

# HAPPENINGS

A PUBLICATION OF HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL

## Girls field hockey team takes second place

Jasmin Modricker – 11

Miranda Madara, a junior at Hamburg Area High School, plays for the girls field hockey team. On March 8, 2018, the Hamburg field hockey team played in the playoffs at BodyZone. They placed second in the tournament and lost against a school from Lancaster.



The Hamburg team consisted of Miranda Madara, Brea Borrell, Josie Keith, Savannah Reichel, Stacey Woolley, Leah Delrosario, Veronica Heckman, Kylie Christman, Caitlin Steele, and Makayla Baessler. Two girls from Fleetwood played on the Hamburg team because they were short players and they stepped in to play. There are 11 girls that played for the Hamburg girls indoor field hockey team if they were not committed to basketball, softball, or other obligations.

On their way to make it up the bracket to playoffs, they beat Berks Catholic, Cocalico, and a few other Berks County teams. Hamburg won against Exeter to make it to the finals and beat them in sudden death. In the first game of the season they played Governor Mifflin and lost, but in the playoffs they beat them. The championship game where Hamburg played against the Lancaster County team went into double sudden death and the game was lost by only one stroke.

Miranda Madara is expecting season to see an increase in wins in the fall season and continue to improve over the summer. In the past fall season, Exeter was 12-7 and Hamburg was 5-10-2. In the winter league at BodyZone, Hamburg beat Exeter in the playoffs which was a huge deal to the team.

It has been a few years since Hamburg has beat Berks Catholic, and they won in two games against them which was another strong improvement. From this, the girls expect to see more progression within the Hamburg field hockey team.

## Scholarship deadlines are nearing

Kiana Wright - 12

As the end of the 2017-2018 school year draws to a rapid close, the deadline to apply for many scholarships is also nearing. There are thousands upon thousands of scholarships that are available to thousands of seniors. They range from academics to athletics to majors. Most scholarships require a 3.0 GPA or higher and at least two letters of recommendations. One thing that lots of scholarships also ask for is if the applicant has done any volunteer work inside and outside of the school setting.

According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a scholarship is defined as a grant in aid to a student. These scholarships can range in award size from as little as \$50 to a full ride scholarship. The more academically/athletically successful and involved in the school an applicant is can also help he/she gain more scholarship money.

Private schools and state schools share a big difference in award sizes. Privately owned colleges can award students with more money because they are not mandated by the state to give only a certain amount. Therefore, even though private schools are shown to have a larger price tag, the amount of scholarships that they can give help to bring the cost down to even lower than a state school.

KyLeigh Doughery, a senior at Hamburg says, "I am applying to so many scholarships because there is just so many to apply for, and because if an organization is willing to give me money, \$100 is better than nothing."

It is smart for any senior to apply to as many scholarships that they can so that they can save money when they put in their deposit to go to college. Some good websites to look for scholarships include the Berks County Scholarship Foundation, the Hamburg Guidance website, scholarships.com, and FastWeb and BigFuture.



**SCHOLARSHIPS.COM**<sup>®</sup>  
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## High school students take action against violence

Paiton Albrecht - 10

At Hamburg Area High School, students were challenged with the question: How do we change school violence? Many students took this challenge to heart and spoke out on how to end the violence. Alyssa Amadoro states, "We cannot change the laws, so it's important for us to find another solution and not start a gun debate." Students at Hamburg are focusing less on what laws can be changed to what they as students can do right in their classrooms.

Student leaders took time to educate their peers on this issue after a lockdown drill. Students were to write down some ways to prevent a school tragedy to happen. What most came to the conclusion that inclusion and kindness are the number one things schools lack. So Hamburg took part in a "Walk in, Not Out" activity where students were to shake hands with 14 new people and three teachers. Representing the number of student killed in Parkland, Florida School shooting. "I believe that this was a great opportunity to bring awareness to those who were killed in the Florida shooting," says Mr. Wolfe. This was not a protest or debate on laws but a way of including others. Hamburg students want to fix this issue at its root, so a tragic events never take place in schools ever again.

## Elective Spotlight: Do Deutsch!

Quinn Holl - 10



German is an elective offered by Hamburg Area High School. The teacher, Frau Stevens, recommends students take German "because it's always been a lot of fun." The class introduces students to the German language and culture. Every day, students learn something new. In fact, did you know that Germans have this belief that Americans put ketchup on everything? Not too far from the truth as most would say.

