

Hawk Happenings

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Staff Spotlight: Mrs. Bowen

Sara Fitzgerald - 12

Mrs. Shelby Bowen is the building clerk for Hamburg Area High School. She started working at HASD in March of 2018, where she started as a paraprofessional and after two years interviewed for her current position. Mrs. Bowen enjoys interacting with people and assisting others on a daily basis. Working at the same school that she graduated from in 2002, she enjoys seeing teachers that she had in high school as coworkers.

Trying to stay as close as possible to home, Mrs. Bowen attended Kutztown University where she obtained a bachelor's of arts degree. Her main concentration was speech communication with some electronic media classes. She intended to have a career in media or broadcasting. She loved interacting with people, she loved writing, and public speaking. These classes kept her busy and she did not have much time for sports or clubs while in college.

After graduating from college, Mrs. Bowen pursued a career in media, leading her to a job in radio communications at iHeart radio media in Allentown. During this time she assisted in the promotions department and was able to meet several famous people including; the rock band Finger 11, Brian Littrell, and A.J. McLean. After only a year of working in Allentown, she made a demo tape, and was hired at the Pottsville Broadcasting Company where she was on-air every Saturday from 12 pm to 6 pm and an on-board operator for Friday night high school football games. She worked here for eight years before receiving her job at Hamburg Area High School.

Her inspirations come from her mother who inspired her to be in her current job position. She believes her mom is a confident woman who is fun to be around and has a wonderful personality. "She deserves all the credit for any, and all, strengths that I may have," comments Mrs. Bowen.

Mrs. Bowen and her husband, Jonas, have two children, Cameron and Noelle. As a family they love to go out to dinner, have family movie nights, take road trips to Virginia to see family, and take relaxing vacations. She enjoys getting exercise by walking around town, playing tennis, and watching the Hallmark Channel, and watching baseball and football. She even loves cleaning up her home!



How sophomores celebrate their 16th birthday

Tia Adam - 10

For sophomores, their second year of high school is quickly coming to an end, which also means that 16th birthday many are celebrating. Turning 16 is a big milestone for many teens since turning 13. Part of turning 16 is that kids are able to take their permit test which gives them the ability to drive, more jobs are available which can have better paying conditions, and for some girls, they have a huge party like a sweet 16.

Allie Houck who turns 16 in April does not want to have a big sweet 16. If she wanted to have a party, she would have liked to have an under the stars and dark blue theme. Her idea of turning 16 is spending time with close friends and family. Along with spending time with people, Allie will also be traveling to another state. Besides people and places, Allie also gets to pick where to get food for her birthday which is a tradition she has with her family. She will not be going for her permit right away on her birthday, but she will be going shortly after. Driving is one of the main perks of turning 16 for Allie.

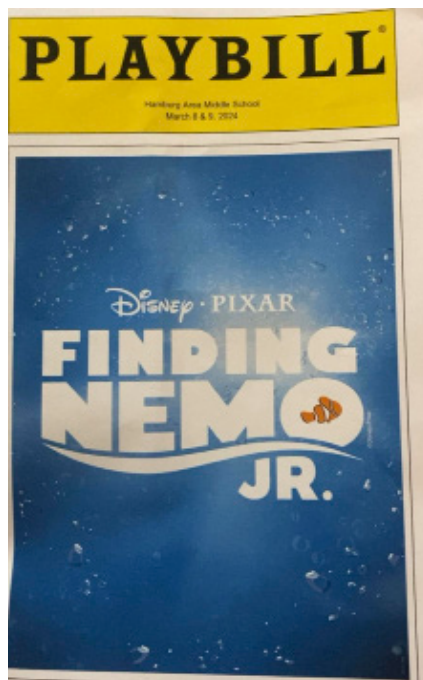
Bethany Stuffle turns 16 in June. She will be having a big sweet 16-themed as sage green. Bethany has been waiting for her sweet 16 since about middle school when she started planning her whole party on Pinterest. Besides Bethany's actual party, she is excited and scared to start driving. Bethany already has a car and has been studying for her permit test in preparation. Bethany will hopefully be going for her permit on the morning of her actual birthday, or the next day.

For sophomores turning 16 is a big deal, some people tend to celebrate it in a big elaborate stereotypical sweet 16 way, or in a small laid back way. Besides parties, turning 16 is a big milestone for sophomores and overall should be a fun memorable time.



