

KAMSC's



STEPS

Table Of Contents

Letter From the Editors	Page 2
Top Ten Halloween Costumes	Page 3
Halloween Word Search.	Page 5
Student Survey	Page 6
KRACK: Technology	Page 7
Halloween Word Scramble	Page 9
Happenings Around Kalamazoo	Page 10
Student Senate Update	Page 10
Horrorscopes	Page 11
Spooky Story: The Treasure Chest	Page 13
Interview: Dr. Zeigler	Page 16
The 84 Steps Team	Page 18

Letter From The Editors



Dear KAMSC Students,

As we approach the November time, it becomes difficult to wait for the very well deserved Thanksgiving Break – but hold on, there's only a month left. This is the time of year where school is *officially* in the swing of things. Tests every week, homework every night, it feels as if we've approached the peak of our year, yet it is only the beginning. In this very tremulous, and asking time we hope that 84 Steps acts as a piece of solace and comfort. This edition has short stories, word searches, crosswords and word scrambles; it has practically everything to help you procrastinate most efficiently this month. It even includes a list of things occurring in November. Places you can go; activities you can be a part of. Truly, this edition has given you no opportunity to *not* procrastinate. But, jokes aside, our staff hopes that you enjoy reading. Perhaps, you may even become so interested that you decide to join as a writer next month. If so, feel free to contact kamsc84steps@yahoo.com, or stop us (Kate and Zoha) in the hallway. We would be happy to answer any of your questions.

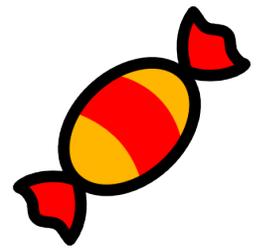
Your Editors,
Zoha Aqeel and Kate Diamond

Top Ten Halloween Costumes

By: Audrey Rabick

Halloween is just around the corner, and if you're one of the cool kids, that means you're still parading around in a costume and gorging yourself on candy (more so than your average Friday, that is) Naturally, you've been running the numbers about which Halloween costume you're going as, (experiments, statistical graphs, control groups, the works) so to make your job easier, I, the master of Halloween costumes, have compiled a list of the ten most popular Halloween costumes, and what they say about you as a person. Happy Halloweening!

1. Witch -An oldie but a goodie, whether it's the cute good witch or the gruesome hag, the witch costume demonstrates that classic style with a modern twist, and it shows that you have really captured the spirit of Halloween. Bonus: the last witch that burned was years ago, so you can enjoy the candy without fearing that the fiery tormentors of the devil are upon you... probably.
2. Ghost -I'll be honest, any schlum with a blanket can pull off the ghost look, it's a valid costume choice, but you'd better rock it. Stand out against the masses of lazy good-for-nothings/ Throw in a couple spiders, fiddle around with your mom's makeup to get that dead look just right, get creative. Become such a fine ghost that the others will all go back to haunting their respective graveyards in shame!
3. Miscellaneous Monster - Zombies and vampires and werewolves, oh my! Another group of classics, the streets are crawling with monsters these days, and you've got to be careful you get the look right. Monsters are fun because you get to explore what you fear most, is it the hairy things that go bump in the night? Is it the silent yet stalking shadow-riders? Is it the midnight cramming for the Friday morning test? You decide! Then you can embody this fear, and use it to terrorize the masses yourself, mwahaha, the monster has become the... monstee?
4. Favorite fandom -This costume lets your passion shine through and declares to the world that you've been up late netflixing for the past couple of weeks. Especially fun with a group, fandom costumes range from movies to books to comics, and demonstrate your creativity, and self-confidence while still capturing the Halloween vibe.



5. Serial killer – No costume needed, they look like everyone else, kind of a cheater costume, yet chilling all the same, no?
6. Animal -Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! Animal costumes also encompass a large variety, but let's not limit it to the cute and fuzzy animals though, let's expand it to all the kingdoms. In fact, my personal challenge to you is to dress up as a Protist! Regardless, animals can be either cute or adorable, depending what you're going for, and allows you to connect to your spirit animal... or spirit Protist, whatever suits you.
7. Superhero -Not all superheroes wear capes, but capes and masks sure do add that special type of flair, especially on Halloween! Superhero costumes demonstrate bravery and confidence, showing you to be fully capable of saving the world. No matter if you subscribe to Marvel, D.C. Comics, or something more generic, superheroes can kick-butt, look good, and eat candy, all at the same time.
8. Princess -Or prince! Either can be fun! Royalty spans from Disney Princess to Warrior Princess to historical princess, and while it may seem like a juvenile costume, its an excuse to dress your best and boss people around, so I say take it. The princess costume is directed at beauty, and it's always great to wear a pretty dress or dashing suit without the need for a school dance. Who knows, you might even get the chance to kiss a frog.
9. Food -One costume that's been growing in popularity is food. I guess people can't imagine anything more terrifying than broccoli or more humorous than a banana. It's an interesting (albeit strange) experience to live the saying "you are what you eat." I don't know though, if you want to brazen out from the animal kingdom or monsters, I still suggest going with Protists.
10. Cereal killer -No costume needed, they look like everyone else. In fact they ARE everyone else, I myself am a certified cereal killer each morning. This one doesn't have the same horror factor as still be a fun yet ironic don't get the difference



