

BASIS SCOTTSDALE GAZETTE

Merging the Pickup Lines

by Andrew Kang

This year, our school decided to implement a different approach to its dismissal procedure. Instead of having two pickup lines, administration decided to merge them into one.

Why did we change a dismissal system that’s been in place for multiple school years? As I leave school, I hear faculty members calling names through a megaphone, chatter from a crowded pickup area full of students, and see a conga line of cars surrounding the school. I’m sure this new procedure has caused lots of confusion in both students and parents, so to answer all of your queries regarding this change, I decided to set up an interview with Mr. Garvey to acquire some answers.

A: What was the process and reasoning for changing the dismissal process?



Source: Roma Suthar

SAVE THE DATE

Tri-M Coffeehouse— 10/20

Trunk-or-Treat— 10/27

Halloween— 10/31

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Mr. Garvey: When we went down to one line on just the interior side of the sidewalk as opposed to the two lines, the goal is that we can only load students into the cars from the sidewalk. And so keeping all the cars on the inside part of the lane closest to the sidewalk allows us to more than double the number of cars that are available to pick up kids. That process was more based off of looking at how many cars used to be able to pick up kids, recounting, and then trying to think of another option to maximize the number of students instead of forcing them to wait for the front cars to move through the lot, giving them a chance to walk back along the sidewalk and get into cars.

A: Will BASIS administration ever consider reusing the 2nd line? If so, for what purpose? + What do parents think about this change? Positive or negative reception?

G: We're always open to the idea of going back to the original dismissal procedure, but at this point, pickup times are the same if not a little shorter than usual. We've also heard from parents that some feel like we should go back to the double line because they like the ability to be in the lot. They also think that it goes a little quicker. However, we've actually heard from more parents who feel that it's nicer to be able to call their student and tell them that they are at any point up against the sidewalk versus last year where they had to wait longer. If we ever reached a point where

the single line was taking longer than past years, we would go back to the double line.

A: What has BASIS administration done to alleviate the pickup line wait times throughout the beginning of this school year?

G: The first two weeks of the year are always the same, and so what we do from an office standpoint is that we try to get sports and clubs running as quickly as possible. This year Ms. Freeland did a great job of getting out the signup sheets, brochures, and rosters going, and once students start to stay after school for student hours, clubs, and sports, you can see a dramatic decrease in the wait times and the number of cars in the parking lot. So, there's an aspect of the first couple weeks of school where late bird is free to help with pickup, and the other thing the office can do is speed up the process of getting kids into situations where they're staying after school. As of now, we're in a situation where if you are outside ten or fifteen minutes after dismissal it's pretty standard/looks pretty normal compared to other years, and that's where we see the pickup lines decrease for the amount of time the parents need to stay in the parking lot.

Not only has this new procedure received positive feedback from the parents, but the time it takes to pick up students using the one line dismissal procedure has actually matched or been faster than pickup times in the past.

CAMPUS COMMENTARY

Ban on Backpacks

by Riya Bangalore

At BASIS, we're plagued by one substantial issue: no backpacks. Not in the classrooms, not in the hallways, only to transport various school supplies into the building, and outside of it: the unspoken 'Backpack Rule'. It is crucial that this backpack ban is removed, for every student's health, comfort, utility, and convenience.

Before diving into the reasons why the "Backpack Rule" should be abolished, we first have to assess why this rule was created. The main idea of this rule is that it promotes safety for all persons on campus, to keep teachers safe while they teach and to ensure that harmful substances and weapons are not smuggled onto campus. It's rather hypocritical, though, especially since tote/messenger/crossbody bags are allowed without a second thought!

The first reason to reconsider the backpack ban is long-term back health. I, unfortunately, have experienced the pain of a tote for half a decade and currently suffer from mild neck soreness and lower back pain. Countless studies in the National Library of Medicine show that using messenger/tote bags is damaging since carrying unbalanced loads can

impact your spinal curve, shoulders, and even your lung capacity.

