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The Guidon

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2022

Hays High School | 2300 E. 13th St. • Hays, Kan. 67601



Cultural Connection

International Day planned
to celebrate diverse cultures

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ON THE COVER



Cover by Ryan Schuckman

ORGANIZATIONS

Quill and Scroll to induct new members

New journalism honor society plans induction ceremony, semester project

By Nikka Vuong
22nvuong@usd489.com

On Thursday, Jan. 13, one of Hays High's newer clubs, Quill and Scroll, held its first meeting of the year during PRIDE Time.

"Quill and Scroll is a journalism honor society meant to recognize achievements of those involved in newspaper and in yearbook," sponsor Jessica Augustine said. "It was something that Hays High has actually had a charter for since 1932 but has not been active in recently. And, I felt that, with the students that we have, it would just provide another opportunity for them to get involved, to be leaders and to be recognized for the work they do on the publications."

During the meeting, leadership positions were voted on, new members were introduced and the induction date and an upcoming project were discussed.

The leadership positions are all filled by seniors, who were inducted in Spring 2021,



Photo by Rilee Schwarz (Indian Call)

STUDENT JOURNALISTS

Quill and Scroll International Honor Society members discuss project ideas at their meeting on Jan. 13 in sponsor Jessica Augustine's room.

including senior Brenna Schwien as president, senior Aaliyah Neuburger as vice president, senior Nikka Vuong as secretary, senior Jersey Johnson as treasurer and senior Leah Legleiter as project manager.

New club members from Fall 2021 include seniors Alexandra Coveney and Emry Lundy and juniors Rylee Burd, Shelby Craig, Morgan Engel, Maggi Lindenmeyer, Amedee Randle, Allie Straub

and Andrea Tinoco-Ramirez.

Augustine said the club's next goal will be completing a second semester project.

"We talked about doing a book drive or some other project if alternate ideas come up," Augustine said. "At our February meeting, we will discuss that and hopefully do something during Scholastic Journalism Week, which runs Feb. 21 to Feb. 25."

Both Neuburger and Schwien liked the idea of the book drive.

"Our idea so far is to do a book drive for all age groups," Schwien said. "We still need to figure out the details and hopefully can complete the project in the next month."

After the semester project is complete, Quill & Scroll will host an induction for new members from the fall and from the spring. The induction is scheduled for May 2.

"I'm excited to get all our new members involved and recognized through the induction ceremony," Schwien said.

Students, elderly create relationships with Pen Pals

By Ryan Schuckman
22rschuckman@usd489.com

Senior Cassie Wilkie and junior Avery Winter are two Hays High students who write letters to senior citizens as a part of Senior Pen Pals Club.

The senior citizen can write back to their high school pen pal, sharing stories, events or anything else they want to write about. Through the back-and-forth exchange of letters, the students can learn about the senior citizens and their lives, and the seniors can learn about the students and their lives.

"I write to Opal Flinn and Verlene Wilson," Winter said. "I try to write a letter every month to each of them. I learned that Verlene just got married this past year and went to Washington, and Opal was able to see her son after two years. She also helps make and organize the

bulletin board for a nursing home."

In addition to reading about the stories and events of a person's life, writing to a pen pal can lead to new perspectives. Wilkie, who moved to Hays during high school, writes to a Hays native, named Virgil Howe.

"I started writing to him beginning of last school year," Wilkie said. "I decided to join Pen Pals at the beginning of last year when I heard an announcement about it."

The handwritten letters arrive at the school and are picked up by the students. Once the students finish writing back, the letters are mailed to the senior citizens.

"I decided to join pen pals to write to other people in the community," Winter said. "I wanted to also practice writing letters."

Students interested in joining Senior Pen Pals Club can contact the sponsors Luke Lundmark and Diane Mason.

COVID-19

School district makes alterations to COVID mitigation policy

By Cade Becker
23cbecker@usd489.com

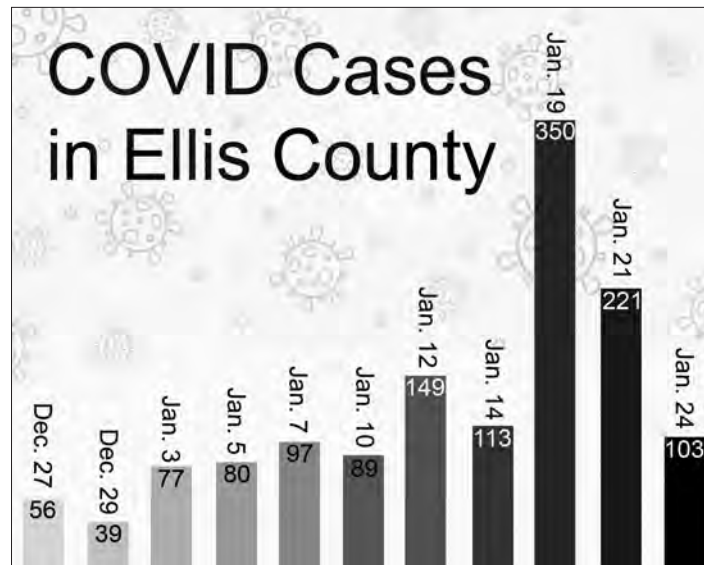
While COVID-19 has been present in the area since spring of 2020, the number of local cases was recently on the rise due to the contagious new variant, the Omicron variant.