a serial killer, but can "costume." If you between a serial killer and a cereal killer, 1. Pay better attention during spelling tests, and 2. It's your own fault when someone tempts you with Lucky Charms only to murder you in the night.

Halloween Word Search

By: Saad Qureshi



O X A L U C A R D P F Q D N F G
B X T K O A B D D L Q R T O S E
L R E Q A X O W O O P O H T B V
I E Y T L S N W X H V Y G E E J
N T R K K Y E J I A H Z I L W A
M S A J A R S C O F F I N E G C
U N C N E E W O L L A H T K C K
M O S W I E P R R T I T I S E O
M M O B V Z H E T M N T A B V L
Y J M C B A D L D S O O P L A A
E O L R T I M O Z W O O O D R N
Z Y O W P O H P V Y D H N I G T
G O C S O M B N I P Y S G S E E
M F R I G H T E N R F T X P P R
O J Y H C T I W R W E F Q I J N

HALLOWEEN **OCTOBER** **BAT** **BONES** **BROOM** **COFFIN** **DRACULA** **FRIGHTEN**
GHOST **GHOUL** **GOBLIN** **GRAVE** **HAUNTED** **HOWL** **JACKOLANTERN** **MONSTER**
MOON **MUMMY** **NIGHT** **SCARY** **SKELETON** **SPIDER** **VAMPIRE** **WEBS**
WEREWOLF **WITCH** **ZOMBIE**

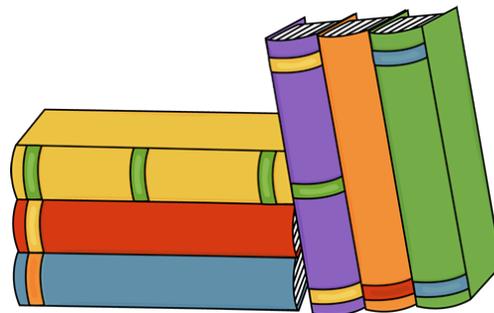
Student Survey

By: Kayleigh Kostrzewa

Since those here at KAMSC have had some time to adjust, I felt it was a good time to ask about how their year was going!

What are some lessons you have learned so far?

- Ethan Fonger, 10th grade: I've learned to study more effectively.
- Abigail Laughery, 10th grade: I've learned to ask questions and get help.
- Abby Crocke, 10th grade: I've learned how to manage my time properly and not to sweat a bad test grade.
- Ashley Diget, 10th grade: Learned how to survive stressful things.
- Liberty Kostrzewa, 10th grade: Asking for help is not a weakness.



What you like about KAMSC?

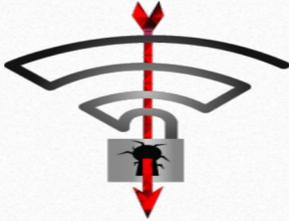
- Ethan Fonger, 10th grade: The teachers, the classmates and the challenge.
- Ashley Diget, 10th grade: I like that KAMSC acts as a second family for me. I've made so many new friends, and would trust them with anything.
- Abby Crocker, 10th grade: I like the freedom and independence that comes along with KAMSC.
- Abigail Laughery, 10th grade: I like the students and the environment at KAMSC. Everyone helps everyone. I remember last year going into biology class before a test and my peers were quizzing each other and getting help from each other. That's what made me want to come back this year.
- Liberty Kostrzewa, 10th grade: I have to agree with our director on this one, other KAMSC students are the best part of KAMSC.

Do you have any advice to give to other KAMSC students?

- Ethan Fonger, 10th grade: Always review before tests and make friends who push you.
- Abigail Laughery, 10th grade: Some advice is to be persistent. DO NOT GIVE UP! You may mess up and make mistakes but that's okay. What makes you a "winner" essentially is not getting it right the first time but that you powered through. Also, don't be like me and procrastinate, get your stuff done
- Kate, 11th grade: sometimes squeezing in some socialization is all that can keep you sane.
- Liberty Kostrzewa, 10th grade: Yes things can be stressful and overwhelming but you can do it and your friends are there to help you along the way.

