

RIVER HAWK REVIEW

Skowhegan Area High School's Best News Source

Twyla Wagg

A Friend From France

"Everybody knows everybody, and it is beautiful." This was said by Agathe, a foreign exchange student from France. She was describing Skowhegan, the town she has been staying in for awhile. Agathe believes that our community is very nice, and everyone is welcome.

Speaking of nice, Agathe always has a very nice outfit that is put together. You can tell she isn't from here. Even though she is from France she fits in well here, and she participates in cross country with our team.

She is very positive about our school but has some opinions on how our school runs. She says, "We should have longer than 20 minutes to eat our lunch." Also, "Why do we have milk with lunch instead of water or juice?" Another thing Agathe doesn't understand is why we don't have more public transportation, and why cars are the only form of transportation.

I asked Agathe a couple personal questions, like what she wanted to do while she was here? She said that she wants to go ice fishing. I hope that she enjoys the cold. Another thing was how her school was different from ours? They have more breaks is what she responded. Next was why she wanted to come to America? She said, "Both my big sisters did exchange years. I wanted to do one as well, and I love this country."

Lastly, I wondered if Agathe would want to come back to America, and she excitedly said yes. If you want to learn more about her, find her in the hallway and ask. She is very friendly and welcoming.

Levi Nichols

Poetry Club: Reopened

After being closed last year, the poetry club has opened again! But why did it close in the first place? Mr. Deagle, the man who runs the poetry club, said that it was closed due to a lack of members. According to him, he held three meetings where nobody even showed up. Luckily, it has been successfully brought back this year. So far, Mr. Deagle is enthusiastic about the reopening of the

Everyone is Welcome at SAHS

On November 4, SAHS is having our fourth annual Day of Welcome. This event is put on by our own Civil Rights Team and civil rights teams across the state. In this event we welcome everyone and highlight the six areas of bias which are race and skin color, religion, disability, national origin and ancestry, sexual orientation, and gender, which includes gender identity and expression. Our team wants 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. The Civil Rights Team Project has initiatives throughout the year and new members are always welcome. We meet on Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30 in the library. Please join us in highlighting the idea that school communities are for everyone.

From the Teams:



• • • • • Skowhegan Area High School • • • • •

poetry club, and he states that he loves seeing the changes of our student poets' writing over the course of the year. There was never a doubt in his mind that he was going to reopen the poetry club, he just needed some students to participate. However, poetry club is not the only event that Mr. Deagle wants to be brought back. He says that he would love to hold student poetry readings in the auditorium and bring back student vs. teacher hockey games. He also wants to see more musical performances from our band team. If you are interested in keeping the poetry club running strong, show up on Friday after school with a poem!

Secrets of the School

Is the School Really Made of Bricks???

By Jamie Weeks

At this point, everyone in the school has been through a fire drill. But have you ever wondered why? Every wall in the school is made of cement bricks, and the floors are all tiled. The ceiling is the only part of the school that could possibly burn. This raises the question of why fire drills are so heavily enforced. Is it possible that the school isn't as it seems? Could the school be hiding something behind the seemingly cement walls? Surely the fire drills aren't just for generic safety of staff and students, there must be another reason. My thought; the school is actually made of CARDBOARD!

I know what you're thinking, that's crazy, but hear me out. If the school was made of cardboard, which is flammable, there would be much more reason to be afraid of fire, since that could ruin the entire building. But why, you ask, would the school be made out of cardboard in the first place. The main reason would probably be cost. Imagine how cheap and quick it would be to build a large building out of light and easily bendable cardboard. While cardboard is flimsy on its own, folding it into shapes such as triangles make it much stronger. The more cardboard triangles you have, the stronger the walls. With these reasons, we can see that it is in some way possible to build a building out of cardboard, but what about this school? Now I will prove to you how this building is definitely hiding its true materials.

First off, look at the walls and the general shape of the school. Is it straight? No. The school is made up of many small sections, orange, purple, green, etc. These small sections would be much easier to support than one entire building at once. Also, look at the walls in the sections. None of the walls are completely straight. Around every doorway there are columns of bricks with seemingly no purpose. What could these be for? Extra cardboard supports of course! These supports would act the same as pillars in large open buildings, except these are carefully disguised as part of the normal wall.