Students and staff have noticed this increase, as many at Hays High have been absent recently, due to testing positive for COVID or having to quarantine from exposure.

In USD 489, students and staff are able to get free COVID tests, along with tests for Influenza and Strep.

"Right now, we are seeing a lot [of testing] just because of the increase of this variant," said Jessica Roe, who serves as Hays High's school nurse and the district's lead nurse. "But, it kind of ranged every month. Before this, we were testing probably 150 or more a month. In January, we have already surpassed 300. We haven't tested as many of the other sicknesses, but we have some people who are negative with COVID who want to check for Influenza."

To allow students to continue to attend school, a six-level mitigation strategy began this August. Every week, district personnel and



Infographic by Nikka Vuong; information from the Ellis County Health Department

the Ellis County COVID Advisory Committee evaluate the cases within the district.

Level 1 pertains to having single digits of COVID cases and results in optional quarantines and masks.

When there are roughly 10 to 20 cases, the mitigation strategy moves to Level 2 and requires either a five-day quarantine for exposed students or active monitoring and mask wearing in school.

At Level 3, there are 20 to 35 active cases, and exposed students have a 10-day

active monitoring period and required masks with a five-day test-out option, or a 10-day quarantine at home with a five-day test-out option.

Level 4 is determined by the severity of 35 to 50 active cases. It results in a 10-day active monitoring process with required masks and has a five-day test-out option or a 10-day quarantine.

When there are 50 or more active cases, it requires all staff, students and visitors to wear masks at school and at activities, along with the

Level 4 quarantine protocols.

At Level 6, there are still at least 50 active cases, but with more severity, and it results in five-day quarantine for close contacts.

On Thursday, Jan. 13, the district moved Hays High to Level 5, which made it mandatory for staff, students and visitors to wear masks within the building, and on Monday, Jan. 17, masks became mandatory for all buildings in USD 489.

After two weeks of wearing masks, however, the district announced that, because of a decrease in the number of cases, masks would no longer be required, effective Monday, Jan. 31. District mitigation levels were also suspended beginning Jan. 31, as a result of guidance from the Kansas Department of Education and Department of Health.

"COVID testing is certainly helpful so that people know," principal Shawn Henderson said. "People can then try and protect themselves and people around them in terms of the use of masks. We are just wearing masks so that we get to keep going to school because you have seen some schools closing, and we are just always trying to keep us in the school."

SKILLS

Students should practice interviewing before job, scholarship interviews

By Brooks Baczkowski
24bbaczkowski@usd489.com

Employment or scholarships for a teenager represent an opportunity. It is worth asking, then, how teenagers might hone their interviewing skills in order to improve their chances for their preferred position or award.

On Tuesday, Feb. 1, juniors and seniors had the opportunity to attend the Nex-Generation interviewing skills presentation, but beyond that, all students should practice how to interview.

Keith Smith, Youth Sports Director for the Hays Recreation Commission, said that communication and confidence are the key qualities he looks for in a potential candidate to hire.

Different positions require different skills, which are often listed in the job description. A skilled interviewee will consider these skills and make it a point to demonstrate those in the interview itself and in any other correspondence with their prospective employer.

While it is important to make it clear that you are qualified, it helps to show that you want the position for which you are interviewing, too.

According to Smith, employers look for people who are passionate about their work and will choose employees who are eager for the opportunity over others who may be equally qualified, but who does not seem to want to be there.

An interview will take you far, but for an additional edge, taking initiative beforehand marks an ideal candidate.

"I like the candidate who comes in and asks to visit with me before the interview," Smith said.

Even an application can be a tell-tale sign of competence.

"Usually, we can tell how fast they completed the application," Smith said. "Those that take their time write legibly normally do better overall."

First impressions, ultimately, go a long way.

"We can usually tell in the first minute how good of a worker the person will be," Smith said.

MENTAL HEALTH

Newly introduced program aims at preventing teenage suicide

By Madighan Norris
24mnorris@usd489.com

Each and every day, 3,703 teenagers nationwide in Grades 9 through 12 attempt suicide each day, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Suicide, which is defined as death caused by injuring oneself with the intent to die, is the second leading cause of death in adolescents ages 10 to 24.

Even in Kansas, youth suicide rates have risen almost 6 percent annually from 2009 to 2019, jumping from eight suicides to 18 suicides a year, according to the *Hutchinson News*.

"Right now, with the mental health situation within our entire world, suicide is something that definitely needs to be addressed," Hays High School school psychologist Nicki Lind said.

At Hays High, the school has introduced the Signs of Suicide, or SOS, program this fall to both staff and students; staff members were trained in August and again later in the semester, and students in some classes, such as Sociology, have also been introduced to the program.

It is an evidence-based program that helps students connect the dots between mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression, and suicide risks.

"Some major warning signs of suicide and depression are anger, sadness, big changes in behavior, substance abuse, changes in grades, skipping school, not caring about anything anymore and talking

about suicide or death," Lind said.

The SOS program includes staff, student and parent training sessions that discuss the warning signs of suicidal thoughts, in addition to the necessary actions to take if people know someone is at risk of suicide.

