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January 05,
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TIDBITS

Of N.W. Colorado

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**Volume 25
Issue 02**



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By Janet Spencer

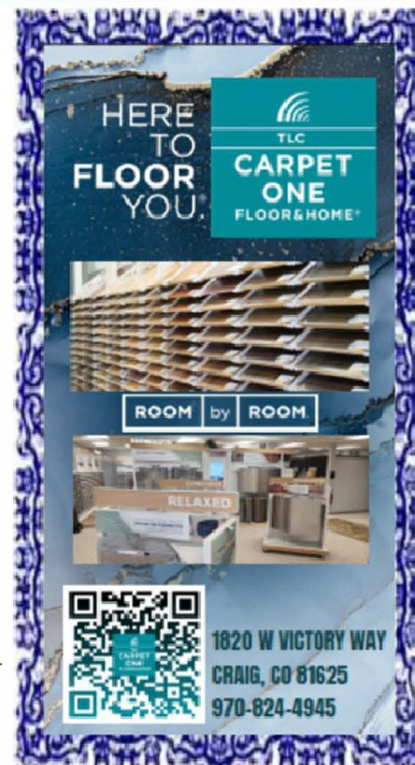
It was once said that in order to make a donut, you take a hole and then put some dough around it. Come along with Tidbits as we eat donuts!

WHODONUT?

Donuts, or items similar to donuts, have been part of the human diet for centuries. It's claimed that a sailor from Maine named Hanson Gregory invented the hole in the donut in 1847 when he stuck his cake onto the spoke of the ship's wheel during a storm. There's even a plaque in his honor. However, it has long been known that removing the middle of a fried cake would make the center crispier and less soggy. A petrified donut was found under layers of ash in the ruins of Pompeii. Another ossified donut was found in a cave in Oklahoma, made by an unknown prehistoric tribe. A painting created in 1627 shows a donut among other items of food and household objects.

However, the American donut experience began with a Dutch immigrant in New York City. Anna Joralemon opened her donut shop in the year 1673, long before the United States was even a country. She is credited with bringing donuts to America, though claims that she "invented" donuts are false.

(turn to page 2 for more yummy information!)



HERE TO FLOOR YOU!

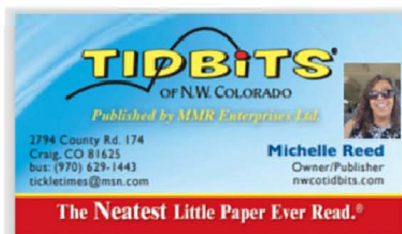
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Laugh a bit with TIDBITS

Why do golfers love donuts?
There's always a hole in one!



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Donuts (cont. from Front Cover)



*During WWI and WWII, ladies working as volunteers for the Salvation Army set up "soup kitchen" type outlets near the front lines to serve soldiers on duty. Instead of serving soup, however, they served hot sweet donuts, giving war weary Americans a morale boost.

*When the war ended, men returning home clamored for donuts, contributing to their burgeoning popularity. Today, the Salvation Army continues to give out the Golden Doughnut Award to honor citizens who exemplify the good works of the Salvation Army.

*In 1920, the first successful donut-making machine was invented after a dozen unsuccessful models. The creator, a Russian immigrant named Adolph Levitt, dubbed the all-in-one contraption "the Wonderful Almost Human Automatic Donut Machine." Ingredients went in one end, and donuts came out the other. Crowds assembled in front of Levitt's New York bakery storefront to watch the spectacle, and he sold 128 of his machines in the first year. This was just the beginning of Levitt's donut empire. He sold thousands of the machines to corner cafes, roadside eateries and local bakeries worldwide.

*It was Levitt who first made a concerted effort to change the spelling from "doughnut" to "donut." Many of his customers were not proficient in English and had trouble pronouncing "dough."

*Dunkin' Donuts adopted the simpler spelling for their nationwide chain of franchises. Today, both spellings are considered correct. At the 1934 World's Fair in Chicago, the display showing donuts being turned out by an automated machine was a big hit. During the Great Depression, donuts were a sweet treat that nearly everyone could afford, with a dozen selling for five cents.

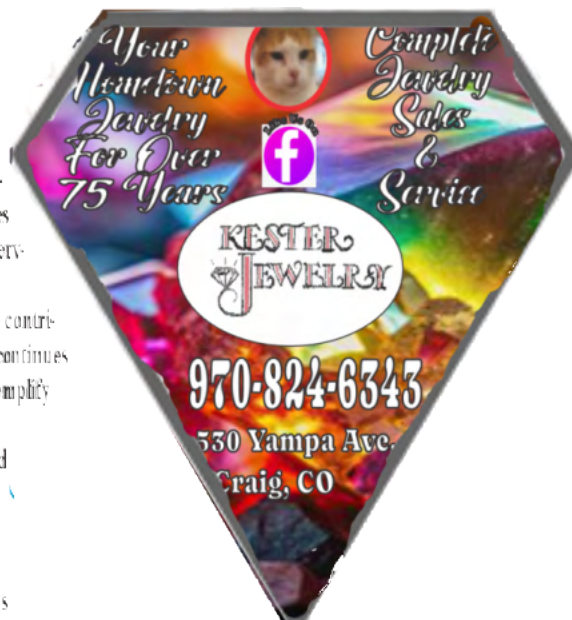
*Dunking donuts in coffee or milk came about as a result of an accident. Hollywood starlet Mae Murray dropped a donut into her coffee by mistake while dining out at an upscale New York eatery. Not wanting her to feel embarrassed, her companion dropped his into his cup as well.

Clark Gable made dunking fashionable in a scene in Frank Capra's 1934 movie "It Happened One Night" in which he teaches actress Claudette Colbert how to properly dunk her donut in a cup of coffee.

*At one time, the Dunkin' Donuts chain offered a donut shaped like a Q, with a "handle" meant to facilitate dunking. It was discontinued because it had to be handcut and people tended to dunk the handle first.

