

The

Ellensburg High School's Student News Magazine

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meaning "bulldog."

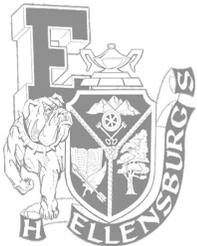
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Cover Photo:
Stephen Martin

Letter from the Editor

~To a New School Year~

Welcome back to the Alutant, Bulldogs!

There's some new changes here in the Alutant newsroom I'd love to address:

We are very excited to welcome Christine Roux to the Alutant as our new Advisor! Her experience in student journalism and enthusiasm to try out new ideas will help propel us forward in these uncertain times, something we all need right now.

After listening to your feedback we have decided to move our publication dates to the first school day of each month. With this new schedule we can deliver more consistent news, and most importantly, you'll know when to expect that news to be available for consumption.

We also have an incredibly small team this year (five people!), but, strangely enough, this actually is a good thing. Small groups equal easier planning and less in-person contact, a depressing but necessary component to battle Covid-19.

Staying safe is essential in a health crisis like the Covid-19 pandemic, and by working to limit opportunities for the spread of the virus we leave more options open to report on the events and people at the high school and in the community! I personally would like to urge everybody capable of following Covid-19 precautions to do so. Remember, these restrictions won't

last forever. It's your actions today that save somebody's life tomorrow. Where's the harm in looking out for your fellow human beings?

In other news, we have an Instagram account (@alutantnews) where we send out updates and announce opportunities for you, the students, to get involved with the paper!

We are also offering a subscription service starting this year at \$50 for 8+ issues of the Alutant. If you choose to pay for the service, we'll send a monthly paper copy of the issue to your address. We will still provide PDF copies of the Alutant for free, with links to them on our Instagram and our page on the EHS website, however this is your chance to get a physical copy. More information is included on the flyer sent with this issue.

I'm so proud of my team for putting together this wonderful issue of the Alutant. We'll continue to work hard for the students and to properly represent the news industry--an industry our society relies on in more ways than one--for what it is. Not fake news, but the check to absolute power, the revealer of corruption, the fighter for equality, and the not-so-humble historian.

Until the next issue,

Jada Godwin

Jada Godwin
Editor-in-Chief

Keeping Up with Covid-19

Up-to-Date Information, For You



Lucy Altman-Coe

Copy Editor

Column

The Covid-19 pandemic is still central to the lives of many. As students, we are now required to wear masks at school and prepare for the possibility of switching back and forth between distance and hybrid learning systems. Amid this craziness, it can be difficult to keep an eye on the facts. However, the Alutant will be making an effort to let all students know the basics of the coronavirus pandemic as it plays out.

Each column will have the most up-to-date and factual information, so you can stay aware of all of the goings-on of the coronavirus pandemic.

Covid-19, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to the Centers for Disease Control. A cluster of dozens of



Assistant Principal Ole Hall welcomes students as they go to complete their daily health checks. These routine checks are one step Ellensburg High School has done to try and limit the spread of the novel coronavirus Covid-19. Photo Courtesy of Stephen Martin.

“pneumonia” cases was reported by the Chinese government on December 31st, 2019, reported the New York Times. However, there is speculation that the virus may have spawned as early as November 2019. Over a month later, the World Health Organization officially titled the new virus “Covid-19”.

Since then, cases have grown exponentially. The first case in the United States, a man in his 30s from Washington, was confirmed on January 21st, 2020, according to the New York Times. Two months later, on March 21st, 2020, there were 1,793 cases in Washington, reported the Chinook Observ-

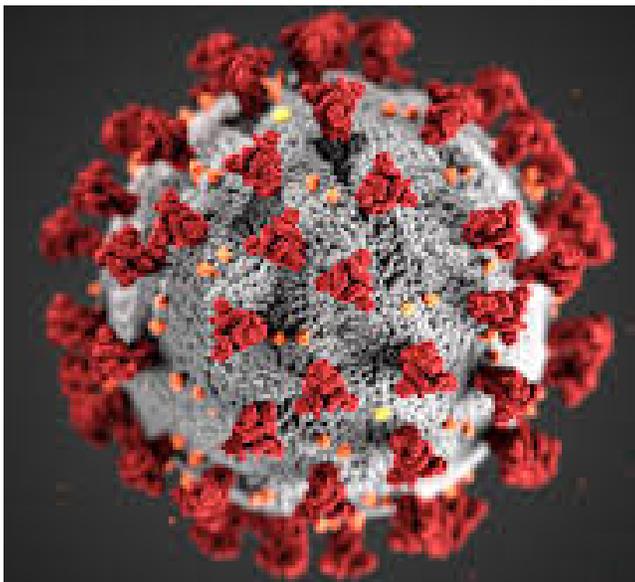
er. Obviously, the virus spread very quickly in a short period of time.

As of October 28th, Kittitas County has had 725 positive cases. Of those, 22 people have passed away due to the Covid-19 virus.

Central Washington University itself has had 167 confirmed cases since their September 9th opening, and has 27 active cases as of October 28th, as published by CWU.

In the United States, there have been 8,485,747 total cases. Of those, 223,328 people have passed away. This is the greatest number of both cases and deaths per country in the world.

We here at the Alutant implore you to keep wearing masks and physically distancing so everyone can stay safe. Taking these precautions can save lives and help the pandemic end more quickly.



The Covid-19 virus began in 2019, but became more widespread in 2020. Photo Courtesy of RawPixel.

Back to School

A Rocky Reopening

A Stephen Martin
Associate Editor
News

On October 19th, Ellensburg High School returned to in-person learning after over a month of online school.

The return was the result of several school board decisions made over the course of many months.

"There have been meetings about reopening since school got out, pretty much" said Senior Jaden Burroughs, Student Representative to the school board.

The meeting that decided to return was on September 9th, and was made from inputs by both medical experts and members of the community.

"They took in all of the information from Dr. Larson's recommendations, and all the focus groups they had over the spring and summer with all the stakeholders," said Burroughs. "So staff, parents, students, members of the community that weren't more directly involved with the school system."

The date of reopening moved



Cheerleaders welcome students into the school.

around significantly during the meetings.

