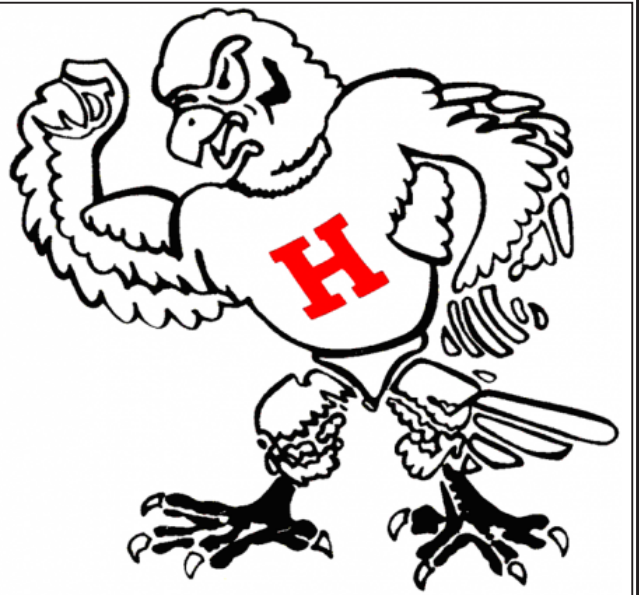


Hawk Happenings

Volume XXVIII Issue 3 October 11, 2023



Congratulations to District 3 Golf Champion: Erica Gerner



HAHS Celebrates Homecoming

Morgan Lutz - 10

Hamburg Area High School held multiple different homecoming events during the week of October 2 with a spirit week and outdoor pep rally on Thursday organized by student council. Each year Hamburg has a homecoming football game where they announce the homecoming king and queen. This is also the second year that they have held a dance.

The Hamburg Area High School Hawks football team played Pequea Valley on Friday, October 6th. Going into this Friday's game, Hamburg had a record of 4 wins and 2 losses. Pequea Valley's record was 2 wins and 4 losses. Hamburg took the victory over Pequea valley with a final score of 33-12.

During half time the 2023 homecoming court was announced: Addisyn Smith, Emily Zimmerman, Hailie Edwards, Rebecca Young, Isabella Morales, Rylee Carpenter, Tavian Parry, Mason Semmel, Matthew Curtis, Joseph Martin, Bryce Kamp, and Clayton Lash. Addisyn Smith and Tavian Parry were crowned the king and queen.

The homecoming dance was held on Saturday night from 6pm - 9pm. It was held at the high school with a professional DJ. The junior class organized this event and served light refreshments in the cafe. Many students said that hiring a DJ was the best improvement made from last year.

Overall, homecoming was a success at Hamburg Area High School! Many students are still talking about it and posting about their nights on Instagram and other social media platforms.



Many HAHS students love scary movies

Alaena Cox - 9

Halloween is quickly arriving, and the students of Hamburg Area High School can not wait to get into the spooky season. One of the ways the students get into the Halloween feeling is by watching their favorite scary movies. The most popular Halloween movie is Hocus Pocus. This one was commonly chosen by those who said they did not like scary movies. If they did like scary movies, most of them said the Scream franchise.

Hocus Pocus came out in 1993, but Hocus Pocus 2 came out last Halloween. The students who chose Hocus Pocus as their favorite Halloween movie said they were quite disappointed in the second one. It was not the same creepy, haunting feeling as the original. Some did not mind it at all though. They said something along the lines of it is like the original one, but it is more up to date.

The Scream movies have been going on for multiple years. Most of those who said Scream was their favorite, said that the first one is unbeatable. A small percentage of the Scream enthusiasts said that the latest one is their favorite. It had more deaths and kept them on their feet. The least liked one was the third one. It was said to lack the Scream feeling, and was overall boring.

Origins of pumpkin Carving: A long-standing tradition

Hailey Quinn - 11

Pumpkin carving! It is a fun activity for friends and family that helps to bring the Halloween and fall mood. Many people carve pumpkins as a tradition that brings families together. Madison Reding, a junior, speaks on her pumpkin carving traditions. "I get the biggest pumpkin to carve because my birthday is on Halloween, and it brings my family together to have nice family time."

