



Juniors Paige Glynn and Melanie Le go to Starbucks in the morning to try the new seasonal drinks. Starbucks and Dunkin both have new flavors out for fall. **Paige Glynn** photo

Apple Works impresses with apple-picking experience



Senior Avah Wallischeck and friend picking apples at Apple Works. Apple picking is a great way to start off the fall activities. **Ava Brawley** photo

By **Adriana Crabtree** reporter

Students fall in love with fall drinks



By **Ava Ryan** reporter

As the fall season approaches, I love when my favorite coffee places come out with the best flavor of all time...pumpkin spice. Starbucks' pumpkin spice latte holds a special place in my heart. When it came to comparing Starbucks' and Dunkin's variety of pumpkin spice drinks it was clear that Starbucks' is the best.

First of all, Starbucks' pumpkin spice latte has a high quality of flavor that Dunkin does not. The combinations of the pumpkin to nutmeg ratio is an excellent balance of flavors. It has a rich indulgence of flavor, a blend of spice and sauces, and quality. Dunkin falls short. If I were to give a rating on the flavors of the drinks, Starbucks' would get a 10 out of 10 and Dunkin would get a 7 out of 10.

Furthermore, Starbucks customer service quality also outruns Dunkin's customer service by a mile. Starbucks' employees in Greenwood are kind and efficient. Dunkin, on the other hand, seems to lack these customer service qualities. They do not seem to care how well the drink is presented, the taste or how they treat their customers. Given that, it is another point given to Starbucks' for their excellent service. If I had to rate the customer service alone Starbucks' would get a 10 out of 10 and Dunkin would get a 5 out of 10.

Along with trying their drinks, I also compared Dunkin's pumpkin spice donut and Kroger's pumpkin spice donut. Dunkin's donut seemed to have a crumbly and dry texture to it. The taste was not screaming pumpkin like I hoped it would. But Kroger's pumpkin spice donut was exceptional. It not only had a nice smooth glaze otop it had an actual pumpkin flavor to it. Comparing Dunkin and Kroger's pumpkin spice donuts, I will always choose Kroger's version.

In conclusion, Starbucks' pumpkin spice latte is the clear winner of this battle of the pumpkin spice lattes for me. With its superior flavors, customer service and quality, Starbucks stands head and shoulders above Dunkin's version. For anyone seeking a truly exceptional pumpkin spice latte, Starbucks is the go-to destination.

Pumpkins and apples are fall staples, and students enjoy going to places to find them. Apple Works, located in Trafalgar, is arguably the most popular fall spot for apples and pumpkins as well as the gorgeous autumn scenery.

"My favorite spot is definitely Apple Works. It is especially pretty in fall with all of the leaves, and I like going on the hayrides; it's just really cute there and captures the essence of fall," senior Annabel Sawin said.

Open since 1989, Apple Works has been fostering memories for many years, and most students have been visiting every fall since they were young.

"My family goes to Apple Works every year; it's like our tradition, and we make a lot of memories. I remember four or five years ago we took my cousins down with us, and we took a lot of pictures. We also stood on a huge pumpkin and it was just a lot of fun," sophomore Nolan Stivers said.

Apple Works, open from 11 a.m to 5 p.m Tuesday through Sunday, also offers a 'pick your own' fruit experience. While apples are offered in the fall, other seasonal fruits are available in the spring and summer.

"When I go, I usually do the 'pick your own' fruits. We got apples and raspberries one time, and my friend and I played baseball with the rotten apples, which was unique," sophomore Jamie Vandergriff said.

Apple Works is not only known for its pumpkin and fruit picking, but for other activities such as hayrides, live animals, and a corn maze.

"I usually go to Apple Works because they have a lot of different attractions and more things to do than other places; one time I went with my little cousin when she was a baby, and it was just fun to see her get excited to interact with things and see everything," junior Halie Steinbruegge said.

One of these attractions draws visitors more than others-- not only in the fall, but all year round.

"Our most popular attraction is our petting zoo. We get people calling and asking about it all the time. You can purchase animal feed for an inexpensive price to feed them, which is free," Kim Hawley, Apple Works manager said.

The house-made apple cider at Apple Works sets the establishment apart from other orchards as it has an organic, unique taste.

"I always buy the apple cider. You have to get the apple cider because it's just really delicious. It tastes so much fresher compared to other places," Stivers said.

The food draws crowds from all over Indiana. Their classic fall delicacies cause people like Steinbruegge to return each year.

"Every time I go I always get cinnamon biscuits and apple butter with an apple cider slushie; they're amazing and Apple Works has the best ones," Steinbruegge said.

Daily Hours
Tuesday - Saturday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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