

The Pirate Journal



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First Pirate Journal in 13 Years

Halle Kroeplin



Justin Hinkle is shown writing a news article for the Pirate Journal.

Highmore in Indy Blake Farstveet - The Highmore-Harold Junior Conduct of Meetings team competed at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 25, where they were awarded the silver medal for their performance. They qualified for the national convention by winning the state FFA Convention. The team consisted of, from the left: Dylan McDonnell, Emily Semmler, Blake Farstveet, Lainey Aasby, Velvet Jessen, Chesney Effling, Veronica Knippling and Sylvia Rodriguez. "Even though I think we could have run a better meeting, we all tried our hardest and had a fun time doing it" Chesney Effling, the president said. "They put a lot of work into studying and running practice meetings and I'm proud of what they accomplished at a state and national level" Ken Jones, the coach of the team said.

Junior Conduct of Meetings is when multiple teams compete against each other and are scored on running a meeting. The teams have between eight and ten minutes to perform opening and closing ceremonies and conduct a meeting utilizing proper parliamentary procedure. Teams for this contest are made up of seven junior high or freshman members who can gain valuable experience regarding this skill while competing against members their own age. There are seven different positions which are president, vice president, advisor, sentinel, reporter, treasurer, and secretary. Everyone but the president has to debate on a topic and use motions assigned to them during the meeting. Every team is scored on how well their debates are and if they use their motions properly according to Robert's Rules of Order. In addition, they take a 25 question test regarding the motions, the proper way of running a meeting, and the duties of the officers.

The Pirate Journal makes a comeback after thirteen years of being out of commission.

Journalism was offered to all high school students at Highmore-Harold this year. The main focus was the yearbook, but soon the class realized they wanted to take on something else, something more challenging. Highmore-Harold's high school English teacher, Megan Brummel said, "We decided to start a journalism class this year and we needed something more than just the yearbook to practice news-writing skills, and what is better than practicing by bringing back the school newspaper?"

The students were very excited when they learned they would be able to pick up the tradition of writing a school newspaper "I am excited to be a part of the new start to The Pirate Journal. It is a mark in history," said Oakley Jandreau, a journalist for The Pirate Journal. One goal of the newspaper is "to continue school tradition and to strengthen school and community spirit," said Megan Brummel.

The last Pirate Journal was published in 2004. Due to many cuts the school had to make, funding was no longer available for the newspaper. Mary Ann Morford helped keep the tradition going by funding the newspaper herself for a few years. In the last edition she wrote, "This would have been the 68th year of publication for the Pirate Journal had it not been cut from the school budget. Even though there are no funds to pay for the publication, as a graduate of Highmore High School, I feel it necessary to maintain the tradition of Pirate Journal."

With The Pirate Journal back up, its hope is to get the students to pay more attention to the newspaper. After thirteen years of waiting, the newspaper is back in business, and will be publishing a monthly issue. The tradition will finally be continued by Highmore's very own Pirates.

Dear Pete (The Pirate)

Dear Pete,
 I've been struggling on English and geography, what should I do?
 Sincerely, Struggling Student
 Dear Struggling Student,

It is a good idea to ask the teacher for help in understanding the subject. Make sure that you ask any question that you may have. Stay after school, or come in when you can. School is important and needs to be a priority. Set aside time to study and get things done. If time is the problem, put school work before other things that aren't quite as important, like hanging out with friends or watching the latest episode of your favorite show. The best thing to do is to ask for help. It doesn't matter if it's from a teacher, parent, or friend, anything can help.
 Sincerely, Pete

Dear Pete,
 "Jerry" is not being such a good friend, what should I do?
 Sincerely, Anonymous
 Dear Anonymous,

Talk to "Jerry" about it. Sometimes people do things without consciously thinking first. Asking them what's wrong is a good place to start. Having these kind of conversations can be tough and nerve wracking, but if you just put your best foot forward that can help.
 Sincerely, Pete

Dear Pete,
 How do I get a girlfriend?
 Sincerely, Every Boy in School
 Dear Every Boy in School,

This can be hard. All girls are looking for something different. I recommend being kind and courteous towards them. Compliment them, ask about their interests. Eventually ask them out and it's up to them if they want to be your girlfriend. Again, all girls are different. Just be yourself, girls like honesty.
 Sincerely, Pete

Dear Pete,
 There are some kids in my class making rumors about me and I'm sick of them. What do I do?
 Sincerely, Stressed Student
 Dear Stressed Student,

There are a few things you can do. First, take the higher moral ground and don't engage in the rumors. Try your very best to ignore them and don't let them get to you. Ask your friends to help you spread the truth. Have them stick up for you. Tell the story first. Before the rumors can spread, give your side of the events that happened. If none of these work, I recommend asking a teacher or adult for help or advice. The main thing to do is to never give in to them. If you know it's not true just let it go.
 Sincerely, Pete



Question of the Month



Velvet Jessen



Ana Johnson



Darian Schmidt



Elora Domke

Black Friday in rural America

Oakley Jandreau
 Black Friday affects many businesses in larger cities. It also influences smaller businesses in communities like Highmore, but not in ways you may expect. Highmore does not have any large business operations to partake in the mass amounts of Black Friday sales, yet it does have small businesses that are looking to grow.