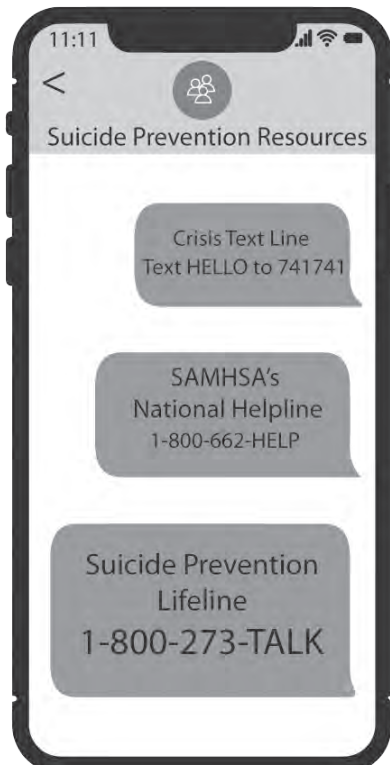
The program uses "ACT" as an acronym to help teenagers and adults to be aware of what to do in case they do recognize signs of suicide in themselves or in somebody they know; "A" is to *acknowledge* signs of suicide in a friend, "C" is to show that person that you *care*, and "T" is to *tell* a trusted adult.

"It's a great program," Lind said. "It's evidence based and really about supporting each other. If you recognize somebody needs help, seriously acknowledge that

they need it, tell them that you care about them and tell a trusted adult."

Throughout the school, students may have seen the "Suicide Prevention Lifeline" posters that highlight ACT and that list a suicide and crisis hotline phone number or a text line, which are both free and confidential. Both resources are there to help students with any painful emotions they might have, whether that be anger, anxiety, bullying, depression, family issues, relationship issues or suicidal thoughts.

"Because we've done a great deal to reduce the first leading cause of death, accidents, it's really time to work on mental health, preventing suicides," Lind said.



Infographic by Brenna Schwen

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STUDENT LIFE

After living in Haiti for years, student returns to Hays for school

By Meg Taggart
23mtaggart@usd489.com

Junior Jace St. Peter has lived in Hays for most of his life, but in 2018, he and his family moved to Haiti. At the beginning of this school year, he came back to Hays for his junior and senior years.

Why did your family decide to move to Haiti?

"My family had gone on mission trips to Haiti since 2013. We just fell in love with the country and helping however we could. It took some talking about, but in 2017, we felt God had called us to move there, so we started the process and finally moved on Jan. 10, 2018."

Why did you decide to move back to Hays?

"I decided to spend the last two years of high school in Hays to play soccer and to get a feel for the soccer here, as Haiti soccer is a little different. I also want to go to college and play soccer."

Do you still have family who lives in Haiti?

"Yes, right now, my mom and brother Max are there. They will be coming back in February for a week, then my mom will go back with my sister Emry. Right now, I'm here with my dad, brother Owen and sister Emry for a couple more weeks, then Emry and Max will switch."

What are some differences between living here versus in Haiti?

"There is a lot of differences between here and Haiti. The biggest ones are things like not having hot water, not having air conditioning in a tropical climate, having to filter our own drinking water and having a limited selection on pretty much everything from food to clothes."

What was a typical day like in Haiti?

"When you wake up in the morning, you don't really know what's going to happen that day, as everything is never on time, or on 'Haiti time.' Most days start with waking up early and my mom going to one of the small towns made of mud huts called Maya, then we have a Haitian lunch of some soup or one of the many forms of rice and beans they make there. After lunch is usually our busiest time where we do a project. After we're all done, we all just chill out and watch movies, play PS4 and take naps. Everyone starts to go home around 6, my mom makes dinner for our family and we have a family dinner. After dinner, we all shower and head to bed around 8 because we are all worn out from the long, hot day."

What is one of your favorite memories from living in Haiti?

"I made a lot of amazing memories there, my favorite probably being having sleepovers at the guesthouse of an organization we used to work with. We would stay up all night, watching movies and making each other laugh. They were definitely nights full of fun."

Do you miss Haiti? What do you miss?

"I made a lot of friends there from different communities and soccer teams, and I miss hanging out and playing soccer with them. I also miss my sister, Midezaida, who we are in the process of adopting; she doesn't have the right paperwork to come to the United States yet, so my mom and brother Max are there with her right now."

What do you plan on doing in the future?

"I plan on going to college and studying something along the lines of sports medicine/physical therapy. I will use my skills in Haiti to help people



Photo courtesy of Jace St. Peter

FROM HAITI TO HAYS

With his family, junior Jace St. Peter, on the left, stands with his family. The St. Peter family moved from Hays to Haiti in 2018, but Jace St. Peter returned to Hays with his father to attend Hays High for his junior and senior years.

recover from injuries, help them understand why and when it's important to stretch and helping my parents with our organization, Redeem United, and the projects we do there."

Will you ever go back? Why or why not?

"Yes, I will definitely go back. We still have a house there, and our organization is still doing good work there. I called Haiti home for four years; it will always be a special place to me, and I will go as often as I can."



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Around the World

Foreign Language Department to hold event showcasing international cultures

By Alexandra Coveney
22acoveney@usd489.com

On Wednesday, Feb. 16 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., Spanish IV and Foreign Language Honor Society students, alongside instructor Lora Gallegos-Haynes, will be leading a school-wide International Day.

Spanish IV and FLHS students have invited all students and staff to share their cultures during this event. The event will showcase art, celebrations, food, history, music, traditions and more aspects of multiple cultures to educate students and staff of the vast number of cultures at Hays High.

“Students in Spanish IV and the Foreign Language Honor Society are working in different areas, such as food, eastern hemisphere countries, western hemisphere countries and decorations to pull together all elements of the International Day activity,” FLHS activities coordinator Emry Lundy said. “Gallegos-Haynes is helping us all brainstorm and decide what items are needed.”