"Originally, the start date was November 9th, because it was when the end of the quarter was," said Burroughs. "And then there was talk of getting students back into school earlier because it is a better situation for the students, and that's when the October 5th (date) came about... They decided to vote on it for the opening on October 5th, and it was a unanimous vote with some hesitation because they were still unsure whether or not that was the right idea."

The doubt cast on the October 5th date was not without merit, as a few weeks before the planned October 5th opening there was an emergency meeting called to delay the opening by two weeks, moving the school opening to October 19th.

"It is my understanding that there was a new recommendation from Dr. Larson, because they had originally had the October 5th date as a way to wait to see what would happen when the college got back in session," remarked Burroughs. "And then the numbers went up and they weren't going down."

School of course did open on October 19th, and the system that the school has opened with is unlike anything that teachers have seen before. Students are divided into two groups who attend school on Mondays and Thursdays (Group A) or Tuesdays and Fridays (Group B). There are also three different lunches, depending on a student's 4th period.

With six possible schedules,



Students line up to receive lunch.



Mr. Wilson instructs his woodworking class from a distance.

this system is out of the ordinary to say the least, but it comes as a relief to many teachers whose classes depend on in-person learning. One such teacher is Taylor Wilson, who teaches woodworking at EHS, a subject that does not translate very well into a digital environment.

"I think that being in-person is, well, obviously pivotal for us cause we're the woodshops, so it makes a big difference," said Wilson. "And just being able to work with your peers and other people and be here and see people and get out of your house, I mean that's huge, really huge."

While distance learning certainly was an improvement over online school, it will still take a lot of effort to get the woodshop up to social distancing standards.

"It's doable, it takes a lot to adjust to that, cause we haven't ran like that before, so all of our machines are bolted down closer than six feet, for the most part," said Wilson. "And a lot of things in here we help each other with and we might have a couple of people on a board cutting wood, so surface contact stuff I don't know how we're gonna avoid

touching each other and doing that, but we can adapt to spacing, and with the masks I guess that's what they're asking so..."

There are also teachers whose classes depend on hands-on experience who have had a smoother transition to in-person school, such as John Arlt, who teaches several lab science classes at EHS, including Biotechnology, Biology, and Robotics.

"So far it's been really well," said Arlt, "It hasn't been that difficult, my classes aren't overly crowded so in the biotech lab we have enough room to move around and get equipment spread out. There's been changes with the procedures for each of my classes, normally the students are a little more independent with finding equipment, so the only change I have now is trying to make sure that things are more set out and more laid out for students ahead of time."

Arlt also emphasized the importance of physical experience for classes.

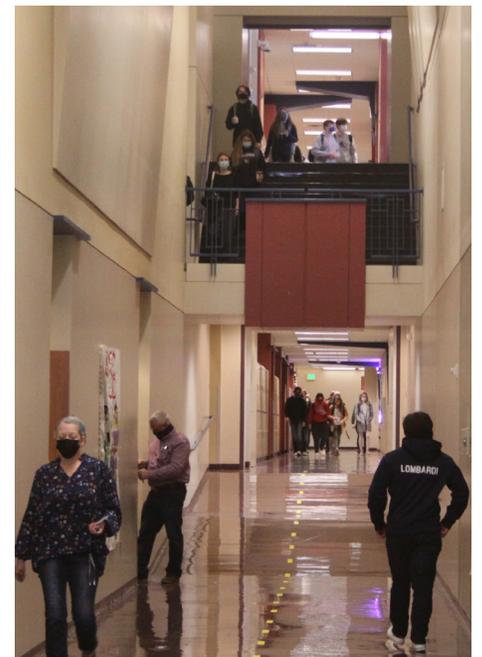
"In-person, especially in the classes like Biotechnology and Robotics which are hands-on classes, is the only way to really learn," remarked Arlt. "We can

try to simulate things online but it nowhere matches the hands-on class."

Despite the confidence shown by the school board and the hopes of many teachers, there are widespread concerns that cases will again rise and the school will shut down and return to all-virtual learning. Arlt weighed in on the subject.

"I have no way of knowing what's gonna happen but, y'know Covid-19 is a virus that acts like any other virus, with a few differences but, all indications may say that it's going to ramp up here in the schools, but time will tell and we'll see what happens. I expect we may at some point shut down again but that's just a guess."

As of the publication of this paper, school has been in session for two weeks. It remains uncertain whether or not the school will remain open until the end of the year. What is certain, however, is that this new model of education will require the best effort of everyone involved.



Students fill the West Hallway.

NCAA & Covid-19

Scholarships in the Pandemic

 **Lucas Wright**
Staff Reporter
Sports

Many of us are looking at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) sports programs and scholarships for next year, as well as upcoming years. With Covid-19 running rampant and unchecked in the United States, where does that leave you as a student athlete when it comes to looking for athletic scholarships and programs?

With 4,600,000 NCAA athletes in 2019-2020 school year alone, these numbers will obviously drop with over 300 NCAA athletic programs being cancelled this and next year so far. Ranging from sports such as basketball to volleyball, countless sport programs are postponed per the NCAA website.

As many student athletes know, scholarships, whether full or partial, are a must, especially in these hard-pressed financial times.

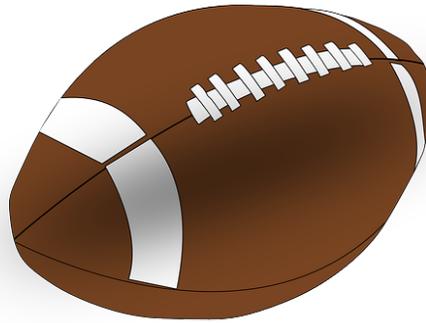
According to Dr. Jasmine Harris, a Professor at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania, the top



Central Washington University logo.

3% of US colleges have lost \$7.6 billion in college sport income in 2020. With ESPN reporting college football alone is set to lose \$4 billion for the season 2020-2021, the availability of sports scholarships is sure to be affected with the drop of college income.

Dennis Francois, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Central Washington University, who



has held that position for just under seven years with a total of 23 years experience in higher education, agreed to an interview about the financial impact the pandemic has on CWU sports.

How has the Covid-19 crisis affected athletics enrollment at CWU?

"Covid has not impacted athletics enrollment perse, since student-athletics can "opt out" of participating in athletics due to Covid- but can still be enrolled. So, if it has impacted enrollment within athletics, it has been very minimal since most are still taking classes, i.e., enrolled."