KRACK

By: Siddhant Pagariya



Key Reinstallation Attacks

Breaking WPA2 by forcing nonce reuse

Discovered by [Mathy Vanhoef](#) of [imec-DistriNet](#), KU Leuven

What is KRACK and why should I care?

As new technology emerges, developers gradually begin the painful migration process of their software from the old technologies to newer, faster, and more optimized technologies these days. Sadly, most old technologies still contain bugs due to limited software and hardware support. When discovered, bugs for older standards would just affect that particular technology, but in this case, a vulnerability like the Key Reinstallation Attack (KRACK), has affected all the modern-day Wi-Fi users. This means that if your device uses Wi-Fi, it's likely vulnerable to the KRACK Wi-Fi security flaw to some degree. Of course, the danger level varies with what device you possess and what version of an operating system like iOS, Android, or Windows you have installed on your personal devices. Something important to note is that KRACK isn't an exploit on your device, but on the information that is transferred from your mobile device through a Wi-Fi network. Your device will remain totally safe, but your browsing experience will not.

What are the implications of this Attack?

The easiest attack any novice hacker can accomplish on any of the WPA2-connected devices (mostly including the ones you possess) is to eavesdrop on most of your personal data, including, but not limited to your login credentials when you hit that "Login" button on your device, your email data, and Instant Messaging and Social Media Site data you post every day! As said by one of the discoverers of the attack, Mathy Vanhoef, "this can be abused to steal sensitive information such as credit card numbers, passwords, chat messages, emails, photos, and so on," this attack has the power to access most of the information you access on the Internet through the Wi-Fi network you are connected to.

How do I protect myself?

There are numerous steps in the checklist you can follow to get the maximum protection from such a deadly attack:

- Keep all your devices up-to-date! Install any pending updates today, and continue to do so over the next month as new software updates start to roll out to patch this vulnerability.

- If you want to continue using a Wi-Fi network, especially a public one, be sure to stick to browsing only on the Secure HTTP (HTTPS) websites, since they offer the most encryption so that even if someone intercepts your data, they wouldn't be able to decipher what the encrypted data says.
- Use a VPN if you can. At home, it's a different story. It's very unlikely that a hacker might be on the loose and trying to hack every Wi-Fi network in the neighborhood, but if you are out and about, be sure to get connected to a VPN, since this would hide most of your internet traffic. There are tons of great VPN services out there, on the Internet, but only download some of the most trusted ones, since some VPNs might also be after your data.

When can I expect a fix for the software on my device?

Almost all the Silicon Valley Giants are working on, or have completed fixes on most devices. Fixing this vulnerability doesn't take much time for all the devices since the fixes are backwards compatible, meaning that even if you have an older device, the fix should still work and you will be protected from this attack.

Apple has already issued a fix in the latest *beta* versions of iOS, macOS, watchOS, and tvOS. This means that the software has already been released to developers running the cutting-edge versions of the spectrum of Apple Operating Systems. You can expect another public over-the-air update for your iOS device in a few weeks.

As for Google, the company appears to be already preparing a security update for its Android devices, but the company has mentioned that the security update will push to your device no earlier than November 6, 2017, which is also a couple of weeks away.

Microsoft has already issued a patch for Windows on October 10, 2017, so no need to worry, Windows users! Just update your personal computer and you should be protected again! The company mentioned that the "customers who have Windows Update enabled and applied the security updates are protected automatically."

On Monday, October 16, 2017, Intel already posted updates for the company's wireless internet adapters, which can be downloaded and installed for the respective devices. Work is underway between the chipmaker and device manufacturers to roll out the patches to computers.

Ubuntu has also issued patches its current Long-Term Support (LTS) version 16.04, which would be backwards-compatible with the other distributions of the Ubuntu Operating Systems. Cisco and Amazon are also in the midst of preparing security fixes for their wireless products.

With more new technologies appearing today, more ways to exploit certain parts of both, the hardware and the software are emerging, and to ensure you are always up-to-date (pun intended) of all these vulnerabilities, simple, yet critical tasks like just updating the operating system of your device should do the trick. Remember, stay safe out there, and make smart decisions!



