

HAHS OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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2025 Homecoming Court

Boys: Landon Erdman, Owen Herncane, Elliott Guisler, Grady Clark, and Jackson Bankert

Girls: Grace Buonaccorsi, Chloe Brown, Reagan Orenshaw, Aleia Eagle, and Leah Beck

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 5&6: No afternoon CTC
- Nov. 10: Half day for students, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 11: No School - Veteran's Day
- Nov. 12: Representative from IUP will be at HAHS
- Nov. 14: Representative from Allegheny College of Maryland will be at HAHS
- Nov. 20: ASVAB testing for 11th Grade
- Nov. 21: Last day to register for Dec. 6 SAT
- Nov. 26: Half day for students
- Nov. 27-Dec. 2: Thanksgiving Break



Fall is here!

As the leaves change and fall begins to settle in, October has brought a season full of energy and excitement to our school community. From homecoming events, spirit weeks, and academic milestones, there has been many great things happening this month. For this month's newsletter, we will highlight homecoming events, student achievements, happenings in the classrooms, and important dates. October was a memorable month at HAHS!

Teacher of the Month

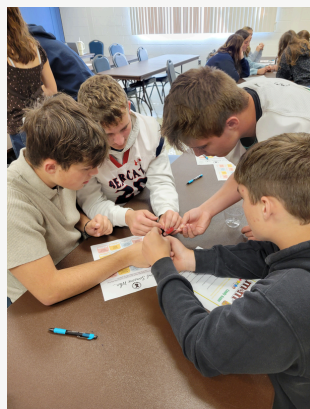
October's teacher of the month is Ms. Nicole Houck. This year is Ms. Houck's second year at HAHS as an English teacher. She is also the advisor of both NHS and CHAMP. Ms. Houck's colleagues nominated her for teacher of the month stating that she "goes above and beyond for her students." Her colleagues also commended her for her commitment to making homecoming week a success, being an advocate for her students, and her willingness to always lend a listening ear. Thank you for all you do, Ms. Houck!



Students in Mrs. McCaulley's and Ms. Solarczyk's classes visited JB Tree Farm on October 3rd. The students decorated pumpkins, enjoyed a hayride, learned about seeds, visited animals, and spent time experiencing the outdoors.



On Friday, October 10th, a group of HAHS 10th graders had the opportunity to attend a Youth Leadership Conference alongside peers from other Huntingdon County high schools! Students took part in a variety of team building activities designed to strengthen communication, collaboration, and confidence! We are proud of how they represented our school by making new connections to grow as future leaders.



Students in Mrs. Elder's walking class walked the path that leads to the Peace Chapel, which is a part of the Borough Trails system. The fitness walking class is an exercise option as part of the credits required for graduation. The class aims at getting outside and walking as much as possible and visit places within 30 minutes of HAHS.

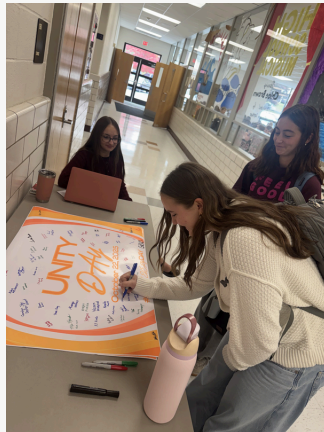


Fourteen students recently traveled to Johnstown to tour the Commonwealth Technical Institute at Hiram G. Andrews Center. The Institute offers program options in a variety of fields such as Early Childhood Education, Healthcare, Culinary Arts, Welding, Building Maintenance, Computer Networking Technology, Automotive Technology, and Materials Management and Distribution. The CTI at Hiram G. Andrews is one of eight schools of its kind in the nation offering individualized, affordable education and training options for students.



Unity Day

October 22nd was National Unity Day! Our students showed their support for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion by wearing orange. Students also came together to sign a Unity Day poster that will be proudly displayed in our hallways as a reminder to stand united against bullying, and to celebrate the power of community. We want to thank Lauren Stratton for all of her hard work designing and printing flyers to display, as well as printing and designing the poster for everyone to sign. Thanks, Lauren!



Students in Mr. Young's Engineering class completed a Rube Goldberg project. They were tasked with having all 6 simple machines that they learned about interact together to accomplish a task. Some of the tasks included: making lemonade, chopping wood, trapping and killing rodents, and a gender reveal.



The Honors Physics I classes completed their first quarter engineering project. Their task was to build a model rocket using whatever means of thrust they wanted (except for model rocket engines) and then record the telemetry of the launch. All teams used water and pressurized air to provide thrust. They were able to collect the velocities and accelerations for their rockets using Bluetooth capable altimeters and their Chromebooks. After the launch date, they completed an engineering report outlining the steps taken to build and test their rockets. They also needed to calculate the forces acted on the rocket. Finally, they needed to propose changes to their rockets to improve performance if they were to relaunch. The team of Sophia Davigon, Emilie Hayden, Lydia Stapleton, and Solomon Ferrenberg had the most successful launch of approximately 140 feet in the air.



Art students traveled to St. Francis to learn basic hand drumming techniques with Jim Donovan and got a taste of Neurographic Art with Assistant Professor of Visual Arts, Jess Campbell. Emilie Hayden and Maggie Linn were able to submit their designs to the 4th Annual "Poppies Project."



Students in Mrs. Ryan's Spanish classes have been celebrating Día de los Muertos. They have done a variety of activities such as creating sugar skulls. The sugar skulls represent the souls of departed loved ones who are being remembered by families throughout Latin America. Mrs. Ryan also set up an "ofrenda" display in the hallway which is a replica of what families put in their homes each year to give food, drinks, and small treats to their loved ones.



Students of the Month

Each month, our high school proudly recognizes Students of the Month—exceptional individuals who demonstrate academic excellence, strong character, leadership, and a positive impact on the school community. These students go above and beyond both in and out of the classroom, setting an inspiring example for their peers. We celebrate their hard work, dedication, and commitment to making our school a better place.

9th Grade – Bradley Dunsmore



11th Grade – Mary Bongo



10th Grade – Julia LeFuentes Rodriguez



12th Grade – Natalie Honn



Homecoming Fun

There was a lot of fun had during Homecoming week! From the bonfire, to the pep rally, to Mr. Huntingdon, students had a great time engaging with one another and showing off their school spirit. A big thank you goes out to student council, Ms. Houck, and Mr. Kidd for making the entire week a huge success for everyone!



Homecoming Fun Continued

The football game on Friday, October 17th was the culminating event to a fantastic homecoming week. Congratulations to all students who were a part of the Homecoming court, especially our 2025 Homecoming Queen, Chloe Brown, and our 2025 Mr. Huntington, Grady Clark.

