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December 29th,
2024

TIDBITS

Of N.W. Colorado

The Neatest Little Paper Ever Read

Published by MMR Enterprises Ltd., 2794 County Road 174, Craig, CO 81625, 970-629-1443

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Volume 24
Issue 52



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TIDBITS CELEBRATES 2025 WITH NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

It's that time again! Time to make New Year's resolutions, those declarations we pledge toward making a fresh start. This week, *Tidbits* starts the new year with facts and motivation!

☀️ New Year's resolutions aren't anything new, in fact, they've been around for about 4,000 years! In 2000 B.C., the Babylonians held a 12-day New Year festival called Akitu, which celebrated the planting of barley. At this time, citizens would reaffirm their loyalty to their king, would promise to pay their debts, and would return all borrowed farm equipment.

☀️ The month of January was named for the Roman god Janus, the god of beginnings, transitions, time, doorways, and endings. Janus had two faces, one that looked forward to new beginnings and one facing backward for reflection and resolution. The ancient Romans would offer sacrifices to the god every new year and make promises of good behavior for the coming year.

☀️ According to legend, during the Middle Ages, medieval knights renewed their vow to chivalry at the end of the year. Knights would gather at a feast and make the "Peacock Vow" by placing their hands upon either a live or roasted peacock, and pledge to uphold the ideals of chivalry, social responsibility, and care of others for the coming year. (cont. page 2)



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Laugh a bit with *TIDBITS*

My New Year's resolution is to have a clean home and get my act together. In other news, my kids are up for adoption.

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Great Stuff!



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

(cont. from
Front Cover)

An 1813 Boston newspaper contained the first recorded use of the phrase "New Year resolution." It was done in a humorous manner, citing that people "will sin all the month of December, with a serious determination of beginning the new year with new year resolutions and new behavior, with the full belief that they shall thus expiate and wipe away all their former faults."

In the early 1900s, resolutions tended to be religious or spiritual, with a desire for stronger moral character or work ethic. As the decades advanced, resolutions moved toward self-improvement, like losing weight, managing finances, exercising more, and travel.

A 1947 Gallup poll reported popular New Year's resolutions to be an improved and more understanding disposition, control of one's temper, saving more money, going to church more often, and be more efficient and do a better job at work.

While 62% of Americans say they feel pressured to set resolutions, only about 38% make them every year. About 87% of those say they are at least somewhat likely to keep one or more. About 66% of those who make them plan to make three or more resolutions for the coming year. The largest demographic that sets these goals is young adults aged 18 to 34 - 59% of them have New Year's resolutions. The top resolution, nearly 50% of those made, is to exercise more. Other top goals include weight loss, improving finances, improving mental health, getting organized, drinking less alcohol, and having a better diet. Fewer people focus on making more time for hobbies, traveling more, or learning a new skill.

Women's resolutions are focused more on health-related topics, while men's focus leans more toward their career ambitions or reducing alcohol consumption.

When resolutions are made, 80% of people feel confident in their ability to keep them.

Of those whose plan is to exercise more and lose weight, 49% plan on using a fitness app for assistance.

For those who want to improve mental health, a daily gratitude journal has been proven to lift a person's spirits. Recording three things one is most grateful for at the end of each day places the focus on the little things in life that are sometimes easily missed.

Rewarding yourself for little steps toward resolutions helps with sticking to them. If the goal is to walk two miles four days a week, after three weeks, the reward of special headphones might sustain the motivation.

If you're setting a goal of improving your diet, experts recommend spending 30 minutes a week planning out meals. Research indicates that those who do have better diet quality and a lower risk of obesity than those who just wing it. Cooking at home more is also an excellent way to reach the improved diet aim, as it enables a person to use ingredients they want, and save not only calories, sodium, and added sugar, but lots of money as well!

The resolution of developing good money habits results in improved mental health and better stress management. Overall life satisfaction is enhanced by creating and sticking to a budget, paying off debt, and building up an emergency fund.

An attainable New Year's resolution is to do one thing each day that you don't want to do. First thing in the morning is a good time to perform that one small act while motivation is fresh.

How long does the average resolution last? A Forbes survey found that the intent to keep them lasts two to four months before they're forgotten. 23% quit in the first week. About 8% stated their resolutions lasted a month, 22% reported two months, another 22.2% said three months, with 13.1% at four months. The average resolution lasts about 3.75 months. Studies report that about 9% of people successfully achieve their January 1 goals.

Why don't people keep New Year's resolutions? One of the biggest factors causing folks to bail is setting unrealistic goals. Fixing an unreasonable amount of weight to lose in the next six months or setting a specific body weight leads people to abandon the objective. A logical goal of what's attainable boosts the chances of success.

A concept known as "identity attachment" affects resolution success. If a person allows a resolution to define his/her self-worth, setbacks can discourage progress and motivation and diminish self-worth.

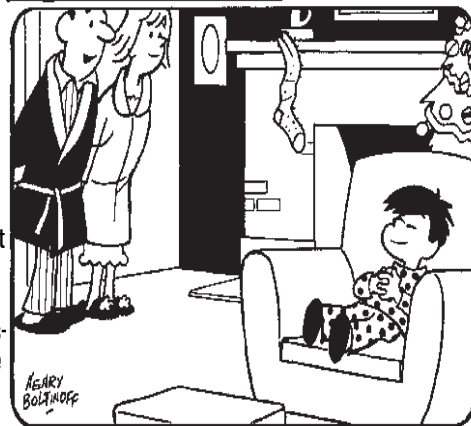
For those who lack the stamina to keep their resolution unofficial dates have been set to celebrate their failure, such as January 17 which has been declared "Ditch New Year's Resolutions Day," or the second Friday in January denoted as "Quitter's Day." There's also a day set aside to recommit to resolutions. June 1 is unofficially known as "New Year's Resolution Recommitment Day," providing the opportunity to hit the reset button on goals.

