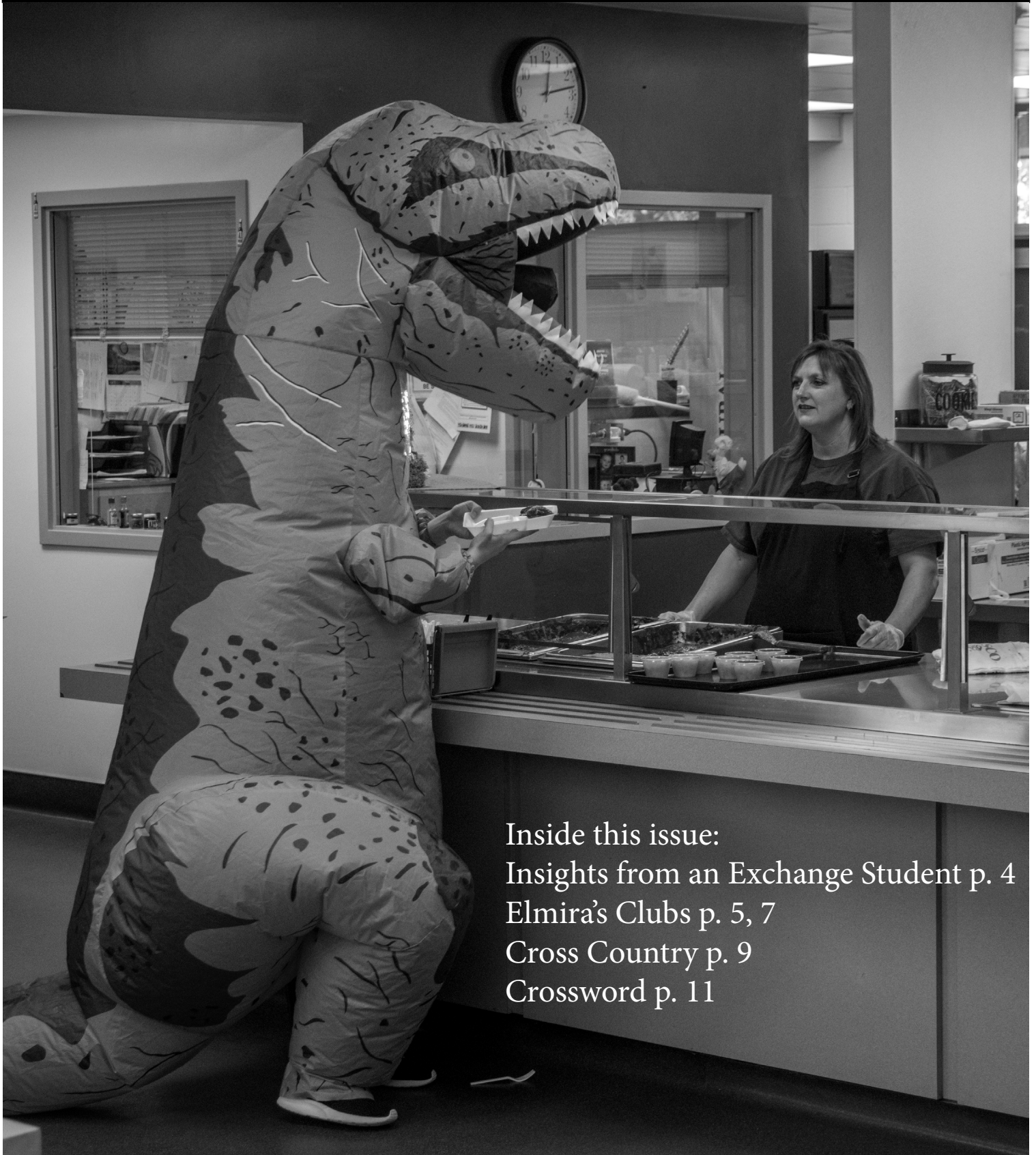


# THE FALCONER

Volume 54 Issue 2

24936 Fir Grove Lane, Elmira, Oregon 97487

Nov. 17, 2017



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## The Falconer staff

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## Editorial Policy

*The Falconer* is a monthly news magazine production. All opinions and letters are the personal viewpoints of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the administration. All content decisions are made by the editors, who are students on staff, and the advisor. The content within the paper in no way reflects the official policy of Elmira High School. Letters to the editor are welcomed; however, they must be signed and screened by the editorial board.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to Mr. Burgess or by email to [sburgess@fernridge.k12.or.us](mailto:sburgess@fernridge.k12.or.us)

## Students of the Month: September



Freshman  
**Derek Anderson**



Sophomore  
**Kaitlin Cook**



Junior  
**Kyle Heine**



Senior  
**Denum Hanson**



Falcon of the Month  
**Cody Rogers**

## EHS Staff accolades and announcements

**From Mr. Carpenter:** Thanks to Mr. Cooper and Mr. Burgess for the work and prep it takes to allow our students to participate in the annual AP Debate! Also, congrats to the AP Juniors and Seniors who participated in the debate. Nice job! Congrats to all the Fall Sport athletes who competed this fall. Good luck to the basketball players and wrestlers this Winter season.

**From Mr. Brands:** Great job girls cross country team qualifying for the state meet!! Great job Kaitlyn Cook finishing in the top 10 at the state meets!

**From Mr. Cooper:** A huge congratulation to the Juniors and Seniors who participated in the AP Debate! Your thoughtful discussion and civilized engagement was very much appreciated at this moment in history.

**From Mrs. Kappeler:** Mark your calendars for the EHS Winter Concert on Wednesday, 12/6! Band, Falcon Choir, and Chamber Choir will perform in the auxiliary gym at 7pm. Admission is free.

**Para Señorita Snider:** Muchas gracias por toda la ayuda de mis tres asistentes. . . Sydney Greene, Elle Russell y Brontae Sodeman. ¡Ustedes son las mejores!

### Can you find The Falcon in this



Find the falcon hidden within the paper! If you find the Falcon, put your name on a piece of paper and give it to Mr. Burgess, you will be entered in a drawing for a Coffee Cart gift certificate. Good luck, it will be harder this time.