WEIRD DONUTS

*Delicious Donuts, a bakery in Canada, was once known for some of the world's most expensive donuts. The "Donutopia" was glazed with chocolate-balsamic vinegar icing, sprinkled with real gold flakes and sugar crystals shaped like diamonds, and filled with wine-infused cream. Even the water used to craft it, called Bling H2O, cost \$39 per bottle. The donuts sold for \$100 each and proceeds were "donutted" to a local soup kitchen. Unfortunately, the bakery is now defunct.



*Voodoo Doughnut in Portland, Oregon, used to sell donuts reputed to be glazed in NyQuil and others stuffed with Tums and Pepto-Bismol, until local health officials stepped in. They also made the "Tex-Ass," which weighed a half-pound, equal to six regular donuts. It was free if you could eat the whole thing within 80 seconds. When a man choked to death on it, the donut was discontinued.

*In a typical donut shop, it takes 55 minutes to create a donut from start to finish. It must fry for 85 seconds in hot grease. When it comes to dunking, a donut made of finely ground flour will hold more liquid than a donut made of course flour and will be less likely to break. Tip it in at an angle so the top remains dry, with just a quick dunk.

*Donuts are between 15 and 25% fat. Cake donuts are 15% sugar, while raised yeast donuts are only 3% sugar.

*The calorie count ranges from 200 for plain donuts (equal to toast with jam) to 500 for frosted or filled.

*The most popular donut in America is the cream-filled donut, followed by plain glazed donuts.

*Krispy Kreme donuts are kosher.

*About 20 million donuts are produced annually in a typical Krispy Kreme store.

FUN DONUTS

*A donut-related puff pastry similar to a donut hole is very popular in France. It is so light and fluffy that it's named "pet de nonne" which translates as "fart of the nun."

*The Spudnut is a potato-based donut made with potato starch or mashed potatoes instead of flour.

*A Polish donut called the Paczki contains a regional vodka.

*The Donut Hole in La Puente, California features two gigantic fiberglass donuts set on end, with a drive-through donut factory connecting the two. Customers drive through the big donuts to pick up their favorite donuts. It's been an area landmark since 1968.

*Some astronomers have theorized that the Universe, instead of being infinite, is actually shaped like a donut.



1. MOVIES: What is the name of the snowman in the animated movie "Frozen"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: How many U.S. states does the Mississippi River run through or along?
3. ADVERTISING: Which product uses a cartoon character whose first and middle names are Horatio Magellan?
4. MUSIC: In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," how many "geese a-laying" are given to the the narrator's true love?
5. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of nuts are in a Snickers candy bar?
6. BIOLOGY: What is epimorphic regeneration?
7. TELEVISION: Who starred in the 1980s exercise video series "Sweatin' to the Oldies"?
8. ANATOMY: How much of the human brain is made up of fat?
9. MEASUREMENTS: How many cups are in a pint?
10. LITERATURE: Which famous author often uses Castle Rock as a setting in his novels?

Answers

1. Olaf.
 2. 10 states.
 3. Cap'n Crunch cereal.
 4. Six.
 5. Peanuts.
 6. Regeneration of a specific part of an organism, like when a lizard can regrow a tail.
 7. Richard Simmons.
 8. 60%.
 9. Two.
 10. Stephen King.
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December 29th, 2024

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

LADIES	E	DIALS
BOXING	X	BINGO
MOTORS	T	ROOMS
MARBLE	R	BLAME
SALAMI	A	MAILS

FRANCE	F	CRANE
PEARLS	R	LEAPS
SENIOR	O	SIREN
ESCAPE	S	PEACE
THIRST	T	SHIRT
ADMIRE	I	DREAM
INFANT	N	FAINT
GROWTH	G	THROW



Sports Stories The Ultimate Marathon

The 4 Deserts Ultramarathon Series is an annual event consisting of four separate 155-mile (250 km) marathon footraces, each taking place in a different desert around the world. It's been recognized as the world's ultimate endurance test.

The four segments start with the "Gobi March" in the Gobi Desert, which straddles the border between Mongolia and China. Next is the "Atacama Crossing" in the Atacama Desert of Chile in South America. The third leg is the "Namib Race" in Namibia, Africa. The grand finale is "The Last Desert" located in Antarctica.

These locations are four of the world's biggest and most forbidding deserts. Runners must endure the driest, hottest, coldest, and windiest places on the planet, in a test that stretches them to their physical and mental limits.

This ultramarathon started with the first Gobi race in 2003. A new leg of the race was added each year after that. The first time all four races were held in a single year was 2006, and the tradition continues today.

Typically runners from about 40 different countries are present for each race, giving people a chance to meet competitors from many different regions of the world.

So far, over 70 races have been held, featuring over 10,000 runners representing over a hundred countries. Both men and women are allowed to race.

Runners are welcome to enter as many of the four competitions as they want. However, anyone who wants to compete in the Antarctica challenge is required to have completed at least two of the previous races.

Any contestant who completes all four legs becomes a member of the "4 Deserts Club." Anyone who completes all four races in the same year becomes a member of the exclusive "4 Desert Grand Slam Club."

Each 155-mile (250 km) race takes place over seven days.

A campsite is erected every night, offering runners a place to sleep, hot water for washing, a campfire, medical care if needed, and an Internet connection. Between camps, runners follow flags that mark the way, passing through checkpoints along the route where water and medical care are available.

Other than these comforts, each person is responsible for carrying their own supplies, including their own food and equipment. In addition, they are given a list of mandatory survival supplies they must carry at all times.

The race begins at the appointed time each day. Runners must reach the end of that day's course within a set time to qualify to continue. Every person's run time is recorded daily, and totaled at the finish line to determine the winner. Collective finish times over the seven-day race between 25 and 70 hours. The winner is awarded one point, the second-place finisher gets two points; the third-place winner gets three points, etc. When running all four races, the goal is to get the lowest possible score.

