, performance events, and lunch were complete; the award winners were announced and the newly elected District 19 FBLA officers were installed.

The Polo chapter was very proud of the members that placed. Polo members were awarded nine medals and certificates at the awards ceremony. Abbie Russell took first in the Electronic Career Portfolio and will advance to compete at the State Leadership Conference in April.

Polo FBLA District Contest Results

Banking and Financial Systems
Kim Webb and Andra Young – 5th place

Business Law
Kasey Claypole – 4th place

Business Math
Dalton Rardon – 10th place

Business Procedures
Amber Endsley – 6th place

Digital Video Production
Paige Ahart and Rita Stottlemyre – 2nd place

FBLA Principals and Procedures
Katelyn Sanders – 4th place

Impromptu Speaking
Emily Powers – 2nd place

Introduction to Business

Katelyn Sanders – 11th place

Introduction to Technology Concepts

Dalton Rardon – 8th place

Ms. FBLA

Emily Powers – 4th place

Technology Concepts

Lathan Dixon – 6th place

Word Processing II

Ashley Strickbine – 5th place



Left: Seniors Josh Duncan, Abbie Russell, and Charlie Boruch smile for the camera at the FBLA District Conference. Josh and Charlie, along with Spencer Snodgrass competed in Business Ethics event and Abbie brought home first with her Electronic Career Portfolio.

National Honor Society

by Ashley Strickbine

Staff Writer

The February National Honor Society meeting was held on the late-start day on February 19, 2008. Many members weren't present due to the fact that there were two late start days in the month of February. At next month's meeting the members who weren't present are required to provide a breakfast item for the whole organization.

Items discussed included arranging a field trip for the members to take in the spring. The NHS members have enough money left over this year to take a nice field trip to Kansas City. Originally the members planned on visiting the "Bodies: Revealed" exhibit opening in Union Station later this month. But the recent investigation over "Bod-

ies: Revealed" on 20/20 caused much controversy between the members. Advisor Mrs. Davis is currently taking new ideas for the group field trip.

The NHS Faculty Council has selected the new inductees for 2008. The ceremony will be held on March 24th. There were forty students', grades ten through twelve who qualified to apply for the National Honor Society. Qualifications include having scholarship, character, service and leadership. Out of the forty who qualified only twenty applied. The NHS Faculty Council has narrowed down the twenty to ten lucky students, who will be announced at a later date.

Senior Citizens Prom

What

5th Annual Senior Citizens Prom sponsored by the Polo High School FBLA. Night of dinner, dancing, and fun for all area patrons 55 years and older.

When

Saturday, March 29th beginning at 5:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Where

Polo School Multipurpose Room

There will also be a silent auction with proceeds benefiting Camp Quality, a summer camp for kids with cancer.

Invitations and flyers coming soon!

Got a March Birthday?

So do these famous people.

by **Abbie Russell**

Staff Writer

1. Ron Howard (actor/director)
2. Theodor Seuss Geisel (Dr. Seuss)
3. Alexander Graham Bell (inventor)
4. Chris Squire (musical artist)
5. Eva Mendes (actress)
6. Hugh Grundy (musical artist)
7. Tammy Faye Baker (televangelist)
8. Freddie Prince Jr. (musical artist)
9. Chingy (musical artist)
10. Chuck Norris (actor)
11. Benji and Joel Madden (musical artist)
12. James Taylor (musical artist)
13. Rachael Bella (actress)
14. Albert Einstein (genius)
15. Eva Longoria (actress)
16. Flavor Flav (reality TV. and musical artist)
17. Kurt Russell (actor)
18. Vanessa Williams (musical artist)
19. Walter Willison (Bruce Willis)
20. Fred "Mr." Rogers
21. Rosie O'Donell (actress and talk show host)
22. Reese Witherspoon (actress)
23. Chaka Kahn (musical artist)
24. Harry Houdini (magician)
25. Elton John (musical artist)
26. Steven Tyler (musical artist)
27. Stacie "Fergie" Ferguson
28. August Anheuser Busch, Jr (Anheuser chairman)
29. Pearl Bailey (Broadway star)
30. Eric Clapton (musical artist)
31. Al Gore (Bill Clinton's vice president)

UNIQUE MARCH HOLIDAYS

by **Josh Duncan**

Staff Writer

March is a busy month just like any month of the year. There is always something to do right? Well if not, then here are some celebrations you can have fun with. First of all, for all you Irish it is Irish American Month. Peanut fans will appreciate that it is National Peanut Month. Grab some peanuts and eat away. Also celebrated is National Women's History month and Red Cross month.

