

THE HAWKS' NEST

Volume I, Issue 1 OCTOBER 2024



Through Summer Camp and the first day of school, Champlain Valley Union High School (CVU) welcomed the Class of 2027 this fall.

CVU Summer Camp: Experience of a CIT

Hailey Corrigan Contributing Writer

For years, the CVU Summer Camp has been making a difference in the lives of many incoming 9th graders. In case you don't know what this is, CVU Summer Camp is a program that runs for four weeks during the summer in order to get CVU newcomers comfortable and acclimated to the school. It also gives 9th graders a chance to make connections with their peers before the school year begins.

The CVU Summer Camp consists of many counselors and counselors-in-training (CITs) who are paid to work for the program.

I was a CIT this past summer and it was a fun and interesting experience overall. I decided to be a CIT because I had previously been a camper my 9th grade year.

Before the summer camp I was very nervous about going to a new school with many new people, but going to the camp helped me become more comfortable in my new surroundings and I even made some friends. By the time the school year had actually started, I already knew where my classes were located and I had some familiar faces I could talk to.

When you become a CIT or a counselor, your whole perspective on the camp changes. You are now the one who is in charge of planning activities and getting people acclimated to the school. The summer camp, like school, has organized blocks. These blocks are known as interest areas. Every interest area has at least one counselor

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Introducing The Hawks' Nest

Grace Warrington Editor-in-chief

Introducing The Hawks' Nest, CVU's first student-run newspaper! We are a group of students, led by three juniors, Grace Warrington '26, Lily Gruber '26, and Karmen Wilbur '26.

The idea began in 2022. The editorial staff proposed the idea last year to faculty and administration. We worked over the summer to formalize the plan. This culminated in the very newspaper you're holding in your hands right now!

We think it is important for a high school to have a school newspaper because it is an excellent way to build community and hear everyone's voices and diverse opinions, along with giving students a chance to practice their journalistic skills. Not only that, but it allows the high school to participate in and support locally run news. We hope that this newspaper can become an outlet for everyone to engage in and representative of the voice of our student body.

CVU has not had a student-run newspaper in recent memory, much less a printed one. The closest we've come recently was a long running paper called 'The Champlain Valley Chronicle,' however it was run through a journalism class and writing opportunities were not open to the whole student body.

While there are fewer school newspapers now than ones that existed in the past, some Vermont public high schools still support

Continued on page 7



Sports

Find out about sports at CVU on pages 6-7.



Arts

See page 5 for art activities.



Halloween Special Feature

Check out page 8 for Halloween fun.



Photo credit: Peter Warrington Acorns on an oak tree, taken earlier this fall

Changes to CVU Budget

Karmen Wilbur Managing Editor

If you have been a student at CVU in past years, you may notice more changes than usual this year. Last school year, the budget for the district did not pass the first time it was voted on.

The original budget proposed was around \$105.8 million. This proposed budget was not popular with residents due to the extreme tax increases it would have come with.

The next budget proposed was \$101.8 million. This passed but still came with significant tax hikes.

Before voting on the new budget began, students at CVU, worried that a reduced budget would cause their valued teachers to be let go, led a walkout protest. They walked down to the crosswalk and then convened on the baseball field for a Q&A with people who had worked on the budget. This event was covered by local news outlets such as WCAX and WPTZ.

After the revised budget passed, a list was sent out to students detailing the classes that would not be returning this year. Some of those included were Contemporary Literature, Physics Waves, International Business, Child Development, and Black America. Classes being cut also meant that the teachers who taught them had to be let go or have their positions reduced.

CVU Summer Camp

Continued from page 1

assigned to it. The counselor's job is to plan out what activities they are going to do and to make sure everyone is being safe and included in the activities. It's the counselors and CIT's responsibility to help the campers feel more comfortable both during the camp and when school officially starts, this is the most important part.

Another important part of this job is showing friendly competition. At the beginning of the first day everyone is assigned a color group that they will be a part of for the duration of the summer camp. I was assigned to the green team this past summer and we participated in many different challenges that earned us points. The points are all added up and whichever team has the most after the final challenge wins. The final challenge is always worth the most points and, in my opinion, it's the riskiest challenge of them all.

The final challenge is a color group dance held in the theater where every team has to come up with some form of a performance to do in front of the rest of the camp. There are four judges who score the performances on a scale of 1 to 10 and whoever's total point value is the highest ultimately wins the final challenge.