Congratulations to Angel Parker, for finding the Falcon in the last issue! It was on the tee-shirt of one of the Japanese visiting Oregon and EHS last summer.



### Cover photo caption contest!

Caption contest winner for last issue: Shelby LaBlue, "Hey, while you're on your phone can you look up how to grow hair?" Shelby won a gift certificate for the coffee cart.



Come up with your own caption for the cover photo of *The Falconer* and submit them to Mr. Burgess or a member of the Falconer staff and we will publish our favorites in the next issue. All captions must be appropriate in order to be published.

## The rise of "Superbugs" and how they affect communities

By Leonardo Griffin

Over the course of several years, more bacteria have become resistant to antibiotics creating "Superbugs". These are simply bacteria that have become resistant to certain antibiotics. The problem has only recently been addressed by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). If these new bacteria are left alone, sicknesses that are only a minor inconvenience can become much more dangerous.

Antibiotic resistance is caused in bacteria when they mutate and evolve into a new strain that is capable of combating the medicine. This doesn't occur in many viruses, but it can happen. The

process is accelerated by the overuse of antibiotics and medicines or when the full dosage of antibiotics isn't used, allowing bacteria to survive and develop and immunity.

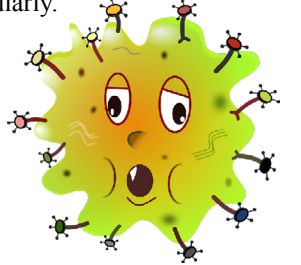
Currently, in the US, over 47 million unnecessary prescriptions are written by doctors, according to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) records. There are many diseases which require an antibiotic such as whooping cough; E.coli, which is a common bacteria that can cause severe infections; or Elizabethkingia, a common bacteria present in the environment that can cause illnesses on rare occasions,

but has a mortality rate of around one-third of the confirmed cases as of 2016.

It is important to prevent the overuse of antibiotics and to use medication with care. If you have a viral infection, such as the common cold, get rest and drink water as a virus does not respond to antibiotic treatment. There are many ways to ease sicknesses without the use of antibiotics that have been proven to work. Some proven remedies include: honey, which has antibacterial properties that can help with colds, and crushed ice, which can soothe a sore throat.

There are many times when

antibiotics can save a life, but it's important to see a doctor to properly diagnose a problem. Do not self-diagnose, no matter how simple TV doctors make it seem. While antibiotics don't cure viruses, vaccines can prevent them. The key to staying healthy is by practicing proper hygiene, such as washing your hands with soap and water, and taking showers regularly.



## FEMA continues history of disaster relief in U.S.

By Leonardo Griffin

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is a sub-agency of the US Department of Homeland Security which oversees disaster responses. FEMA's mission is to "support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards." This means that in the event of a disaster they will send and distribute aid to citizens.

FEMA was created during the Carter administration, by executive order on Apr. 1, 1979. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act officially sanctioned the task of coordinating relief efforts. Also, it created the system where by the president can declare a disaster and aid (physical or financial) is given through FEMA. This system provides an orderly means of assistance to those affected. There are many other legislative measures which regulate the power given to FEMA during disasters.

An application for government

assistance can be submitted by homeowners excluding damages which have been covered by insurance. Small-business owners have to apply with the Small Business Administration and can receive a loan for damages not covered by insurance. After FEMA receives an application they send an inspector to ensure the claims and the extent of the damages are true. If you pass the inspection, they send a letter, detailing how the money can be spent, accompanied by a check or a deposit into your banking account.

FEMA has been criticized for not responding well during Hurricane Katrina. This was blamed on a lack of planning and resources, as well as confusion between officials regarding their roles. A report written by the Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General at the time, Richard Skinner, assures us that FEMA's response was improved, and problems were resolved.

FEMA has also recently responded to Hurricane Irma in Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory in the Caribbean Sea. Approximately 699 applications have

been approved and \$1.6 million has been sent to individuals and households.

During the 2017 hurricane season, FEMA was praised by citizens and officials alike for their response to the disaster. More people applied for assistance breaking the record for disaster assistance applications, and more than \$1.5 billion was paid to the applicants. Over 87,000 flood insurance claims were filed, helping those affected get back on their feet and fix their homes. The U.S. Coast Guard took action as well, rescuing many people and pets from the flood zones. The Dept. of Health and

Human Services deployed over 1,000 trained personnel, along with medical equipment, to help, and many more charitable and federal agencies assisted with aid and reconstruction during and after the hurricane.

FEMA has a long history of helping citizens recover after disasters, and it will continue for the foreseeable future. Though there are many comments to be made about them, good and bad, their mission hasn't changed since their founding. For more information on FEMA, their records, and their history, visit their website at [FEMA.gov](http://FEMA.gov).



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## Elmira student spends enriching exchange year in Germany

Photo and story by Ian Connors

Each year, EHS students meet exchange students from all over the world. I was always eager to hear these brave peoples' stories, because travel always intrigued me. Frau Oedekoven's mention of potential exchange opportunities inspired me to seek one for myself and I eventually stumbled upon the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX.) I launched myself this adventure with reckless abandon, not fully realizing what I was getting myself into until I was skyward, watching Eugene disappear beneath my airplane for the last time for 10 months.

Mark Twain said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

A fundamental part of the learning process is experience which is laden with opportunities for growth and boundless fun. Many people spend their lives traveling, giving them a broad view of the world around us. But travel, while easier than ever, is expensive. Spending 10 days in Japan with Brad Bellingham, as many Elmira alumni have done, is expensive, costing over \$3,000. For this much money, one could buy four brand new Galaxy S8's, a mid-range used car, or even a cheap apartment for half a year. Put into perspective, \$3,000 is a lot to spend, especially when over such a short period of time.

Not many people can afford such extravagant travel costs, especially as high schoolers. Fortunately, more economical options



exist. An exchange program, some of which have scholarship options, is a fantastic way to embark upon a life-changing journey. I encourage people to seek out the possibility of travel at every opportunity, so as to meet new people and expand your worldview.