Eighth grade students present Nemo Jr.

Elaina Hess - 10



The Hamburg Area High School has always done musicals every year of various varieties, but recently the middle school has also started to do them for an elective class. These are shorter versions or jr versions of these musicals that only take around 40 minutes to just an hour with no intermission. The class students can take to be involved in these productions is called Intro to Musical and is only available for eighth grade students. This year the musical they are presenting is Nemo Jr and this is the second production this class has done.

Angelica Hess is a middle school student who played Nemo in this year's production. She described this as a thrilling experience and was happy to be a part of it. She says that for her and many students being in a small production helped be more confident because they were able to be more involved. Angelica says this experience, although short, still let her to interact with students or people that she usually would not.

The students performed the production of Nemo Jr. on March 8 and 9 at 7:00. This was a great experience for the students that participated in it and those who watched it. The musical was also performed in

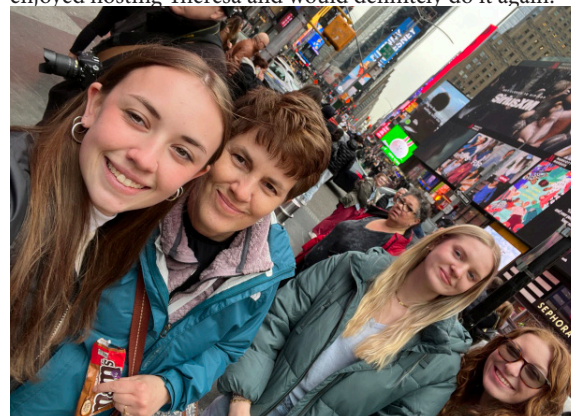
various dress rehearsals to the different grades and the Tilden and Perry Elementary students. The drama club had also watched this musical when they performed to the 7th grade class at HAMS.

Julia Bucheit hosts a German student

Hannah Kristiniak - 11

From March 17 to March 28, HAHS students hosted 12 German students and two teachers. Julia Bucheit, a senior at HAHS, hosted Theresa Weber. Frau Stevens, the German teacher at HAHS, reached out to Julia and Mrs. Bucheit and asked them if they would want to host a German student. Julia was happy to accept since she was interested in meeting a German student and learning more about their culture as well as comparing it to her own. Her favorite part of hosting Theresa was becoming friends with her and comparing the differences between America and Germany. To prepare for Theresa's arrival, she cleaned and reorganized the bedroom and bathroom she would be using. Julia also bought some snacks that were made in Pennsylvania for Theresa to try. This experience turned out to be how Julia expected, and she is really glad that she and Theresa got along and shared a lot of the same interests.

Some interesting things that Julia learned was that Germany's largest highway does not have a speed limit and the German students go to school all year round but they have more breaks. Julia enjoyed hosting Theresa and would definitely do it again.



Mrs. Bucheit, a science teacher at HAHS and Julia's mother, also enjoyed the process of hosting Theresa. This is the first time the Bucheits hosted a foreign exchange student. Since her older son recently got his own apartment, there was an extra bedroom to host a student. This allowed Mrs. Bucheit to finally say yes to an opportunity like this. Mrs. Bucheit says Julia and Theresa had been communicating for months before her arrival to get to know each other. Overall, having Theresa stay in their home was a wonderful experience. Mrs. Bucheit noticed

that this experience allowed Julia to move outside of her comfort zone a little and she thinks that is a good thing. Some of Mrs. Bucheit's favorite parts were talking with Theresa and understanding the difference between the American and German education systems. Comparing their day-to-day lives has also been very interesting. To show Theresa as many American things as possible, Julia and Mrs. Bucheit created a busy schedule. Some of the experiences they got to share with Theresa were an Amish buggy ride, dinner at Shady Maple, shopping at Park City Mall, touring a college campus, line dancing, and seeing a Broadway musical. Since Julia is a senior and going off to college soon, Mrs. Bucheit is not sure if she would host another student. Without a teenager in the house, it may be difficult for a foreign exchange student to truly understand teenage American life. The time they spent with Theresa gave them an experience like no other and memories they will never forget. Mrs. Bucheit recommends that if possible, everyone should try to host a foreign exchange student.

