

The Official Student Publication of Milford High School



HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

by Erin Kelley

Halloween is a night filled with scary stories and candy. But 2,000 years ago, it was very different. The origins of Halloween are from the ancient Celtic festival named Samhain (pronounced sow-in) which was celebrated on November 1st in what is now known as Ireland. The day was a celebration of the start of a new harvest, and the beginning of winter, and winter was often associated with death.

The original celebration was they would start large bonfires, and wear costumes to scare off ghosts and ghouls on October 31st. The costumes that people wore mainly consisted of animal heads and skins, and they sacrificed animals too. On the night of October 31st, it was said that the ghosts would return to Earth, and haunt the occupants. People thought that the ghosts would also make it easier for Priests to predict the future, and other people's fortunes.

Over time, as leaders and cultures changed due to war and acculturation, it became known as All Saint's Day, which was celebrated very similarly to Samhain, but celebrated on November 1st. Since Samhain was celebrated the day before, it was known as Hallow's Eve, which eventually changed to Halloween.

In America, Halloween wasn't celebrated much until the 19th century, when autumn festivals became popular, but still not exactly Halloween. It wasn't until the late 19th century, during the potato famine, when Irish immigrants flooded to the U.S.

While America took the costume idea from Europeans, Americans made the whole "trick-or-treat" tradition. But instead of asking for candy, or sweets, they asked for food and money instead.

In the late 1800's, Halloween as we know it became popular. By then people started to bring the witchcraft, ghouls, and pranks into the mix, helping create today's Halloween celebration.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Scan the QR with your phone or [click the link](#) to vote! Results in the next edition!



RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK

Icecream!

Halloween Parade

On Friday, October 29th, There will be a Halloween parade around the oval! The marching band, kindergarteners and first graders, and many more groups will be participating!

Once On This Island

The play *Once on This Island* is the story of Ti Moune, a strong-willed, bold peasant girl in search of her place on her island, and the world. Led on her journey by the powerful island gods, Ti Moune sets out on a remarkable journey to reunite with the boy who has stolen her heart. But will this journey prove to have consequences? A 90 minute musical about the hardships of love, the power of water and the earth, against the powers of death. Filled with fun, catchy songs and dance.

Come see *Once on This Island* at the Amato Center for Performing Arts, November 4th-6th! Featuring several MHS students!

(Please email kwhitehead@milfordk12.org for more information about the show!)

Tickets are \$8 for students and seniors, \$12 for adults. Tickets will be available at the door. We'd love to see you there!

(Edited by Kyra Whitehead)



INTERVIEWING MR. WRIGHT by Cassandra Marien

Where are you from?

"I am what some might call an "army brat", or the child of parents in the military. My father served in the Army, and we ended up living in many places while he did that. He also worked as a mason / bricklayer, food scientist, and most recently is finishing his doctorate in psychology. Due to the many different jobs he took, we lived all over the country. That includes Maryland, Texas, Utah, and Massachusetts. I spent most of my life in Utah, but most of HS in Massachusetts, so New England, while it is new for my wife and kids, is not new to me."

What's a day like as MHS's assistant principal?

"We stay very busy. Mr. Kiley and I both have a number of responsibilities, one of which is student discipline. We both appreciate the chance to get to know all of our students, both at their best (in student council, sports, etc.), and sometimes at their not-so-best, like when they get sent down to the front office for a variety of reasons. We are also responsible for seeing that school rules and policies are followed, and that all of our teachers are getting useful, valuable, and actionable feedback regarding how and what they are teaching in their classes. It is certainly a full day, but one well worth it."

What is a goal you have for MHS this year?

"I would love to see us pull together this year as faculty and students. All across our country, schools are tearing at the seams, and Milford is no different. The challenges of Covid have not helped. I see MHS as a community that is strong, has pride and is ready to reach new heights. I'm just doing my part to help our students, teachers, and staff reach their ultimate potential."

What do you like most about MHS so far?

"I love the town and community here, both in the HS and in Milford at large. People here are not afraid of work, and that is commendable. I love the ATC and the many programs it offers, which I never had the opportunity as a HS student to enjoy. I hope our students don't take that for granted, because we have some world-class professionals helping teach and lead here."

Our teachers care deeply about their students, and I see the effort they put into helping create the best learning opportunities for all here. That inspires me, and I hope it inspires others as well."

Do you have any hobbies outside of your job?

"I have a few; having been an Eagle Scout, I love to camp and all manner of outdoorsy and service-related opportunities. Nothing makes me feel better than to help others, and I also really enjoy just getting outside. New Hampshire is such a beautiful state, and I am really excited to get out more and see the history and natural wonders found here. My boys and I like to go geocaching as well, and I can't wait to fish all the local fisheries here."

Did you always want to be an administrator?