Here are some bizarre and unique holidays that maybe you could have fun with this month. On March 1, it is National Pig Day or Peanut Butter Lover's Day. If you see someone lonely and sad on March 3rd, tell them a joke or be there friend. March 3rd is I Want You to Be Happy Day. March 4th, show your love and hug a person from the military for it is Hug a GI Day. Are you in need of making an appointment to the dentist office? Schedule it on Dentist's Day, March 6. On March 11, it is Johnny Appleseed Day. Find a good apple tree, take a nap under it or grab a juicy delicious apple and have a snack. Help the environment and plant a beautiful flower

Easter Facts

by **Kelsi Pile**

Staff Writer

Every year Easter falls on a different Sunday and this year it lands on Sunday, March 23rd. Easter is a Christian holiday, but is still celebrated by many people in America and other countries. Easter is a very commercialized holiday and most people don't know the facts about the actual holiday of Easter.

Easter Facts:

- Originally a Pagan holiday
- Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Marks the ending of Lent
- Has to be on a Sunday between march 22 and April 25
- Celebrated the Sunday immediately following the Paschal Full Moon
- Not widely celebrated in America until after the Civil War
- Exchange of eggs in the spring-time is a custom that is centuries old
- The egg is a symbol of rebirth in most cultures
- The Easter bunny originated with the Pagan festival Eastre
- From Pagan time, the rabbit represents a fertile life- which in turn has come to mean new life or rebirth
- The European custom of decorating eggs evolved into fine art with the colorful gilded designs of Ukranian artists
- Easter baskets represent the nest, where the bearer of the eggs, the rabbit, laid her eggs

on March 12, Plant a Flower Day. Buy a bag of chips on March 14 which is National Potato Chip Day. If you're not a big potato chip fan then celebrate National Pi Day. That's not pie you eat even though a piece of apple pie does sound tempting, National Pi Day celebrates pi, a mathematical concept and a number that never ends. The value of pi is 3.14, so if you're a mathematician this is your day

March 17 is Saint Patrick's Day and a day to wear green to avoid getting pinched. If you love chicken then March 19, Poultry Day, is your day to grab a bucket of chicken. March 20, might just be the day one of you lucky ladies will be proposed to on Proposal Day. If you still have some leftover chips from the 14th of March save them for National Chip and Dip Day on the 23rd. If you love waffles in the morning then mix some Pecans in with it, because it is Waffle and Pecan Day on the 25th. The month ends on a powerful note with March 30th as I Am In Control Day.

St. Patrick's Day Legends

by **Ashley Strickbine**

Staff Writer

The first American celebration of St. Patrick's Day was in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1737. On this day, "everybody is Irish!" Over one hundred United States cities now hold Saint Patrick's Day parades, with the largest parade held in New York City.

The color green is associated with Saint Patrick's Day because it is the color of spring, the shamrock and it is one of Ireland's colors. Wearing green on Saint Patrick's Day is supposed to be good luck, plus it will keep you from getting pinched! Other signs of luck on St. Patrick's Day is finding a four leaf clover or kissing a blarney stone. A blarney stone is a block of bluestone located on the Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland. According to the legend, kissing the stone supplies the giver with the gift of gab. People from all over the world visit Ireland to kiss the blarney stone.