Another aspect to the school's cardboard architecture is the fact that most of the building is only one floor. The parts of the school that are two stories, ie, the auditorium and gym, are simply rooms with high ceilings; there is no second floor that people need to walk on. (Well except the back part of the gym). But what about SCTC? Well, what is one of the classes in SCTC? Pre-engineering! It would only make sense that the part of the school with engineers

would find some way to walk on top of a cardboard floor. On the other hand, SCTC might just be the only part of the school constructed with traditional materials. Who knows?!

My last point involves the walls as we see them. Why do they look and feel like concrete? Simple, they're fake. Obviously the builders of the school would not want people to know they were inside a cardboard building, so they plastered the walls to look real. It's like putting veneer on wooden furniture, you put a thin layer of the real stuff over the majority of the fake stuff. Surely it would be much cheaper for the builders to coat the school in a thin layer of plaster than build the whole thing of concrete. This would ensure that all future students, staff, and especially safety inspectors would be easily fooled.

Until now! As you can see, there is no way to dispute my findings, as I have meticulously analyzed every part of the school's construction. This answers the question of why we have fire drills. Because the school is extremely flammable! Is the school actually made of bricks? No, it's made of cardboard, people. It makes you wonder how many other secrets the school has that are yet to be discovered.

Isabel Ozdinec

Charlie Brown is Coming to SAHS

As you may know, this year SAHS is performing the Broadway musical You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown between November 17th and 19th. Our theater department has been working hard to produce the best product they can, and we were able to ask a few questions to two people who are a part of this team, the person who plays Charlie Brown, and the person who plays his younger sister Sally Brown. To start off, they spoke very highly of the small team that is working on the production, saying that they are very welcoming and friendly people, claiming that they have made good friends through theater. They also talk about their opinion on playing a minor role, which a lot of people would be upset with getting, saying that every role, no matter how small it may seem, helps tie the story together and that without it all the small roles helping push the story along a play would be very boring. They have been having a lot of fun working together on this play and say that even though memorizing lines and directions may be hard, the end product is worth it, and that they enjoy the entire experience including the difficulties. Both people plan on staying with the theater team for the rest of their school career, and they very heavily suggest joining the theater department before graduating.

Yay vs Nay:

Four Day Weeks

Cailyn McKecknie - Yay

I believe school should only be four days a week at Skowhegan Area High School. I think this would work well with our district for a few reasons. First, it would allow every week to be the same as far as which days are Day 1s and Day 2s. This would help with any confusion students may have regarding what they need to bring for what day. Every Tuesday would be Day 1 and Wednesday Day 2, and so on and so forth.

Second, it would give students an extra day to do any homework that was assigned over the weekend. It would also give them extra time to hang out with friends and socialize.

Third, it would allow more time for people to focus on self-care and their mental health which are vital for everyone. An extra day of rest will allow every person at school to be more productive and possibly be in a better mood.

Finally, it wouldn't be only our district that does it. Many other districts worldwide are reducing their weeks to only four days. Many workplaces are also reducing their weeks for the benefit of their employees.

You may be saying, "How do we get the needed hours for school"? Well, there are a few things we can do. Some options are increasing the number of hours in one school day, bringing school farther into the summer or starting earlier than we do, or reducing the needed hours of a school year entirely. In conclusion, that is why I believe schools should have four-day school weeks.

Joshua Bloom

A Tale of Shadows



“Done!”

There was a group of travelers, each of different origins, Stone, a dwarf from the kingdom, Hailstorm a royal silver dragonborn from the north, Skamos, a tiefling from another world, and a hooded figure, no one knows who he is, the only thing about him is that small glints of gold shine from within the cloak.

They seem to be setting up camp in an open area of a forest.