Additionally, at school, most students carry an absurdly heavy load, since we are encouraged to carry multiple materials at a time in order to minimize the passing time in the extremely crowded halls—but the halls are an issue for another time!

Further exploring the issue, we can see that the mechanics of the rule begin to fall short. The real reason for back and shoulder pain comes down to two main reasons. Firstly, using any bag with one strap will cause an imbalance of weight. Since most of our bags weigh upwards of 25 pounds, we have to tilt our upper body to the side to remain balanced, which results in a shorter walking cycle. When we are able to use backpacks we can properly distribute this weight and thus minimize the impact of the bag, our backs and walking stride. A point that wasn't brought up in this study is the width of the straps. Backpacks were designed to distribute

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the weight evenly over the shoulders with exponentially wider straps and cushioning, which provides maximum comfort for its users. On the other hand, tote bags have thin straps that can dig into your shoulder and cause pain and inflammation.

Not only do backpacks provide users with maximum comfort, but they are also efficient given our environment. Tote bags are not made for carrying heavy loads, as I have seen a plethora of situations when tote bag/messenger bag straps have broken off due to the weight of the bag. This is preventable in backpacks, since they were carefully designed with thick, strong straps to support the weight of various school supplies. Once your straps on your tote/messenger bags break, you are left with the option of hand carrying. This poor alternative is needlessly inefficient and challenging because it significantly limits the amount of items a student could carry. Similarly to totes, this is also a harmful way of going about transporting materials since it can cause knee, ankle, and lower back pain. Instead, in order protect our health, we must face other unfavorable consequences, such as racking up

tardies and struggling to keep supplies organized.

Considering the proposed definition of the ‘Backpack Rule’, saying *‘it promotes safety for all persons on campus, to keep teachers from retaining casualties and to ensure that harmful substances and weapons are not smuggled onto campus’*, we would like to suggest that a comparable amount of contraband could be smuggled in a tote as in backpack.

Not only does the ‘Backpack Rule’ cause hallway chaos and long-term pain for students, but it allows messenger bags and tote bags that aren't as effective on campus. It is evident that the backpack ban, if not abolished, should be reformed into something more beneficial for students and teachers.



Source: Stock Images

The Importance of Speech

by Ran Cao

We live in a world that is overwhelmed with content which makes communicating information in a way that is accessible to others more important than ever before. But, if we want to know why speech is important we have to know what public speaking is.

What is public speaking? Public speaking is the process of designing and delivering one’s perspective of an idea to the audience. Everyday people around the world stand up in front of some kind of audience and speak their hearts out. Now that we know what it is, why is it important?

1. Speech can improve your research skills.

Preparing a speech requires finding ideas, statistics and evidence to support your claims or arguments, which can allow you to develop strong research skills

2. Speech can fine-tune your verbal and nonverbal speaking skills.

No matter where you have competed, having the opportunity to actively practice communication skills and receiving professional feedback will make you become a better person. Often, people don’t find they rub their hands a lot or twirl their hair in everyday communication until they receive feedback from a professional.

3. Strengthen your critical thinking skills.

You can strengthen your critical thinking skills through writing because creating and delivering a good speech requires analysis and reflection. For example, there’s problem solving. Being able to analyze the positive and negative side of a problem and providing a possible solution is an essential part of critical thinking. While thinking and writing about the speeches, it involves thinking about your speech and Curating your speech for your audience.

4. Build confidence, leadership skills, trust and become a better listener.

When presenting a speech, it really pushes you to talk and share your point of view with the audience. Delivering speeches can also allow you to develop your leadership skills through informing, entertaining or empowering others. Speaking requires holding an audience’s interest and showing that you’re a credible source of information, which can help you build trust. Not only can public speaking benefit you in these ways, it can also make you a better listener by listening to feedback from others and listening to other speeches which you can apply their strengths to your next speech.

Public Speaking involves many important and necessary concepts for your future— if you ever have an opportunity to speak passionately about a topic you’re interested in, take it!