Leprechauns are commonly connected with this March holiday. Leprechauns are very clever, unfriendly and unsociable Irish 'fairies'. They appear as a two foot tall old man dressed as a shoemaker with a hat and a leather apron. They spend their time living alone and making shoes. Each leprechaun is known to have his own hidden pot of gold. Legend goes if you catch a leprechaun; you must keep your eyes on him every second while asking him where his gold is, if you look away, he disappears. The leprechauns are said to keep their pots of gold at the end of the rainbow. Some stories say if a leprechaun likes you, he will share his gold. Others stories say you must catch a leprechaun, and then he will take you to his pot of gold.

The shamrock is one of Ireland's most famous symbols. It is said that Saint Patrick used the shamrock, and its three leaves to explain the concept of the Trinity - the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Saint Patrick was a missionary who led Ireland to Christianity. The shamrock is also associated with good luck! Many people wear shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day.

*(<http://www.sparta.k12.il.us/SID/legends.htm>)

Women's History Month

by **Saren Thomas**

Staff Writer

March 8th through the 25th is celebrated as Women's Day. This all started backing the early 18th Century when women realized that they second class citizens to the males and that they weren't apart of history. The women were tired of having only one option and that was to take care of the children, do household chores, and they weren't even aloud to be alone in public let alone socialize.

Enough was enough; in 1848 the Women's Rights Convention was set into motion in Seneca Falls, NY. Elizabeth Stanton was one of the first to stand up. She used the Declaration of Principles as her guideline for setting up her recommendations for change. When the civil war his the hope for women's rights were pushed aside for the exchange of abolishing slavery. Though annual conventions were held much was discussed but little was put into action during this time. As the women became more outraged in time Elizabeth Stanton stood up once more and established the American Equal Rights Association in 1866. In 1868 the 14th amendment proved as an insult to women it defined that citizenship and votes were only for males, which made women wonder if they were even considered citizens at all. The exclusion of women was further reinforced with the approval of the 15th amendment stating that now it included black men as citizens and voters. This didn't stop these hard driven women. In 1919 after many petitioning, picketing, protests and hard fought battles the Nineteenth Amendment was passed and was ratified in 1920 by Woodrow Wilson.

19th Amendment

-The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridges by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

-Congress shall have power to enforce this Article by appropriate legislation.

Women have fought hard through the many years so, now it is up to the present women of to use the rights that were given to us with hard fought effort.

Preventing the Cold and Flu

by Saren Thomas

Staff Writer

This year has been one of the worst winters, along with a really bad flu and cold season. This past month has been very hard on the school's attendance rate. Many students have been absent due to being sick from the flu or cold. Here are some tips to keep you and your family from getting the flu or cold, because it's never too late to take precautions.

oGet your flu shot in October or November. Getting it early will allow your body to create antibodies (virus and bacteria fighters) to the flu or cold virus. Now keep in mind the flu shot isn't a guarantee you won't get the flu, the virus shot covers just the most common types of flu.

oWash Your Hands! People don't realize how much this really helps stopping bacteria in its tracks.

oGet Enough Sleep. When you sleep this is when your body goes to work and checks to make sure

everything is healthy. Sure it does this when the body is awake but it is more productive when you sleep. People tend to sleep more when they are sick for this reason.

