

# Hopewell Hi-Lites

1215 Longvue Avenue, Hopewell, PA

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## Hey Hopewell What Are You Thankful For?

BY LEIA DAY



Josh Progar "Friends, family, sports, and Marlee"



Mr. Samek "Faith, family, friends, health, pets, seasons, education and the ability to learn."



Marissa Miller "Family, friends, pets, sisters, food and music"



Ms. Barr "Coffee, family, sunshine, Jeeps and Santoro's Pizza."



Adam Ware "Family, friends and food"



Laney Lewis "Family, friends and softball"



Mrs. Sill "My family, children, health, great place to work, great students and co-workers."



Mr. Mohrbacher "Health, job, family and students."



Aubryanna Scranton "Time off from school, food, education, roof over my head and opportunities."

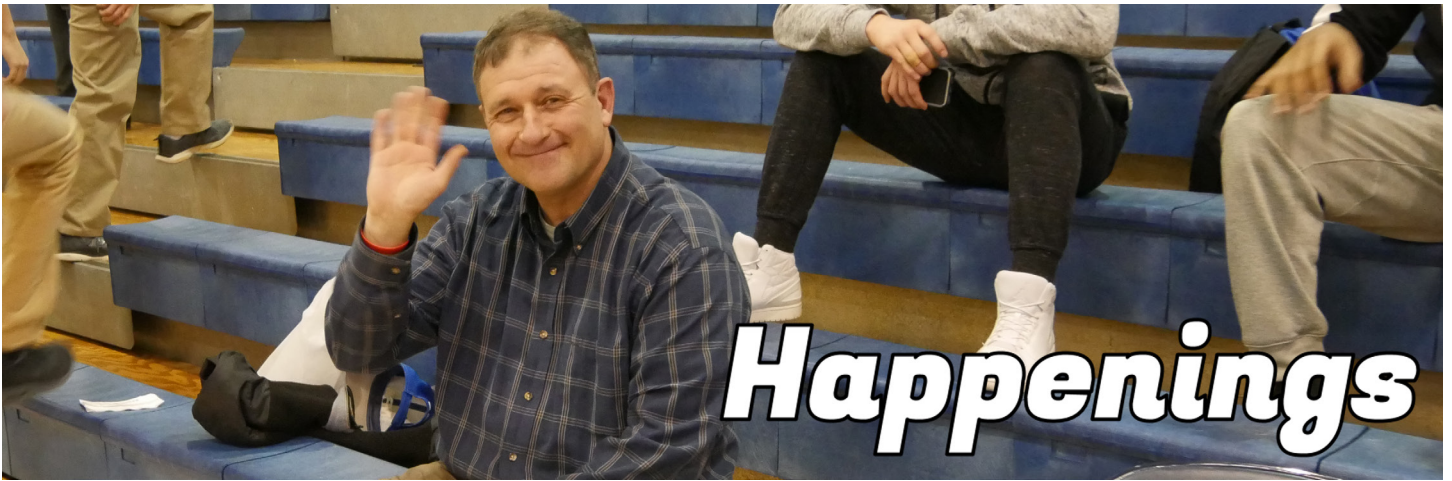
### What's Inside.....