Source: epidemicsound.com

CURRENT EVENTS

World Mental Health Day

by Andrew Kang

In 2021, the National Alliance on Mental Illnesses (NAMI) reported that roughly 57.8 million American adults experienced a mental illness that year, which is roughly 1 in 5 adults. Despite this large statistic, many of these individuals are reluctant to receive aid due to fear of stigmatization, resulting in further damage to their mental health, which can lead to reduced productivity levels, low self-esteem, and relationship issues. The stigma surrounding mental health illnesses must change now, and World Mental Health Day aims to combat this stereotype.

Since 1992, World Mental Health Day has advocated for mental health awareness by educating individuals, providing resources, and supporting those who seek aid. Every year, a particular theme accompanies the day, and for 2023, it's focused on mental health being a universal human right.

There are numerous ways to celebrate this global observance.

1. Attending events that spread mental health awareness: Going to these events (workshops, panels, etc.) can educate both others and yourself regarding the importance of mental health, and destigmatizing measures to find aid for it.

2. Talk to someone who has had similar experiences as you and empathize with them: Discussing your

problems with someone who has been in similar circumstances can facilitate opening up one's feelings/issues as well as being at peace in the future.

3. Volunteer: This is a great way to help out your local community and to improve the well-being of individuals in it. During World Mental Health Day, you could volunteer for mental health advocacy organizations.

4. Start a gratitude journal: Writing a daily entry of everything you're grateful for can foster a positive mindset over time. In addition, it can result in benefits such as better sleep and optimism.

Mental health awareness has increased in the past few years, especially due to the recent pandemic, and it's important for everyone to know that there's always someone willing to help as long as you open up to them (someone you trust) about your problems. There are numerous organizations to help you as well with your endeavors such as NAMI Arizona, ADAA, and AFSP. This year's Mental Health Day occurs on October 10, and always remember to take care of your own and others' mental health.



HARVEST HAPPENINGS

Candy and Crop Concerns

by Ram Bubby

Halloween is a time of scary costumes, pumpkins, and most importantly, candy. Every year, children around the country dress up in hopes of scaring their friends, carving pumpkins, and returning home with their sweet treasure. However, this year, Halloween is in for quite a shock, and so are we.

In years past, farmers and candy sellers began preparing months in advance for the increased sales around October. This year was no different— with a few caveats. Pumpkin producers saw fewer and smaller pumpkins in their harvests, due to the lack of rainfall and unprecedented summer heat, and countless farmers have been unable to match previous year’s production standards. Pumpkins are expected to be around \$6 more expensive as compared to last year. And this is not just for pumpkins; people are anticipating a stark decrease in the amount of candy they will receive, as a phenomenon known as “shrinkflation” plagues the supply industry.

Shrinkflation occurs when companies sell fewer or smaller goods at roughly the same price as opposed to increasing their prices. The main cause of this is the heightened price of various input factors for producers. Several candy producers have already begun to reduce their

candy sizes as they sell more leading up to Halloween. According to The Washington Post, A bag of dark chocolate Hershey’s Kisses is now a couple of ounces smaller than before, a two-pack of Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups is a tenth of an ounce lighter, and Cadbury milk chocolate bars are about 10 percent skimpier. These are just some of the effects that are expected to worsen as the ingredients in all industries become more expensive.

Despite the clear effects of shrinkflation and shortages with pumpkins, many trick-or-treaters are still excited for this year's Halloween. In fact, you might not notice this, as, the decrease in food sales is projected to be compensated for with increased sales in decorations as well as other Halloween related events. All that is left to do now is to decorate your house, carve a pumpkin or two, and collect all the candy you can!



Source: Stock Images

The Dangers of Halloween

by Sahasra Sontineni

Halloween is one of the most entertaining holidays of the year, filled with tricks, treats, silly costumes, and fun with friends. Unfortunately, like all good things, there are a few negatives to Halloween, particularly in the safety and health departments. Everyone probably has the typical cavity and trick-or-treating concerns for their kids, but with car safety at an all time low and candy consumption at an all time high on Halloween, it's important to be vigilant.

