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Anoka Middle School for the Arts

History of Halloween

By: Kennedy Determan

Lots of people celebrate Halloween. It's lots of people's favorite holiday, and I can see why! Dressing up, getting candy, staying up late, carving pumpkins, and putting up spooky decorations. But where do all of these strange traditions come from?

Hundreds of years ago, October 31 was said to be the one night of the year where spirits could come back from the dead. There would be a festival called "All Hallows Eve" which is where the name Halloween is said to come from. On All Hallows Eve people would dress up in animal skins and furs to try to scare the evil spirits away.

My favorite part of Halloween is trick or treating! Trick or treating started in Great Britain and Scotland in the form of "souling" where children and poor people would go door to door and sing and say prayers in return for cakes, bread, and money. Jack-o-lanterns are really fun to make, but who had the idea to put a face into a pumpkin? In Ireland, people would go trick or treating, but needed a light source to scare of the evil spirits, they didn't have pumpkins, so they would use turnips and put them on poles.

Halloween has changed a lot throughout the years, and has a very complex and interesting history. I hope you have a fun, and safe Halloween!

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Technology Takes Tolls On Classrooms

By: Carly Geissler

Over the years technology has taken over the classroom in so many ways. Schools were just one room school houses, and then it turns into us using our smartphones in the lessons.! In Minnesota, schools average spending between \$10,000 and \$12,000 per student per year. How!?! Some of it is from your chair and desk. I'm sure it's also your paper and printer ink as well, sure that adds up, but this computer I'm typing on right now, surely can't be very cheap. All the Macs in the computer lab and in the library can't be costless either.

Now it seems all things we do in class are electronic. We've gone from chalkboards to whiteboards to overheads to smart boards in just 100 years, and that's a small amount for all the years school has been educating children. It was 1960 when white boards eliminated chalkboards. Then in 1984, just 24 years later, Apple computers were used in the computer lab. The evolution of computers took over quickly.

This must have an effect on the learning environment. In England, they have started banning cell phones from schools and their performances started improving in a matter of five days. So even the school's use of computers may have an effect on this. Instead of taking that test they could have another tab hidden on instagram. You just switch when the teacher walks by. I'm not saying this is a bad thing. It's just insane how tests can be improved just by taking technology out of the equation. So schools boards, Google that!

Sources: https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=66

AMSA Music Survey Time

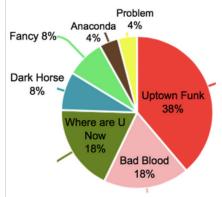
By: Phillip Prokopenko

There are a lot of great songs people listen to every day. Once a song gets popular, it spreads virally. In 2014, Taylor swift's "Bad Blood" won music video of the year. Mark Ronson's and Bruno Mars' "Uptown Funk" won best male video. Everyone in the world has their opinions, but what do students at AMSA think? Are the most popular songs the ones that they like the best? To find out, we have done a survey to see which songs students at AMSA like.

50 students were surveyed and had to choose a song out of a selection of the most popular songs from 2014 and beyond, which includes: **Uptown Funk** (Mark Ronson & Bruno Mars), **Anaconda** (Nicki Minaj), **Bad Blood** (Taylor Swift), **Where are U Now** (Skrillex, Diplo and Justin Bieber), **Dark Horse** (Katy Perry), **Problem** (Ariana Grande), and **Fancy** (Iggy Azalea).

It looks like "Uptown Funk" is the most popular song around by 38%, next to "Bad Blood" and "Where are U Now". So the data is similar to the top charts. You know what they say: Great minds think alike.

Information from: www.billboard.com



Wild Choked by California Teams

By: The Sports Tornado

In the new 2015-16 hockey season, the state of hockey after the first few games was thinking of a perfect season. However, teams like the Kings and the Mighty Ducks have other intentions. In the 2014-15 season, in 2 games in December, they lost them both to the ducks and with a total of 7-3 goals Anaheim to Minnesota. Just as we expected, they proved that no matter how they play, they just can't beat those ducks. The Wild played the Ducks on Sunday Oct. 18 and came out with a loss of 4-1.

Politics: Republican Race

By: Dejoria Dalhouse

Who is Representing the Republicans For Presidency? Between the Republicans it looks like Donald Trump and Ben Carson are battling it out. Ben Carson, a retired neurosurgeon and Republican Party candidate for President of the United States in the 2016 election is pushing Trump's buttons. Yes, Donald Trump is still leading but he better make the right choices before Carson comes winning that spot.

Donald Trump remains ahead in the early Republican nominating contests of Iowa and New Hampshire, but his lead has shrunk from a month

ago.



By: Carly Geissler

Have you ever questioned what's really in the meat you consume? What was the animal like before it came to your plate? Studies have shown that about three fourths of all antibiotics sold are fed to the animals you eat. It almost averages out to 80%. These antibiotics are mainly to make them grow fatter and faster. But what effect does this have on humans? Here's a little background information. When they give none sick animals medication, it clears all bacteria, but it has a down side, this makes it a perfect breeding ground for dangerous bacteria to multiply extremely fast. So when one "bad" bacteria cell gets on one of the animals it spreads like wildfire. So when they make your beef and chicken, it can carry dangerous bacteria, which is one of the reasons we don't eat raw meat. In the process of cooking it demolishes all the bacteria. Not telling you meat's bad, just be careful what you ingest, it can carry salmonella, or other dangerous disease. Just remember to cook all chicken and pork thoroughly and wash your hands every time you touch raw meat.

Arts & Entertainment

Nintendo News

By: Gabriel Parkos

Nintendo has had many announcements regarding their future and past lineup with 2015, and we are going to look and examine each future game release this year.



Yoshi's Woolly World: Meet Yoshi and his friends all raveled up in this adventure. Yarn Yoshi and an optional 2nd player Yoshi are out to stop the evil wrath of Kamek.