* * *

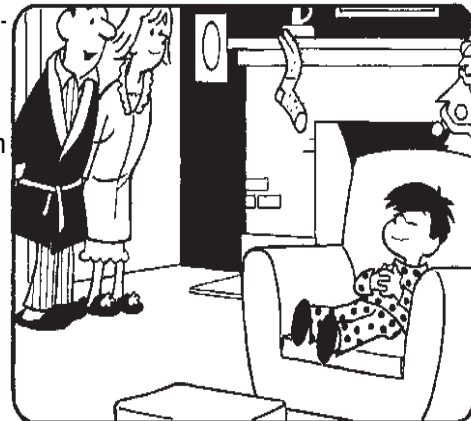
"You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy's legs are longer. 2. Tree is shorter. 3. Stocking is shorter. 4. Woman's leg is shorter. 5. Belt is shorter. 6. Robe collar is different.

TIDBITS Laughs!

New Year's resolutions when you're young are "learn a new language," or "cultivate new relationships," but when you're older they change to "drink more water" and sleep at night."

December 22nd, 2024

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

FEAR & KNIGHT
answer

R	U	M	P	
A		O		
D	E	M	U	R
M		G		F
I	N	F	U	S
T	R	E	E	D
E		R		N
T	R	I	E	S
F				

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The unusual sport of curling can be a little confusing if you don't understand the rules. This week, *Tidbits* explains the object of the game and a bit of its history.

Players of the game slide granite stones on a sheet of ice toward the "house," a circular target marked on the ice that is segmented into four concentric circles. Each of the two teams has four players – the lead, second, third, and skip. The skip is the team captain who provides strategic guidance throughout the match, determining the tactics, the shots, and communication with the team.

Team members take turns sliding the stones toward the house using brooms or brushes to sweep the ice in front of the stone as it glides over the ice. Sweeping affects the stone's speed, direction, and distance. By sweeping forcefully in front of the stone, players can reduce friction and modify its path around obstacles. The sport's name comes from the action of the stone "curling" on the ice. As a player releases the stone, it's given a slight rotation, and the stone "curls" or curves.

Curling stones are made of a rare granite that comes from either Wales or the Scottish island of Ailsa Craig. Each stone weighs around 42 lbs. (19 kg). The first curling stones were made of iron and were shaped like teapots weighing between 60 and 80 lbs. (27.2 and 36.3 kg).

The curling rink, measuring about 150 feet long (45.7 m) and 16 feet wide (4.9 m), is prepared before the game by spraying water droplets on the ice, which form a pebbled surface resembling an orange peel. This pebble against the concave bottom of the stone decreases friction between the stone and ice, which allows it to travel farther.

There's nothing new about curling. It dates back to 1511 in Scotland, where the first games were played on frozen lakes and ponds. Two 16th-century curling stones were found in an old Scottish pond which had been drained, one inscribed with the date 1511 and the other 1551. Both can be found in a Stirling, Scotland museum.

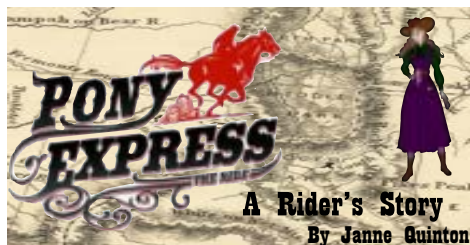
The word "curling" first appeared in print in 1620 in a Scottish poem. Standardized equipment and rules were established by the Grand Caledonia Curling Club in 1838.

Curling was included at the first Winter Olympics in Chamonix, France in 1924. However, it was considered a demonstration sport for the next 74 years, and was not established as an official Olympic sport until 1998. Scottish immigrants brought the game to Canada. The Royal Montreal Curling Club, which is the oldest established active sports club in North America, was established in 1807. Canadian curlers have dominated the sport, winning multiple Olympic medals. Since 1998, the men's team has been awarded 3 golds and 2 silvers and the women's has earned 2 golds, a silver, and 2 bronzes.

The first U.S. curling club was established in 1830. Although the U.S. frequently dominates the Winter Olympics, only one curling medal has ever been won, a bronze medal in 2006.

The game has earned a couple of nicknames over the centuries. It's known as the "the game of the roar," due to the sound the stones make while traveling over the pebble. It's also referred to as "chess on ice" due to the skill and strategy required for positioning the stones, planning their moves, and anticipating the moves of their opponents.

Curling is known for its well-mannered participants, who congratulate their opponents on good strategies and outstanding shots.



Part 11

May 22nd, 1860
3:30 a.m.

You ever been startled awake in the dead of night by the sound of somethin' creepin' out in the darkness and screechin'? I heard stories of these hills, and the tales say the lands all around us are cursed. Dunno about that. But I do know we're startin' early today!

10:45 a.m.

I was waved down by a passing traveller heading in the other direction. They told me they left Denver about five days ago on foot, so we should make it a bit faster than that! Gave 'em some of my rations and told them about the PonyExpress. Thought it was a mighty fine idea and considered putting in for a spot as a rider!

5:00 p.m.