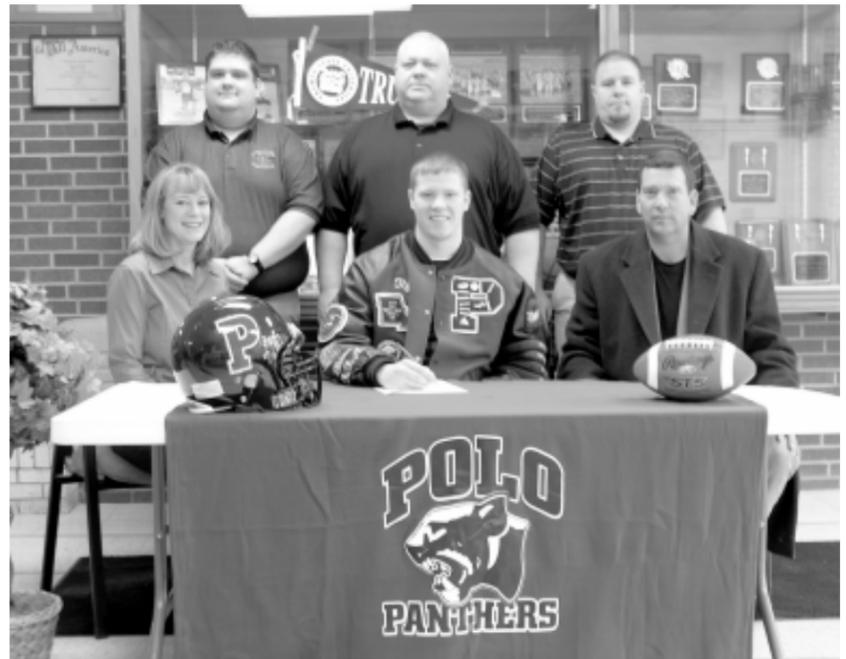
oExercise! Studies show that people who do more cardiovascular exercises their immune systems are healthier, and when people who exercise get sick they tend to have not as severe symptoms and recover more quickly than those who do not exercise. Walking, biking, and aerobics are great cardio workouts.

oAvoid large crowds. The cold and flu are very contagious so they are easily spread around. Day Care, Offices, Schools, Air Planes, Malls, etc., these are just some of the many places that you can easily contract the cold or flu.

oYou should always go to the doctor. If you go without antibiotics or medicine the flu can turn into Pneumonia which can cause even more problems.

SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU
Fever	Rare	Usually Present
Aches	Slight	Usual, often severe
Chills	Uncommon	Fairly common
Tiredness	Mild	Moderate to severe
Sudden Symptoms	Symptoms appear gradually	Symptoms can appear within 3-6 hours
Coughing	Hacking, productive cough	Dry, unproductive cough
Sneezing	Common	Uncommon
Stuffy nose	Common	Uncommon
Sore throat	Common	Uncommon
Chest Discomfort	Mild to moderate	Often severe
Headache	Uncommon	Common

Above: This chart shows the differences between cold and flu symptoms. For more information regarding influenza visit <http://www.flufacts.com/>.



Ryan Barnes Signs with Truman State

Above: Senior Ryan Barnes signed his Institutional Letter of Intent to play football at Truman State University next fall. Pictured are his parents, Marla and Joe Barnes, and the Polo Varsity Football coaches, Coach Chris Gagnon, Head Coach Chris Johnson, and Coach Kevin Webster.

Panther Basketball

by Josh Duncan

Staff Writer

The week of February 18 was a busy one for Polo Basketball. Polo had three home games that week with games on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. The Panthers faced the Princeton Tigers on the 18th. After a hard fought battle, they fell short of the victory. The next night they played the Lathrop Mules, a tall, lengthy team. February 19th, was also Senior Night for the Panthers. They tried something new that night playing a box and one defense on the Lathrop Mules. It was successful against them, shutting down a key player. The Panthers played solid defense but struggled on the offensive side. The boys lost the game by seven points giving the Mules more than

they bargained for. On the Friday the 22nd, the fans enjoyed the events of Court/Mat warming. During the halftime of the boys game Alyssa LaMarr and Joshua Duncan were crowned Queen and King. The fans also got to enjoy a 75-38 victory over the Winston Red Birds. The Panthers broke their losing streak by putting up impressive numbers on the board. The seniors ended their last home game of the season with a BANG. The confidence they gained from that win will carry into districts which will be played in Lathrop's new high school gym. In the Panther's first round of districts they will be playing a good West Platte Bluejay team.