A 2012 State Farm study found that children are twice as likely to die on Halloween than any other day, with 4 million child deaths since 2020 caused by Halloween night car accidents. With a surplus of drunk drivers, children crossing streets unsupervised, and pedestrians, Halloween is a time when everyone must be continuously aware of their surroundings.

Although, eating a lot of sugar on one day shouldn't have any major ramifications (other than a stomachache), but this candy consumption often continues for days, weeks, or even months. Some people do get a lot of candy on Halloween night— sometimes it's enough to last until next Halloween, if consumed in regulation. Unfortunately, one Arizona mother reported having to rush her child to the hospital from a blood sugar issue after the 7-year-old consumed a full pillowcase of candy. Too much sugar can trigger a number of health problems such as type 2 diabetes, obesity, and dental problems.

Even though there are a few setbacks to Halloween, it should not prevent you from having a blast that day. Just choose your candy and your trick-or-treating paths wisely!



Source: Getty Images

Trick-or-Treat Dilemma

by Gabby Sobczak

In the ever-evolving landscape of traditions and celebrations, Halloween stands as a unique and cherished holiday that never fails to enchant individuals of all ages. Yet, the allure of Halloween, with its costumes, candies, and pumpkin-spiced enthusiasm, doesn't seem to last forever. By questioning 25 different students with varying ages and backgrounds, all of whom are attending BASIS Scottsdale, I began my journey into discovering when and why the people who were once fascinated by this holiday decided to take a step back and give up a tradition that they once loved.

Most students decided to part ways with this passion due to age, some due to boredom, but a few had a rather interesting and particular encounter with a rightfully grumpy homeowner. I don't blame him for his reaction, though; after all, this visit occurred in early September, and if a random child were to show up at my door demanding candy for a holiday two months away, I wouldn't be too excited, either.

The majority of the rest of our students were discouraged from participating in Halloween either because they didn't "have the time for it" or because they felt they were "getting too old." Most children back away from trick-or-treating when they reach the age of twelve to sixteen—roughly the age of the older participants. In spite of this, a few argued against this trend, saying that Halloween is a "memorable tradition", and one can participate in the holiday regardless of their age.

These perspectives were particularly prevalent

among students in 8th to 11th grade, while younger students seemed to have a whole different set of interests and priorities—like how most enjoyed the opportunity to "get a bunch of free candy", or the excuse to "hang out with (their) friends." One even insisted that they'll never give up this hobby, claiming that they'll trick-or-treat for as long as they can imagine, though, I think they might change their minds about that.

Unfortunately, some people were never able to experience the spirit of Halloween in the first place. One interviewee celebrated a related holiday known as All Saints' Day in place of Halloween, simply due to religious customs. Another student wasn't bound by religion, but by their parents, who claimed that trick-or-treating was "too dangerous for (their) own good." And their parents aren't entirely wrong—children are 2 to 4 times as likely to get seriously or even fatally injured on Halloween than on any other day.

Although everyone's reasons for adoring or avoiding Halloween may be uniquely their own, every student holds a deep appreciation for the holiday that they once joyfully embraced. This shared veneration continues to unite us despite our diverse ends, and we carry the responsibility of passing on the legacy of Halloween to our future generations.

Source: Clipart



Fall Traditions

by Nahyan Wajiha

Fall has finally come around and Arizona's high temperatures have finally started dropping! Fall is my favorite time of the year because it comes with holidays like Halloween and Thanksgiving, and traditions like going to Starbucks and ordering their fall drinks. In addition, I love to make fall-inspired desserts like warm cinnamon rolls, chai tea cookies, and a variety of mug cakes. I spoke to various classmates regarding their favorite things about fall, as well as some fall traditions.

N: What are some holidays you celebrate during Fall?

Meenal Srivastava: I celebrate Rakshabandhan because I have a younger brother and 2 cousin-brothers. To celebrate, I order rakhis (a symbolic bracelet given to a brother by his sister) and chocolates a week before for them all. I then tie the rakhi on my brother and stuff my face with sweets. All in all I believe it's a very productive way to spend my day.