In 2010, South African runner Ruar Sandes did the impossible, winning each of the four legs of the race. He had a total score of 4, the lowest score possible. At the time, only 81 people had completed all four marathons, and only 11 had completed them in the same calendar year.

Each race also acts as a fundraiser, with a portion of the money raised going towards a local charity.



Part 12

May 24th, 1860

5:45 a.m.

Even though a few people passed us by, no one knew high or low about horses. But I did manage to learn the nearest town, Lucasville, isn't far from here, and they know of someone who can look at her. So we will push on!

9:30 a.m.

The walk took only about thirty minutes and I asked around to find whoever could help with Annie. I was introduced to a young woman named Birdie, and she told me a pebble was lodged in between the shoe and her hoof, which caused her the upset. I also learned Denver is only two more days by horse, but it could take three days for Annie to heal up.

7:00 p.m.

Bought a room at the inn and asked about staying for a few days. They didn't seem to mind, don't get many visitors. Though when I mentioned about what I'm doing out here, the innkeeper told me to find the local clinic, and speak with the doctor, who may need my help.

May 25th, 1860

6:30 a.m.

Slept like a stone, and I was invited to breakfast and ate as much as I could. For some reason, I felt starvin'! Must have worked myself sick a bit yesterday. I'm going to go find the clinic and see what the doctor might need from me.



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TIPBITS

NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

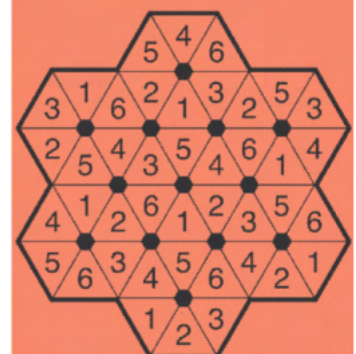
One wedding was featured in 'People' magazine for having a 4-foot pyramid of 20 Krispy Kreme donuts instead of a three-tiered wedding cake.



December 29th, 2024

SNOWFLAKES

solution





MDMA study for PTSD

With money from the National Defense Authorization Act for 2024, a \$1.5 million grant program is beginning a study using Methylenedioxymethamphetamine-assisted (MDMA, also known as ecstasy) psychedelic therapy for alcohol use disorder (AUD) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The Department of Veterans Affairs will hook up with researchers at Yale and Brown universities to use the drug along with psychotherapy. The goal, says a news release, is to use the drugs to "increase emotional openness, reduce fear and promote introspection during therapy." Test subjects will either be given the real dose or a low dose as a placebo.

The West Haven VA Medical Center in Connecticut and the Providence VA Medical Center in Rhode Island are the sites for the study, and they're starting soon.

The standard PTSD treatment, using selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI) doesn't work on approximately one-third of people. The difference between the two (SSRI vs. MDMA) is how much serotonin is released. While the SSRI class of drugs blocks the release of serotonin, MDMA aids it, bringing feelings of euphoria... hence the street name "ecstasy." MDMA isn't going to be the whole answer, however. Treatment will need to be in conjunction with therapy and under highly controlled circumstances. In any event, it will be the first time since the 1960s that they've tried psychedelic-assisted therapy.

There are those who worry about going down this road, as well they should. Once it gets out that the VA is actually doing studies on using a street drug as a treatment, those who suffer from PTSD or AUD might decide to take matters into their own hands and self-medicate. The potential for disaster comes from the amount of the drug to be used. In therapy the amount will be minuscule. With a drug acquired on the street, there's no telling what's really in it, and there will be no accompanying therapy.

If you want to participate in the VA study, your first step will be to contact your care team at the local VA medical facility to ask for a referral.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Sharing the joys of the celebrations that mark



this time with your loved ones can help reinforce your devotion to them. You'll treasure the reactions you get in return.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Enjoy the parties and pleasures of this week with families and friends. A holiday romance could take you well into the New Year - and maybe beyond!



Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Your loved ones help make this week's celebrations especially meaningful. Make time to do some serious thinking about the decisions that you'll soon be facing.



Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Love of home and family is reinforced during this last week of the year. This could be your chance to open up about secrets that you've held on to for far too long.



Leo (July 23 to August 22) Enjoy this week's special round of merriment with loved ones who adore you, whether you're mingling with delight at a party or burning with affection at home.



Virgo (August 23 to September 22) This last week of the year is a good time to assess what you've done and reassess how recent changes might affect your plans for the coming year.



Libra (September 23 to October 22) Balance the festive aspects of this last week of the year with honest reflections about the relationships you truly value and those you think might have become irrelevant.



Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Celebrate the week's festivities knowing that you'll be able to invest what you've learned over the past year into opportunities that await you in 2025.



Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Share the merry moments of this week with the wonderful people who have loved you and encouraged you to realize your dreams.



Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) As this week of celebration moves into history, the sage Sea Goat takes their high place in the Zodiac to judge the past and rise the future.



Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Enjoy the last merry-making week of the year knowing that you've done well in 2024 and that you're ready to confront the challenges of 2025!



Pisces (February 19 to March 20) When you ultimately emerge from the celebrations of this week, you'll find yourself with many new friends whom you'll take into the next year!



BORN THIS WEEK: You have a strong sense of self that makes people feel comfortable and confident in your presence.