Spanish IV and FLHS students also plan on creating a scavenger hunt around the school to help students learn about the different subjects and people from different countries.

“Anyone who wants to participate in the scavenger hunt will be given a packet full of questions that is reminiscent of a passport,” Lundy said. “Then, students will walk around to the display tables to try to find the answers.”

If students complete the scavenger

hunt correctly, extra credit in some classes may be offered.

“We also plan to have a banner that everyone can put their handprint on in paint to show that, though we are all different, together, we can make something amazing,” Lundy said. “There will also be food and candies from different cultures.”

They also plan to have students host tables with information about their heritage. This information will include foods, landmarks, souvenirs and traditions of participants’ and their ancestors’ heritages.

“There isn’t really a sign-up for tables,” Lundy said. “Once we finalize the tables, we will look at who all is willing to host a table and try to fill as many spots as possible with students who know and are willing to present about their cultures.”

Spanish IV and FLHS students hope to include other departments of the school as well.

“Other departments have not yet offered to help with the day, but Gallegos-Haynes is asking teachers if they have any projects that students have done that could be worked into the event,” Lundy said.

The motto for the event is “share our similarities, celebrate our differences,” according to Lundy.

“I think the cultural foods that we will get to try and an interactive poster we are planning to make at the event are my favorite parts,” FLHS vice-president Hayli Meyer said. “I think the poster will be a good way to get everyone involved on something that they can see around the school.”

FLHS member Liahna Hyatt anticipates her favorite part of the event will be the scavenger hunt.

“I’m really excited for a lot of the activities we have planned,” Hyatt said. “I actually was in charge of making a scavenger hunt, and I think that part should be really fun.”

FLHS president senior Morgan Shorb shared one message about the event.

“International Day was made by Spanish students and Foreign Language Honor Society to spread the cultures among our school,” Shorb said. “This is to celebrate our differences, yet also unite us, as we all go to school with each other every day, so we should know more about each other.”

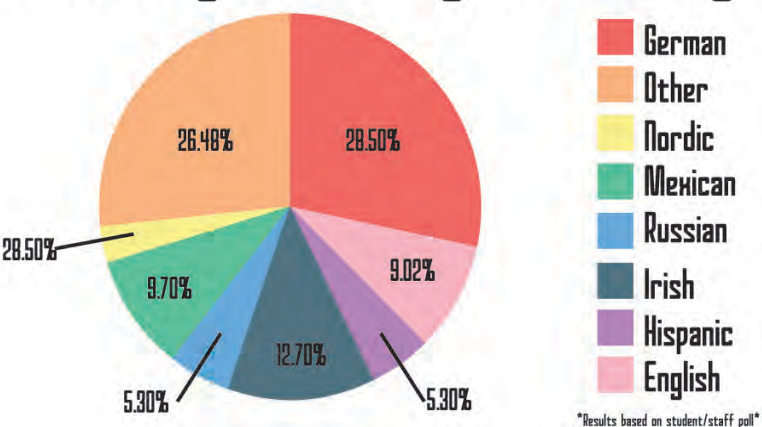
Shorb said Spanish IV and FLHS students planned and are hosting this event because our differences are nothing to be ashamed of.

“Although we are all similar, we are all unique in our own cultural ways,” Shorb said.

“International Day was made... to spread the cultures among our school. This is to celebrate our differences, yet also unite us, as we all go to school with each other every day.”

senior Morgan Shorb

What is your heritage/nationality?



Results based on student/staff poll

Infographic by Brenna Schwien

Spotlight on Cultures

Three students share information about their heritage ahead of International Day

French: junior Ludivine Herbert

Junior Ludivine Herbert’s nationality is French. “We celebrate birthdays, Christmas, Easter, Valentine’s Day (more only between couples), National Day (July 14 in France) and weddings,” Herbert said.

Herbert said in France she also celebrates Armistice Day, which is Nov. 11.

“My favorite celebration is National Day,” Herbert said. “My family and I gather and spend the day together, we play games and we get to see fireworks.”

French foods that Herbert mentioned include raclette (cheese), crêpes (thin type of pancake), beef bourguignon (beef stew), foie gras (liver of a duck or goose), quiche Lorraine (pastry with custard, cheese, meat), ratatouille (vegetable stew), oysters, croissants (pastry) and macarons (French cookie).

“Some other traditional foods from my heritage include tartiflette (potato gratin), fondue savoyarde (cheese fondue), croque-monsieur (grilled ham and cheese sandwich), brioche vendéenne (sweet bread that is a specialty from my region), cassoulet (French dish of white beans baked with meats), pain au chocolat (chocolate croissant in a different shape) and crème brûlée (a creamy, pudding-like, baked custard with a brittle top of melted sugar that cracks when you gently tap it with a spoon),” Herbert said.

Herbert plans to bring crêpes, salt flowers, maps and activities from her region to International Day.

“If I host a table, I plan on talking about my country, my region and everything that people are interested to learn about,” Herbert said.



German: junior Makayla Koerner

While junior Makayla Koerner has a mixture of heritages in her background, including Italian, Irish and Russian, she most identifies with Volga-German, as her grandparents are Volga-German.

“Traditional foods like green bean dumpling soup are really popular in my family,” Koerner said. “Just German food, bierocks, that kind of stuff.”