Halloween Word Scramble

By: Kayla O'Donnell

oaehlnlew _____

dcnya _____

bcorote _____

mtcreeye _____

tocesmu _____

stogh _____

udahent _____

muikppn _____

pervmai _____

drieps _____

eobbcw _____

goptierlets _____

dawosh _____

tsbomicokr _____

lnourcda _____

mostbonet _____

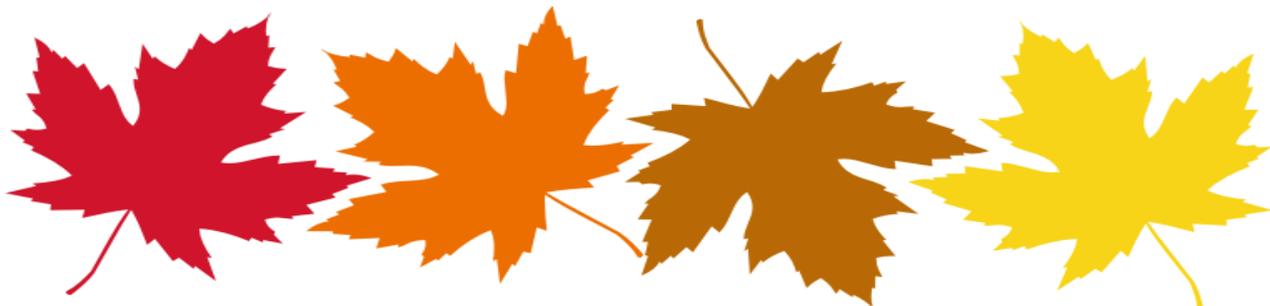
forlweew _____

hiwct _____

miezbo _____

mtaunu _____

cryas _____



Student Senate Update

By: Deborah Torres

Have you seen the signs around KAMSC lately? Spirit week, Class Clash, and the dance are coming up! Our dance is on 11/4 from 8-11pm in our gym and it is a Halloween/fall theme! While you are free to dress however you wish, please note that this is not a costume event, it is our usual semi-formalish event.

Before the dance that same day from 12-3pm,

we have our annual Class Clash, also in the gym. At Class Clash, the grades compete in events such as tug-of-war, dodgeball, Nerf sharp shooting, and more for ULTIMATE VICTORY.



Spirit week is the week before the dance and is only a four-day week. The themes are:

Monday 10/30 - Christmas

Tuesday 10/31 - Halloween (duh)

Wednesday 11/1 - PJ Day

Thursday 11/2 - Rad Plaid Mom and Dad Day

If you're interested in being involved in planning or you want to be the first to know about our events, come to our weekly senate meetings after Open Lab every Wednesday! If you want to be up to date on what is going on in event planning, join the KAMSC Student Senate Remind101 by texting @kamsct to 81010 or adding it on the app.

Happenings Around Kalamazoo

By: Zoha Aqeel

November 3rd → Fall Cover Crop Field Day

November 4th → 20th Annual Christmas Boutique Art and Craft Show and KAMSC Dance

November 5th → The Gilmore Keyboard Festival's: Christina and Michelle Naughton

November 10th → West Michigan's Harvest Cluster AKC Dog Show

November 11th → Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid @

Kalamazoo State Theater

November 17th → Poetry Reading: Z.G Tomaszewski and Kaveh

Akbar

November 18th → Holiday Art Show and Sale

November 19th → Women Warriors: Portraits by Hung Liu

November 25th → Holiday Walk and Market



Horrorscopes

By: Kate Diamond

V-lossy-raptor (March 21-April 19): You know that trick or treating is all you can think about since pumpkins and candy filled every commercial space, starting on October 1st. So if trick or treating is what really makes you happy, then don't let some societal convention keep you from having the night of your life. But a word of advice. When deciding your flow of trick or treating, you should execute this based on how the spooky dwellings lay, unless you encounter loops or similar road structures. Deciding to simply "go to" one house and another, depending on what is true or false about your bag of candy is a bad choice. The V-lossy-raptor will know. It will find you, take all of your candy, and you will be sorry.



Headless Horsemen (April 20-May 20): Headless Horseman, we stars know your deep seeded fear of the spookiness that comes with Halloween horror movies. But this is the year you should finally look into what all of this hype is about. You should go for it, really. A dark room, a big screen, and the most tense, gruesome, terror filled fright you can find, what could go wrong? Just do make sure you have all of your homework done before hand, you become an easy target when you are laser focused on finishing homework in a paranoid rush. Even if the only thing you have to fear is your own imagination, and what the thing in the dark might delete from your lab report when you aren't looking.

The 3 Headed Snake in the Bio Room (May 21-June 20): We have been suspecting this for a while, but it has, in the dim moonlight of the spooky holiday, become astoundingly clear: The AP Bio students have teamed up with the Organic Chemistry class, and have created creature that lives in the Biology closet! If you see it, try to not run away in fear, as a certain Victor Frankenstein's creature received similar treatment, leading to a string of horrendous events, a novel, and several terrible movies. It is possible that those of you born under the sign of the 3 Headed Snake in the Bio Room, might be among the few capable of finding and befriending this creature.

Poltergeist (June 21-July 22): Dear Poltergeist, this is the time of the year that you should really pay the most attention to the familiar antiquity of KAMSC up on the 4th floor. Ghost hunting might be in your future. Like, is that water dripping from the ceiling, or could it be ectoplasm? And the flickering lights in the echoing hall of Alshehri Alley might be of supernatural nature, who can be sure? And you would be lying to yourself if the creaking of the floorboards at each landing of the 84 steps didn't give you an eerie feeling. The spooky season is the perfect time to give engineering and fringe science your best shot because if Poltergeist isn't going to bust the ghosts of KAMSC, who is?