PRELIMINARY TRACK SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
Mar. 18	UCM Indoor	UCM Campus - Warrensburg	1:00
Mar. 27	Wentworth Indoor	Wentworth Academy-Lexington	4:00
Apr. 1	Hardin Relays	Hardin Central HS.	4:00
Apr. 1	Orrick Fun Run	Orrick MS	4:00
Apr. 2	Hardin Fun Run	Hardin MS	4:00
Apr. 4	Hardin Invitational	Richmond HS	4:00
Apr. 11	Braymer MS Meet	??	TBD
Apr. 12	Squaw Creek Relays	Mound City	TBA
Apr. 14	Norborne Fun Run	Norborne MS	4:00
Apr. 15	Cameron Invit.	Cameron HS	3:00
Apr. 18	Brookfield Invit.	Brookfield HS	11:00
Apr. 21	Lawson Invit	Lawson HS	4:00
Apr. 22	Lawson MS Meet	Lawson HS	4:00
Apr. 24	North Andrew Invit.	North Andrew HS	TBA
Apr. 29	GRC HS Championships	Albany	TBA
May 1	GRC MS Championships	Worth County HS	TBA
May 3	MSHSAA Districts	St. Joe Christian	TBA
May 10	MSHSAA Sectionals	Albany	TBA
May 16-17	MSHSAA State Championships	Jefferson City	TBA

State Wrestling

by **Mitch Huntley**

Staff Writer

On Wednesday, February 13th, six Polo Panther wrestlers headed to Columbia to compete in the state tournament. This year has been a great year thus far for the Polo Panthers with two tournament titles, and then to end the year with a record setting six state qualifiers from the Polo School district.

Among the wrestlers were Freshman James Taylor, Sophomore Dean Manning, Juniors Mitch Huntley and Tyler Scobee, and Seniors Lathan Dixon and Hollis Fee. When leaving the school on Wednesday Mr. Snodgrass gave his usual inspirational speech that involved lots of high fives and head butts, luckily no one was injured. He also reminded all students and faculty that "we do things a little bit better at Polo".

The team arrived in Columbia around 3:00 p.m. That night they spent some quality time with Coach Johnson at the local Chinese restaurant. After chowing down, the team went to the Columbia mall to walk off the "one too many egg rolls" and find some new duds to bring home.

When morning arrived at six o'clock everyone was wide awake and ready to wrestle. Day one was a rough start for the first time qualifiers James Taylor, Tyler Scobee, and Lathan Dixon. They gave it a good effort but unfortunately were double eliminated on the first day. Hollis Fee lost his first match but came back and beat his next opponent, allowing him to advance onto day two. Dean Manning and Mitch Huntley both won their first match and rested the rest of the day for Friday's battle.

When the next morning arrived, once again bright and early the team loaded up and headed to the arena. Day two started off with 112lb Fee wrestling opponents

from Diamond and Whitfield with a win over both, advancing him to the finals on Saturday for third place.

Huntley was wrestling Weaver from Marceline when in the second period he got his leg caught in a bad position and suffered a sublexation to his knee. Unable to wrestle, he had to drop out of the state tournament.

"I would just like to say I was devastated when this happened. I had just got over a shoulder injury before heading to state and then this had to happen. What can you do? Now I'm looking forward to track season and hope to have some better luck. Thank you to all parents that supported us through the year and hopefully next year will be even better."

Dean Manning won both of his matches on Friday. Most memorable match of that day was Dean's second match where he faced Tunks from Cameron. The match lasted all three periods and then some continuing onto four overtime periods, ending up with Dean winning with the score 3-3. Tunks chose down and Dean kept him down until the period ended.

On Saturday Fee wrestled Potter from Lathrop who had beaten him twice earlier in the year. This time Fee came out on top with a win by pin over Potter. Advancing into the finals, Hollis faced Fricke where he lost earning him a fourth place state medal.

Dean had to face his only loss from earlier in the season Mullen from Lawson. The match lasted three periods. It was truly a great effort by Manning who is one of few sophomores in his weight group. Yet in the end Mullen won with a score of 7-4. Dean brought home a second place medal, Polo's first finalist.

Track Season Begins

by **Josh Duncan**

Staff Writer

It's that time of year again, when athletes are pulling out their spikes and running some grueling 400 meter sprints. Track season is here and the students are pumped. The past several years have been successful for the Polo track program and its athletes. Last year the Lady Panthers came away with a fourth place finish at the state track meet and the boys won their third consecutive state title. Hopefully this season will bring good fortunes like last year.