Happenings	2-5
Sports	6
Voices	7
Culture	8-12

Dirty Water	3
Black Friday	4
S.O.M	5

Winter Sports	6
Guide to Semi	8
Crossword	11





# Nothing *Short* of Spectacular

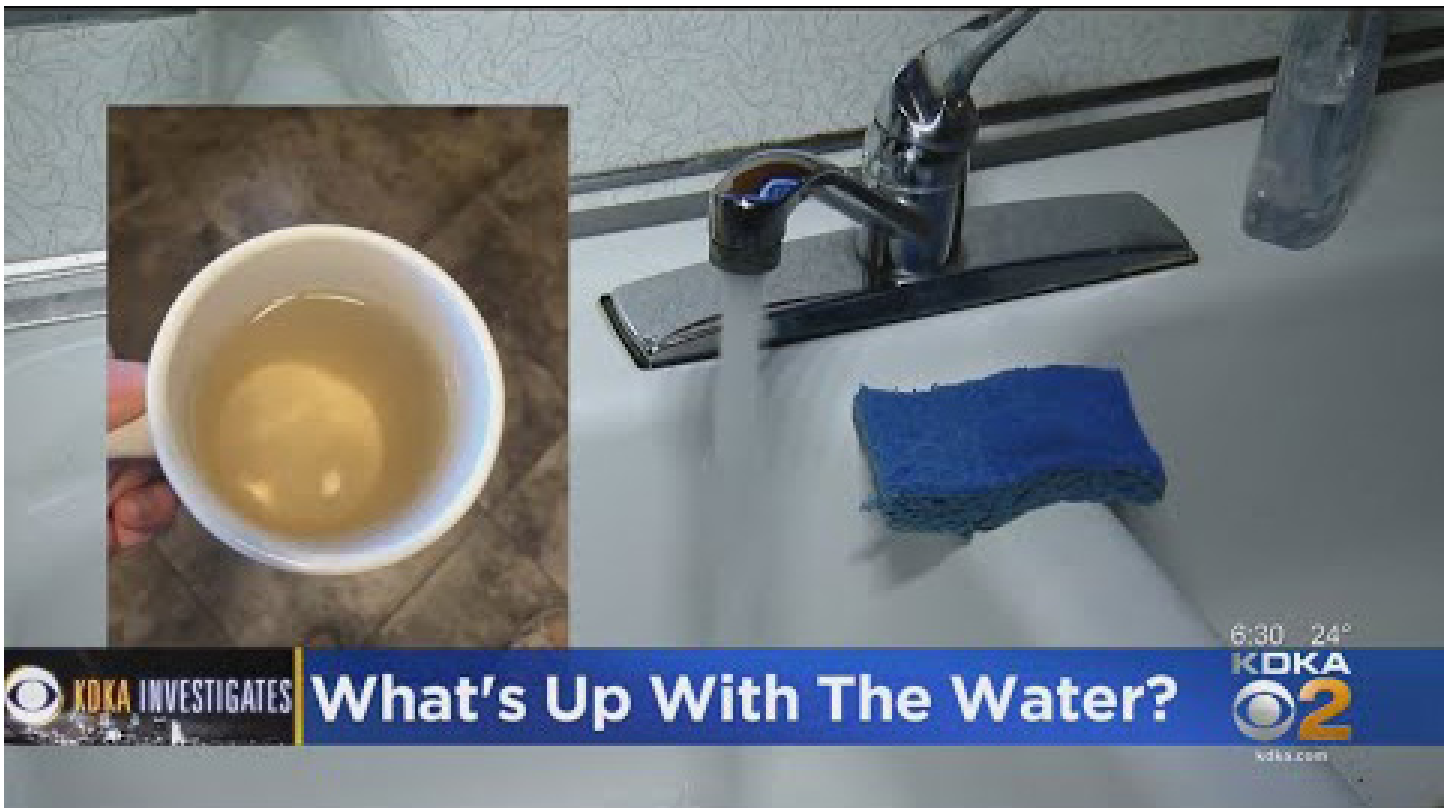
BY:LEIA DAY

Congratulations to Hopewell's athletic director, Mr. Don Short who was named the Pennsylvania Region IV Athletic Director of the Year. "Im very ecstatic and shocked that my peers think that highly of me" says Mr. Don Short.

Hopewell's staff and students are very proud of the hard work and dedication Mr. Short has shown in his responsibilities. Mr. Mohrbacher, soccer coach at the highschool says, "People give Mr. Short a hard time, but he is great at his job. He always has my back."

This award is just another example of how hard work and determination can lead to great accomplishments.





# Drink it If You Dare

BY AUBRYANNA SCRANTON

Imagine paying up to \$75 a month for dirt-brown tainted water. Water you drink, wash your dishes in, and brush your teeth with. In Aliquippa, residents face almost weekly struggles when after every storm they turn on the sink to find a grimey unappealing fluid.

So your water is brown. Why is this happening? The discoloration of the water is the result of it being mixed with minerals and things such as iron and manganese. When the iron mixes with the chlorine in the water (used to clean it) this makes the water turn brown. As for the sediment and dirt that is visible from time to time, this can be chalked up to water line breaks.

Kaidyn Plopi, an employee from a Wendy's located in Aliquippa, can recall multiple occasions when staff had to deal with dirty unusable water. "We had this one day that the water was really bad. Not only was it brown, but there was a notice out that we couldn't use it, so we couldn't make lemonade and we

couldn't use pop machines." As a fast food restaurant, serving beverages along with food is standard. It's also something less inclined to happen when the water is contaminated.

