

# RIVER HAWK REVIEW

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Skowhegan Area High School’s Best News Source

Twyla Wagg

## BEHIND THE BLEACHERS

As I trailed through the mud, I witnessed chaos emerging everywhere. I felt as if I was marching into war, random objects flying everywhere like bombs. Seeing these projectiles being thrown around, I had to remember the five Ds from the Ben Stiller movie “Dodgeball.” To “dodge, duck, dip, dive, and dodge.” These tips got me to the next section of the battlefield. Suddenly I heard people screaming from getting injured. Minor blood stains being left on the grass, and people lying in agony from slipping. Next, I jump on people’s backs, so I can get a better view of what I’m dealing with. I was being swapped off from person to person because they had to focus on their task ahead. As I was running frantically for safety, I grabbed a hat from someone’s head to cover me. Crushed cans were spread over the wet grass, and they started to resemble a minefield. Jumping from one place to another, and struggling not to fall, I spotted a white, orange, and black shack, which gave me the cover I needed. As soon as I reached the shack, I needed to stock up on ammunition. In my case it was sugar. I pop a Ring Pop in my mouth as I take off. The bright colors seep into my tongue, and they show I’m ready for anything. I take a deep breath and march back in. I notice smaller and weaker “soldiers” running around, getting slaughtered out there. Slowly most of them fall to the ground. They were struck with the downfall of the sugar rush they previously had. Some of the unlucky ones get nailed with those flying objects, but those are the ones we always remember most. As the scoreboard showed a victory for the River Hawks, I can’t help but wonder if it would have been safer to have played in the football game than to have suffered through the battlefield - behind the bleachers.



SAHS Football Stadium Bleachers



Ella Conway and Paris Chretien perform in “Spoon River Anthology”.

## THEATRE PROGRAM BRINGS NEW LIFE TO SOUTHSIDE CEMETERY

On November 5 and 6, Skowhegan Area High School Theatre staged its fall show, Spoon River Anthology, by Edgar Lee Masters. A cast of fourteen actors and one stage manager presented the play in Skowhegan’s Southside Cemetery. This 1915 series of poems about people in Spoon River, a fictional town in Illinois, depicts the realities of small-town life. Portraying the town’s deceased citizens, performers told tales of jealousy, revenge, marriage, family, life, and death. SAHS Theatre thanks the Town of Skowhegan and the Skowhegan Cemetery Committee for supporting the production’s presentation at Southside cemetery.





Mr. McFadden

# HONEY BEES-NESS

Did you know that there are three groups (aka castes) of honey bees in a single hive?—the queen, the workers, and the drones (males). The queen lays eggs and is the mother of all the others, the workers do all the work, and the drones eat and hang out with their buddies outside for a few hours a day. These places where drones hang out together are called drone congregation areas, and it’s at these places where they wait for virgin queens to fly by for a chance to mate with them. Only one or two drones out of two to three thousand ever actually ever end up mating with a queen. If you do the math, this means that well over 99% of drones spend their entire lives just eating and hanging out with their buddies. What happens to the one or two drones that end up mating with a queen? Some of their internal organs rip out of their bodies, and they die right after mating.

If most drones just eat the honey the workers spend so much time and energy in making, what is their purpose? Well, hives want their genetics represented in future populations of honeybees and it’s through the drones that this is made possible.

Drones are certainly important...most of the time. When hives “shut down” for the winter in Maine there are no virgin queens flying around looking for drones to mate with. Drones become useless mouths to feed and so in the fall workers give them the boot and they all die outside in the cold. When spring arrives the queen lays eggs that hatch out as drones, but their time is limited...



Photo from Mr. McFadden’s summer “Honeybee Husbandry” class

Advertisement:

The Eco-Team has local raw honey for sale from our 8 hives that we manage right on campus! If you would like to purchase some then please see Mr. McFadden in G9. It is \$10/pound. Thank you for your support!