Isabel Ozdinec - Nay

At first glance, 4-day weeks seem to be an obvious improvement. Less school and/or work? That leaves us so much more free time! But when you go into more detail on how we would have to edit our schedules, it doesn't really seem to be the best option anymore. The biggest reason, however, is that we would still need the same total hours. Schools have a government mandated number of hours that we as students need to be in the building. Taking away a day would not take away those hours, even if we aren't in school for a day that doesn't mean that these hours will disappear. This means that we will still be in the building for the same amount of hours either way, but now they need to do something to make up for these lost hours. There are two options. We could have longer school days or a longer year. Would you really want your day to go on extra long or have to wake up extra early every school day? And if they don't choose that, would you want to have a lot more weeks of school that go farther into the summer? We have relatively short school days, and longer ones may affect people's sleep schedules, and if we have to wait a lot longer until summer begins for us, we won't be able to travel as much. Again, either way we will be in the school for the exact same amount of time. If you're wondering why can't we reduce these hours, most colleges wouldn't want to accept people who had 20% less time in school than everyone else.

After those 2 main reasons, and many more smaller reasons, I find it to be quite obvious that it just would not be worth it to remove a day of school, to avoid confusion, and because no matter what we'll be in school for the exact same amount of time either way.

“The fire is set up and the perimeter is secure!” The Stone said with a grin.

“Any stories to tell in the light of the fire? Something entertaining? Wisdom to share?” Skamos asked.

The hooded figure spoke up, “Yes, a tale told through my home town, spoken from a Gold dragonborn, who said he was haunted in his dreams... one day, a creature of pure darkness, a shadow became real, entered his dream. That moment marked him for life, the dragonborn still saw that creature in every dream. one night, beneath a full moon, a shriek was heard from this Dragonborn's home. Those who entered saw nothing. Even now, people of the town still had nightmares of his shriek echoing through the town. He disappeared, never to be seen again.”

The hooded figure looked upon the faces of
(Continued on next page)

those in front of him, a disbelieving scoff from Stone, a dignified look of interest from Hailstorm, and visible suspense and fear from Skamos.

The hooded figure sighed, “Or so they thought...” That caught the attention of the party members in front of him, and showed a bit of fear in them.

“What do you mean, ‘Or so they thought’!?” Skamos shouted.

“I’ll tell you the rest of it tomorrow, time to get some rest.” The hooded figure walked to his tent, closing the entrance behind him. Slowly (and fearfully) the rest of them walked to their tents. Skamos went to sleep with his last glance at the full moon...

Skamos woke up in the middle of the forest, nowhere near where their camp was set up, he soon realized that he was alone.

“Guys? Guys!? GUYS?!” He started shouting. He suddenly saw a hooded figure walking towards him, its silver staff clanking on the ground as it walked,

“It seems as though you have been found as well, Skamos.” It was the same figure who was telling the story.

“You?! What are you doing here?” Skamos shouted at the thing in front of him.

“I would ask you the same, however I know why, but for you to understand, you must know the truth... I never completed telling the Tale, it’s important,” The hooded figure said.

“What is it?” Skamos asked slowly, quite scared of where this was going.

The figure reaches for his hood, and pulls it down. The (used to be) hooded figure was a golden dragonborn with neon blue eyes. Skamos gasped in realization.

The dragonborn spoke again. “I am Kin, the dragonborn from the tale, and we are in those very same nightmares,” Kin said.

“Wait, you mean-” Skamos left off.

“Yes, we were brought here to meet a certain ‘Someone’.”

He turned towards a shadow that suddenly appeared, and something rose from it.

A black, white, and red gastly creature, the creature has no legs, but levitates, it has a red, scarf-like ring around its neck, with spikes pointing upwards, curved inwards, with one glowing, neon blue eye, and white wispy hair covering where the other eye would be.

It extended its claw-like hands towards Skamos, and its voice hissed with a chill that rattled Skamos’s bones... *To be continued*

Levi Nichols

BREAKING NEWS: STUDENT WRITES STORY FOR SCHOOL PAPER!