Frau Stevens tends to use humor as a method of teaching the students. Most often, the class is composed of watching videos and doing worksheets, typically with friends. Working with others allow the students to combine their brains in order to understand the text provided. In addition to partner work, Frau Stevens is always willing to help if further questions arise.

Frau Steven's interest in German began in 2nd grade. She later attended Wilson College and majored in Foreign Language and Literature. In addition to German, she speaks a little bit of French and "enough Spanish to get into trouble." I asked her to describe her experience as a German teacher, and she naturally replied with, "Ever-changing." Her ultimate goal as a teacher is to have her students "laughing at the jokes because that means they really understand what they're learning."

The class is full of opportunities for success in the future. This year, students from Germany will be visiting our school and spend the day with students in German club. Furthermore, class trips are often available. Students who are interested may attend Liederkrantz, which introduces students to the German culture through singing, dancing, music and food. Students are also given the opportunity to receive college credits after taking German for three years.

Lastly, when asked how students will benefit in taking German, Frau Stevens states how students "get to see things from a different and new perspective. It gets them to look at details they otherwise miss."

## People should prepare for a digital detox

Meghan Eisenhower - 12

In the recent years, studies show that the use of phones has increased incredibly. However, Arianna Huffington, the CEO of Thrive Global, states that "We're at an inflection point." If bosses have not already, they will begin to ban the presence of phones in the workplace and at meetings. Not only that, but schools will disallow the use of them altogether, rather than just in class. Huffington even predicts that restaurants will ban the appearance of electronic devices during meals.

Even Hamburg Area High School has banned phones in hallways and classrooms. Tyler Holl, a senior, claims that she believes that the restrictions on phones in hallways "is a great thing." She also adds that "hallways are a dangerous place," especially because everyone "is rushing to get to their destination." When a phone is added to the mix, it causes even more conflict. Brock Adams, a sophomore, is fearful of a digital detox. Although he is "not that attached to [his] phone," he needs it at school so he can inform his mother about his plans.

Before cell phones, students and teachers relied on the phones present in classrooms and the school office to make emergency calls. In fact, students still can. For more information on the digital detox, visit [nypost.com/2017/12/30/18-crazy-things-that-will-happen-in-2018/](http://nypost.com/2017/12/30/18-crazy-things-that-will-happen-in-2018/).



# Jasmyn Keeney plays softball with scoliosis struggles

Alexandra Kline - 10

Jasmyn Keeney, a sophomore on the high school varsity softball team, has suffered with scoliosis for six years. Scoliosis is a condition where there is an abnormal lateral curvature of the spine. With scoliosis, instead of a straight, normal spine, the spine will curve and twist to make an S or C shape. This could cause health problems in the future and cause extreme pain at times.

For Jasmyn Keeney, scoliosis is anything but painful. In the morning, Keeney will perform physical therapy exercises that helps stretch out her back. She will also do other exercises after school and before bed to ensure that her back is stretched. These stretches help lessen the inevitability of a back problem while in school or while playing softball. Keeney reveals that, "Usually when I tell people about my back problem, they look kind of shocked when I say I play softball and lift, and I tell them that I'd rather do something other than sit at home and complain about it."

As Keeney has said, "Scoliosis is different for everyone." Some people with scoliosis have more noticeable curves than others. While some have a 20 degree curve to their spine, others may have a 100 degree curve. Keeney only has a 40 degree curve, but it is still a big part of her lifestyle. Her scoliosis is called a postural lumbar collapse, shaping her spine into a giant S.

Keeney was diagnosed with scoliosis at age 11. She describes that she was "terrified" when she was first told. "To be told that when you're 11 or 12, it scares you really bad, and knowing that the only way to "get rid of it" completely is to have a surgery that deals with your spine is scary. The feeling of being judged by others was a little overwhelming too. You want to fit in with everyone around you that age, and the thought of having a "disease" or "disability" is not something you want to hear. I had nothing to worry about though since I've never heard anyone say anything about it."