Zombie Fish in the Commons (July 23-August 22): Zombie Fish, you are of the most elusive of the KAMSC horrorscopes. You might appear as normal fish in the sea to the untrained eye, but only you know what it is you are truly after. Brains! Why else would the tank of seemingly normal fish in the commons hang out in a place of so much brainpower? Next time you think you think the fish

are drifting mindlessly about, keep a close eye on them, from a safe distance, and see if you can catch their momentary drift back into their spooky zombie-like state.

Vampire (August 23-September 22): Vampire, you are so misunderstood! Everyone always assumes you want them for their blood, or lab report, or blood. Why don't they understand you and your inclination to procrastinate, I mean, you've put death off for this long. Why can't your friends see that when you are in bat form, not only is hanging on the ceiling the most fun way to hang out, but spooking unsuspecting passersby is the best part of the gig. And to those always making fun of your eyesight Vampire, just remember, that echolocation is what has helped your bat siblings to find their way around for centuries, so wear those glasses proudly. Just maybe don't let particular people know about your Transylvanian heritage. For some reason your kind has this reputation of sparking in the sun, leading people to hunt you down with garlic and wooden stakes. But keep on being yourself, and stick to the coffins and capes if that's what makes you happy.



Pumpkin (September 23-October 22): You're too spooky for all of this human nonsense.

Bacterium (October 23-November 21): You know Bacterium, those friendly ghosts have seemed pretty spooked lately, maybe try to ease their fears with a nice surprise.

Demogorgon (November 22-December 21): Demogorgon, we know what frightens you most of all, the idea of time itself. A vast, spooky, incomprehensible dimension that we somehow move through. You should face your fear. Stare at a clock, try not to be unnerved by the ticking of units of life and action passing by. But we would not advise taking a page out of Batman's book, by making your fear into costume to fight crime.

Friendly Ghosts (December 22-January 19): Everyone has chosen you as their target to spook, trust no one, especially Bacterium. They particularly seem like they're up to no good.



Witches and Warlocks (January 20 to February 18): Tis' the season to play tricks and create nerdy treats. You should try your hand in a bit of kitchen chemistry to try to concoct the perfect pumpkin pi. Or use those mad chemistry skills to just make something spooky from a box. Those always turn out better if you have the track record of ruining recipes we think you Witches and Warlocks have.

Bogeymen (February 19 to March 20): While everyone else runs around with candy and masks and costumes, you are just ready to enjoy the simple pleasures of fall. The changing of the leaves and the weather that doesn't make you think it's the middle of June are something you've been looking forward to all year. Because you know that climate change is at least in part responsible for all of this intense weather. Like record high, monsoon-style rains in the middle of October, and several southern hurricanes, back to back, and the fact that the temperature hasn't dropped below 50 degrees yet, consistently, and it's almost November. This is probably the most spooky fact of all.

Spooky Story: The Treasure Chest

By: Mika Van Hoven

"Good morning mother, father! Mary says as she skips into the kitchen. She sits at the dining room table next to her father who is currently reading the Sunday newspaper.

Mary's family is quite fortunate, they have an amazingly, large house and a lot of money. Which wasn't very common at this point and time.

"Oh, happy birthday sweetheart, I made some pancakes and eggs for you!" Mom says.

"Thanks mom, it looks outstanding!"

"Hi honey, happy birthday." Daddy says as he continues reading.

"Hurry up, eat, shower, and get dressed, the family will be here in about an hour."

Mom starts to clean up the kitchen, Mary gorges down her breakfast then goes to her bedroom to write in her journal. She grabs it out of her drawer and sits on her bed and starts to write.

June 4th, 1928

Good morning Diary,

I, Mary Grimm will be having a fantastic day today! It is my 10th birthday. All my cousins are coming over, along with aunts and uncles. We will have a chocolate flavored birthday cake with chocolate frosting and then we will open presents! My mom got me a light blue dress for me to wear today. It is just so darling! When my cousins come over we usually play a game, like hide and go seek. I am the master at this game. I'm always the last to be found. My next hiding spot is going to be in the attic. No one will find me there. I'm just so excited for this day Birthdays are so special. I can't wait till I have kids and make this day so special for the. It's just, life is so amazing. And I must thank my parents for always being the best.)

A little while later, knock knock goes the front door. Mary jumps up and rushes to the sound. She swings the door open." HIIIIII!"

"Why hello darling, happy birthday!" Aunt Anika says. Many 'Happy Birthdays' come from the family. They shower Mary in presents. She then puts them on the living room table for later. Everyone is so happy to see each other.

