THE TIGER TIMES

Oct. 16, 2026 Issue #1

Meet “The Tiger Times” staff

Alli Carini (sophomore)

What’s your favorite dish to eat? Lasagna, easy to make, and delicious
If you could go anywhere, where would you go? Germany, Italy, and France
What are you currently reading? “Picking Daisies on Sundays” by Liana Cincotti
What’s your favorite holiday? My birthday, Christmas, and Halloween (in order)

Yanna Cherchenko (senior)

What is your favorite color? -Pink
What is your favorite after school activity? -Sleeping
Do you own any pets? -A dog
What is your dream job? -Being a vet

Olena Dontsova **(**senior)

Where are you from? Ukraine
What’s your favorite animal? Cat
What’s your favorite color? Baby pink
What’s your favorite movie? Avatar

Ashley Godfrey (junior)

Where did you grow up? Yacolt, Washington
Do you have a favorite dish to cook? Chicken pot pie
What is one thing on your bucket list? For it to get better
If you could only eat one food for breakfast for the rest of your life, what would it be? Biscuits and gravy

Moss Ingersoll (senior)

What is your preferred creative outlet? Photography and collaging
Do you have any secret talents? Yes
Do you believe in aliens? Yes
Silence or background noise? Complete silence and background music

Reed Kerchman (senior)

What's your biggest pet peeve? Actively using AI
Do you have any tattoos? Not yet…
If you could have one superpower, what would it be? Hydrokinesis
What is your commute like? I'm a passenger princess

Cale Lawson (senior)

What's something you think is underrated? Myself because I'm the best.
What's your favorite animal? Myself because I'm the GOAT.
What's your favorite season? Summer.
What's your most used app? "Clash Royale"

Asher Leavitt (senior)

Minimalist or maximalist? Maximalist
Silence or background noise? Background music
What is your favorite holiday? Halloween
What is one thing you are looking forward to? Moving into an apartment with my best friend

Benjamin McCusker (senior)

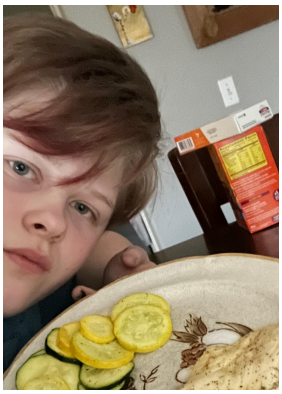
Where did you grow up? Battle Ground, Washington
Window or Aisle seat? Window
What is your favorite holiday? Halloween
Do you like sharing food? No

Destinee Mezyk (senior)

Where did you grow up? Oregon
Do you like spicy food? Yes
Are you allergic to anything? Avocados
Do you have any tattoos? I have four.

Katie Munoz Alvarez (junior)

One thing on my bucket list is going to a concert.
My biggest pet peeve is fake friends.
My preferred creative outlet is writing, drawing, and crochet.
I love baking for my friends.



Ace Perry (senior)

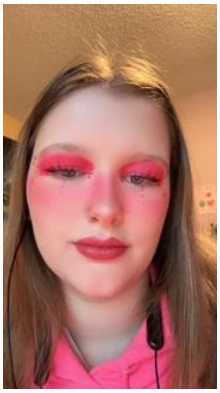
Do you like sharing your food? No
Do you like to go camping? Yes, camping is fun.
What is your astrological sign? Aries
Saver or spender? Saver most of the time

Jubilee Smith (junior)

Do I have a pet? Yes, I do.Two dogs and a cat.
Do I love fishing? Yes, I like to go fishing while camping.
Do I have a car? Yes, I have a Honda Civic.
What's my favorite color? I really love the color lavender.

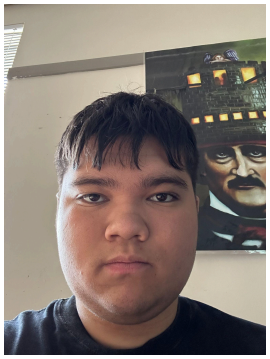
Jonathan Thomas (senior)

What is your guilty pleasure? Giving attention
Do you have any secret talents? None for you
What is your preferred creative outlet? Dwelling in my thoughts; it's honestly really sad.
What's your biggest pet peeve?"Being ghosted, avoided, and ignored--happens way too much to me."