Photo from Mr. McFadden’s summer “Honeybee Husbandry” class



Outing Club, Mosquito Mountain, November 2021

Ms. Drummond

# OUTING CLUB

The Skowhegan Area High School Outing Club is off to a strong start in its second year as an extracurricular option for all students. In the fall of 2020, the Main Street Skowhegan Outdoor Recreation Program contacted teachers at the high school and offered to help reestablish an Outing Club. This contact initiated the formation of an official Outing Club registered with the non-profit parent organization, Teens to Trails. The mission of Teens to Trails is “to connect high school students to life-changing outdoor experiences.” Founded in 2005 by outdoor enthusiasts Carol and Bob Leone, Teens to Trails provides programming, training, and some financial support in the form of grants and scholarships for Outing Clubs and their members across the state of Maine. The Teens to Trails organization believes:

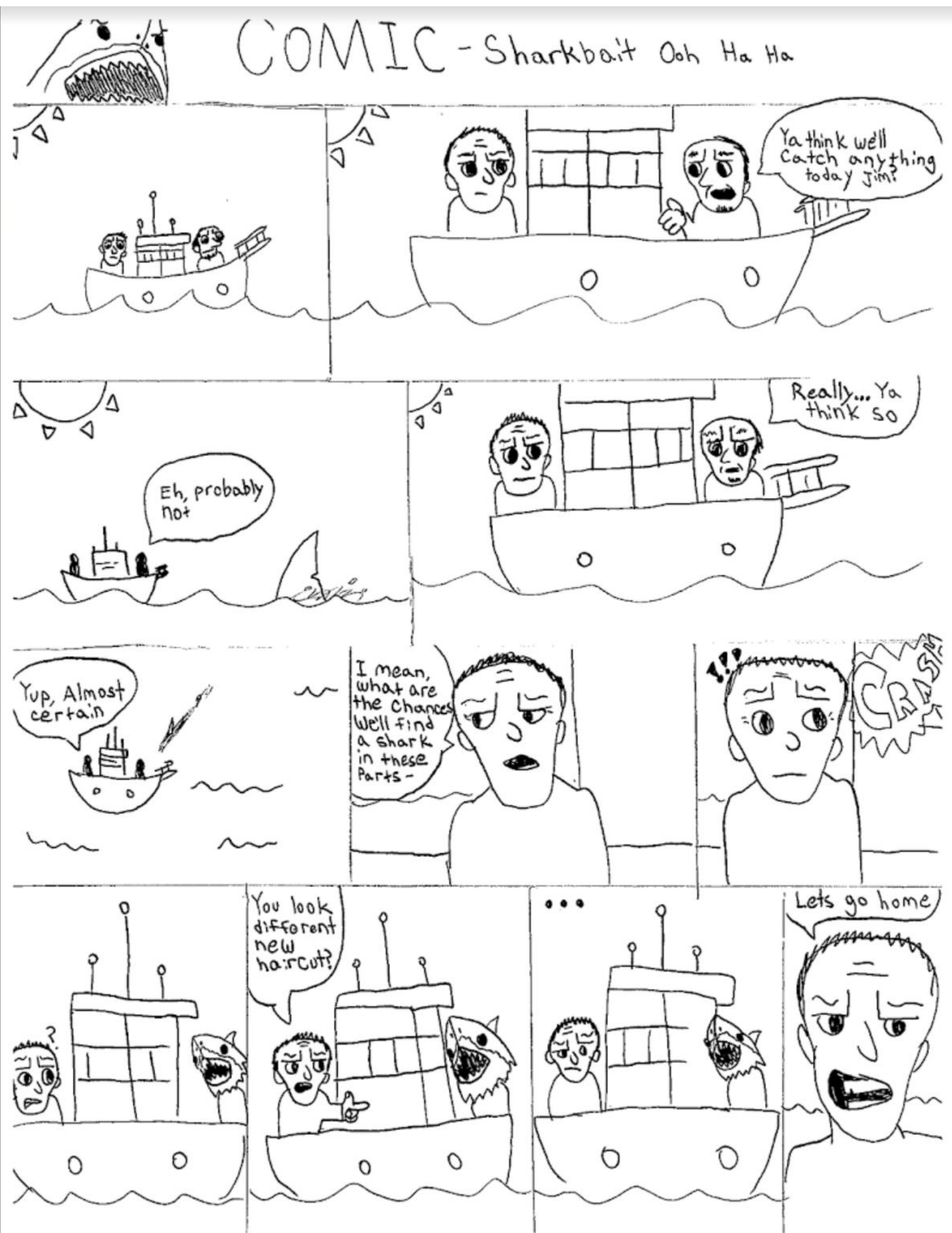
- that being outdoors provides essential nourishment, inspiration, and wholeness.
- in the importance of time to just be in nature, without measurement, agenda, or distraction.
- experience in nature with peers is critical for teenage development. It creates love and care for each other, ourselves, and our planet.
- high school outing clubs create inclusive, non-performance based outdoor experiences that break down social barriers and build lifelong habits of wellness.
- teenagers are losing their connection with nature at an accelerated pace.

