

# THE PURPLE CLARION

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### IN THE SPOTLIGHT 100 Years of Walt Disney

Fans celebrate the 100th anniversary  
of the Walt Disney Company Oct. 16



# Mental health awareness takes spotlight in October

Leah Haugen

Shortly following National Suicide Prevention Month, World Mental Health Day (WMHD) this year is October 10. Most people are informed of mental health topics to some degree, but World Mental Health Day helps fight stigma and spreads awareness of lesser known disorders and topics.

World Mental Health Day was first celebrated October 10, 1992. Since 1994, every World Mental Health Day has had a theme to spread awareness to specific mental health aspects, such as "Living with Schizophrenia" in 2014 and "Mental Health in an Unequal World" in 2021.

The theme for 2023 is "Mental health is a universal human right." Everyone deserves proper healthcare and a safe, understanding community. At HHS, students have access to mental health services as well as a mental health counselor, Whitney Kulhmann, available throughout the school day. In situations where the counselor is unavailable, students may leave a note under her door. All Harrisburg's schools have a counselor willing to work with students.

There are also several counseling services for anyone in the area such as the Egyptian Health Department, Stress and Trauma Center, and Centerstone. Suicide prevention posters can also be found around the school with information about abuse and suicide hotlines. Student IDs and the HHS website have the suicide and domestic violence hotlines accessible to students as well.

WMHD is not the only mental health awareness during October. Bullying Prevention Month, ADHD Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month all occur during the month of October. There is awareness for a variety of health topics every month, week and day.

There are multiple ways to participate in WMHD and other awareness days. Shareable infographics are an easy way to spread information. Mental health accounts on social media typically have shareable posts to re-share and educate others on a variety of mental health aspects. Checking in on friends and loved ones to show care and support is another way to participate in mental health awareness. Personal self-care can be a way to participate during any health awareness month or day.

It is important to get involved and support those who are struggling. Mental health awareness can prevent potential suicide and self harm in anyone struggling. The first step to reduce stigma in counseling is to accept that we may need help that we cannot provide ourselves.

**Visit the National Alliance for Mental Illness for downloadable graphics**



## Mental Health Self-care

### Establish boundaries

No one should step over your boundaries, especially friends and family. Establish your boundaries and make time for yourself.



### Focus on positivity

When overwhelmed by negativity, allow yourself to focus on the positives.



### Communicate your feelings

Talk to friends or loved ones about what's on your mind. At HHS, a counselor is available throughout the school day.



### Enjoy the moment

Instead of focusing on the past or future, focus on the present. Enjoy the people and activities around you.



### Take time for yourself

Engage in self-care activities. Try taking a day to rest and recharge. Indulge in activities that relax you.



### Get enough sleep

A good night's sleep is crucial. It will positively benefit both your physical and mental health.





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# Columbus Day or Indigenous Peoples Day?

## Who should this holiday honor?

Avery Woolard



An ongoing debate discusses whether Oct. 9 should continue as “Columbus Day” to preserve history or if it should be “Indigenous Peoples Day” to call attention to the loss of native people while under Columbus’s control.

Columbus, after thinking he had landed in India in 1492 arrived in South America. When he arrived upon the “new world” he mass murdered, enslaved, raped and spread fatal diseases to the Natives living here which in the first 100 years after his arrival killed 90 percent of them according to PBS.org.

Americans have been celebrating this holiday since 1937, and some people are tired of seeing “Christopher Columbus who has committed violence against Indigenous communities get praise,” Emma Bowman of Oregon Public Broadcasting reports.

History teacher Marjorie DeNeal notes that Columbus wasn’t even a good explorer.

“I don’t think he or any of the explorers of this time had good intentions,” DeNeal said. “He wasn’t a good explorer per say, he just ran into land.”

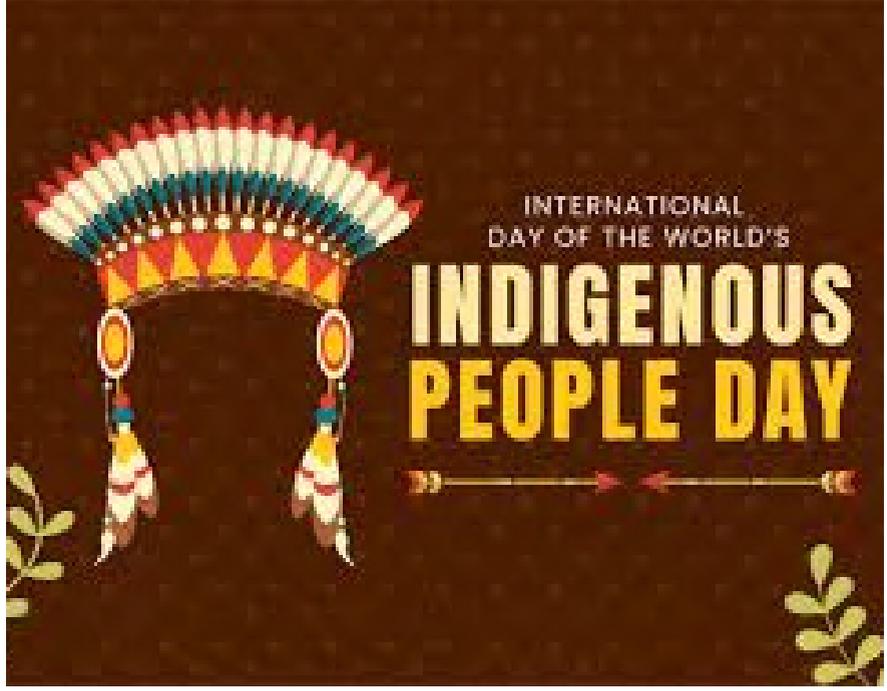
Columbus is viewed not as a discoverer, but rather as a colonizer. According to Susan C. Faircloth of Colorado State University.

