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Before penicillin, there was no effective treatment for infections. Hospitals were full of people dying from infections. Come along with Tidbits as we celebrate the discovery and development of penicillin!

AN ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY

Alexander Fleming was a Scottish medical researcher working for St. Mary's Hospital in London. His project was to grow as much Staphylococcal microbes as possible, so that experiments could be run on how to kill staphylococcus infections. Fleming was growing the infectious microbe using a seaweed extract called agar in petri dishes.

In 1928, he left for a long weekend trip. When he returned to his lab, he found that one of the petri dishes had been knocked askew so the lid was partially open. This had allowed mold spores floating in the air to descend upon the agar, contaminating his staphylococcus culture. He was surprised to see that the invading mold had killed the staphylococcus culture wherever it grew. Examining it, he found it was a common strain of mold from the genus *Penicillium*.

Fleming isolated the mold, grew more of it, then experimented to see how many other species of bacteria it could kill. The answer was LOTS.

(cont. on pg. 2)


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Q: Why did Alexander Fleming invent penicillin?

A: Because Alexander was

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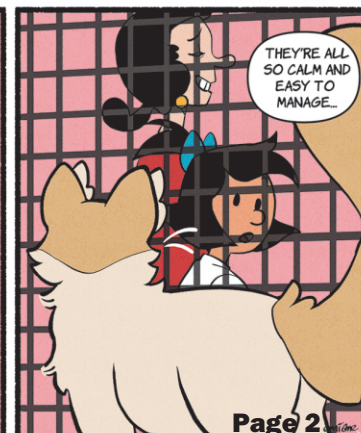
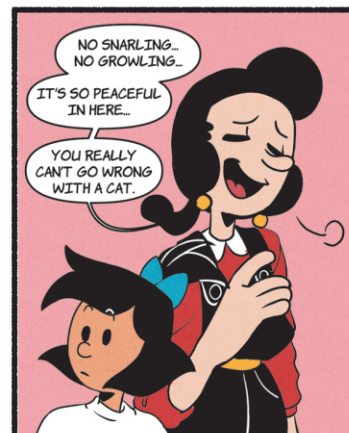
Fleming wrote a paper about his accidental discovery in 1929 and distributed samples of the Penicillium mold widely to other researchers, hoping someone could take this discovery further. The problem was that extracting the anti-microbial substances from the mold was very difficult.

A few years later, researcher Earnest Chain at Oxford, England, happened upon Fleming's paper and began his own experiments with the penicillin mold. His boss, a biochemist named Howard Florey, helped him refine techniques to extract tiny amounts of penicillin from the mold. Their colleague, biochemist Norman Heatley, discovered better ways of purifying penicillin. On May 25, 1939, the team injected 8 mice with a virulent strain of Streptococcus. Four of the mice were then injected with a dose of penicillin while the other four were not. The following day, all four control mice were dead, while all four treated mice were alive. Chain declared this to be "a miracle," which was true.

An article in "The Lancet" published in August of 1940 described their process and the results.

By 1941, they had enough penicillin to treat one person. It needed to be a person who would otherwise die, because they had no idea if large doses of penicillin would kill a human or not. A British policeman named Albert Alexander had a raging infection that was spreading quickly. He was delirious and close to death. The effects of the first dose of penicillin was miraculous; he was soon nearly back to normal. Unfortunately, the limited supply of penicillin ran out on the fourth day. Albert's infection roared back to life, killing him. Still, the experiment proved the effectiveness of penicillin as an antidote to infection.

(cont. on page 3)



Page 2

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PENICILLIN

(cont. from page 2)



With World War II raging, penicillin was needed more than ever. Britain was so preoccupied with the war that there were few facilities to conduct research. Instead, efforts were shifted to the U.S. where Peoria, Illinois, had one of the nation's largest facilities to ferment molds.

Florey and Heatley went to Illinois in June of 1941 with samples of the penicillin mold. Fearing their cultures could be lost, stolen, or confiscated, they secretly covered their coats with mold spores so they could grow new mold if their samples disappeared. With the help of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, huge vats soon nourished the flourishing growth of the penicillin mold.

There are many members of the Penicillin family, and researchers hoped to find a strain that would yield a greater amount of the bacteria-killing substance. They asked the government to have soil samples sent in from every place in the world where U.S. soldiers were stationed. All of these new penicillin strains were tested, but none proved worthy. Then a lab assistant brought in a cantaloupe she'd found at the local market right there in Peoria. It had a golden mold growing on it and she wondered if it would be helpful. After scraping off the mold, the people in the lab ate the melon, and then tested the mold.