The CBYX program offers full scholarships for students who wish to study abroad in Germany for a year. The cost is limited to a domestic plane ticket to and from Washington D.C. and money to pay for things like going out with friends, train tickets, the occasional pastry, and other basic necessities (usually \$300-500 per month.) Your first 3 days are spent in Washington, D.C. getting to know the other students in the program and learning more about the politics of CBYX.

CBYX represents a more than thirty year effort made by the German Bundestag and United States Congress to establish long lasting and meaningful relations between the two countries. Each year, two hundred and fifty German and American students participate in the exchange program, spending ten months in the oth-

er's country. Since its founding, more than 24,000 students have strengthened the ties between America and Germany through citizen diplomacy.

From Dulles Int'l Airport we boarded a 787 Dreamliner bound for Germany. Flying to a foreign country for the first time is an unforgettable experience. Little of the world around you is the same, save the air you breathe. The signs surrounding you are no longer helpful. The calm voices over the intercom no longer provide useful information. An accidental bump into a passerby no longer results in an "excuse me" or a "sorry" but instead an "entschuldigung." No amount of schooling can prepare an aspiring linguist for the challenges that exists in actually using a new language. The experience is all consuming and nerve-wracking. I wish I could say it's easy.

Much to the delight of students affiliated with CBYX, three weeks are spent at a language camp where students stay with temporary host families in either Aachen, Hamburg, or Düsseldorf. I was in Düsseldorf and each day I rode a train to a Ju-

gendherberge, German for youth hostel, directly on the banks of the Rhine River. In this youth hostel, we American students, spent time in the classroom developing a core understanding of conversational German. The rest of the time was spent exploring the city of Düsseldorf as well as a day trip to Köln (Cologne) to see the Kölner Dom, the tallest cathedral in Germany. These experiences were invaluable when it came to getting my bearings and learning how to get around. Already an understanding of the new language was forming, one greater than I would have thought possible 3 weeks ago. The extensive public transit systems became a helpful tool rather than a daunting experience fraught with missed connections and "right trains taken the wrong way adding 60 minutes to a 30 minute ride."

The conclusion of the language camp was met with sorrowful goodbyes to my new American friends and the intimidating thought of no familiar Americans. It was all German from there on out.

For those in search of adventure, character, lifelong friends, and a fast-track to a second language; the deadline to turn in applications for the 2018-2019 CBYX exchange year is Dec. 12. If you find that you are in a position to take this huge step across the world, I highly recommend this exchange experience.

(If you have *any* questions feel more than free to contact me at any time.)

Pictured is Schloss Sigmaringen, a castle in the center of the town where I lived and attended school.

## Plenty of scholarships available for students, here are some helpful tips

By Kyla Esselburn

Scholarships are an important part of paying for college. There are many scholarships available, but almost 3 billion dollars worth of scholarships have no applicants.

Despite the Counseling Center always being busy, there are scholarships for the month of Nov. and Dec. that you can still apply for. All scholarships seen below can be found on fastweb.

com, visit them for more information. TicketCity Annual College Scholarship earns \$3,000. Due Dec. 1, 2017. Scholarship Could Be Yours earns \$20,000. Due Dec. 15, 2017. ScholarshipPoints earns \$10,000. Due Dec. 15, 2017. Because College is Expensive Scholarship earns \$500. Due

Dec. 31, 2017.

It is easy to apply for a scholarship. First, go to the Elmira High School web page, then click on college and career center. Once there, select scholarships/grants. Now click on the icon of the scholarship you'd like to apply for. Each icon has a different process for applying. In this example I will use the 2018 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. It

will take you to the website, and once there select the apply option. Then you will be prompted to make a profile. Then fill out essay questions and personal information. Review your application, click submit and wait.

Do not forget, scholarships change and are added constantly. Contact the career center for a list of available scholarships.

## KEY CLUB MEMBERS VOLUNTEER, RAISE MONEY FOR VARIETY OF PURPOSES

Story by Emma Maingot and photos and captions by Ian Connors

Key Club is a club in which members work together to improve their schools and communities. Key Club members around the world volunteer to provide services for their communities. The organization's mission is to give its members with opportunities to provide services and develop leadership skills.

Each Key Club is different because it is designed by its members. Key Club International was founded in 1925, and established the first Key Club at Sacramento High School in California. Key Club International is part of the Kiwanis International family of service-leadership programs.

Any high schooler can join Elmira's key club after paying a \$12.50 fee for insurance purposes. The club meets every Tues. at 8:00am in Mrs. Marquess's room, Room 2.

Joining Key Club also helps students obtain community service hours, which look good on a college resume. It also helps students network and make connections with other community leaders outside of school.

Elmira's Key Club does many things, such as raising money for organizations like Doernbecher Children's Hospital, helps serve food at the Midlane Cares Thank You Dinner, and the Thanksgiving dinner.

In Oct., Elmira's Key Club

raised money for UNICEF, a program that provides assistance to developing countries in the fight against neonatal tetanus. Ten students from Elmira dressed up in costumes and trick-or-treated for donations on Oct. 29. They raised a total of \$98.65 that day.

The club raised \$150.28 from a 'Dash for Cash' during an assembly alone. They plan to raise more money for Doernbecher's in Dec. by selling food on weekends at Al's Hidden Tree Farm. Last Year, they raised the most money for Doernbecher's out of most of the Key Clubs in the state.



A curious group of Key Clubbers meets in Room 2 on Halloween to discuss plans to volunteer at the Harvest Festival, an event organized by the PTA Board to raise money for assemblies and field trips at EES.



Kelly Hoffman, soph. and PR representative for Key Club, intimidates children with her scary costume and takes their candy.



Grey Canada, jr., is descended upon by a flock of hungry sophomores as he collects money during the 'Dash for Cash' for Doernbecher Children's Hospital Fellowship Program.



Madison Alansky, fr., hands bean bags to a sketchy looking old man as her mom's words: "don't talk to strangers" echo in her head.

## The Falconer staff wins 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Fall Press Day

By Leo Griffin

Fall Press Day is an event that has been held at the University of Oregon for the past several years.