“I think we need to remember him in a different light, we have to be more realistic about what happened to those Indigenous people,” DeNeal said.

They were all searching for “the three Gs: God, Glory, and Gold.

Columbus’ reasons for carrying out these explorations weren’t different from the other explorers of this time period, the questions about his methods remain. Shawlocal.com says that part of the problem is schools do not tell the whole truth of Columbus’s Voyage.

“Our US History Class takes a look at the history of Columbus, his exploration and the positive impact on Europe and the negative impact to the Indigenous people,” history teacher Matt Griffith said.



The negative impact that Columbus had on the Indigenous people goes far beyond being unjust according to Alicia Lee at CNN.com.

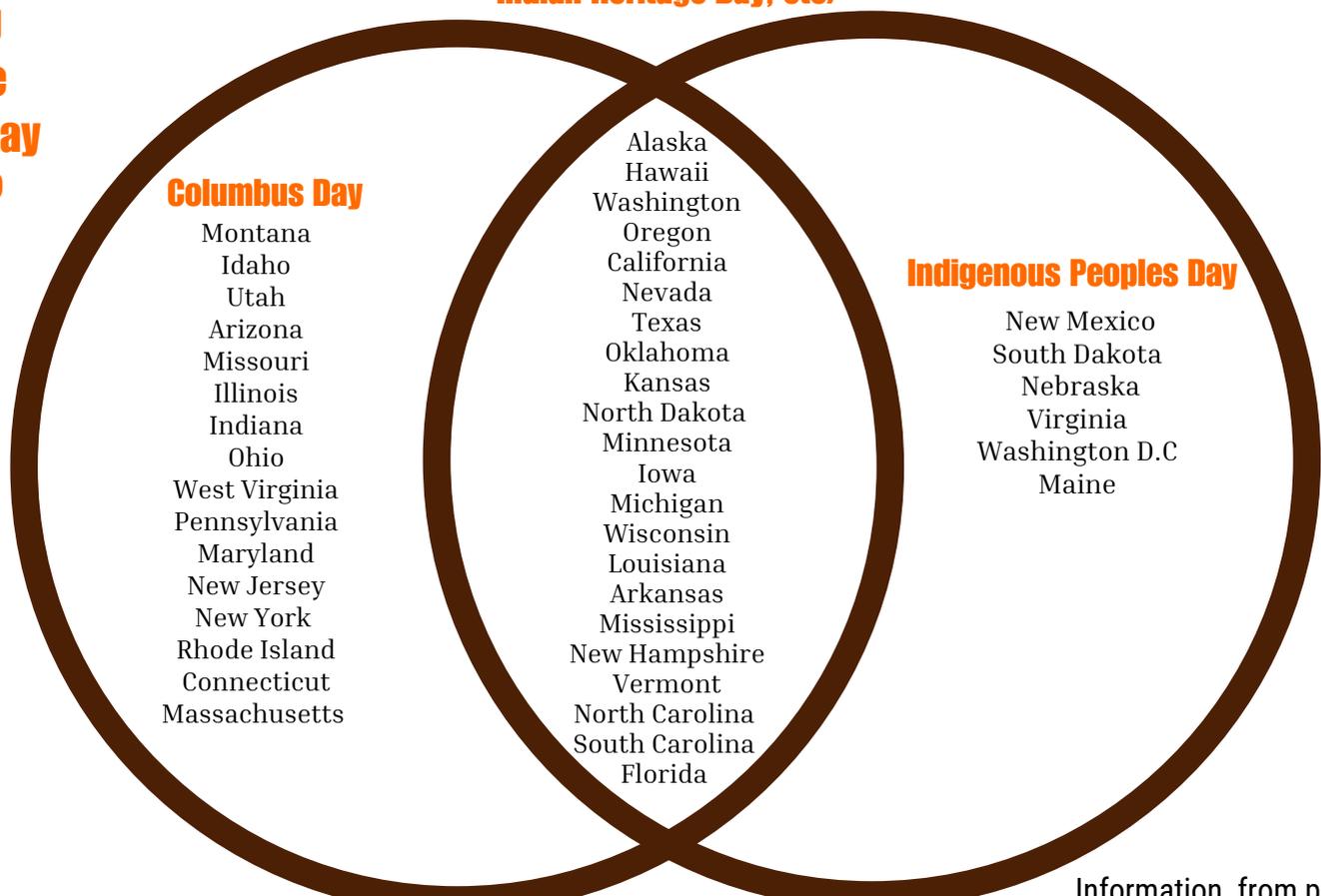
“He was negative through European control, enslavement, and disease that killed large portions of Indigenous people,” Griffith said.

Though there are many downsides of this exploration in history, without it America would not be where it is today according to Griffith.

“History is not simply black and white (all one side or the other); there is gray. Without European exploration, we don’t become a country. However, there are multiple groups that had to pay the price, in a negative way, for that to happen,” Griffith said. “If we are going to recognize Columbus, there must be a line drawn to tell the full history of the events of his exploration. I believe there is a need to give time/day/recognition to the Indigenous groups to celebrate culture/accomplishments/advancements. Not only a day off, but time and lessons given to learn the full history of Indigenous groups and how they impacted and were impacted by history.”

**Who is celebrating what on the second Monday in October?**

**Other:(Native Americans Day, American Indian Heritage Day, etc)**





## Put your money where it counts—for research

Bryleigh Lewis

Many people know the month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Sure, it's good to be aware about things like this, especially since breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women according to Breastcancer.org., but let's take a moment and realize how this month might make breast cancer survivors feel.

According to "The New York Times," "For some, Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a moment to celebrate empowerment, but for others it can be a re-traumatizing experience." They also mention that "many may recall the traumatic moment of learning their diagnosis or the treatment they endured, how scary or uncertain that time was."