For those of you thinking, "Okay, so the water is a little brown, so what?"

Well, while the idea of showering in brown water may not bother you, there are also side effects from using grubby water all the time. Washing your face with water like this is terrible for your skin. Essentially, you are just rubbing additional dirt and sediment into your skin. The same can be said for the shower. When consuming the water, if it is especially bad, you can suffer from unpleasant stomach problems.

In finding a solution to the problem, people have spoken out. Some have even voiced their outrage by creating a facebook page called "Aliquippa's Water Issues". The group has over 600 members, and they feel very passionately about the problem. The page states, "It seemed

more feasible to create a group for all of us to share our problems, stories, pictures and videos. This will also be extremely beneficial as we try to obtain a law firm to take our class action lawsuit."

As for the water authorities, they've asked everyone to remain patient to the problem. Replacing water lines is a process; it takes time and it takes money. For the residents of Aliquippa, however, with their already thinning patience it may be hard to view the glass as half full.



Courtesy of Aliquippa Water Issues Facebook page





# Black Friday Deals

BY: KAIDYN PLOPI

Black Friday can be one of the most exciting and nerve racking times to shop. Customers want to save money on electronics and Christmas gifts. Stores are always competing when it comes to this holiday, this can go as far as deals and prices to start times and shipping.

This chaotic shopping event usually starts on Thanksgiving day and goes on through Friday. Most stores have “pre-sales” leading up to this, along with having Cyber Monday. Many stores focus on electronics and high demand items.

Walmart’s Black Friday sales start at 6pm on Thanksgiving day. Expect deals on the Xbox One X bundle and the Playstation 4 Pro bundle, saving shoppers from \$120-\$125. The iPad 7th generation will be on sale for \$275, which is \$55 cheaper. Walmart will also give \$300 store gift cards with the activation of new Apple phones. This store will have free shipping on online orders with a minimum of \$35.

Target has some competing deals for Black Friday. Walmart tends to top them with better smartphone sales, but that won’t stop Target from having some of the best HDTV discounts. This store begins their sales at 6pm on Thanksgiving day. They also have the Xbox one X bundle and Playstation 4 Pro bundle saving customers from \$120-\$130. Target will have a Nintendo Switch bundle for \$250, which is \$100 less than its regular price. Power Beats wireless pro headphones will be marked down \$60 cheaper, along

with the FitBit Versa 2. Target has free shipping online with no minimum.

Best Buy starts their Black Friday sales at 5pm on Thanksgiving day. Starting with Xbox One X and Playstation 4 Pro bundle sales, saving shoppers up to \$150. These bundles also come with Best Buy gift cards. Best Buy can save customers up to \$300 on new smartphone activations. The Fit-Bit Versa 2 will be on sale for \$139, which is \$80 cheaper than the regular price. Best Buy also has free shipping on online orders with no minimum.

These stores have been competing for years when it comes to Black Friday deals, now it’s up to the customers to decide which store won this holiday.



*Images courtesy of google*

# Students of the Month

BY PAYTON ROCK

## Kara DiNardo

This month's upperclassman student of the Month is Kara DiNardo. Like our underclassman Student of the Month, Kara is the president of her respective class. With becoming president, you can feel a multitude of emotions. In Kara's words, "I'm happy to be my classes president because I like taking up that leadership role and being somebody that other people in my class can rely on."

Kara is also extremely active and participates in activities like softball and soccer. Other activities include student council and NHS. She isn't

just a member of NHS though, she is the NHS induction coordinator. In addition to being the class of 2020's president, she is also the number one student.

"I want to be a pharmacist because they help people, and I want to be someone that makes a difference in the world." Kara's saying this as she mentions her future plans.

Some fun facts you may not know about our upperclassman student of the month is that her favorite superhero is Spiderman. As a fan of Bruster's ice-cream, her favorite ice-cream flavor is Graham Central Station.



## Greg Barlion

Greg Barlion is the underclassman student of the month this November. He can be described as a real musician with all of his band-related activities. Jazz band, concert band, and marching band are just a few activities Greg participates in. Though he only intended on joining jazz band, Greg joined the others because marching band and concert band just came with it.