The reason why it is seen as the riskiest challenge is not because of the amount of points awarded to the winning team, but because it requires you to let go of embarrassment. You must be open and willing to do whatever your team comes up with. This may be challenging for some, but you must remember that everyone else is in the same boat as you. If you feel comfortable on stage, your performance will be that much better.

This past summer, the winner of the color competition happened to be the green team. The winners get bragging rights as well as their team name etched into the coveted color competition trophy. Like I said before, this is a friendly competition, but don't be afraid to put your all into every challenge, that's what makes it fun! When everyone is engaged in the competition there's no limit to what might happen.

This camp is a great opportunity for workers and campers to build bonds and have fun in

a safe environment. If you are considering working in the summer camp next year, go for it. It's a great starter job for anyone who wants a small step into the world of work. So in conclusion, the CVU summer camp is a perfect way to get paid while having fun and making positive connections with your peers.

The Hawks' Nest

The student-run newspaper of Champlain Valley Union High School

Published monthly during the academic year

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WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

We need you!

A community newspaper takes a village. Whether you want a small commitment or a large one, there is room for you in the newsroom.

We need photographers, writers, and business support. Whether you like writing, editing, making comics, or constructing puzzles, there is a place for you.

Become a part of this landmark year in starting our own newspaper!

Lunchroom Tray-gedy

Willow Martin Staff Writer

The lunchroom is somewhere everyone in the CVU building has visited at least once, if not many times. During lunch block A to D, students and teachers alike have experienced the mess that is left behind everyday.

There is often chaos left behind for the lunch room staff. It seems the hard work is never ending, as many think cleaning up after themselves is optional— leaving trash on tables, not returning the trays and silverware and instead throwing them in the trash, and much more.

In interviews with students, most described the lunchroom as "messy" by the end of each lunch period. **Austin Tardiff '28** said, "It's just messy," while **Milo Hayes '28** described it as "destroyed." Many blame it on "laziness" and/or being in a rush as a reason for the mess, with **Hailley Hem '27** saying, "There's no time between lunch blocks..."

Opinions are split on how the state of the lunchroom affects students who want to eat there, as some avoid eating in the cafeteria altogether, like Max Dubak '27 who said, "I usually don't eat there because it's dirty and crowded." Others, like Amina Kanaan '27, find it hard to find a clean spot: "Sometimes I want to eat there, but I can't find a clean place to sit."

When asked what could be done, **Autumn Miller '25** suggested more trash cans, especially near exits, would help. **Mamta Rimal '27** felt that peer accountability could also help, saying, "It's really about common decency."

Food Service Director Colleen French highlighted the challenges of keeping the lunchroom clean. "The biggest issue is getting students to pick up after themselves," French explained. She noted that throwing away silverware and trays also impacted the cafeteria's budget, affecting menu options and food quality.



Photo credit: Grace Warrington CVU lunch room after block D

French is hopeful that improvements will continue. "I've seen more students paying attention and reporting messes," she said, "but there's still a lot of work to do."

At the end of the day the solution lies with the students. As French put it, "Just be respectful. Don't wait for others— start a new trend."

Grace Warrington Editor-in-chief

Crossword

Answers page 5

Across

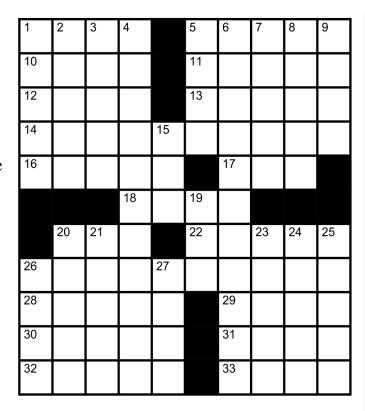
- **1.** College administrator
- 5. Best's opposite
- **10.** Thus
- 11. "Eras" location
- **12.** Impossible Burger substitute
- **13.** Ravi Shankar instrument
- 14.#
- 16. Court scribe
- 17. "I don't think so" and "You wish!"
- **18.** Pork
- **20.** Daisy Ridley character in "The Force Awakens"

- **22.** Easter marshmallow treats
- **26.** Nirvana lead singer
- **28.** Western state shaped like Vermont... but upside down
- 29. "As if"
- **30.** Allow to attack
- **31.** Mother of Apollo and Artemis
- **32.** Gaits that are slower than canters
- **33.** "Now!" for short