For people with scoliosis, there is a surgery that can reshape the spine to its correct straight line. Doctors will put two metal rods on either side of the spine to keep it straight and then place metal brackets in between each vertebrae. Keeney has not, nor will she, taken the surgery. "I won't take the surgery because I don't want two metal rods going down my spine. It would also mean that I wouldn't be able to play many sports, due to the rods limiting my range of motion."

Even though she will not take the surgery to fix her scoliosis, the physical therapy is just enough to keep it under control. "The therapy helps a lot. My doctor says that if I continue with the physical therapy and get my curve under control, I won't have to worry about it getting any worse. Basically scoliosis grows with you, and if they catch it in time and can correct it, then it won't affect you as much in the future."

Keeney plays on the Hamburg Area High School softball team, ignoring her differences and restrictions to do what she loves. Out on the field, if her back is bothering her enough, she will take a small break and get right back out. In the weight room though, is where she has some restrictions. Keeney describes, "In the weight room, I'm not allowed to bench, deadlift, or do any bar squats and I'm usually not allowed to lift anything too heavy."

Keeney has scoliosis, but she does not let that hold her back. "I'm a very determined person and I'll do almost anything to prove that I can do something, despite my problem. If I did let scoliosis hold me back, I'd be giving up and basically telling it that it won, when that's not the case."

Even with scoliosis and softball season, she keeps just enough time to do her school work. Ranked 42/178, she keeps a grade percent average of 87%. Keeney recounts, "Sometimes when I'm swamped with homework and have a game that goes till ten and I only getting home at eleven, it can get difficult and frustrating because all I want to do when I get home is sleep and shower, but I also have some physical therapy to do. I manage though."

Jasmyn Keeney is a great student athlete with some restrictions that she does not let define her. She is be a great role model for other student athletes around the world with scoliosis holding them back from doing what they enjoy most.

# Business classes and the benefits

Tyler Holl – 12

Business classes offer a wide variety of benefits to students, and within Hamburg High, more should be offered. These classes allow a foot in the door for the future economic roles these students will play in our society and provide the ability to become accustomed to the technology in their professional and personal lives. Approximately 70% of students claim to want to start their own business, but only around 15% claim to have the skills needed for this. Many skills can be developed from these classes: some include developing career awareness, communication skills, and demonstrate teamwork.

Our school offers a fair range of business class, some of which include personal finance, computer applications, consumer math and accounting. More should be done with these classes besides being taught in a classroom. They should be taken to businesses and be submerged in the experience.

After speaking with Meghan Eisenhauer, she claims that it is true that more business classes will benefit the students. She says that this can open up doorways in the business world and create great backgrounds with students, teachers, and future employers.

For more information, visit [http://www.northcrawford.com/faculty/shubatch/why\\_business\\_classes\\_matter.cfm](http://www.northcrawford.com/faculty/shubatch/why_business_classes_matter.cfm)



# High school students learn to manage time

Ashley Lojko - 12

Going to high school can become hectic and stress-filled all too easily for a student who has been thrown into this type of scenario with no warning. Not doing work or getting assignments done at the last minute seems like the easiest and best option to make time for better or more fun activities. However, this sort of work ethic is not easily transferable to the real world. There are realistic ways to manage time better as a student that is uncomplicated to add into a high school life.

Sleep is one of the most important thing for high school student to get. Though it may not seem possible to get seven to eight hours of sleep a night with a rigorous school schedule, doing homework early and going to bed early make this step simple to accomplish. Before starting any kind of work, try to delegate what are the most important tasks that must get done first. These are the assignments that are due soon or the projects that will take the most time and effort to complete. When beginning those pieces, focus entirely on them. Turn off the cell phone or put it on do not disturb. Listening to music while working may help concentration on the task at hand and create less room for intrusive thoughts. While working on a large assignment, worrying about small details can ruin progress altogether. Concentrate on the bulk of the work and complete the minute details later. Finally, taking out tasks that are not essential is key to saving time for the tasks that need attention.

Though those tips are important and necessary for saving time and jumpstarting productivity, making them a habit is more difficult. Beginning assignments before they are due, or as close to when they are assigned as possible, is one action that is difficult to justify but makes all the difference in saving time and having less stress. Find the time to start projects early so there can be more time closer to the due date for fixes or corrections. Becoming aware of distractions eating away at valuable time is another habit that is hard to start. Realizing how much time spent on unnecessary or frivolous tasks is the first step to doing less of those tasks. Finally, planning to do assignments when there is more free time can spread work more evenly throughout the time before it is due.