Despite how busy Greg is, he keeps a balance of school and after school activities. "I have a little calendar on my phone," Greg said, "I don't really use it much but I'll use it for activities."

Greg is also thinking ahead to college. He plans on going to an ivy league school, such as Harvard. As the president of his class, Greg wants to get into politics when he's older. "I feel like I could genuinely make a difference in the world," Greg mentioned this as he described why he was interested in going into a political direction.



## **EDITORS-IN-CHIEF:**

Leia Day  
Patty Butcher

## **EDITORS**

Front Page  
Madeline Luke

Happenings  
Madi Pascia  
Regina Hafner

Voices  
Aubryanna Scranton  
Payton Rock

Sports  
Nadia Reyna  
Kaidyn Plopi

Culture  
Meghan Parrish  
Olivia Guzma

SPONSOR  
Mr. Mohrbacher





# Winter Sports Preview

BY: MEGHAN PARRISH

## Boys Basketball

With all fall sports coming to an end, we get to take a look into the upcoming Boy's Basketball season. "Since last March when the season ended, we have been in the gym every week, working on our skills and fundamentals as well lots of defense and footwork. Primarily, working a lot on our man-to-man defense and working on our opponents and their different styles of press defense," says second-year head coach Drew Falletta.

With the preseason workouts and practices, Falletta is optimistic. "I am excited for all of these guys on our team! These guys have really bought into what I want our culture to be, which is a physical and fundamentally sound program--an old school Hopewell basketball brand of basketball." In one word, Falletta describes his players as "physical".

As the team practices to perform for the season, some players are preparing to say goodbye to Hopewell basketball forever. Senior Rocco Scipione says, "The thing I am going to miss the most about the sport is being with my teammates everyday for practice and the atmosphere in the locker room before games with them." In one word, Scipione describes his last 4 years as "memorable".

Although junior Roman Gill is sad to say goodbye to his senior friends and teammates, he will be stepping into the leader position next year. "I am ready to help my teammates, work hard, and hopefully bring winning back to Hopewell basketball." In one word, Gill describes his team as "improving".

Make sure to stay updated their season and show support to Scipione and his fellow seniors as they say goodbye.

BY: MADELINE LUKE

## Swimming

Last school year, the Hopewell's High School girl's swim team won section champs, and many of the swimmers on the team made it to MACS, WPIALS, and States.

With any start of a new school year comes a change in the swimmers on the team, such as the amount of swimmers on the team. Molly Shrum, a swimmer on the team, said "Well as a whole, we have more boys this year" and there is an increase in the amount of boy and girl swimmers on the team. Along with an increase in the amount of swimmers this year, there has also been a change in the coaching staff. So the team is run a little differently this year. "So far they seem a bit more strict and they have introduced different sets to us but it's too early in the season to tell specifically."

With how good the swim team did last year, it is important for the team to try to sustain their victories, while still making the sport fun. This includes mandatory two hour practices everyday after school and some three hour Saturday practices that include swimming and dry land workouts. Molly also said that "I feel like some of the team's goals are to try and hold up the level that was set last year and win the section again, but it's still important to have a little fun while working hard"

With all the hard work the swim team plans to do, the swim team should have no problem doing good this year. Good luck! Winter Sports Preview



Botcce:



Boys Wrestling:



Girls Basketball:



Gymnastics:



Not Pictured: Swimming and Bowling





# Is The *Joker* Movie Dangerous?

BY REGINA HAFNER

Love or hate clowns there is one that has remained infamous since the 1940s. The clown prince of crime, *Joker*. *Joker* is Todd Phillips latest film centering on the *Joker* aka Arthur Fleck's origin story before he became Batman's biggest rival.

When critics and reviewers left TIFF also known as Toronto International Film Festival some were fearing that *Joker* may cause an act of actual act of violence. **Warning: This will contain spoilers for *Joker*!**

The film shows *Joker* (Joaquin Phoenix) shooting three men, suffocating his own mother to death, stabbing his so called "best friend" with scissors, and finally shooting his idol on live television. All equalled out to a weird cultish movement to persuade people not to elect Thomas Wayne (Bruce Wayne's father). So yes, the film is very violent but this wouldn't actually happen in real life right? Apparently wrong.

Users on social media were posting that they would replicate a theater shooting that happened in Aurora, Colorado during a screening of *Joker*. After these threats were made police gathered around theaters more.