"Hey Mary, let's go play hide-and-go-seek! We always have a lot of fun doing that." Says Little Jimmy.

"Yeah, that's a great idea." All my cousins agree with him.

"Okay sounds good." Mary had a smirk on her face because of the idea she came up with earlier. Little Jimmy goes in the corner and starts to count. Everyone soundlessly runs to go hide. Mary decides she will hide in the closet behind a bunch of clothes first, only so Little Jimmy will find her more easily

The kids have been playing for quite a long time now. Mary's mom says that can play one more round then it's time for presents and cake. This time, Mary hides in the attic.



She finds her mom's treasure chest up there. "Yes! I hit the jackpot on this one. I will definitely be the last one to be found!" she said with a great, big smile on her face. Her skinny arms struggle to open it. After rigorous tries, she barely managed to get it open. She crawled inside, it's a perfect fit for her bony frame. Now she had to shut it, she was afraid of being alone in the dark for such a long time. But she did it anyway because she wanted to show her cousins that she can beat butt at hide-and-go-seek. The treasure chest shut with a heavy thud, she hoped no one had heard her.

It's been a while since Mary first got in, it's dark and lonely in there. She is super hungry and wants to eat her chocolate birthday cake. She decides it's time to get out. Her tiny arms push the lid of the chest, but it doesn't budge. Her heart skips a beat. She pushes harder and still doesn't open. She then pushes with all her might and it still doesn't work. She lets out a loud groan. The girl keeps punching and shoving her body into the lid of the chest. Mary pounds on the wood and screams her lungs out. "HELP! HELP ME I'M STUCK!" She yells hoping someone will find her. "GET ME OUT! SOMEONE PLEASE GET ME OUT!" Tears filled with fear run down her face. "AHHHH HELP!" She yelps. Piercing screams come from the chest. But no one can hear her from down stairs. Her fingernails dig into the grainy wood, blood runs down her hands. "GET ME OUT, PLEASE SOMEBODY!" Mary cries and breaks into a cold sweat. *How could I be so stupid?* She wonders. *Am I going to die in here?* She bangs on the timber treasure chest so hard and so fast. "HELP ME!"

Minutes or hours pass by. Mary couldn't tell the difference. The scare in her mind had spread to her whole body. She doesn't know what to do with her sick and shaky body. She has been trying to get her family's attention. She wonders if they are calling her name and trying to find her. Or just eating her birthday cake without her, she doesn't know.

She gives own last groan and hit at the chest. "Get me out, please, just someone help me. She quietly murmurs to herself. She cries noiselessly and gives up. Mary sits there. Quietly. Not knowing what to do with herself.

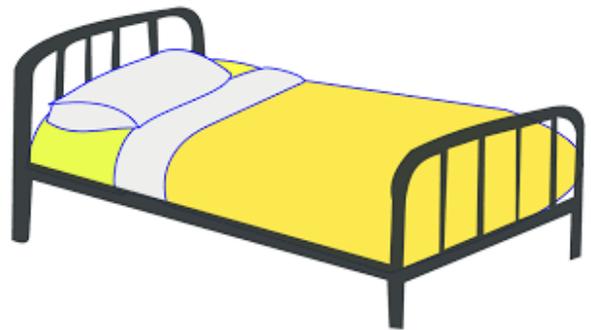
Suddenly, it's hard to breathe, and eventually gets very sleepy. She didn't think it would hurt her so she lets it take her. Mary then falls into a deep rest.

Only she doesn't know that she'll never wake up

The Treasure Chest: Part Two

"Come on mom, why'd we have to move We were perfectly fine living back in New York!" She doesn't answer me as she keeps driving to our new home in South Dakota. We have discussed this many times before. My dad and a younger brother perished in a tragic car accident a few months back. Troubling times they were. Mom couldn't stand living in our empty, comfortless home anymore.

"Here we are Melena." She says when we arrive at the house. We are way out in the country, miles out of town. There are only a few dwellings down the road. I grudgingly step out of the car and slowly walk into the house. It has the smell of old, musty, and rotten wood. It looks as if no one has lived here for decades. Dust and cobwebs cover the house. There are three bedrooms, two living rooms, and one abnormally large kitchen. It's so much bigger



than houses in New York. The house seems, barren and lonesome, and a bit creepy. Mom walks in with a fake, bright smile on her face, "Oh alright, it has some cleaning up to do but it's nice, isn't it? She walks back to the car to get some boxes to unpack. I go to explore more thoroughly. In what is to be me room, is an old antique mirror in the back, left corner. Also, a box with old items. A teddy bear, some sheets, and a diary about to fall apart. With my curious mind, I open it.