To find more tips on how to save time and become more productive, visit [http://www.creativitypost.com/create/work\\_smarter\\_not\\_harder\\_21\\_time\\_management\\_tips\\_to\\_hack\\_productivity](http://www.creativitypost.com/create/work_smarter_not_harder_21_time_management_tips_to_hack_productivity)

# Conservative Concepts: Student Walk Out

Autumn Richard – 12



On March 14, 2018, exactly one month after the shooting, this nation's schools planned a nationwide walk out to protest gun violence. They planned to walkout for exactly 17 minutes: One minute for each student's death, to mourn the loss of each of their lives. This is going to be used as a way to get the attention of lawmakers to enforce stricter gun laws. While I personally do not wish to see stricter gun laws enforced or the abolishment of the Second Amendment what I can appreciate is the meaning behind the walk out here at Hamburg Area High School. The six individuals who walked out had a deeper meaning and purpose to their walk out. They wanted to show the survivors of the shooting that we hear and see their pain. That we are with them and will do everything in our power to help them through. That regardless of our political differences we will stand united. A divided nation cannot stand and there is something to be said about the fact that the people who are standing up and voicing their opinions is the generation who is facing the most criticism. While there are clearly visible flaws in this generation, such as certain individuals who participated in the Tide Pod challenge, I must say that I am proud to be a part of a generation who is not afraid to speak their opinions instead of sitting back and doing nothing about them. We can be a generation that stands up and takes action if we make changes now.

# April Fools' coincided with Easter

Jasmin Modrick – 11

April Fools' Day is a day to celebrate in some European and Western countries by playing practical jokes or spreading hoaxes on April 1. Easter is on the same day as April Fools' Day this year in 2018. The last time this had happen was back in 1956. This happens due to the quirks in the date of Easter against the Gregorian calendar where the two rarely coincide. After this year, the next time Easter and April Fools' Day will be on the same day is in 2029 and then in 2040, but not again in this century.

On April 1, 1700, the Americans began the annual tradition of April Fools' Day by playing jokes on one another. This day was also called All Fools' Day which was celebrated for a few centuries by different cultures. Some historians believe that April Fools' Day started in 1582 when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Some people who did not receive this news did not recognize the New Year started on January 1 and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on the last week of March to April 1. This became the start of jokes and hoaxes and included having paper fish on their backs to symbolize a young, easily caught fish, and a gullible person.

People have gone all out to celebrate April Fools' Day and prank their friends. People play pranks on their friends on this holiday such as sitting on a whoopee cushion or switching foods with another one that looks like it. Emily Garvey, a sophomore, does not participate in the pranks that are pulled on April Fools' Day, but does know the holiday.

For more information, visit <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/april-fools-tradition-popularized>.



# Stacy Sowers shares her college career

Jennifer Hoshauer – 12

Stacy Sowers who graduated in 2014 has been attending Kutztown University for four years now. She is majoring in Criminal Justice. Once she graduates this May she is planning on pursuing a career in animal welfare. Her dream job is becoming a humane law enforcement officer which is protecting animals who have been treated cruelly and neglected by their owners. She has been applying to shelters and law enforcement agencies up and down the East Coast and have had a few responses which is exciting for her.



She said the best thing about college is picking her own schedule, classes and sometimes her professors. She also likes it because she can sit at the library between two classes and get work done. On some days she has no classes which is nice. College is very different from high school. The biggest difference is comparing college and high school are being able to eat in class just not snacks but Chick-fil-a and more. It is also different by just getting up and leaving class if she has to go to the bathroom or something similar to that. She is fortunate to be from a small school and knowing everyone, but she said “Going to college and meeting people from all over the world is pretty great.” Her advice to current student’s juniors and seniors is to apply to as many scholarships that are available, it is worth it at the end. She said “There are even scholarships for people that are left-handed, there are plenty out there for everyone.”

# Musician Spotlight: Megan DeAngelo and Anna Stoever reveal their musical history

Quinn Holl - 10

Megan DeAngelo and Anna Stoever are two Hamburg students who are involved and have been involved in the music program for quite some time.