Other popular German foods include Käsespätzle (pasta with grated cheese and topped with fried onion), Schnitzel (breaded meat cutlet), Sauerbraten (German pot roast), Rouladen (pickles and bacon wrapped in thin slices of beef or veal), braised cabbage, bratwurst sausage and

Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte (layered chocolate sponge cake with cherries, jam filling and cream).

Like many students who grew up in Ellis County with German ancestors, Koerner is familiar with some of the German language.

“We don’t really do any cool traditions, but my grandma can speak German, and I think that’s so cool, and she teaches me a little,” Koerner said.

Koerner said she does not know if she will host a table at the upcoming International Day, but she said she is excited to participate in it.

“I don’t know any landmarks, and I don’t know if I have any souvenirs,” Koerner said.



Asian: freshman Keira Vilaysing

Three Asian heritages make up the culture of freshman Keira Vilaysing.

Vilaysing said she is a mix of Thai, Lao and Vietnamese.

“As for traditional foods in my family, there’s Pho, Khao Poon Nam Seen and obviously sticky rice and egg rolls,” Vilaysing said. “Pho is a Vietnamese soup made with rice noodles, normally beef and other toppings, such as limes, green onions and cilantro. Khao Poon is another soup, but from Laos. It has lots of different herbs and spices in it, along with rice noodles and bamboo shoots.”

Vilaysing said these two dishes were her favorite meals as she grew up, although she likes many of the different dishes from Thailand, Laos and Vietnam.

“As for traditions, I used to go to the temple in Wichita for Lunar New Year with my family,” Vilaysing said. “We’d go and see the monks, pray and eat, all while dressed up in traditional Sinhs. A Sinh is a piece of traditional clothing worn by Thai women and Lao women.”

The Lunar New Year is a festival in the majority of Asian nations that celebrates the beginning of the first full moon of the Lunar calendar. It typically falls between Jan. 21 and Feb. 20; this year, the Lunar New Year was celebrated on Feb. 1.

Vilaysing said she plans to display one her Sinhs and trinkets from Thailand and Laos on the International Day.

“I have a lot of different souvenirs at home to choose from to bring,” Vilaysing said.



Praises

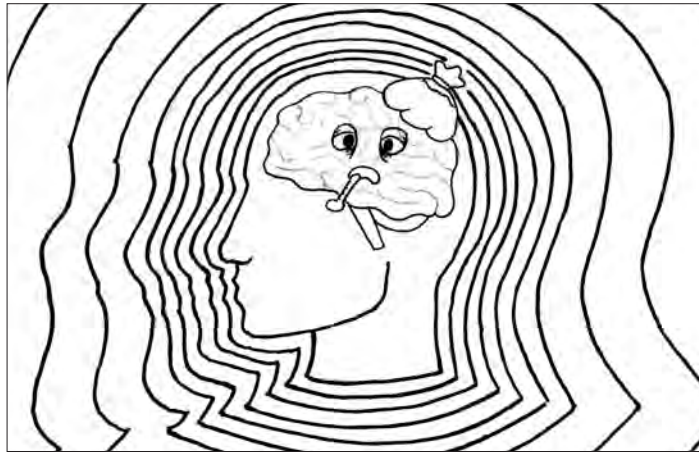
- Masks
- Cancun
- C & V <3
- Cheeseballs
- Custom parking
- Dominican Republic
- Staying hydrated
- Math teachers
- Being healthy
- Cabbage
- Beaches
- Ramen
- NATO

Protests

- Bad drivers
- Short kings
- Bloody noses
- Mouth breathers
- SoundCloud rappers
- Lack of snow days
- PDA in the halls
- Russia

Playlist

- Brooks Baczkowski**
"Ziggy Stardust"
by David Bowie
- Cade Becker**
"No Sleep Till Brooklyn"
by Beastie Boys
- Alexandra Coveney**
"Say It Ain't So"
by Weezer
- Jessica Feyerherm**
"Cruel Summer"
by Taylor Swift
- Eric Lucio**
"Coldest Winter"
by Kanye West
- Emry Lundy**
"Somebody to You"
by Banners
- Corey Musil**
"Lost"
by Maroon 5
- Madighan Norris**
"Heartless"
by The Weeknd
- Ryan Schuckman**
"Good Times Roll"
by Big Gigantic, GRiZ
- Brenna Schwien**
"Renaissance Man"
by Sidney Bird
- Meg Taggart**
"Sundress"
by A\$AP Rocky
- Nikka Vuong**
"Stuck with Me"
by The Neighbourhood
- Jessica Augustine**
"I'd Do Anything for Love
(But I Won't Do That)"
by Meat Loaf



Cartoon by Meg Taggart

Teenage mental health issues rise, due to pandemic, other issues

While students adjust to living during a pandemic, the number of mental illnesses diagnosed among teens seems to be increasing. This can be attributed to required quarantines and immense pressures that are put on students to maintain ambitious standards for their academics and activities, while being absent from class or learning remotely.

Suicide rates were on the rise during the lockdown, and according to the World Health Organization, suicide is the fourth leading cause in deaths of 15-19 year olds. This can be caused by underlying mental health concerns and other factors in the everyday lives of teens. Approximately 4.4 million teens also have been diagnosed with anxiety, and approximately 1.9 million teens have been diagnosed with depression, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

The stigma surrounding mental health and other unseen illnesses is an ever-present cloud hanging over the heads of many teenagers. This creates unnecessary feelings associated with having a mental illness, making kids feel guilty or shameful about their symptoms and causing them to not seek help.