Daisy Turner (senior)

What is your astrological sign? I am a Pisces
What is the last show you watched and loved? I watched "The Mentalist," and it was a very good show(on Disney+)
What's your biggest pet peeve? People relying solely on AI
Where was the last place you traveled? I last traveled to Gearhart, Seaside, and Astoria.



Brandon Weant (junior)

Do you have any pets? A dog. His name's Rocky.
Do you play any musical instruments? Guitar
What is your preferred creative outlet? Drawing
Saver or spender? Spender

Victorian dreams, Homecoming memories

By Jonathan Thomas

Homecoming this year will take place on Oct. 17 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Battle Ground High School in The Cage. Tickets for homecoming were available at the ASB office, and they're $15 with ASB and $20 without. This year's theme is Victorian Gala; this was chosen by ASB because there was a tie among the school's votes. Senior Daisy Turner is excited for this year's

theme. “There’s finally a theme that students like. It’s an out-of-the-box theme,” she said. ASB President Morrison Nixon has a few suggestions for dance attire. “Lacy dresses, obviously long enough and covers up some stuff. There's going to be very pastel colors; boys can just wear jeans and a button-up shirt if they want,” she said.

Some students like junior Kat Hayeman are optimistic about the dance. “I really hope to see someone really cool on the Victorian theme. I think that would be really cool to see someone in like a big Victorian dress.”

Regarding dance etiquette, Nixon reminds students of a few simple rules: “Leave room. Don't make out in the gym, please. There's going to be a lot of security, so be respectful of everyone.” The security will be teacher chaperones that may be paid in donuts and coffee. They will be present at Homecoming to make sure there's no PDA, vaping, drugs, and/or alcohol.

This year's decorations will be unique and different. Funding acquired will probably be spent mostly on the decor. The food will likely be donated from other businesses around. “But sometimes we buy waters or, like, our snacks last year we got donated from a movie theater,” Nixon said. The Homecoming King and Queen will be revealed at the football game on Oct. 16. There will also be an assembly the same day to officially announce the Homecoming Court.

Student led drama production sure to impress

By Moss Ingersoll

The fall play “Rich Men,” written and directed by junior Anara Fowler, will be performed in The Lair at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14. There will also be an afternoon show on Nov. 7, at 2:30 p.m. The play is dramatic and dark with a hint of humor, and is set in England during the Industrial Revolution. It centers around Dale, the ghost of a young man who is trying to solve the mystery of his death and his still alive, but dying, best friend Victor. Fowler said, “It is about grief, greed, love, friendship, regret, and so much more.”

The play draws inspiration from Shakespearean tropes and telanovelas. Fowler’s favorite characters are the villains of the story and Dale, the narrator. “Narrators and villains are my favorite aspect of any story, bringing life and stakes to it,” she said. Asher Leavitt, a senior who has participated in 15 plays during his time in BGHS Drama Club, is both the understudy for Victor and a crew member. He auditioned for the play because of a love for theater and because it was written by a friend. His favorite characters are Mr. Tolla and Mr. Vestly, two

comedic characters, one of whom harbors much more malice than the other. Leavitt's perception of his character is that he's timid, scared, and has a want to appease Dale. For Leavitt, the most exciting part of being in drama and doing shows are tech week and dress rehearsals where everyone is in makeup and costumes because he can "really see the show come together." Fowler and Leavitt both agree the final scene is their favorite; it makes the whole plot click into place. Come out and support the BGHS Drama program and see an original play written by one of Battle Ground's own students.

Seniors helping seniors

By Yana Cherchenko

Select Battle Ground High School students went down to the Battle Ground Senior Center on Sept. 29, to help the elderly residents understand a bit more about technology and how to use it. This was hosted by the center itself because of the growing confusion around electronic devices. Senior Morrison Nixon thought that this event was a valuable experience for both her and the elderly, especially with the way technology is a big part of our lives now. "I think it's just the day and age. Like, if we weren't where we are now, I think we would've been more helpful for the elderly people to understand about technology," she said.

Elderly people are prone to getting scammed, especially since they are vulnerable. The most common question that was asked by the elderly was how to delete spam calls, which grows raising concerns about potential scams. Nixon said, "I think it's really easy for elderly people to get targeted on spam calls since they're more vulnerable." The event itself was helpful; the elderly expressed how they were more relieved and more comfortable using technology. "They were all more relieved and knew what they were doing, and I think it's nice for the younger generation to help them understand technology to the extent that we do," Nixon expressed. The elderly themselves were social, telling stories, and Nixon said, "If you bring up one thing, there's going to be a story involved."