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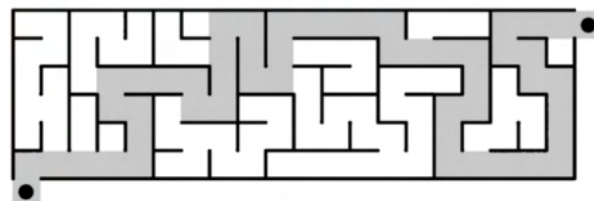
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THIS WEEK'S
CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Robert Duvall	1/05/1931
Rowan Atkins	1/06/1955
Nicolas Cage	1/07/1964
Elvis Presley	1/08/1935
Joan Baez	1/09/1941
George Foreman	1/10/1949
Naomi Judd	1/11/1946

December 29th, 2024 Kids' Maze Solution





- On Jan. 6, 1975, "Wheel of Fortune," one of American television's longest-running syndicated game shows, debuted on NBC. Created by Merv Griffin, it was hosted for decades by Pat Sajak and Vanna White, the latter of whom often contributed her own puzzles and was noted as apparently never wearing the same gown twice in more than 6,000 episodes.
- On Jan. 7, 1785, Frenchman Jean-Pierre Blanchard and American John Jeffries flew from Dover, England, to Calais, France, in a gas balloon, becoming the first people to cross the English Channel by air, though they almost crashed into it along the way due to excess weight from objects that had to be jettisoned.
- On Jan. 8, 2002, President George W. Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act into law, which created new standards and goals for America's public schools and applied tough corrective measures for failure to meet them. Nowadays, however, it is largely regarded as a failed experiment.
- On Jan. 9, 1887, nearly an inch of snow fell every hour for 16 hours on the western American plains, impeding the ability of already starving cattle that "staggered through village streets and collapsed and died in dooryards" to find food. Millions of the animals were lost, sending hundreds of ranchers into bankruptcy and ending the era of the open range.
- On Jan. 10, 2008, Tata Motors introduced the small, bubble-shaped Nano, billing it as the world's cheapest car with an anticipated price of about \$2,500, thanks to its lack of amenities including radio, airbags, air conditioning, even a second windshield wiper.
- On Jan. 11, 2010, Miep Gies, the last survivor of the small group that helped hide Anne Frank, her family and four others from the Nazis during World War II, died in the Netherlands at age 100.
- On Jan. 12, 1995, Malcolm X's daughter Qubilah Shabazz was arrested for conspiring to kill Louis Farrakhan, who she believed was responsible for her father's assassination. After she admitted her "responsibility," though not guilt, the government accepted a plea bargain.

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TIPBITS Laughs!



I allow myself only one donut per year.
This morning I had 433 B.C., 1962, and
2009.

HOCUS-FOCUS

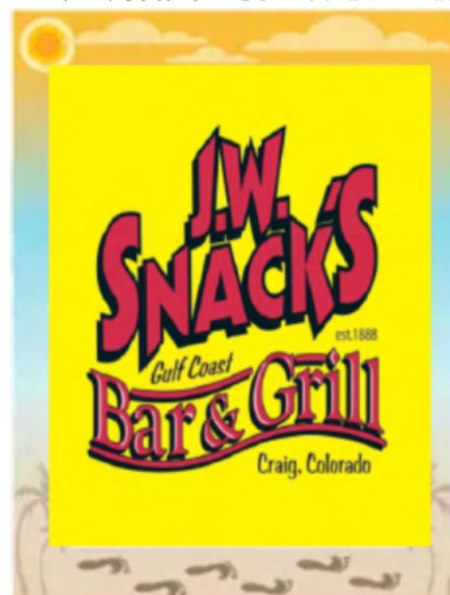
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bar is longer. 2. Button is added. 3. Apron is longer. 4. Broom is narrower. 5. Cash register is missing. 6. Awaiting is not as wide.



December 29th, 2024

FEAR & KNIGHT answer



DOG RUNS RACE

Dion Leonard was born in Australia in 1975. As an adult, he moved to Scotland and took up running. He began winning marathons. In June of 2016,

Leonard entered an ultra-marathon that changed his life. The Gobi March is a week-long, 155-mile (250 km) marathon in China's Gobi Desert.

The day before the race, Leonard noticed a dog hanging around the camp. It was a female Chihuahua-terrier mix.

Leonard thought she lived nearby. However, when the race began the next day, the little dog started running along too. Leonard thought the dog would turn back as soon as she got tired, but she kept up with the pack of over 100 marathoners as they made their way through the 23 mile (37 km) route of the first day's course.

The next day, the tiny dog decided to run next to Leonard, staying doggedly at his side. Leonard shared some of his food with her at the end of the day. She slept with him in his tent that night as temperatures dropped.

On the third day, the course required racers to cross a river. Leonard waded across, leaving the dog whining on the far shore. Hearing a sigh, he returned and carried her over.

By now, Leonard knew that the dog belonged to him, and the dog knew she belonged to him. He named her Gobi. "It was love at first sight from Gobi's point of view, but I thought she was a bit of a pest to begin with," he said.

On the 4th and 5th days, the race route crossed the hottest and most barren portion of the Gobi Desert. Worried the dog would die of heat and exhaustion, he left her with a race organizer. They were reunited for the final leg of the race. All in all, the dog ran 77 miles (124 km) of the 155 mile (250 km) race.

The picture of Dion Leonard crossing the finish line with Gobi at his heels ricocheted around the world. Leonard placed 2nd. Both man and dog received medals.

Leonard had to go to Scotland, a task involving time, money. He knew there was a quarantine, but hoped to have her back at home by Christmas. "For a little dog, Gobi certainly has a big heart," he said. Leaving Gobi with a race organizer who promised to look after her, Leonard returned home to make arrangements.

A fundraising campaign was successful due to the dog's fame. However, before the adoption could proceed, Gobi escaped from her foster home and got lost in Urumqi, a city of 3 million in China. Leonard flew to China.

Over 10,000 posters were distributed, but it was the social media campaign that did the trick. Someone recognized a stray dog on the street as the famous Gobi and took her in. The video of their reunion circled the planet.

However, Gobi had received several injuries when she'd been missing. Donated funds were used to send her to Beijing for surgery. After she recovered, the quarantine began.

He had originally hoped to have her with him in Scotland by Christmas, but missed that goal by a single month. Leonard wrote a book about the experience, "Finding Gobi: A Little Dog with a Very Big Heart." It rocketed to the top of the bestseller lists. A flood of newspaper articles and media appearances followed. Gobi was named "Dog of the Year." There may even be a movie, Leonard said. "If you'd told me then that I'd go on to become this author and have these opportunities all because of this story, I'd never have believed it, and I guess that's the beauty of life."





