



## School News

### Agriscience Happenings

By Eve McCorkle

This week, the students in the agriscience class are still on the Christmas wreath grind. They are putting together wreaths and centerpieces for a person of their choice. The students can either make a wreath or centerpiece, or both! We have a couple of students working on the wreaths and the others making centerpieces. This is all we will be doing this week; it will be just a relaxing and chill class. This is a great way to get in the Christmas spirit and brighten up somebody's day.

Here is a quick recap of what has gone on in the past during this class. The first thing that the students did was pickle making. They used cucumbers, vinegar, and water to ferment the cucumbers. Then the students went on to make salsa. This was a great experiment to participate in! They used the tomatoes from Mrs. Bossard's garden and created their salsa. Then they spent quite a bit of time on apples. They made applesauce, apple pie, and dried apples. Then the class made their way to cheese. First, they participated in the "Mac n' Cheese Challenge," the students made their advertisements and they also got to choose what type of mac n cheese they wanted to create. After that, they started to make their cheese. That is just about it! Like I said they are on their wreath and centerpiece unit.



So overall this class is completely occupied. Stay tuned for what will be going on in this class next week.

Photo Cred: HelloArtsy

## School Spotlights

### Interviewing Mrs. Kowalski

By : Maren Ettrich

**Mrs. Kowalski is the Hamilton Central School high school art teacher. She is planning the Friday spirit days.**

**Question 1 : How do you feel about the ideas? Do you like them why or why not**

Answer : I like them and I think they're fun, but I am always looking for new ideas.

**Question 2 : How would you rate the creativity and why did you give it this rating?**

Answer : I would say that it is not that creative because I do the same ones every year.

**Question 3 : What is your favorite day and why is it your favorite?**

Answer : I would say my favorite day is probably holiday pajama day. I like this because it is the most comfortable.

**Question 4 : How do you feel about the effort that was put into the spirit days.**

Answer : I feel that the effort put into it is middling. And I would say sometimes people do it but sometimes they don't.

**Question 5 : Do you think the students will like it? Why or why not.**

Answer : I think some students like them and get into it, but others really don't get into that much or care.

# Emerald Press

## Senior Spotlight

By: Gavin Snyder

**Name** - Bre Craven

**Favorite Christmas movie** - Our Little Secret. It's the new one with Lindsay Lohan and it was a lot better than I expected. It's not like the generic Hallmark Christmas movies you think about, same cheesy plot line but really funny and not as predictable. I highly recommend it!

**Oli veris or Slices** - Slices. all day every day. No one can convince me otherwise. The crust is better on Slices pizza and their mozzarella sticks slap no matter what. Cheese to bread ratio is immaculate.

**Favorite song** - It changes every day but I'd say "Stubborn Love" by The Lumineers right now.

**Favorite artist** - Niall Horan! His music is so good and it never fails to put me in a good mood. #1D

**Favorite HS memory** - probably gonna have to say starting golf with Mr. Snyder and being able to learn but also have fun and stuffed crust pizza



**Mc Danks order** - medium number 7 with a sweet tea. and sometimes a strawberry banana smoothie or an Oreo and M&M McFlurry for a sweet treat.

**Advice for the youth** - Do not neglect your mental health. Take care of yourself, and keep doing the things that make

YOU happy. Speak up for yourself and don't let others, especially ones you're supposed to look up to, walk all over you. Carve your own path and don't be pressured to do anything you don't want to do.

Photo credit - Bre Craven

## Local news

### Weekly Weather Preview

By Cheyanne Bennett

Next week looks to be mostly cloudy and cold with a chance of sunshine in some areas. Get ready to wear your winter sweater!!

**Monday, December 16th, 2024:** Cloudy with a high of 40 degrees and a low of 35 degrees and winds at 5 to 10 mph.

**Tuesday, December 17th, 2024:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 44 degrees and a low of 33 degrees and winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Wednesday, December 18th, 2024:** Cloudy with a high of 38 degrees and a low of 29 degrees and winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Thursday, December 19th, 2024:** Mostly cloudy with snow in the morning with a high of 34 degrees and a low of 25 degrees and winds at 5 to 10 mph.



**Friday, December 20th, 2024:** Cloudy with a high of 31 degrees and a low of 23 degrees and winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday, December 21st, 2024:** Cloudy with a high of 29 degrees and a low of 19 degrees and winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Sunday, December 22nd, 2024:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 27 degrees and a low of 21 degrees and winds at 5 to 10 mph.

I hope you all have a great week!