Carving pumpkins is a great way to get into the Halloween spirit. Hannah Kristiniak, a junior, reflects on why carving pumpkins is important to her, stating, "it's fun, but also gets me in the mood for the Halloween season. It's sweet and nostalgic and reminds me of my childhood."



Many people have traditions of pumpkin carving, but what are the origins of the fun pastime? According to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, pumpkin carving originated in the 1600's in the marshes of rural Ireland. There were two legends forming at the time which became intertwined overtime. The first was the legend of Stingy Jack, a shadowy figure who tricked the Devil many times, until the Devil caught on to his tricks and forced Jack to roam the Earth for all eternity with nothing but an ember to light his way. The second legend was known as ignis fatuus or false fire, which is a real scientific occurrence, known as marsh gas. It occurs

during the spontaneous ignition of methane created by decaying plant matter in marshes or swampy areas. People who spotted the lights from the gas would think it was Stingy Jack's ember.

The people living in rural Ireland also celebrated the Gaelic tradition of Samhain, in which one travels from house to house in search of food and drinks, which is where trick or treating originated from. Since it was naturally dark, people would carve turnips, potatoes, and other root vegetables and add coals or candles to them to create lanterns that would light the way for celebrations. Many of the makeshift lanterns had faces carved into them. The combination of the Stingy Jack and false fire legends with the root vegetable lanterns is what gave jack-o-lanterns their name.

During the Great Potato Famine, many Irish immigrants brought their Halloween traditions with them to America. However, here they found that they could use winter squash, including pumpkins, for their lanterns, as they were larger and easier to carve. Thus pumpkins replaced the root vegetables, and traditional pumpkin carving began.

For more information visit <https://carnegiemnh.org/>

Haegele teaches English

Izzabella Gonzales - 10

Mr. Haegele has been teaching English to freshmen and sophomores at Hamburg Area High School for three years. Haegele decided to teach English because he loves to write. He believes that stories can allow great discussions, and he may not agree with some ideas or opinions that students may have. Mr. Haegele loves teaching, because if he did not like what he did, he would have quit a long time ago. Even though it takes up most of his time, there could be times where fun is in the air, and his students have an amazing time. Mr. Haegele graduated from West Chester University. He had come into Hamburg due to an opportunity into a more involved district.

“It sounds taboo but I have had too many wonderful students to pick from.” He said that Amanda Smith was one of his favorite passed students. He loved to teach Amanda and train her. During the spring track season with throwing. His other favorite student was Tyler Geist. Mr. Haegele had Tyler for a class and for homeroom. “He was very fun and exciting to teach considering I saw him throughout the day.”

“If you could teach any other subjects other than English what would it be?” During some of his teachings, he would randomly talk about a time in history that coordinates with what we are talking about. Mr. Haegele has a degree in History, and if he would teach any other subject he would teach History. It makes me happy that he is able to somewhat teach both subjects.

Mr. Haegele’s favorite thing to write about is creative stories based on historical fiction. I think that this suits him very well, based on what I know of him. Some of his favorite school writers are: Sharon Draper, and Walter Dean Myers. Draper mainly writes about young teenage experiences with abuse, and racism. Myers on the other hand talks about difficulties with urban youth.



Mr. Meyers joins HAHS staff

Koa Binder - 9

As the new school year begins, new staff joins HAHS, including Mr. Meyers, who previously taught science at Southern Lehigh. Now, he teaches 9th grade integrated science, which he seems to love. “Learning, doing science and experiments with students is rewarding for me... becoming a science teacher lined up with all of the things I do outside of school...” The new teacher moved districts “to be closer to home and spend closer time with my girls. I did the math and I was spending weeks of time in my car.” He then says , “I get to watch a cartoon with my daughters before I leave; that’s huge.”

He seems to be enjoying the proximity to his family, and he appears to enjoy the new district, too, “I felt more of a connection with the people of the area... It’s been very positive. I feel very at home here.”

