



THE BLUE EAGLE BULLETIN

BY STUDENTS



FOR STUDENTS



TIMES OF CHANGE: THE STORY BEHIND THE NEW TEAM NAMES

by Abby Cowan and Chloe Shive

Right off the bat, the thing everyone is talking about this year is the new team names. Why did they change? Why were these names chosen? We've asked Dr. Bauder all the possible questions you could have about them, and more!

One of the main questions this year regarding the team names is, why did they change? There was actually a pretty solid reason for it. It was last year when Dr. Bauder decided to change them. The school had just gotten a new 8th grade team, and there are quite a few new staff members. Dr. Bauder thought that because of all the changes the school has been undergoing, it would be nice for everyone to have a fresh start. "We really wanted to energize the staff," Dr. Bauder explained.

We asked him what his inspiration was for changing the names, and it turns out it wasn't as easy as you'd think. "It was one of the most difficult things we've ever done as a school. It was hard finding team names that were easy to spell and easy to cling to," Dr. Bauder noted. They eventually decided on mineral names. The team names weren't completely random; they actually have a security measure incorporated with them. The names are all alphabetically placed, starting with Amber. "We wanted names that were acceptable for all and provided growth," Dr. Bauder answered when we asked why he decided on mineral names. We then asked if the names had ever been changed before, and this is the first time in this building. "The previous names had been here since the building opened in 2009," Dr. Bauder replied. New team names, new team identities, and new teachers on our staff...all have contributed to a fresh start this school year.



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October 2023

NEW TEACHER FEATURE: MR. BENDEKOVITS, MR. REED, AND MR. ROPER



by Noah Keys, Brie Pacana, and Raegan Trach

This school year, there are a few new staff members who are running their first show here at NAMS. Some of these teachers include Mr. Roper of the Garnet Team, alongside Mr. Bendekovits and Mr. Reed, who are both on the Amber Team. We've asked them to answer a few questions about their newfound teaching role: when they decided they wanted to move into the teaching field, why they decided on their respective subjects, and what their first impressions of our school are. Enjoy!



Mr. Roper



Mr. Bendekovits

Firstly, we asked the terrific teachers why they decided to pursue a career in education, or when exactly it occurred to them. "I realized in the midst of my senior year in high school that I wanted to become a teacher," said Mr. Bendekovits. Mr. Reed notes that he really enjoys the company of others and didn't want to feel confined in a small work environment. Mr. Roper told us that he never envisioned he'd be a teacher until he was about halfway through his freshman year in college. He notes that he'd like to play a part in influencing the future generation via education.

Next, we inquired about why they decided particularly on their respective subjects. Mr. B. said he felt that social studies was a crucial topic to be teaching future leaders. "Numbers have always come very easy to me, and this kind of math is extremely fun in my eyes," explained Mr. Reed. Mr. Roper explained that he has always had an extreme passion for science in and out of the classroom, and that he hopes to instill the same curiosity he has always had into his students.



Mr. Reed

October 2023

NEW TEACHER FEATURE: MR. BENDEKOVITS, MR. REED, AND MR. ROPER

(continued...)

Lastly, we wanted to hear these guys' first impressions of NAMS. Mr. B. stated that Nazareth is such a great community to him, and that he's glad to be working here at the middle school with his colleagues. Mr. Reed says that everyone is very kind here at the school, and he feels very welcomed from his friendly co-teachers on Amber team. Mr. Roper commented that he feels as if he was instantly welcomed by Nazareth. "Ever since I had my first interview during the summer, I felt like I was part of a family here at Nazareth. Everyone has been so helpful to make sure that I am successful and has welcomed me into the district with open arms."

Well, it sure seems like these new teachers have some interesting insights on why they're doing what they do, and are enjoying their time here at the middle school.