Levy failure leads to drastic changes

By Katie Munoz Alvarez

On November 3, there will be another vote for the levy. The levy, if approved, could help out the schools in the Battle Ground District. The levy is what pays for educational costs and makes up the difference between what the state funds and what is required of public schools. According to the Washington voters pamphlet: “If approved, this proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expired levy, on all taxable property within the District for programs not funded by the state, including student safety, smaller classes, special education, reading and math support, curriculum, student activities, and preparing students for postsecondary education, employment, or military.”

The levy has a large effect on so many things to do with education. The levy failure has resulted in some big changes for the 26/27 school year. Many students had their schedules switched in the third week of school, which many students and staff did not like. “We spend the first part of the school year getting to know the students, building class communities and establishing routines. It’s definitely not best practice to move students weeks into the semester,” English teacher Mr. Karraker said. Another big change for this school year is the loss of Tiger Time. Tiger Time was a convenient time for students to make up tests and to get extra assistance from teachers. With that dedicated time gone, students now must make up tests before/after school or during lunch if the teacher allows.

The state of Washington gives a certain amount of money for each student and also pays for psychologists. The state funds two psychologists for the entire school district, but since there are so many students in the district, two psychologists are not enough to fill the need. The district also needs to pay for things called unfunded mandates as well as state mandates. “We have to pay for the requirements that the state does not pay,” Associate Principal Ms. Main said. The levy will mostly affect homeowners because it is added to the property tax. The way it works is that people vote to have a tax on their property to fund schools, which in turn will increase their taxes. One major way that the levy failures affect staff and students is by reducing the amount of staff and increasing the sizes of classes. Every single department of the school got cut. When staff got cut that increased the workload of people who remained. As of right now, the levy has already failed three times, and they have cut 20 million dollars twice. Many people believe that the levy hasn’t run out, but we are currently operating without

one and this year we are starting to experience some of the impacts of not having levy dollars. If the levy fails again, the school might need to cut sports or even make more drastic cuts. If the levy passes, the district may be able to keep its current staff and programs and may not have to make any more cuts.

Gourde vibes only at FFA pumpkin carving event

By Reed Kerchman

On Oct. 21, the FFA pumpkin carving event will be held for students registered in an agriculture class at the agriculture department. “The event will begin at 2:45 p.m.,” Ms. Palica said, “and it usually lasts for a couple of hours.” The event is quite popular, and usually fills up J15, J12, and J21, so students are advised to sign up as soon as possible. The event will be free of charge, and students who attend will be provided with snacks and any tools needed. The event is generally laid back; students will go out and choose their pumpkins and be left to, according to Ms. Palica, “go with the flow.”

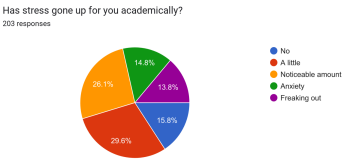
The pumpkins are sourced from all over: some were grown here at BGHS, some will be donated from third parties, and the remainder will be purchased. The pumpkins come in various sizes, and students are able to choose whatever they prefer. Once everyone has carved their pumpkins, the students’ work will be judged, and the winners will receive prizes. In the past, if a student or group of students carve a remarkably good pumpkin(s), they will be taken out to have their photo taken; the photo will be displayed on the back wall of J21. Afterwards, if students choose, they can smash their pumpkins in a tarped off “smash area.” Of course, if students desire, they can take their pumpkins home too. If students are interested in participating, a sign up sheet will be available to sign in their agriculture class.

The loss of Tiger Time

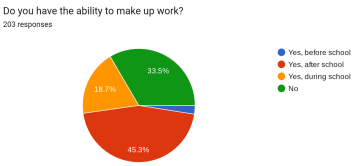
By Ashley Godfrey

It is a truth universally acknowledged that most students love more time. Battle Ground High School has removed Tiger Time with the start of the 26-27 school year. Working through this change, students and staff have shared their opinion on the matter in a survey recently conducted by “The Tiger Times.” This data is provided from the 203 students and the 27 staff who responded to the survey. Students were allowed to remain anonymous to encourage truthful responses.

Without Tiger Time, a majority of students have responded negatively. ¨When we had Tiger Time I wasn't stressed about missing a day of school or doing test retakes because I always knew I could just do most of those tasks in Tiger Time.¨ Academic stress has increased with 29% of students saying they worry a little more this year than usual.