Early to bed, early to rise. Or somethin' like that. The early to bed is happenin' tonight.

May 23rd, 1869

6:00 a.m.

Annie might need to see about getting her shoes checked. Got her new ones before we started, but she's walking a bit funny. Might need to take it a bit slower today.

12:30 p.m.

We had to stop, her limp is gettin' worse! No idea when or where the next town is, so I hope someone passes us by as we rest. I will try to see if she will let me fiddle with her shoes. Hope for the best!



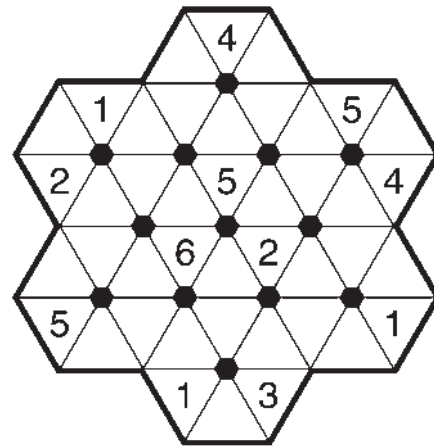
December 22nd, 2024

Stickelers Answer
The word is "assesses."

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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Answer in January 5th Issue

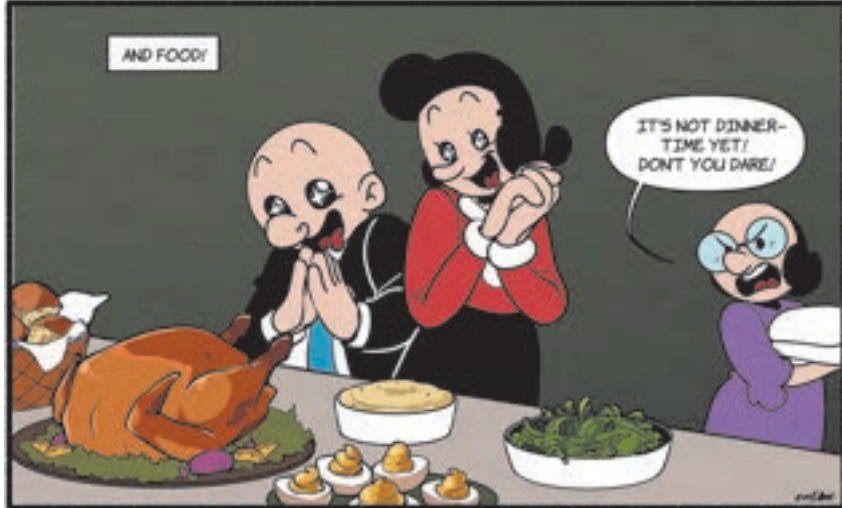
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ARIES



(March 21 to April 19) I know, dear Lamb, that you don't like anyone trying to take charge of your projects, but try to be a bit more flexible. A new idea could help hasten a positive result.

Taurus



(April 20 to May 20) I'm sure, being the time-thrifty Taurus you are, that you've done much of your holiday shopping. But don't relax yet! Wrap those gifts now to save yourself lots of unwanted pressure.

GEMINI



(May 21 to June 20) Be receptive when a family member or friend asks to confide in you. Your positive reaction could ensure that they have a happy holiday experience.

CANCER



(June 21 to July 22) Don't be rushed into wrapping up a workplace problem. Consider leaving it be until after the holidays. This way you'll have the facts you need to reach the right resolution.

LEO



(July 23 to August 22) You'll get news that will make you glow brighter than the lights of the holiday season! Be sure to use what you learn both carefully and kindly in order to avoid giving the wrong impression.

VIRGO



(August 23 to September 22) A frayed relationship could be mended in time for the holidays if you were more flexible. Give a little, and you could get back a lot more than you imagined.

LIBRA



(September 23 to October 22) Things might not seem to be settling down as quickly as you would prefer, but it might just be a little "holiday time flutter." You'll soon get news that will lead to more stability.

SCORPIO



(October 23 to November 21) Stop getting so involved in everyone's personal problems that you lose precious time with loved ones. Remember, even the Supreme Court closes for the holidays.

SAGITTARIUS



(November 22 to December 21) All signs point to a bright holiday, with all of those pesky problems finally resolved in your favor. Share the good times with people you love and who, of course, love you.

CAPRICORN



(December 22 to January 19) Your plans should not be set in stone and cemented over. Leave some openings in case you need to make changes. Meanwhile, spend the holidays with your nearest and dearest.

AQUARIUS



(January 20 to February 18) Surprise! This holiday finds you on the receiving end of generosity from those who are usually the recipients of what you give so freely and lovingly.

PISCES



(February 19 to March 20) A piece of good news assures bthat you'll be swimming in clearer, calmer waters this holiday season. There might be a storm or two ahead, but you'll weather it all in fine style.

BORN THIS WEEK:

You have a flair for seeing things as you'd like them to be, as well as a gift for turning your perceptions into realities. Manifestation is your super-power.

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December 22nd, 2024

Even Exchange answers

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Harry, Hardy | 6. Listen, Liston |
| 2. Silver, Salver | 7. Phone, Prone |
| 3. Towel, Tower | 8. Quiet, Quilt |
| 4. Batter, Butter | 9. Stack, Shack |
| 5. Label, Lapel | 10. Pistol, Piston |

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Ted Danson	12/29/47
Tiger Woods	12/30/75
Donna Summers	12/31/48
Paul Revere	1/1/1735
Dax Shepherd	1/2/75
Eli Manning	1/3/81
Coco Jones	1/4/98



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12th Night

Twelve drummers drumming, eleven pipers piping... and a partridge in a pear tree. So goes the familiar holiday tune "The Twelve Days of Christmas." As those 12 days draw to a close, *Tidbits* focuses on the Twelfth Night and its significance.