ALL PUZZLE & QUIZ ANSWERS
WILL BE IN THE NEXT WEEK
ISSUE UNLESS OTHERWISE
NOTED!

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CODED RIDDLE

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

IPX EP DISJTUNBT USFFT

HFU SFBEZ GPS B QBSUZ?

UIFZ TQSVDF VQ.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Share

ORIENT

Astute

MRATS

Pivot

TOATER

Grudge

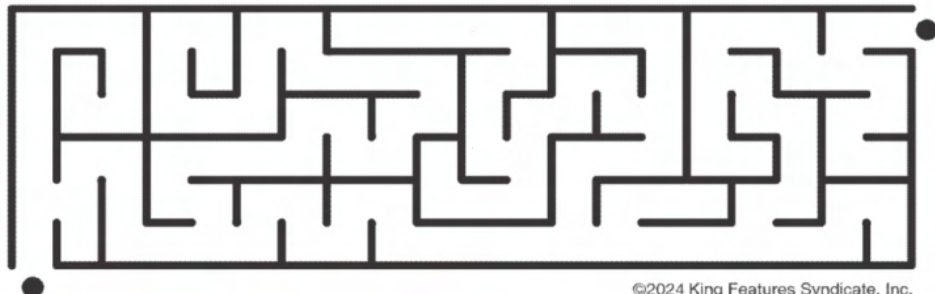
PESTI

TODAY'S WORD



"I won't get a wink of sleep until we find
those two _____."

Kids' Maze



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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: R equals T

ZVOMRAN BUYUQUVM UM

CGUZG SDVSHD JHCJNQ

BAJSD RGDXXQDHYDQ UM HVMF

QVORG JQUJM FJAXDMRQ:

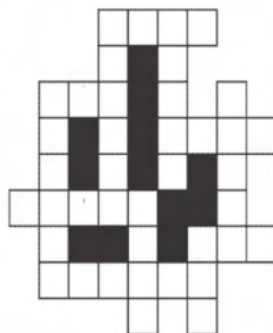
J QJAU QRJRD.

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FEAR
By: rj johnson
KNIGHT
DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

BBO
BLARTI
TABEA
♥UHST
NULAGI
EET
♥ERBA
BUOMG
♥BTA
♥TREBAS
♥ERSIA
♥R GEO



Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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ALL PUZZLE & QUIZ ANSWERS WILL BE IN THE NEXT WEEK ISSUE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED!



1. What Swedish tennis player won the Australian Open, French Open and U.S. Open singles titles in 1988?
2. At the 2024 Paris Games, Greco-Roman wrestler Mijain Lopez became the first Olympic athlete in any sport to win five gold medals in the same individual event. For what country did he compete?
3. Name the goalkeeper who started for Brazil in its 1958 and '62 FIFA World Cup championships and was awarded with the FIFA Order of Merit in 1998.
4. What bowler was the first to complete the PBA career triple crown winning the U.S. Open, PBA National Championship and Tournament of Champions -- when he accomplished the feat between 1963-69? (Hint: His son is a comedian and TV personality.)
5. Since 2008, the college football rivalry game between the Ole Miss Rebels and the LSU Tigers has been known as what?
6. Bananas 'N' Bear is the mascot of what university's athletic teams?
7. In August 2022, New York Yankees pitcher Aroldis Chapman was placed on the injured list for an infection in his leg caused by what?

Answers

1. Mats Wilander.
2. Cuba.
3. Gilmar.
4. Billy Hardwick (his son is Chris Hardwick).
5. The Magnolia Bowl.
6. The University of Maine Black Bears.
7. A recent tattoo.

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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1. The Temptations were first known by what name?
2. Who wrote and released "Same Ole Song and Dance"?
3. Which artist was the first to release "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother"?
4. Name the Gibo brother who released "I Just Want to Be Your Everything".
5. Name the song that contains the lyric: "We used to have good times together, but now I feel them slip away, it makes me cry to see love die."

Answers

1. The Elgins. They were renamed the Temptations when they signed on with Motown in 1961.
2. Aerosmith, in 1974. It was penned by Steven Tyler. The version on the group's Greatest Hits album had 52 seconds cut out and the lyrics changed.
3. Kelly Gordon, in 1969. The Hollies followed with what became the more widely known version, although it only topped the charts in South Africa. Years later, Bill Medley added his version to "Rampage III" in 1988.
4. Andy, on his debut album. The 1977 song was penned by his brother Barry.
5. "So Sad," by the Everly Brothers, in 1960. The song charted around the globe, and numerous artists released their own covers, including Steve Wariner and Emmylou Harris.

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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| 1. First day of the week | _____ Y | Ice cream parlor treat | _____ E |
| 2. Roost | _____ C | Australian city | _____ T |
| 3. Banquet | F _____ | Bread riser | Y _____ |
| 4. Pantry | _____ D | Bigger | _____ G |
| 5. Wilma's neighbor | _____ T | Flag maker | _____ S |
| 6. Lorry | _____ C | Car's storage unit | _____ N |
| 7. Singer Swift | _____ Y | Clothes maker | _____ I |
| 8. Pavlova's dance | _____ A | Pistol's projectile | _____ U |
| 9. Toss | _____ W | Pulsate | _____ B |
| 10. Night sky hunter | _____ R | Pungent bulb | _____ N |

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

		+			×			=	56
+			+			-			
		-			×			=	35
÷			÷			×			
		+			+			=	10
=			=			=			
14			2			6			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

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STICKELERS (sle).

by Terry Stickels

Below are three squeeze puzzles.
Can you find the correct word to be placed
in the middle of each to create two new
words, one front-end, one back-end?
Here's an example of how it works:

ever GREEN horn

- 1) touch _____ wall
- 2) death _____ band
- 3) feather _____ less

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

*Jim Cummings, who voices Winnie the Pooh, calls sick children in hospitals and talks to them in the character's voice. He once phoned a little girl who was fighting cancer, and her mother told him it was the first time the child had smiled in six months.

