

# THE HURON BEAT



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## Homecoming Week

This year, two of the most important events in Huron Township coincided. Applefest, an annual street fair held in New Boston, and Huron High School's Homecoming fell on the same weekend. Because of this, the Homecoming theme was apple harvest. In addition to the three usual spirit days, Get Up & Go Day, Class Color Day, and Red & White Day, there was Dress Like a Farmer Day and Dress Like a Farm Animal Day. The seniors accumulated the most points by the end of the week. They received the Spirit Stick as a reward at the pep assembly.

Daniel Passino and Kate Hillis were

also victorious on Friday. It was announced at the football game that they were elected Homecoming King and Queen. When asked why she feels she was elected, Hillis said, "Because I'm real." She plans to keep being herself, and she believes, "Being nice gets you places."

The Homecoming King agrees. Passino thinks that, to an extent, he has a responsibility to the school now, but "at the end of the day I need to be myself because that's what got me here in the first place." To him, getting elected signifies that people of all grades look up to him. Why? "I'm very involved

in the school, I have a good personality, and I'm an over-all nice guy."

Spirit week concluded with the announcement of the class float winners: the sophomores. Their float was shaped like an apple pie, in celebration of the apple harvest theme. The pie was made to look like a jet representing Airport - High School had been baked into it. Airport was Huron's Homecoming opponent.

By: Samantha Perry

## Dig Pink

Dig Pink! Come help raise money for breast cancer patients. A mother/daughter event hosted by the Grosse Ile Red Devils and the Huron Chief's girls' volleyball teams. Adult tickets cost \$5 and kids cost \$3. But, if you bring your mom you get in free, or if you purchase a Dig Pink shirt, \$3 from all sales will be donated to cancer research. Come

participate at Grosse Ile High school on October 19th. The JV game starts at 5:30 pm and varsity game starts at 7:00 pm. There will be a special appearance by the drum line, and the volleyball state champs might attend as well. Also, channel 95.5 might make an appearance. There will likely be men

and women who have won the battle with breast cancer attending. They would love for everyone to come and participate. Don't miss your chance to support the Chiefs and win door prizes along with a 50/50 raffle.

By: Kate Atencio and Courtney

O' Hara

## I.D. Cards

“Go home, freshman!” This is what the seniors at Huron High School like to shout at the freshman, or the new additions to the school. But this year, the freshmen are not the only new addition to Huron. There are new “ID” cards. The cards are used for so much, but the question is why?

The reason most students use the cards, is for lunch. To buy food, you need to scan your card, or type in your number. This is said to be because the school board wants the parents to be able to see what their kids are eating. Students complain that it takes longer to get your food and most don't have that much time to eat. Speaking with a member of the kitchen

Whispers fill the lunch room, “Did you hear what the theme for homecoming is this year?” “It's ‘Apple Harvest’!” “Who came up with that idea?” It seems like a difficult theme to make dance decorations, floats, and spirit week days that actually relate to it. Come to find out, the seniors had no decision in picking the theme like they have in the past.

Initially, many of the seniors were upset that they were not involved in the decision making. Unlike most had believed, Superintendent Naughton was not the one

staff for an interview. She was asked “do you think the cards are what holding up the line?” she answered “if everyone was ready when they came through, no, but they're not prepared so yes.” She was also asked “Do you think parents actually look at what their kids are eating?” she said “I think the majority of them don't.”

Students are told to keep their ID's on them at all times. They're used as library cards, internet cards, and of course the lunch cards. In an interview with Mr. Rowe, about the cards. He was asked “was the main reason we got the cards, for lunch?” he said that, “using them for lunch is actually the third or fourth priority

who

## Apple Harvest

decided to make the theme “Apple Harvest”. Due to the fact that Homecoming landed on Applefest weekend, Naughton thought that it would be fitting to have an apple theme. He stated that, “I lobbied for the theme but it was not come heck or high water.” Mr. Donovan Rowe thought that it would be a “nice idea to have the theme something apple related.”

Although there was some controversy over the theme originally, Homecoming Coordinator Mrs.

on the list, and we actually plan to add more to them, such as the season passes for sports, but with that we need to figure out what technology we need.” He was also asked, “Why we use them for so much?” Rowe stated that, “Colleges use cards like these. They uses their cards for food, books, and everything else, and we want to prepare our students for that.”

The cards are new, and there is a lot of kinks that need to be worked out. They will become a part of the daily routine. And even though there a new addition, I doubt the seniors will chant “Go home ID cards!”

By: Courtney O' Hara

Nancy Massoll said previously to the dance that “some students are

disappointed, but some have had great ideas. It is going to be a beautiful dance. We took the topic and ran with it.”