Together with co-advisor Kevin McFadden, some enthusiastic new student members, and the support of Teens to Trails, I hope to steward this club to permanent status at Skowhegan Area High School. Even with the support of administration, the club faces obstacles in the form of transportation and financial backing for trips. Through fundraising, grant-writing and partnering with the Skowhegan Outdoors program, the club hopes to find ways to work around or eliminate those barriers and open up access to “life-changing outdoor experiences” to ALL students here at SAHS.

Outing Club adventures are determined by the students. The youth members of the club brainstorm ideas for trips and drive the planning and preparation, while the adult advisors and volunteers facilitate. Mr. McFadden and volunteer trip leader, Libby Washburn, are trained and experienced outdoor trip leaders with wilderness first aid certifications, so this new club relies heavily on their expertise as it plans outdoor experiences. Last year’s programs included a virtual knot-tying and shelter-building clinic, a “10 Essentials” trip planning seminar, a cross-country skiing workshop, an outdoor winter camping and survival skills clinic at Lake George Regional Park, and a hike of Little Bigelow Mountain. So far this year, the club has hiked Pleasant Pond Mountain in Caratunk, and is currently planning a hike of Mosquito Mountain in The Forks on Saturday, November 13th. Student members have expressed interest in planning a variety of activities in the future, including skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing, fat-tire biking, disc-golf and perhaps even camping. All students, staff and parents who are part of the Skowhegan Area High school “family” are welcomed to join the Outing Club as permanent or part-time members. No outdoor experience necessary. Club meetings are held on Wednesdays in Miss Drummond’s room (G10) from 2:30 - 3:30 pm.



Chris Crawford  
**FUNNIES**



Erick Cunliffe

# GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS

## Mrs. Scherpf

School is a hard place, and if you asked Mrs. Scherpf on the matter, she would agree. In fact, she goes on to say her high school years were "nerve-racking, stressful, hectic but challenging, and fun at the same time. At this time in her life, she reflects that being a teenager was hard because she had to overcome numerous obstacles that would challenge her socially and emotionally. Even with that said, she still worked tirelessly to achieve the things she wanted, including

good grades, cross country, track, and student council. She enjoyed participating in activities, and they were healthy coping habits for her at the time. Mrs. Scherpf also seems to be quite an optimistic person because the quote that she lives life by is, "try to find the silver lining". In other words, look for the positive in the negative. Hearing this quote makes sense to me after reading how she could look at the bad things and now laugh about them in the present. For example, one of her family trips that she was going on went rogue. They were going down the interstate, and the

luggage on the top slung right off the car! I don't know what happened next, but it couldn't have been good! Speaking of family trips, one of her favorite memories was packing up the car with all the essentials then heading down to Lake George for a fun-filled day of swimming and outdoor activities.



