

Hawk Happenings

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HAHS Juniors visit the Alvernia College fair

Bethany Stufflet - 11

On March 4, Hamburg Area high school juniors had the opportunity to attend an annual college fair held by Alvernia University. The college fair consisted of around 50 different colleges and took place at Alvernia University's indoor track. Each college that was in attendance set up a table with signs and pamphlets of information about their college and what they offer. Some colleges even handed out little souvenirs such as chapstick or pens.

Allie Houck had never been to a college fair like this before, but she said that she would attend another one because she found it very informative. She said, "Most of the questions I had on my mind about college got answered that day." Similarly, Tia Adam also said that she has never been to a college fair before but would like to go again and look for more colleges. She found it interesting to see some of their random majors, and she thought it was informational, especially if students knew what they were looking for. If they wanted specific information, they could also ask about it; otherwise, she said, "The basic stuff on their pamphlets did help answer questions" as well.

Overall, I also found the college fair to be very informational and helpful when it came to figuring out what colleges I may want to attend. I think that this event should be held every year as it has been for some time to continue allowing students to learn more about colleges in and around the area so that they are better prepared for their senior year.



Music department travels to NYC

Hailey Quinn - 12

On March 12, the music department traveled to New York City to see Wicked on Broadway. They departed Hamburg Area High School at 7:00 am and arrived in the city with about four hours to spend exploring before they had to catch the 2:00 pm showing of Wicked.

The students were in groups of five and were able to choose how they wanted to spend their time exploring before the show. Mackenzie Hoover, junior, traveled with her group to many of the famous shopping locations in the city including the M&M store, FAO Schwarz, Build-A-Bear, and the Disney store. The students were also able to grab lunch before the show. Some popular places were Juniors, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., PHD Terrace, and various street vendors. Riley Mohn, junior, comments, "I personally loved the trip, since I do not usually visit cities when I travel, so it was an interesting and chaotic experience with all the people and the cars. However, as a very social person, I easily overcame the chaos by talking to all the workers and locals."

After lunch and exploring, the students headed to the Gershwins Theatre to watch Wicked. The musical choice acted as a perfect connection for those who participated in the musical this year, as Wicked is a sort of prequel to The Wizard of Oz, and shows how the characters develop into their roles. The students really enjoyed the show and thought it was a great experience. Landon Poullos, sophomore, notes, "The show was amazing! I especially liked the tin man, since that was my role in the musical this year!"

After the musical was over, the students returned to the bus and headed back home. Dinner was provided on the bus, and the students arrived home around 7:30 pm.



Seniors return to Hawks' Nest Speakeasy

Hannah Kristiniak - 12

On March 17 Hamburg Area High School enjoyed the annual Hawks' Nest Speakeasy. This event, run by Mr. Kline, is held in the library each year. Juniors in his AP U.S. History class dress up as historical figures from the 1920s and role-play as their characters during the event. Mr. Kline always invites previous APUSH students to help run the speakeasy working as bouncers, card dealers, and managing refreshments. Any student with permission and a secret password can attend the event during seventh period and flex.

Hailey Quinn, a senior who took APUSH last year, helped with the speakeasy this year. She managed the currency of the event, "Kline Bucks," which students used to play games and purchase refreshments. Last year, Hailey had to worry about choosing a character and researching them extensively so she could correctly portray them. She chose Georgia O'Keefe and had to read as many biographies as she could find to memorize every detail about her. Accurately remembering details of their characters is a part of every APUSH student's grade for the event. Hailey also had to prepare an outfit and a prop, and she decided to paint one of Georgia's paintings. This year was less stressful because she only had to help and prepare an outfit. Hailey most looked forward to seeing all the students portray their characters. The speakeasy was so fun that Hailey was sure she wanted to help as a senior. Since Mr. Kline depended on help from the seniors, she was ready to do her part. It was important to her to keep the tradition going for current APUSH students and have previous APUSH students help run the event. Hailey ends her thoughts with, "I think it is such a fun and creative way to get students immersed in what they are learning about. It brings lots of students from the school together and is a great activity that brings fun beyond the classroom."