On Oct. 25, *The Falconer* staff attended the event where staff members of yearbooks, magazines, and newspapers of all types and from all parts of Oregon were invited to listen to speakers, participate in workshops, and enter contests.

This year's keynote speakers were Jose Antonio Vargas, who won a Pulitzer Prize as a journalist at the Washington Post, and Meghan Reese who produced and wrote for various TV channels and papers, and even worked for the Department of Homeland Security and the White House.

Student participants were able to choose from a wide variety of workshops designed to improve their existing skills as journalists and to aid in learning new ones.

Awards were given to the best publications, and this year, Elmira High School's publication, *The Falconer*, won third place in the Best of Show Magazine category.

"It was an educational experience," said a Journalism staff member.



Shelby McCormick, junior class treasurer, discusses strategy with a tiny human.



# Steve Callaghan, reflects on career as producer of

By John Nelson

Family Guy is an animated comedy television show that was created in 1998 by Seth Macfarlane. It follows the adventures of Peter Griffin, a crazy man-child that does whatever he wants, and his family; Stewie, an evil baby with a grudge against his mother; Brian, a cynical, arrogant, talking dog that believes he is smarter than everyone else; Chris, an awkward teenager that is clueless about everything most of the time; Meg, another awkward teenager that just wants attention but isn't getting any; and Lois, Peter's wife and the voice of reason for the family. The show is heavily satirical, and attempts to make fun of everything in human culture. Family Guy has millions of viewers, has been nominated for two Emmys, one for best animated comedy and one for best comedy.

I interviewed Callaghan about what it was like to help create Family Guy and what his favorite parts of the show are. I also asked him what it's like to work in Hollywood and what he does as an executive producer and a writer on the show.

Q: What is Seth Macfarlane like? Out of all his voices which one is his favorite?

A: "Seth is a very talented person. He is an amazing animator, writer, comedian, director, producer, and voice actor. His favorite voice is Brian because it doesn't hurt him to talk like Brian. He loves all his characters, but doing the Stewie and Peter voice can really strain him during a recording. An interesting thing Seth does during the creation

of scripts is that he gets all the main voice actors on the show and they all speak their lines, one by one. The funny thing is, Seth does three main character's voices, so a large majority of the time the voice actors are reciting the script, Seth is just talking to himself!"

Q: What were the challenges of producing Family Guy?

A: "The biggest problem with Family Guy is the inappropriate content. Even though Family Guy is meant for a mature audience, their network still has to give us censors and advice for changing the script. We send a finalized script to fox, and they send back edits and recommendations on things we can fix. A second problem with Family Guy is the long time it takes to make a season. It takes about a year to finish a season, the majority of that time being used for animation. That means that all the new seasons they air are actually a year old concept. A third challenge is organization, Family Guy is nearing its three-hundredth episode, and it can be a challenge to make sure we don't repeat old jokes and that we don't lose new ones. The first part of organization always starts on a whiteboard. The studio gets together and works on the storyboard and details of that episode. Then someone records it and we move on to the next episode. It's a pretty fluid process."

Q: What's your favorite gag or joke from Family Guy?

A: "My all-time favorite would probably have to be No-Trash Cougar. Basically, Peter wants

to leave a long-lasting legacy on the world and one of the ways he does that is by dressing up in a crazy-looking cougar suit and by scaring kids into picking up their trash. I don't remember the exact episode; I think it was in Season four. It's probably in the middle section of all the episodes. You could always look it up on YouTube too."

Q: What gives the show its personality?

A: "The Writers. We all give everything we can to make Family Guy the best it can be."

Q: How does the studio of Family Guy deal with all the controversy that the show gets for being so satirical?

A: "We are equal opportunity offenders; we will make fun of anyone or anything that we deem joke-worthy."

Q: Are you bothered at all by the fact that a large majority of your fan base is kids and teenagers?

A: "No, I'm not bothered by it. I'm just happy that no matter what age, anybody can enjoy the show."

Q: What famous people have you met while working at Hollywood?

A: "We have had so many famous people on the show, on the top of my head I can name Johnny Depp, Carrie Fisher, Glenn Close, John Hamm, and Rob Gronkowski, but off the show I don't know that many. The majority of famous people I meet come to be on Family Guy."

Q: How did you become the one of the executive producers for Family Guy?

A: "Before Family Guy I was



working as a production assistant. A production assistant is someone who grabs food for everyone and who grabs supplies. I worked on two sitcoms, Drexel's Class and Yes Dear. When Seth created Family Guy, he needed some assistant writers, and I was one of them. I helped to revise and edit the scripts that the main writers would finish. I simply worked my way up to become the executive producer of Family Guy from season eight to now."

Q: What's running a large studio like and how many people work there?

A: "Right now about a hundred people are working at the studio with about forty animators, about twenty writers, and the rest being a mix. Being an executive producer is fun, challenging, and extremely stressful but it's more fun than anything because the product we create is funny, creative, and fans love it. A nice side benefit of being an executive is that I get to help run our booth at comic-con. It is an amazing place for fan interaction. I love seeing all the passion and love for our show. (pic from imdb.com)

# GSA changes name to Gaps in response to changes in club goals

By Andrea Griffin, Photos taken by Ian Connors

Elmira's GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) has now been renamed Gaps in response to the changing demographics of the club and a refocusing of the club's goal. Debra Saint Hilaire, science teacher, is the club's advisor. Meetings take place at every other week on Thurs. at lunch in Room 17.

The club currently is run by a core group of three members, Elle Russell, jr., Andrea Griffin, jr., and Ian Connors, sr. Club members do not have any titles such as President or Secretary. Each member is of an equal and neutral status, and anyone at the school can join at any time.

"We [decided to rename the club because we] care about all social justice issues and we want to extend the same love and support to all communities (as we did with the LGBTQ community), not limit ourselves and let students dictate the focus depending on what they feel is important and necessary," said Elle Russell, jr.

The name Gaps was chosen



Elle Russell, jr., Andrea Griffin, jr., Debra St. Hilaire, Neveah Cline, fr. meet during lunch for a Gaps meeting in room 17.

because it's more broad that GSA and symbolizes how the club wants to bridge the gaps between students and different minority groups.