The Twelve Days of Christmas is the period between December 25 and January 5. It was a time of feasting and celebration in medieval Europe, with each day was marking a different religious feast. The Twelfth Night was the grand finale of the festivities, marking the end of the Christmas season.

Twelfth Night is the commemoration of the arrival of the Wise Men, or Magi, from the East who presented gifts to the infant Jesus. It's believed that the Magi were members of the Persian priestly caste, guardians of religious and philosophical knowledge. At the time of their journey, there was an expectation that a universal ruler would come from Israel.

A popular tradition of the time was that of baking a Twelfth Night cake into which a bean or coin was baked. The one who found the treasure, usually a peasant or commoner, in their slice was crowned "King of the Bean," and would officiate at the celebration. Today, many countries keep the tradition with a king cake, also known as the Three Kings cake, baking a small porcelain baby symbolizing Jesus into the confection.

Gifts and candies are left for children on the evening of January 5, symbolizing the Magi passing by on their way to Bethlehem.

According to tradition, on Twelfth Night, all Christmas decorations should be taken down because it's unlucky to leave them up past this day. If this task is not completed, the decorations have to be left up all year to avoid bad luck.

Many folks would write messages above their front door in chalk as blessings for the home. The blessing typically included thith wassailers going door-to-door singing songs and offering blessings for good health, receiving cups of spiced ale or cider for their efforts. "Was-sailing" and the beverages referred to as wassail, cinnamon, anise, nutmeg, cranberries, and sliced oranges and apples. The word has its origins in the Old English phrase "wæs hael," which translates "be in good health."

Some individuals in the eastern Alps practice "Perchtenlaufen." It's a custom that involves 200-300 young masked men running through the streets with whips and bells to drive away evil spirits.

The day after Twelfth Night is the feast of Epiphany, referred to some as Three Kings Day. Eastern churches call it Theophany and focus on the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, rather than on the arrival of the Magi. The Greek word "epiphaneia" translates "appearance" or "manifestation," referring to the revealing of Jesus to the world.



On Dec. 30, 1988, President Ronald Reagan and President-elect George Bush were subpoenaed to testify at the trial of Oliver North, a former White House aide implicated in the Iran-Contra affair, in which arms were secretly sold to Iran while profits from the sale were diverted to guerrillas attempting to topple the Nicaraguan government.

On Dec. 31, 1781, America's first bank, the Bank of North America, received its charter from the Confederation Congress. It opened in Philadelphia on Jan. 7, 1782.

On Jan. 1, 2008, Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins won the NHL's inaugural Winter Classic, the first regular-season game played outdoors in the U.S. in the league's history, at New York's Ralph Wilson Stadium

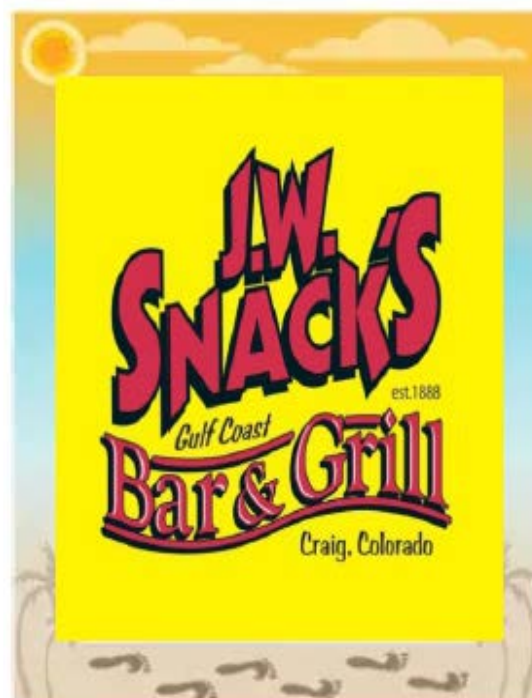
On Jan. 2, 2004, the NASA spacecraft Stardust collected dust grains from the Wild 2 comet, whose material was later revealed "to contain glycine, an amino acid that is an essential building block of life.

On Jan. 3, 1973, Congressman James Abourezk became the first Arab American to serve in the U.S. Senate representing his home state of South Dakota.

On Jan. 4, 1964, Mary Sullivan was raped and strangled to death in her Boston apartment, after which her killer, Albert DeSalvo (aka the Boston Strangler) left a card reading "Happy New Year's" against her foot. Sullivan would turn out to be the final victim of DeSalvo's notorious crime spree, in which he assaulted and murdered a total of 13 women between 1962 and 1964. Under a deal with prosecutors, he wasn't charged with or convicted of those crimes, but received a life sentence for a series of other assaults, and was stabbed to death by an unidentified fellow inmate in 1973.

On Jan. 5, 1643, Anne Clarke, of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, waive men, Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar, or an abbreviation of band, Denis Clarke, by Boston's Quarter Court. Denis confessed to abandoning Anne and their two children for another woman, by whom he also had two children, and refused to return to Anne. It was the first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies.