Most people know about breast cancer, so I don't really see much of a need for having a whole month dedicated to just "awareness" of breast cancer. Instead of using the month of October for "awareness", we should use this month to actually help those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer or those who fought it off.

Many companies take advantage of this month to produce a lot of items that correlate with breast cancer awareness, but how much of the proceeds gained from what they are selling actually go towards breast cancer research foundations?

According to thelancet.com, breast cancer is the most highly funded type of cancer, receiving "\$2.7 billion." According to marieclaire.com, "Dallas-based Susan G. Komen for the Cure, grossed \$420 million last year alone. All told, an estimated \$6 billion is raised every year in the name of breast cancer."

Now, if my calculations are correct, that's about \$3.3 billion NOT donated to organizations supporting breast cancer research. Sure, businesses need to make profit to continue said businesses, but I feel it is disrespectful that they use a serious topic, something that people are clearly struggling from to gain profit.

According to "Good Housekeeping," one way consumers can find out whether or not these cute pink products are contributing to research is by examining the fine print for information on where the company shares its proceeds from sales and in what amount.

According to the National Institutes of Health, "Facing high OOP costs and reduction in income, cancer survivors are at risk for medical debt, bankruptcy, and increased stress, anxiety, and worry about their financial situation." Therefore, I believe that instead of using almost all of the proceeds from sales to increase profits, they should donate more to charities to help fund research and support breast cancer survivors since so many people who have dealt with breast cancer have struggled financially.



## Students need more time for lunch

Kennedy Borders

Lunch is one of the most controversial topics in our school. We have lunch from 11:03 to 11:38, which is only 35 minutes. We also have open campus so we barely have any time to go through a drive-through and eat. Our class time is 45 minutes. I find it ridiculous that they couldn't have given us at least a 45-minute lunch. If we took one minute off of every class and three minutes from advisory we would be able to have a 45-minute lunch.

If a student goes out to lunch, and the place they choose is packed with people, it will take time until they get caught up with all the orders. Then the student has to drive all the way back to school. By that time, the student is likely to be late and have to throw all of that food away because we are not allowed to bring food into the school. This will cause students to be hungry all day and be distracted by hunger which will impair their ability to do their work according to oregonlive.com

This impacts the students because there is not enough room in the cafeteria, and definitely not enough time for everyone in the school to get a lunch tray.

If the school could give us a longer lunch, it could help solve the problem of tardies during fourth hour. This would help out staff and students because then administration and board would see a drop in tardies. Students also would be on time for class more, and there would be fewer people asking to use the bathroom because we all had time to go beforehand.

The topic of student driving is the most important problem created by the length of our lunch hour. The police have been called to the school before due to reckless driving. Most of the time it's because people are going way too fast. We always have to rush and get to wherever we are going, but if we had more time this would not be a problem. This would also keep students safer, and we would be less likely to have a wreck.

If we had a longer lunch it would solve many of the problems we are currently experiencing. Staff would be happier because there would be fewer tardies. The police would see a difference in our driving, and the pedestrians in transit would be safer because the rate of cars that used to speed would drop. A longer lunch wouldn't just be for the students, it would benefit our community overall.



## It's time to ditch paper waste

Leah Haugen

Although Chromebooks have contributed to the decrease of paper waste, students and teachers still use paper copies of assignments. U.S. history, English, and Spanish are a few classes contributing to the use of paper copies among hundreds of students. Because recycling bins are not provided around the school, these paper copies end up in the trash before arriving at their destined location of the landfill.

However, paper is not our only enemy when it comes to recycling. Vending machines add to plastic waste that can be recycled just as easily. To prevent the increase of waste, but keep the use of paper and plastic, recycling bins should be implemented in our school.

Never has HHS had recycling implemented throughout the school. Other than a bottle cap competition and community service, there has been no official recycling program put in place. A recycling program is in progress, though there are no official plans according to education teacher Brady Mayor. Without proper recycling, paper and plastic will continue to cause waste and further pollute the environment.

Pollution and environmental concerns have been an ongoing topic for years, which may lead people to believe that pollution is too far gone. Time is slim, however, that does not mean positive impacts cannot still be made. Small positive actions made over a long period of time is better than nothing.

Southern Illinois has a low recycling rate compared to Chicago, which has one of the lowest recycling rates in the country according to the Chicago Tribune. Other than nearby colleges, few schools have recycling implemented in Southern Illinois. Adding recycling to our school can influence nearby schools to do the same, creating a larger, positive impact.

Recycling can make a huge difference when taken seriously, and students are extremely likely to take it seriously. Proper disposal of trash is highly stressed at the school, especially out in the parking lots. Administrators are stern about students properly throwing away their trash.

"Yes, I think students will take it seriously," principal Scott Dewar said. "I pick up one to two boxes a day and for a campus this big, that's very, very good." Recycling posters can be put up to remind students to properly dispose of their trash. Through recycling, we can make a difference in Southern Illinois.

## Disney College Program gives opportunities to students

Sydney Devous

According to Best Colleges, the Disney College Program is a program that usually lasts 5-7 months and allows participants to learn, work, and possibly earn a long term job with Disney.

This program includes roles in entertainment, hospitality, retail, and more.

Several HHS graduates have participated in the program over the years including 2006 graduate Stephanie Ardito. "I can't say enough positive things about the Disney College Program," Ardito said. "I completed two programs, one during my sophomore year in college and one after graduating. I followed my second program with a professional internship in Park Operations. In between programs, I worked as a campus representative. I would have stayed working for Disney, but I also studied abroad in college and the travel bug bit me."

Some requirements to attend Disney's College Program are being at least 18 years of age, being enrolled in an accredited educational institution and having completed at least one full semester, and having unrestricted work authorization.