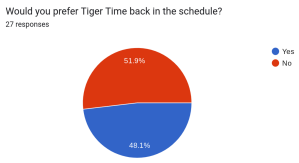
33% of students said they are not able to make up tests or quizzes after or before school due to transportation issues. Most students get to school via bus or parent transportation, so missed days are worrisome.



One student said, “It makes it harder to keep up with grades or missed tests bc (**because**) we have no time in school to make anything up anymore, so grades slip.” The survey shows that most students do acknowledge that they have the ability to make up work and tests before and after school, but for students who participate in sports and clubs, time becomes more strained without the extra time.

Some students, however, do enjoy the loss of Tiger Time with reasons like avoiding awkward conversations, quicker days, and exits for Running Start students. Many freshmen have also reported to have “Not missed out on anything,” since they never had Tiger Time to begin with. Overall, most responses have been negative, but there were some students who don’t miss Tiger Time.

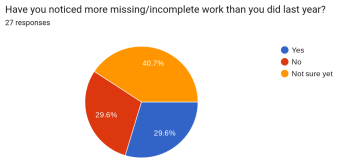
Battle Ground staff has mostly responded positively to the loss of Tiger Time, with 51% of teachers not wanting it back in the schedule.



Moving through the data, overall work load has increased, with 29% of staff saying that work has gotten harder without the extra time. One staff member reported, “Yes, it has been more challenging

to manage when students can come in for help before/after school and meetings that might conflict.” This may be the majority, but other responses have stated it got easier without the break. “Classroom management has been easier without the interruption of Tiger Time and accountability of students to complete their own work during class time has been restored back to them.”

With the reduced opportunity to make-up work, has there been more missing or incomplete work?



Responses from teachers tied for yes and no. Going through answers, a huge complaint is that there isn't enough time for make-up work. This could be a form of stress for students making them perform worse; at the same time, however, this could be where students shine.

Information on both forms for students and staff seem to lean towards being negatively impacted by the loss of Tiger Time. Not all students and staff miss Tiger Time, though.

Students hope to sharpen wits with potential new knife making class

By Cale Lawson

Ms. Riley is hoping to introduce a knife making class and add it to Battle Ground High School if the board approves of it, which has caused much controversy. Knives in a high school environment could be viewed as dangerous; however, with the right safety precautions it could be very educational. Seniors Tyler Smith and Colton Deikman both said that they would not only sign up for a knife making class, but that their parents would consent and approve of a knife making class. “I think it would be school appropriate with the right restrictions,” Smith said. Colton Deikman said he would pay an admission fee like Battle Ground High School does for its art classes if that’s what was required to join the class. They both also expressed the fact that many students carry pocket knives around school or in their cars anyway, with no real consequences.

The Glass and Wood Art/Jewelry Design classroom has masks, fire extinguishers, safety glasses, and other forms of protection. But would that be enough to be able to safely make knives? In order for new classes, especially shop making classes, to be created in Washington State, they must first align with Washington State learning standards and industry standards. After that, the curriculum needs to be sent to the local school district’s curriculum committee, to have district risk

management sign off on it. If the course is approved, the course outline is presented to the school board, and then the school board has the final vote. A knife making class would most likely be a popular class at BGHS, and time will tell if the course is approved and added.

Fall Band and Choir concert

By Asher Leavitt

The Fall Concert will be the first performance this school year, held by BGHS Band and Choir. It is on Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m. in The Lair. Admission is free, and everyone is encouraged to come. The bands and choirs are performing sets that include two to three songs for each band and choir. The Chamber Choir is led by Mr. Lindner, and Concert Choir is led by Ms. Armstrong. Both choirs have been practicing since the beginning of this school year. Senior Charlotte Grail, a member of Battle Ground High School Choir and has been a member for four years, said, “I’m so excited for the concert. I’m so pumped and excited; it is gonna be so great.” Her favorite song in the set for this concert is “Time,” written by Jennifer Lucy Cook.

All bands are led by Ms. Armstrong. Sophomore Violet Myers, a member of Battle Ground High School Band, who has been in the BGHS band for two years, stated, “It’s free, and you can listen to really cool music.” Their favorite song in this concert set is “Hootinanny” by Randall D. Standridge

This is one of the few concerts of the school year. It's the only time these songs will be performed at Battle Ground High School. The Battle Ground Tigers have practiced so hard to put together this concert and are prepared to perform these songs. Come and support our fellow tigers and their highly anticipated performance.