Monday was Get Up and Go Day, Tuesday was Farmer Day, Wednesday was Farm Animal Day, Thursday was Class Color Day, and Friday was Red and White Day. The dance had beautiful leaves and lovely trees filling the gym. In the end, the theme didn't affect the fun that students had during spirit week and the dance.

## Contact Us

Do you have any questions about high school or anything involved with Huron High? The staff of "The Huron Beat" wants you to ask us! Submit any of your questions (anonymously if you wish) to [thehuronbeat@yahoo.com](mailto:thehuronbeat@yahoo.com) or to the soon to be established box in the library.



We are also taking submissions for the Creative Corner, a page that will feature poems and short stories by Huron High School students. These can be published anonymously if you wish. If you need to contact the staff of *The Huron Beat* for any reason, including replies to our articles or questions regarding the paper, feel free to e-mail us at [thehuronbeat@yahoo.com](mailto:thehuronbeat@yahoo.com) or leave your question in Mr. Moccadlo's mailbox.

## Teacher Talk

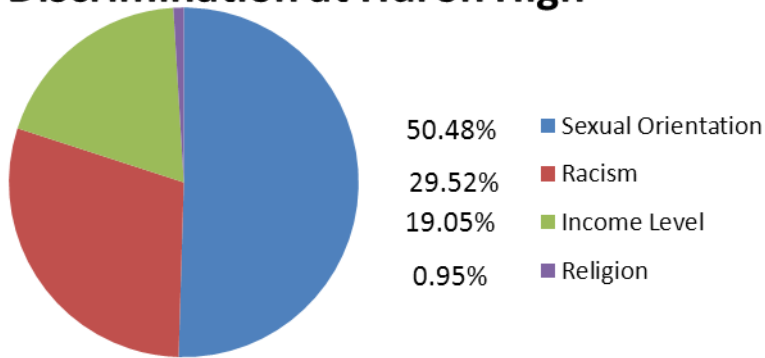
If you have been wondering what's with all of the surveys that have been floating around....and all of the students interrupting your classes, let me take a minute to explain. These kids are conducting research for Psychology I class. If you didn't already know, psychology is the scientific study of human behavior. Every year, I like to begin by getting the students thinking about what types of questions psychologists ask and the kinds of research conducted to find the answers to these questions. Of course, we begin by learning the basics of psychology and research, but then I put the kids to the test by having them de-

sign and carry out a study of their own. Instead of taking a test, the students have to show me that they understand the concepts by actually applying them. To begin with, the students are broken up into groups of 3 or 4 where they start brainstorming possible topics to focus on, keeping in mind that the research has to be done during school hours, with the student body (or some element of it) as the population of the study. From here, the groups formulate their hypotheses and get started. Each group is responsible for determining the sample size, how to get a representative sample, which research method fits their goals best,

and so on. After the data is collected and analyzed, the groups must complete a paper and present their findings to the class (with lots of visual aids, graphs and diagrams, etc.). Some of the topics of research this year included: technology, sports, GPA, energy drinkers, views on relationships, drug use, the impact of divorce on kids, and self-esteem. The students really seem to like this assignment, and although our data is not truly valid, we still get a good idea of what the kids of Huron are like. So, a big "thanks" goes out to those of you who supported this activity!

By: Mrs. Karleen Patrick

## Discrimination at Huron High



These are the results for this month's poll. Students were asked, "What issue related to discrimination do you think is most common in our high school?"

## Discrimination

A girl walks to her locker with her head down and a frown on her face. She tries to tune out the derogatory slurs people are yelling at her. She approaches her locker weary of what she might find. "Dyke" "Lesbo" are among the things plastered all over the front of her locker. She tries to hold back the tears as she wonders if this is ever going to end.

Discrimination against homosexuals is not the only type of discrimination occurring in many schools. Racism, sexual orientation, and household income are the ammunition bullies use to attack their victims. Suicide has become much more common in teenagers than it used to be. For children under the age of fifteen, about 2 out of every 100,000 children will commit suicide. For those fifteen to nineteen, about 11 out of 100,000 will commit suicide.

Sometimes students are not always aware of the discrimination occurring in their school. However it is happening in many schools, even here at Huron High School. Mrs. Moigis, one of the school counselors, answered a few questions about discrimination in Huron High School. When asked if she had dealt with situations where a student was being bullied because of their race, sexual orientation, and/or household income she responded with "yes." She deals with cases like these depending on the situation. Bullying is usually referred to the assistant principal because "It does not always work to talk about your feelings," Moigis said, "I think discrimination is prevalent everywhere. It would be naïve to say that it does not exist at our school, but I feel that we have a safe environment."