How to Recycle at SAHS

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	Recyclable	Non-Recyclable	Special Requirements	Preparation
 CARD BOARD	Corrugated Cardboard Only	Waxed Boxes	Clean and Dry Must be Crushed and Broken Down.	Pieces larger than 30 inches must be cut down to 30 inches. Empty all Boxes
 MIXED PAPER	Paper Boxes (i.e....cereal, macaroni) Junk Mail (all unwanted mail) *Most any paper that can be found in a filing cabinet.	Tissue, Paper, Plates, Paper Towels and Paper Milk Cartons (i.e....Wax Coated)	Keep separate from other Recycle Paper	Stacked and tied in neat bundles, placed in paper shopping bags or as your hauler prefers
 MAGAZINES	All magazines and catalogues can be recycled		Clean and Dry	Stacked and tied in neat bundles, placed in paper shopping bags
 NEWSPAPER	Newspapers with original inserts Telephone Books		Clean and Dry	Stacked and tied in neat bundles, placed in paper shopping bags
 TIN & ALUMINUM CANS	All Metal Cans Aluminum Foil, Pie Tins and Metal Jar Lids	Non Metal Containers (Cardboard Juice Cans)	Remove Top Lid of can and place inside Crushing Optional	Rinse Cans Clean Please
 GLASS	Green Glass Brown Glass Clear Glass (Jars Only)	No Drinking Glass, Window Pane Glass, Light Bulbs, Windshields	Metal Lids Recycled with Tin Cans. (plastic lids discarded)	Rinse, Clean and Separate by Color
 PLASTICS	Plastic Bottles & Jugs with these Symbols 	No other Plastic at this time. No automotive fluid containers, PLEASE	Crush Containers! Lids and Rings should be removed and discarded, as they are made from a different type of plastic.	Rinse, Clean and Crush Containers PLEASE
 Used Motor Oil		Recycling Material is accepted from Non-Residents. No household trash.		

# STATISTICS

The Team’s waste reduction and recycling project, which began in the fall of 2018, elicited eye opening data. Some of the key findings from 2018 include:

- The cafeteria produces 20,000 lbs of garbage per year.
- 61% of garbage discarded during lunch can be recycled.
- 27% of garbage discarded in classrooms can be recycled.
- It costs \$18,000 per year for SAHS and \$45,000 per year for MSAD 54 to truck and store its garbage at the Crossroads Landfill in Norridgewock.
- The Skowhegan Solid Waste Management Transfer Station provides a free recycling pick-up at all schools in MSAD 54 every Friday.
- Recycling provides income for the town of Skowhegan and saves our school district money.



Ms. Drummond

# ECO TEAM

The Eco Team is entering its third successful year as a volunteer student organization at Skowhegan Area High School. With sixteen new members and one original founding member, the club plans to move the school-wide recycling program forward while simultaneously studying our high school’s energy use and the health of the ecosystem on campus. The team uses the [Project Learning Tree GreenSchools program](#) as a guide for planning projects to reduce the school’s environmental impact. The mission of the PLT’s GreenSchools program is to “inspire students to take responsibility for improving the environment at their school, home and in their community.” All GreenSchools Projects are student-led and include several phases: Data collection and analysis; Research and education; Solution design and implementation; and Data collection and evaluation.

Last school year, the SAHS Eco Team collected and recycled about 1200 pounds of waste from January through May of 2021. This year, the team hopes to expand the recycling program by increasing awareness of the free recycling pick up service, educating staff and students throughout MSAD 54 about how to recycle, and making it easier to recycle around the SAHS facility. Look for recycling boxes in every classroom and stay tuned for more information about how you can help.





Jamie Weeks

ARE  
WIRELESS  
EARBUDS  
WORTH IT?



Apple iPods

If you walk through the school halls today, you are likely to see someone using wireless earbuds. Although Apple’s AirPods seem to be the most popular, there are many other types of earbuds made by different companies. This is probably for good reason. Since wireless earbuds have become so popular, every company wants a slice of the pie.

But why have they become so popular? Are wired earbuds obsolete? I think the answer is quite obvious. Wireless earbuds are..... wireless.

I think there has always been a trend with technology to get rid of as many wires as possible. Wireless mice and keyboards have been a thing for a while now, but I don’t think those compare to the convenience of not having a wire going from your phone to your head. I mean, if you ever move your head or drop your phone, your earbuds are tugged on or pulled out, so it makes sense to take away this tether.

Another view of wireless earbuds is that they are easier to hide. I myself have seen people with long hair hide earbuds in their ears. This allows people to use earbuds whenever they want without other people knowing. If you have short hair, however, then you can’t get away with this. Another downside of some wireless earbuds is the cost. The cheapest Airpods from Apple cost \$129. This begs the question: is the cost worth the benefits? Then again, there are cheaper options from other companies. Another issue is the fact that without wires, earbuds can be easier to lose. Even with the cases that the earbuds fit in, they are small and can get lost.