Info credit - The Weather Channel

Photo credit-The Weather Channel

## Owl of the Week!

By: Rihana Dye

I forgot to switch my topic for December last week, so this week that's what I'm doing! In December we will be getting tips and tricks on how to get better at your sport from the athletes and coaches in the school! This week, I thought Logan Langel would be an amazing person to get advice from. Logan has played sports since she was little and is an excellent athlete in all that she plays. She is a repeating scholar-athlete and a big contributor to the varsity basketball and soccer teams. She also plays AAU during her off-seasons! She also is an amazing person to get athletic advice from!



1. "Practice! I think people often want to be good right away but you have to put a lot of time in to get to where you want to go! And when I say that I don't mean just going to your team's practice, but getting in hours by yourself!"
2. "Dedication to a sport sometimes means missing out on other really fun stuff! but if you have high-level goals, sometimes you must make those decisions!"
3. "Drink milk. @jacksonlangel"

## US News

### Fatal CEO Shooting

By : Maren Ettrich

On Wednesday December 4 there was a wealthy businessman who was shot in the Hilton midtown hotel in the center of NYC. The man's

name was Brian Thompson. Thompson died from the shooting at only 50 years old, and was shot in the leg and back. Thompson was a very wealthy man whose net worth was 43 million dollars. He was the CEO of Unitedhealthcare. The entire company was worth over 430 million dollars.

Unitedhealthcare is one of the most popular health insurance companies in the United states. Thomaspan held a lot of power and say over this company and made a lot of hard choices during his time as CEO. He was very respected by many people. But with this respect and power Thomaspan also had many people who hated him and the company he stood for. In this article I will be talking about why peace believed why this man was killed and the very first suspect in this case.

This case has caused worldwide attention for this case because of it being a very hard case to solve. The police do believe that the killer was only looking for Thompson and had one mission to kill. Why the police believe this is because Thomaspan was the only one who was shot at and killed. After the killing happened the killer took off on bike and headed to central park. Even though they had the killer on tape kill Thomaspan they lost track of him once he reached central park. The police believe that the killer knew this because central park is very hard to track and put cameras up because of its size. The police also believe that this killer is a man because of his size. The killer also wore black clothes with a ski mask to hide his face and body. Why this case is so hard to solve is because of how many people did not like this man because of what he stood for.



But after a week of this case being unsolved there has been an address. The man who was the first suspect is named Luigi Mangione. He is 26 years old and comes from a very wealthy and well known family. Mangion's friends and family are shocked by this. Before this killing Mangion

graduated at the top of his class with a good future ahead of him. There is still so much we do not know about this case. We still are not sure why he killed Thomaspan. We also still don't know if he planned this murder out.

Source : CNN

## Things You May Missed This Week

By- Dorothy Disha

- Following the release of Wicked, the ruby slippers in the original "Wizard of Oz" worn by Judy Garland sold at an auction for 32.5 million dollars, becoming the most valuable movie prop to be sold.



● Taylor Swift has performed her final Era's Tour show in Vancouver.

- Kendrick Lamar has been announced to be performing at halftime in the 2025 Super Bowl.
- Golden Globe awards have been announced!
- According to CNN, the majority of Americans (54%) approve of how Trump's handling the presidential transition so far.
- The new Harry Potter Series has been announced to start filming over the Summer by HBO MAX.

Photo credits- NY Times.

## Squirrel Wins 2024 Comedy Wildlife Photography

By: Pyper McEwan

A squirrel got stuck inside a tree, and got rewarded with comedy wildlife photography.

The photo is named "Stuck Squirrel" .

The picture has a frog in a bubble and a bream chasing a bald eagle. There were a lot of picks for this award, but the squirrel came out on top winning this award. This photo was captured when the squirrel was running into the tree to hide and the photographer took the picture at the right time.

Photo cred: CNN

Info: CNN



## Global News

### Israeli Strikes on Syria

By Cheyanne Bennett

On December 10th Syria got hit by Israeli strikes. Many reports have been made that Israeli warplanes have sent out hundreds of airstrikes at Syria including



Damascus, Syria's capital. These Israeli strikes have targeted many of Syria's Military Facilities, including their

weapon warehouses, ammunition depots, airports, naval bases, and many of their research centers. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said they documented even more than 310 strikes since the Assad Regime fall.

Israel says their actions are to prevent any weapons from falling "into any of the extremist's

# Emerald Press

hands” as Syria is transitioning into their post - Assad time. Overnight on Monday, December 9th, and Tuesday, December 10th Syrian’s Observatory for Human Rights has reported that there have been about 60 attacks fired at Aleppo, Damascus, and Hama. Many reports in Syria have been made that Many of Syria’s facilities have not just been damaged but they have been completely destroyed.

