

INSIDE

«THE LAWN»

WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL

January

HEAD TO HEAD WITH WHS GIRLS BASKETBALL

Story by: Alli Downes

Woodlawn High School has a long standard of athletic excellence. The girls basketball team is living up to that this year with a current record of 20-6. They have had many key victories, including defeating Christ Our Rock Lutheran to clinch the Midland Trail Conference Tournament championship. Junior Jase Burkett earned All Tournament MVP and seniors, Kodie VanEecke and Ella Bequette, got All-Tournament team. They also beat Salem in the DuQuoin Tournament earlier in the year to claim the third place title where Bequette and Burkett made the

All-Tournament team. Bequette also broke her own rebound record at WHS during the DuQuoin Tournament. She now has set the bar even higher at a whopping twenty-four rebounds in a single game. Two players that are new to the starting lineup this year have really stepped up. Senior Jacy Knox and Junior Olivia Skinner have both made some major contributions. When asked how smooth the transition was from JV to varsity, Olivia Skinner says, "At first it was intimidating. I was still fairly new to playing with everyone. A few games in, things started to come together and I was more relaxed. I'm still learning the ways my teammates play but I'm getting there." When asked about Knox, her teammates describe her as a playmaker and a very selfless player. "She makes things happen. She always gets us open shots when she can," says Burkett. The Lady Cards also have quite a coaching staff in Matt Patterson and John Burkett. Patterson has recently reached a milestone of 700 wins during his time at Woodlawn. He has accomplished a lot at Woodlawn and continues to be a key component in the success of the Lady Cards. The end of the season is nearing and the Lady Cardinals hope to have a lengthy post-season run!



GONE FROM THE LAWN: FEATURING THE CNA CLASS

Story by: Anna Bousman

Most students think the purpose of school is to learn things that will prepare them for the future. For the students in the nursing program, that knowledge is so much more real. To join this program, you must be a junior or senior and you have to sign up one year in advance. These students spend half of their day at Mount Vernon High School through the Area Vocational Center (AVC) program. They learn all about what it takes to be a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). These students do some pretty amazing things, but this doesn't always include sunshine and rainbows. These hardworking students in this program will not only gain the nursing experience, but will receive seven college credit hours by the end of the year.

Many of the students will go on to work somewhere in the medical field. Sarah King, senior, said that she went into this program to get the basics she needs for pharmaceutical science. Kodie VanEecke, senior, was deciding between two careers to pursue: "CNA allowed me to explore more of the medical-based career to see if that was what interested me." Many of the students in this program have said that their classes are super fun and the class feels more like a family.

The classes will teach you and help you understand basic nursing information. The students have to complete twenty skills on patients. Some of those skills are bathing, feeding, oral care, and range of motion exercises. If you are looking for an opportunity to learn about the medical field or if you want to try something new and see if you like it, this would be the perfect program for you. If you start the program and realize it is not for you, you still are learning so much knowledge and many skills that can help you care for your family in the future. The students at Woodlawn High School are always up for a challenge, especially these brave students.

CLIP OF *kindness*

"I dropped my lanyard and key to the school beside my car and didn't realize it. The next morning **Aryka Warren** brought it back to me and I was beyond grateful. I didn't know it had fallen out and I would have been panicking."



—BE THE KIND AT WOODLAWN—

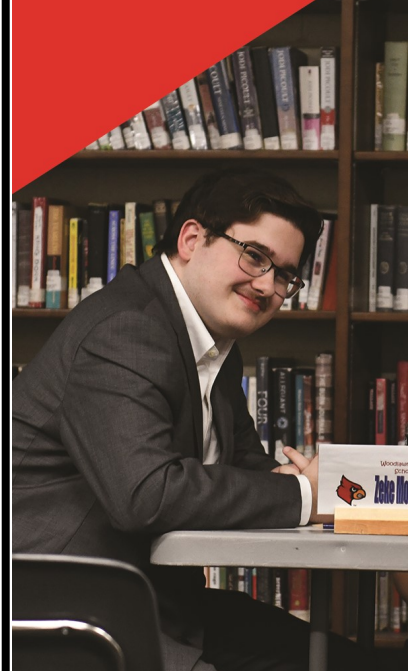


Save the Date:

Friday, Feb. 4 - MORP Dance
Friday, Feb. 17 - 12:00 Dismissal
Monday, Feb. 20 - NO SCHOOL

FOR FULL ATHLETIC SCHEDULES AND
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT US
ONLINE AT:

