

HAWK HAPPENINGS

A PUBLICATION OF HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL

Drama Club Takes Center Stage

Clarissa Dimovitz - 9

The world of theatre is a place where students can feel free to be unique and enjoy the arts of performance. Hamburg Area High School proudly represents the love for theatre in our school with the Drama Club. The Drama Club, which also goes by "The Drama Hawks," is one of the many clubs offered at Hamburg Area High School. It is a great club to join if people like to act, perform, or even work behind the scenes of productions. The club offers a creative outlet for young, aspiring performers and actors/actresses. The Drama Club usually puts on one musical and one play during each year.

The Drama Club meets on every Club Day A, as well as other dates that vary outside of school to rehearse plays or musicals, which allows students to surround themselves in the world of theatre. Recently, the Drama Club held auditions for their play this year, *Romey Odel & Julietta May*, on Thursday, January ninth, at 4:00 pm. The play is a unique take on *Romeo and Juliet*, where the Shakespeare classic is told by modern day hillbillies. Students did not have to be in Drama Club to audition.

"I'm excited for the play, and I hope we can make people laugh," says Madison Johnson, a freshman in the Drama Club. "We put so much hard work into this play, and we hope that students can enjoy it as much as we do. It's what actresses and actors are here for after all." It seems to be a play that is worth seeing and watching.

The Drama Club is excited to perform *Romey Odel & Julietta May* in the auditorium. The dates the club is performing are April third and fourth in the new year. The cost has yet to be announced or decided. The advisor for the Drama Club is Mr. Barry and he couldn't be more proud of the Drama Club. The club looks forward to working with all of the students who had managed to get a spot in the play. Students in the play are excited and now have something else to look forward to later in the school year. The students in the Drama Club are working hard to make this production a masterpiece. Existing members of the Drama Club are eager to show new members their way around the stage, and hopes to get more students involved next year.



Student Spotlight: R-E Miller

Tori Rhoades - 12



R-E Miller is a senior at Hamburg Area High School and is also a member of both the football team and the bowling team. When he is off the field and the lane, he is studying hard for school. R-E is a student athlete. He is not only in one AP class, but he is in two. He feels that both AP Comparative Government and AP Literature "give him the opportunity to prepare for the future." R-E also shows his leadership skills through his responsibilities as the acting Vice President of the school's German Club. He is also looking forward to continuing his academics at Kutztown University for computer science.

Miller wishes to create an impact on the high school before he graduates this spring. In order to do this he built bonds with the underclassmen during his sports and gave them advice as to how to better themselves as people. Despite not being captain, he took his role as a senior very seriously. His motto is "If you don't work hard and show respect, nothing gets done." R-E also wanted to be a role model to his younger sister and show her that the hard work that comes with school is worth it. He advises the underclassmen to always push themselves and to never give up on their dreams.



TA Spotlight- Ayla Dimalanta

Ashley Perlaki - 11

Ayla Dimalanta, a Junior at Hamburg High has been fascinated with teaching since 9th grade, Ayla has also wanted to be a teacher's assistant since 9th grade, which is why she was pleased to be considered for the job. Ayla enjoys being Mrs. Texter's teacher assistant because she is able to help the students as well as lead her own discussion courses. She also helps organize lesson plans as well as edit and peer review essays or assignments submitted.

Ayla finds that her workload tends to be rather large because she is taking two AP courses, working part time at Wendy's, and is a winter and spring athlete. However, these tasks do not defer Ayla from doing her work. Ayla has room to do everything because she balances her priorities so that she is able to help Mrs. Texter with assignments or other work, and still be caught up on all of her work.

Although, Ayla's profession has changed since 9th grade, she now wants to be a traveling food critic, because she loves adventure. Her passion for writing and helping Mrs. Texter has not changed, as a senior Ayla plans on being a Teacher's Assistant again and continuing her learning experience throughout her senior year as well.

Student Spotlight: Alexander Long

Tori Rhoades - 12

Senior Alexander Long is both a devoted student and talented athlete. Currently he is enrolled in two AP classes and was in three AP classes during his junior year. This year he is taking both AP Comparative Government with Mr. Zimmerman and AP Biology with Mrs. Farina. When he is not in school studying, he is running. He was a member of the school's cross country team for three out of his four years in high school, and he will have been on the school's track team for all four of his years at Hamburg. His most memorable moment during his sports career was when he went to Districts for cross country as a junior. Despite his deep love for running, he has decided that he will not continue his athletic career after he graduates.



After he graduates from Hamburg he is planning on attending Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to study marine biology. He chose this school because "it is in an area where it is easier for him to help and volunteer in certain programs." He also chose to study marine biology after going snorkeling on one of his family vacations. On top of that he has been accepted into their dual admission program which allows him to go directly to their masters program if he has a B average in his earlier semesters. He advises underclassmen to take school seriously and start looking at colleges as soon as possible. Long is excited for his future and is ready to take the next step into the real world after he leaves Hamburg, but is forever grateful for all of the lessons this school has taught him.