Info credit-BBC.com  
Photo credit-NBC News

## Netanyahu on Trial on Corruption Charges

By Michael Hayden

This Tuesday, December 10, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu took the stand for the first time in a corruption trial that has been ongoing since 2020. The trial involves three se parate but related cases that include charges of bribery, fraud, and breach of trust.



The first case, Case 1000, is on the grounds that Netanyahu received \$300,000 of gifts from Arnon Milchan and James Packer in exchange for favors such as pressuring Isra’s finance ministry into doubling the length of time that expatriate Israelis, like Milchan, will receive a tax exemption upon returning to Israel. Neither Milchan nor Packer is being prosecuted.

In Case 2000, Netanyahu is accused of agreeing to consider enacting legislation that would hinder newspaper *Israel Hayom* in exchange for flattering coverage from rival newspaper *Yediot Aharonot*. *Yediot Aharonot* publisher Arnon Mozes is also on trial.

Lastly, as part of Case 4000, Netanyahu and Shaul and Iris Elov itch are all on trial for forming a business arrangement in which

Netanyahu supported the couple’s business interest in exchange for the power to shape coverage on their news site, Walla.

Netanyahu will continue to testify for the next few weeks. Should hœbe convicted, he faces several years of jail time. However, it will likely be years before a verdict is reached.

Photo: Israeli Protests 2023 by Avishag ShaarYashuv for The New York Times

## Entertainment

### Christmas Movie Word Search

By: Pyper McEwan

#### Word Search

S	D	A	M	A	A	T	R	L	R	R	L	M	C
T	E	A	S	T	K	L	A	U	S	R	E	S	O
F	R	E	D	C	L	A	U	S	A	A	T	M	J
O	P	F	N	F	F	R	L	E	L	T	H	S	F
T	L	C	R	S	M	S	T	A	H	L	L	C	D
E	P	O	L	A	R	E	X	P	R	E	S	S	A
E	A	X	T	S	O	R	F	K	C	A	J	A	R
C	A	M	G	H	C	N	I	R	G	E	H	T	A
R	K	K	R	A	M	P	U	S	K	E	F	R	P
A	L	K	H	T	X	E	A	U	A	H	K	E	M
S	A	N	T	A	C	L	A	U	S	A	E	F	T
N	L	K	S	H	O	M	E	A	L	O	N	E	H
H	C	L	L	E	S	T	T	K	L	F	S	M	L
A	H	F	C	G	S	R	L	S	T	A	L	U	F

POLAR EXPRESS  
FRED CLAUS  
JACK FROST  
KRAMPUS  
THE GRINCH  
ELF  
SANTA CLAUS  
KLAUS  
HOME ALONE

### Guess The Student

By Ezra Stahlberg

Emerald Press week four is officially here, and with it comes a new week of guessing the student. See how quickly you can imagine the student. (These hints are all made up with the students and approved by the students)

**Hint One:** This student is in the Ski Club.

**Hint Two:** This student is horrid at pickleball.

# Emerald Press

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**Hint Three:** This student is very loud.

**Hint Four:** This student is a regular at Stewarts.

**Hint Five:** This student's favorite subject is Art.

**Hint Six:** This Student's favorite restaurant is Oliveris.

**Hint Seven:** This student's favorite teacher is Mrs Kawolski.

**Hint Eight:** This student has done karate.

**Hint Nine:** This student is always found with Dom Mensche

**Hint Ten:** This student and Sawyer are an artistic dynamic duo.

## Opinion

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### Moana 2 Review

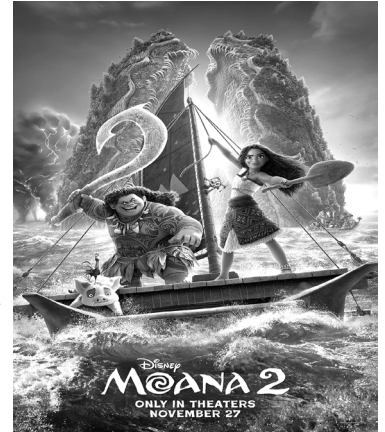
By- Dorothy Disha

After a long, and well -anticipated wait, Moana 2 came to theaters last week. While nothing could compare to the first movie, this one seemed like a complete disaster. Here is what I thought: (**Warning: SPOILERS**)

**Music** —Moana 1 had many catchy songs, like “You’re Welcome,” “How Far I’ll Go,” and “Shiny.” These songs made sense during specific scenes and affected the audience afterward. The songs in Moana 2, however, were disappointing and unconventional at times. The only notable song was “Beyond”, with everything else seeming like a forced rendition of Encanto. Songs are what make a movie good, movies like Frozen, Encanto, and the previous Moana, all have memorable songs that differentiate each character and movie plot. This was not shown at all within Moana 2.