Minga tracking system meets mixed reviews

By Ace Perry

Last school year, Battle Ground High School implemented Minga to help track students’ movement around campus. The tracking program has elicited mixed opinions from both students and staff. Recently, “The Tiger Times” conducted a survey to ascertain how students and staff truly feel about Minga. 225 students responded to the survey. The google form was sent out on Monday, October 5. Minga can be a controversial topic, as it

affects the whole student body and staff in some way.

Starting with the facts, Minga is a technology company that wants to spread its technology solutions for teachers and admin. for K-12 grade customers. According to the Minga website, “Our platform enables real-time data insights that help inform better decisions, creating more effective interventions and fostering positive student outcomes.” Minga can also auto assign detentions and send letters home to parents through their discipline portion of the app, but BGHS does not use that feature at this point. Minga costs the school $3,000 a year according to the Head Principal Ms. Montgomery.

Now onto staff interviews. Three staff at BGHS were interviewed on Friday Oct 2. The first interviewed was Mr. Connor Ryan, a math teacher.

Q: What are your thoughts on Minga?

A: I recognize the necessity of the system, but I don’t know if it's perfect.

Q: Do you like the fact that students have to sign out?

A: It has become necessary because so many students are abusing hall passes. I would love to not do it, but again, I recognize that something like it is needed.

Q: Do you have an idea for another system that could work other than Minga?

A: I don't because we need something to deal with the students that are spending 20 - 30 minutes repeatedly out of class, but it’s too much to track. If we had like 100 students, it would be so easy, like Little Jimmy is all over the place, but I don't spend time researching these monitoring systems, but there are things we’re working on to better these systems.”

Next interviewed was Mr. Getty, a CTE teacher.

Q: What is your opinion on minga?

A: Minga is a failed system as it doesn't have 100% buy in, and it will never have 100% buy in, so it will always be a failed system.

Q: How does Minga affect you in your day to day?

A: It doesn't because I don’t use it.”

What could be made better about Minga?

A: Get rid of it.

Q: Do you think Minga has a positive or negative impact on the student body?

A: Minga has a negative impact; it is morally and ethically wrong to electronically track students.

Next interviewed was Ms. Heidi Joe Thornton, ASL teacher.

Q: What is your opinion on minga?

A: I think it is a program that is used to help with hall passes. And it is a good thing that I haven't lost any hall passes this year because normally I have an actual hall pass and it disappears week two or three. So I appreciate Minga for what it's supposed to do, but I do get annoyed because I

don't like to say no to people to go to the bathroom. And it really causes a disruption when I have to sign them out through the Minga platform."
Q: Do you view Minga positively or negatively?
A: Positively.
Q: Do you think that Minga affects the student body positively or negatively?
A: Positively.
Q: What is your opinion on Minga?
A: I am depressed because of Minga, because I feel like I have to say no when passes are not allowed or when parties are happening or when it's a black out period. So for me I feel like I say yes before I check Minga, and then it says they can't go, so it feels depressing when I did the wrong thing.
Q: What could be made better about Minga?
A: If students could ask for a pass digitally, so I could just allow or deny on my end instead of asking me, and changing the parameters on the times.
Q: Anything else before this interview is concluded?
A: Yes, my favorite sentence in ASL is Minga is annoying.

Now onto the student response survey that was sent out on Oct 5. First, here are some responses from students who personally like Minga:
"I like it because it keeps kids that go to the bathroom for the whole class, when I actually have to really pee, accountable.
"Minga makes things a lot easier to get lunch and library books, or sign out in PE. Especially since I lose track of my school ID. It also helps with the flex or focus thing, followed with if I know if I have my ASB card or not."
"The people who complain about Minga are doing way too much! Minga isn't causing problems for kids that don't misuse bathroom passes. Although I know people cheat the system by not scanning in so they can spend more time roaming the halls and it does have bugs in the system, it lessens the amount of kids out of class. It doesn't feel like jail. People need to get over themselves. It is such a third world problem to be upset about scanning in to use the restroom or to go off campus. We should focus on bettering school engagement (sports, clubs, and in class in general) and stop focusing on something so minor that obviously has lessened a large issue."