Mr. Bendekovits, Mr. Roper, and Mr. Reed

October 2023

FRAU CARSON'S SHELF: A LEGACY OF LOVE AND LITERATURE

by Addie Bensing

Many of you have probably seen an isolated bookshelf in the front of the Media Center. This bookshelf is called "Frau Carson's Shelf," and on it you'll find books from many different genres. This shelf has something for everyone. Many students may be wondering the meaning of this bookshelf and why it's there. Frau Katie Carson was a middle school German teacher here at NAMS whom everyone loved. Frau was an avid reader and would stop by the Media Center often when she didn't have classes, just to chat about what she was reading. Devastatingly, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and tragically passed away in 2021. Because of the impact she had on NAMS students and teachers with her loving heart, this special shelf, supported by her family, was dedicated in her memory. Since so many of us never got to meet her in person, teachers who knew her had some thoughts to share about her.

Mrs. Mauser, one of Frau's good friends, shared, "Frau Carson's legacy was due to how she built relationships with her students in her classroom. She cared about them, and she was able to make connections with them. Senora Bowen said, "She was a teacher with a great sense of humor and really cared about all of her students and what they were going through in their lives, not just here at school." Mrs. Mauser added, "Her students were able to relate and confide in her, which meant the world to her and really touched her heart. It is hard to say which Frau loved more – teaching and inspiring kids to love German or reading books." Madame Dankel explained, "She was also very brave and willing to share her challenging journey with both the faculty and students. She continued to maintain a positive attitude throughout her battle with cancer." Mrs. Mauser agrees. "She was so

eager to pay it forward to help others in many situations, specifically for breast cancer. She began designing and selling t-shirts to support an organization called METAvivor. She donated all of the proceeds to them." Mr. Bensing, who started the bookshelf after a suggestion from Dr. Bauder, said, "We carry on her memory with the bookshelf, which represents her love of reading and our school's love for her as a friend and teacher."

Frau Katie Carson really did leave a legacy on this school as a teacher, a reader, and a good friend to everyone. Hopefully, this gives everyone a better idea of who she was, and we will continue to keep her in our thoughts as the years go on.



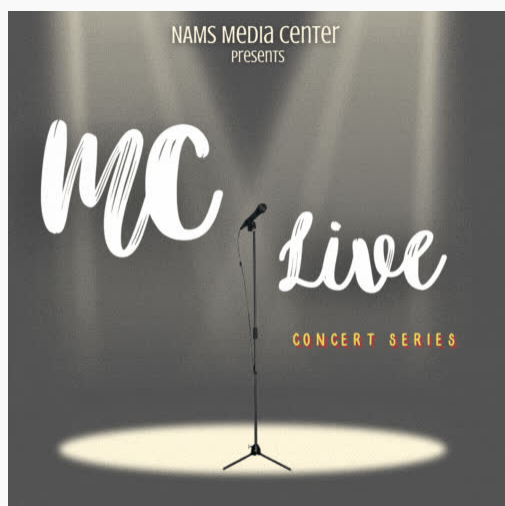
Frau Katie Carson made a lasting impact on NAMS.

October 2023



MC LIVE! OFFERS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

by Brie Pacana



You know when you see a super popular concert like Taylor Swift, AC/DC, or Morgan Wallen, you sometimes wonder how much effort it took, or how did they do all this? Well, MC Live is a club that shows you all that, just not with millions of fans. MC Live is one of the many creative clubs at NAMS, and it is all about giving people an opportunity to be a part of their own live performance. People in MC Live can do many things; whether you are a performer and want to get on stage and sing, or if you are interested in the behind-the-scenes sort of thing, there is a job for that, too! You can do something like lighting and control

the flashing and colorful lights that are shown on stage, or you can be a part of the sound crew. With the sound crew, you can help set up amps and music and adjust volume. You are mainly making sure all sound-related stuff is perfect for performers during the concert.

During the club meetings, which meet only during flextime, people will go off into their assigned groups. What you do will depend on the day and what job you have. Plus, if there is leftover time during some meetings, you will be able to sign up for karaoke!

The work done at each meeting will lead up to a big event at the end of each month. This event is...an actual concert! During the concert, the performers will go up on stage in the media center and perform whatever song they choose (that's school-appropriate). People can either sing, dance, or play an instrument. This event will be open to all people in MC Live. If you aren't performing and are helping with background stuff, you are allowed to invite one person. Anyone who is performing is allowed to invite up to two people. This ensures that performers have a supportive audience there for their performance.