We, as a society, should create an environment that treats mental illnesses fairly; whether it is able to be seen or not, an illness is an illness. The idea that mental illnesses are seen as less of an issue than physical illnesses is what holds teens back from being open about their struggles, which leads them to keep their feelings suppressed; when those feelings become too much, many teens turn to unhealthy options or even suicide.

This is another reason that we need to address the statistics that show the growing rates of mental health issues within the age group. According to the World Health Organization, one in seven 10-19 year olds globally have experienced a mental disorder, accounting for 13 percent of the burden of disease in this age group.

The overall idea that mental illnesses are going to go away is a myth; there may be a chemical imbalance in a person's brain, and that may not be able to be fixed without medication, and even if that medication will make the illness more manageable, it will not cause it to disappear.

Teenagers need access to more mental health resources and ways to cope with their feelings without feeling like they need to be ashamed of their mental illness. I hope that this stigma against mental health issues is erased, and there are more affordable and available ways for teenagers to get the help that they need.

Opinion of the Guidon Staff

Agree: 12

Disagree: 0

The Guidon Staff

Editors-in-Chief
Brenna Schwien
Nikka Vuong

Copy Editor
Emry Lundy

Design/Multimedia Editor
Ryan Schuckman

Managing/Photography Editor
Meg Taggart

News Editor
Cade Becker

Features/Entertainment Editor
Alexandra Coveney

Sports Editor
Corey Musil

Staff Members
Brooks Baczkowski
Jessica Feyerherm
Eric Lucio
Madighan Norris

Faculty Adviser
Jessica Augustine

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The Guidon is a student-produced newsmagazine published to inform and entertain the Hays High community, to record the history of the school and to serve as an educational tool for journalism students. Under the supervision of a faculty adviser, journalism students have the opportunities to inform, investigate, entertain, interpret and evaluate in an open forum – all accepted functions of the traditional free press – and have the responsibilities to provide accurate, fair, objective and truthful coverage. Should unintentional errors in content be made, they will be retracted in the next issue of the school year.

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The staff welcomes letters to the editor, as long as they are not libelous, an invasion of privacy, obscene or copyright protected. Letters must be signed and must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

The Guidon print edition earned the Kansas Scholastic Press Association All-Kansas Award in 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2021; received the National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker Award in 2009; was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2009 and 2011; and received the NSPA First Class Award in 2012, 2018 and 2021. *The Guidon* online edition earned the KSPA All-Kansas Award in 2017 and 2018 and was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2019.

Other policy information is available upon request by contacting jaugustine@usd489.com.

Contact Us

Hays High School Guidon Newsmagazine
2300 E. 13th St., Hays, Kan., 67601
785-623-2600
jaugustine@usd489.com (Adviser)
22bschwien@usd489.com (Editor-in-Chief)
22nvuong@usd489.com (Editor-in-Chief)
www.hayshighguidon.com

Storytime with Emry

Intriguing, yet whimsical, story of 'The Night Circus' captivates reader

A girl in shimmering attire dances across hoops and satin ropes before taking a graceful dive towards the floor. The crowd gasps as she plummets towards her death. But, at the last second, she shifts and is suspended in midair like a fly caught in a glistening web, twisting slowly as she unwraps her pointed toes from the fabric holding her up and carefully touches the ground. She gives a bow, and the applause is deafening.

The circus is something portrayed by many movies and books. The stretching red and white stripes of a circus tent are familiar; the incredible feats inside are expected. That does not take away from their wonder, though. Despite knowing something unusual is about to unfold, the acrobatic stunts and tricks that can only be described as magic still take one's breath away. However, "The Night Circus" by Erin Morgenstern gives this familiar image a new twist.

"The circus arrives without warning," the book starts. Readers are told of tents stretching across a field that were not there the day before. No one knows where they came from, and no one knew they would be arriving, but there is no

doubt: the circus is here. That is not all that is strange. Its tents are white and black, and even the ground is painted to fit the color scheme. One more fact stands out. A large sign proclaims that the circus "opens at nightfall, closes at dawn."

Soon, readers get to see the circus, but before we are allowed inside the tall gates, the narrative stops. One thing I found interesting about "The Night Circus" is the shifts of perspective. There are many distinct methods in which the story is told. It can take a little while to get used to these methods, and the beginning of the book was somewhat confusing for that reason, but by the end, I had accepted the peculiar organization.

The first method of storytelling that readers experience is, in fact, a story. This second-person narrative is told as if you are within the very pages of the book, wandering through the circus and its various attractions. The second way readers get to experience the book are single pages displaying quotes, a large majority of

which are from a character's published observations of the circus. Thirdly, there are the tales of the true characters. These sections follow the lives of those intertwined with the circus.

As the story progresses, readers discover a girl, Celia, and a boy, Marcus. They are magicians, though not by way of mirrors or misdirection. It is their true magic that is able to make the night circus so incomparably enchanting. They are also in a competition that neither quite knows the rules to, and the circus is their playing board. Readers also meet a boy who is drawn to the circus. The book comes to a close when their timelines converge.

Overall, I enjoyed "The Night Circus." The time and point of view shifts were confusing, and I kept having to go back to figure out when moments were happening compared to one another, but once I was able to pinpoint the different tales being told, I was able to lose myself in the magic of le Cirque de Rêves — The Circus of Dreams.