Today, Megan consistently plays the piano and once practiced the violin for three years in elementary. However, the piano remains her instrument of choice. Megan recalls her sudden adoration for the instrument at the tender age of seven. “I saw my mom playing songs on the piano when I was younger, and I wanted to play the songs as well, so I started learning.” Megan’s interest continued to grow as she decided to take lessons from her piano instructor, Mrs. Francis. After two years of taking lessons, Megan decided to take the elective Piano 1 in hopes to test what she has learned. She obviously exceeded expectations and always finished assignments ahead of the time they were due.



Though Megan appears to be quite talented when it comes to playing the piano, she does not wish to pursue the hobby as a career. At the moment, Megan is considering journalism as a career in future years to come. As far as additional hobbies, she enjoys history, horseback riding and reading.

Lastly, I asked Megan why she enjoyed playing the piano, and I received a thoughtful response. “I like to get lost in the music, it distresses me a lot of the times. I like being able to make beautiful music.”

Similar to Megan, Anna does not wish to pursue music as a career. Instead, she would rather enter a career that involves math and science, possibly an engineering career.

In contrast to Megan, Anna does not play the piano. However, she plays several instruments including the violin, clarinet, guitar as well as percussion instruments. Anna played the violin for one year in 3rd grade, clarinet for one year in 4th grade and started playing the guitar this year. In addition, Anna started to play percussion instruments in 5th grade and still plays to this day.

Anna’s interest in music spawned from her older brother’s interest in music. “He played an instrument and I thought it was cool. I had a hard time reading the other instruments, so I went to percussion.” Furthermore, Anna enjoys making her own music while Megan enjoys mimicking songs that she listens to for pleasure.

Both Megan and Anna are talented musicians and would encourage others to partake in the hobby because “it is a unique skill that you will never regret.”

# Katelynn plays her Violin

Jennifer Hoshauer – 12

Katelynn Sepke, a senior, loves to put a little extra music into her life during the school day. She is the president of the orchestra, and helps plan trips and keep the students involved in performances.

While she was in elementary school, all of the students had to go to an event during school where the music teachers would introduce all kinds of instruments. This would include string and woodwind and other instruments that the students could try out to see if they would want to play one of them. Katelynn decided to start on the violin when she was in third grade and she is still playing the same instrument today.

One thing she really likes about it is it being involved during the school day. She said, “It gives her a point in the day to relax and enjoy music.” Another thing she likes about being part of this activity and class is getting to play a variety of different styles.

This elective is open to anyone that is willing to be brave and take a step and start. Every cycle includes a day of orchestra which is when everyone meets and plays music that they are preparing for a concert in the winter and spring. There are also lessons every cycle which is one on one time with Mrs. Dowd who is the teacher and that is when it is very important to go over the music very slowly so it is understandable.

# Gabrielle McCullough

Erik Shinton - 11



Gabrielle McCullough is an 11th grade student at Hamburg Area High School. She also has a twin sister named Abigail, who looks very similar though they are not identical. Her hobbies include drawing and cleaning. Gabby’s drawing hobby has influenced her to take Studio Art, in which she does glass, ceramic, and other artistic projects. Gabby also takes cheer leading at the school, where she cheers for Football, Soccer, and Basketball. At the school her favorite class is gym, because she enjoys being active and she said, “I am never bored in gym, it gets my blood pumping!” She is also a former Publications and Ceramics student, which she said she loved and would enjoy to take the class again. In the future, Gabby is looking forward to finishing her graduation project and May Day, toward the end of this year. Next year she is excited for being a senior and graduating.

After school she wants to go to college for extra education. In college she hopes to go into the medical or construction fields. Gabby says she is really only nervous to do a lot of paperwork on her own. Her dream job would be as a photographer or artist, continuing as an influence of her hobbies.

Gabby’s favorite color is blue. She also enjoys eating Hamburger Helper. Gabby’s favorite type of music is 70s such as Led Zeppelin and The Beatles. She hopes that everyone is motivated enough to make it through this year and the coming years, including herself.

# Meet Alexis Deisemann

Delani Remp – 9

Alexis Deisemann is a freshman at the high school who has an older sister Eileen Deisemann, who is a senior. She enjoys dancing and takes ballet lesson at a local dance studio call Culture Shock. She also loves to sing and being in chorus and Aerial Boundaries, a select choral ensemble the high school offers to students.