MC Live is an incredible opportunity for students to express themselves in a number of different ways. If this interests you, reach out to Ms. Boger.



THE WAR IS ON! CUPCAKE WARS INVADES NAMS

by Ava McCartney



Cupcake Wars is a student-led activity from the Blue Eagle Ambassadors, hosted by Joseph Ellis and Olivia Wolf, and taking place October 30th and 31st. It is held in room 603 with Mrs. Frace, who supervises the event and gets the ingredients. Students will be picked by their homeroom teachers and will be divided into 6 groups. From there they will be instructed to make a batch of cupcakes with a theme of that month's major holiday.

For example, the cupcake wars held in October will have a Halloween theme. Cupcake Wars is a great way for students to compete, show their creativity in the kitchen, and have some fun. *The Blue Eagle Bulletin* wishes all the October participants good luck, and we look forward to future events as well!



Nazareth Area School District Presents

Fall Theater 2023

MS Theater Department

Fall Theater Showcase
Friday, 11/10 @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, 11/11 @ 7:00 pm
in the MS Auditorium

HS Theater Department

Choose Your Own Oz
Friday, 11/17 @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, 11/18 @ 7:00 pm
Sunday, 11/19 @ 2:00 pm
in the HS Auditorium



<p>Elementary Schools</p> <p>11/30 Lower Nazareth Elementary @ 7:00 pm @ Nazareth Area MS Auditorium</p> <p>12/8 Nazareth Intermediate School Chorus & Guitar Ensemble @ 7:00 pm @ Nazareth Area Intermediate School Auditorium</p> <p>12/14 Kenneth N Butz, Jr Elementary @ 7:00 pm @ Kenneth N Butz, Jr Gym</p> <p>12/15 Nazareth Area Intermediate School Band & Orchestra @ 7:00 pm @ Nazareth Area Intermediate School Auditorium</p> <p>12/19 Shafer Elementary @ 6:00 pm @ Nazareth Area HS Auditorium</p>	<p>Nazareth Area School District Presents</p> <p>Winter Concert Dates 2023</p> <p>Christmas in Nazareth Saturday, 12/9 11 am-3 pm Various Ensembles</p>	<p>Middle School</p> <p>12/7 Nazareth Area Middle School Music Department @ 7:00 pm @ Nazareth Area MS Auditorium</p> <p>High School</p> <p>12/13 Nazareth Area High School Music Department @ 7:00 pm @ Nazareth Area HS Auditorium</p>
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Note: Snow Dates Listed on School Calendars



October 2023

THE HISTORY BEHIND THE SPOOKY SEASON

by *Ella Schellenberger*



We all know and love fall, pumpkin carving, hay rides, festivals; but most of all, Halloween, the fun and festive holiday celebrated on October 31st. You may know the saying “trick or treat,” but do you know the story behind it? The holiday we all know and love originated within the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhain*. During this, people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off “ghosts.” They believed that on this day, the ghosts of the dead came back to earth, and to honor them they wore costumes. Soon after, in the eighth century, Pope Gregory III declared November 1st as National Saints Day, to honor all saints. National Saints Day included some traditions from the *Samhain*. So, the night before was known as “Hallows Eve” then later on, Halloween. This day was to honor the new fall season of harvest and start of the long cold winter. Over time, Halloween evolved into trick or treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, and eating candy!



What's your favorite candy to receive on Halloween?
Click the picture to vote!



2023'S TOP HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

by *Natalie Reagle*

Steven Silverstein, the owner of Spencer's/Spirit Halloween, the most popular Halloween costume store, has already seen a few costumes skyrocket in sales and predicts they'll just get more popular the closer Halloween gets. The costumes that are most popular are Barbie, any witch, Ghost Face, Super Mario, and any zombie. Steven Silverstein predicts that these Halloween costumes will become even more popular the week before Halloween since the companies that made them have made thousands and are only going to make more since demand is so high. These costumes are so popular because some are connected to popular movies and video games, and some are just plain classics. The companies that make these popular costumes are mass marketing these costumes that kids are already buying before they run out. These costumes are so popular that Spirit Halloween will just keep making more available until Halloween arrives.