By Emry Lundy
22elundy@usd489.com

The Weeknd drops highly anticipated new album, *Dawn FM*

The highly anticipated album *Dawn FM* by popular artist The Weeknd was released Jan. 7. The 16-track project that spanned just more than 50 minutes was The Weeknd's 10th album and had millions of people waiting for the release.

Like the name refers to, the album is supposed to feel like you are listening to a retro radio, using a lot of synthesizers and many sound effects. Of course, Abel Tesfaye, The Weeknd's real name, added his own special vocals to the album using his soothing tenor voice, making any song sound instantly better.

While the concept and production of the album was great, many songs sounded too similar, almost like he had run out of ideas. Over the 16 tracks, it gets very repetitive and eventually boring to listen to it.

Many people expected something new

and exciting from The Weeknd, but were ultimately disappointed, with nothing changing, except for the production style.

Not everything was a negative, though, as features from Tyler, the Creator and Lil' Wayne added a nice variety and a good break from the same sound throughout the album, although many wish there were more features with greater length.

Tesfaye maintained his well-known lyrics about love and loss in this album, which can be seen as a plus or a minus, depending on if you wanted something new or more of the same.

Nonetheless, the album was not too terrible. Almost any song with an artist like The Weeknd has the potential to be a hit.

After multiple listens, the album has grown on me. Tracks like "Less Than Zero" and "Starry Eyes" brought a classic

The Weeknd vibe and were great songs that would have been even better if they did not sound so similar to the other tracks on the album.

Other tracks, such as "Every Angel is Terrifying" and "A Tale by Quincy," which were supposed to be "breaks" from the other songs, felt very unnecessary and were an immediate skip. "I Heard You're Married" and "Here We Go... Again," the songs with features, were very nice and relaxing. I agree with many on social media that say they wish they had longer verses.

I think with a few changes, the album could become great, but as of right now, this album is pretty forgettable and caught in the midst of other amazing albums within the past year. I would rate this album a 5/10 — not great, but not horrible either. I feel like The Weeknd definitely could have made the album better with more features and variety within the songs, but overall, the album was decent.



By Eric Lucio
24elucio@usd489.com

WRESTLING

WHO WAS BOB KUHN?

Namesake of the Prairie Classic tournament impacted many

By Jessica Feyerherm
24jfeherm@usd489.com

While every student was dismissed early on Friday, Jan. 21 for the annual Bob Kuhn Prairie Classic wrestling tournament, many of those students may not know about the namesake of the competition.

The Prairie Classic is named in honor of Bob Kuhn, who taught and coached in USD 489 at both Hays High School and Felten Middle School, the previous middle school in the district, for more than 30 years.

In 1998, Kuhn was diagnosed with cancer, having had a tumor on his kidney; however, he continued to work at Hays High until 2006.

One student who Kuhn coached on the mat was current wrestling coach and art teacher Heath Meder, who graduated from Hays High in 2004.

"Near the end of his coaching career, he was battling cancer pretty heavily," Meder said. "Coach Kuhn always kept a coin on him that had the motto, 'Whatever it takes getting through it.' During that time, he was trying to coach as best he could and be there for us. I remember him even having to leave tournaments as soon as they were over to get treatment or needing medical attention afterwards because it was wearing on him, but he still was there coaching and never wanted to miss anything."

These memories about Kuhn had an impact on Meder that he said affects how he teaches and coaches yet today.

"That kind of attitude of fighting through, doing whatever it takes and coming through adversity still stays with me today," Meder said.

Kuhn not only inspired his students, but also affected his colleagues, including special education instructor John Hafliger, who worked with Kuhn and became the wrestling coach after Kuhn left.

"It really was not difficult following in Coach Kuhn's footsteps as coach," Hafliger said. "Coach was a mentor to me. I would go to Coach Kuhn for help, so he really guided me through my first several years as a head coach. He was someone I could turn to for advice, and I knew that he was

going to do what was best for me, but also best for the team and best for the wrestling program."

Hafliger also remembered words of wisdom from Kuhn.

"Two things Coach said were, 'Whatever it takes,' and 'It's easier to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission,'" Hafliger said. "He had such a significant impact on me and shaped me into the coach and the person/teacher I have become."



Photo by Jennifer Basinger (Indian Call 1993); graphic by Nikka Vuong



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ATHLETICS

School looking at adding bowling to athletic options

By Corey Musil
23cmusil@usd489.com

Hays High athletics has had many successful athletic teams in its history with many league and state championships to show for it. However, one sport that Hays High does not have is bowling for boys and girls.

According to www.kshsbowling.com, there are currently 88 schools in Kansas that have bowling as a school sport, with about 1,800 bowlers included.

In the Western Athletic Conference, which includes Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend, Liberal and Hays, all of the schools, except Hays High, have high school bowling teams.

Also, many teams in Kansas that are normally on Hays High's athletic schedules for other sports have boys and girls bowling teams, including Andover, Hutchinson, Junction City, Salina South and most Wichita high schools.

For Kansas, there are nine conferences that have schools that participate in the sport. Then there are some schools that are not in a specific league for their bowling program, such as Wichita Classical, but who still participate in Kansas State High School Activities Association competitions.

"[Bowling] is being considered here, and we are still in the talking stages at this time," Hays High athletic director Lance Krannawitter said. "Unfortunately, I can't give you a definitive timeline regarding a final decision at this point."