What exactly causes people to

discriminate against others? There are many different reasons why different people discriminate, but the biggest reason would probably be "fear of the unknown". Teenagers are afraid of what they do not understand, what is weird or unusual; what is 'not normal'. They are unaccepting of people who are different from themselves, or what is not, in their eyes, socially acceptable.

If teenagers were able to open their minds and were more accepting of their peers, then problems regarding discrimination would most likely go down. Everyone has a story, and until you spend a day in their shoes you have no right to judge them. Nobody has the right to judge you for being yourself, just like you do not have the right to judge them. It is your life, be who you want to be.

By: Abby Bigenho

## Bottle Recycling

Huron will do any kind of fundraiser. They do fundraisers for school trips and for people with an illness. Every day, Huron's 800+ students go to lunch and by water bottles or pop bottles. Just from one school day there are hundreds of plastic bottles thrown away. So, I started to wonder. Why doesn't the school do bottle recycling? School systems always need more money. With bottle returns there would be more money for groups and after school activities.

There are several reasons we don't have bottle recycling or returns. "We don't have someone who is interested in picking up the bottles with no charge. If somebody wants to pay for it, I will be glad to have the kids pick it up," says Mr. Black, teacher and head of the Ecology Club.

Any kind of recycling is a good thing in this new age. Here at Huron we do paper recycling. Even though we don't have the funding to return the bottles, can't we recycle them? "I think it's a good thing period," says one of the kitchen workers, "But I don't think the school would do it." In 2006, Americans purchased almost 31 billion bottles of water. Manufacturing so much plastic releases more than 800,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases. Only 10% of plastic water bottles are recycled, the rest ends up in the landfill. It takes 500 years for a water bottle to decompose. Not recycling bottles also leads to millions of crude oil that must be used up to manufacture the tons of plastic being consumed.

My curiosity began to rise. I had to know why we don't recycle bottles. I went to the most obvious person to talk to. "I have talked to the School Store about having a bin," says Mr. Rowe, "I think it is a great idea." Our school should not pass up the opportunity to make extra money and help our community become a better place.

For the time being, Huron does not have a recycling bin nor will we in the immediate future. If you want to help recycle there are things you can do. You can buy a refillable water bottle and fill it up with tap water. But above all, reduce your use of plastic bottles. In the end its cheaper for you and healthier for the environment.

By: Kate Atencio

## Zig Zags

Tuesday, September 13th Target released it's newest line by Missoni, the Zig Zag line. The line, by Margherita Missoni, was adapted from a popular trend in Europe, zig zags. The line includes everything from rain boots, to clothing, to furniture. When releasing the zig zags, Target created a 25 foot texting doll covered in zig zags from head to toe. This doll, called "Little Marina" was operated by 4 puppets and was located in Times Square during fashion week in New York. Everyone went crazy over the idea of these zig zags, buying out the whole stores, and the line

turned out to be nothing less than a hit.

The line turned out to have a much better outcome than expected, Target had women lined up before 8 AM, and most stores were completely sold out by 9 AM. Online shoppers did a ton of shopping on the Target website as well, it was way over capacity and the madness caused Targets website to be down almost all day. Customers also were posting rude things about Target on Twitter and Facebook, as well as calling Target's customer service expressing their anger against the store because

their orders were being cancelled and not shipped. Some customers even said due to the problems they encountered trying to buy these items, they will never shop at Target again. Some people even bought the items from Target and sold them for many times the original price on websites such as Ebay and Craig's list. The cute and fun "collectibles" are Target's biggest hit in awhile. This line is limited edition, and it's going very fast. So if you plan to be rocking zig zags this fall and winter, you better get them before they're gone!

By: Shelby Wallace

## “Teens Read”

Introducing Huron High School’s newest club: Teens Read. This club was created when Juniors Samantha Midkiff and Carrie Bath expressed interest in a book club, considering how much they liked the Young Adult Lit. class that they had taken previously. This club is sponsored by Mrs. Carrie Melynchenko and their first meeting will be Monday October 10th. The meeting will take place in the

media center, after school from 2:50 to 4:00. The reading selection will be Y.A.L (Young Adult Lit.) titles. This book club will be very casual and social, probably meeting once a month to give readers time to read and discuss.

By: Abby Bigenho



## Writing Camp

In the middle of July, most students are still asleep. Some, however, are in Huron High School’s media center. They range from first graders to eleventh graders, but all of them are armed with pencils and little notebooks. College students and Huron teachers are here as well.

Why are these people here? They are all participating in the Huron River Writing Connection, a 5-day summer camp held annually at Huron High School. The camp is organized by Mrs. Molly Fichtner, a teacher at Huron High School, who founded it in 2009.

