

Cougar Times

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1st February Edition

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Blaze in Franklin

By: Andrew (Fluff) Armstrong

Last week on tuesday Feb. 7, around 2 a.m, a house in Franklin caught fire and ended up burning to the ground. The entire house was consumed and the family lost their home. But the house wasn't the only thing that the family lost. They also lost a 3 year old son named Jacob and a 2 month old daughter named Jocelyn.. It's been said that the father of the family managed to survive the fire after jumping out of the second story window. It has also been heard that when the father jumped out the window that he wanted his wife to toss the children down to him in order to save them, but she didn't want to toss her children out the window and they perished.

In the news report someone had responded telling media that the wife and husband had made it out of the house, but when the wife went back into the house for the children she didn't make it out. The State Fire Marshal was contacted to investigate how the fire broke out, but up to this point they don't know how it started. But up until that point, all that we can do is pray for the surviving father and husband of the lives lost last week.

Chase Burk

Army National Guard



The Army National Guard is a reserve that is occasionally deployed into active duty to respond to a crisis. Either the federal or state government might deploy units during natural disasters, such as floods and hurricanes, or other emergencies when guard members' manpower and expertise can prove

valuable. Established in 1636 when ordinary citizens formed militias to defend against hostile attacks, the National Guard is the country's oldest military branch. The Guard's citizen-soldiers have served as the nation's first line of defense since America's birth and have fought in every major conflict in America's history, contributing to the organization's expansive history and invaluable legacy.

You are able to serve in the National Guard while pursuing a college education. The Guard offers many assistance programs to help pay tuition costs and other educational expenses. Counseling programs for Guard members are available in every state to help soldiers prepare for College-Level Examinations, Standardized Tests, and other career-based testing programs. Talk to your recruiter or state Education Services Officer (ESO) about education opportunities available to you. Your college is paid for in the Guard and you are able to go to any public school in Illinois, as long as you are accepted.

The guard is a great service to get into you get a lot of benefits such as

health insurance, life insurance, and you get paid to be in the guard!



Caleb VanDeVelde

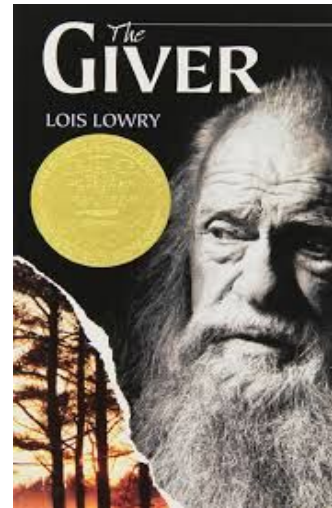
The Super Bowl of 2017 made history in many ways. The New England Patriots battled back from being behind 25 points.

This is the largest comeback in Super Bowl history. Atlanta Falcons had a stunning lead going into the half against New England . Atlantas defense only allowed Tom Brady and his offense 3 points after the 1st half. Atlanta had a 21-3 lead going into half and it had looked like Atlanta would pull away with this one.

Atlanta had a quick start coming out of the locker room after half and pulled away with an even larger lead to make it 28-3 against the Patriots. This is where Tom Brady took over the game for the Patriots. New England scored a touchdown and completed a 2 point conversion which tied the game up with only 57 seconds to play. This sent the game to overtime and this is where history comes into play again. This was the first Super Bowl ever to be taken into overtime. New England ended up scoring first to give the New England Patriots the 51st Super Bowl win with a score of 34-28. This had been Tom Brady's 5th Super bowl ring and he made history.

The Giver
By Allie Davidson

Imagine a world where you could not experience your feelings, or where you were assigned a job. Well in Jonas' community there is a lot of things they do differently than we do. In Jonas' community you have no freedom at all even if you were a adult. Your family is also made up, so you could not choose your own spouse. Also if you got in trouble three times you would be released, no one talks about being released until Jonas learns what it actually means. They do not have cars, so they get around on bikes. So I do not think anyone would want to live in Jonas' community, but this is my opinion. So what is your opinion?



Bullying

By: Jaeden Hettinger



Bullying is a serious problem in the world right now.

Over **77 percent** of students have been bullied

verbally, mentally, and physically. Each day about

160,000 students miss school because of bullying or

because of their fear of being bullied. People get bullied because of the way they look, how they talk, who they hang out with, and their personality, and their race, and their color.

Ethan Hartley

White Hall Tragedy



There was a fire in an 150 year old building that broke out around 9 a.m. on January 31st. The fire had quickly spread to the antique store next door. It then spread to another smaller building before the firefighters could get the fire under control. There were eight local departments that had responded and eventually they got the fire under control. White Hall Fire Chief Gary Sheppard said his main

concern after they started to get it under control was to not let it get to the bank. He also didn't want it to spread any further on the south end. Sheppard said "We are going to list it as undetermined but it was probably an electrical fire. The guy that was occupying the area where the fire started said he heard a popping noise and about 5 minutes later he went to investigate, after smelling something hot. He left the apartment he had built inside the commercial building, walked to the back and it was all on fire. He attempted to put it out with a fire extinguisher but the fire had too much of a start. That is pretty much where we are at right now." He also explains how come they aren't listing it as an electrical fire. "The building had so much devastation there is no way to investigate and see where it actually started. If we could find a point of origin then we could probably say yes it was electrical, but we are pretty much going to have to say undetermined."

A crew that was demolishing the rest of what used to be a building has found what appears to be human bones. They were found in the basement that had been the

location of Sparta Cuts, a hair salon. Illinois State Police, White Hall police, and the Greene County coroner are investigating the the bones. So far they think that the bones are close to a century old. That building housed a doctor's office from 1920 to 1969. They think it is possible that they are medical cadaver bones. At the moment they have no reason to think this was any type of murder.



Cancer Awareness month

Kelsey Newton

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In the U.S. over 15,780 children under the age of 21 are diagnosed with cancer every year. The objective of Childhood Cancer Awareness

Month is to put a spotlight on the types of cancer that largely affects our children. Across America children are diagnosed with cancer, an often life threatening illness that remains the leading cause of death by disease for children under the age of 15. The causes of pediatric cancer are still largely unknown. Even though new discoveries are resulting in new treatments, this heartbreaking disease continues to scar families and communities in ways that may never

fully heal. We remember the young lives taken too soon. The 5 year survival rate for all childhood cancers has climbed from less than 50 percent to 80 percent over the past several decades. We stand with the families facing childhood cancer today. We remember the young

lives taken way too soon. Children with cancer need our support year-round!