In a surprising turn of events, a student in the SAHS newspaper club has actually written something. The story is rumored to be able to be read with the organs known as the “eyes” through printed paper. It is also said that it was written using either a school laptop or quill and ink. Many speculate what the story contains, but the most popular theory is that it speculates about itself. However, most people want to know who wrote the article. Sadly, they wish to remain anonymous. Luckily, we were able to get an interview with this mysterious person. Upon interviewing, they said “I have been chained up in one of the school storage closets and they forced me to write this, please help” (Editor’s note: they were joking). Even though “many” people are excited about this story, it didn’t come without problems. Sadly we were not able to figure out what the problems were due to technical difficulties. We are sorry for this massive inconvenience and will try better next time. There is one promise that the writer has made to the readers. They state that their story is “Most definitely absolutely not in any way, shape, or form filler content without a single good reason to be written at all.” Hopefully whatever they write has a very meaningful meaning behind it and is most definitely absolutely not in any way, shape, or form filler content without a single good reason to be written at all. Speaking of filler content, why don’t I give a quick explanation to what exactly filler content is. Filler content is parts of stories, movies, or video games that serve no true purpose. If it were to be removed, it wouldn’t have any adverse effects on the plot. It is believed that if filler content is removed, it can improve a story. To wrap things up, the SHAS news team has to clarify that this story was written willingly and the author is not in any danger. Thanks for reading if you read this, if not please stop skimming.

The River Hawk Review is brought to you by:

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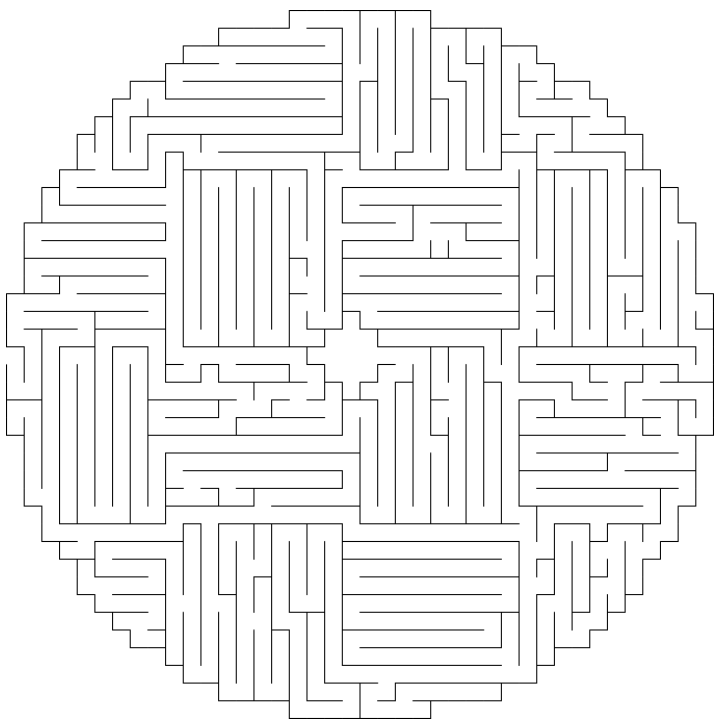
Want to submit something to The River Hawk Review? See Mr. LaFlamme in the media center or Mr. Smith in O6.

Fun Page

By Levi Nichols

Maze

Start in the center!



Word Scrambles

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. oeknetls | 2. hlcsoo |
| 3. aengor | 4. leolnahew |

Riddles

I'm a combination of all you see, but I look like nothing. I'm right here on this page. What am I?

Imagine you are in a room with no escape at all. How do you get out?

Answers on page 7

Trivia

By Twyla Wagg

What is the technical name of hashtag (#)?

A Human can hear the heartbeat of a blue whale from more than 2 miles away. True or False

A rollerball in the computer mouse was invented in which year?
A. 1929 B.1946 C. 1874.