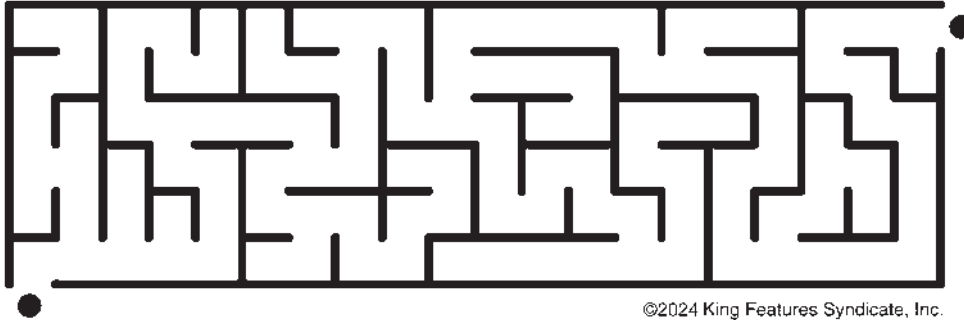
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FUN & GAMES

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

Kids' Maze



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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene
Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

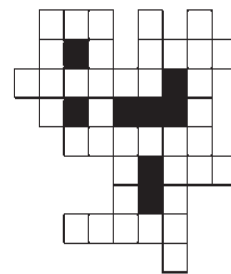
WHAT DO SNOWMEN PILE ON TO THEIR CUPCAKES?

LADIES	___	DIALS	FRANCE	___	CRANE
BOXING	___	BINGO	PEARLS	___	LEAPS
MOTORS	___	ROOMS	SENIOR	___	SIREN
MARBLE	___	BLAME	ESCAPE	___	PEACE
SALAMI	___	MAILS	THIRST	___	SHIRT
			ADMIRE	___	DREAM
			INFANT	___	FAINT
			GROWTH	___	THROW

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FEAR & KNOT

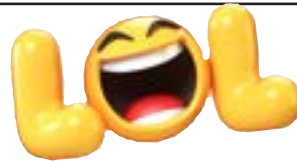
By: rj
johnson



PNE
COPHON
IDACT
CAIP
♥SEEDRI
DOA
♥EPDE
♥PEDTO
♥DSA
PRACOT
♥ARNEC
♥HPSO

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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Bingo

Are You Ready for Some Fun?!
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&
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Games Start 6:30 pm

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American Legion Bingo
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Games Start 1:00 pm

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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: H equals T

YH LFFPLXD LD HCATBC HCYD
DHLBPZ DLHYXP CLD LMXPLZR
GAUUPIGPZ. Y BTPDD Y'U
MLHP HA HCP FLXAZR.

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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!

Oppose

ENDY

Ease

SHOOTE

Expert

ARMSET

Distill

ENFIRE

TODAY'S WORD



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"I'll say one thing about my diet —
my husband is _____."



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

FUN & GAMES

1. Name the Miami Dolphins wide receiver who caught the final touch down pass of quarterback Dan Marino's NFL career in January 2000.
2. Quinn Buckner compiled a 13-69 record in his lone season as a NBA head coach of what team from 1993-94?
3. Nafissatou Thiam, who won gold medals in the women's heptathlon in the 2016, 2020 and 2024 Olympic Games, competed for what country?
4. Hilda "Howlin' Hilda" Chester (1897-1978), known for her cow bell and "Hilda Is Here" sign, was a famous fan of what Major League Baseball team?
5. Between Formula 1 rivals Alan Prost and Ayrton Senna, who won more drivers championships?
6. What former NFL referee was a colonel in the Army Reserve and won the Bronze Star for actions in the Persian Gulf War?
7. The Cy-Hawk Trophy is awarded to the winner of the rivalry game between what two college football teams?

ANSWERS

1. Oronde Gadsden
2. The Dallas Mavericks
3. Belgium
4. The Brooklyn Dodgers
5. Prost, with four (Senna had three)
6. Jeff Triplette
7. The Iowa State University Cyclones and the University of Iowa Hawkeyes.

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Weekly SUDOKU

9		2	3					
					9		6	3
		1					9	
2			6		7	3		
1	3			8				
6	7							5
				7	1		3	
4	1			2				6
7	2		5	4	6		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. "You're the One That I Want" was used in which musical film?
2. Name the all-girl group that released "I Met Him on a Sunday."
3. Which artist released "The Wanderer"?
4. Who released "People Got to Be Free"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Sometimes the love rhymes that fill that afternoon. Lose all their meaning with the rising moon."

ANSWERS

1. "Grease," in 1978. The duet was performed by Olivia Newton John and John Travolta. The song hadn't been used in the stage version of the musical and was written especially for the film. More recently the song was used in the super hero film "Deadpool & Wolverine."
2. The Shirelles, in 1958. The four friends formed a group and wrote the song before performing in their high school talent show.
3. Dion, in 1961. He recorded the song as a b-side single, but it became the more popular of the two songs.
4. The Rascals in 1968.
5. "Do You Wanna Make Love," by Peter Dinklage, in 1977. Dinklage was well known as a songwriter, producing chart topping music for a long list of artists across genres, including pop and country, and was active for decades lobbying for the rights of songwriters.

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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!

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

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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 L, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Hospital worker | U | Scandinavian | O |
| 2. Award | Z | Cost | C |
| 3. Speeder's penalty | T | Fence style | P |
| 4. Boa or muffler | F | Alarm | E |
| 5. Financial supporter | A | Quarrel | I |
| 6. Writing pad | T | Diners wait for these | S |
| 7. Wireless | D | Proportion | T |
| 8. A musical note | V | Premium gasoline | N |
| 9. Peanut covering | H | Expand | W |
| 10. A dozen dozen | O | Lawn mower's target | A |

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STICKELERS (sic)

by Terry Stickels

A bag contains 24 colored gumballs.
If 9 are red, 8 are white and 7 are green, what is the minimum number of gumballs that would have to be drawn from the bag to assure that you had at least one color of each?