A great example is Deb Rinehart, Simply 118 owner. She wants to have Black Friday sales, yet it is a struggle as many travel away for Thanksgiving and look for bigger stores to buy from. "I will be having Black Friday sales but probably not on Friday because many go to other stores in Pierre or larger areas" said Deb Rinehart. Now if you take a step back and look at this issue in a business perspective, you may ask yourself if this is one of the things that contributes to the reason why Highmore and many other small towns are losing population. Deb says she believes population is just so low that many would rather go shopping online or to a bigger town where you can get all your shopping done. "I wouldn't ever want to close my store because no one comes in. I think the main reason that there are less businesses in Highmore is because it is a risk, and for it to succeed you need support from the community" explained Deb Rinehart. She appreciates that support and that is why she wants to accommodate to local shoppers.

Owning a small enterprise in rural America sometimes can be a tricky situation, yet from Deb Rinehart's words you see the ideas of being creative and trying to find a way to promote the uniqueness of small town business.

Saving the Daylight Justin Hinkle

Daylight savings has been around since 1918, and it has been questioned why we have it in the first place. Daylight savings was created as an attempt to make the United States more active in World War I, however it stuck after the war. Now a days, we just have the daylight savings to make the country overall more productive during the day, which applies to many of today's farmers. Daylight savings mainly affects farmers, however their opinions may vary about it. Garrett Felchle, a young farm worker in High School, was asked if he thought he was more productive during the day because of daylight savings. He said "not really, I'm more tired even though I get another hour of sleep." Spencer Yeaton, who is an urban worker, was asked the same question. He said "No, I don't even notice a difference, it feels the exact same but with an extra hour of sunlight, and it doesn't affect me at all."

On the topic of getting rid of daylight savings altogether, Felchle and Yeaton have conflicting opinions. Felchle wants to get rid of daylight savings, as he said "It takes away my hunting time," while Yeaton said "...it's really a tradition if anything, it'd be like getting rid of a holiday." It comes down to comparing two things, efficiency and tradition.

The United States created daylight savings to make people more productive, the question of "is it working" still remains. "No, we're just as productive as normal, but now our clocks are screwed up." Felchle said. Yeaton said that pretty much everyone works the same number of hours, so it doesn't really change anything. It appears that it is not working, according to these two young workers. It all depends on what is valued more, tradition or efficiency.

What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?

Emily Converse

Elora Domke: "One year some people that were helping my brother. They were from China, they came over and cooked some Chinese food we also had some American food as well. It was cool to have some authentic food."

Darian Schmidt: "My favorite memory is when I went to my family's farm and going hunting, hanging out with my family because haven't seen them in two years maybe. We had dinner and had fun."

Velvet Jessen: "When I was seven my cousins hadn't come to Thanksgiving in a while and they finally came over. We had Thanksgiving at our grandma and grandpa's house, they have a junk pile of old cars. We claimed it was really fun. We got locked in a car for a little bit it was funny. My grandma made me a pie just for me because I hate pumpkin pie and she made me peach pie it was amazing."

Ana Johnson: "A few years ago when my whole family of eleven people were sitting around the table eating dinner, talking having fun. Later they watched football and went hunting."



Thanksgiving Side Dishes

Sylvia Rodriguez

Aunt Chelle's Three Cheese Macaroni and Cheese

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F and put a large pot of salted water on to boil. Add 2 pounds of elbow macaroni to the boiling water and cook until al dente, 8 to 9 minutes. Drain well. Meanwhile, in a 4-quart pot, melt 2 sticks of the butter over low heat and then add the 1 ½ cups of flour, ½ teaspoon of mustard powder, ½ teaspoon of seasoned salt, ½ teaspoon of salt and ¼ teaspoon of pepper. Cook 2 minutes, stirring with a whisk. Add 4 cups of whole milk a little at a time, whisking, and cook until thickened and smooth, 6 to 8 minutes. Remove the pot from the heat and stir in the 3 cups of shredded American and Gouda cheeses along with 4 cups of the Cheddar until melted and thoroughly combined. Add the cooked macaroni and stir well. Pour the macaroni mixture into a 3-quart baking dish and dot with the remaining 1/2 stick butter. Sprinkle the remaining 1 cup Cheddar on top, then sprinkle with the smoked paprika. Bake until the cheese is browned on top, 25 to 30 minutes. Serve hot. Recipe courtesy of Michelle Jones from the show "Rev Run's Sunday Suppers"

Honey Roasted Sweet Potatoes

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Peel and cut 2 pounds of sweet potatoes into 1-inch pieces and put in a 9 by 13 baking dish. In a small bowl whisk together 2 tablespoons olive oil, 2 tablespoons of honey and 1 teaspoon lemon juice. Pour mixture over potatoes and toss to coat. Sprinkle with the salt, and bake, stirring occasionally, for about 1 hour, until potatoes are tender. Recipe courtesy of Ellie Krieger from the show "Healthy Appetite with Ellie Krieger"