How has Covid-19 affected the availability of athletic scholarships at CWU and the wider college community?

"The financial impacts of

Covid on athletic scholarships will be evident more next year since the donations we seek for scholarship are raised the year prior to dispersing/awarding the scholarships. This is also true for the larger college community, though many of the general scholarships are endowed."

How has the Covid-19 crisis affected college income from athletics i.e. spectators and merchandise?

"The financial impact of Covid within our department comes in the form of unrealized revenues (ticketing, licensing, game guarantees, reduction of student-fees/enrollment, corporate sponsorships, and state funding), more so than anything else. We are projecting losing approximately \$700,000 in revenue this year."

When do you personally think college sports will return to normal?

"If you define normal as no more Covid protocols, I would say soon as we have a vaccine. I don't have a crystal ball, but i would hope that in a year from now we will be back to "normal" - but i think it all hinges upon a vaccine."

Looking at the facts, I'd take a line from Francois himself: "I don't have a crystal ball." But in my own personal opinion, Covid-19 will have an availability and financial impact on student athletes for next year at least, and if not longer.

Postponed Sports

A Helen Mills
Staff Reporter
Sports

At the moment, Senior Thomas Lonowski is playing tennis for Ellensburg High School.

"I do really like tennis. You get to make friends, and everyone's there to have fun. Some other sports are really competitive, but in tennis you really get to choose how serious you want to be."

When asked if he would play another sport he wrote, "Nope, tennis has been my go-to sport for all of high school. In fact, I would have played it for all of middle school too, if it had been an option."

Tennis is usually a spring season sport, but this year's sea-

son was scheduled to be in the fall. However, due to Covid-19 concerns it looks like the spring season is back on.

"Even though our official practices got postponed, I've still been able to get together with my friends and play tennis with them."

It really is the people who make the team. Lonowski's favorite tennis memory "was playing with my doubles partner from two years ago, Ethan Price. When we played against other schools we would adopt Rus-

And a Dedicated Athlete

sian alter-egos named Yoko and Dimitri, and speak with accents to confuse our opponents. That always gave us something to laugh about! Once, we were able to convince our opponents that we were foreign exchange students from Russia."

Even with fluctuating practices and seasons, tennis remains a beloved sport.

Lonowski said he'd continue to play tennis in upcoming years.

Left to right: Ben Johnson, Thomas Lonowski, and RJ Johnston posing on the tennis courts. Photo Courtesy of Collin Marsh.



Class of 2021:

The time has come for you to submit your baby ads or graduation ads to the yearbook!

Prices:

Full page: \$400

Half page: \$200

Quarter page: \$100

1/8th page: \$50

Creative Service: \$15



Reserve your spot now!!

All senior baby or grad ads are due by February 19th.

Email Christine Roux for more details and to reserve your spot:

christine.roux@esd401.org

Picture Day

A Stephen Martin
Associate Editor
News

A Tradition Done Differently

On September 25th, Picture Day was held for the students of Ellensburg High School. Covid-19 regulations made it difficult to have 900+ students enter the same room., however, administrators were able to achieve it by using a technique they had used previously.

"We used the dot system for the virtual graduation filming in the spring," said Activities Coordinator Haley Naboychik, who organized the event. "Mr.



Naboychik ushers students into the gym.

Musser and I... talked through what the best plan was to use the space and keep [students] spaced out."

The dot system is a method of lining students up on a grid of spaced-out dots, allowing for a safe and orderly line.

"The theory is using a big space, so the gym makes the most sense," she said. "And trying to have the dots, more than six feet apart... For the most part everyone's done PE and kind of understands that concept."

"It's your chance to get into the yearbook, it's your chance to have your picture on your ASB or your ID card, and y'know it helps us know new kids and who you are," she said. "And I'm really happy with the turnout and the way it's working for the most part."

Members of the ASB Executive Board were also present



Members of the ASB Executive Board distribute headbands.

to distribute headbands to the Class of 2021. The headbands were white and meant to be personalized by seniors for assemblies and other school events.

"It's kind of a tradition", said Jenna Callan, ASB Vice President. "It's just kind of symbolic for assemblies when people walk in with their senior headbands on."

Picture retakes are being held on November 4th.



Students get their pictures taken.

How Advisory Has Changed

And What You Can Expect

A Jada Godwin
Editor-in-Chief
News

An email was sent to all Ellensburg High School students on September 2nd, 2020, briefly announcing the new advisory class structure being implemented. With additional emails from administrators and the teachers themselves describing the new advisory structure in more detail, it soon became clear that advisory would look very different from the year before.

In previous years, advisory was split into two main sections, lessons and mentorship, both of which were presented to students by their advisory teacher.

Freshmen lessons focused on “transition skills” to high school such as test taking, understanding credits, and so forth. Sophomores and juniors learned how to succeed while in high school, and seniors on skills crucial to life after high school, with a particular attention made to information on selecting and paying for post secondary options, as well as going over graduation requirements like the High School and Beyond Plan one final time.

“The other half of the advisory class was the relationship piece with teachers, including the community circle discus-

sions and grade checks as well as the day to day interactions with a consistent staff member,” said Activities Coordinator Haley Naboychik.

This material, pulled from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the College Board, among other institutions, to supplement EHS’ advisory lessons, had been selected by Naboychik.

Naboychik now acts as the advisory teacher, distributing and grading assignments over Schoology, however, students are still placed into advisory classrooms run by the EHS teachers to open discussions and complete grade checks. These classes meet every Wednesday at 8:30am over Zoom.

The decision was made in part to centralize access to advisory information so every student would be guaranteed to receive the same information at the same time. It should also be noted that certain responsibilities were consolidated under Naboychik’s control to ease the stress of the teachers at the high school. “Part of the reason for this (change) was to help give teachers more time to focus on talking to students, especially with virtual learning being such a challenge for everyone. Sometimes it is nice to just be able to talk and interact without

*Activities
Coordinator
Haley
Naboychik.*



managing assigned work and tasks too.”

According to Naboychik, both the district and state are more focused on providing resources for social and emotional growth this year, which is subsequently being reflected in the advisory curriculum. “Covid is having a significant impact on students, and it’s important that we try to help students manage this aspect of their lives and health, in addition to their education and building their knowledge.”