Now onto students who dislike Minga:
"Us students use it anytime we exit a classroom, or a majority of the time. While I do understand the reasons for Minga, I do also think that we are making things more difficult and relying on technology too much."
"One thing I personally dislike about Minga is how we have to sign and out, which kinda stresses me out. I just don't like the online sign in/sign out, or how it's just online in general."
"First of all, it's pointless, and makes life hard for teachers and students. And second of all, it's very stupidly expensive."
"I strongly do not like Minga; it's the worst thing about this school. Like the lunch thing just

screws up my lunch, and five minutes to walk to the bathroom. That takes like 8-10 minutes because 1 minute to walk to the bathroom, 2 minutes in here; it's too short."
"It's hard to cry in the bathroom if they're timing you."
"I feel like it's kinda of controlling."

Through this data and asking students and staff directly, people have expressed strong feelings, some positive, some negative, and some are indifferent. A majority of the data shows that people at BGHS don't particularly like Minga. But there's also positives, mostly for staff and admin. There are also positives for students as well, such as easy access to student ID when entering and leaving campus and being able to see ASB status. But at the end of the day, everyone has their own opinions. Some admin. are hard-set on their love for Minga. Some teachers are set in their hate for Minga. And students at BGHS all have their own opinions. Below are the results from two of the questions sent out to BGHS students.

Staff Spotlight

By Jubilee Smith

For this issue of "The Tiger Times," Mr. Johnson was selected for Staff Spotlight. Mr. Johnson's backstory of how he became a US history teacher and a baseball coach is pretty intriguing.

It all started with his mentor in high school. His mentor became a teacher and a coach. During Mr. Johnson's junior year in high school, his mentor taught US history, and he was Mr. Johnson's coach. Mr. Johnson liked how his teacher taught US history and the fact that he was also a baseball coach. It influenced Mr. Johnson to become a US history teacher and to become a baseball coach to teach and educate high school students too. "One of my mentors in high school was my US history teacher, and he was also one of my coaches, so that's the first thing I'd maybe be interested in teaching, and then I knew that I would possibly want to be a baseball coach," he said.

One of Mr. Johnson's favorite baseball teams is the Los Angeles Dodgers. His family is from the Los Angeles area too, so they are huge fans and have been for a long while."We are die-hard Dodgers fans," Mr. Johnson said. Mr. Johnson has three kids, and is married to another high school teacher who teaches at a different high school. Mr. Johnson's kids are named Gibson, Ethel, and Darian. This is a small glimpse into Mr. Johnson's wonderful life and what inspired him to become a teacher and coach.

Entertainment

By Destinee Mezyk

Word Search

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

Tail-Gate	Slippers	Blankets	Fall
Harvest	Candles	Pumpkin	Hay
Leaves	Season	Apple	Pie
Cider	Spice	Warm	

Sudoku

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							3	7
2	1							
4				5	9	6		
8	6		4	7				
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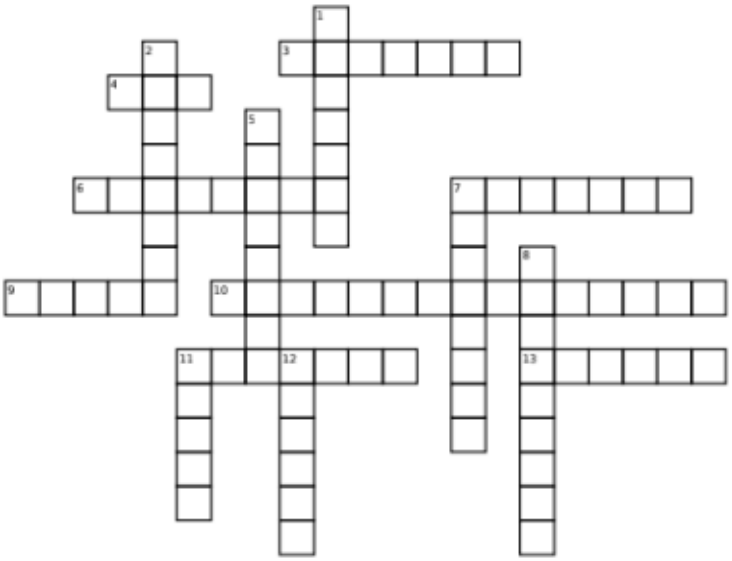
			5	6		2	7	

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. collecting crops
2. tall grass-like field to find your way through
5. A before football party
7. Americas most popular sport
8. trick or treating
11. a fall scent and flavor
12. another name for fall

Across:

3. transports you out to the pumpkin patch
4. a hazy mist in the air
6. something you carve during halloween
7. patterned jacket
9. Small, red, and edible
10. changing time of day
11. cozy warm
13. Crunchy things that fall from the tree

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