**Animation** - As any sequel, the animation improved, due to higher budgets and new technology. They added small details within each character and object that I appreciated. For example Moana looked older, and her soar has Maui’s signature from the first movie, a cute easter egg.

**Plot** - I have no idea what exactly the plot was, seriously. The plot seemed scattered, and a mix of multiple ideas into one. It was clear that Disney originally opted for this to be a show because it seemed so rushed



and jumbled. Throughout the movie, Moana goes through many obstacles to unite all way finders, however towards the end she simply touches a rock and everything is fixed? The first movie had a clear problem, a good pace, and a resolution. When I walked out of the theater I was simply confused this time.

**Characters** - They added many extra characters however I couldn't name a single one. The interaction between the characters seemed random, and all of them while clearly trying to be portrayed as funny just came off as annoying and unlikeable. The only thing I SLIGHTLY appreciated was the little sister, mainly because it is cute and added depth to Moana’s relationship with her family.

Overall this movie disappointed me, while I wasn’t expecting it to be a masterpiece I wanted Disney to do Moana, a childhood favorite for many, justice.

Photo Credits- IMDB

### Frozen Jr Review

By Gavin Rutledge

# Emerald Press

Last week I decided to go watch the musical Frozen Jr. This musical exceeded my expectations. Everyone in the musical did a great job, including those behind the scenes. If you see any of the cast members in the hallway don't hesitate to say good job. The seniors also deserve recognition for directing the show, they put a lot of time and effort into making sure the actors had everything down and making sure that they put on a good show for the audience. The acting in the musical was great, they all knew their lines very well and had it down perfect. The costumes and props were great as well, they immersed you in the musical and made you forget that you were even watching a musical. The set designers did a great job of making it feel just like the movie. Overall I rate the show a 4/5 stars. After seeing this show I recommend you go to see this high school musical "The Little Shop of Horrors" March 21st and 22nd.



## Christmas Movie Review

By Gavin Rutledge

*A Christmas Card* (2009)

Directed by Robert Zemeckis

Starring Jim Carrey



The Disney version of A Christmas Carol is one of my favorite movies of all time. The movie is about Ebenezer Scrooge, he is a miserable man who hates Christmas. On Christmas Eve, he is visited by the ghost of his deceased work partner, Jacob Marley, and three others. The ghosts of

Christmas Past, Present, and what's yet to come. When these spirits visit, Scrooge realizes how selfish he really is. They show him the struggles of the people who are around him and the negative effect he has on them. He ends up waking up on Christmas morning and he is now a kind and generous man rather than bitter and miserable, he helps others around him and embraces the



Christmas spirit. Overall this movie is a great watch and I highly recommend it. I rate this movie 4.5/5

## Favorite Christmas Cookies

By: Dylan George

One of the best parts of the Holiday season is having great food, including Christmas cookies. During this time of year, several types of cookies are widespread, including gingerbread cookies, peanut butter blossoms, and frosted cutout cookies. This past week, I asked people what their favorite kinds of cookies were:

**Gavin Hames:** "My favorite type of Christmas cookie is the frosted cutout cookies because I don't like gingerbread cookies, and they are a little better than the peanut butter blossoms.

**Sawyer Latella:** "My favorite type of Christmas cookie is a peanut butter blossom cookie. This is my favorite type of cookie because my favorite combination is chocolate and peanut butter.

**Luke Langel:** "My favorite type of Christmas cookie is gingerbread cookies. I use these gingerbread men in my family's gingerbread house, which we love to make.

**Mason Magnino:** "My favorite type of Christmas cookie is gingerbread cookies. These are my favorite types of Christmas cookies because they are the most iconic cookies during the holiday season.

# Emerald Press

**Griffin Brumbach Thomsen:** “My favorite type of Christmas cookie is the Snickerdoodle. I love Snickerdoodles because of their soft and chewy texture.

All of these people's favorite types of cookies are delicious. Still, my favorite is the frosted cutout cookies because it is a tradition in my family to make them during the holiday season, and they are the most delicious.

Photo Credit: Delish website

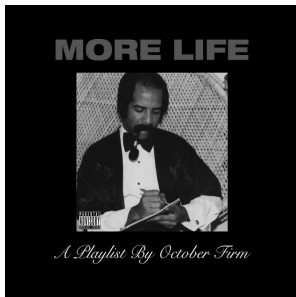


## Album Review

By Dom Mensche

Album Review is an overview of albums released by popular artists, and they are rated by professional music analyst Dominick “Metro” Mensche.