Track officially started on Monday, February 25 for athletes not participating in winter sports. Track is here and that means spring is quickly approaching. Though

the warmer weather tends to bring rainy days, it is a lot better than freezing rain, snow, and temperatures in the single digits. Since the winter weather is gone and warmer weather is moving in, athletes will be running on their state of the art track, the roads of Polo. Sprinters will be sprinting; distance runners will be running mile after mile and throwers will be tossing the discus, shot, and lifting weights. If you're driving around town after school, please beware of runners on the streets. None of the track meets will be held at Polo, but everyone is encouraged to come out to a few and cheer on the Panthers.

Lady Panther Basketball

by **Kelsi Pile**

Staff Writer

With the final stretch of the season approaching the Lady Panthers are looking to finish strong. On Friday February 8th the Lady Panthers traveled to Worth County to take on the Lady Tigers. It was a close game all the way through, but late in the games the Lady Tigers went on a run, while the Lady Panthers couldn't hit shots from the line. Worth County ended up winning the game by 7.

The following Tuesday the girls traveled to King City, where they came out strong, only down by 4 at halftime. In the second half the Lady Panthers came out flustered and King City took a quick and extended lead, and ended up winning.

After the tough losses the Lady Panthers were ready for a win. Friday February 15th the Panthers hosted the Maysville Wolverines. It was a rough game all the way through, with the score tied 22-22 at half. It stayed tight all the way to the end, where the game was tied with 3 seconds left in regulation and the panthers got 1 shot off just over half court, unfortunately it didn't go in and the game went into overtime. In overtime the lady panthers performed under pressure making the easy shots, and hitting 3 out of 7 from the line, and won 44-40.

With only three regular season games left the Panthers are looking to finish strong before heading into a tough district 15. Tuesday February 19th is senior night when Polo hosts Lathrop, and Friday February 22nd is court warming vs. Winston. Good luck Lady Panthers.

Cheerleading Tryouts

by **Saren Thomas**

Staff Writer

Attention grades 6th through 11th it's that time of year again to decide who will be the new cheerleaders of the coming school year. Middle School and High School will learn one cheer, chant, and dance for the try-out together. The cheer, chant, and dance will be created by the senior cheerleader Andrea Kesler, Megan Snodgrass, and Kim Webb. This will ensure that others won't already know the routine.

Try-out practices will be held March 11-13 and the try-out will be on the 14th. You must be present on the 11th and 12th practice from 5-7p.m. March 13th is optional; it will be from 3:15-4:00p.m. Bring a pair of shorts and tennis shoes to change into for practice.

It's never too late to want to become a cheerleader male or female or try-out again if you were a cheerleader the year before. It's not just a girl sport. Guys, did you know that in larger schools it is completely normal to have males on a cheerleading squad? Besides adding strength for stunts males have much deeper voices than girls. Girls don't feel discouraged; you bring spirit, charm, stunts, and voice to the squad.

GRC Band

by **Saren Thomas**

Staff Writer

On January 30, 2008 several Polo band members traveled to Bethany to audition for the Grand River Conference Honor Band. The students had practiced very hard for months to try out and make chairs for this band. The hours of practice appeared to pay off. Senior Amber Endsley was placed as first chair flute and also senior Andrea Kesler was awarded 2nd chair flute. For clarinets, senior Saren Thomas received 2nd chair and junior Emma Hindman received 4th chair. Junior Austin Okorn was placed 4th chair saxophone.

Andrea Kesler said "I was a little nervous but I was really excited about the outcome, and I can't wait for the concert."

The director of the Band Mrs. Limyao was very proud of her students and had expected them to do well.

These students will go back to Bethany Saturday February 9th to perform with the other students who made the band. The students will be playing four song pieces; "That's a plenty", "Provenance", "March", and "Appalachian Air" They will leave in the morning to practice for the first time with the others and the same night perform the concert.