And it's not just threats, it's how Arthur is portrayed to be. Arthur is played out to be what Stephanie Zacharek says "...the troubled lamb; he just hasn't had enough love." We are supposed to feel sorry for Arthur and the society he lives in where he never gets a chance.

Yet, he is still murdering people and blaming people for his own issues.

Director Todd Phillips and Joaquin Phoenix have responded to these comments in a *Vanity Fair* article saying "We're making a movie about a fictional character in a fictional world, ultimately, and your hope is that people take it for what it is" and then went on to say "I don't think it's the responsibility of a filmmaker to teach the audience moral-

ity or the difference between right or wrong."

Movies and films do influence us in ways, however *Joker* is just an exaggeration of someone who feels unloved in their society, that's why it's set in a fictional world with superheroes. But there's room to see it on both sides. At the end of the day you can choose your own opinion of the criminal movie *Joker*.





# Culture

## How To Semi: A Guide

BY: OLIVIA GUZMA

With Thanksgiving and Christmas quickly approaching, thoughts of Hopewell's Semi Dance begin to fill student's minds. High school students only get a few chances to dress to impress. If you want to rock the red carpet at Semi, then check out this guide on how to semi.

Girls, forget about the boys, your dress is the most important factor of an unforgettable semi. Most girls say they like to wear darker dress colors in the winter. This year deep olive and burgundy are some popular shades. Another trend is for your semi dress to be shorter rather than long and flowy. Girls usually save the long gowns for prom.

If you want to go all out this year on your dress you should go to Ribbon Bridal in Beaver, PA. The dress

shop is closing so most of the dresses there are on sale or marked down. Another more expensive store for your perfect dress is One Enchanted Evening in Zelienople, PA.

If you are on a budget or just don't want to spend that much money on a dress, here are some more affordable shops. A good store is Windsor in The Mall At Robinson. They have a wide variety and lots of different styles. Lastly, Nordstrom Ross Park in Pittsburgh, PA has very trendy and inexpensive dresses.

Boys, the proposal. You need to ask someone to be your date. Your semi-posal can be sweet and short or romantic and loving. You can simply just go as friends or you can ask your girlfriend or boyfriend to go with you.

Making a sign with a cute quote or saying is the trendiest way of asking your special someone to the semi. Maybe get your "date-to-be" a pair of fuzzy socks, or chocolates and candy, or flowers- whatever they like. With this tip they won't be able to resist but to say yes.

Semi is always a night to remember. You only get a handful of chances to go. With all these helpful hints you will make semi one of the best nights of your life. Semi might mean "half," but this year make a full-on night of fun.

Make a memory this December. Make Semi special. Ask that girl. Wear that dress. Enjoy high school while it lasts.

## HOLLY JOLLY FESTIVITIES

BY: PATRICIA BUTCHER

With the Christmas season soon approaching, so do all the activities that come along with it. Bundle up and try one of these holiday festivities!

Everyone loves a good Thanksgiving dinner, but here in Pittsburgh, skating around the Christmas tree at PPG Place is what we really look forward too. Whether you're going on a first date or just a day with the family, you can't go wrong with Ice Skating. Holiday skating opens on Friday, Nov. 22 at 11:00am. But if you want to see the official light up ceremony of the tree, stop by that night for an experience you'll never forget.

Speaking of light up nights. On Friday, November 29, Beaver will be hosting its Light Up Night Festival. Go enjoy an evening of holiday

entertainment and attractions in beautiful downtown Beaver. The holiday parade starts at 5pm followed by train rides, carriage rides and many more activities throughout the downtown.

Looking for a good Christmas tree? Well head down to Hozak's farm located in Hookstown Pa. They have everything from Blue Spruce to a Douglas Fur. After your done picking out your tree head into their gift shop and settle down for a nice warm cup of hot coco. A great opportunity for a day out in the countryside during the holiday season.

Another close-to-home activity right next door is Clinton lights. Take a stroll or a nice car ride and go see the wonderful Christmas light displays. If you feel like you missed

some, go for another drive through! After all Christmas lights really bring out the holiday cheer!