This week's review will be on the album *More Life* by Drake



*More Life* is a 2017 release from Drake, continuing his legacy of dropping banger after banger. This album has features from 2 Chainz, Young Thug, British drill rapper Giggs, Kanye, Quavo, Travis Scott, and not to mention the classic duo of Drake and PARTYNEXTDOOR.

The album is full of amazing tracks varying from RnB, to hip hop, drill, and even trap genres. We see this mix with tracks like “Passionfruit” giving an RnB/Hip-Hop vibe, talking about loving someone from a distance after a conflict/breakup. Whereas with tracks like “Free Smoke” we see a more aggressive trap style from the 6 god. He brings out his inner Toronto and city vibe with additional tracks such as “Portland” and even “Since Way Back”.

This is my 4th favorite Drake album and gives a great nostalgic feeling when streaming on a rainy drive home.

## Sports

### Girls Varsity Basketball

By Eve McCorkle



After the girls win against Poland they have been hard at work. The girls have been “ballin’ out” during their practices. Recently, the girls were supposed to have a game against Frankfort Schuyler but unfortunately, it was postponed multiple times. The team is still putting in the work at practice because they face Lafargeville home on Saturday, December 14th, 2024 at noon. Good luck girls and keep up the great work!



Photo Creds: Emily Neuenschwander and Wilson Custom Basketballs- Build Your Own Custom Basketball

### Section 3 Boys Hockey Recap

By Ezra Stahlberg

High school hockey is officially in full swing; teams are showing their true potential, and players have started to shine. So far, the team's leading division one are West Geneseo, Syracuse, RFA, Cazenovia, and the CNY Fusion, with a starting league record of 1 -0. But the West Geneseo Wildcats have won a convincing victory over reigning Division 2 State Champs Skaneateles 42. This win was a huge upset and showed how good the Wildcats could be in this upcoming season as they've cruised through their first four games. In Division 2, the Skaneateles Lakers are shaping up to be the favorites after starting the season 30 in league play. However,



# Emerald Press

their two losses in non league show that they might not be as invincible as they appeared in previous seasons. My dark horse team for both these divisions is the Syracuse Cougars after coming off a rough season last year, the Cougars have started a league record of 1 -0 and kept a strong CBA team to a one -goal game; this Syracuse roster is stacked, and with goalie Conner Rose in net and impressive performances from Nick Rayfield, they could pull through and be an absolute powerhouse in division one. My dark horse pick for Division 2 would be Oswego; with their strong performance over Whitesboro and New Hartford and impressive scoring numbers, I could see this team going far if they locked it down on defense. My players to watch for division one would be Tyler Lokker of RFA, Jonah Vormwald from West Genesee, Tyler Mayne and Nico Capriotti from Fayetteville Manlius, and Henry Millar From Cazenovia. In Division Two, I've got Luke Bobbet, Luke Mizro, and Cole Palmer from Skaneateles, as well as Jack Dement, Ryan Hayden, and Griffon Filighera.



*Photo Credit: Syracuse.Com*

## Boys Varsity Basketball

By Dom Mensche



The Hamilton Boys Varsity Basketball team has kicked off their season with a big first game win over Waterville Central School 56-43.

Leading scorers for the Knights was Drew Baker with 24, Luke Langel and Teddy Freeth both with 8, Bryce Wright with 7, Levi with 5, and Caleb with 4. The knight's lineup was started with Luke Langel at Point Guard,

Teddy Freeth at Shooting Guard, Caleb Neuenschwander and Bryce Wright on the Wings, with Drew Baker at center.

This win was huge for the Knights, not only because of the Hamilton Waterville rivalry, but also because of the tone that was set for Class C Boys Basketball. The Knights have officially been placed as Section 3's No. 2 seeded class C team behind Cooperstown. The boys play again at home against Morrisville @7pm, JV game is @5:30pm. Both games will be in the High School gym.

## JV Boys Basketball

By: Rihana Dye

The JV boys played against Waterville this past Tuesday, after a gut wrenching game they ended up winning 29-21. They were down 8-1 in the first quarter but picked up on their offense and going into halftime the score was 14-15. They picked up their offense and defense and started working together as a team. Everyone worked hard but they couldn't have done it without Gavin Oney keeping the energy up, driving when they needed it, shooting when he could, and overall being a good teammate! The team played amazing, make sure you come and support them along with the boys varsity team!



# Emerald Press

## The Emerald Press

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Note: Each writer is responsible for editing their own articles.

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**The student is Gavin Rutledge**

Photo Credit: Ezra Stahlberg