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| ✓ Mobile/Mfg. Home | ✓ Watercraft |
| ✓ Modular Home | ✓ Trailers |





Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * You're more likely to have weirder, scarier, and sexier dreams when sleeping on your stomach.
- * The cymothoa exigua, a parasite that severs the blood vessels of a fish's tongue and becomes a new functional tongue, is the only known parasite capable of replacing an entire organ.
- * Are you a java junkie? Scientists found specific genes that are more caffeine loving than others, so addiction to it might be genetic. In other words, you can go ahead and blame your parents for your coffee obsession.
- * "Family Feud" host Richard Dawson met his second wife, Gretchen Johnson, when she was a contestant on the show in 1981. And yes, he did kiss her.
- * After four years of planning and two months of working night their Earth and Planetary Sciences Department building into a giant, multicolored, playable Tetris game.
- * It is considered unlucky to clean you house on the Chinese New Year. You risk sweeping away the good luck of the coming year.
- * "Gigi" author Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette could only write after she had plucked fleas off her dog.
- * If you pour cold water into a person's ear, their eyes will move in the direction of the opposite ear. If you pour warm water into their ear, their eyes will move toward that ear. Used to test for brain damage, this process is called "caloric stimulation."
- * Some areas in Scotland and Japan switched to blue street lights at night and saw a decrease in crime and suicide rates.

Thought for the Day: "I realized that if I wait until I am no longer afraid to act, write, speak, be, I'll be sending messages on the Ouija board, cryptic complaints from the other side.

~Audre Lorde

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The Garden Bug

Grow your own Christmas tree

A "Christmas tree" seedling should be planted outdoors in a moderately cool season such as early fall or late spring. Dig a hole the same size as the seedling's container; gently loosen the roots if the soil is impacted, then place the seedling and soil in the hole. Gently fill in and pat down where needed. Water it weekly in its first year; after that, only water the tree during dry months or during a drought. After the first two to three years you can start to prune and shear it. Harvest time will depend on what tree you've decided to grow, but it's best to cut it down in late fall when it is full of moisture. This ensures your tree stays as green as possible during the holidays. - Brenka Weaver

Source: modernfarmer.com

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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

We recognize that in order to make an informed decision on how to utilize your advertising dollar, you must have all the information pertinent and necessary. We're confident that once you see this, you'll give Tidbits a try. Ads prices start at \$85 /month (\$21.25/ week ~ you can't even buy a hamburger and fries for that!)

So why wait? Call or email Michelle at: 970-629-1443 or mreed@nwcotidbits.com to get started today growing your business!



• “Save egg cartons for children's painting palettes. It's very easy to give kids a small amount of many colors, and they don't spread them out and run them together as quickly when they are each in their own cup. Plus, they are easy to carry.” — O.L. in Utah

• Remove price tag residue off hard surfaces with hairspray. Or WD40 works well too.

• Make your own frozen dinners by purchasing divided trays and using them to store leftovers. Slip each into a plastic bag and label. On busy nights, you can take your favorite out and microwave it.

• “A beautiful but stained or worn tablecloth can find a new life at your dinner table. Cut into napkin sizes, and give any frayable ends a hemming.” — A.S. in Oregon

• A great winter tip that's double purpose: After your dishwasher has done its job, open the door and let the dishes air dry rather than machine dry. You'll save on energy, while you add warmth and humidity to your home's air.

• Damp cloth plus baking soda should be your first weapon against stains in the kitchen and bathroom. It's eco-friendly, and a mild abrasive, which works without scratching!

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

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TIDBITS NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

A simple attainable New Year's resolution is to do one daily act of kindness. Hold the door for a stranger, let someone cut in line in front of you, pay for someone's cup of coffee, pay a compliment - these small actions not only show kindness to others, they help reduce our stress and improve our overall well-being.

top ten

World's Best Vineyards

OF 2024

1. Bodegas de los Herederos del Marqués de Riscal (Spain)
2. VIK (Chile)
3. Creation (South Africa)
4. Bodegas Ysios (Spain)
5. Schloss Johannisberg (Germany)
6. Maison Ruinart (France)
7. Château Smith Haut Lafitte (France)
8. Abadia Retuerta (Spain)
9. Weingut Dr. Loosen (Germany)
10. Finca Victoria: Durigutti Family Winemakers (Argentina)

Source: Decanter.com

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December 22nd

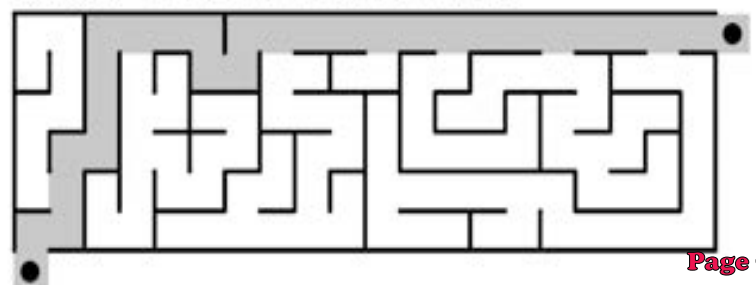
A Market that offers Gifts, Home Decor, **ANTIQUES**,
Boutique Clothing, Bath & Body Products, Specialty Foods
and an **EVENT SPACE** to gather with family & friends.