Besides the arts, she also in very involved in her Girl Scout troop in which she is currently ranked in as a senior, this is what girl scouts are ranked when they are in ninth of tenth grade. She has already earned her solo award and her silver award by building a bench worth \$400. Alexis is currently working to receive her gold award. In order to get her award, she has planned to remodel and decorate a Sunday school classroom at her church where she is going to buy new furniture and spackle and paint the walls. She will weed and also do some landscaping on the outside of the church. Serving in her troop and community service are big parts of her life and she hopes to use this opportunity to practice for her career as an interior designer.

# Students discuss their out of school lives

Paiton Albrecht - 10



There is a lot of diversity at Hamburg Area High School. Two students speak out about how different their lives are, even though they go to the same school. Sophomore, Kyle Reppert explains how his schedule is always tight since his family has a farm. “I wake up every weekend at 6 am to look after and feed cattle,” Kyle explains that his days are filled with endless hard work but it pays off in the end with a big dinner.

Whereas Junior, Alexys Mateo calls herself the more “average teenager” who tend to wake up late on weekends and hang out with her friends. “I lounge around the house on weekends, do some homework and eat a lot of food.” Mateo explains that she works hard during the week and rests on the weekends unless she has to go work on Saturdays.

These differences let students get a glimpse into other people lives and how everyone is different in their own way. Reppert explains, “It is a lot of work, but I thoroughly enjoy working on the farm. I have been living like this for so long if I did nothing I think I would get really bored!” Mateo backs up, “I can’t imagine the hard work someone like Kyle puts in, but I enjoy my Saturdays and would not have it any other way.”

# Graduation - Class of 2018

- \*Graduation is Friday, June 8 at 6 pm.
- \*Seniors will get 10 tickets.
- \*Students need to give \$12:50 to Miss McCarthy by May 11. Students will receive their cap/gown/tassel at graduation practice on June 7.
- \*Boys: you must wear dress pants, dress shoes (no sneakers) and socks, a collared shirt, and a tie. Girls: You must wear a plain white, off-white, or beige dress or skirt and blouse with white shoes (NO flip-flops or sneakers).

# Important Dates and Times

- June 6: 8-9 am: senior breakfast and class meeting followed by graduation practice in the old gym
- June 7: 8 am: graduation practice, pick up tickets and caps and gowns, 7 pm: Baccalaureate in HS auditorium
- June 8: 4:30 pm: arrive in old gym for pictures and line up for commencement



# Say hello to Mr Buggy

Valeria Amato - 10

Mr. Damian Buggy spreads his knowledge of history among the classes he teaches to the seniors and sophomores of Hamburg Area High. He teaches World Cultures to sophomores, while also managing to instruct the seniors in Global Studies. Within these classes he encourages creativity by allowing the students to participate in unique activities that further interpret the topic the class is presently discussing. Mr. Buggy says he learns along with the students during many of these activities, which makes them that much more interesting.

The atmosphere of Buggy's classes are very relaxed and calm, but also under control. Senior, Justin Willman explains the comfortability in the classroom when he describes his classes as "very engaging, laid back, and maintained." He also says that he looks forward to Mr. Buggy's class every day.

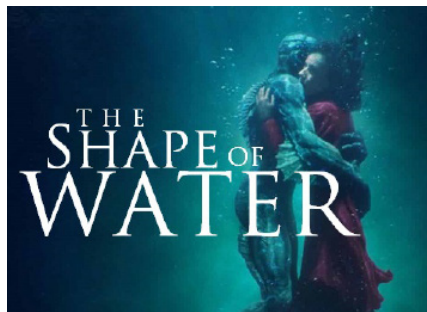
Mr. Buggy was inspired to become the successful and favored teacher he is today by his high school history teacher, Mr. Wanzie. When he attended Mount Carmel Area High School, he noticed his eleventh grade history teacher was "very good at context, but also very laid back." The admiration he had for his teacher, caused for Mr. Buggy to follow in Mr. Wanzie's footsteps. He then attended Susquehanna University and received a bachelor's degree in history, a bachelors in secondary education, and a masters in education.