Not close to home, but worth the drive is Oglebay resort in Wheeling WV.. Beginning in 1985, the Winter Festival of Lights has grown into one of the nation's largest holiday light shows, attracting more than one million visitors each year. The Winter Festival of Lights features three hundred acres of sparkling lights over a 6-mile drive. So buckled up and prepare yourself for an amazing light show. After head into the resort lovey for a picture with Santa, a cup of hot coco, and a live band.

Spread the Christmas cheer with your family or that special someone and make this holiday one you won't forget.



# ARC OF SCYTHE REVIEW

BY: NADIA REYNA

The *Arc of Scythe Trilogy* is a young adult novel written by Neil Shusterman. A world where no one can die and everything is at peace. The only thing that can kill you is a Scythe. The story takes place in a world where everyone is treated equally apart from the Scythes who are higher than any being on earth. Citra and Rowan however find this perfect world they live in, isn't so peaceful at all.

The story takes place as soon as the characters are introduced. Citra and Rowan each encounter a Scythe in different circumstances never actually having one in their lives. Soon after, they become apprentices where they now have to learn the *Art of Killing* or, for a more humane verb, "Gleaning." As these stories go, a distinctive amount have some pro's and con's.

## CONS

\*The world is better explained in the second book *Thunderhead* but still leaves a few unanswered questions. Two years have passed between the books. In the first book you're told of the "Thunderhead", an entity that's almost god like. But even in the second book when he gets a chance to speak, you still have no idea what it actually is, where did it come from, and why is it only technology based but still has its own mind? It leaves more religious readers left with questions.

\*\*"Scythe," the first book, introduces an almost cultist-like group called "Tonist". Most readers complained that the idea of Tonist wasn't exactly explained and had no purpose in the story line. The only thing you get is they don't like the idea of immortality, and do extreme things to achieve their goal of mortality. They also "pray" to the great Tuning Fork and hang it everywhere like a cross. In most cases it's useless, but it could serve as people filling in prayer to an entity that might not exist.

\*A more personal matter that some of the readers notice when they pick up the book. The Genre



Covers belong to Neil Shusterman from his website [simonandshuster.com](http://simonandshuster.com)

where the book was placed was at "Young Adult Love" meaning there was more romance in the book than anything. Further reading in the series there's more action than anything. Even in the one scene where love came across, it seemed awkward and lasted only a paragraph almost like Neil didn't want to write it. It's the same with the second book. The romance lasts a paragraph and goes right back to the action. The genre should be more "Adventure and Action" then "Young Adult Love." But maybe Neil has something in mind for the third book.

## PROS

\*In every chapter in the first book, there is a journal entry they call their "Gleaning Journal", something all scythes must have and write every day. It gives background and feelings to those who don't have much emotion or refuse to show it due to their persona. It's a method to make you feel empathy towards them for their job they didn't choose to have.

\*The action is very forward and only last a few paragraphs. When two characters are in a fight, it's very clear on who's throwing the punches and wielding a sword. You know what's happening and who's winning without all the details of every cut and bruise. There's also moments where Neil makes it purposely spine chilling where the reader can't put the book down because they have to see what happens next!

\*All the books are told in third person meaning you're not really inside the characters mind, but the fears and tensions of a character are still there when something is happening. Neil doesn't need to explain their emotions. Just reading their movements makes the reader feel for them. Almost like the reader is the book! Another pro on this fact is that random characters appear out of nowhere. You're given little background on how they might be feeling, then all of a sudden action, and or maybe death to someone you just met. It's a personal message to prepare the reader for the real world.

Overall, the books come with great care and love as all books should be. Everything has a downside, even really good books. But sometimes the author, such as Neil Shusterman, makes those mysteries for a reason. After all, there is one more book that just came out on November 5th called "The Toll" which is supposed to be the conclusion of the series. Many readers were jumping with joy and ripping them off the shelves. He's created other books such as "Unwind", "Challenger Deep", "Unwholly", "Everlost" and many more. The style of his writing is very deep and brings all teenagers looking to escape the real world.



# Skin Care For (F)ALL!

BY: PATRICIA BUTCHER

Ah fall. Autumn leaves, pumpkin pie, apple cider, sweaters, and Thanksgiving dinner. But with all those wonderful things comes the transition from summer to fall. As we change into the chilly season, our skin tends to change with us.