Catherine Cheng: I celebrate Mid-Autumn festival, which celebrates reunion. Many families celebrate it differently, but my family eats dinner outside late at night, when the moon is out. During the Mid-Autumn festival, there is a tradition of appreciating the moon, called "shang yue" along with sharing mooncakes amongst our loved ones.

Naimisha Chakravadhanula: I celebrate Deepavali, also known as the Festival of Light. I,

like most people, enjoy lighting fireworks with my friends and family. We also light diya (clay lamps) and put them around our house. It's a fun festival overall!

N: What is your favorite aspect about the holiday that you celebrate?

M.S: My favorite part about Rakshabandhan is eating sweets like Barfi, a dessert akin to a sweet, milky fudge .

C.C: My favorite part about Mid-Autumn Festival is eating a big dinner outside with loved ones.

N.C: My favorite part about Deepvali is lighting up fireworks with friends and family.

N: Do you have anything you particularly like to do during Fall? If so, what is it? If not, is there anything you would like to do?

M.S: I really enjoy going on walks at night, because it's really nice outside.

C.C: I really like sleeping in during fall under my warm covers.

N.C: I really like to add cinnamon to e and drinking cinnamon drinks.

Have a cozy fall, Bulldogs!



Monthly Munchie

by Anastasia Sheleg

There is nothing better than snuggling up with some hot cocoa and a delicious treat on a cold fall night, or in our case in Arizona, a warm fall night. No matter the temperature, fall is here and it's time to open up the spice drawer and make some delicious fall desserts!

Now, I'm sure all of us don't have a lot of time to dedicate to cooking, so enjoy this quick and simple apple crumble recipe!

Ingredients for Crumble:

1. 1 Apple (peeled and diced)
2. 1 Tbsp of Butter (cut into small cubes)
3. 2 Tbsp of Brown Sugar
4. ½ Tsp of Cinnamon
5. Pinch of Nutmeg

Ingredients for Topping:

1. 2 Tbsp of Softened Butter
2. 2 Tbsp of Brown Sugar
3. 2 Tbsp of Oats
4. 2 Tbsp Flour
5. ½ Tsp Cinnamon



Recipe:

Place the diced apples in a small, microwave-safe dish and top with butter pieces. Microwave for 1 minute to soften the apples. Add all topping ingredients to a separate bowl and use a fork to mash together until well combined. Sprinkle on top of the apple mixture.

Microwave for another 2 minutes, until golden brown and bubbly. Best served warm and with vanilla ice cream and caramel. Enjoy!

MEDIA REVIEW

Book Review: *Something Wicked this Way Comes* by Ray Bradbury

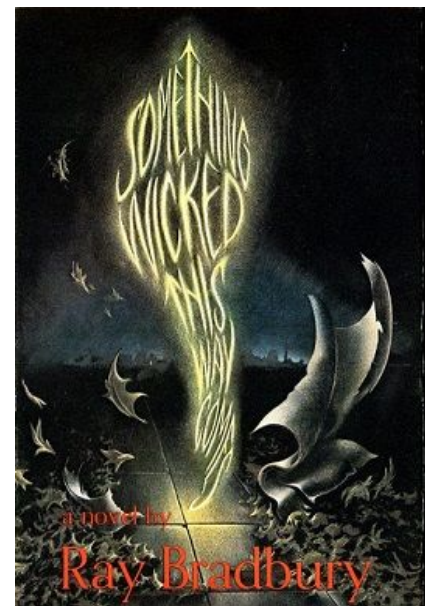
by Valerie Polukhtin

There's nothing I enjoy quite like a spooky book to prepare me for a month of tricks and treats. And truly, Ray Bradbury satiates that desire with his mix of horror and fantasy, probing at even more terrifying themes about society and connection. So, without further ado, may we present his novel, *Something Wicked This Way Comes*.