She had a number of reasons for starting the camp. “I had heard about the Inkstains program,” she said, referring to a summer writing camp held at Eastern Michigan University, “but I didn’t think that was very accessible for

our students, because of the cost and the distance.” Fichtner’s goal was to create a smaller, more local writing camp. “I’m a mom of kids in the district, and I wanted them to have the same opportunities.”

“I had a whole bunch of students who were English majors, and I thought I could get some of them to volunteer.” She recruited them to be counselors at the Huron River Writing Connection. Various Huron teachers also help out, as does Mrs. Debra Krauss, Huron School District’s curriculum director.

Together, they guide students through various exercises designed to help them brainstorm ideas. “We try to do some hands-on things,” Fichtner said. The writers are shown pictures and played musical selections to stimulate their creativity, and they are given the opportunity to discuss ideas and

techniques. Plenty of free writing time is provided because, as Fichtner said, “I think students don’t get the opportunity to write for fun very much.” All the students work toward a final piece of writing, which will be compiled in a booklet. Then, on the fifth and final day, there is a celebration at the metro park, where the students read their finished work to their parents and peers.

“Being in a summer writing camp was a wonderful experience,” said William McGuire III, a junior at Huron High. “Being with a group of writers who think as I do was an incredible experience, and I will never forget it.”

If Fichtner has her way, it will all happen again next summer. “I’m hoping to do it again,” she said. Her goal for this year is to keep helping students improve.

By: Samantha Perry

## Pool Construction

Over this past summer, most people know about the multiple renovations that have been going around the school district. But there has been one specific reconstruction that has caused many things to change. Our Huron High School pool went from being touched up, to a serious problem.

Over the past 36 years, there has been much damage to the pool. The original plan for the pool renovation called for replacing exterior walls and putting in proper vapor barriers. But it was soon after the construction started that the workers realized that there was much more work to be done. After starting the reconstruction, some very severe damage to the roofing and trusses was noticed.

With all these changes comes some inconvenience in the making. The girls' swim team has the biggest inconvenience when it comes to changes concerning the pool. Since the pool cannot be used during the school year, the team must practice at Brownstown Middle School (BMS). During the summer, they practiced at Woodhaven High School. Also with turning to a new school for help, caused activities

with the schools to clash. So rather than having practice right after school, the girls have to practice from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. On that note, getting the girls who don't have their license or a car is rather a struggle sometimes.

With a swim team, comes swim meets of course. Now with the girls having a home meet, it isn't really home to them anymore. A home away from home. Since the pool can't be used, home meets must now be at BMS. Now it doesn't seem like a big deal, right? Oh, well just get everyone there like you do practice. Well, that's not exactly the case. You have to have hand-timers, and that's always a challenge because some people may not want to drive out those few extra miles just to volunteer to time. The crowds are also affected. Not many people want to go out a little bit farther to watch the girls swim. Even having the meets at HHS, the crowds were very low in attendance, which brings in less money for the school.

Most people just think that just the swim team is involved in this kind of setback. Huron High

had an aerobics class. There is a two week period that is held for water aerobics. Obviously, you cannot do water aerobics without water. That leaves an extra two weeks to fill. But there is also a class that not many students know about.

Huron used to hold a life-guarding class. Where students could take one trimester of life-guarding and get their license and go work at a pool as a job. With no pool, the class cannot be held. It was convenient for students to take this free class because it would bring them more opportunities. Some students may not be able to afford a class at a recreation center, thus having it at school would make it free.

Who would have thought that one school renovation could cause hundreds of individual problems? The pool is not scheduled to open in the 2011-2012 school year, but many students are hoping for an early opening as soon as possible.

By: Veronica Rates

# October

## Huron School District

							1 Homecoming Dance Applefest
2 Applefest	3	4 Brown Picture Day	5	6	7 Brown PTO Carnival 5:30-8:30 PM	8	
9	10 School Board Meeting 6 PM Band Festival	11 MEAP Testing	12 MEAP Testing	13 MEAP Testing	14 End of 1st Progress Report	15	
16	17 MEAP Make-up Testing School Board Meeting 6 PM	18 MEAP Testing Miller PTO 4 PM	19 MEAP Make-up Testing Renton NJHS Induction	20 MEAP Testing	21 MEAP Testing	22	
23	24 School Board Meeting 6 PM Elem. Parades	25 MEAP Make-up Testing	26 MEAP Make-up Testing	27 MEAP Make-up Testing Renton Halloween Dance	28 Brown Trunk & Treat Family Night 6-9 PM	29	
30	31						