The number one key to keeping your skin bright and glowing through the fall is to Moisturize! Moisturize! Moisturize! Dehydration can do more than just leave your skin feeling dry and tight—it can dull your complexion too... for women and men. Here are some tips and tricks to keep everyone's skin looking luminous.

## Lips-

There's nothing worse than the feeling of chapped lips. And no matter what you do, not being able to get that chapped feeling to go away. Well don't worry! Give those smoochers a break and listen up to your solution!

At least twice a week use a lip scrub. You can use a homemade scrub with the simple ingredients such as honey and sugar, or, cinnamon, honey, and olive oil. Two remedies that are sure to leave your lips as soft as a baby's bottom.

When you're not using your new lip scrubs, always make sure to have chapstick on you at all times! Some of the best hydrators are Burt's Bees (\$3.27), Blistex Complete Moisture Lip Protectant (\$4.28) or Vaseline Lip Therapy (\$2.55). Always keep your Lip Balm in a convenient place - in your car,

in your purse, or in your coat pocket - so you'll never find yourself without it. Your lips will thank you.

## Body-

Ditch the soap. Fragrant soapy scrubs might feel (and smell) wonderful after a day at the pool, but they leave your skin dry. With fall arriving, switch to a soap-free hydrating cleanser. It's time to put away the gels and bring out the creamy body wash!

Switching your body wash also means switching your lotion to cream. As the air becomes drier, your skin needs a thicker moisturizer. Creams provide a stronger oily barrier, which means they both reduce water loss from the outer layer of skin and provide hydration to this layer of skin at the same time. Some of the best are found at a local store; Jergens Ultra Healing Extra Dry Skin (\$5.84), Aveeno Daily Moisturizing with Oat for Dry Skin (\$8.68), Gold Bond Ultimate Healing Cream with Aloe (\$7.74) and Aveeno Non-Greasy Creamy Moisturizing Body Oil for Dry Skin (\$6.58).

## Face-

The most important part of any skin care routine is your face. Just like any other part of your body, keeping your face hydrated is of high importance. If there's one theme to an awesome fall skincare ritual, it's hydration. And what better way than to drink water? You heard me right ladies and gentlemen. The most simple thing we do our everyday lives can save us the rough itchi-

ness of dry skin. Drinking plenty of water will help give your skin an internal boost of moisture and help your body stay hydrated. Fill up that water bottle and keep it with you throughout your day so you can feel great, and look great!

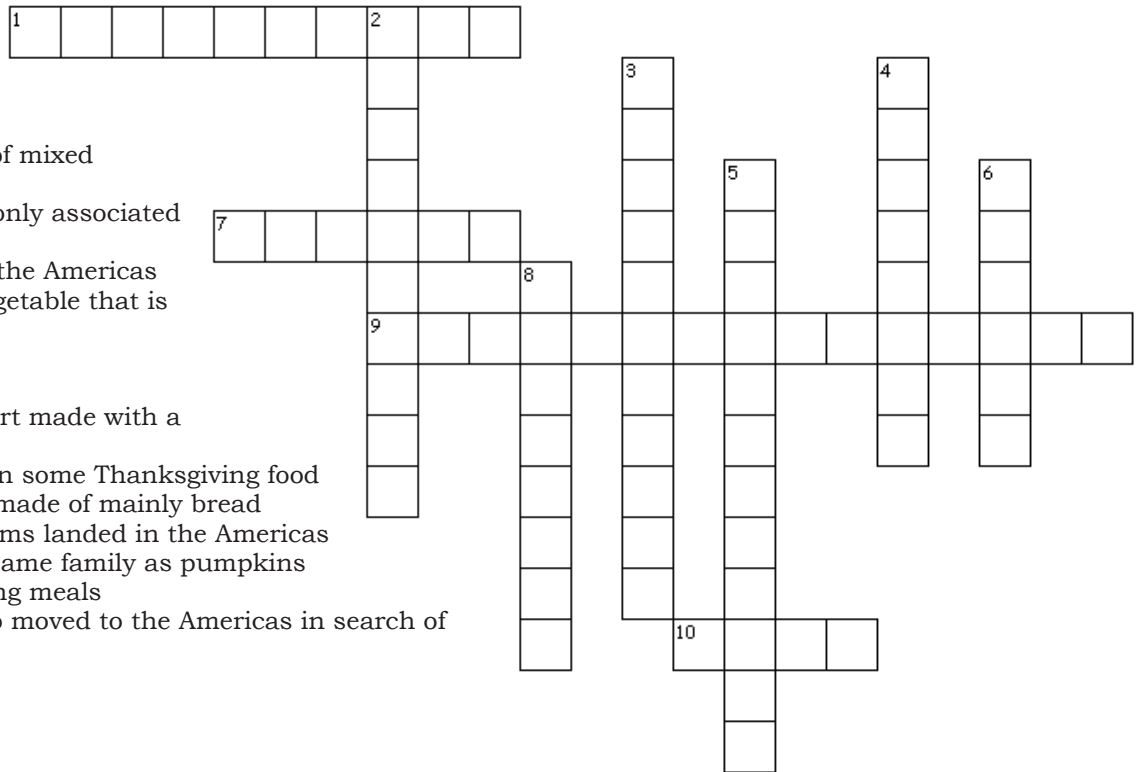
Another amazing way to keep your skin looking radiant is to use a proper facial cream with SPF. SPF stands for "Sun Protectant Factor", which is a product that is used in sunscreen to help protect your skin from UVB rays. Not only is it important to wear it while you're relaxing in the sun, but also to wear it when playing in the leaves. The sun never rests! Now this doesn't mean you have to wear sunscreen all year round. There are many types of facial cream that have SPF infused into it. Some of the best dermatologist recommended are; Olay complete moisturizer with SPF (\$8.47), L'Oreal Paris Collagen Moisture Filler Facial Day Night Cream (\$8.98), Neutrogena Hydro Boost Hydrating Water Gel Face Moisturizer (\$16.97) and Ponds Face Cream Dry Skin (\$6.88). For best results, use your moisturizer in the morning and at night.