Disney's student housing, known as Flamingo Crossings Village, costs between \$191 to \$246 per week, depending on the type of apartment selected. There are four participants per apartment.

"Disney helped me find a core group of friends that I still have today," Ardito said. "In fact, just last month my friend from across the hall in my first CP apartment came to visit and meet my new baby."

Interns at the Disney College program get to pull back the curtain and see how the magic happens. Program participants also get free admission to the parks. After working 150 hours, they earn One-Day Park Hopper tickets to share with friends and family.

"Whether you are at work making magic or playing in the park on a day off, you are surrounded by Disney," Ardito said. "The insider tips and tricks are so cool. Much of what I learned while working at Disney, I carry with me today."

Students will spend every working hour at Disney parks and resorts. Many of them will even live in Disney housing. Some participants even earn a professional, full-time position afterward.

"Disney will open so many doors for a multitude of careers internally and externally," Ardito said.

The Disney college program demands at least 50 hours of labor a week. The company maintains very high standards with regard to guest service, requiring their employees to take care of a large audience while still providing a magical experience for each and every guest they encounter.

"Disney is a company that is so rich in tradition and known for its attention to detail," Ardito said. "It's beloved by guests for having outstanding customer service. As a CP, not only do you get to experience all of this, but you get to learn how to create it."

Best Colleges offers some tips for applying for the college program such as paying extra attention to the resume, specifically tailoring it to the Disney College Program itself. Cover letters will also be effective in a higher chance of enrollment.

"At every job interview I attended post-graduation, Disney was the hot topic," Ardito said. "Every employer was immediately impressed with my time at Disney. When I became a part of the recruiting team at my airline, the same logic still existed. Anyone I interviewed with Disney experience received extra attention."



## Bulldogs find joy in the happiest place on Earth

Francesca Messerschmidt

Over 58 million people visit Walt Disney World in Florida every year, and Harrisburg helps contribute to this statistic.

According to a 2019 Disney attendance report, Magic Kingdom receives 20 million visitors, Animal Kingdom has 13 million, EPCOT has 12 million and Hollywood Studios receives 11 million.

Despite the more than 850 mile distance, some people from Harrisburg even go frequently. Fourth grade special education teacher Tyler Eubanks has been going twice a year since she was eight years old.

"My favorite part of Disney would have to be the fireworks and the costumes the characters wear," Eubanks said.

In 2023, the HHS band took their third trip to Disney World to march in one of the Magic Kingdom parades. Many band students have fond memories of this trip.

"This year, I got to spend my birthday in Disney with all my friends," senior Ali Hankins said. "You would think waiting in lines would not be fun, but we played so many games and laughed so much it went by so fast."

Even though Disney World is "the most magical place on earth," there can be downsides to visiting.

"My least favorite memory is always the last day," junior Natalie Beck said. "Everyone is always exhausted, and it can get overwhelming."

One of the most memorable parts of Disney World for some is seeing how happy children are when they spend the day in Disney World.

"My favorite part of Disney is going with my family and seeing the wonder in my daughters' eyes," former Disney Store employee and HHS graduate Dena Peavyhouse (2006) said. "When they were younger, it was all the mind-blowing spectacle of meeting their favorite characters. Now that they're growing out of their 'little kid' phase, they are wanting to learn more about how the rides and shows come together."

Peavyhouse was an employee with Disney at their store chain from Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2021. During that time, she got experiences she may not have otherwise had.

"In 2019, I was nominated for and received the Walt Disney Legacy Award," Peavyhouse said. "At the banquet, I got to meet other cast members who also received the award and we had a private concert from Jodi Benson (the voice of Disney's original Little Mermaid)."

Meeting characters is usually one of the highlights of the trip when visiting Disney World.

"My absolute favorite memory would be eating in the castle when I went for the first time and meeting all the princesses," Beck said.

The magic of the parks is easily another one of the most memorable aspects of Disney World.

"My mom always says that other theme parks don't do it like Disney," Beck said. "I agree with that. It's truly an experience like no other."

Disney is important to many visitors because of how nostalgic, magical, and happy it is.

"The world today is so full of hardship and pessimism, and when you step into the parks, you have a chance to forget about that for a moment," Peavyhouse said. "It gives a glimmer of hope of what the world could be if we took ourselves just a little less seriously."

## From familiar faces to Mickey ears, Bulldogs give magical performances

Riley Mize

The Marching Bulldogs have won first place for eight years in a row at the Murphysboro Apple Festival, but last spring they made a trip to Orlando to march at "the happiest place on Earth."

Senior McKenna Boon was excited when they announced they were going to Disney.

"I was excited to go to Disney because I had never been before," Boon said. "I was also happy to see new things happening and new things to experience."

After being invited to play and march at the Walt Disney World parade in May 2023, the band was also given the chance to send in video of the work they had performed to get accepted to go to Champaign and compete for a higher ranking than their previous Disney performance.

The Marching Bulldogs have not lost a parade competition in the last eight years and keep returning to Disney. Students were pleased to hear they were going to Disney last semester, and some had high expectations.

"Going to Disney, I wanted to be the best performer I could be for myself and my team," senior Ian Hodges said. "I have held this Disney trip to a high standard ever since I heard about it freshman year. After performing, I believe my standards were exceeded, and I was very pleased with the show we put on. However, winning at the Apple Festival for the past (eight) years, has been something that I always look forward to."

During this parade season, just like any other, students are getting ready and many can't wait to see what the rest of the season will look like.

"This parade season, I feel excited, even though it's my last year. I know I have made the best memories with the people I have been around," Boon said. "I enjoy the company of everyone involved, and I can't wait to see what the end of the season will bring."