The Legend of Zelda; Triforce Heroes: The last thing you would expect from the Legend of Zelda series would be another multiplayer game, with the 4 swords games receiving average reviews. Triforce Heros looks very interesting, and fun! They improve on 4 swords by having the multiplayer not necessary, with a single and multiplayer campaign. The story goes as follows. The future Hyrule, known as Hytopia, where a new princess, Princess Styla, is sent a gift from a witch. The box contained an ugly jumpsuit. The princess went into isolation, until a fabled hero saved her, but 3 heroes are claiming they're the true hero.

Animal Crossing: **Amiibo Festival**: Do you like Mario Party and animal crossing? Here is the game for those people(Including Me). You download the game for free on the EShop. You pay for the game by buying amiibos.

Sonic Boom: Ice and Fire: I don't have high hopes for this game. The first two games were disasters, and they say that the game will play like Sonic Boom: Shattered Crystal. I will talk about it's story anyway. Robotnik Discovering an element known as Ragnium, Eggman starts harnessing it for himself, using it to create robots that can allegedly outrun Sonic and his friends while also damaging the environment in the process. Meanwhile, D-Fekt, a rejected robot Eggman created to search for Ragnium, starts using his magnetic powers to try and become more powerful. Sonic and his friends attempt to stop Eggman and D-Fekt and restore balance to the environment.

Those are the big games releasing for 2015.!

Sources:

http://nintendo.wikia.com/wiki/Nintendo_Wiki



Pet Poll

By: Carina Blinov

What pet does AMSA love the most? Let's find out in this poll!

Question: If you could get one pet today, it would be a...

Dog: 40 Cat: 18 Bird: 3 Reptile: 7 Hamster: 4

Other: 23 None: 5

Top 5 Movie Countdown for 2015

By: Makenzie Taylor

The movies that will be shown have been rated by your classmates and teachers.

I hope you all keep reading and enjoy my movie list!

#5 Inside Out

Directed by Pete Docter and Ronnie Del Carmen, the thoughts in your head come alive in Inside Out! After young Riley is uprooted from her Midwest life and moved to San Francisco, her emotions - Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness - conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house, and school. But when Joy and Sadness get lost in her brain and thoughts, trouble is the only thing on her mind.



#4 Minions

Directed by Kyle Balda and Pierre Coffin, the minions are back! Minions Stuart, Kevin and Bob are recruited by Scarlet Overkill, a super-villain woman who, alongside her inventor husband Herb, hatches a plot to take over the world. But minions, of course, are a bit clumsy, and that's not only unfortunate for them, but for Scarlet as well.

#3 Home

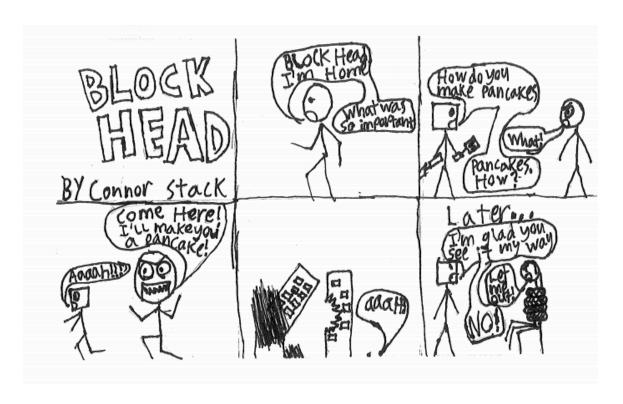
Directed by Tim Johnson. After the Boov aliens took over planets, they spotted earth and they decided to make home there. The aliens invaded the humans, and took over... except for a little girl, Tip. She escapes with former alien Oh to go find her mom.

#2 The Age of Adaline

Directed by Lee Toland Krieger. Adaline Bowman has miraculously remained a youthful 29 years of age for nearly eight decades, never allowing herself to get close to anyone lest they discover her secret.

#1 Pixels

Directed by Chris Columbus. When the aliens intercept with old time video games, such as Pac-Man, Frogger, Centipede, and Donkey Kong, the aliens declare a war against Earth-- and they use the games' models to destroy.



Bone Chilling or Just Plain Out Lame?

By: Ryan Reichstadt

Halloween has a reason of celebrating for one reason and one reason only: to scare the living daylights out of people, right? Well, ever since the day had come, Halloween is particularly just a "holiday" in which people dress into costumes and scare others for their candy. Seems straightforward, right? But is there really a point?

Halloween was "supposedly" a ritual to scare spirits, phantoms, and the devil himself, by wearing terrifying costumes such as masks, raggy clothes, et cetera. So, does that mean people are still doing this? I myself, don't think so. Nowadays people doing it for enjoyment, and probably since then. If anything, I think the whole "ritual" was a bit misstated.

Besides costumes, candy, and what's thought to be phantoms, it's the movies that are a bit vacuous. Not much can be said about horror movies, besides their clichés; for example, masked murder with a knife, child ghosts, teenage vampires, haunted hospitals, and teenage victims; it doesn't really add up.

Though Halloween is a slighted holiday, it really makes big business (not as much as Christmas or any holiday in particular though). Halloween candy is for sale in many stores around the United States, heck, the world even.

So, is it even worth buying candy? Does it kind of waste money? Are costumes really that necessary? Are the movies even that scary? Is Halloween just a "kids" holiday? Is it mostly an opinion?

That's something people really need to figure out for themselves.





Halloween Word Search



AMSA Costume Contest!

Send us your Halloween costume pic for a chance to win big!

Use your school email to send a photo for a chance to win a prize! Prizes will be given to the most creative costumes, and winners will be published in the next issue!

Send your picture to Kristin_Gifford@ahschools.us