Another returning APUSH student, Alyssa Brensinger, was a card dealer for the speakeasy this year. To prepare for portraying Clara Bow last year, she spent over three hours researching her and her life. In addition to studying, Alyssa also spent one hour preparing an outfit. Last year was more exciting for her because she knew what to expect. It was also more fun to roleplay a character for the event. To prepare for card dealing, Alyssa had to learn how some of the games worked. The speakeasy was such an enjoyable experience that she wanted to go back and help.



Student athletes begin their spring journey

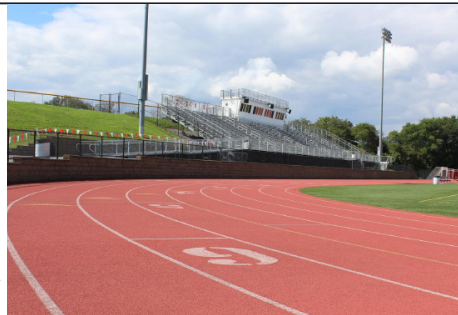
Lydia Fultz - 10

Sports happen all year round, fall sports, winter sports, spring sports, and even off season training. Whatever it is athletes put a lot of effort into their sports no matter what it is, and along with that comes a lot of time commitment. Not only do athletes have to go to practices every day, sometimes even Saturdays, but they also have to attend their games, matches, meets, or whatever the case may be. Spring sports are a big one with it being at the end of the year. Spring sports almost symbolize the home stretch of the school year. Also with spring sports comes the start of the warmer weather, which most people tend to enjoy.

Freshman and softball player Graylea Knight says, "everyone seems to be happy because the weather is getting warmer, the school year is almost over, and you can just enjoy time outside after the long winter."

Sophomore Elizabeth Carroll says that "spring track prepares her for cross country in the fall because it helps her build back her insurance." She also likes how there are less teams at meets compared to how many there are at cross country meets in the fall, and once again how it comes at the end of the school year.

Just like any other sport season, there are games and events that keep school comradery throughout the season. In the spring there are baseball and softball games, tennis matches, and track meets. They are a great thing to attend with friends in any spare time and also show some school spirit. So if there is nothing better to do, why not find the sports schedules on Hawks Athletics and come out to support Hamburg's very own athletes in the nice warm weather.



HAHS students participate in the 4Way Speech Contest

Koa Binder - 10

The 4Way Speech Contest is a contest that students participate in and create a speech on any topic that they would like as long as it meets the four requirements: Is it the truth, is it fair to all concerned, will it build goodwill and better friendships, will it be beneficial to all concerned? This year, there were five contestants: freshmen Lucy Lytle and Samantha Gartner, sophomores Kaylana Ebling and Koa Binder, and Senior Ella Lytle. All of the girls had very nice essays, some about religion, some about young voters, and some about mental health. Saying these speeches can take a lot of bravery, and it especially did for Samantha. "On my topic of mental health, I felt extremely vulnerable up there in front of the judges and the peers around me because I felt like I was sharing a part of me that I haven't really talked about too much," she states. It can be very intimidating having to present the speech to the judges while also having fellow peers and competitors behind the speaker listening. Samantha enjoyed participating in it and thought that it helped her see her flaws and areas of improvement with public speaking. Samantha says, "I plan on doing it next year, as I feel like I can prove that I can do a lot better and there's so many subjects I want to get out there that I feel like I have the opportunity to spread through the speech competition. I hope more people do it next year because it's an inspiration to the other people in this school and in the contest."

The winner of the contest was Koa Binder and she got to advance to the regionals. The regionals were held at Penn State Berks. Although she did not win regionals, she still enjoyed participating and would recommend any students interested to participate.