Buggy believes that professional friendships with his students are necessary in the classroom because "they give confidence towards the relationship." Sophomore Madi Boyer agrees with this when she describes her relationship with Mr. Buggy as "professional but comfortable." She also says "Mr. Buggy is my favorite teacher because he manages to keep the class under control while also keeping the class interested, and it's rare to find a teacher who does it as well as him."

Mr. Buggy finds the most important thing he learned while teaching young adults is "to teach them responsibility, but also to let kids be kids." He also values the uniqueness of his job because everyday is different, and many of his students can say the same.

## Movie Review: *Shape of Water*

Sierra Fisher – 12



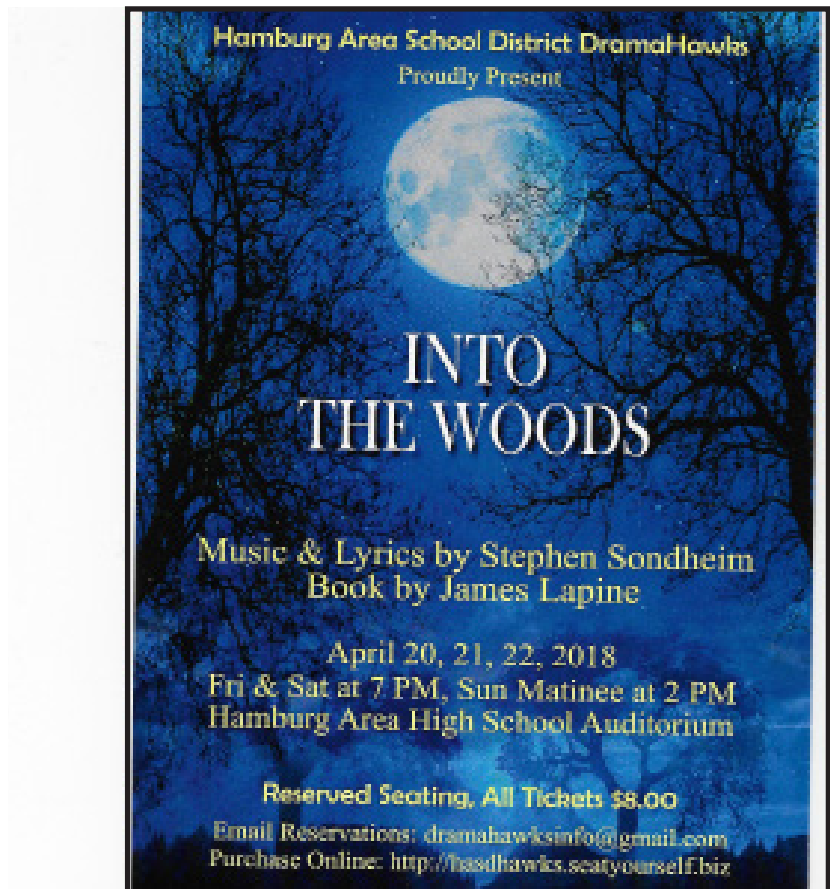
*The Shape of Water* is a movie that hit theatres on December 1, 2017. Even though the movie has been out for only a short amount of time, it has already gained much recognition. It has been nominated for many awards and has won Best Motion Picture of the Year. In addition to this, several actors and actresses from the movie were nominated and won Best Performance by an Actor/Actress. The movie has also gotten stellar ratings from IMDb (7.8/10) and Rotten Tomatoes (92%).

So, what is all this hype about? The storyline of this movie revolves around the mute Elisa (Sally Hawkins), who often feels isolated and alone. She works as a cleaning lady in a high-security government laboratory in Baltimore, Maryland. Elisa's life changes forever when she discovers a classified secret: a scaled creature found in South America that lives in a water tank. Elisa recognizes that this being is not the monster like everyone is treating him as. Upon visiting him every day, Elisa begins to develop a bond with the creature but soon realizes the ever present fate that is closely approaching him and tries to do everything in her power to stop it.

Looking back on the motion picture, the storyline is a take on the Beauty and the Beast. The movie felt predictable, being that it was pretty obvious how the story was going to end. It is understandable why the motion picture was nominated for many awards because of the depth of the story, the acting, and the music. *The Shape of Water* is definitely a movie to see because of its oddity, but it may not be a movie one would want to watch again.