“A majority of the work (assigned in advisory this year) comes from the Character Strong Curriculum which has an overall philosophy that students will be most successful when they have strong character and can apply their educational knowledge in a way that is positive for the people around them,” stated Naboychik. This focus on “social and emotional growth and well-being” for students and their relationships are critical in a year of quarantine and lockdowns, but,

Continued on next page —>

even now, it isn't the only goal of advisory. College and career readiness lessons are required by the OSPI, and some of the skills taught in previous years are still making a showing this year.

Advisory is mandatory for all full-time EHS students. However, Running Start students are automatically exempted from advisory due to the amount of credits they are allowed to take at the high school while enrolled at Central Washington University.

"There is a rule that regu-

lates how many credits a student is allowed to take as part of their education, and removing advisory from the mix has been a way to accomplish that," stated Naboychik.

While Running Start students may not have to complete any specific assignments, they do still have a page on Schoology detailing EHS events, opportunities, and requirements. "A lot of times, running start students are out of the loop about what is happening at EHS, and this has given them one easy place to find it, and one place

for me to put the information they may want or need." Running Start students also have the option to opt into advisory if they so please.

Just as advisory is a two-part class, Naboychik has two requests for students: Complete your assignments and go to your Zoom calls! Naboychik is still giving full credit for completing assignments in advisory, even for late work from the very first week of school. Remember to check for work on Schoology and submit the Google Forms for the videos.

(New) Teacher Features

Welcome to EHS!

 Jada Godwin
Editor-in-Chief
Feature

Throughout the year the Alutant produces features on the students and teachers of Ellensburg High School. Here are two new teachers at the school:

Special Education Department

Laurel Weber teaches Content Area Reading and Writing, Math Concepts, and an Independent Study class at Ellensburg High School.

Weber moved to Ellensburg in 2011 from Nebraska and enjoys reading, quilting, camping, hiking, and spending time with her family. Weber taught high school Biology for seven years in Utah and North Carolina and has also worked more locally as a long-term substitute in 2017-2020, staying in one classroom

for several months at a time.

"I am excited to be back in my own classroom with students that I do not have to let go of at the end of the long-term

"I need to send a shout out to the Life Skills students at EHS!"

substitute assignment," stated Weber.

Weber is especially proud of her Life Skill students. "I had the privilege of working with them in the Spring when so

many things became difficult.

They were troopers and met with me on ZOOM every day of the week for at least one hour. Working with them inspired me to pursue a Masters of Special Education and a position in the high school in the special education department."

"Since accepting the job, the special education team has been welcoming and generous with their time and knowledge to help me get my feet underneath me."

English Department

Brittanie Wyler teaches 9th grade, 9th grade Honors, and 10th grade Language Arts through the Virtual Academy program at Ellensburg High School. She enjoys playing video games, reading books, working on home projects, and baking. Wyler also runs the Dungeons & Dragons club, which meets Wednesdays from 3-6pm over Zoom.

Wyler taught 9th and 10th grade Language Arts at EHS for four years before going to Morgan Middle School last year to teach 7th and 8th grade Language Arts.

“Ms. Bannister, Ms. Naboychik, Mr. Snow, and Mr. Acheson have been amazing with helping my move back to EHS. All of them have been super supportive with helping me to catch up with changes at EHS, and all of them have been fantastic with helping me to learn how to use the online programs and tools for Virtual Academy,” stated Wyler.

She is teaching 130 students this year, all participants in the Virtual Academy program. Wyler admitted it’s a challenge directing students in remote learning, especially since the

students have to learn how to use the new programs online without any in-person demonstrations.

“I also truly miss getting to see and hear students throughout the day and have truly engaging class lessons and discussions. I miss being a part of students’ creativity, since I often learn new ways of thinking from the amazing young adults in our school!”

It isn’t all bad, though. Wyler believes the pandemic has presented some new options for educators to improve their practice.

“I think that the traditional education system has been long overdue for improvement. I know that it is difficult to adapt to new and challenging programs, especially when

we are forced into emergency learning and we don’t have the time or means to explore many options, but I think that this year will provide schools and governments with valuable data that can inform educational practice in the future.

“I hope that our experience with alternative learning during the time of COVID-19 will help students and educators find new and better programs and methods for learning that will encourage our society to im-

prove the educational system in the future.”

One such tool being used during the pandemic is Zoom, a video conferencing website and app. Wyler wished to remind students of the option to connect with teachers in real time. “As awkward as Zoom feels for students, it’s especially awkward for us teachers to sit at our computers for hours each day with an empty, blank Zoom screen open... popping in to a teacher’s office hour Zoom and just checking that you understand the material, or reviewing for just a couple of minutes before you take a quiz (can be beneficial).”

If the students should remember anything though, it’s this:

“We are here for you!”

“Currently, I am playing Animal Crossing on the Switch and Alien: Isolation on the PS4. The book I am currently reading for fun is The Shadow Rising by Robert Jordan. I also play a goblin alchemist in a Pathfinder campaign with friends online on the weekends.”



Brittanie Wyler in her classroom during the first week of school getting ready for her Zoom calls.



Hope on the Horizon

Ellensburg's Sunrise Movement Gives Youth a Voice

A Lucy Altman-Coe
Copy Editor
Feature

As Gen Z approaches voting age, they are beginning to become activists for many political issues. An issue that has garnered particular interest among young people is climate change.

One of these youth-led movements is the Sunrise Movement, which is centered in Washington D.C., according to their website, sunrisemovement.org. However, they report having over 400 "hubs" around the country, working to pass legislation and raise awareness for climate issues.

Recently, one hub was established in Ellensburg, working to address local, state, and national issues surrounding climate change. "The Ellensburg group embraces the ideals and goals of the larger Sunrise Movement and hopes to do whatever work we find in front of us in our community to help build a better future," stated Molly Verhey, leader of the local Sunrise chapter and Ellensburg High School graduate.

In addition to climate issues, the Sunrise Movement also discusses other things, such as elections, LGBTQ+ rights, and racial justice as part of dealing with the climate crisis.

"Climate justice' is a big term, but mostly what it means is that the Sunrise Movement believes that addressing climate

change must take an intersectional approach and strive for racial justice, indigenous sovereignty, gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, etc. when working to address the climate crisis," said Verhey. "The future we work to build has to work for everyone!"