He knew he wanted to be a teacher when he was “helping the boys and girls club afterschool program. I was 20.” Teaching and science are not all he does. Mr. Meyers enjoys fishing, hunting, playing the drums, and hanging out with his friends and family.

Students seem to enjoy working with the teacher, too. Freshman, Landon Poullos, shared, “He’s very chill and relaxed. His class has a very fun vibe and he’s not super strict.”

Mr. Meyers is a great teacher and a great addition to the HAHS staff.

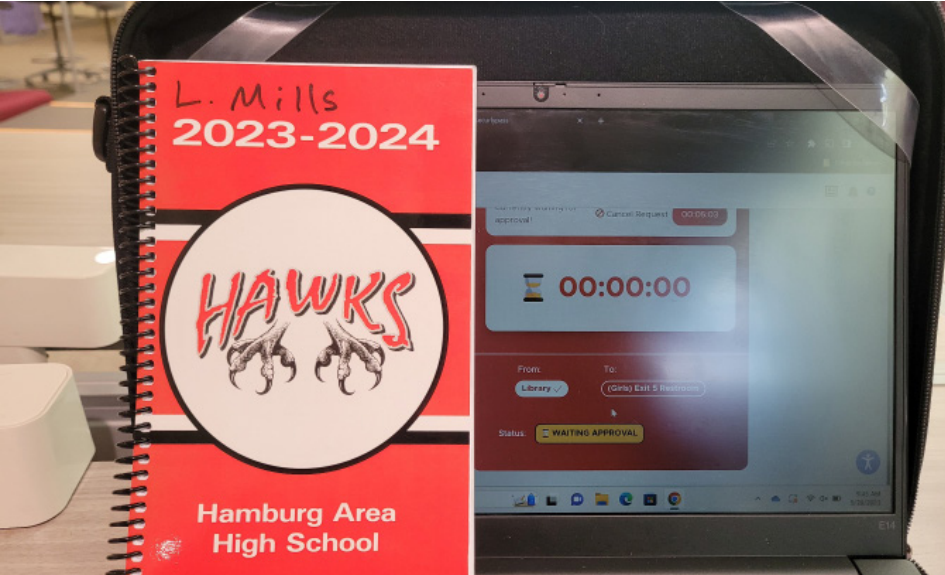
HAHS implements E-hallpass

LeeAnn Mills - 12

Recently for the 2023-2024 school year Hamburg Area High School has added and tweaked several policies. One policy in particular that has thrown teachers and students into a learning curve is the new hallpass system. E-hallpass, is a digital pass system that involves check-ins, check-outs, and timers. This system can be operated on both the student and teacher computers for easy access at any time. It seems that summer break is gone and so is the physical hall pass.

A lot of teachers at HAHS have been teaching in the building for many years, some over a decade, and all of them have been using physical passes up until this year. Mrs. McCarthy, who has been teaching at HAHS for 28 years, generally thinks E-hallpass is an adequate system that will fix some of the problems like students roaming the halls, with its timer. Meanwhile, Mrs. Zglinicki, a study hall proctor, finds E-hallpass to be extremely time consuming with a rough learning curve. Though Mrs. Zglinicki does acknowledge the pros of the system’s timer just like Mrs. McCarthy.

A student Google survey was sent out, and 137 high schoolers responded. Fifty-eight percent of these students do not like E-hallpass at all. While eight percent prefer it to the physical hallpass. Some student complaints were how long it took to fill out the form, the inconvenience of stopping a teacher during class, glitches within the E-hallpass website, and the time which it takes compared to physical passes. This was not it for the student complaints with the system however. The majority of students at HAHS seem to have a distaste for E-hallpass due to its inconvenient nature with the laptops. On the flipside, teachers seem to be enjoying it for the capabilities it displays in the school environment.



Students share their favorite type of candy

Tia Adam - 10

As Halloween is right around the corner, the thought of candy is in many students’ minds. But what candy specifically do students prefer: chocolate candy or sweet and sour candy? Hamburg students prefer chocolate.