*The odds of giving birth to a baby at 12:01 a.m. on Jan. 1 are around 1 in 526,000 -- roughly the same as the odds of getting struck by lightning.

*In ancient Greece, throwing an apple at a woman was considered a marriage proposal.

*Iceland has one of the largest gun ownership rates in the world, but one of the lowest crime rates in the world.

*The dragon tree of the Canary Islands is famous for its thick, deep-red sap. Called dragon's blood, the resin might be responsible for the intense hue of the famous Stradivarius violins built in the 17th and 18th centuries.

*All telephone service in the U.S. and Canada were silenced for one minute on Aug. 4, 1922, to mark the funeral of Alexander Graham Bell.

*Lawyer James Thornton successfully sued the U.K. government to admit that it was breaching legal limits for air pollution.

*The East China Sea parts annually and exposes a narrow 2.9 km-long strip of land, allowing thousands of people to cross from Jindo Island to Modo Island of Korea. This land is exposed about an hour each day for approximately four days every year.

Thought for the Day: If you want evidence that the world is a terrible place, watch the news and surf the web. But if you want to remember how incredible this planet is, go out into nature. Unlike social media and the news, nature has no incentive to keep us agitated, angry and anxious."

~Austin Perlmutter





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top ten

World's Friendliest Countries

1. South Africa
2. Greece
3. Croatia
4. Mexico
5. Sweden
6. Australia
7. Canada
8. Germany
9. Estonia
10. Belgium

Source: JargonJosh.com

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December 29th, 2024

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- ✦ Credibility & Trustworthiness because we are nationwide.
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- ✦ When you choose Tidbits, you are getting a tremendous value for your advertising dollar as you're getting a marketing package not just an ad in the newspaper

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family & friends!

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- *"Fill a quart-size zip-top bag with water and double bag it, making sure there is no air in the bag. Place it inside the toilet tank, on the opposite side from the pump. Secure it there, if you can. This will displace some of the water when you flush, and you will use less water as a consequence." -E.S. in Florida
- *if you have a stained porcelain sink, try using it to soak your stained garments. The presoak can do double duty on the stained sink and washable alike.
- *To make your own breadcrumbs without a chopper or blender, place dry bread pieces in a plastic bag. Use a rolling pin to "roll" them to crumbs.
- *Save water in the shower by using your kitchen timer, set for no more than 5 minutes. If you can find a digital one, you will know better how much time you have left. After a little while, you almos don't need the timer.
- *"If you seal your jelly jars with wax, here's a good tip for you: Place a small piece of string into the wax before it hardens. Then you'll be able to pull on the wax to remove the wax when you are ready to enjoy your homemade goodies!" -U.L. in Maine
- *"Laundry stain removers can be good to remove stains from concrete drives. For instance, my relatives' car was leaking, and I was able to get the stains from my pavers using a spray and wash stain remover that I borrowed from the laundry room. It worked very well!" - S.E. in Arkansas

Send your tips to:
Now Here's a Tip
628 Virginia Drive
Orlando, FL 32803.

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Go Figure!

answers

6	+	9	-	7	=	8
-		+		+		
5	+	4	-	2	=	7
÷		+		×		
1	+	3	×	8	=	32
=		=		=		
1		16		72		

King Crossword

Answers

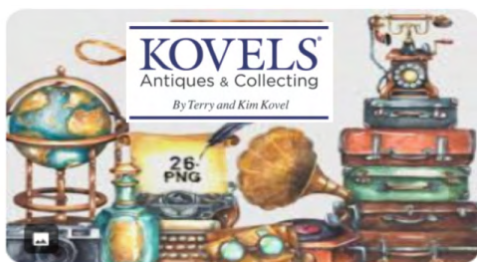
Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



Calendar Clocks

Happy New Year! When the clock strikes midnight on Jan. 1, it's time to open your new calendar and look ahead. Or maybe you have a clock like this one, with a built-in calendar.

Calendar clocks were developed about 1850. That's about when this one, which sold for \$5,100 at Cottone Auctions, was made. Its rear movement plate is marked for Constantin-Louis Detouche (1810-1889), a famous Paris clockmaker in the 19th century. He worked for his father's clock-making business until 1830, when he started his own. He was later appointed official clockmaker to Napoleon III, who was crowned emperor in 1852.

Detouche sold clocks and scientific instruments, and he was known for the precision and craftsmanship of his creations. This clock's perpetual calendar dial is said to automatically correct for the days of each month, even in leap years. It was Detouche's own design.

Q: I purchased this train at a tag sale 10 years ago. My grandsons have outgrown it. I have looked several places and cannot find anything on this train as to a value. The train tracks are mounted to plywood and can easily be carried. The train is made of wood and not painted. The top of the box reads "Eichhorn Holz-Gartenbahn." A: Your train was made by Eichhorn, a German company founded by Hermann Eichhorn in Bavaria in 1949. The company made wooden toys, starting with puzzle blocks. They were making wooden railway toys by 1950 and made their first train and track sets in 1961. Their early train sets were painted, but in the 1970s, they started making unpainted trains from natural wood. Around this time, they also started using synthetic material for their tracks and replaced their hook-and-eye train couplers with magnets. In the 1980s, they returned to painted trains and real wood tracks. The company became part of the Simba-Dickie Toy Group in 1998 and is still in business today. They appeal to today's customers by promoting wood as a safe, sustainable material for toys. Vintage Eichhorn toys tend to sell online, in shops or at auctions for under \$50.

TIP: Brush fur in the direction it grows. If brushed the other way, the hairs will break off.

CURRENT PRICES

Paper, book, English Rustic Pictures, woodblock prints, black and white. India Proof paper, coated parchment binding, Walker & Pinwell, Brothers Dalziel, \$60.