Come out to HAHS's 2nd
annual carshow on May 5
from 9 am to 2 pm

HAHS students participate in 4-Way Speech Contest

Koa Binder - 9



There are many opportunities at HAHS for students to showcase their different abilities and talents in order to expand their horizons and get amazing experiences that will further help them in what they want to achieve. One of those includes the 4-Way Speech Contest where students who enter need to answer the following questions in a speech on any topic they would like: “Is it the truth”, “Is it fair?”, “Will it build goodwill and better friendships?”, and “Will it be beneficial to all?” The goal of this speech contest is to allow others to hear a voice and listen to what a speaker believes is important while the speaker also persuades them to believe that it is all four of those questions. There are three levels students have to participate in. The local club level is the first and that is mainly held by local Rotary clubs. The regional level is the second level where the winner of the local club level advances to. Finally, the winners of the regional levels advance to the district levels where the first place winner has a chance of winning up to \$1000.

Mrs. Machamer sent out an email in late February asking students interested to sign up for the contest. Four students replied and went through with it. Freshman Koa Binder, freshman Sid Bonning, senior Alyssa Thomas, and senior Selena Henne were the four students who created and presented their speeches. The topics talked about varied to each person's personal experience or interest. Koa Binder talked about grandfamilies, Sid Bonning talked about LGBTQ+ awareness, Alyssa Thomas talked about experiences in psychiatric hospitals, and Selena Henne brought awareness to sexual harassment issues. While each student was very brave to write and speak their own speech to an audience, one of them stood out with her ability to speak and get her point across. Starting in fourth place, Alyssa Thomas won a keychain and \$50 prize with her powerful and impactful speech, which had everyone's full attention the second she began speaking. Koa Binder got third with a keychain and \$100 prize as she spoke about her own personal experiences, making the audience emotional and attentive. In second was Sid Bonning, who won a keychain, a \$150 prize, and a backup for the regional level. They showed passion in what they believed in and had a presence that made people listen to what they had to say. In first place was Selena Henne. She won a keychain, a \$200 prize, and advanced to the regional level after appearing confident and speaking with great pride on what she believed in.

All in all, these students are very brave and talented and HAHS is excited to see and cheer on Selena at the regional level on April 6. Being able to speak in front of an audience is an amazing achievement and experience that is sure to help a student progress in life. If a student has a topic they feel passionate and strongly about, they are highly encouraged to participate in the 4-Way Speech Contest, for it is an amazing opportunity that should be taken advantage of.

Students take a trip to the Mutter Museum

Isabella Forte - 11

Located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, The Mütter Museum is a one of a kind museum that offers visitors a unique and educational experience by showcasing a collection of medical oddities, anatomical specimens, and historical medical artifacts. The museum, part of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, was founded in 1858 by Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter as a way to educate medical students and the public on the human body and the history of medicine.

The Mütter Museum houses over 25,000 fascinating items, including preserved human specimens, anatomical models, medical instruments, and rare books. Visitors can explore exhibits that range from skeletal abnormalities and conjoined twins to preserved organs and wax anatomical models. One of the most famous exhibits is the Hyrtl Skull Collection, which features over 130 skulls collected by Viennese anatomist Joseph Hyrtl in the 19th century.

Moreover, the museum is not just a place for curiosity but also serves as a hub for medical research and education. Through its programs and events, The Mütter Museum continues to engage with the public and medical professionals to promote a deeper understanding of the human body and the advancements in medical science.

Visitors to The Mütter Museum are amazed by the array of exhibits on display. The museum provides a thought provoking glimpse into the history of medicine, showing how far we have come in understanding and treating various medical conditions.

If people are interested in visiting The Mütter Museum, it is advisable to check their official website for current hours of operation, ticketing information, and any guidelines for visitors. The museum is located at 19 S 22nd St, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

For more information, visit, <https://muttermuseum.org/>, <https://www.atlasobscura.com/> <https://www.smithsonianmag.com>



Season shifts into spring

Alaena Cox - 9

On March 19 or 20 many people experienced a shift in the seasons spring is officially here. Many fun and exciting holidays are starting.

Holi is a Hindu festival celebrated as the Festival of Colors, Love, and Spring. Holi is celebrated as a way to welcome spring and a fresh start. Those who are participating in Holi throw colored powder into the air filling it with vibrant colors which have so many meanings to them. Some have a personal connection to the colors that were thrown and some are used as an American New Years Resolution and the commitment that wants to be achieved throughout spring. For more information visit <https://www.volunteerforever.com/>

A Jewish holiday celebrated in Israel is called Passover. Where families and friends honor their ancestors and how they are freed from slavery. Passover lasts for seven days but only the first and last days are celebrated with a special meal.