Down

- 1. Floor models
- 2. Build

- **3.** Gemstone used to make marbles
- 4. "But also..."
- **5.** Clean, as clothes
- **6.** Photogenic starforming region in "The Hunter" constellation
- 7. Nostalgic style
- 8. Pics
- 9. Zero out, as a scale
- **15.** Also
- 19. NYSE debut
- 20. Less nice
- **21.** Muse with a lyre that's an anagram of "orate"
- **23.** 1950s designer couple with an eponymous chair



- **24.** Niña, _____, and Santa María
- **25.** Mr. Dogg
- **26.** Good bagpiping wear
- **27.** Burlington, VT org. fighting homelessness

Grace Warrington
Editor-in-chief

An Interview With Our New Principal

The Hawks' Nest interviewed Katherine Riley, CVU's interim principal. She replaced Adam Bunting in the position at the start of the year, after he took up as the superintendent for our district.

The Hawks' Nest: What do you like about CVU?

Katherine Riley: I love the sense of community at CVU. I came to the high school in 1998 from a small school that was very tight knit. I thought I would lose that feeling in a big high school, and it did not take long for me to realize that I did not have to sacrifice community for greater opportunities.

HN: How did you come about being the interim principal?

KR: I've spent the previous twelve years as a House Director. When Adam was appointed superintendent, I wanted to ensure that the work we've been doing continued moving forward. I was also hoping that my move to interim principal would allow for a leadership transition with minimal disruption.

HN: How has the transition from your previous role to this one gone?

KR: Having worked in administration at CVU for so long, I have a depth of institutional knowledge and experience that is really helpful in my current role. However, after a couple of months, I realize how much of the job I was unaware of when I applied last spring. I'm enjoying coming to understand the breadth of the role and the different thinking that it requires.

HN: What are your goals for the school this year?

KR: I would like to expand my connection with our student body. I know the Snelling Core students from my previous role as their House Director. I also have relationships with students through Amnesty International, the Student Council and various interactions over the years. This year, I'd like to find ways to get to know student communities that I've spent less time with. If student groups are interested, I ask them to invite me to clubs or classes so that I can get to know their story, interests and recommendations to make CVU a strong community of learners.

HN: What type of culture would you like to see?

KR: I'd plan to continue our work in helping each student find a place of belonging at

CVU. We are a big school and that can make it challenging for everyone to feel like they truly have a place and a voice. How we do this is a challenge that requires input from our entire community in order to succeed.

HN: Do you have any hobbies that students might be interested to hear about?

KR: When I accepted the job of interim principal, I bought a very cool Adirondack pack boat which is a lightweight canoe/kayak hybrid. I bought my first kayak from a student in 1999 and I've been enjoying paddling ever since. My thinking in buying this new boat was that I could get out on the lake to reflect and reset while adjusting to this new role. The bonus of this boat is that my eighty pound pup can paddle with me. We spent a lot of time on the water, especially in August as I was considering what I wanted the year to feel and look like.



Katherine Riley, CVU's interim principal

Op-Ed

Jammie Bush Staff Writer

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become more and more prominent throughout recent years, especially when it comes to AI chatbots that plagiarize. An AI chatbot is a free artificial intelligent robot that you can ask questions. Though originally used for solving problems, AI now can write songs, edit videos, and recreate voices, sounds, and photos. It's scary to think about AI replacing jobs and making art and text barely distinguishable from our own!

In this article, AI will be put to the test against a human mind. ChatGPT 4.0 will be given the same prompt as a human writer with a limit of 100 words. The prompt was: "Are hotdogs considered a sandwich?"

AI- "The debate about whether a hotdog is a sandwich centers on how we define a sandwich. Traditionally, a sandwich consists of two slices of bread with a filling in between. A hotdog, however, uses a single split roll to encase a sausage, which blurs the line. Some argue that since a hotdog has a filling (the sausage) and bread, it technically qualifies as a sandwich. Others believe the unique shape and structure of a hotdog make it distinct. Ultimately, it comes down to

interpretation, with no definitive answer, though the U.S. National Hot Dog and Sausage Council says it's not."

Human- "The question of whether a hotdog is a sandwich sparks a lot of debate. Some say it fits the sandwich definition: it's meat between bread, right? But the structure of a hotdog complicates things. A sandwich typically involves two separate slices of bread, while a hotdog bun is one piece with a split. Others argue it's in a category of its own, more like a taco or a sub. Even the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council weighed in, saying a hotdog is its own thing. So while it has sandwich-like qualities, it's more than just a sandwich."