Toy, fire truck, sit and ride, painted, red, yellow seat and steering wheel, two ladders, bell, Wyandotte, c. 1940, 31 inches, \$180. Silver-American, tankard, hinged lid, armorial engraving, monogram, horizontal ridges around base, pseudo hallmarks, late 1700s, 8 x 8 1/2 inches, \$2,560.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit:

www.Kovels.com

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Holidays & Observances This Week

- 1/5 Thank Your Customers Week
- 1/6 National Smith Week
- 1/7 I'm Not Going to Take it Anymore Day
- 1/8 Show and Tell Day at Work
- 1/9 National Soup Month
- 1/10 Houseplant Appreciation Day
- 1/11 National Clean Off Your Desk Day

December 29th, 2024

Even Exchange answers

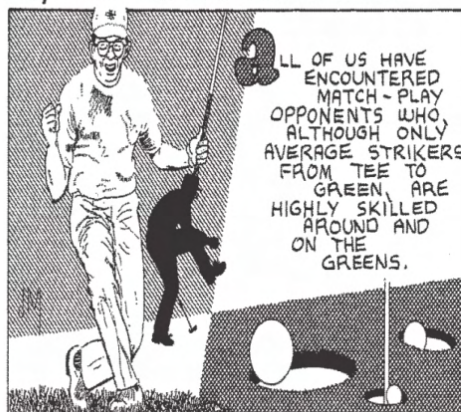
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Nurse, Norse | 6. Tablet, Tables |
| 2. Prize, Price | 7. Radio, Ratio |
| 3. Ticket, Picket | 8. Octave, Octane |
| 4. Scarf, Scare | 9. Shell, Swell |
| 5. Backer, Bicker | 10. Gross, Grass |

Check out area fun stuff, events and things to do at www.nwcotidbits.com!

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Planning 2025

I don't know what it is about hanging up a new calendar that makes me want to organize the whole year and set goals. But once again, as I hung up the 2025 calendar on the kitchen wall, I immediately began to consider how I might make the new year better and more productive.

As part of being "organized," I decided to set daily, weekly and monthly goals.

Here is what my 2025 will look like:

*On a daily basis I will do some form of exercise. (Let's see how long this lasts.) It might be 15 minutes on the treadmill, 20 minutes of bicep-building with hand weights.

*I'll spend 30 minutes on the piano, and for brain strength I'll do one or more crossword puzzles.

*I will read one book per week. This shouldn't be too hard, thanks to Kindle Unlimited on Amazon.

*Each week I will vacuum, whether I want to or not, and complete one section in my free online French lessons (www.duolingo.com).

*I've already started playing online chess (see chess.com) against the computer as a skills brush-up before signing up for weekly in-person chess at the rec center.

*Monthly I will try to increase my savings by cutting back on what I spend. This one might be tough. And I've already volunteered to make the morning hello calls from the senior center on four days next month.

*In the middle of all that, I'll organize and plan for summer, when I'll grow a few vegetables. I'll vow to donate half the fresh veggies to the food bank. And I want to do a slow but thorough decluttering before next fall.

How about you? Does that new 2025 calendar with all the empty boxes make you want to fill them out? What will you do with your 2025?

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STREAMING SOURCE

Here's what to watch and where to watch it for the week of Dec. 30, 2024.

ON NOW: "Full Metal Jousting" (Season 1) — Hulu

30-Dec: "Darby & Joan" (Season 2) — Acom TV

30-Dec: "Inside Look: Nosferatu" (Documentary) — Peacock

31-Dec: "Michelle Buteau: A Buteau-ful Mind at Radio City Music Hall" (Comedy Special) — Netflix

31-Dec: "Michelle Buteau: A Buteau-ful Mind at Radio City Music Hall" (Comedy Special) — Netflix

31-Dec: "A Quiet Place: Day One" (R) — Prime Video

1-Jan: "Don't Die: The Man Who Wants to Live Forever" (Documentary) — Netflix

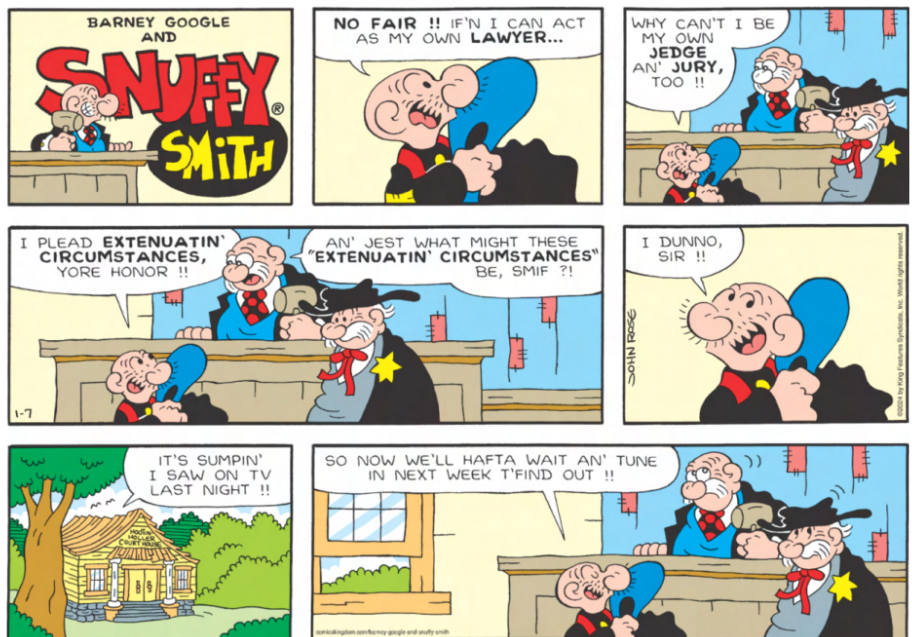
1-Jan: "Schindler's List" (R) — Netflix

2-Jan: "Lockerbie: A Search for Truth" (Limited Series) — Peacock

3-Jan: "Selling the City" (Season 1) — Netflix

3-Jan: "Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance Most Fowl" (PG) — Netflix

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December 29th, 2024

WORD LADDER

Answer

WATER, LATER, LITER, LIVER, LOVER, LOWER

CryptoQuip

answer

It appears as though this staged satire has already commenced. I guess I'm late to the parody.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Deny 2. Soothe;
3. Master; 4. Refine

Today's Word THINNER

Stickelers Answer

The answer is 18.