The club has raised money throughout past years, by selling roses during Valentine's Day, or ice cream bars during sporting events.

Last year GSA took a trip up to OSU along with Tolerance

and Diversity where they visited OSU's Pride House and toured other offices on the OSU campus that focus on social justice. This year Gaps intends on taking the trip again, or perhaps one of their own choosing with the money they have raised.

Saint created the club because she saw a need of a resource for kids who feel isolated. Some of the objectives of the

club are to be a resource and comfort to students, creating a place where students can have deep, meaningful discussions about important topics, and

*"...[we] care about all social justice issues..."*

connect with each other. The current members of the club want to be a support for everyone, and hold a space with no judgement and where anybody can express who they are and what they want to be.

"Having people you can count on at all times is important; especially as us teens develop, and even if you don't join [Gaps], it is good to know that we [Gaps members] are out there," said Russell.

Gaps want to encourage students who have an interest in creating a healthy, understanding, and fun environment to join and visit with the club.

# Safe Oregon comes to Elmira High School, stops bullies in their tracks

By Kyla Esselburn

As of this month, Elmira High school has joined the Safe Oregon program. Safe Oregon is a help hotline for students who are being bullied, harassed, or in potential danger. It is designed to grant students easy access to help

anytime they need it.

Safe Oregon provides students a secure way to report events in their life, and what they don't feel comfortable talking about in person. A student can contact a Safe Oregon representative

by emailing, texting, calling, or going to the website. Any tip a student gives is anonymous and under a confidentiality agreement.

The information that the student gives to Safe Oregon goes to the head staff (principal, assistant

principal, dean of students, the police...) at the school. Once this information is obtained, the schools staff will get together and decide what actions to take. The police may also decide to take immediate action and confront the issue if it is severe.

Safe Oregon helps students stay, and feel safe, and the information used will be kept private. Elmira High School has joined the many schools in Oregon that have signed up, allowing for communication and improvements on how these problems are handled. statewide

**Where can you go for help?**

femridge.k12.or.us/elmirahs safeoregon.com

Email: tip@safeoregon.com

Call or Text: 844-472-3367

Tips can be anonymous.

Save yourself or someone else.

# Where to go for Thanksgiving, in Oregon, California, and beyond

By Elva Zhao

As one of the longest weekends in the Fall School Calendar, Thanksgiving break offers a stellar opportunity for families to snag a break for four or five days. Here are a few fantastic places where you can get away and still have turkey and all the trimmings.

One of the places you could go to for Thanksgiving break is outside of Oregon. Disneyland in Anaheim, California is one

of the largest attractions in the world. It's an amusement park created for families to have a great time. You and your family could spend time together while having fun at Disneyland.

Another more local trip that you and your family could do is go camping. Oregon has many camp sites for you and your family to go to. Some examples include: Still Creek Campground, Stewart State

Park, Sherwood Campground, and many more. You could go fishing, play games, and make smores at night. It's less expensive than going out of state or country. Camping can be just as good as any other activity for you and your family.

Lastly, a trip your family can do which is more costly is traveling to Europe. If your parents feel like going out of state and taking a longer trip, Europe is

a great place. There is so much culture to explore and historical monuments. The great part is you and your family could go to several European countries that are close to each other. It will be very fun as you get to explore a new place and see amazing things. Some ideas could be: visiting the Eiffel Tower, seeing Mona Lisa, and the Cathedrals. It may be a costly trip but you can get a lot out of it.

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# Everyone walks away smiling from Powder Puff game

Photos by Ian Connors

Every year, Elmira High School holds a flag football game, in which junior and senior girls go head to head for a grad night fund-raiser. This year promised to be a match up for the ages. Both juniors and seniors were rearin' to go on the cold, rainy Thursday night (Nov. 9). The senior coach was Gary Carpenter, superintendent of the district and principal at Elmira. He has been coaching for eleven consecutive years, alternating between Juniors and Seniors. He has not lost once. Because of this, he expected to destroy his opponent. "I enjoy it because all I do is win baby! 10-0 and looking for 11," Carpenter said prior to the game, "Juniors are going down!" The coaches in opposition of Carpenter always hope to win, but every year they lose. "I'm hoping for some competition this year!" Carpenter's first year as principal at EHS was the first time the event had taken place in several years. He worked alongside the

grad night committee to organize the game, and since then, it has become a highly anticipated event. The juniors had a new coaching staff this year. Previously, Mr. Shannon, health teacher at Elmira, represented Mr. Carpenter's opposition. This year Jeff Greene, P.E. teacher and football coach at Mapleton High School; Ryan Chambers, counselor at Fern ridge Middle School; and Ken Best, math teacher at Elmira High School, have stepped up to the challenge of coach against Carpenter. Annie Carpenter said, "I am excited to play and make 2017 the first year that my dad loses!" This dream was intact after an early lead for the Juniors, but penalties, errors, and injuries to various players squashed those dreams. Anna Marshall, sr., said during the third quarter, "We are confident that we can face any challenge the juniors throw at us." The final score was 21-18 in favor of the Seniors. Each team

scored three touch downs, but the seniors' point conversions gave them the edge. This year's sophomores should start looking for a good kicker in preparation for next year's game. Cecelia Remior was surprised by how rough the game was. "People were grabbing you and you couldn't just run away like in soccer." Despite this, several expressed interest when asked if they would want to try tackle football. Coach Best said, "I got great effort from all my girls. Once they got the hang of things after about one and a half quarters, the girls figured it out and were able to execute complex plays with multiple hand-offs and passes." And, Coach Carpenter, ever the humble winner, said "Carpenter moves to 11-0 all-time. He added, "The Girls did a great job being very competitive, yet respectful. Nice to see both teams smiling after the game."



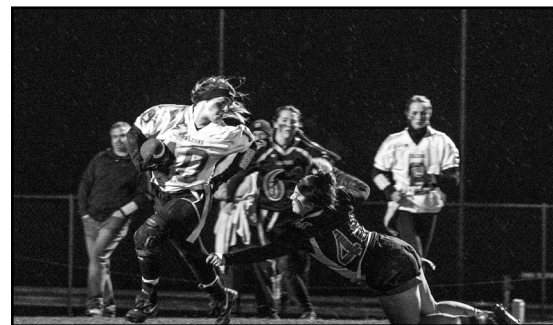
Jadenn Blunt, sr., misses Meanie Greenie's, jr., flag resulting in a touchdown for the Juniors.