Set in the fictitious Green Town, the two boys, William "Will" Holloway and Jim Nightshade, spy the steam of a train carrying a carnival a few days before Halloween. With all the curiosity of their age, they creep out later to investigate, expecting just a normal carnival. Instead, they're left with a twisted, macabre form of one; the owner Mr. Dark who "captures" freaks, a carousel that ages people as it spins, mirrors you can get lost in (literally), and more. As the boys get more involved in the carnival, their lives are at risk, hunted by these strange creatures.

Bradbury uses the ominous setting to question power and how it can be instilled with your mind. Unlike some of his other more cheerful novels set in the same town, like *Dandelion Wine*, *Something Wicked This Way Comes* uses folk tales and supernatural elements to judge the darker undercurrents of becoming an adult.

The language in this book is simply phenomenal. Reading it – the way Bradbury heaps on such gorgeous but revolting descriptions – is more akin to poetry. For some, though, this poetic aspect of the writing may be too flowery, making it hard to muddle through the prose to follow the plot. If you are willing to dedicate the energy, this novel will certainly set the mood for the spooky month.



Source: Wikipedia

Overrated Horror Movie Review: *Scream 6*

by Ethan Kim

With the spooky season in full swing, people are inclined to cuddle up with a blanket on the couch and watch a horror movie or two. Many people automatically turn to the classics, such as *The Shining*, directed and produced by Stanley Kubrick, *The Exorcist*, produced by William Peter Blatty, or *Halloween*, produced by John Carpenter and Debra Hills. Despite there being a multitude of classics to choose from, people sometimes decide to watch new, overrated horror movies such as *Thanksgiving*, *Five Nights at Freddy's*, and *Megan 2.0*. A lot of recent horror movies are beginning to fall into the trap of having popular actors or producers, but less interesting storylines.

A modern example of an overrated film would be *Scream 6*, which takes place about a year after all of the murders performed by Richie Kirsch and Amber Freeman in Woodsboro. Blackmore University professor Laura Crane is murdered by a student wearing a Ghostface mask, similar to all the killers in the *Scream* franchise. In the end, even though everyone thought they'd be safe far away from Woodsboro, the Ghostface killer eventually ends up finding and attacking everyone, leaving some of their friends dead. The plot is overused and predictable, as well as an unnecessary addition to the *Scream* franchise.

Admittedly, "*Scream 6*" wasn't a poorly written movie, it just had a few flaws that made it overrated. The biggest issue being that the deaths in the movie felt very forced. In one character's death, they end up falling off a ladder connected to another apartment room while attempting to escape the killer; however, the killer catches them and begins to shake the ladder, which causes the victim to fall to their death.

In addition, there's also an annoying amount of plot armor in the movie.

For example, a separate victim gets stabbed seven times by the Ghostface after trying to run away, but realistically, once you're stabbed once or twice, you end up dead. On the other hand when Ghostface stabs a different character just as many times, they die almost instantly. While we'll limit spoilers, a theory for this plot hole was that the director wanted to keep one of the many beloved actors alive in the franchise as to boost engagement.

We all enjoy a good scare, but if you're looking for frights that will keep you on the edge of your seat, *Scream 6* isn't the haunt for you.



Source: imdb.com

To Read or Not To Read?

By Abhinav Ravichand

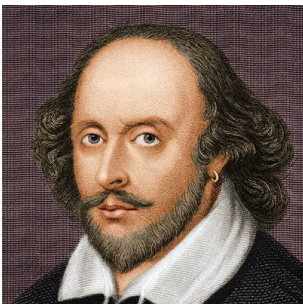
With a quill mightier than a sword and a mind sharper than a jester's cap, he wrote tales both tragic and comic, leaving us all pondering the human condition. Let us venture forth into a cavalcade of Shakespeare's top 5 shenanigans!

1. A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Wild Fantasy Ride

Following the intertwining love lives of four young lovers and a group of mischievous fairies led by Oberon and Puck, pure chaos ensues as spells go awry, causing mistaken identities and hilarious mix-ups. Ultimately, love conquers all, leaving the characters enchanted and the audience on the floor laughing.