A well known holiday in America is Easter. The common tradition in kids is having an egg hunt. The fantasy figure the Easter Bunny comes at night and leaves a basket with candy, chocolate, and goods, as well as eggs scattered across the yard for the kids to find more goods inside. For the families at dinner time it is a common tradition to have ham on Easter. But it was not always ham. Families had lamb before World War II, but then the demand for wool lessen and ham was much cheaper. For more information read this article <https://www.al.com/life/>

Miss Heckman invites students to view the solar eclipse

Bethany Stuffle - 10

On April 8 2024 the United States experienced a solar eclipse. Not only did the eclipse pass over the United States in general, but it specifically passed over Pennsylvania. While the eclipse did pass over many other states and cities, the place Hamburg Area High School was interested about was their very own town of Hamburg. In honor of Hamburg being able to experience and see the solar eclipse Miss Heckman, from the math department, threw a solar eclipse viewing party for any students wanting to watch the great show in the sky. The viewing party took place in the library after school from 2:35 to 3:35 and the students had to pay \$5 which covered the snacks and glasses. At the party, she then provided the snacks and the special glasses needed as well as some information about the solar eclipse.

At around 3 everyone headed outside for the viewing. While it was much too cloudy to see the entire eclipse, some of it was still seen once the clouds broke. Students also began to notice that it got a little darker and a little colder mainly because of the eclipse. Overall the experience was very cool, however some students were a little disappointed that we could not see that much. Sophomore, Allie Houck thought that the eclipse was “a little boring and underwhelming” because it did not live up to the expectations that she thought it would.



Mrs Eshbach’s Julius Caesar trip

Madison Redding - 11

Mrs. Eshbach's and Mrs. Reinards classes were invited to visit Alvernia University to see a performance of shakespeare of Julius caesar. Julius Caesar was a Roman general and statesman who played a critical role in the demise of the Roman Republic and the rise of the Roman Empire. He conquered Gaul, sparking his popularity and power in Rome. Eventually, he crossed the Rubi-



con River, igniting a civil war against the Senate. Caesar emerged victorious and became dictator for life. However, his assassination by a group of senators led by Brutus and Cassius on the Ides of March in 44 BC, marked the end of his reign and triggered a series of civil wars, ultimately leading to the rise of his grandnephew Octavian (later Augustus) as the first Roman emperor.

Mrs. Reinhard explains that, “Julius Caesar trip was an extension of the classroom activities within the Shakespeare unit covered in the senior English classes. It was a play performed by Alvernia University students on their campus, and it was a wonderful experience for our students.” As well as the fact students in her class have read, The Merchant of Venice. While Mrs Eshbach's students are making their own spin to it and performing multiple different plays. Her 1st period is reading Romeo and Juliet; Her 4th period is acting out Hamlet, and her 5th period is acting out A Mid-

summer's Night Dream.

Both teachers have explained that students in their classes did enjoy the play, some more than others, but everyone seemed to have a enjoyable time visiting Alvernia, allowing students to enjoy the campus, and watch Julius Ceaser. Mrs. Eshbach believes that, “everyone should be given the opportunity to experience seeing Shakespeare!” Overall both teachers hope to go again next year with a new group of students.

Teacher Spotlight - Mr.Brown

Harley Davis - 11

Mr. Brown is a science teacher here at HAHS. Mr. Brown teaches Astronomy, physics, and computer science. Mr. Brown loves the activities that come with teaching science. It is very hands-on and it allows students and him as well to enjoy the excitement of learning the science behind it.

Mr. Brown loves seeing the students get excited about things that are the simplest aspect of science. Getting to do cool experiments with the students is the best part of teaching, says Mr. Brown. Students learn that if something does not work the first time, they can always try again.

Science is a subject that gives students the room and opportunity to try new ideas. Science is a very unique subject in inquiry problem solving, and starts with a question rather than a definite answer.

Mr. Brown's least favorite part of school is early hours. Mr. Brown used to work at Educador, and da vinci science center in allentown for 15 years. At the science center, there are activities that are hands-on. The explorer who decided to make the science center, was the founder of the remains of the titanic.



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