Adviser: Miss Terri McCarthy; Editors in Chief: Quinn Holl and Alexandra Kline; Issue Layout Editor: Quinn Holl; Writers: Paiton Albrecht, Lauren Atkins, Abigail Behm, Keira Conrad, Megan DeAngelo, Clarissa Dimovitz, Grant Doklan, McKenna Ecker, Tabitha Engel, Domanick Ernst, Samantha Gingrich, Alexandra Kline, Aaron Kurtz, Amanda McLaughlin, Ashley Perlaki, Victoria Rhoades, Lauren Shebby, Emily Smith *Hawk Happenings* is a weekly publication created by the students in the Publications class at Hamburg Area High School. It is distributed free of charge throughout the Hamburg Area High School community. The opinions in this newspaper represent those of the student writers and do not represent the opinions of the faculty, staff, administration, or school board of the Hamburg Area School District. We are a member of the Pennsylvania School Press Association (PSPA), the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), and Quill and Scroll. If you have any questions or comments regarding *Hawk Happenings*, anything that appears in its pages, or if you would like to sponsor our paper with a donation, please contact Miss Terri McCarthy, *Hawk Happenings*, Hamburg Area High School, Windsor Street, Hamburg, PA, 19526. Our email address is termcc@hasdhawks.org and our phone number is 610-562-3861, x2327.

BCTC Spotlight – Warren Graff

Aaron Kurtz – 10



Warren Graff is a sophomore in Mr. Evan's homeroom. He throws in track, plays golf, is a part of Boy Scouts, and is in orchestra. He goes to BCTC for Auto Tech. "I really enjoy the program; I love the freedom BCTC gives me," he says. Warren loves auto tech, and he would love to own a garage and work on cars. He says that the program is teaching him things that will help him for his future career and hess learning things Hamburg and other programs wouldnt teach him. He says, "The instructors are super nice, and I love meeting new people from other schools that have the same interests as me." Warren also goes on to say how the program pushes him to get better grades and improve his studying techniques and work harder in school. Warren says "There's a program for everyone. They have way more programs than the ones you get to see

on your BCTC field trip as a freshman." To sign up for BCTC either get a form near the printer in the library, talk to Mrs. Benz in her office in the library, or talk to your guidance counselor

Locusts terrorize Africa

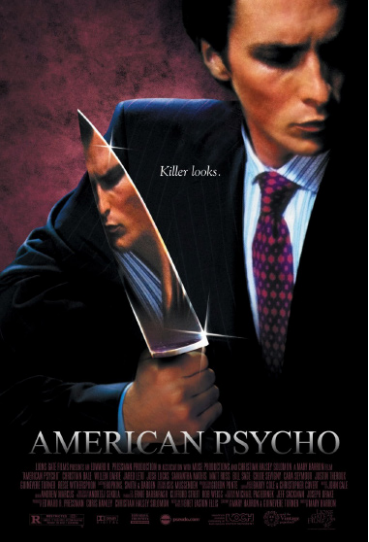
Tabitha Engel - 12

2020 has already proved to be a very eventful year. There have been fires in Australia, a new Coronavirus in China, and now a plague of locusts in Africa to be added to the list. Locusts have descended on Ethiopia in numbers not seen in generations. Billions of these insects have the potential to ravage the already struggling country. Locusts have been seen as a curse by many civilizations for a long period of time. It is easy to understand why, in large swarms they can block out spotlight, and they can destroy crops to the point where people begin to starve. While the swarm of locusts may seem supernatural there actually may be a scientific explanation for the swarm. Ethiopia had an unusually long rainy season this year. The rain allowed certain plants to grow that the locusts eat. Since the locusts had more food for a longer period of time they were able to breed more. The fact that the locusts have an explanation does not make them any less harmful. Ethiopia is a struggling country that has difficulty feeding all of its people, these locusts can prove fatal to many Ethiopians. If the locusts continue to eat crops there could no longer be enough to feed the people. We do not have to worry about locust invasions here because North America has no native locust species. However the rest of the world is subject to locust swarms so it is good to be informed. For more information on this visit: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/02/12/hundreds-billions-locusts-fueled-by-conflict-climate-change-are-swarming-east-africa/?arc404=true>.