Performing at Disney was a dream for some, however, it is not where a Bulldog performs that makes a difference in how they perform. It's the family relationship that they have all created that makes them mesh together as well as they do.

"Being a part of the HHS Marching Band is a challenge, a challenge that is so worth taking. (From) the things I've learned to the family I have built here at HHS, (it is) probably the best thing that could've happened to me," Hodges said.

## Disney has history of fulfilling dreams

Bryleigh Lewis

According to History.com, October 16, 1923, Walt Disney and his brother Roy founded the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio in Hollywood, California. The studio, now known as the Walt Disney Company, has had an oversized impact on the entertainment industry and is now one of the largest media companies in the world.

Walt claimed the idea of Disneyland (and Disney in general) came to him while watching his two daughters ride the carousel in L.A.'s Griffith Park. There, he began to imagine a clean, safe, friendly space where parents and children could have fun together according to Henry Ford.com.

According to Insider, Disneyland in Anaheim, California, was the first Disney park to open back in 1955. Since then, Disney has opened five additional parks and a variety of other themed travel experiences, and, along with them, a rich history.

Joe Rohde, the Imagineer who headed up the team that brought Disney World's Animal Kingdom to the world, often reveals inside information on the park and its inspiration, including the fact that anything "that looks like a fossil of a prehistoric creature... is either a real fossil of a prehistoric creature or a replica of the real fossil" according to Insider.



# Langley's retirement set for May 2024

**Kennedy Borders**

Coach Greg Langley is retiring next year after being the HHS athletic director for the last 10 years and the wrestling coach since the 1990s. Langley has also had a major role in coaching Bulldog football over the years.

Langley participated in several different sports when he was in high school, but he didn't wrestle.

"I played football, baseball for a brief time, and track. I also played football in college where I attended SIU Carbondale. They did not offer wrestling when I was in high school or I would have most likely wrestled as well," Langley said.

When Langley first came to Harrisburg, he didn't plan to be a wrestling coach, but the school was in need of one so he agreed to take on that responsibility. His wrestlers are glad that he did.

"I think Coach Langley has made me a better wrestler. He has helped me become mentally and physically stronger even through all my losses. He kept pushing me to do better. He has helped me become the person I am today, and I thank him for that," junior Cody Gunter said.

Langley has had a wrestler who qualified for state the three years he has wrestled for HHS.

"I'm just happy I got to wrestle for Coach Langley," senior Tony Keene said. "I feel good and confident that i'm gonna get it done this year, and get Coach Langley his first state championship cause he's been here for like 30 years and hasn't had one yet."

Langley's practices might be tough, but according to the team he just wants to teach his wrestlers that if they want to win, they have to work hard and push themselves to become better.

"Don't worry about the running," Terry said. "It gets easier the more practices you go to, so always stay positive and support your team mates so we can all have the best possible season," senior Kahmari Terry said.

Everyone has mixed feelings for retirement. Hopefully the new AD can take over the responsibilities Langley had.

"It was just one of those things where after 34 or 35 years I'm just ready to retire," Langley said. "There is no specific reason on why I'm retiring, but if the school ever needs any help I'm more than happy to be a volunteer. I plan to just keep myself busy and volunteer at the school if they need any help."

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# College and Career Center gives individual help to students

The College and Career Center is a new addition to building this year. Housed in the former Media Center computer lab, the center's goal is to give students individualized guidance when it comes to picking out jobs, colleges or careers.

For the past few years, students have had complaints that the guidance office doesn't do enough to help prepare students for the future, but the College and Career Center plans to help combat this.

Despite trouble some students may cite about talking with guidance, there is admittedly more that goes on behind the scenes than students might know. Guidance also has the responsibility of putting together the schedules of every student, handling credits and transcripts and talking with colleges among other things.

"A lot of students know they can go to guidance to get a schedule change or talk to someone about their credits," guidance counselor Emma Lane said. "The purpose here is to be an open place where if a student comes in, we can talk about the classes they have taken in addition to what they could also take (to plan their future)."

Another benefit the center will offer is helping students pick out exactly what they may need when it comes to scholarships, college plans or even plans for students who do not plan to go to college. While guidance has long created lists with scholarships for which students can apply, they aren't always helpful to those who need them.

For instance, students have complained about asking for applications, even old ones, for local scholarships and just being offered websites to apply for nationwide scholarships. Even though this can be helpful, a lot of those scholarships are for things for which Harrisburg students may not even be eligible. Furthermore, the application pool for those scholarships is enormous.

Since it is a new addition, everything within the center may not be perfect yet, but we believe that in the long run, it will be helpful for almost everyone at HHS. In accordance with the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act, all schools in Illinois must now offer endorsements when



Cartoon by Frankie Messerschmidt.

**HHS is in partnership program with the Vienna High School District and is working to complete requirements that will result in funding from the state.**

students complete individualized courses in a specific career pathway. Currently, HHS is offering the Education pathway with the plan to add more in the future.

Overall, the College and Career Center should take a load off of guidance's shoulders in order for students to feel more confident in their futures.



## Stop honoring the dishonorable

**Avery Woolard**

Our country needs a wake up call. It has been 86 years since our country started celebrating Columbus day, and it's time to react. When we glorify this man with a national holiday we are glorifying the rape, mass genocide, and slavery of the indigenous people who lived here before.

Columbus was not only a bad guy with bad intentions but he was a bad explorer aswell. After thinking he had ended up in India he also thought he was the first European to land upon America. Not only was he wrong about his location, but nearly 500 years before him a European Viking, Leif Erikson landed on the shore of North America, becoming the first European to land in North America.

I feel as if our schools don't perform the proper teachings of Christopher Columbus when the time comes. As of just a couple years ago I had always thought Columbus was a "good guy", because that's what I had always been taught. We learn about this man who sailed to "the new world" and discovered America. We hear nothing of what this man really did.