Elle 'Tussel' Russell, jr., fighting to hold back Anna Mashal, sr., while Bailey 'Ball Slayer' Bearden, jr., runs with the ball.



Senior boys posing for a picture with the Falcon at the start of the Powder Puff game.



Kylie Anderson, sr., lunges at Josie Dickson, jr., in an attempt to take her flag.



## Winter sports season begins

By Ian Connors

As winter rolls around so does the new sport season at EHS. Winter athletes will be wrestling, riding horses, and playing basketball. Wrestling is coached by Scott Shannon, health teacher at EHS, and Justin Peeler. Varsity Girls Basketball is coached by Kenneth Best, math teacher at EHS, and JV by Shannon Hart, English teacher at EHS. Boys basketball is coached by Nick Garmin, teacher at Cottage Grove HS. The Varsity Girls Basketball team lost many good, experienced players when last year's seniors graduated. But Best believes this year's team has plenty of room to grow and some of the freshmen may have a chance at varsity.

Despite a 4th place ranking in the Sky-Em last year owing to injured players, Best had fun coaching and remains optimistic for the upcoming season. Best wants the players, who spent time in the weight room building strength, to know that he is very pleased with their extra effort.

Wrestling is an exciting and demanding sport. It takes a special type of athlete to push through the strenuous exercises demanded in training. With this in mind, Shannon is seeking dedicated athletes, willing to push through the pain.

"We will be as successful as how hard we are willing to work," said Shannon.

When asked about losing a state champion, Dylan Porter, Shannon said "It's hard, you never know when [another state champion] will come up, but I am hoping that a new state champ will emerge in the next four years."

Shannon knows that this year's team will be less experienced, but that does not dampen his enthusiasm.

# Girl's Cross Country earns trip to state for the first time since 2003

Story by Andrea Griffin, Photos by Ian and Natalie Connors

This year, the Elmira's Varsity Girls team finished second in the Sky-Em League, qualifying for state for the first time since 2003. The Boys teams also did well, both the JV and Varsity Boys finished third in the league. Varsity Boys were only two points behind the second place team, Cottage Grove, and were ranked tenth in the state.

The state meet was held on Sat. Nov. 4 at LCC. The Elmira Varsity girls finished 12th out of 14 teams in the 4A league with only five runners. Kaitlin Cook finished 10th with a time of 19:47.

"I think the season went very well, we geared for finishing strong at the end and I feel that's what we did. And despite the boy's disappointment over not making it to state, we couldn't of asked more of them," said Tom Boldon, head coach of the cross country team. "Collectively, the boys ran significantly faster than last year, and we still got third in a strong league."

Boldon has been coaching cross country for a total of 17 years; he has coached at Elmira for two year, alongside his wife, Kristin Boldon. T. Boldon has also interviewed for the head coaching position of the track team for the 2018 season.

All runners who competed at the district meet, except for two who were still nursing injuries, had personal records on the LCC course, which is not known to be a fast course. Many runners PRed by close to or even more than a minute, which is amazing by cross country standards. One freshman, Josiah Lorenz, PRed by a minute and 25 seconds.

"Our strategy is to work on endurance and strength in the preseason and early season, longer intervals at 5K pace in September, transitioning to shorter, faster intervals in October," said Tom Boldon.

Many athletes, such as Paul Ossowski, jr., contribute their success to the well structured workouts made by their coaches. "They base [workouts] off our level and build off that," said Ossowski. Another part of the training strategy is to separate runners into training groups based off of their times, that way students run together with others of similar speeds and each group may have a slightly different plan so that they aren't running more or less than they should.

Many athletes have already begun to think about gearing up for the upcoming track season, either by running on their own or participating in Winter Warriors which are track workouts held after school for athletes not participating in a winter sport. "I love Winter Warriors, I've been thinking about it since school started," said Kaitlin Cook.

"[Next season, I hope to have] complete teams in the new league structure, with the hopes of getting our girls and boys teams to state. And to get twice as many girls out, next year we want at least 16 girls out and more than 20 guys," said Tom Boldon.



The Varsity Girls huddle at the start line for a pep talk before the district race.



Kaitlin Cook leads the pack during the district race, followed by Andrea Griffin.



Paul Ossowski finishes 6th with a time of 16:52.4 and Keegan Cook finishes 7th with a time of 17:08.8 at the district race.



Ian Connors, sr., finishes 17th with a personal best of 18:08.5.



Paul Ossowski greets Nate Sweet, who finished 45th with a time of 23:00.5, at the finish line

*"We love cross country because it is a sport for anybody and you compete against yourself, your own times, or the competition, either from other teams or your own team. It's a sport that requires a lot of dedication and determination, which is why we get kids with the best character."*  
- Coach Tom Boldon

*"I think the season, it more than met my expectations."*  
- Coach Kristin Boldon

*"I like the coaches and the endorphins after a race."*  
- Kaitlin Cook, soph.

*"[The season] went better than expected. I ran better than I thought I would, I wasn't even expecting to get into the 17s."*  
- Paul Ossowski, jr.

*"Once I changed my mentality, and accepted that I may not be the top runner, but I would try to be my personal best, I became more dedicated to the sport and trained harder in the off season. Having sufficient iron in my blood also helped in a lot of ways."*  
- Andrea Griffin, jr.

*"I ran, I barfed, I lost."*  
- Leo Griffin, soph.



# Fall

By Riley Chambers

Fall is here  
 The sights, the smells, the sounds  
 Farm stands throughout the towns  
 Alluring colors of leaves changing hues  
 Crimson, maroon, auburn, chartreuse  
 Orchards aglow with ripe fruit to be picked  
 Sweet scents of hay and grass freshly clipped  
 Redolent fragrances of newly fallen rain  
 Saturate the tilled earth once again  
 Crunch! Shriveled leaves scattered all around  
 Whoop, whoop, a nocturnal owl what an eerie sound  
 Flannel weather has arrived  
 So slip on a jacket and let's get outside!