Already, the group has begun to work for these goals in Ellensburg and the surrounding area. Their first project, which surrounds the election, is targeting young voters who will be sending in ballots for this year's presidential race.

"Recently we've been writing postcards to young voters in swing states like Wisconsin to encourage them to vote, and specifically to vote Donald Trump out," said Verhey. They are doing this, she explained, because, "President Trump denies the reality of climate change, and is no ally to oppressed groups."

The Sunrise Movement, as a whole, has also allied with politicians in order to accomplish their larger goals.

"The Green New Deal specifically is a visionary proposal co-sponsored by Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in the House and Ed Markey in the Senate, with more



The Sunrise Movement logo. Photo Courtesy of sunrisemovement.org.

congresspeople signing on all the time," said Verhey.

According to the Sunrise Movement website, they have endorsements from various politicians, including Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), and many more politicians from all over the country. One of the most notable endorsements the movement has received has been from Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who, as previously mentioned by Verhey, co-sponsored the Green New Deal.

This alliance is only part of what the Sunrise Movement is doing to encourage the passing of a Green New Deal. In 2017, they started the first step in a five part plan to pass a Green New Deal in the United States, according to their website. This first step was simply to "launch the movement". However, as



The Sunrise Movement participates in frequent protests across the country to push legislators to pass the Green New Deal, their current goal. Photo Courtesy of sunrisemovement.org.

time continued, the Sunrise Movement continued to broaden their goals and attempt to achieve loftier objectives.

The second phase, which began in 2018, according to the Sunrise Movement website, was to begin to make climate change a key issue in the 2018 midterm elections.

Last year, 2019, the Sunrise Movement launched Phase

Three, which was aimed at making “The entire country feel the urgency of the crisis”. Following that was Phase Four, which started this year, aiming to “Win governing power” in the 2020 general election.

ident Donald Trump] because he refuses to work with us, but we can be more confident that a Biden administration will hear us out and take steps in the right direction,” said Verhey of the Sunrise Movement’s political support. “National Sunrise leaders have even helped the Biden campaign craft climate change policy proposals through the Unity Taskforce.”

ending all forms of oppression,” explained Verhey, adding that there are many more objectives of the Green New Deal.

On a smaller scale, there are also many things that the Sunrise Ellensburg group is planning to accomplish. Already, many citizens have expressed curiosity for the group.

“We’ve averaged about 8 people coming to our meetings so far, including community members, high school students, and college students, and we’ve gotten lots of interest from folks online,” said Verhey. And while their group may be small for now, Verhey believes that the power they have is greater than some think.

“We recognize that change starts at the grassroots, and that together we have more power than many want us to believe,” Verhey emphasized.

While the group is just getting started, the Ellensburg community will watch as they grow and begin to take on more forms of activism.

Next year, 2021, will be aimed at finally passing the Green New Deal, says the Sunrise Movement website. The Green New Deal is currently the main goal of the Sunrise Movement.

“It involves transitioning to 100% clean and renewable energy as soon as possible, achieving net zero carbon emissions, guaranteeing jobs that pay a livable wage for everyone who wants one, ensuring clean air, water, and access to good food for everyone, and

For more information on the Sunrise Movement or the Sunrise Ellensburg group, go to sunrisemovement.org or email sunriseellensburg@gmail.com. You can also check out their social media, either through their Instagram @Sunriseellensburg or by finding Sunrise Ellensburg on Facebook.

Three, which was aimed at making “The entire country feel the urgency of the crisis”. Following that was Phase Four, which started this year, aiming to “Win governing power” in the 2020 general election.

“We can’t work with [Pres-

Tech Needs You

A Lucas Wright
Staff Reporter
Feature

And You Don't Need a Degree For Tech

With the global economy in a downturn and companies across the United States placing people on furlough and decreasing their hiring rates, the only part of the U.S. economy that is booming right now is the technology industry.

However, it isn't necessary to spend years in college and put yourself in debt to get a technology degree to work in the tech industry. You only need hard work, dedication, and a never ending fascination with technology.

Let's talk about Amazon and Amazon Web Services (AWS), the largest tech employer in Washington State, with Seattle as its global headquarters.

Year after year Amazon has increased their tech openings, which include technical program management, software engineering and machine learning scientist positions. In 2015, Amazon had 24,000 employees in Washington State, according to Puget Sound Business Journal. And, currently, they employ 78,500 personnel in those same technology-driven positions, according to USA Today. The expected growth will increase by at least 40% annually.

We spoke to Ed Watson, Senior Manager of the Program

Management Office at AWS to understand what you, a budding cloud technology candidate, needs to know about how to get started.

What should high school students do to prepare for a future in technology?

"High school students should be introduced early and often to cloud tech. This helps demystify technology and reduces the intimidation factor people often feel when they are introduced to it. The young often have active

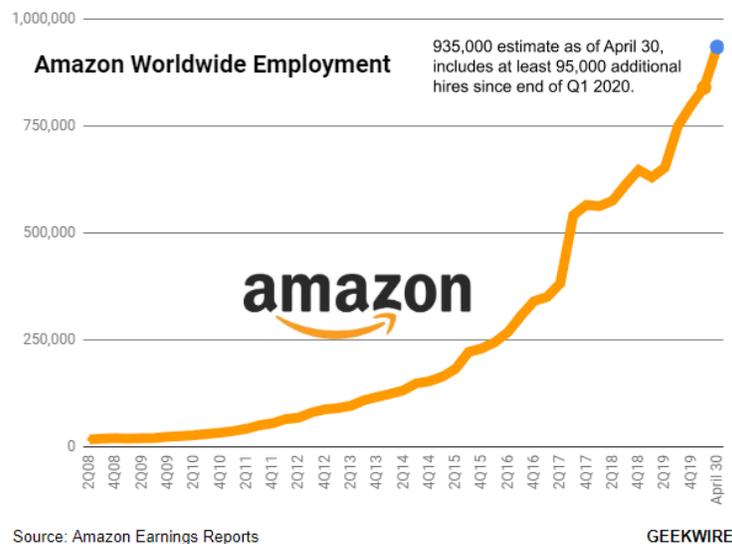
success in this new world."

Are their online courses we can do while still in high school that can jumpstart our future?

"Absolutely. Many organizations offer free courses and free digital... self-paced content. Amazon, Google, Microsoft, LinkedIn, Udemy, and many others offer students free access to explore and learn. I think this is great but highly recommend students take a more structured approach to learning cloud technology."