What do you think? Would you buy wireless earbuds? Do you agree or disagree with this article? Let us know your thoughts!

MEET THE  
RIVERHAWK

The River Hawk has finally landed! We look forward to their shenanigans for many years to come.

What do you think would be a good name for our beloved mascot?



Mr. Vigue gives the River Hawk a tour of the school.

Newspaper Staff

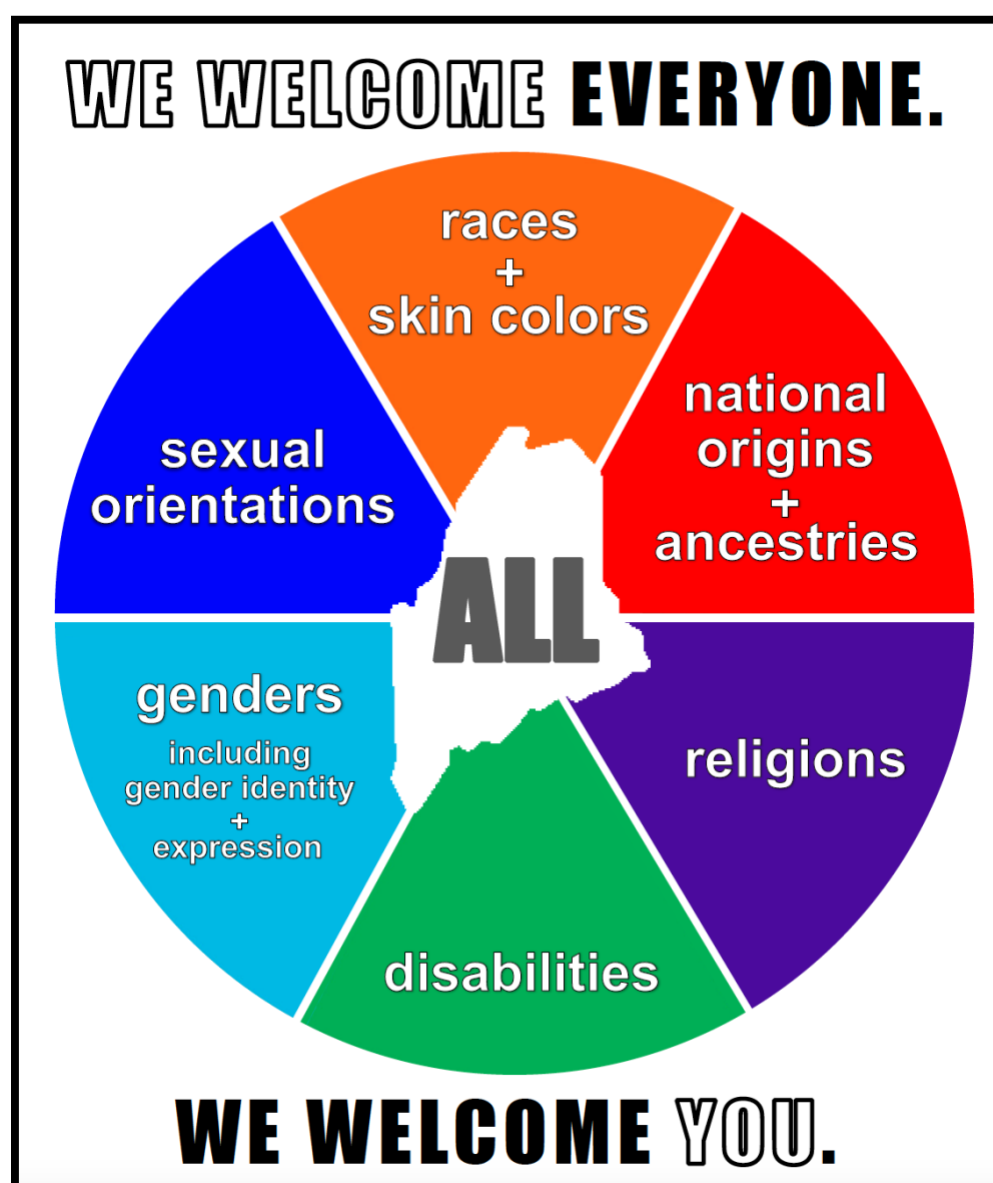
Mia Chestnutt  
Erick Cunliffe  
Cailyn McKechnie  
Twyla Wagg  
Jamie Weeks



Guess what’s just around the corner?