The similarities between artificial intelligence and human beings can be scary. AI's ability to write Shakespeare is terrifying. But, it's important to remember that, until AI becomes conscious and smarter than humans, it is limited to what we tell it to do.

Who answered the question better in your opinion? AI or human?

Arts

CVU Prepares for the Anticipated Footloose Musical

Willow Martin Staff Writer

Excitement is building at CVU, as the highly anticipated upcoming Footloose musical is in the works. With students practicing their lines, songs, and choreography, the cast and crew are working tirelessly to bring the musical to life as the performance date-November 15th -approaches faster than expected.

Under the direction of CVU Theatre Director Elisa Van Duyne, the musical Footloose is based on the 1984 film of the same name. The musical, like the film, is about a teenager moving to a small town that has banned dancing and rock music and his effort to overcome these constraints.

Van Duyne said she selected this production, in part, because the show featured a number of female leads. Also, she shared, "that I felt it was really very applicable still today. They mentioned banning of books in high school and about how religious groups can have implications in power over what is taught at schools and how the community makes decisions in governing. And as we can see across different states where there's Roe v. Wade or what books should be read at school, sometimes our religious beliefs can certainly have an effect on these decisions."

The show has already demonstrated an incredible amount of teamwork, practice,



Photo credit: Olivia Searson '26, Production Stage Manager Cast of the Fall Footloose Musical

and other technical elements - is already but balancing that with- 'is the school coming to life in the most exciting way and available on the Saturday that we want to the friendship and bond I feel with my fellow have cast members is bringing me so much joy and overwhelming." is making it just a little bit easier for me to get through this stressful time in the year."

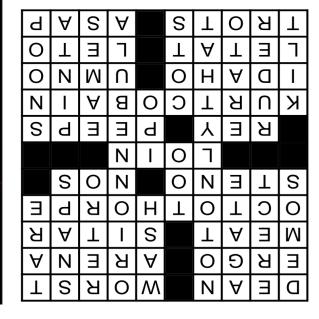
Asked about the challenging aspects of directing a performance like this, Van Duyne CVU, and every year at this time, a little after being a director. You oversee costumes, props, lighting, sound, set and you're juggling to be a part of this show, but also a part of a lot of details."

time, patience, and reward. As expressed by a She was quick to add, "The fun part is the senior in the production, Mira Novak '25, actual creative work, it's blocking, it's "The show - through acting, music, set design choreographing, it's being with these actors, rehearsal?'

Yet, these committed performers are grateful for the opportunity. As articulated by Novak, "This is my fourth time doing the musical at said "There is a lot of logistics involved in halfway into the production I am filled once again with so much gratitude that I am able this community."

Answers from Crossword

From page 3





The winning entry from the October 2024 CVU Photography Club Contest: Lio Miller '26

Cordelia Thomas Sports Editor

Cross Country

Expectations are high for the CVU Cross Country teams this year. The girls' team seeks to defend their 2023 State and New England Championship titles. Once again, the Hawks have started off strong, led by team captains Annalise Wood '25, Eloise Durant '25, Dylan Elder '25, and Charlie Garavelli '25.

Both teams have had a successful run so far, coming in third at the Northern Vermont Athletic Conference cross country championships. The boys have placed highly in competitions so far. As of October 2nd, the boys were ranked 2nd in Vermont. Just as they did last year, the girls continue to impress with their speed. After starting the season off ranked 25th in the nation, they have managed to live up to the hype by remaining 1st in Vermont, as of October 2nd.

Coach **Dave Baird** commented that the team is "...focused on repeating as State and New England Champions, and we're working hard to try to earn a spot to the national meet in December."

Volleyball

Both girls and boys volleyball is off to a strong start this year.



Photo credit: Yutong Li One of boys' JV volleyball teams against Vermont Commons School earlier this month.

Sports

Led by senior captains **Johnathan Deyo '25**, **Justin Bokan '25**, and **Jackson Dubois '25**, the boys' Varsity volleyball team is currently holding strong with a 9-2 record at the time of publication. Their two losses came from top seed South Burlington.

The girls' team is holding strong with a current 9-3 record, winning all of their athome games. With several games left in their season, any big win among top seeds could shift the rankings in their favor.