## What Would You Do? Slasher edition

By: Kyla Esselburn

It is a dark and rainy night. You are walking home from the high school football game. Your "friends" left you at the game forcing you to walk home. There was no problem walking home usually, but your jacket and phone are in your friend's car.

You keep walking until you realize there is something behind you. The sound of footsteps in the leaves follows close behind you. The first thought that goes through your mind is that, it's the sound of the rain and wind in the leaves. You continue walking, telling yourself it was just the wind, but doubting the thought of it. Turning around to see what is causing the noise being greeted by a dark silhouette of a man. You can barely see the face, all that is visible is a dark, evil grin, the face of a killer. You can not see what is in his hand but it looks like a dangerous object. You increase your pace and hope it is just a sick prank.

Turn around to look



Photo courtesy of Gawker.com

again and realize the man is gone, but you ended up somewhere unfamiliar. You look for a street sign and you can't find one anywhere. None of the houses have lights on in the windows, most look vacant, in fact. You decide to walk forward hoping to find your way home. The wind starts to get chilly and the rain pours. The cold rain runs down your back, it sends shivers up your spine. You look around hoping to find shelter to let the storm pass or at least to calm down.

Tired and wet, you decide to go sit on a porch, though the

house it belong to looks somewhat abandoned. You sit there and watch the storm, the rain and wind is getting worse. A familiar shape catches your eye and you look across the street seeing the man there. He waves as though you were an old friend, but you just stare at him dumbfounded. The shock hits you so hard, you feel as though you might fall to the ground. He keeps waving, and next thing you know, just appears in front of the house about twenty five feet away.

Seeing the door ajar, you run into the house and hear the footsteps behind you. You run into a room with a lock. You lock the door, but since it is so old it probably will not hold. The room is run down, the ceiling and floors are rotted away. You see a rusty fire poker near the fireplace. You grab it and hear the man trying to break down the door. You take one more deep breath before the door opens. What will you do next?

## Ask Freddy

Makenzie DeFoyd

Dear Freddy, What do I do if a teacher always accuses me of talking in class, but it's the annoying kid behind me? If I keep getting in trouble I could get a referral!

From, Wrongly Accused

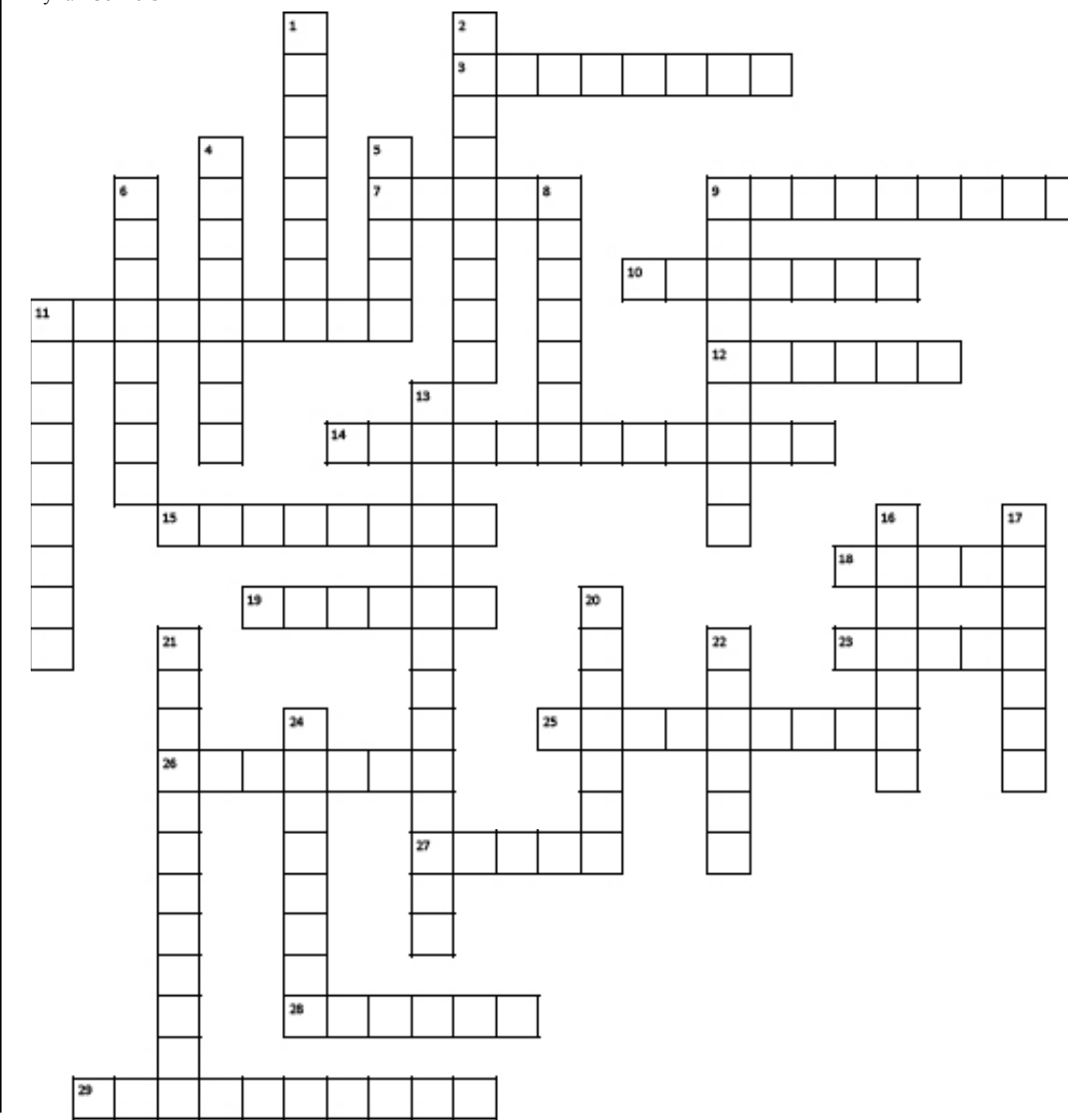
Dear Wrongly Accused,

Talk to the teacher after class to see if you could change seats! That would solve everything, unless he or she thinks you're a ventriloquist. But for the most part that will take care of it. If you can't switch, then whenever that person starts to talk turn around and say in a loud demanding voice to stop... or raise your hand and do the more mature option and ask the teacher to do something about it. Maybe they'll be resigned to sit in the corner and dwell on their wrongdoing. Any of the above should work. Good luck!