The most favorite candy at Hamburg is Reese’s peanut butter cups. Next to peanut butter cups are Sour Patch Kids and Twix. After them, students also liked Kit-Kat bars. Overall some students in Hamburg seem to like chocolate candy rather than sweet and sour candy.

Compared to a kid’s Halloween candy survey chocolate is also the top option. At <https://blog.fielddagent.net> Hershey bars are ranked the highest, which is followed by Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups. And once again Kit-Kat bars are in third place of top candies.

The main difference between both surveys is that in the school-wide survey as much as chocolate is in the top three options, sweet and sour candy followers directly after them. In the online survey, sweet and sour candy is mainly on the bottom at low percentages such as 2% or 3%. But as shown in both surveys chocolate is seen as the most popular candy of kids and students.



Senior LeeAnn Mills travels to Italy

LeeAnn Mills - 12

On September 6, 2023, first thing in the morning I got on a plane to Atlanta, Georgia, and then a few hours later went all the way from Atlanta, Georgia to Milan, Italy. Upon landing in Italy, the most apparent difference was the time shift and clock. Italy is six hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time and uses what we call “military time,” but what they call the 24-hour clock. After a few days, I was able to adjust perfectly fine.

This was my first time setting foot outside the United States, and it was exciting. My official trip was orchestrated by a company named EF Go Ahead Tours based in Canada, and the first stop of many was Lake Como. Lake Como is a town in the northern region of Italy that serves as a vacation spot for wealthy individuals. Buying a house in the area costs at the very least a few million euros, with celebrities like George Clooney owning houses in the neighborhood. The environment of the area was pure relaxation with the constant smell of water being near the lake. However, Lake Como is quite small. Other towns that surround it, like Bellagio, which I visited, are often lumped together. The major history of Lake Como lies with one man by the name of Alessandro Volta. This man is the inventor of the battery as well as the discoverer of methane gas above marsh waters. Alessandro Volta has a museum dedicated to him in Lake Como that details his studies, accomplishments, and life.

After Lake Como, I visited Milan, Turin, the Italian Riviera, and Bologna. The Italian Riviera enthralled me the most. It consisted of small shore towns and rocky beaches. While I was there, I took my first swim in the Mediterranean sea and rode lots of large crowded boats.

The next stops were Verona and Venice. Verona was an absolutely stunning town with a small Colosseum, now used for entertainment and a plethora of shops. Verona also housed the famous Romeo and Juliet’s Balcony, which is fake. Venice is a system of canals where boast and gondolas are constantly traveling, so to go from place to place people take boat taxis.

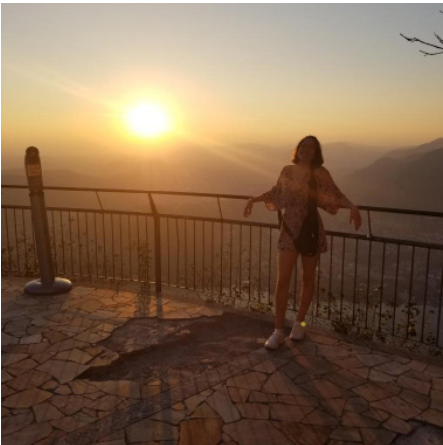
The final stops were Assisi, a small town, and Rome. Assisi hosted many small shops and beautiful pale pink stone buildings, while Rome had cobblestone pathways and lots of historical sites. In Rome, I saw the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and the ancient ruins of Ostia Antica.

By far my favorite part of the entire trip was visiting the ancient ruins. Ostia Antica used to be the heart of Rome and an important port city. However, about 50 percent of the ruins are still buried underground to this day. While walking around I could smell wild mint and see mosaics, still intact, and noticed two almost whole pieces of pottery. That visit made the entire trip worth it.

In total, I was out of school for 14 days, and on vacation for 21, but I do not regret a single day. Making up school work is hard but this experience is worth it.

WorldStrides says, that international travel for students gives many benefits and allows students to gain perspective, discover the world, and enrich their minds.

For more information visit, <https://worldstrides.com>.



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