He brought over many diseases to these indigenous people and killed 95% of them this way. The others were slaves being forced to work on plantations, some were raped, murdered, sold to Spain to be put into slavery there, and many were forced to mine for gold and if they didnt reach Columbus's set amount of gold their hand would be cut off.

This is not the guy that our country needs to be amping up and calling the discoverer of America. He is a thief, he stole this land right under the Indigenous's peoples feet and mass murdered them while he did so.

Nothing about portraying Columbus's voyage as courageous shows true American Patriotism whatsoever. There are still Indigenous people all around the United States being mistreated, and a country that praises the man who started the neglect for these people is not a country I want to be a part of.

Changing the name of this day doesn't change what happened but it changes our country's view on it. Instead of praising Columbus lets bring light to the surface and recognize the loss and brutal acts the indigenous people went through under the control of an evil man. This day should be about the lives lost and the violence that occurred, not the perpetrator of these awful acts.

## The Purple Clarion

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The Purple Clarion is a non-biased, student produced news, sports and feature publication dedicated to accurately reporting events that interest and impac the students of HHS.

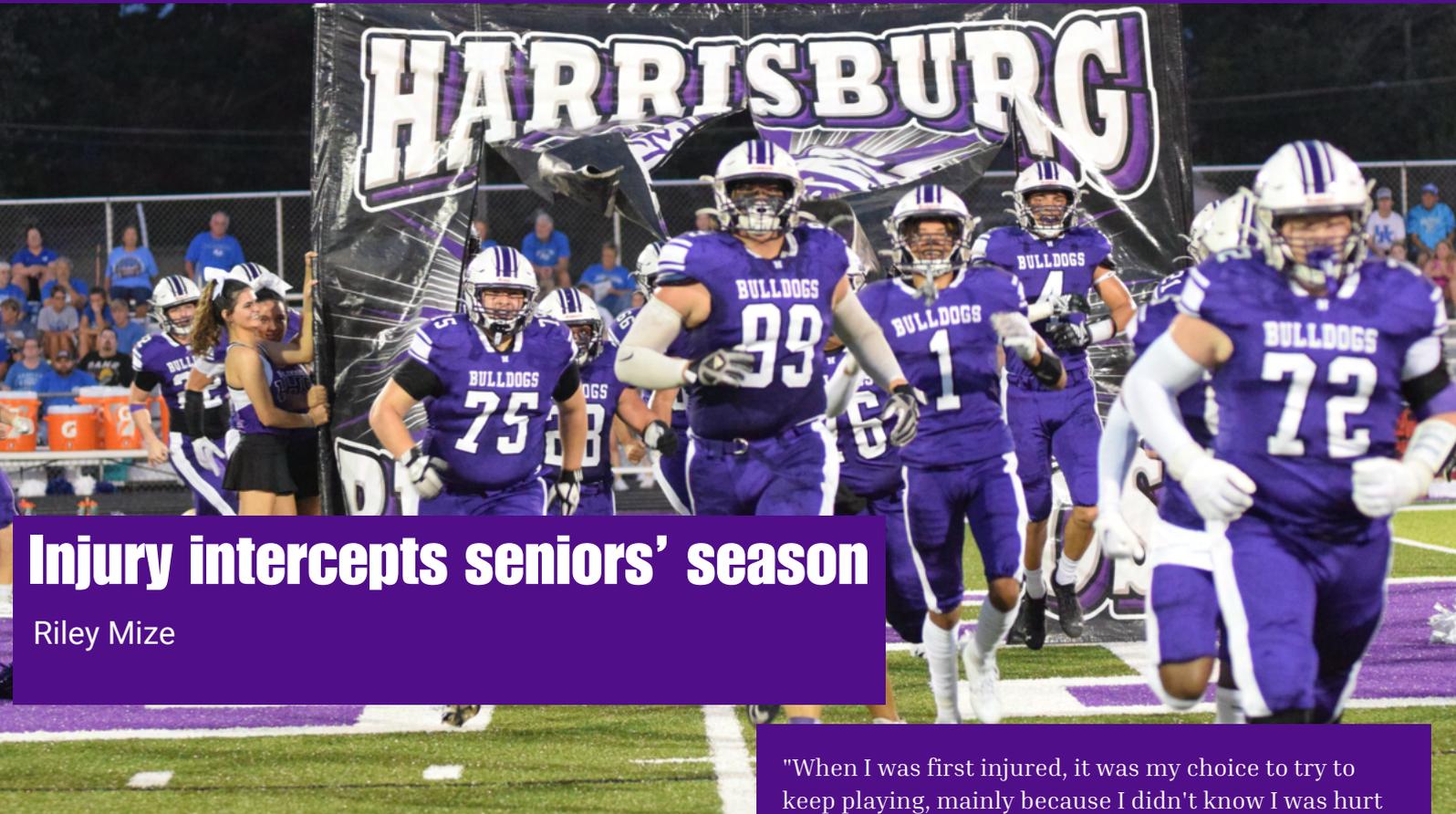
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### Letters to the Editor

The Purple Clarion encourages letters to the editor. Letters should be sent from a school email or printed and signed and submitted to adviser Cathy Wall. All work is subject to editing at the discretion of the staff, an once submitted, becomes the property of the Clarion. Content in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Clarion staff.

*The Purple Clarion is a member of the Southern Illinois School Press Association.*



## Injury intercepts seniors' season

Riley Mize

Injuries can have a devastating effect on student athletes. Achievement in a sport for some athletes is what keeps them going. For others it is setting a personal best or winning a game that makes them want to keep going and play that sport. When an athlete has played a sport for a long time, over time, they feel they have been connected to that sport. That sport has become a part of their life. Throughout an athlete's participation in their sport, one of the fears amongst athletes is getting injured. According to [OrthoInfo](#), "An injury to a high school athlete can be a significant disappointment for the teen, the family, and the coaches."