Do I need a college degree to work in Amazon or AWS?

"Most entry level jobs... especially tech, do not require a degree. Degrees are still desired for mid-level positions or management but a lot of tech companies like Google, Microsoft, and Amazon have removed the degree requirement for cloud technical roles."



imaginations and cloud tech (AI and ML) can bring those ideas to life," recommended Watson. "High schools should team with trade schools to enhance the learning and focus on quantifiable skills, not just degrees. With that said, degrees are important. They teach you critical thinking, how to research, and generally important topics like history, math, social studies... but they are not the only way to

As you can see there are now more non-traditional paths available to the budding cloud employee than the typical college path. While a technology degree can help you in the field, there are many options that do not require it. Do your research and look at the other options available; you may well surprise yourself with what's truly available out there.

Bulldog Talk:

What is One Positive Thing About Online Learning?

A Lucy Altman-Coe
Copy Editor
Feature

The best part of online learning means more time to work and earn money as well as go on hunting trips without falling behind.

Tristan Holt, grade 12

One positive thing is that there is more flexibility.

Olivia Berthon-Koch,
grade 12

One positive thing I've found about online learning is that I can wear sweatpants everyday if I wanted too.

Nicole Caveness, grade 10

One positive thing about online learning is you are able to work at your own pace and work at times that fit your personal schedule.

Ezri Teasley, grade 10

One positive thing about online learning is that the teachers are available to help when needed.

Eleanor Bartel, grade 12

I appreciate how much more free time I have versus in-person learning. It gives me a lot of time to do what I want, my homework, video games, and

such, it also relieves a lot of stress, because I have more time to study. Unfortunately, something I do not like about it, is that I don't have Zoom classes as often as everyone else does, because I take Running Start and it makes me sad sometimes because I don't get to see my classmate's and friend's faces.

There's a negative to every positive.

Hanna Callender-Bohman, grade 12

Something positive about learning online is that, for the most part, we get to set our own pace. I think that will definitely help me

learn and retain more information!

Avery Patterson, grade 10



Nicole Caveness



Avery Patterson

A Helen Mills
Staff Reporter
Opinion

Hot or Not:
Top Halloween Movies

HOT

"Beetlejuice"

One of the best movies ever, from the 1980's golden age of movies! Do you want crazy? Interesting? Scary? Beetlejuice has it all and he'll shove it in your face. A true classic to watch with family, with friends, or by yourself! 100/10

"The Shining"

One of the strangest, scariest movies on the list. From the tangled minds of Stanley Kubrick and Stephen King you get fear and terror at every turn. No jump scares, no fakeouts, just pure fear from fantastic acting! Not even King, who wrote the original book, knew what was happening most of the time. 100/10

"IT"

A killer clown classic! Who doesn't love killer clowns? Both the 1986 and 2017 versions are perfect watches. The actors deliver beautifully, and King's writing is perfect to destroy your sense of reality. Give it a watch if you dare! 10/10

"Coraline"

A classic Gen Z movie. The movie that freaked us out as kids, which we now adore! This movie has some of the most beautiful backgrounds and stop motion aspects of any Halloween movie. The story is full of creepily beautiful twists and turns that will keep you interested. 9/10

"Nightmare on Elm Street"

Ask your parents and they'll tell you this was a scary movie. Now it's just plain stupid funny! Starring a young Johnny Depp and a killer story, there's tons to see in this 1984 classic. Good to see with your partner or home alone. Watch at your own risk and don't fall asleep. 9/10

NOT

Fall Guys: Ultimate Knockout

A Stephen Martin
Associate Editor
Review

Battle royale games have dominated the internet for the past few years, however there has been a serious lack of variety between them. The genre is filled with shooters that do little to set themselves apart from their peers. These types of games were in dire need of something new, and Mediatonic provided it in the form of “Fall Guys: Ultimate Knockout”.

Fall Guys is not a run of the mill battle royale. The game functions like a game show starting with 60 contestants, with the field slowly winnowing over the course of several minigames, leaving one winner at the end. This simple premise, along with the game’s bright color palette, ragdoll physics, and unique bean people, have set it apart and allowed it to explode in popularity since its August 4th release.

Almost every part of this game works. The matchmaking is quick and you’ll never wait more than a couple seconds to get into a new match. Each of the 24 minigames are unique and the majority of them are an absolute blast to play. The music is also wonderful and can make even the more mundane minigames enjoyable.

The progression system is also incredibly well done. The game rewards Kudos, one the in-game currencies, just for playing and rewards Crowns, the other, for winning episodes.



Thumbnail for “Fall Guys - Jump in on August 4” by DevolverDigital.

Both of these can then be used to purchase cosmetic items in the shop. Kudos can also be purchased, however Crowns can only be obtained by winning games. This system works because it rewards good players with exclusive skins but also still allows less experienced players to have fun with customization.

There is a lot of good with this game, but with that said it does have its flaws. As previously mentioned, most of the minigames are fantastic, however there are some that are less enjoyable, and then there are a select few that are just plain bad.

There are three types of minigames: races, elimination challenges, and team games. Races are where Fall Guys is at its best, with players rushing to the end of an obstacle course. Elimination challenges, where players are removed until a certain number are gone or time runs out, can also be fun, but are not particularly difficult and don’t do a great job of thinning the crowd. Team games, where the

team with the least amount of points at the end of the round is eliminated, are the worst of the bunch, and in most cases success will depend almost entirely on teammates.

Outside of team games there will also be instances where players lose due to factors outside of their control, which will require some patience to get through. But this can be forgiven, since even if players do lose to a bad minigame they’ll be in another match within seconds.

Like other battle royale games, Fall Guys will have different seasons that introduce new content and remove things that don’t work. Hopefully some of these issues will be fixed in coming updates.

Overall I give Fall Guys four out of five paws. While it does have a few issues that stop it from being as great as it could be, it is still an absolute blast to play and I would highly recommend it to anyone who has time to kill and a hearty amount of self-restraint.

Why Harry Potter Has No Author

The Fans Have Taken Over

A Helen Mills
Staff Reporter
Opinion

“Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone” was first released in 1996. It was an immediate hit! Loved from all around the world, “Harry Potter” was the biggest hit of the early 2000’s, making J.K. Rowling one of the most famous best selling authors to date.