Please congratulate the following members of the junior class on their selection to National Honor Society.

Faculty – thank you for your input. It is very helpful during the selection process.

The juniors will be inducted into NHS at a ceremony on April 24th. All faculty are welcome to attend.

Tia Adam
Daniel Barata
Maile Bentz
Joshua Castro
Kameron Dreibelbis
Dylan Gough
Madeline Handwerk
Zachary Hiegler
Mackenzie Hoover
AnnaMarie Karasek

Harrison Mast
Riley Mohn
Lily Parr
Astian Reppert
Connor Rex
Morgan Riegel
Sawyer Smith
Bethany Stufflet
Caleb Weist
Kamryn Witman

Student Spotlight: Noah Thebeau

Koa Binder - 10

Hamburg Area High School has many talented students. Whether it is in athletics, music, or academics, the students are very diverse. Junior Noah Thebeau is one student who is very talented. Noah plays the guitar, specifically electric, and also knows how to play the drums and a little bit of bass. “I have been playing for five years, I started in eighth grade because I already played drums but I got sick of it but my mom still wanted me to take music lessons. I wanted to start because I listen to metal music and wanted to be able to play like that.” Noah states. Noah’s biggest inspirations are Dave Mustaine, Yngwie Malmsteen, and John Connelly. He loves music and enjoys playing the guitar because “It’s not boring. It’s time consuming and actually gives me something to do when I’m home. It gives me a way to express myself when I don’t know how.”

Noah hopes to have a career in music later in life. “Well I obviously want to be in a band and I hope to get signed to a record label. I’m also thinking about going to Berklee College of Music.” To further his career right now, he is currently in the school’s Jazz Band, plays most flex days in Mr. Laughlin’s room, and plays at school events either by himself or even for his peers. He played the National Anthem at the Charity Basketball Game and played with other musicians and singers at Java Jam and May Day. Noah Thebeau is one of the many talented musicians and students at HAHS and many love to hear him play.

Preston Conver shares his passion for guitar

Autumn Beltz - 9

Preston Conver is a music loving freshman at HAHS who is learning the guitar. He has played many instruments in the past such as the trumpet and violin. Preston overall enjoyed these, but recently he decided to take guitar classes. Guitar is still relatively new to him because he has only been taking the class for two years, however Preston does know a few songs. His favorite song to play on the guitar is Boulevard of Broken Dreams by Green Day. Preston really enjoys the band Green Day at the moment. Even his biggest inspiration, when it comes to music, is Green Day’s frontman Billie Joe. In the future he hopes to learn more Green Day songs along with Three Days Grace songs. Preston plans to learn the ukulele in the future as well.

Preston is not only in guitar class though, being in choir has helped him improve his singing and musical talents overall. He is glad to have this opportunity to further his knowledge in everything musical. This will be helpful to him one day because he aspires to be a musician and plans on using his vocal and instrumental talents on making a song in the future.

Elective Spotlight: Piano

Alaena Cox - 10

Hamburg Area High School allows the students to participate in many musical activities. The piano class that the school offers has been said to be an easy guide to learn how to play the piano.

Many of the students who have participated in piano have wanted to learn it but did not want to pay for outside of school lessons. This course allows the students to get free hands-on practice with a very talented teacher, Mrs. Jackson.

The musical classes that Hamburg Area High School presents also allow students to continue to learn the instrument if the band schedule does not align with their schedule. A few students have said playing in front of a crowd like the band does is stressful to them, but partaking in the class does not have the same impact because a simple mistake can be fixed throughout the class unlike when they are up on stage in front of a crowd.

Summer Bonser a senior reported, “Mrs. Jackson is a very fun and understanding teacher. The class is very fun and is relaxing.”

Landon Poullos a sophomore said, “I have never taken the class but from what I have heard it is a fun class. Mrs. Jackson is a very good teacher.”

Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Deitz

Chase Brodhead - 10

Mrs. Deitz, one of the wellness teachers at HAHS, starts her day by waking up around 5:30 a.m. She gets out of bed right away, knowing that if she were to lie in bed any longer, she would not want to get back up. After completing her morning routine, she spends any extra time cuddling with her dog, Marcie. Mrs. Deitz says, “We always need our cuddle time, especially before I leave for the day.”

She quickly wakes up her son for school and rushes out the door. When Mrs. Deitz drives to work, she always needs her morning music to get her going. In the past, the artists she has listened to include Taylor Swift and Kendrick Lamar, but recently she has been listening to Ed Sheeran. Once she gets to the school, she starts prepping her classes and mentally preparing for the day. She sets up her computer and gathers all the equipment needed for her first period in the gym. Then, she heads to her homeroom to start the day.

Currently, in her gym classes, she is teaching volleyball. After the long school day, Mrs. Deitz usually goes to the library to see Othello. She often stays after school around four to five times a week for an hour to work out in the weight room. She is accompanied by the football team, which she describes as “intense.” Once she leaves the school around 4:45, she heads home.

After arriving home, she continues her motherly duties, such as taking her kids to practice, cooking dinner, and more. To unwind, she likes to watch some TV, such as one of current favorites, Abbott elementary, and snuggle with her dog once again. Once her nightly routine is finally done, it is lights out and onto the next day. Mrs. Deitz loves that she gets to teach her at hamburg because she likes that it is a small town and it feels like everyone has eachothers backs, “support is key.” She says “I actually wanted to be a Mariene Biologist, thankfully my husband helped me relized that a PE teacher would be a perfect fit because then I wouldnt be where I am now.”

Mrs. Deitz says, “Do activities that you like to do. You do not have to do sports or competitive games. Just do something that makes you feel good and happy” when disscusing ways to help kids stay active.

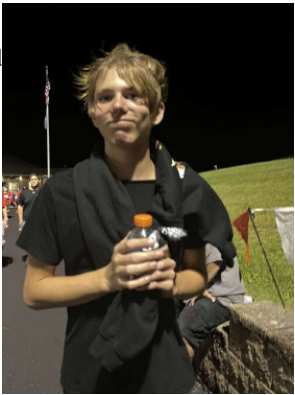
Student spotlight: Hunter Jennings

Lydia Fultz - 10

Sometimes moving can be a difficult thing to do for many individuals. Moving in the middle of high school can be particularly hard because most people are already settled down, so it can be hard to fit in and make new friends once one moves. One of our very own students here at Hamburg High School, Hunter Jennings is going to be going through this exact thing.

Hunter Jennings believes that Hamburg is nice and that he has some really great memories with friends over the years, but that he is still excited to try something new. He believes that Wilson will be a really great school, but also that it is a lot bigger compared to Hamburg, so some of the transitions in that regard may be a bit more difficult. Although he is moving out of town, he still plans to visit, “I plan to visit during the summer to see friends and stuff.” Hunter is hoping for a smooth transition into his new school and has both high expectations and hopes.

While not all people enjoy moving, Hunter seems to have a good attitude towards this. Having a good attitude will only make a situation easier in the end, so it is important to stand tall. Although we will be one student shorter here at Hamburg Area High School, we can still wish that student the best of luck in his future journeys.



Movie review - Sonic 3

Autumn Beltz - 9

Sonic The Hedgehog 3, directed by Jeff Fowler is a new movie released recently on December 20 2024. It is the third part of a series of movies based on the popular 90’s video game franchise Sonic the Hedgehog. The first game starring Sonic was released in 1991. Shortly after its release date the sonic franchise quickly gained traction. The fast blue Hedgehog character was proven to be a favorite among the kids and very successful. To this day there are three movies, seven shows and about 96 games from the franchise.