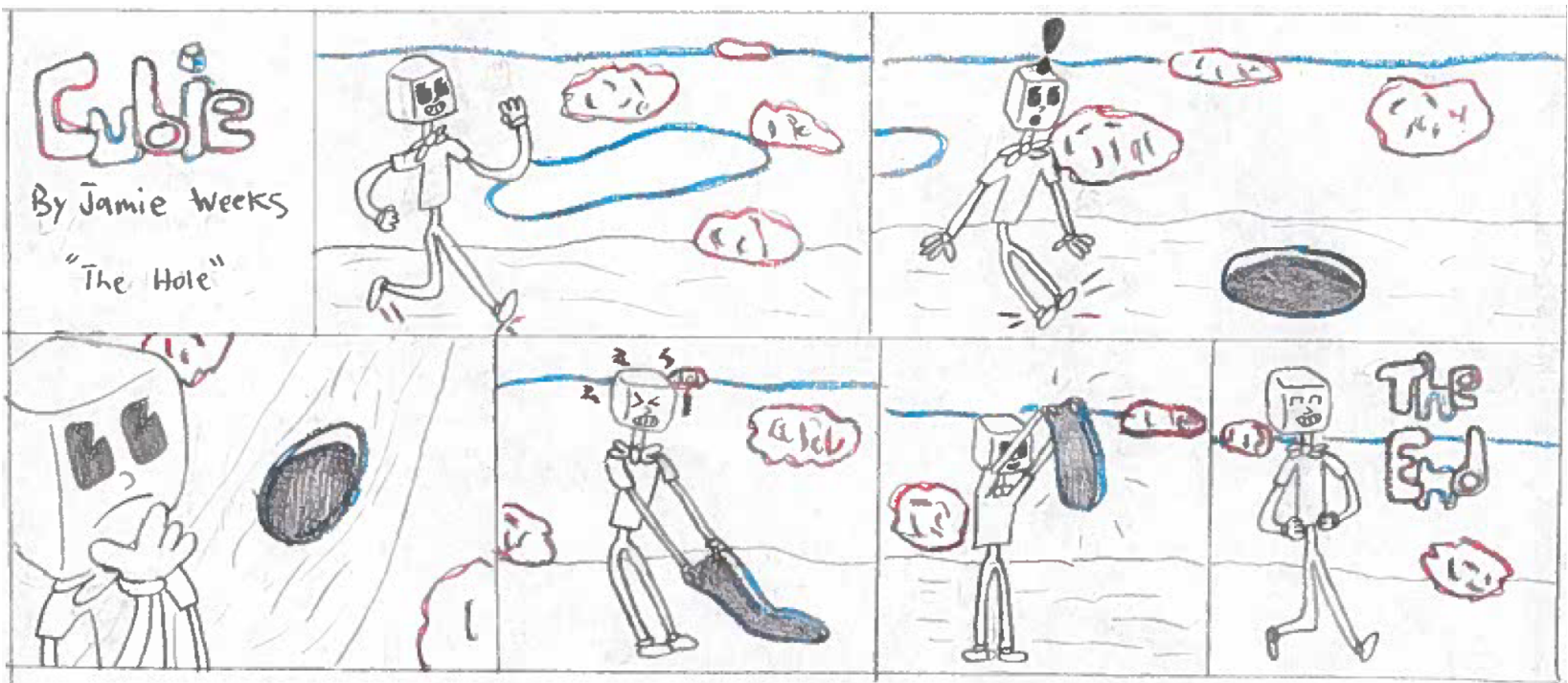
In which country is it illegal to have only one guinea pig?

Which disease can be reduced by eating cheese?

What is Squalene?

What is the axolotl also called?

Answers on Page 7



Is Halloween Worth It?

By Jamie Weeks & Cailyn McKechnie



Halloween is a traditional holiday around the world that has been celebrated for hundreds of years. But what makes Halloween so special? Is the holiday truly worth it? There must be a reason for its continued popularity. In this article, we will dive into and analyze this fall holiday.

Halloween in America is traditionally a spooky holiday, with decorations including skeletons, zombies, spiders and many others. Many people decorate their yards and houses with these creatures, creating elaborate scenes of haunted houses and graveyards. It's always interesting to look at multiple houses on one street and see which ones go all out with decorating and which ones don't decorate at all. A lot of people try to have the best looking house to entice trick-or-treaters on Halloween night.

Trick-or-treating is probably the most popular part of Halloween. On Halloween night, kids go around to people's houses while being dressed in costumes and receive candy. You can see why this would be popular. Who doesn't love free candy?

Trick-or-treating is also popular with manufacturers because of all the opportunity to sell products. Every year around the middle of September, you will find bags of fun size candy and orange and black decorations in almost every store. This type of thing can be said for all holidays, and I think it's one of the reasons that holidays, such as halloween, are so popular.

However, there is a problem with Halloween. What parent wants their kid of any age out late on a school night? Especially out knocking on strangers' doors asking for candy or partying. This brings up the question - Why not change when Halloween is?