No coach comments available to the paper at press time, but senior libero **Drew Farmer** '25 is noted in the Burlington Free Press as a top player to watch, and is backed by a strong, older team of all juniors and seniors.

Coaches from the Volleyball program shared that the teams held their 2nd annual Serve-athon fundraiser on Saturday, October 5th. Over sixty players from six teams participated by completing 25 serves after raising pledges from the community.

Afterwards they played a co-ed tournament and had a family BBQ. A good time was had by all. Some of the funds raised will be donated to the Vermont Flood Relief effort as well as Hurricane Helene Relief.

Field Hockey

The CVU field hockey team has had a strong season so far. At the time of this publication, the current record stands at 8-3-1, with the tie coming from an upset game against the number 1 team, Rice Memorial High School.

Although Rice was projected to win, the Hawks managed to hold them for four quarters as well as an overtime period, showing their potential to remain steady against tough opponents. With this year's line up, wins among the top-ranked seeds could shift the ranking in the Hawks' favor.

Head coach **Tucker Pierson** commented in early October: "The playoffs in Vermont FH are interesting. It's a small group of Division 1 teams, and there are a few top teams who are all competitive and we are in that mix. We are currently ranked #4, but there are still a few weeks until playoffs start and the rankings could change. I'm always optimistic about our season!"

Golf



Photo credit: Nate Makay CVU Girls' Golf's win this year's Division 1 State Championship: Coach Christopher Hood, Captain Ryan Sleeper '25, Riley Dunn '27, Rylee Makay '27, and Stella Rakochy '26 (left to right).

CVU's girls and boys golf program has had a remarkably successful year. The boys took home the Division 1 State Championship title on October 10th, winning by one stroke.

A strong group of juniors including, Cooper Guerriere '26, Camden Ayer '26, and Jack Bryan '26, have contributed to this year's season. Throughout this season, the boys remain dialed in and focused on their collective goal. As head coach Seth Emerson put it, "Hanging a banner is what these guys want to do!"

The girls program also had an incredible season this year, winning their first Division 1 State Championship on October 8th. The team is headed by one of the top D1 players, Captain Ryan Sleeper '25 and the senior leadership of CB Stackpole-McGrath '25 and Elizabeth Parent '25.

A few of their top scorers include junior Stella Rakochy '26 and the pair of sophomores Riley Dunn '27 and Rylee Makay '27. This depth and variety of ages adds many different perspectives and skill sets to the team.

The State Championship was held at Burlington Country Club, which is known as being a tough one to play and challenges even top players. As remarkable as this season has been, for these ladies, it isn't just about the championship title.

Cordelia Thomas Sports Editor

Golf

Head coach Christoper Hood said, "At the end of the day, with or without a state title, I know that currently this team enjoys the sport they're playing, and they will hopefully enjoy this social and physical activity well into the future. Golf is a lifelong sport for many, and these girls are developing the skills they need to be able to continue playing for a long time to come."

Football

The CVU football team has been working hard to reclaim their momentum ever since their semi-final defeat last season, and reclaim it they have.

At the time of publication, the Hawks are currently undefeated, scoring touchdown after touchdown on multiple opponents. They crushed St. Johnsbury 55-6 during week 5, and previously took out Essex 52-

The boy's biggest competition is Burr and Burton, whom they beat on October 10th at 41-3. This is the team that took them out of championship contention last year.

The Burlington Free Press shared a list of and backed by a strong midfield and players to watch at the start of the season, including senior captains Chase Leonard '25 and Jacob Armstrong '25. Coach Rahn Fleming said, "We have a very potent offense and a very stubborn defense. Special teams head us up well at every kickoff."





CVU Varsity Football at Essex High School on September 7th

Soccer

CVU girl's soccer came out strong this year, and are heading into the end of their season undefeated at press time. The girls successfully shut down team after team, denying both goals and possession to their opponents. After a heartbreaking first round loss following an undefeated season last year, this year's Hawks are determined not to let history repeat itself.

Led by lead scorer Rieanna Murray '25 defense, there is never a weak link on the field. Number 2 seed, Essex is a tough rival, but the Hawks beat them in September. The Hawks will face Essex again on October 18th, the final regular season game.



CVU Varsity Football at Colchester High School on September 13th

Coach Stan Williams has pride: "...this is an incredibly fun group to coach. While they are certainly talented, it is the chemistry and energy that is so fun to be around and a small part of. This group seems to have the ability to bring the best out in each other and I think that is our greatest strength!"