Night on Broadway

**March 8
Dinner at
5:00**

**Show at
6:30**

**March 9
Show at
2:00**

March 2008 Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 Late Start 10:30 a.m. 5 th Grade Boys and Girls BB Tournament @ Stet Academic team at Gallatin 4:00 pm	4 5 th Grade Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Stet FFA Judging @ Hamilton 4-H Meeting in Cafeteria 6:30 p.m.	5 5 th Grade Boys & Girls BB Tournament @ Stet	6	7 Third Quarter Ends FFA Judging @ Brunswick	8 Night on Broadway @ Community Center Dinner 5:00- 6:00 p.m. Show 6:30 p.m.
9 Night on Broadway 2:00 p.m. Show	10 Academic team at Hamilton 4:00 pm	11 MS & HS Cheerleading practice for try outs 5-7 p.m. Literature Festival Field Trip @ Warrensburg	12 MS & HS Cheerleading practice for try outs 5-7 p.m. 6 th Grade BB vs. Breckenridge 6:00 p.m.	13 MS & HS Cheerleading practice for try outs (optional) 3:15-4:00 p.m. Map Night for Grads 3-6 Varsity Winter Sports Banquet 6:00 p.m.	14 MS & HS Cheerleading try outs 6 p.m. 8 th Grade Visitation Day for Sending Schools (Kingston, Mirabile, Cowgill) Chemistry Contest @ Maryville	15
16	17 *School Health Advisory Council *BOE Meeting 7:00 P.M in the Library Academic team at Polo 4:00 p.m.	18 UCM Track meet 1:00 p.m.	19 *5 th Grade Boys & Girls BB @ Stet 6:00 P.M	20 *Early Out 11:30 A.M *FFA Judging @ Lathrop	21 No School – Spring Break	22
23	24 *School In Session *NHS Induction Ceremony 6:30pm *5 th Grade BB @ Breckenridge 6:00 pm	25 School In session Elementary BB Tournament here BOE Special Meeting 7:00pm Academic Team @ South Harrison 4:00 pm FFA @ Gallatin	26 School In session Elementary BB Tournament here	27 School In session Elementary BB Tournament here Track meet @ Wentworth 4:00 pm	28 School In session Track Pictures 1:30pm FFA @ Trenton	29 Elementary BB Tournament here Senior Citizen Prom 5:30 pm
30	31 Band Concert 7 th - 12 th @ 6:30 pm 6 th Grade BB @ North Davies					

March 2008 Menu

Menu is subject to change.

Each meal includes one milk. Lemonade and orange juice are available for 25¢.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 Late Start-No Breakfast Nachos, Refried Beans, Pears	4 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit BBQ Pork On Bun, Potato Wedges, Cinnamon Apples	5 Hash brown Sausages, Cinnamon Toast, Fruit Beefy Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Pineapple	6 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Ravioli, Green Beans, Applesauce	7 Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy, Fruit Fish sticks, Peas, Peaches
10 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Corndogs Nuggets, Baked Beans, Mandarin Oranges	11 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Turkey On bun, Egg Rolls, Peaches	12 Muffin, Ham, Fruit Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli w/Cheese, Applesauce	13 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup, Peas	14 Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy, Fruit Tuna or Bologna Sandwich, Onion rings, Jell-O W/Fruit
17 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Creamy Chicken over Biscuit, Mixed Vegetables, Peaches	18 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Pineapple	19 Waffle, Ham, Fruit EASTER DINNER	20 Donut, Sausage, Fruit No Lunch- Early Out	21 No School
24 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Sweet & Sour Chicken, Oriental Vegetables, Pineapple	25 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, Tater Tots, Peaches	26 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Chicken Pattie on Bun, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges	27 Donut, Ham, Fruit King Ranch Chicken, Corn, Pears	28 Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy, Fruit Shrimp, Parsley Potatoes, Applesauce
31 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Corn Dog or Burrito, Pinto Beans, Peaches			25	26

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