To their astonishment, it yielded 200 times more penicillin than other strains had. To this day, every bit of penicillin ever administered has sprung from that moldy cantaloupe. On March 14, 1942, the first American patient was successfully cured with penicillin, provided by the U.S. pharmaceutical company Merck. Half of the total available supply was used to cure Anne Miller of Connecticut of sepsis. By June of 1942, there was enough penicillin in the U.S. to treat ten patients.

After much experimentation, an injectable, mass-produced form of penicillin was soon ready. American pharmaceutical companies were churning out massive amounts of penicillin within a year.

The speed at which penicillin became widely available was amazing. In 1941, the U.S. did not have enough to treat a single person. At the end of 1942, enough penicillin was available to treat almost 100 patients. By September of 1943, there was enough to distribute among the Allied Armed Forces worldwide, including 2.3 million doses delivered in time for the invasion of Normandy in the spring of 1944.

Bacterial pneumonia killed 18% of fallen soldiers in World War I, but in World War II, it killed less than 1% of soldiers.

Production of the drug in the U.S. jumped from 21 billion units in 1943, to 1,663 billion units in 1944, to over 6.8 trillion units in 1945. Manufacturing techniques improved, leaping from one-liter flasks with less than 1% yield to 10,000-gallon tanks at 80-90% yield between 1938 and 1945.

By 1949, the price had dropped from \$20 per 100,000 units in 1943 to less than ten cents.

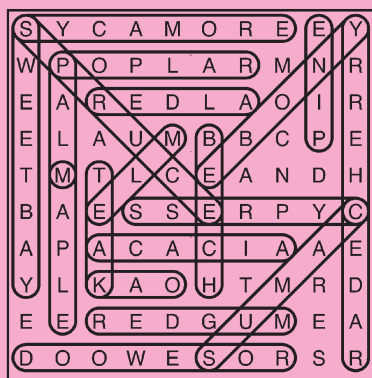
After the war, the American government removed all restrictions on its use, and as of March 15, 1945, penicillin was available to any American who needed it.

Alexander Fleming received 189 honors during his lifetime for his accidental discovery and even has a crater on the Moon named after him. In 1945 he shared the Nobel Prize along with Ernst Chain and Howard Florey. In his acceptance speech, Fleming warned that over-use of this new antibiotic might have dangerous implications if microbes developed resistance. This prediction came true far more quickly than Fleming could ever have imagined.



October 7th, 2024

Puzzles4Kids Answer



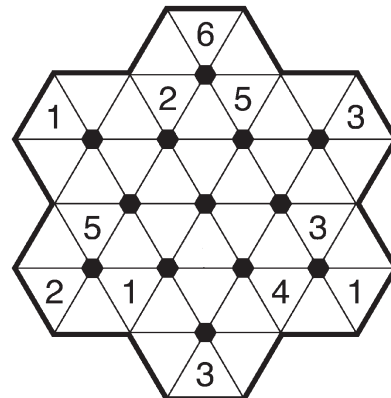
Riddle Answer:

Mac and trees.

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 October 20th Issue

TIPBITS

NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

When a bacterium reproduces by splitting itself in half, it leaves small holes in the cell walls of both halves. The bacteria then builds a "scaffold" that covers the holes, and uses that scaffold to seal the holes closed. Penicillin works by preventing bacteria from forming that scaffold. The holes cannot be closed, the bacteria cannot reproduce, and death results.



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Mars, your ruling planet, will soon begin a journey that will open up a growing number of romantic and fun-filled possibilities. Put this surging Arian energy to good use and explore it to your heart's content.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This is the time to prepare for a career move coming up next month. Update your resume. Get those proposals in shape. And don't forget to buff up that Bovine self-confidence!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your Gemini instincts will guide you to the right people who might be able to help you get over a career impasse that has been holding you back. Expect to make changes.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're getting closer, but you still have a way to go before reaching your goals. Continue to stay focused, no matter how difficult it can be for the easily distracted Moon Child.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your Leonine pride might be keeping you from getting to the source of a disturbing situation. Don't be shy about asking questions. Remember, information is power.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It's a good time to shake up your tidy little world by doing something spontaneous, like taking an unplanned trip or going on a mad shopping spree.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) This is a good week to get advice on your plans. But don't act on them until you feel sure that you've been told everything you need to know to support your move.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Be careful. You might be probing just a little too deeply into a situation that you find singularly suspicious. The facts you seek will begin to emerge at a later time.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good week to make new friends and look for new career challenges. But first, get all those unfinished tasks wrapped up and out of the way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Relationships need a fresh infusion of tender, loving care. Avoid potential problems down the line. Stay close to loved ones as the month draws to a close.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Take things nice and easy as you continue to build up your energy reserves for a big change that comes in when the transformational planet Pluto reenters your sign later on next month.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) This is the absolute right time to let those often-hidden talents shine their brightest. You'll impress some very important people with what you can do.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are impelled by a need to find the truth, no matter how elusive. You would make a wonderful research scientist or an intrepid detective.

