

SPOOKY SIGNING

American Sign Language students sign different Halloween inspired words



1 ALL IN THIS TOGETHER Singing the word brother, junior Samantha Ford comes closer to a community that she has respect for. Ford was interested in the community which speaks American Sign Language. "I took ASL because it's just a respect for that community because a lot of people forget about it. That just made me really interested in it, and also the show The Fosters got me into it because they had deaf characters," Ford said. *A. Salter photo*

2 SPOOKY SPIDER Signing the word spider to her partner in American Sign Language class, junior Blair Wayman is taking part in her classes' skit after learning new material. Wayman enjoyed seeing herself and her classmates apply their new knowledge to partner discussions. "Sign language opens your eyes on a whole other way to communicate with people," Wayman said. *A. Ortiz photo*

3 LEGACY ADVANTAGE Signing the word demon, junior Matthew Beavan follows his brother's footsteps taking ASL. Beavan has had past experience with ASL, and was familiar with the language before taking the class. "I just thought it was a cool class to take because I've never really heard of any other school offering it," Beavan said. *A. Ortiz photo*

4 SPOTLIGHT Practicing her skills in American Sign Language class, junior Olivia Forkin improves her knowledge of the language. Forkin found the unique aspects of the language intriguing. "I'm in ASL because I think that it brings light upon the languages that are less known and it's a whole other way of communicating and living your everyday life that not a lot of people know about so I find it interesting," Forkin said. *A. Salter photo*

5 BY THE NUMBERS Counting from one through five, junior Alania Mastain pays attention in class. She enjoyed the interactive nature of the class and participating. "I really love how interactive we are with the teacher. We sometimes do skits in front of the class and it really helps you improve your signing," Mastain said. *A. Ortiz photo*

MISSED COMMUNICATION

Latin students recognize common misconceptions surrounding the class

In my opinion the biggest misconception about Latin is that it's an easy way to get language credits. After being in Spanish for two years and now being in Latin for my second year, it's the same difficulty. Each class requires a lot of memorization. However, Latin stems are sometimes used in English today which may be why the language is often said to be easier.

-RONI LEDEZMA. 11

The biggest misconception is that it's a lot easier and that it's just a blowoff class because there's actually a lot of stuff like stems and endings you have to memorize that can make it pretty hard. It's valuable, actually, for English. It helps you to upgrade your vocabulary because you can use those stems to help you with words you don't know in English.

-BRYCE CANNON. 10

Well, everyone says Latin is pretty easy, and everybody always says that the teachers are really fun and really chill. They also say that it really helps with SATs, but I've never seen that. I agree and disagree with those statements. I think it's fairly easy if you study, but then it doesn't really help with anything. I can't apply it to real world stuff.

-AMELIA DICKSON. 11

Some Latin stereotypes, in my opinion, are that it's really easy to learn because most of English comes the Latin roots. I agree with all the stereotypes for Latin except that it's easy to learn.

-MALEAH TWYNER. 9

GERMAN IT UP

seniors Maggie Ernst and Saurav Ayyagari attended the state German competition at Ball State with German teacher Angelika Becker

HOW MUCH TIME GOES INTO PREPARING FOR THE COMPETITION?

AYYAGARI: "It just takes some time out of class before the event. The main thing to do is just have fun. So as long as you're speaking German, with your friends and new people around the state, you'll have a fun time and you learn a lot of German."

ERNST: "It takes a good couple hours at least. It usually depends on what kind of activities you're doing. In past years for the cultural competitions, skits usually take a couple hours for planning. You have to meet with your groups to figure out what your script is going to be, and it usually has to fit the theme to it. But if you're doing like a baking entry, it kind of varies, but usually it's a couple of hours at least."

BECKER: "We generally start preparing right after we come back from Winter break, that give us 6 weeks, because the competition is in the middle of February."

WHAT ARE SOME ACTIVITIES AT THE EVENT?

AYYAGARI: "There are multiple activities. Some of them are just dictating what the instructor says. Other times you have to do geography quizzes, and it ranks up based on which level of German you're taking. At the end of the day, again, it's just a fun event."

ERNST: It always starts out with something called quiz bowl where you get into teams and you take a test about whatever that year's topic is. There's a whole bunch of different academic and cultural activities. So the cultural ones are like baking or photo journalism, but the academic activities are like reciting a passage or someone will speak a German paragraph, something like that. There's always a big lunch, which is super good. It's really fun."

BECKER: "There are the workshops. Most of them change every year, based on the theme, but some stay the same! There are around 20 and they include cake making, mask making, dancing, games, music, etc. Then, there's lunch, a sit-down, German inspired meal. At the end there is a dance with a live band and students can go shopping with speaking money that they earned throughout the day."

SAYING IT DIFFERENTLY

different languages have common phrases

LATIN
CARPE DIEM

"'Carpe diem' is a phrase that means 'seize the day.' It's used by people a lot for motivation."

-JOHN KENNEY. 10

CHINESE
NI HAO

"In Chinese, each character is it's own word. When we say good morning we are using the character *ni* which means you and the character *hao* which means good."

-TUNG FEN LEE. LANGUAGE

GERMAN
HAST DU ALLE TASSEN IM SCHRANK

"One phrase that is popular in German is 'Hast du alle Tassen im Schrank?' The phrase literally translates to 'do you have all the cups in the cabinet?' but it is really asking someone if they have it all together or, more frankly, if they are stupid."

-NOAH SOMMER. 12

LEARNING LANGUAGES

survey of 540 students reveals the most popular language to take