The movie Sonic 3 picks up at the end of the Sonic 2 movie. At this period in the movie they had just defeated Dr. Robotnik, also known as Eggman (the main antagonist of Sonic 2.) The movie has a laid back beginning where everything seems wholesome for the most part. The viewer then is shown scenes that are later important in the plot of the movie. One of these scenes has an experiment in a lab. In this lab we meet one of the main antagonists of this movie, Metal Sonic, an evil version of Sonic created by Dr. Robotnik in an attempt to defeat Sonic. Him and his friends gather together to fight Metal Sonic and go through many hardships in doing so. Viewers see the crew making and using strategies to defeat the evil Sonic. They go through ups and downs throughout the movie and many sacrifices were made.

The main message of this movie is the impact of choices and the importance of not letting past hardships define themselves which also emphasizes the importance of communication, family, loss, and teamwork.

I think this movie is a good pick for people who have children and it definitely appeals to its target audience very well. I think this is also great for Sonic fans who want a chance to see one of their favorite characters on the big screen.



Lana Del Rey captures emotions beautifully

Brooklyn Scheffler - 9

Lana Del Rey is a 39 year old artist who makes alternative, indie pop, dream pop, baroque pop, and rock. She was born in Manhattan, New York June 21, 1985, and still lives in Manhattan to this day. She has two siblings, Carolina Grant and Charlie-Hill Grant.

In 2008, she found interest in making music and at first went by her original name, Lizzy Grant. In 2010 as her population grew she now goes by the name Lana Del Rey and over the years has gained over 60 million Spotify listeners with 40 million dollars as her net worth.

I have been listening to her for many years, and my opinion is so strong about her. Her music has true meaning in so many different ways, and she has an outlook on the world that nobody could put into words so instead, she puts it into music. Hearing her music always lightens my day with her high pitched lovely accent. For example, one of her lyrics in her songs she sings, “It’s you, it’s you, it’s all for you, everything I do, I tell you all the time. Heaven is a place on earth with you.” I find so much love in everything she sings and says.

For more information visit one of the websites www.google.com

www.Wikipedia.com or www.genius.com.



Women's History month

Kaylea Detweiler - 10

Women's History month is a time to take the opportunity to celebrate women and their accomplishments and to honor how much women have evolved with impact on our society today. March is a reminder of the struggles and achievements of women who have made our generation today. Women who could do nothing at all now have evolved into women who can do everything and all.

Women's History month was initiated for women's pain and sufferings, but also to project their strengths and power. Important times like the 1950's-1960's when women were expected to stay at home to cook and clean. Up until the 1920's, women lacked the right to vote for their country. Events like these caused the evolution of women and enforced fair rights for them. Congress officially confirmed March as National Women's History Month in 1987.

Use this time to promote equality of all genders, reflect on women's evolution, take note of women's accomplishments, and recognize challenges that will still remain.

For more information visit: <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month>.



HAHS celebrates circular holiday

Riley Mohn - 11

Pi day is the holiday created by the discovery that the circumference of any circle over the diameter is the same number which is 3.14 and so on. This holiday is celebrated on March 14 so the date is even 3/14.

The students get to view Pi day as the one day of the year where one gets to eat treats and not worry about having a pop quiz or homework. To eat sweet treats during Pi day, students have to bring in circular treats. Students like Gavin Kauffman even declare Pi day as the “greatest time in math class.” However, even on Pi day, many students still learn new information like the history of Pi, or purely because of Pi day being on March 14 because of the first three digits of Pi. Some classes even test students on their ability to recite the many digits of Pi, however, many students like Gavin only know the digits one needs to put in their calculator for math class, which is just ‘3.14.’

Mrs. Cinicola, one of the math teachers at HAHS who participates in Pi day, says, “We like to host Pi day because it makes students aware of how Pi is involved in everyday life with circles and trigonometry while having a sweet treat.” Mrs. Cinicola knows about 13 digits of Pi, which is ‘3.141592653589.’ She says that “Hamburg did not always celebrate Pi day. They only started celebrating about 15 years ago.”



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