From, Freddy the Falcon

## Crossword of the Month: Thanksgiving

By Ian Connors



### Down

- 1- a football game between two of Oregon's college football teams
- 2- the ship on which the first Pilgrims came to America
- 4- the forked bone between the neck and the breast of a bird
- 5- sauce made from cooked meat juices with stock and stuff
- 6- a primarily southern desert made with nuts and lots of sugar, generally corn syrup
- 8- caused by Earth's 23.5° tilt on its axis
- 9- the best part of a chicken and also technically a musical instrument
- 11- delicious when served

with chili

- 13- the indigenous people of America
- 16- people with children who only visit during the holidays
- 17- someone who moves somewhere and establishes permanent residence
- 20- something that we celebrate
- 21- a common topping for the answer to 29 across
- 22- the coldest of the answer to 8 down
- 24- a dish, generally with a starch base, that is used to fill the cavity of another food item, often the answer to 19 across

### Across

- 3- characteristic of, or occurring in fall
- 7- small, self-contained pieces of bread
- 9- when food is tasty, it is \_\_\_\_\_
- 10- an early liaison between the (answer to 13 down) and the (answer to 17 down) from the (answer to 2 down)
- 11- a small red berry that is most commonly used to treat and prevent urinary tract infections
- 12- a common gourd
- 14- Celebrated each year on the 4th Thursday of the month of November
- 15- a type of pie so generic it's not even funny

- 18- to cut the answer to 19 across
- 19- a large bird native to North America in the genus *Meleagris*
- 23- a very large meal
- 25- how apple cider is best served
- 26- a large serving dish
- 27- what are all of Mr. Burgess's jokes?
- 28- the sound a turkey makes
- 29- a dessert made with those big orange thingies

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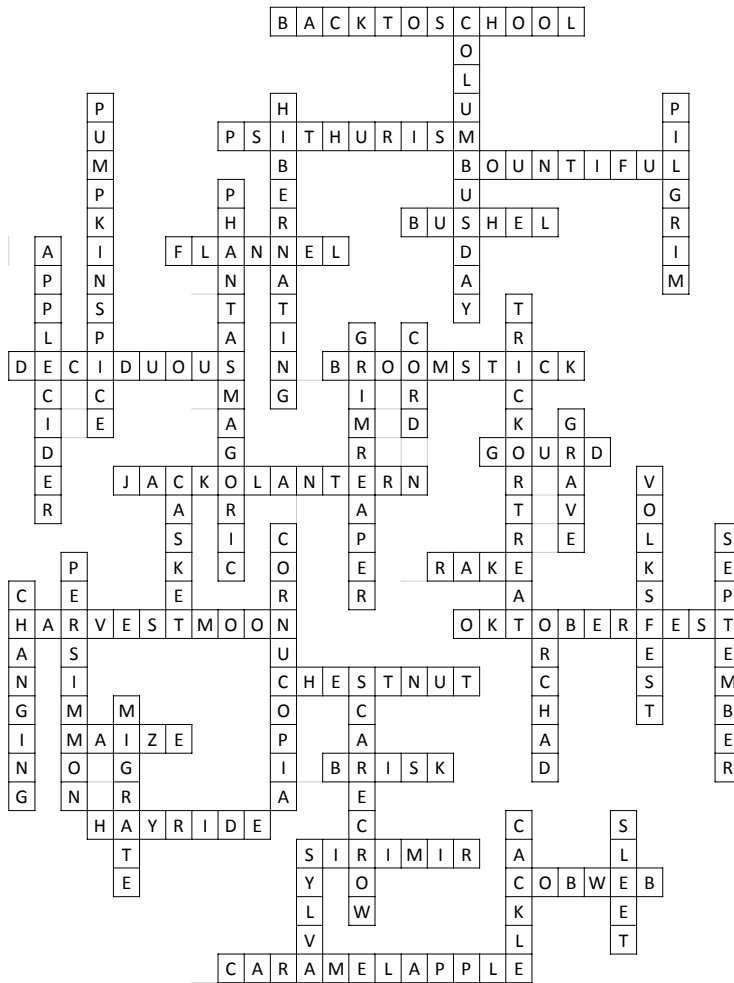
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# October's Crossword of the Month Answers

By Ian Connors

The answers to last month's crossword if you are some sort of wizard and managed to read the poorly rendered version of this from the last issue of the Falconer. I promise, it's only crisp, clear boxes and numbers from here on out.



## Pet of the Month: Louie Marshal

By Andrea Griffin



- Q: What is your pet's name?**  
A: Louie Marshall.
- Q: What breed is your dog?**  
A: Part pomeranian, but that's the only part we know.
- Q: What do you like most about your pet?**  
I only like him for his looks.
- Q: What would you say is your pet's favorite part about life?**  
A: I think he likes getting fed more than anything else, but getting pet is a close second.
- Q: What is your pet's favorite song?**  
A: He gets down to some sick reggae beats.
- Q: If your pet were to start his own band what would the band be called and what kind of music would they play?**  
A: I don't know, you would have to ask him, but probably reggae.
- Q: If your pet were President what would he do?**  
A: Party hard.
- Q: If you had a million dollars to spend on your pet, what would you do?**  
A: Buy him a Porsche and find him a hot girl dog to ride around in it with him, also maybe get him some dog braces to fix his underbite. And buy him a personal trainer to lose those extra puppy pounds.
- Q: If you had to describe your pet in two words, what would they be?**  
A: Bestdarndogonthe planet
- Q: What would you say is your pet's favorite activity?**  
A: Eating. He really likes kibble and Doritos.
- Q: What are you?**  
A: Anna Marshall



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