June 4th, 1928

Good morning Diary,

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My grumbling stomach interrupts my reading, I realize that I haven't eaten in hours. The sound of footsteps catches my attention back towards the kitchen. It must be mom so I yell and tell her I'm hungry. There is no response so I go there. "Mom," I say. But she's not there, she's all the way at the end of the drive way checking out the mailbox. There is no way that could've been her footsteps. Maybe I'm just imagining things. I hear the noise again, but from upstairs, it's probably just a rodent or something. This place is nasty. I go to the bathroom and wash my hands to get ready for dinner. In the undusted mirror, a dark figure flashes behind me. Gosh, I need some sleep.

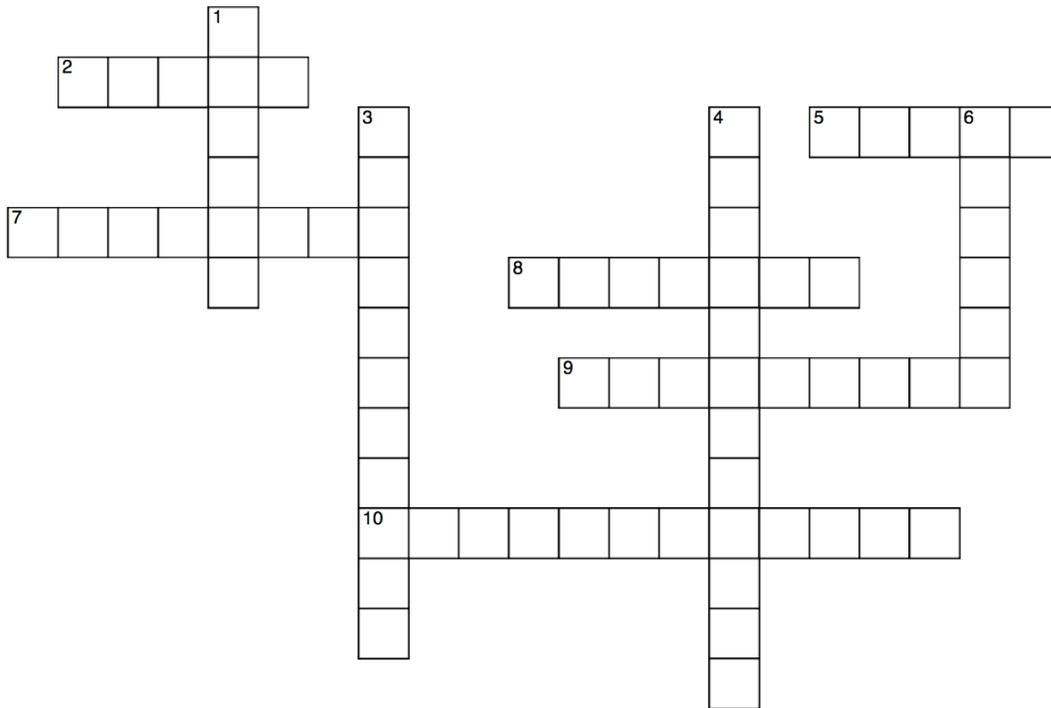
3 hours later

I tell my mother I love her and I'm going to bed. "Sleep well honey, I love you too." She replies. In my barren room I have only added a mattress and some blankets. I take my phone out of my bag and crumble on my makeshift bed. "No signal? You've got to be kidding me! Ugh." I decide to just go to bed, it's the best thing for me right now. Sleep devours me quickly. Only then am I startled awake by a pounding noise coming from the attic. The repetitive sound demands me to investigate. I turn the flashlight on my phone on, and in the corner across from me sits the mirror. Letters on the looking glass slowly start to arise in the dust as if someone is currently drawing on them. Eventually it spells "get me out." My body bolts out to my mother deep in her slumber. "Mom, mom, wake up! Come here you have to see this!" She has an exhausted, puzzled look on her face. "Come on get up!" I cry. She briskly follows me to my room. "Look, there's..." The dust is gone. It had been perfectly wiped up. "It, it was right there. I, I saw it!"

My mom just told me to go to sleep, it's been a long day. I know I saw it. I'm sure I did. Am I going crazy? Carefully, I lay back down on my bed. The throbbing noise starts up again. I decide to check it out. I walk out of my room, to the attic. I open the creaky door, and gingerly climb up the rickety, wooden steps. The area is covered with boxes. There's a chair, and a huge wooden chest in the middle of the room, along with spider webs and dust mites everywhere. A strange roar comes from the chest, almost like a muffled shriek. My quivering hands go to reveal what's inside. It's heavy and difficult to open. My muscular arms are barely capable of opening the chest. I get a huge blast of horrific odor in my face. The sight leaves me speechless. It's a small, mummified body, wearing a light blue dress.