If Hays High were to implement a bowling program into the school, it appears there would be support from the students. In a website survey, 117 students responded, with 66 percent of them saying they think the school should offer bowling as a sport. Just 19 percent of the students said there should not be a bowling team, and the last 13 percent were unsure about whether they would like bowling to be an option.

"I would like bowling because I used to bowl when I was younger and still bowl to this day," junior Daniel Rumbaugh said.

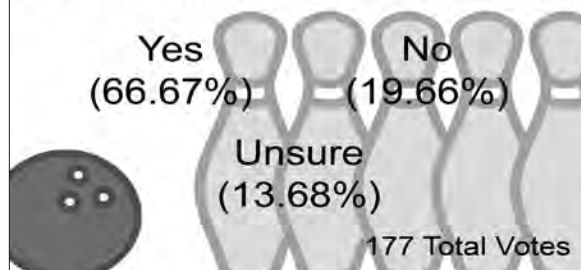
It could also be an opportunity for a students to earn scholarships to bowl in college, as there are 198 colleges that offer bowling as a sport.

"I probably wouldn't join, but it would be cool to have bowling at Hays High since there are scholarship opportunities," junior Connor Matter said.

According to www.starsandstrikes.com, bowling can provide athletes stress relief and social interaction, plus bowling can provide cardiovascular exercise, as bowlers can burn up to 300 calories per hour that they are participating in the game.

"I would join because bowling is a famous American sport that is great in every single way," junior Cyrus Vajnar said.

Do you think Hays High should offer bowling as a school sport?



Infographic by Nikka Vuong

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH



BOYS SWIMMING

senior Tyler Solida

"Sports have taught me discipline and how to follow orders, while also showing me how important it is to work as a team. I think sports are important because it keeps people active and pushes them to socialize face to face."



GIRLS BASKETBALL

junior Carly Lang

"Sports have taught me that is more than just winning and losing games; sports have taught me not to be afraid of challenges. Sports are important because they teach you a lot about yourself and because I have met some of the greatest people through sports."

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Personal Podcasts

Students share their own interests and perspectives on air

By Ryan Schuckman
22rschuckman@usd489.com

In addition to music, podcasts are another form of entertainment available on listening platforms, such as Soundcloud and Spotify. "Being Audible," a podcast show produced by senior Aleyia Ruder, has become a hit among students at Hays High.

"Ever since I was little, I was always known as a huge talker," Ruder said. "There's so many things I want to talk about. I had the idea for a long time, so I just started because I was like, 'Why not try to put yourself out there?'"

Ruder said she began "Being Audible" in March 2021 and tries to upload a new episode each week throughout the school year. Rather than focusing on a specific subject, each podcast topic varies.

"It's a lot of random, and I think that's one of the good things about it," Ruder said. "It's just whatever I think I'm comfortable talking about and something I feel like I could talk a lot about. Anytime I get the smallest idea, I write it

down in my 'Notes' app on my phone, and then sometimes those ideas get grouped together into one big idea. I like to think there's something in it for everybody to listen to."

Ruder is still undecided on if she will continue podcasting after graduation.

"I would like to, but then again, it also just has to do with what I'm comfortable with and being able to manage things," Ruder said. "I don't want to do it halfway and then have it be bad."

Another podcast called "Deuces Sports" has gained popularity since beginning of the school year. A group of four students – seniors Carson Kieffer and Garrett Wellbrock and juniors Blake Buckles and Evan Lind – are the main coordinators of the podcast.

"We talk about sports, betting and stuff like that," Wellbrock said. "We just want to inform you about what's going on in the sports world."

Although starting with podcasts in September 2021, the group began making vidcasts as well, which are podcasts that are filmed on camera.



Photo by Ryan Schuckman

BEING AUDIBLE

Senior Aleyia Ruder records an episode of her podcast "Being Audible" that she started in March 2021.

Wellbrock edits each episode, and everyone pitches in ideas.

"We just get ideas on what to talk about and try making them fun," Wellbrock said.

Although both podcast shows can be found on Soundcloud @TribeRadio, they have separate Instagram accounts they use to promote new episodes. "Being Audible" can be found at @being.audible, while "Deuces Sports" can be found at @deuces.sports1.



Q: Can February March?

A: No, but April May.

Q: What do you call a groundhog who drives in the center of the road?

A: A road hog.

Q: What dessert do they serve at the Super Bowl?

A: Sundays.

Q: Which football player wears the biggest helmet on Super Bowl Sunday?

A: The one with the biggest head!

Q: What did one light bulb say to the other on Valentine's Day?

A: I love you a whole watt.

Q: What did one flame say to the other on Valentine's Day?

A: We're a perfect match!

Q: Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

A: Sure, they're very scent-imental!

Q: Why did the man get fired from the calendar factory?

A: He took a few days off in February, thinking nobody would notice.

Q: What do you call a frog born on Feb. 29?

A: Leap frog.



Feb. 4

- "Moonfall"
- "The Wolf and the Lion"
- "Last Survivors"

Feb. 10

- "Shut In"

Feb. 11

- "Death on the Nile"
- "Supercool"
- "I Want You Back"

Feb. 18

- "Dog"
- "Sneakerella"

Feb. 23

- "Free Guy"

Feb. 25

- "Butter"

THE GUIDON SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Find the two differences between each photo of the four Guidon staff members!



Puzzle by Brooks Baczowski