You might just pick 9 red and 8 white gumballs in your first 17 picks. You would then need to pick one more to make sure you have at least one of each color.



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*CRAIG CHAMBER OF *BANK OF THE
COMMERCE SAN JUAN
*GINO'S PIZZERIA *LUBE PLUS
*COOL WATER GRILL *OCEAN PEARL
*BARELY SPENT RESTAURANT
CONSIGNMENTS *A+E TIRE
*SIZZLIN' PICKLE *CRAIG FAMILY DENTAL
*DARK HORSE LIQUOR *LOADOUT LIQUORS
*CRAIG STORAGE *BLACK DIAMOND AUTO
*VICTORY MOTORS *SOUTH BEACH FLEA MKT
*HAMPTON INN *QUALITY INN

King Crossword

ACROSS

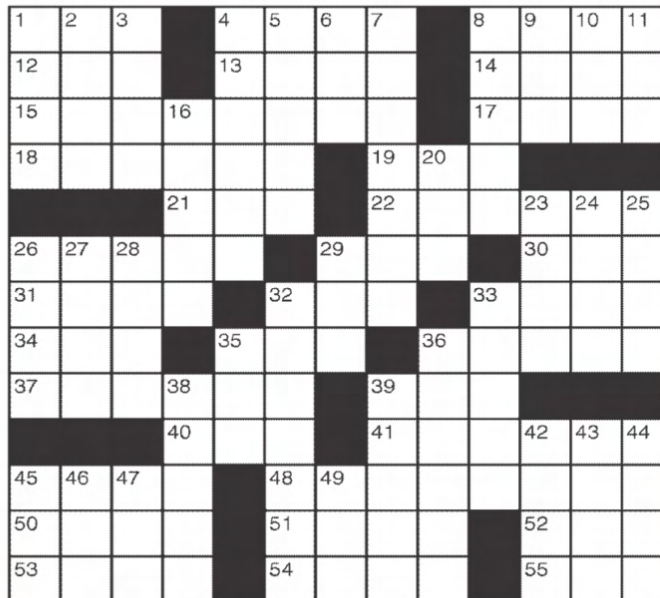
- 1 Airport screen-
ing org.
4 Out of control
8 Appear omi-
nously
12 Pioneering ISP
13 Kid's plea
14 "The Music
Man" setting
15 Oafs
17 Daniel Craig
role
18 "Homeland"
star Danes
19 Devious
21 ER workers
22 Persuades
26 Track races
29 Wee dollop
30 Goat's plaint
31 Symphonic gp.
32 Sleep
acronym
33 Dick Tracy's
love
34 Consumed
35 Chignon
36 Walking sticks
37 Persian king

DOWN

- 39 Mined-over
matter
40 Ordinal suffix
41 Blue hue
45 Hoodlum
48 Defeats cleverly
50 Mexican money
51 Worry
52 TV's Longoria
53 Mideast gulf
54 Belongs
55 Knight's
address

"House of —"

- 20 Arcing tennis
shot
23 Marvel super-
heroes
24 Lighten
25 Get lippy
26 Deception
27 Deco artist
28 Computer
brand
29 Lion's home
32 Exit in haste
33 Cardio-boxing
routine
35 Wager
36 Seals and —
(soft rock duo)
38 Noble gas
39 Group of eight
42 Chopping tools
43 Jeans maker
Strauss
44 Romanov ruler
45 Transcript no.
work
46 British ref.
47 Sugary suffix
49 Swiss canton



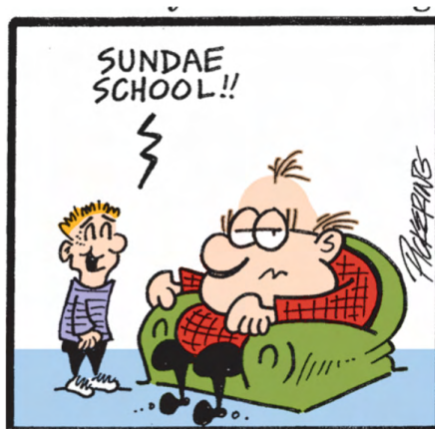
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

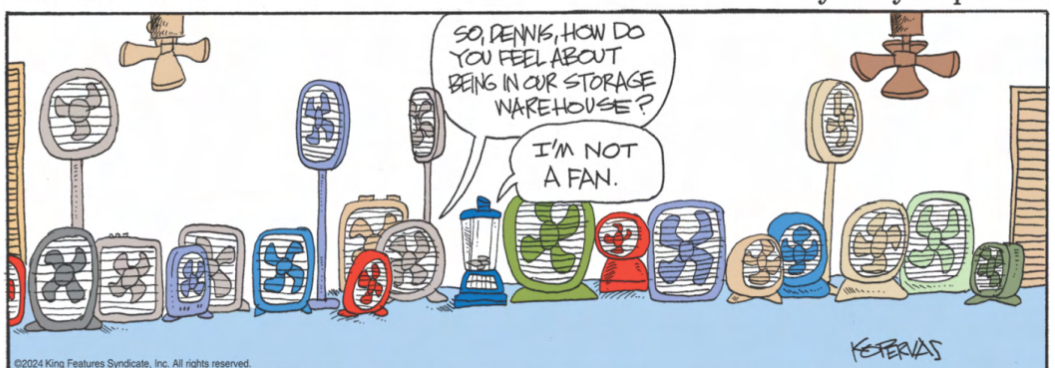


The Spats by Jeff Pickering



Answer in January 12th Issue

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

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