Halloween Crossword

By: Liya Jin



ACROSS

- 2 Pairs excellently with a glass of cider: think Gull Meadow Farms.
- 5 Doesn't fall far from the tree.
- 7 Location/activity: the most lost you'll ever feel outside of your KAMSC classes.
- 8 _____ spice latte.
- 9 DUE THE DAY AFTER HALLOWEEN :):)
- 10 "Prank-or-Delicacy!"; chanted on October 31st.

DOWN

- 1 You: Fall. Me, an intellectual: "_____"
- 3 Last name of "The Nightmare Before Christmas" protagonist
- 4 You will need: a knife, a candles, a scooper, and some semblance of artistic talent.
- 6 Their dried corpses litter the ground!

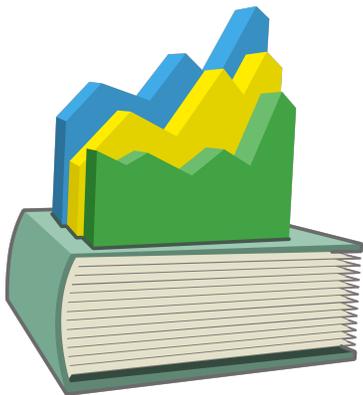
Interview: Dr. Zeigler

By: Zoha Aqeel

As we have welcomed someone new to KAMSC this year, it felt only right to get to know our research mentor a little bit better. So, I sat down for a few minutes after school to talk to Dr. Ziegler. Here's what I found out!

How did you hear about KAMSC?

- I was looking for a position in town, and therefore I looked into a position in Kalamazoo Public Schools. I was already teaching at Western, so I was interested in participating more in community outreach. I wanted to become more a part of the community. As soon as I started looking, I saw that there was a Director of Research position and thought it would be a great combination of research and teaching.



If you were a KAMSC student, what class would you immediately sign up for?

- I would probably take AP Statistics! I've always wanted to learn more about statistics, and how it applies to real life. During my previous jobs, we were asked to conduct all kinds of t-tests and chi-squared tests but most of my colleagues and I didn't know how to do so. It took a lot more time than it probably should have.

What did you do previous to coming to KAMSC?

- I was a scientist in the industry, and specifically a toxicologist. I tested to see if chemicals or drugs were harmful to humans through cell-cultures.

What is the best advice you've ever received?

- The best advice I received was from my mentor in grad school. I learned that you have to not only be passionate, but persistent about your goals. Especially in research, because you learn that even if you do everything correctly there is still a possibility that failure can occur (emphasis on STILL). You have to have the determination to carry through and be persistent with your projects objectives.



What is your favorite thing to do in your free-time?

- I like to play racquet ball in my free time! In grad school, it really is a stressful time. Racquet ball proves to be a wonderful way to release negative energy in a productive manner.

What is something you like to do the “old-fashioned” way

- I don't like writing emails because so much can be inferred incorrectly. I like to talk with people on the phone even though most people this day use emails and texts. It ensures that all the information I want to convey will be done so correctly.

What are some of your favorite hobbies?

- I actually have a house from the 1920's, and I try to fix it. I try to fix the windows, learn how the mechanisms work, and try to tidy it up but not take away the touches that make it antique. It's nice to work for three hours and see the result. Get that, instant gratification. I also enjoy getting old radio's and trying to restore them. That's kinda what I've been up to recently.

If every person had to read one book of your choice, what book would it be, and why?

- I like Isaac Asimov's "The Foundation." I particularly like this book because scientists are the heroes of the books! (He laughed while saying this)

What has your favorite research project been so far?

- My favorite research project was when I was working with a flow cytometer. I got to choose which one I would get, and train others in the company how to use it. It was really interesting.

Are you a cat or dog person?

- Well – I married a cat person, so that makes me a cat person. Although, I think I would be a dog person otherwise. Compromises have been made!
-

How has your experience at KAMSC been so far?

- It's been great! The students are fantastic, there's a supportive and amazing faculty, and this is an amazing program. I'm really appreciative to be here.



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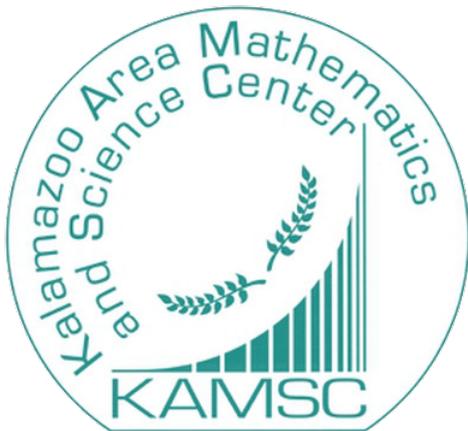
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