The *River Hawk Review* needs you!  
Become part of the most widely distributed newspaper at SAHS!  
For more information:  
Contact Mr. Smith or Mr. LaFlamme.

# CIVIL RIGHTS



## “Day of Welcome”

Our SAHS Civil Rights Team wanted to use the Day of Welcome to make a powerful statement about the kind of school community we all want, while introducing ourselves and engaging our peers in understanding our ongoing work.

This year, our team worked diligently on the Day of Welcome as our first group project, as well as planning our ongoing activities for the school year, and recruiting new student team members. Our student leaders have been doing a great job representing their school community! For the Day of Welcome this year, our plans included decorating the lobby windows/entrance, as well as the bus door entrance, placing educational materials around the building, and showcasing a hand painted sign built by our 2019-20 SAHS Civil Rights Team.

Students, staff, and community members stayed after school on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup>, preparing the lobby and bus doors with signs/posters and original artwork that represents the 6 areas of bias the CRTP focuses on through awareness and education. ( race and skin color, national origin and ancestry, religion, disabilities, gender (including gender identity and expression), and sexual orientation).

Civil Rights Team Members were present while students entered the school on Friday, welcoming, promoting awareness, passing out messages of inclusion, and embracing a school community mission where everyone is safe, welcome, and accepted.

All students and staff are welcome to help us deliver our school wide messages and initiatives through the year. This statewide event kicks off one of many initiatives the SAHS Civil Rights Team has planned throughout the school year!

- I believe that it was extremely important to hold Day of Welcome at SAHS so students of all national origins, skin colors, sexualities, genders, religions, and disabilities know that they have allies that are working to make sure that their rights by law are protected, recognized and fought for within our school community.

-Carly McCabe (She, Her, Hers)  
Civil Rights Team Member

Erick Cunliffe

# GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS

## Mr. Pillsbury

I guess, in a way, you could describe high school as a job you attend every day, and if you asked Mr. Pillsbury on the subject, you might end up finding this to be true. When Mr. Pillsbury moved here in November of his senior year, he felt awkward, and like most of us, he felt high school was pretty hard. Fortunately, he met some teachers that would make his life a little bit easier. Mr. Sirois was one of those teachers that helped him along the way. Because of this, Mr. Pillsbury developed some of his personality traits, the good and the bad.

Along with all of that came a developed understanding of things in general. He realized that learning is not by memorization but by trying your best to understand the content to the fullest extent. Something I noticed about Mr. Pillsbury early on was his in-depth realization that perfection is unattainable. He even follows life by a quote from Mr. Moody's mother: "Don't let perfection get in the way of better." I believe this quote holds true to many things in life, from us as people down to the things we do.

Twyla Wagg

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Brazil, the country that has been said to have "full of energy people who love to party." Now who said this? Our very own foreign exchange student Ivy Viana. She came all the way from South America to experience in her words - the "American Dream." She has been staying in Norridgewock and said she felt very welcome, especially since Ivy is not used to living in small towns. Next, I wondered what she thinks could improve the school, and her response was "to be more included as a normal student. I didn't want people to treat me differently because I was an exchange student. I am also very open about making new friends, or people asking me questions." Ivy has been enjoying the clubs. She is in the Art club, and theatre. "I'm trying to find a winter club/sport to keep me occupied this winter. Back in Brazil there aren't many sports teams or clubs for me to participate in." Talking about winter, Ivy is very excited to go snowmobiling this year. I wanted to know what she enjoyed outside of school other than clubs. For example, Ivy said, "I enjoy music, especially the fast-paced music back at home. My favorite song is Rave de Favela by Anitta and Mc Lan." She also enjoys the television show American Horror Story and the different foods she has experienced. Ivy then got serious and started talking about the bad parts of being an exchange student. "I, myself, have suffered a lot of pressure because I haven't been with this group of people. I've felt like an outsider for the first two weeks and slowly started to feel more comfortable." To conclude the interview she said, "I plan to come back to America, and experience this again."