"No. I really enjoy being in the classroom. However, a few years ago I had an administrator that was lackluster. They didn't listen to others, or take feedback well, and weren't very reflective. They were not fun to work with, and they eventually scared away a number of our best teachers from our school. I had been working on an Educational Leadership degree at the time, but that experience solidified my desire to get into administration. I've had both great and poor administrators, and I felt like our teachers and students deserved an administrator who cared less about themselves, and more about those they served. And that matches my leadership philosophy exactly. Thus when the opportunity came to return to New England, my family and I jumped at the opportunity. We're glad that we did."

Do you have any pets?

"We do! We have a cat named Bunker. He was a shelter cat, and to this day, he is still traumatized from being stuck inside a small shed, so much so that if you keep a door shut that he doesn't approve of...well, he'll let you know. We also used to have some chickens, which we really enjoy raising, as well as aquarium fish, but we got rid of those when we came out here, because transporting them would have not been easy nor fun for them."

What is your favorite movie or book?

"First, one of my favorite books is Lord of the Rings. Many find the books dry, but I think they are fascinating, and love the worldbuilding that Tolkien did with them. Check with Mrs. Hageman if you want to find another lover of those books. And that love of fantasy brought me into the world of Dungeons and Dragons, which is super fun. Is it nerdy? Sure...but it is also wicked fun!"

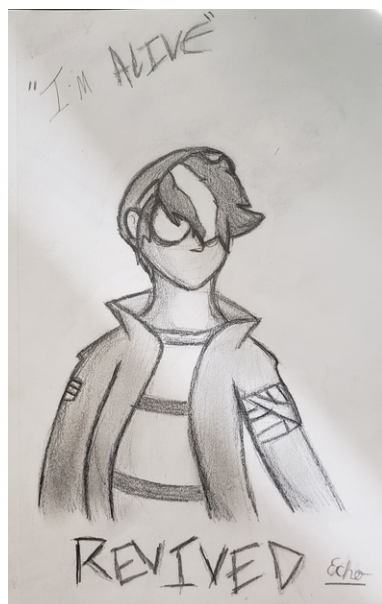
Welcome to the creative corner! This part of the newspaper is for drawings, photography, and all other types of art!



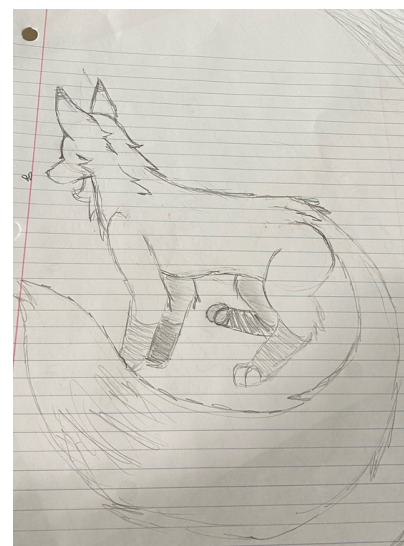
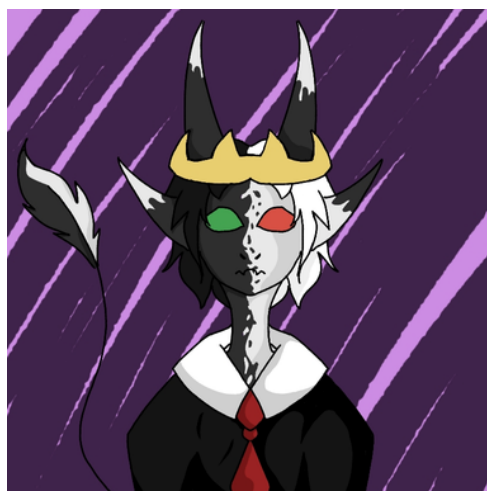
Creative Corner

By: Rana McCloat

Email cmarien@milfordk12.org or amccloat@milfordk12.org to submit your art and photography!