Movie Review – American Psycho

Aaron Kurtz – 10



American Psycho, a movie about a narcissistic full of himself businessman named Patrick Bateman, played by Christian Bale. The movie is supposed to be a thriller/dark comedy placed in the late 80s. Based off the book written by Bret Easton Ellis. The movie is directed by Mary Harron who also directed other independent films such as I Shot Andy Warhol and The Notorious Bettie Page. The movie also has many other phenomenal actors such as Jared Leto, Reese Witherspoon, Willem Dafoe and many others. Right off the bat, one of my favorite parts of the movie is the soundtrack. Patrick Batmen, whose a businessman during the day but at night is a blood thirsty murderer, goes on these long monologues about music, like Huey Lewis & The News, Phil Collins, Whitney Houston, and many other 80's artists, right before he kills someone. As the film goes on the viewer slowly get to see more about Batemans' personal life at night. One of the opening scenes is Bateman going to a dry-cleaning place to get rid of what looks like blood stains on bed sheets, but the viewer isnt certain if it is or not. And as the film progresses it gets more and more entertaining as he tries to hide the secret of him being a killer from his friends and other business associates. One of the other amazing parts of this film is the dialogue. There are so many amazing quotable lines from this film and Christian Bales performance is phenomenal and I think that is why I love the movie so much. This is one of my favorite movies of all time and I would give it a solid 9.5/10. In an interview with the director, Mary Harron she was a little upset with how people reacted to the ending. She wanted it to be a movie where you walk out thinking about all the possibilities and what was real or not real. There are many theories as to what happened and people that try to explain the ending and what happened. Irecommendthistoanyonewholikesadarkcomedyand, orthrillers. Themovie doesareallygood job keeping the watcher on edge but also have many funny moments and memorable quotes.



Improving mental health through dance

Emily Smith - 9

Dance is commonly seen as an activity that can primarily benefit physical health, such as muscle strength and coordination, but can it have a positive impact on mental health as well? Many studies have been conducted that have tried to determine whether or not this is true. These studies have typically been used on elderly people, who are more prone to health issues like dementia. The Journal of American Geriatrics Society found that adults who danced have a stronger global cognition than those who did not. Additionally, research done by The New England Journal of Medicine has shown that dance may boost memory. Aerobics

like dance can help prevent volume loss in the hippocampus, the part of the brain that controls memory. Studies have also shown improvements in mental health that can be more related to students, like reduction of stress. The Journal of Applied Gerontology found that partner dance can help diminish stress levels among people of all ages, including teenagers. Being social can help with mental health as well, and dance offers many opportunities to make new friends and branch out with new people. Dance can have a positive impact on all of these aspects of life, which help with a greater overall well-being. Many students at Hamburg take dance classes, which have helped with their stressful everyday life in high school. "Dance helps me cope with stress at school by allowing me to express my feelings through movement, and since words might not always portray how a person may feel, movement always can and that is how dance helps me cope with stress from school", adds Anna DeAngelo, a grade 9 student who dances at Culture Shock Performing Arts Center. Emily Bailey, grade 9 student and dancer at Horizons Dance Conservatory, explains how dance helps with her physical health as well. "I take about 13 hours of dance a week, and it is super good for getting into exercise. It is a great way to stay fit and healthy all year long because we do workouts during class all the time." Whether one is seeking out a stress reliever or just some great exercise, dance is a great solution. For more information, visit: <https://www.everydayhealth.com/fitness-pictures/health-benefits-of-dance.aspx> <https://time.com/5484237/dancing-health-benefits/>

CD Review: Danger Days: The True Lives of the Fabulous Killjoys - My Chemical Romance

Sam Gingrich - 12



Danger Days: The True Lives of the Fabulous Killjoys, often shortened to Danger Days, is the fourth and most recent album from American rock group My Chemical Romance. It was also the band's last album before they went on a six year hiatus that spanned from 2013 to 2019. The album was released on November 22, 2010, meaning that this year will mark the tenth anniversary of the release. Danger Days is a concept album, meaning that the songs featured all share a common theme and mean more when they are listened to together, rather than individually. The album follows the story of the "Killjoys," the fictional alter-egos of the members of the band that were shown in music videos; lead singer Gerard Way as "Party Poison," guitarist and backup vocalist Frank Iero as "Fun Ghoul," guitarist and backup vocalist Ray Toro as "Jet-Star," and bassist Mikey Way as "The Kobra Kid." The group are rebels living in a post-apocalyptic California in 2019, and the album follows them as they battle the evil Better Living Industries (BL/ind.) corporation. The first single off the album, "Na Na Na," shows how Killjoys live on a daily basis until they are attacked by BL/ind and "The Girl," a child that was with the Killjoys, was captured. The third single from the album and the second and final music video in the Killjoys installment, "SING," depicts the Killjoys' fight to get "The Girl" back. Four more songs were released as singles off the album, "The Only Hope for Me is You," "Planetary (Go!)," "Bulletproof Heart," and "The Kids from Yesterday," though the music videos for "Planetary (Go!)" and "The Kids from Yesterday" do not relate to the two other music videos. The overall sound of Danger Days has more of a pop rock feel to it, unlike My Chemical Romance's other albums, that have a heavier rock sound. The album is so different from The Black Parade and Three Cheers for Sweet Revenge, but that is what fans love about this album and what brought many positive reviews from critics. It is a departure from what, at the time, was known from My Chemical Romance. Danger Days: The True Lives of the Fabulous Killjoys is available for streaming on Spotify, Apple Music, and YouTube.