Many people across America want to change Halloween to the last Saturday of the month to allow more people to do things. This would allow many adolescents still living with their parents to be able to go out and do things on Halloween night instead of staying home and worrying about getting to sleep on time. Many people don't want to do this, however, as for their whole lives Halloween has been October 31st. It's just the way it is whether you like it or not. Also it would change the meaning of movies for future generations. Every movie that takes place on October 31st would have to be explained as to why that was Halloween.

I have a question for you. How weird is it that we send thousands of children every single year to knock on strangers' doors and ask for candy? Does this not oppose the "stranger danger rule" and not to take candy from a stranger? While, yes, many children have adults with them that check their candy and protect them, what about those who don't? Where did Halloween come from and who started these traditions? Some people say the corporate companies and others say it is a religious tradition coming from Hallows Eve. Either way, I think the activities people participate in are a bit odd.

So is Halloween really worth it? Well, I don't know. Halloween is certainly very important culturally, and probably economically as well. But I'll leave it up to you to decide. Whatever the case, I don't think Halloween is going anywhere anytime soon.

Liam Hoover

Deer With Fangs?

When people see this deer, they either think: vampire deer or deer with tusks? To answer this question - this is a Chinese Water deer. They are located in swampy areas, grassy mountains, and the lower Yangtze basin, mainly China and Korea. They were introduced to France, England, Argentina, and some parts of the United States. These deer are only two feet tall. They have a teddy bear-like face and weigh only 20-31 pounds. They are extremely fast - not surprising - and they don't run but hop across spaces. They have tusks to protect themselves from predators, to impress potential mates, or even to compete with one another.



Citation

<https://www.oneearth.org/species-of-the-week-chinese-water-deer/>

Picture citation

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki%2FWater_deer&psig=AOvVaw1Q0Hz3lqFllhBtXHn1gFbn&ust=1663808483724000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAgQjhxqFwoTCPj3-u3XpPoCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE

The River

As I wandered from village to the River a white haired boy stood
His skin pale, and fragile
With white and brown spots

His clothes ripped and torn
Scars along his back

As ours eyes met we thought and stood
Till I asked “where are your clothes boy?” “What has happened to you, my good fellow?”

The boy sat down and look at the river
For a moment not saying anything till,
“I was robbed and thrashed by ghouls dressed in black with red marks on their breasts”

Shocked, I replied "who could have done such a grotesque act to a boy merely twelve?"
The boy only said “Oh well”, as he shrugged his shoulders.
“This world has been mean to me once.” “I might as well keep moving on.”

Tears running down his face
Not knowing who this boy of merely twelve was,
I trotted over to embrace him

Embracing him, the boy let out a cry “I must keep moving.” I must keep moving on.”

Illyria Farris

Deep Thoughts with Jackie

Dear Jackie,

We chase happiness but do not get it too often. Will we get it; if we stop chasing it?

-Troubled Soul

Dear Troubled Soul,

It's not that we can't get happiness, it's the fact that as soon as life starts to get hard, we give up. If we were to work through our struggles and difficulties, I think we would find that our life starts to have more positives in it instead of more negatives.

- Jackie

Dear Jackie,

My family is my life, and everything else comes second. Family are hidden treasures, but whenever I tell my friends I don't want to do something with them because I have plans with my family, they laugh at me

-Frustrated Friend

Dear Frustrated Friend,

Maybe your friends aren't your true friends. You need to find friends that value family time as much as you do and understand that family time is very important to you.

-Jackie

Dear Jackie,

I think I have finally found the love of my life except that whenever I want to go and do something, he is always playing video games or he’s too tired. I'm tired of him never wanting to do anything with me. What should I do?

-Troublesome Love

Dear Troublesome Love,

Maybe you should try and ask him to sit down and talk with you and to see if you guys can come up with a couple of boundaries and rules you guys can set and if he doesn't listen I think you should find someone that really cares about you and that wants to be with you.

-Jackie

Answers to Fun Page

- Word Scrambles:**
- 1. Skeleton 2. School
 - 3. Orange 4. Halloween
- Riddles:**
- 1. White 2. Stop Imagining
- Trivia:**
- 1. Octothorpe 2. True 3. B. 1946 4. Switzerland
 - 5. Cardiovascular 6. Shark’s Liver Oil 7. Mexican Walking Fish