Since this movie has been out for three months, it is not in theatres anymore, but is set to be released on DVD around March 13 and will be available on Amazon Video and iTunes on February 27. This movie is rated R and was directed by Guillermo del Toro. The runtime is two hours and three minutes.

For more information about *the Shape of Water*, go to: [www.imdb.com/title/tt5580390/](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt5580390/)



# America wastes too much food

Delani Remp - 9

Every American at one point has thrown away their apple at lunch or their unfinished carton of milk, but what no one realizes is how all these wasteful actions add up. According to the US Department of Agriculture, Americans throw out an average of 40% of fresh fish, 23% of eggs and 20% of milk amounting to \$165 billion lost due to food waste a year. Americans on average waste about and estimated 25.9 million tons of food annually. This is important to Hamburg Area School District because students over the years have thrown do much leftover food from lunch in their trash, and now that there are rules about a fruit in students' lunches, more and more food is being taken with the intent not to consume. To put that in perspective a person would have enough food to equal about 4,285,710 full grown African Elephants. A person may be asking where this food goes. Once the garbage truck takes their trash, it is transported to a landfill, where it is burned, and causing methane gas. Methane gas by itself is 23 times more potent than carbon dioxide, the gas we breathe out as waste of the body. In spite of all this happening a single person can make a change by shopping smarter and more realistically. It is important to store food correctly like in the fridge to prevent soiling. Also, in lunch a student should only take food they plan on eating. Just imagine how many apples are wasted every day because students take them with the intent no to eat them. America is a very wasteful country, but it takes just one student to eat his/her food instead of throwing it away to make a difference in the future.



For more information, visit: <https://www.csmonitor.com/The-Culture/Food/2012/0827/How-much-food-does-one-family-waste>, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/earth-talk-waste-land/>, <https://mashable.com/2015/02/15/food-waste-tips/#Tz5MNTXuugqE>

## Simone Biles shows a different side

Jennifer Hoshauer – 12

Simone Biles is one of America's top gymnasts, 21 years old. She is the most decorated American gymnast, who won 19 Olympic and World Championship medals throughout her career, competed in the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, and will be competing in the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

On February 3, 2018, Lifetime premiered "The Simone Biles Story: Courage to Soar" This was the other side of her life other than being an Olympic gymnast. It shows the themes of sacrifice, her family, and the importance of self-confidence.

Biles started out loving gymnastics when she was a child. She visited a gymnastics center on a field trip in daycare. The center sent home a paper saying for her to join and she did just that.

It starts with early childhood and works up to the years now. Biles has three other brother and sisters, and her biological mother who was struggling with drug addiction. Biles and her siblings were eventually put in foster care. She and her younger sister was then adopted by her grandfather and his wife when Biles was six. She eventually got used to her new parents and started calling them "mom and dad" and still does to this day.

A Throughout the movie Biles shows her struggles with being an Olympic and not going to public school anymore so she could train more during the day for the Rio Olympics in 2016.

She is doing training for the 2020 Olympics and she will be continuing to do that until the big day.

For more information: <https://www.thelily.com/upcoming-movie-about-simone-biles-shows-a-different-side-of-the-olympic-gymnast/>



## CD Review: Kelsea Ballerina

Sierra Fisher – 12

Kelsea Ballerina's album *Unapologetically* was recently released, November 3, 2017. Kelsea Ballerina is a new, but familiar face in country music. She gained much recognition for her third single, "Peter Pan" on her first album, The First Time. She has been nominated for many awards throughout country music such as the Best New Artist at the 2017 Grammy Awards.

Kelsea Ballerina's new album has 12 songs. *Unapologetically* features hit songs like "Legends", "Miss Me More", "High School", and "Unapologetically". Most of these songs are centered on breakups, "Machine Heart" and the uncertainty of adolescence, "In Between". The album is definitely an acquired taste of music and will not please everyone. I found myself liking some of the songs, but others felt immature, incomplete, or unoriginal. I gravitated more to the songs I heard before buying the complete album, like "Miss Me More" and "High School". Before buying the complete album, I thought I would love all of the songs just as much as the popular well-known ones, but now I understand why the other songs were not so popular. Overall, I feel like this is a decent album, but is may be a letdown compared to her debut album.