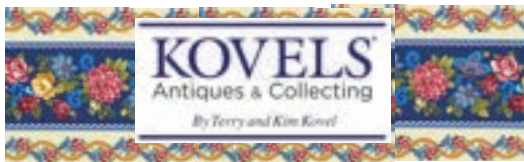
Gathered Grace

MARKETPLACE

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Kids' Maze Solution





Holiday Glass

According to some traditions and a certain famous song, Christmas lasts for 12 days. And, at least in the song with each day extravagant gifts the first of which is a partridge in a pear tree.

It's clearly the inspiration for this glass pear figurine with a tiny 18k gold partridge perching in a tree inside, which sold for \$2,520, passing its high estimate, at Rago Arts & Auction Center. The figure was made for Steuben Glass Works of Corning, New York.

While their early iridescent and colored glass is sought by collectors, they were making mostly colorless crystal by the 1930s. Designer Lloyd Atkins joined the staff in 1948. He is known for his figurines, often animals; like this pear and partridge, which was first made in 1968. Steuben, now owned by the Corning Museum of Glass, still makes and sells pieces based on designs by Atkins, as well as some holiday themed figures, but this is not one of them.



Q: I have three similar lamps. They are figurines mounted on bases which were made to match. They are at least 70 years old. Can you tell who might have made them?

A: Unfortunately, we would need to see a mark to identify the maker. It is difficult to tell from a picture, but the figurines on your lamp base look like they are made of painted metal, probably spelter. Spelter is a zinc alloy that has been used in decorative arts since the 1860s. It can resemble bronze, but is softer and scratches more easily. It was often used for smaller, inexpensive replicas of bronze sculptures. Not many makers are known. Lamps with human figures on the bases were popular as late as the 1950s, which fits with your estimate of "at least 70 years old." Lamp bases with similar human figures have sold for about \$100 to \$150.



TIP: Clean a clock face as seldom as possible. The brass trim may be coated with colored lacquer, and brass polish will remove the color.



December 22nd, 2024

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Swap 2. Arise;
3. Creamy; 4. Cavort

Today's Word

EMPTY

CURRENT PRICES

Purse, handbag, painted, folk art, red ground, blue flowers, red heart on reverse, black trim, metal closure, chain strap, Hugo Porcaro, 2003, 5 1/4 x 7 inches, \$90.
Advertising, egg crate, Surety Cushion, hinged lid, latch closure, stenciled front and sides, holds four dozen eggs, 7 x 15 1/2 x 12 inches, \$150.

Toy, scooter Go-Boy, pedal wood deck, painted yellow, decals



metal frame, painted red, three wheels, The Go-Boy Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, \$360.

Gustavsberg, vase, Argenta, cup-shape, mottled teal, out-lined panels, ring foot, marked, William Kage, 6 inches, \$705.

Clock, shelf, Empire style, two

train movement, bronze, patinated, gilt, winged putto pushing wheelbarrow with a cask, pendant with winged sphinx supports, oval base, four bun feet, early 1800s, 17 1/2 inches, \$1,000.

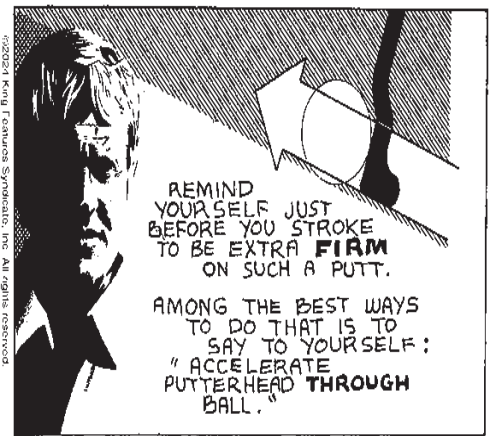
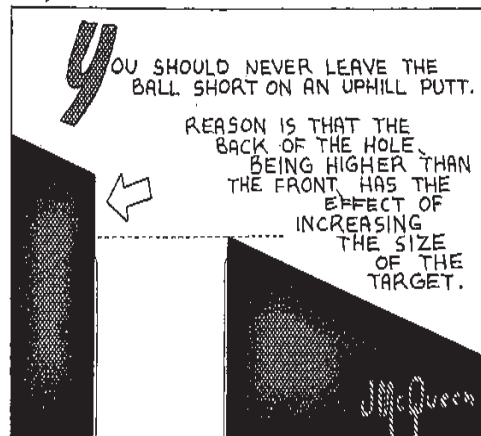
Medical, sign, trade, optometrist's, spectacles frame, metal, electrified, two-sided 39 1/2 x 80 inches, \$3000.



For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit:

Kovels.com

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Changes to Social Security login

If you use the My Social Security account online, you'll need to make several changes or you'll be locked out. If you haven't updated your account since Sept. 18, 2021, using the new method, the login for checking your Social Security account is no more and your username won't work. You'll now need to create a new account using one of their credential service providers at Login.gov.

Having access to your Social Security information can have several benefits, whether you currently receive benefits or not. You can get an estimate of future benefits, check on the status of your application or get a replacement card. You can confirm your earnings or get an SSA-1099 tax form. You can update your information such as address and either set up or change your direct deposit.