2. Julius Caesar: A Political Thriller in Togas

A gripping political drama set in ancient Rome. It revolves around the conspiracy to assassinate Caesar, led by Brutus and Cassius. The play explores themes of power, loyalty, and betrayal, culminating in a tragic climax at the hands of the conspirators. As the aftermath unfolds, the consequences of their actions reverberate through the city, revealing the complex nature of ambition and honor.



Source: Biography.com

3. Macbeth: When Ambition Gets Out of Hand

A tale of one man's ambitious quest for power, sprinkled with a touch of witchy influence and served with a side of guilt-induced insomnia. Spoiler alert: Things don't end well for our dear Scottish lord and his overly ambitious wife. Lesson learned: Never take career advice from witches in a forest!

4. Hamlet: Ghosts, Revenge, and Existential Questions

The original emo prince. He's got a ghost dad, an overzealous uncle, and a tendency to contemplate life's deepest questions while holding a skull. Throw in some dysfunctional family drama and a dash of revenge, and you've got a tragedy that's practically a soap opera. To be, or not to be? That is the question... along with, 'Who's watching the throne?'

5. The Merchant of Venice: Love, Schemes, and Courtroom Drama

"The Merchant of Venice" is like a Shakespearean drama with a dash of romance. There's a wealthy heiress, a clever lawyer, and a moneylender who wants a pound of flesh as collateral. It's got love, friendship, and a big moral question at the center of it all. As a whole, it's a masterpiece.

With all the horrors and frights of the upcoming spooky season, take some time for a laugh with these incredible works by Shakespeare.

P.S. MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS!

by: Payton Dymek and Stephanie Lobodanescu

The screenshot shows a Spotify interface with a dark background. At the top, it says "P.S. What are YOU listening to?" with icons for notifications, a clock, and settings. Below this is a "Music" category. Two playlist thumbnails are visible: "hoco 2023!" with a colorful album cover and "fall vibes" with a leaf-themed cover. The main section is titled "Based on your recent listening" and features three artist recommendations: Childish Gambino's "Because The Internet", Taylor Swift's "Speak Now", and Reneé Rapp's "Snow Angel". Below these is a prompt: "Need new recommendations? Discover more, including some 'Witz from the 80's!'" with a small album cover. At the bottom, there are three more album recommendations: Rihanna's "Breakin' Dishes", Squeeze's "Another Nail In My Heart", and Bad Bunny's "MONACO". The bottom navigation bar includes icons for Home, Search, Library, and Premium.

QUIZZES

What Kind of Trick-or-Treater Are You?

by: Neha Jasthi

Have you ever wondered what kind of Trick-or-Treater you are? If so, you're in luck! Grab your calculator and get ready to be amazed....

1. What is your favorite Halloween candy?
 - a. Candy corn (3 points)
 - b. Skittles (4 points)
 - c. Anything chocolate (2 point)
 - d. Almond Joy (1 point)
2. What are you dressed up as?
 - a. Cat (4 points)
 - b. Ghost (3 points)
 - c. Some kind of insect or animal (2 point)
 - d. "Myself" (1 point)
3. Who are you going with?
 - a. My mom! (2 point)
 - b. Me, Myself, and I (1 point)
 - c. My best friend that I go with every year (3 points)
 - d. Nobody, I'm too cool to trick or treat (4 points)
4. What is your favorite halloween movie?
 - a. *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (4 points)
 - b. *Scream* (1 point)
 - c. *Scooby Doo* (2 point)
 - d. *The Addams Family* (3 points)
5. Chose another halloween treat:
 - a. Caramel Apple (3 points)
 - b. Pumpkin Pie (1 point)
 - c. Sugar Cookies (4 points)
 - d. Anything - as long as its sweet! (2 point)
6. How much candy do you usually end up getting?
 - a. Too much! (1 point)
 - b. A full bucket! (3 points)
 - c. A couple pieces (4 points)
 - d. A whole pillowcase (2 point)

Results

The one who takes all the candy (6-9 points):

You're relatable but unlikable. You know how everybody has intrusive thoughts, but then realize that they should never act on them –well, you never come to that realization. That might be why you have very few "friends."