"When I was first injured, it was my choice to try to keep playing, mainly because I didn't know I was hurt as bad as I was," senior Jaxon Quisenberry said. "I believe both my family and coaches were disappointed I couldn't play, but I'm fairly certain it hit me the hardest,"

When a student plays a sport for most of their life, it becomes part of who they are according to Quisenberry. He has been a part of band for eight years and football for three years.

"I have been a part of Harrisburg's band for eight years now. It has become a big part of my life, probably more so than football, because it is year round and I have a lot of friends that I have made through band," Quisenberry said. "This was my third year playing football. I had become a starter on the team and had made friends with a lot of the guys on the team."

Quisenberry, suffers from a current knee injury and believes it to be eye opening.

"I got injured in a football game. It was basically a hit gone wrong, and I ended up messing up my knee. I completely tore my ACL, had a complex tear on my meniscus, and tore my PCL," Quisenberry said. "Getting injured was probably not the worst thing that has happened to me but it was definitely eye-opening."

After being excluded from a sport that has been a part of Quisenberry's life for the past couple of years, once he recovers his plans consist of taking it slowly.

"My first plan once I'm fully recovered is to just play a casual game of football again," Quisenberry said.



# Electric vehicles in Southern Illinois: Are people charging toward an empty future?

Gavinn Swann

There has been a lot of debate recently concerning Electric vehicles or EVs for short. Many states and the federal governments have been proposing and even passing legislation that will ban gas-powered vehicles in the not-too-distant future. Electric vehicles are becoming more prevalent, even in the Southern Illinois area. However, there are many disadvantages when it comes to electric vehicles, especially compared to the gas vehicles that Americans have come to know and love.

According to the Young People's Trust for the Environment, EVs have many major and pricy disadvantages. "Their batteries require rare Earth metals, building them creates more emissions, their range is not as good as gas vehicles, and they're pricier than gas vehicles"

Cars are more than a throwaway commodity, a car is an investment, While never appreciating, a car will always retain some value, even if the car no longer functions, being able to sell the individual components of the vehicle helps to retain the value. Electric cars, on the other hand, are more comparable to cell phones when it comes to resale value.

Don Bethune, general manager of Jim Hayes Incorporated said this, "If you can imagine what the resale value is on a cell phone, we're finding the same thing with EVs. The market is treating them like commodities rather than an investment. So how long is it going to be until it's not worth anything?"

In the Southern Illinois region, there seems to be a lot of pushback from the consumer, towards electric vehicles. Many people live out of the way and have to drive a good distance to get to work or town. It's easy to fill up at any gas station, but in Harrisburg, there are exactly two, charging stations, they are both owned and operated by Jim Hayes Inc.

"The cost, in time wasted, of charging is what people, are against, if you plug it into your home, it can take 8 or 12 hours to charge up. There's also no guarantee that the battery will last as long as it should because heat and cold both affect battery performance and life," says Bethune.

Eight states, led by California, have pledged to outlaw electric vehicles, by 2035. If this trend spreads to other states, then electric vehicles may make it on the showroom floors and in garages across the area, sooner than many want. However, if that is to be the future, then the infrastructure is going to have to be updated at an alarming pace.

According to the Illinois Secretary of State, there are 37,723 electric vehicles in Illinois. However, there are only 1251 electric charging stations in the state, nearly a 30:1 ratio. The gap is also increasing, with stations slowly coming online compared to the ever-increasing sale of EVs.



Photo by Riley Mize.

## SIC feature one of the few charging stations for electric cars available in Harrisburg.

"That's a lot of money that is going to have to be spent," explained Bethune. "I think between not only us in the business, but also the consumer, where's this money coming from?" As an individual, you're going to end up spending an awful lot of money to save money."

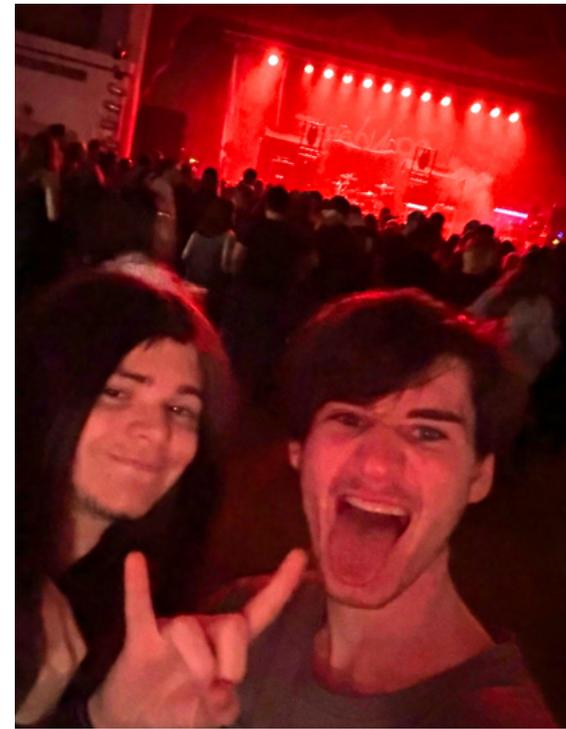
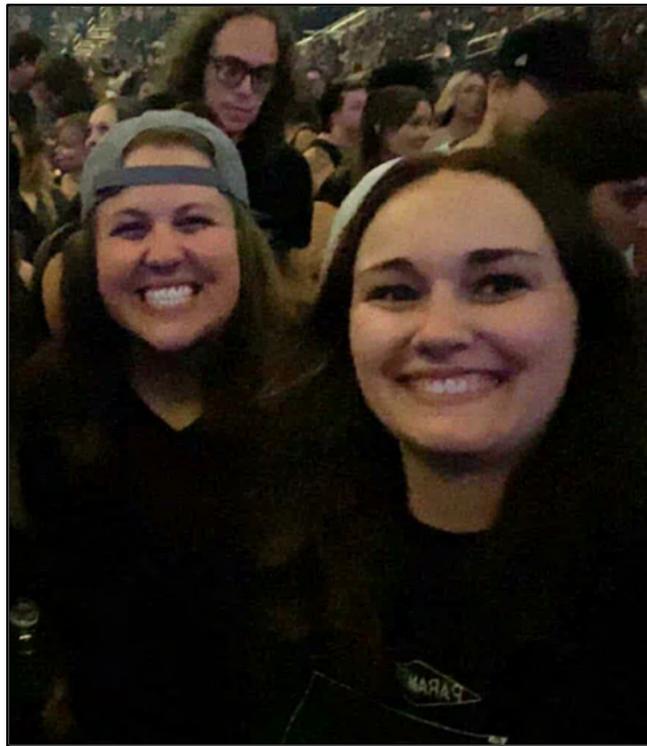
High School is when most teenagers get their first car, and as we move toward the future, families are going to have to make that choice if they want to put someone in an electric dependant car that is going to sit out in the sun all day and draw current from the battery. Bethune goes on to explain the choices families have to make.