“Harry Potter” was a type of cultural reset. Fantasy books were not in high demand at the time, but they were after the series began to get published. It became one of the biggest influences of the time, and so did the creator.

At the beginning of the 2000’s, Rowling was at her peak. Speaking at huge events, winning awards left and right and mak-

ing a ton of money, she even had huge merchandise deals with Universal and had a keep on her books.

However, things began to change. With the legalization of gay marriage in England in 2014, the LGBTQ+ community was jumping for joy.

In the following years, as more people felt comfortable enough and knew acceptance awaited, they started to come out. More gay, lesbian, bi, and of course, trans support entered the mainstream. Now, it was less of a taboo and more accepted in the western world.

Rowling, maybe out of annoyance or pure confusion, started to tweet. In 2018,

Rowling tweeted questioning things about trans women saying, “Live your best life in peace and security. But force women out of their jobs for thinking sex is real? #Istandwithmiya”.

Now, this might just be a slight sneer toward the LGBTQ+ community, but nothing too big. However, #Istandwithmiya is a hashtag that was started to support a woman who had lost her job over saying “men cannot become woman” in a tweet. The tweet is used very commonly as a stab toward the transgender community.

Fans of the Harry Potter series were surprised to see their idol tweeting such a strange

thing. Rowling was already known as a somewhat shady person regarding gay people, referring to the whole “Dumbledore is gay” drama that happened in the 2010’s, but this was new.

Fans continued to hurt as Rowling started to identify as a TERF in her tweets. TERF means Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist.

The “Harry Potter” books and movies are good. No matter your opinion they were successful.

The fans, still loving the books but hating the author, have decided that no one wrote the books.

“I don’t let J.K. Rowling’s weird attitude ruin the memory of Harry Potter for me,” Junior Ella LaVoie wrote.

“She’s a garbage human being and I hate her,” wrote Junior Milo Fisher in an email.

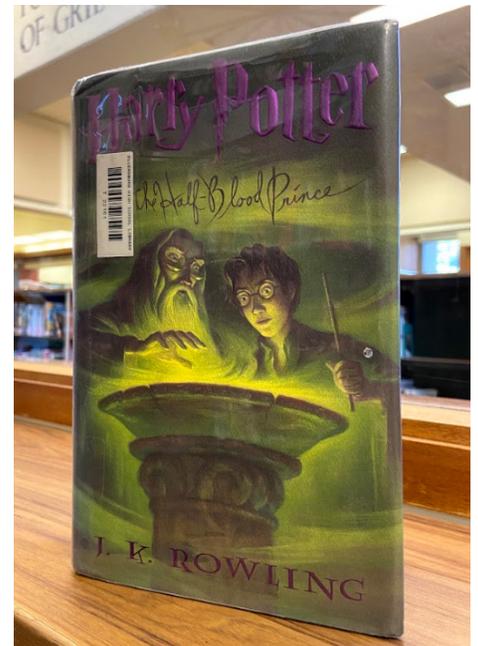
Remote Learning Hotspot for Students (and Educators)

Cornerstone Pie: 9am—12pm daily

D&M Downtown: 7am—6pm daily

Ask at the front for the wifi password and identify yourself as a student or educator. There are also \$5 vouchers for drinks while supplies last.

For more information visit cornerstonepie.com/education.



“Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince” displayed at Ellensburg High School’s Library.



BIDENOV

Trump (Republican)
Biden (Democratic)
Hawkins (Green)
Jorgenson (Libertarian)
Kanye (Independent)



Illustrations Courtesy of Helen Mills.

Age: 77
Home State: Delaware (born in Pennsylvania)
Running Mate: Kamala Harris
Education: BA, University of Delaware
Experience: Senator 36 years, Vice President 8 years

On The Issues

Abortion: Biden supports codifying Roe v. Wade and cracking down on states violating it. He also supports federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

Coronavirus: Biden plans to double the number of drive-in test sites, as well as offer emergency paid leave for those diagnosed with Covid-19.

Criminal Justice: Biden plans to eliminate mandatory minimum sentencing.

Economy: Biden plans to reverse Trump's tax cuts on corporations and wants to increase taxes on Americans making more than \$400,000/year. He also supports increasing the national minimum wage to \$15/hour.

Education: Biden supports universal Pre-K and

Stephen Martin
Associate Editor
News

Who Would You Vote For?

Candidate	Percentage
Donald Trump	31.6%
Joseph Biden	43.9%
Howie Hawkins	5.3%
Jo Jorgenson	14%
Kanye	5.3%
Undecided/No One/No Comment	14%

Why?

Reason	Percentage
I like their policies	38.6%
I don't like the other candidates	38.6%
My family supports that candidate	7%
They are in my political party	7%
I don't like anyone/don't vote	7%
All of the above	7%
No comment	7%

increasing teacher's wages, as well as two-year tuition free community college.

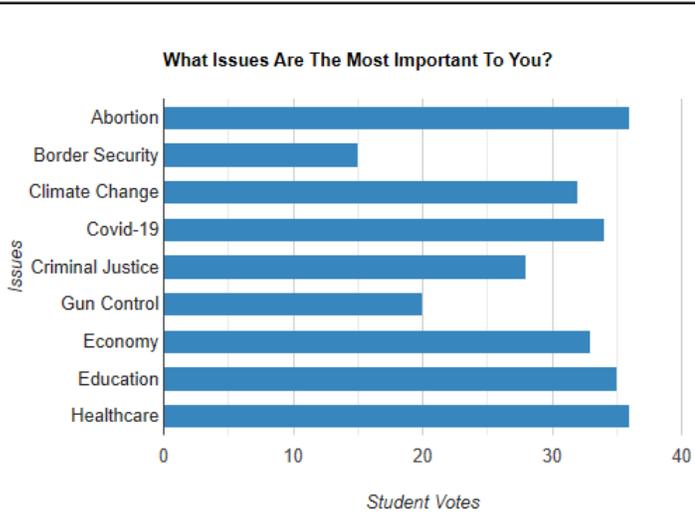
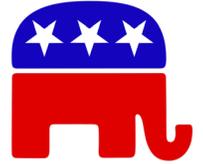
Environment: Biden plans to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 through executive orders and legislation, and incentivize the development of clean energy.