WOODLAWSCHOOLS.ORG





FAVORITE PART OF A *Snow Day?*

Sleeping In - 33.3%
Not Going to School - 22.2%
Getting the Call from School - 20.4%
Hanging out with Friends - 9.3%
Playing in the Snow - 9.3%
Night Before the Snow Day - 3.7%
Staying Home & Reading a Book - 1.9%

INSIDE THE LAWN created by

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Benton Garner	Olivia Skinner
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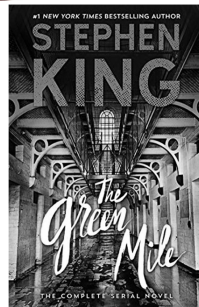
MS. RAPP'S ANSWER KEY

Story by: Kate Atchison



Ms. Rapp is a teacher that everyone has to have, because of this we all may believe we know her extremely well. Most of us would be amazed to find out that she is a University of Illinois certified Master Gardener. Even though she teaches English, she is also interested in Mr. Smith's History of Conspiracies class as well as researching and learning about the behind the scenes of events. In addition to gardening and conspiracy theories, she also has a passion for words and loves to read.

Ms. Rapp isn't just fun and games all the time; she also has deep thoughts concerning education and what is wrong or right with it. "I think there are numerous things that are right about education, like teachers who truly care about the welfare of their students, and who are dedicated to sharing their passion for their subject matter. There are things in education that still need work, such as technology that affords us the opportunity to explore so many avenues, but without guidance actually proves to be a hindrance to learning, and is basically a huge time suck, for students and teachers. I think education should allow students to study deeply the things in which they are interested, and not require such a stringent curriculum in all cases. For example, some students would benefit largely from studying math as it applies to electricity or mechanics, and English as it applies to communication, rather than requiring a set math or literature curriculum for everyone, especially in high school."



MARC LAWRENCE (2026)

"This book goes well with January because it is about new opportunities and letting go of the past."

Graphic by: Kate Atchison

MUSIC TO OUR EARS

Story by: Alli Downes

Teachers at Woodlawn High School always strive to be the best, but only one teacher is always on key. Mr. Morgan is one of the newest additions to the Woodlawn High School teaching staff and he is head of the music program for the district. With two years under his belt, Mr. Morgan has made a lot of progress at both schools.

At the high school, there are three music classes offered. Intro to Music was a first semester class consisting of about twenty students, which included reading music and playing along with piano accompaniment. Music Appreciation is a second semester course that is less about playing music but more about listening and learning about it. They go through the history of music from as early as 500 A.D. all the way up to modern music. There are about twelve students in it right now. Chorus is the third and final class offered at WHS consisting of only six students. Students enrolled in this class learn music to sing at various performances throughout the school year. They had a Christmas Concert on a Sunday this past semester with all of the choirs and bands at WHS and WGS, and the WHS choir performed 4 songs.

Currently, they are working on learning more music for the upcoming spring concert. For Mr. Morgan, the future of the music program is one of his key goals: "I'm excited to keep growing the program and hope more students get involved!" Because of the strong presence of music at WGS, and Mr. Morgan teaching at both buildings, the melody is likely to keep rolling. At WHS, we hope that the music program continues to thrive and be very successful!



THE STARTUP: FEATURING HARDHEADED

Story by: Amelia Neabuhr

Entrepreneurship is challenging and risky, yet a highly motivating career choice. People who run their own business make up sixteen percent of the adult working class in the U.S. Former students Hayden and Hunter England are overcoming the challenges, taking the risks, and have the motivation to run their own business. The brothers began their own athletic clothing brand, HardHeaded, in 2020, as a part of the Jefferson County CEO program.

Every company has a slogan or phrase that encapsulates their intentions as a business. "We're capable of more," is the slogan in which HardHeaded forms its identity. Hayden and Hunter have three main ideals for their growing business—gym, mind, body. The mind is the starting point of any action, so it only makes sense to make it a priority for an athletic apparel company. The body is where the reaction of the mind is served and our bodies show where we have been, and the work we put in. Gym is the catalyst of it all. Once you step foot in the gym, it begins a whole new journey for your mind and body.

HardHeaded sells both women's and men's apparel including a variety of tops, bottoms, hats, and themed collections of merchandise. However, this company is set apart from others; they understand that it isn't always about physical appearance, but about the mindset. So, the vast majority of products contain driving mottos to better help their customers.

HardHeaded is capable of more for the betterment of its consumers, for the weak in mind and body, but also for the strong in mind and body. Let your "no" become a "yes" because you are capable of more.

Check out HardHeaded at: hardheadedusa.com