The boys varsity team is 12-2 overall at the time this paper went to press, winning their last three games. In their last three games, they have outscored their opponents 13-1.

Although no coach comments were available to the paper at press time, the Burlington Free Press notes Mason Barron '26 as an unsung hero of the midfield for boys soccer. Coach Shane Bufano commented to the Free Press: "He's made a big impact because he wins a lot of balls in midfield, and has the ability to drive and put pressure on other midfielders to start an attack."

Seniors captains Ziggy Babbott '25, Miles Bergeson '25, Ajak Dau '25 will help lead the charge in their upcoming games with South Burlington High School, Colchester High School and Essex High School.

The Hawks' Nest

Continued from page 1

journalistic work (e.g. Essex's news site The Hive and Mt. Mansfield Union High School with Paw Print).

The newspaper is being run through a C3 time (every Tuesday in the Main Office Classroom) along with an after-school contingent. The initial issues may be varied by way of when they come out, but we will attempt to settle into a monthly schedule by winter. Please drop by, and we will always welcome new members!

The importance for a school newspaper is stressed by Club advisor Justin Chapman: "It's a civic necessity. It's integral to the functioning of any democratic institution, including and especially public schools. I'm not sure if you're aware of this or not, but the state of Vermont has even passed laws protecting the sanctity of student journalists in secondary schools. That makes it very difficult for administrations to suppress student speech. There's a reason Jefferson referred to the press as the fourth pillar of American Democracy."

Killer of the Eve

Fiona Carpenter Staff Writer

How would you describe your stomach now, on this dark and scary night, All Hallows' Eve

lurks among us, in days soon to arise, a wail, a scream, a cry, a yell, from inside stomach turning still, I wonder...

can you hear their screams, and sobs, their wails, and sniveling, can you hear their sorrow...

pushing through your ribs, do you know that you are trapped,

to walk the earth, full of ghosts, you cannot rid

Halloween Comic



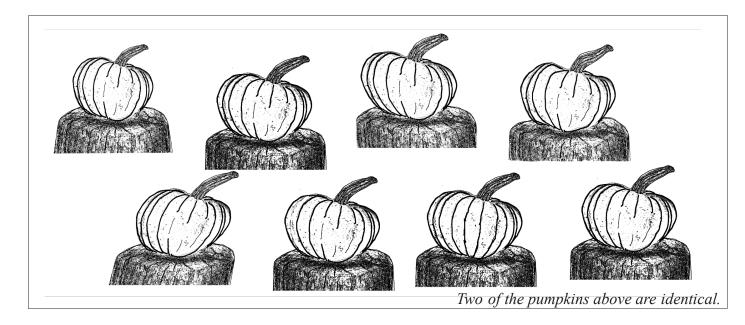




Lily Gruber

Managing Editor

Find the Match



Fall word search

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Ε	А	Ν	В	М	Н	Ε	D	Т	\subset	R	А	J	М	Ε	Т	Z	\subset
Р	0	Υ	G	0	D	А	Ν	Ν	0	U	G	А	\times	G	S	А	0
F	I	Ε	Υ	I	G	R	L	I	R	Υ	Z	Н	W	А	Ε	А	R
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×	Ε	Υ	F	٧	К	0	0	W	U	G	М	J	F	W	Z	Z	А
Υ	А	В	٧	L	٧	U	F	М	J	L	Z	Ρ	Ε	٧	Ε	×	I

Apple Equinox
Autumnal Foliage
Cider Football
Corn Halloween
Cornucopia Harvest

Hayride Maze Pie Pumpkin Thanksgiving

October Sudoku

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

Happy Autumn to all of our readers! Thank you to CVU!

Halloween Trivia

In 2009, what was the first music video to be introduced to the Library of Congress's National Film Registry?

How was the creaking coffin sound achieved in Monster Mash?

Where did the Addams family, and thereby its theme song, get its original inspiration?

For what holiday did the composer of "I put a spell on you" first performing this ghoulish version of the song?

What famous music video does Rihanna nod to in her own video for "Disturbia"?

5. Michael Jackson's Thriller

4. Christmas

by Charles Samuel Addams.

3. The show was inspired by a cartoon created

2. By pulling a rusty nail out of wood

1. Michael Jackson's Thriller