October 2023

SPOOKY CINEMA: TOP HALLOWEEN HORROR FLICKS

by Riley Williams



With Halloween just around the corner, everyone's celebrating the spooky season. Whether it be picking out your costume or carving pumpkins, one of the most popular options is watching horror movies. From *Friday the 13th* to a *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, one can't disagree that part of Halloween is horror. So, when it comes to Halloween horror movies, what's the best horror has to offer?

Well for starters we have to look at John Carpenter's fittingly named 1978 film *Halloween*. The film follows teenage babysitter Laurie Strode trying to survive Halloween night from the psychopathic serial killer Michael Myers. The movie is famous for its suspenseful scenes always keeping viewers on the edge of their seats; it's sure to keep most up at night.

The next famous fright is a more comedy-focused family film from the 90's, *Hocus Pocus*. When three witches are released upon a small town, it's up to Max, Allison and Dani to stop them before they cause too much chaos. While still spooky, *Hocus Pocus* will have you laughing to no end as the witches get into wacky shenanigans.

One last Halloween movie I bring you is Tim Burton's stop-motion classic *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Yes, it's a Halloween movie, not a Christmas movie. Director Henry Selick said it himself, "It's a Halloween movie." The movie stars Jack Skellington as he learns about the beauty of Christmas, deviating from his Halloween norms. The film boasts stellar stop motion animation and has quite a few good songs to boot. These three movies are just a few of the best Halloween movies to view this spooky season. Happy Halloween, everyone, and stay spooky!

October 2023

DO I HEAR SOMETHING SPOOKY? BEB'S TOP 10 HALLOWEEN SONGS



by Kaley Heredia

You've heard about Halloween. Halloween candies, activities, parades, fairs, pumpkin patches, farms, and corn mazes, but what about the songs? We get it. Halloween is all about the candy and the decorations, and the exhilaration. But the music is one of the main keys as well. And nothing is better than a spookily haunting playlist to get you in the Halloween spirit. These are our top 10 (child friendly) popular Halloween songs, and where they came from.

At #10, is "Disturbia" sung by Rihanna, and released in 2008. It became another one of Rihanna's hits, as it reached the top on the Billboard charts and stayed there for two whole weeks. At #9 is "Goo Goo Muck," a song that is used in the trending *Wednesday* series on Netflix. At #8 is 'Heads Will Roll' by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. This song was published in 2009, and it is usually at its highest during the time of Halloween. The 7th most popular song is "This Is Halloween" from the infamous 1993 film, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The song was written and sung in the movie by Danny Elfman. Is it a Halloween movie? Christmas movie? Either way, the movie was one of the best. For #6, we have the legendary, spine-chilling "Addams Family" tune, by Vic Mizzy. The song first debuted in 1964. This tune that no one can forget has been around for almost 60 years now, and is one of the oldest, yet most popular.

At #5 is "I Put A Spell on You" from one of the most popular Halloween movies of all time, *Hocus Pocus*. Believe it or not, *Hocus Pocus 2* was more a hit than the first *Hocus Pocus* was. At #4 is "Thriller," by Michael Jackson. This song was released on the *Thriller* album in 1982. During this time, "Thriller" was one of the most expensive music videos ever made, costing up to about \$1 million. At number #3 for one of the most popular songs is "Spooky Scary Skeletons" written and sung by Andrew Gold. This song was released in 1996, on an album called *Halloween Howls*. The 2nd song on this list is "Ghostbusters," written and sung by Ray Parker, Jr. This song is another one of the older spooky songs, debuting in 1984. "Ghostbusters" was also used in the *Ghostbusters* movie, which was nominated for a Kids' Choice Award. Lastly, the top Halloween song of all time is "Monster Mash" by Bobby Pickett. The song went to number one on the Billboard Hot 100 after the song's release in 1962. Even with the song being out for 61 years now, it's still a timeless classic, just like all the songs in this list.

COMICS

by Charles Wagner

Barnyard Bash



Friends Of Fish



The Baby Life



Travel Boys



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