Gun Control: Biden plans to ban the sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines, and create a buy-back program.

Healthcare: Biden plans to expand on the Affordable Care Act, and to create a public option for health insurance.

Immigration: Biden plans to reinstate Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and end family separations at the border.

S TRUMP



Age: 74
 Home State: Florida (born in New York)
 Running Mate: Mike Pence
 Education: BA, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
 Experience: Businessman, President 4 years

Data from the Alutant’s Election 2020 Survey. There were 61 responses total, although not every participant answered every question. Students could vote for multiple issues in the bar graph. Only the “Most Important” votes were counted in the bar graph, not the “Somewhat Important” or “Not Important” votes.
 All stances and statistics are taken from their respective candidates’ websites, at joebiden.com and donaldtrump.com.

On The Issues

Abortion: Trump signed a Congressional Review Act bill to allow states to restrict Planned Parenthood funding.

Criminal Justice: President Trump signed Executive Order 13809 to restore state and local law enforcement’s access to surplus equipment from the Defense Department.

Economy: Trump cut taxes for small businesses by 20%, and lowered the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%.

Education: Trump’s 2018 budget included \$1,000,000,000 to promote school choice, and implemented the year-round distribution of Pell Grants.

Environment: Trump leased 78 million acres

in the Gulf of Mexico for offshore drilling, and withdrew the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement.

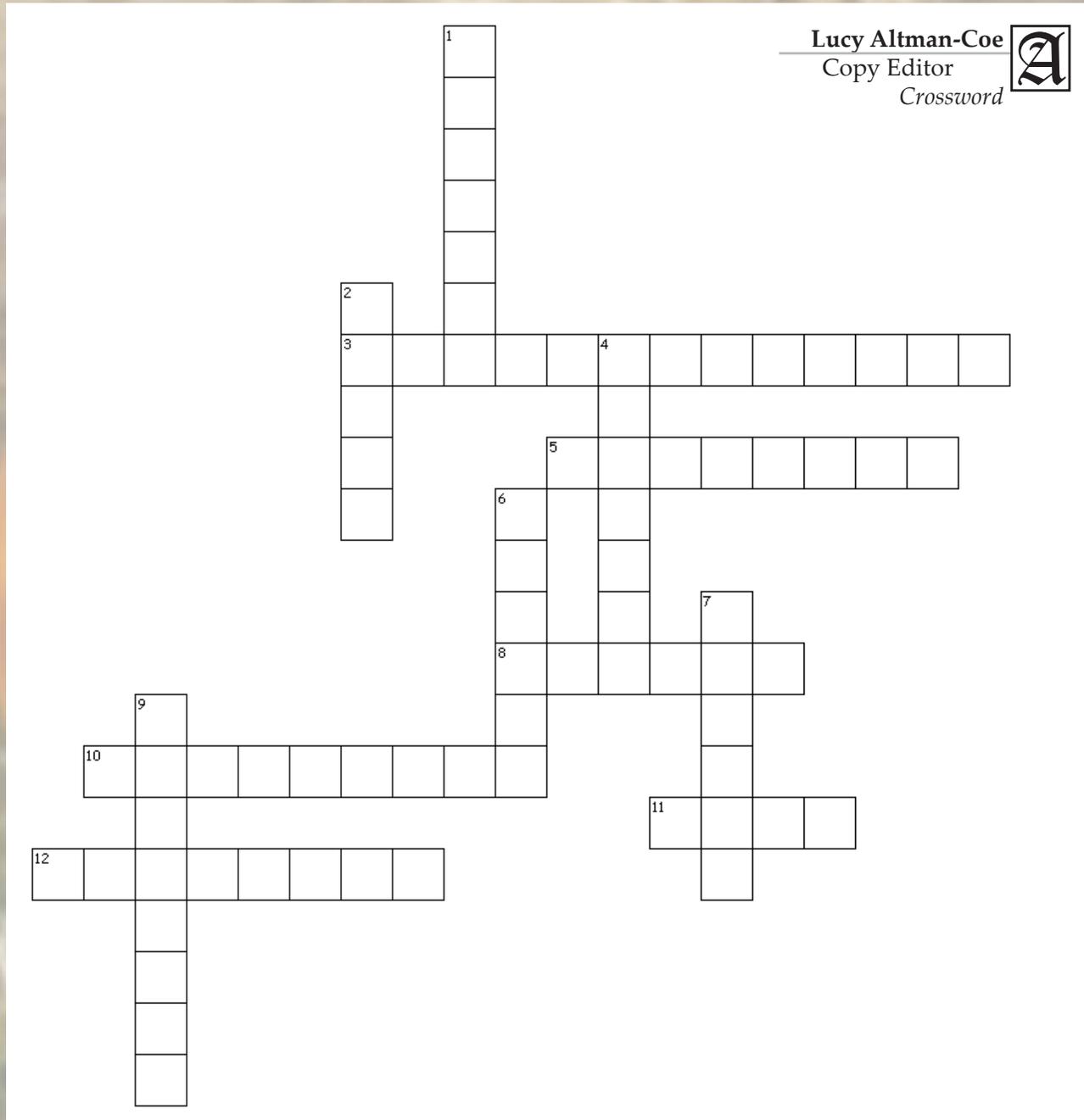
Gun Control: Trump directed prosecutors to focus on taking illegal guns off the streets, and the number of criminals charged with unlawful possession of a firearm has increased by 23%.

Healthcare: Trump repealed the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act, which mandated that Americans had to have insurance or pay a fine.

Immigration: Trump reduced Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and since his inauguration Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) has detained 269,419 immigrants at the border.

Fall Crossword

Lucy Altman-Coe
Copy Editor
Crossword



Across

3. The surface Charlie Brown and his friends ate their Thanksgiving on.
5. The ocean the Pilgrims had to cross.
8. The bird eaten on Thanksgiving.
10. The ship the Pilgrims sailed over on.
11. This vegetable is often used to make mazes in the fall.
12. The day that Thanksgiving always falls on.

Down

1. The type of gourd carved for Halloween.
2. A fruit with Honeycrisp and Red Delicious varieties.
4. Daylight Savings is happening in this month in 2020.
6. The season after Fall.
7. Red, Orange, and _____ are some colors you will see in abundance in fall.
9. Halloween falls on a _____ this year.