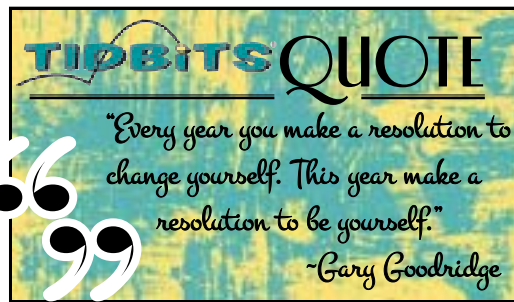
Security is one big reason they've made this change. You'll be using federal authentication standards that provide safe and secure online access.

To get started on creating your new My Social Security account, go online to www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Scroll down to click the link to a 3-minute YouTube video that will give step-by-step instructions. (Beware: Below the video are links to several other videos, but only click on ones listed as the U.S. Social Security Administration.) Also take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions for more good information.

During the process of creating your account, you'll need to receive a call or text that will give you a special code to verify your identity. If you run into problems and can't access an activation code, you might need to receive your activation code by mail. Call for assistance at 800-772-1213, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. When the machine answers, say, "Help desk."

Each time you sign into your account, you'll be sent a one-time code for security as part of two-factor authentication.

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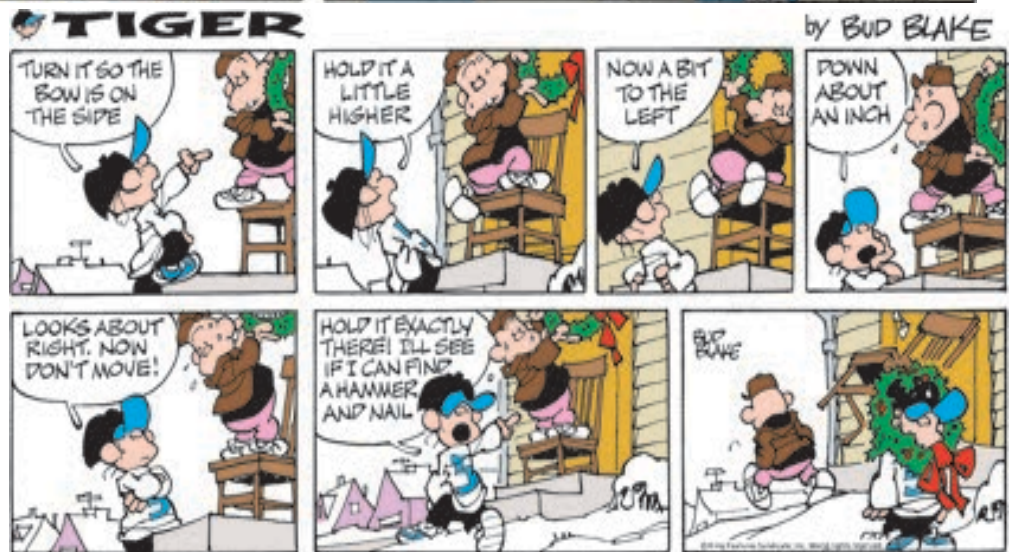


December 22nd, 2024

CryptoQuip

answer

Was somebody wondering whether or not I like my turkey to be succulent? Moist certainly!



WORD LADDERS

Can you go from WATER to LOWER in 6 words?
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

WATER

LOWER

Answer in December 5th Issue

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King Crossword

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- *JW SNACKS
- *SMOKER FRIENDLY
- *KS CREATIONS
- *DOWNTOWN BOOKS
- *BANK OF THE SAN JUAN
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- *A+E TIRE
- *CRAIG FAMILY DENTAL
- *LOADOUT LIQUORS
- *BLACK DIAMOND AUTO
- *SOUTH BEACH FLEA MKT
- *QUALITY INN

ACROSS

- 1 Nuisance
- 5 Emmy winner Alan
- 9 Blond shade
- 12 Actor Epps
- 13 — -do-well
- 14 Female rabbit
- 15 Biscuit type
- 17 Poetic tribute
- 18 Big bargains
- 19 Himalayan land
- 21 Baseball's Cobb
- 22 Meager
- 24 Boxing arbiters
- 27 Hasten
- 28 Flintstones' pet
- 31 Capote nickname
- 32 Very long time
- 33 Itinerary word
- 34 Long tale
- 36 Boring routine
- 37 Superman's alias
- 38 Alphabetized list

40 Yours truly

- 41 Lauder of cosmetics
- 43 Tyke
- 47 Marseilles monarch
- 48 Relating to the intellect
- 51 Calendar abbr.
- 52 Sandwich treat
- 53 Exploits
- 54 Away from WSW
- 55 Canine cry
- 56 Section

11 Cad

- 16 Devious
- 20 Conclusion
- 22 Crazy Horse, for one
- 23 Penny
- 24 ACLU concerns
- 25 Time line period
- 26 Escapee
- 27 Roll call reply
- 29 French diarist
- 30 Feedbag tidbit
- 35 Hydrocarbon suffix

DOWN

- 1 Seed holders
- 2 Send forth
- 3 Stuffing herb
- 4 Goodies
- 5 Picnic interlopers
- 6 Maui memento
- 7 "Lion" star
- 8 Stadium
- 9 Like some parents
- 10 Fizzy drink
- 37 Didn't lag
- 39 Shill
- 40 French pronoun
- 41 Sea eagle
- 42 Any time now
- 43 L-Q bridge
- 44 Tower city
- 45 Always
- 46 Try out
- 49 Raw rock
- 50 Solidify

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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Answer in January 5th Issue

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TO
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ONE
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