The indecisive one (10-13 points): You're as sweet as your taste in candy! You are very diplomatic and are not very confrontational! Sometimes, you can be kind of annoying with your lack of decisions, but it's not a huge deal!

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The normal one (14-17 points): You're the stereotypical, average trick- or-treater. This means there is nothing special about you– but hey, that also means there's nothing wrong with you, either. You are very average in general. You have no good or bad qualities.

The one who knocks over the bowl (18-21 points): You're a bit clumsy, but it's ok! You're really nice and bubbly. You would make a really good abstract artist!

The one who knocks over the bowl (and doesn't pick it up) (22-24 points): You are the WORST type of trick-or-treater. You are probably super selfish, but you are also extremely ambitious. You're willing to do whatever it takes to get where you want to go without regards to the people around you.



Source: thecounter.org

HOROSCOPE

by: Neha the Precognitive and her Loyal Scribe, Valerie

Aries (March 21st - April 19th): Watch for the green smoke wafting your way, intoxicating your brain.

Taurus (April 20th - May 20th): The ghosts of your past will herald family drama coming to your mundane life.

Gemini (May 21st - June 21st): Watch for your evil doppelganger this month. She seeks revenge.

Cancer (June 22nd - June 22nd): A ring of fire will consume all you know well.

Leo (July 23rd - Aug. 22nd): Avoid pumpkin seeds; they are no friends of your esophagus.

Virgo (Aug. 23rd - Sept. 22nd): Watch for the people who bring rays of sunshine into your life. This month they, like garlic, are your enemy.

Libra (Sept. 23rd - Oct. 23rd): A snake will slither right by your foot, but will back away at the last moment. You are very lucky.

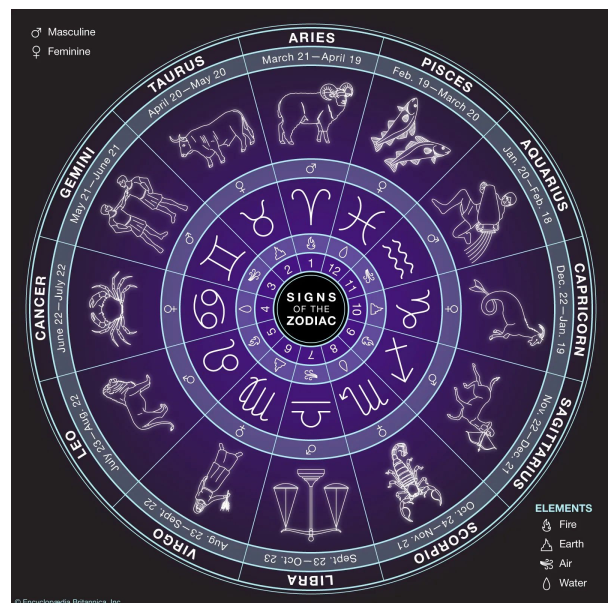
Scorpio (Oct. 24th - Nov. 21st): A black cat will cross your path this month. Watch for tidings of bad luck.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22nd - Dec. 21st): The crows you befriended last month will deliver you new hair.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22nd - Jan. 19): Creepy callers on your landline will ask about the time. Are they asking about the clock or your life?

Aquarius (Jan. 20th - Feb. 18th): The sirens in your life are dragging you from what you love most.

Pisces (Feb. 19th–March 20th): When you reach into the candy bowl this month, you will only pull up snakes.



Source: Britannica

PUZZLES

El Wordo

by: Payton Dymek

I	R	O	N	Y
B	A	G	E	L
S	P	A	D	E
C	A	C	A	O
F	U	D	G	E

Answer on Page 21



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El Wordo Answer: Candy