"Right now, as a first car for a family, it's not a good choice. Not for you as the consumer, or me as a dealer. Until the charging stations start popping up, and the charge times go down, it is going to be quite a long time before we see a completely electric Harrisburg."

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Photos provided.

Senior Baily Cook, teachers Taryn Dewar and Stephanie Winkler, Marcus Miller and junior Christian Cornahgie pose at various concerts.

# Concerts give local music lovers enjoyable experiences

**Kylan Jerrell**

There are several students and staff that are active participants in the concert scene. These individuals love the experiences and atmosphere of the events, whether it be mellow or fast-paced.

For English teacher and 67-time concert attender Stephanie Winkler, the fast-paced aspect and energy of rock is what draws her towards the rock genre rather than pop.

“It’s not that I don’t like pop music, but rock is definitely my favorite because the lyrics are pretty poetic in rock music, and the instrumentation is much more impressive,” Winkler said. “I also like the energy; it’s typically fast paced...it’s definitely an adrenaline rush.”

Junior, seven-time concert goer, and musician Christian Cornahgie also likes the high energy part of the rock music genre.

“My atmosphere in music is when a band is hungry with energy and they play and they’re excited to be there,” Cornahgie said. “Anytime I listen to metal/rock I feel not just the words that are sung; I feel the notes and emotions coming from the instruments, so when I hear a band play the adrenaline rushes into my body, and I have a good time.”

Biology teacher and 60-time concert attender Taryn Dewar also enjoys rock, but leans more toward the pop aspects of music.

“I would say that I listen to more pop than [Winkler] does, and she listens to more rock. I think we both appreciate the artistry that is there, but we enjoy the same types of music in different ways,”

Dewar said, adding “I’d be willing to see anything just for the experience.”

Senior and triple concert goer Baily Cook enjoys the opportunity to connect with others who enjoy music.

“I love seeing all the people who come to the concerts. I think it’s just so cool to be able to bond with people who share the same love for an artist’s music as I do,” Baily said. “I think concerts are such a fun way to meet new people, and just a good experience to have in general.”

Dewar also appreciates other concert goers and the friendly atmospheres they often bring.

“I like the environment of the bigger concerts because it’s like you’re there, and everybody there is best friends,” Dewar said.

Winkler also supports concert goers for bringing a more cooperative and friendly spirit.

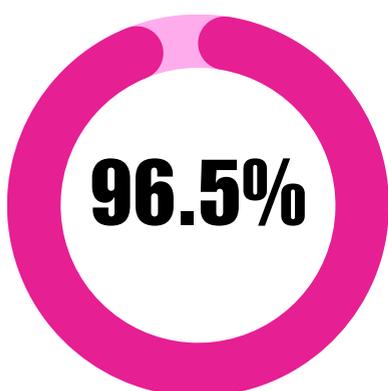
“I like that the rock and metal community are very accepting of all kinds of different people. The people look aggressive from the outside, but really aren’t; even in mosh pits, they’ll help pick you up if you fall.”

Dewar and Winkler both believe that the experiences can be memorable and exhilarating.

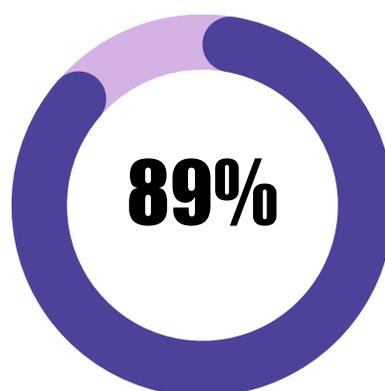
Winkler suggests those attending concerts to “try to live in the moment”, while Dewar encourages others to “go and see their favorite artist once in their lifetime. There’s free events everywhere. Go see live music and live events, because it’s a really good experience and it’s worth it.”

## Top Three Genres in Ticket Sales

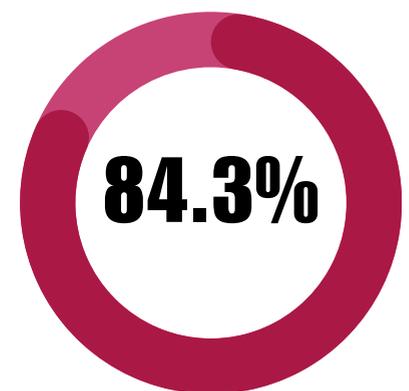
Out of \$40 Million



**Pop**



**Classic Rock**



**Rock**



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