Remember that anytime you add a product or change your routine, your skin will need time to adapt. Use your new routine for at least two weeks before determining that it's not working. Before you know it you'll have that summer glow again! Only this time you'll be wearing a warm sweater instead of a new bikini!



# Crossword Puzzle

BY MADDIE LUKE



Across

1. Basket with a batch of mixed foods in it
7. Animal that is commonly associated with Thanksgiving
9. Indigenous people of the Americas
10. Yellow and green vegetable that is on a cob

Down

2. A Thanksgiving dessert made with a Halloween decoration
3. A type of berry used in some Thanksgiving food
4. A Thanksgiving dish made of mainly bread
5. Place where the Pilgrims landed in the Americas
6. A fruit that is in the same family as pumpkins and used in Thanksgiving meals
8. English colonists who moved to the Americas in search of Religious freedoms

# Thanksgiving Facts

BY MADISON PASCIA

Family and feasting, Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to appreciate blessings and eat a ton of good food! Sure, Thanksgiving is great, but have you ever wondered something like how much turkey is eaten in a year? Maybe you have! These are some fun thanksgiving facts.

Today, Thanksgiving is thought of as a fun tradition. In reality, Thanksgiving has been celebrated for a very long time! The first Thanksgiving, ever, was celebrated in the year 1691 and lasted three whole days! Most historians also believe that there were only five women present at this great feast. Historians, also, believe that there were around 50 Pilgrims and 90 Wompanoag Indians.

Turkey is the main course of our modern Thanksgiving, but there was no turkey to feast upon at the first Thanksgiving feast! Rather

than the classic turkey, according to historians, they feasted upon duck, geese, lobsters, eel, oysters, and other fish! They also most likely ate pumpkins, but not the pumpkin pie many love today. The feast has definitely evolved over time!

About 46 million turkeys are eaten every Thanksgiving! That's a lot of turkey!

Most people know of and/or watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, but this iconic parade actually began not too long ago. The parade only began running in 1924! That isn't too long ago! During this parade, 400 employees marched from Covent Ave to 145th Street in New York City. This parade is also known for its large balloons. However, there were no balloons at the first parade! The parade featured live animals from the Central Park Zoo.

Thanksgiving is known as a holiday, but it hasn't always been

that. Thanksgiving wasn't officially a holiday until Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it as such, on October 3, 1863. A woman named Sarah Joseph Hale was the one who convinced Lincoln to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. She did this over 17 years of writing him letters.

Love it or hate it, Thanksgiving is a great time of year to spend time with loved ones and eat good food. The history of Thanksgiving and facts surrounding it are very interesting.