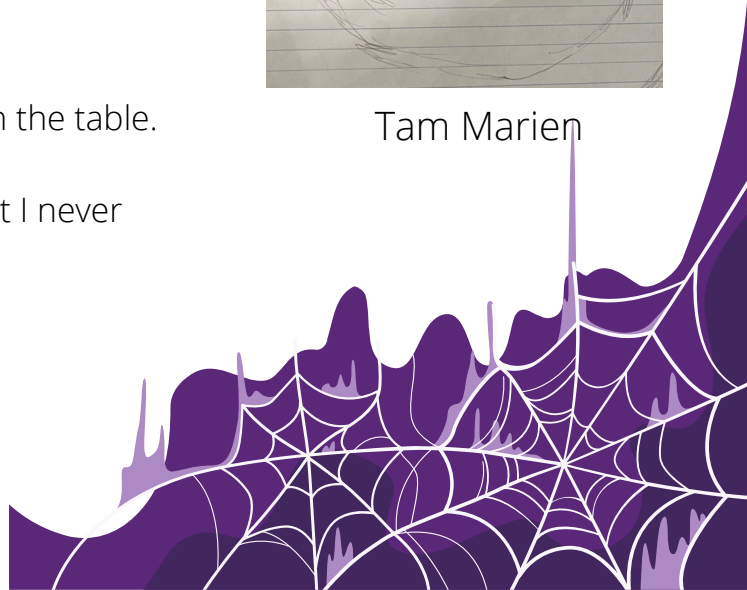
Erin Kelley



Tam Marien

Horror Story Writing Contest Results

1. While I decorated the pumpkin, some blood got on the table.
But I wasn't using a knife.
2. I always heard stories of monsters in my closet, but I never thought they were true.
3. It was me and the cat until I heard the door open.



The Pop-Culture Corner- Minecraft and Animal Crossing

Minecraft, the very popular blocky sandbox game has announced a new update! Recently, the official Minecraft Twitter hosted a new mob vote, and the new mob being added is the allay. The allay, when given an item, will gather multiple of the same or similar items in return. It can be anything you've crafted, or mined.

Not only has a new mob been added, but a whole new update as well. While the 1.17 update included the new blocks and mobs, the new 1.18 update includes the new biomes, the new Minecraft Warden mob, and the new item that allows wireless redstone. This new update was said to launch around the holiday season in 2021, a few months away. But what exactly comes with the update?

The new Warden is a large, and terrifying creature. It cannot see, but instead listens for any sounds. It's known that when around the Warden, you must sneak by. You can also distract it by throwing snowballs, or other noise-making items to distract it. The Warden is also alerted by "Shriekers", a new block that makes a super loud noise when too close to you. This mob is very strong, and can kill your character within a couple of hits.

Along with the mobs, we have new biomes. We have lush caves, filled with fruit, flowers, and moss, and new plants. We also have the dripstone caves, which are extremely large and open, filled with long dripstones. These caves are seen to be found submerged in water, or with water and/or lava at the bottom. The deep dark biome is where the Warden is found. It's filled with shriekers, and the new "skulk growths" are found, which helps create wireless redstone contraptions.

These are only the biggest parts of the new update, there's so much more to discover once the update comes out. Minecraft is always adding new, so who knows what else is getting added?

Image from the official Minecraft YouTube channel



In the new update for Animal Crossing: New Horizons, as revealed by the Direct that released on October 15th, 2021 (go check it out if you want all of the information!), we're getting a lot of new content for islanders to enjoy! First, we have the return of an old friend, Brewster the pigeon! He now runs a coffee shop located in the museum, where you and your friends, both villagers and players, can stop by and have a nice cup of coffee. But that's not all, not even close! Added in this update as well, the turtle Kapp'n will bring you on special tours to mysterious new islands, where odd plants, alternate weather, and different times of day may occur. While on the subject of islands, returning villagers Harv and Harriet are working on theirs in order to construct a plaza where all sorts of vendors may set up shop, some offering new services and wares not yet seen in New Horizons!

For players who lean more towards the decorative side, there's more hairstyles, customization options, and more storage space! And to really add some more plant life to your island, there's now farming! It's not just pumpkins anymore, folks. There's also a few new NPCs to invite to your island.

This update drops on November 5th, 2021, and will be the last major free content update for Animal Crossing: New Horizons! Hopefully this new information will convince you to give the game a try again, or maybe even pick it up for the first time.

Coming on the same day, November 5th, and available for pre-order this Friday, October 28, 2021, the 'Happy Home Paradise' DLC launches for New Horizons! Travel to a gorgeous archipelago, and build luxurious vacation homes for villagers seeking a beautiful island getaway, with any item you may require at your disposal, not to mention some brand-new ones, with plenty of atmospheric alterations to boot! Also on your construction list are new facilities, such as schools, restaurants, and hospitals, which are all as customizable as your own home! On this collection of islands, your only limit truly is your imagination. But anyway, that's all from us. Have a great day everybody, and we'll see you guys next time!

(This DLC costs \$24.99 USD to purchase.)

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Written by Jason Lewicki and Rana McCloat

Spartan Sports

Both Varsity Volleyball and Boy's Varsity Soccer had played Friday, October 29th in quarterfinal matches. Good Luck to both teams and GO SPARTANS!

The Girl's Varsity Soccer game had their quarterfinals on Oct. 31st at Souhegan HS.

Football: The Varsity Boys' Football Team is had their last regular season game this Friday, October 29th against Timberlane.

Cross-Country: Milford will be attending the Division 2 Meet at Derryfield Park this Saturday, October 30th.



Photo credits: Betsy Hansen

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