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October 7th, 2024

Stickelers Answer

It is 7 p.m.

Body Beautiful Random Body Parts

The teeth last longer than any other feature on the face.

Tooth enamel is not only the hardest substance in the human body but also the hardest biological substance known.

Braces are the most common repairs made to the face.

You swallow about nine times a minute when eating and once a minute when not eating.

Cutting your hair or shaving does not make it grow back thicker or faster. Your DNA is basically an instruction manual for making more of you. If all DNA in your body was stretched out into a (very thin) strand, it would reach from Earth to Pluto.

The wrinkles in the brain give it more surface area. Each person's pattern of grooves and mounds is as unique as a fingerprint.

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Humans choke to death more easily than any other animal.

Left-handed people are more likely to stutter.

A newborn has about 8 ounces of blood, but a full-grown man has about five quarts.

White blood cells responsible for fighting infections are far less common in the blood than red blood cells. There are 700 times more red blood cells than white blood cells in the bloodstream.

Each molecule of insulin manufactured by the pancreas lasts 5 to 15 minutes before expiring. Insulin cannot be taken by mouth because it dissolves in the gastric acids of the stomach.

A typical adult of reasonable size is composed of 40% muscle (slightly less for a woman), and that muscle mass uses up about 40% of the body's available energy.

Bones lose mass at a steady rate of 1% per year, starting in middle age. When your stomach growls because you're hungry, it is actually coming from your large intestine rather than your tummy.



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The lungs can hold about 6 quarts of air, but we usually only inhale half a quart at a time. The world record for holding the breath is 24 minutes, 3 seconds, by a guy who breathed in pure oxygen prior to lying completely still at the bottom of a pool. Most people can hold their breath for a minute, max.

One study involved hiring people to do nothing except stare at other people. College kids in libraries would get up and leave the building when stared at; pedestrians would hurry by; drivers would hit the gas.

As humans evolved, the face lost its protruding muzzle and flattened. Why? Scientists theorize that muzzles are essential for many species because the projecting mouth allows the animal to gnaw, maul, trap, and kill. Humans didn't need to do these things once they invented tools such as axes, knives, spears, and arrows.

The mastery of fire also influenced the shape of the modern human face. Archeological digs show that first hearths appeared around 300,000 years ago, becoming common in human abodes around 40,000 years ago. When cooking softened foods, the need for prominent teeth diminished.

Some experts theorize that the faces of humans and most other primates lost their hair because a hairless face is more communicative, conveying many emotional signals with the tiniest of twitches that would be unnoticeable under a thick layer of fur. The theory is that men have beards to keep their faces from freezing. However, Inuit men in the Arctic do not have beards. One researcher suggests that beards help keep the face cool, as they trap sweat dripping down from the face and keep the chin and cheeks cool. This would provide an advantage to men who are out hunting on the hot plains.

TIDBITS QUOTE

"I grew up thinking that it was immoral to idealize the past because, in the past, there was slavery and no penicillin."

-Elif Batuman



In modern English, we pluralize nouns by adding an "s" or an "-es" but there are many exceptions to this rule, which can be very confusing to people learning English. The reason there are so many exceptions is because English is a conglomeration of many languages stuck together, and many of our plurals come from many different ways of pluralizing things in other languages.

In Old English, there were many ways to pluralize things. "Old English" is considered to be the language as it was spoken up until the 11th century, about a thousand years ago. One of the Old English ways to pluralize things was to add an "-en" onto the end of a noun which is why you may own only one ox, but hope to one day own many oxen; have one child but many children.

In German, the primary method of pluralizing words was to change the vowel sound in the word, turning man into men, mouse into mice, foot into feet, tooth into teeth, and goose into geese.

In Old English, nouns were feminine, masculine, or neutral and there were different ways of pluralizing them according to their assigned gender.

Most animal names fell into the "neutral" category and were pluralized by leaving them exactly the same, regardless of how many there are: sheep, deer, fish, moose. So the reason we have one goose and many geese, while also having one moose and many moose, is because "goose" is German and "moose" is Old English.

In Old English, "scolu" meant "group" and gave us "a school of fish." Meanwhile, the Greek "schole" meant "school" in the traditional sense of a place of learning. So "a school of fish" and "an elementary school" have entirely different origins, and fish are not necessarily smart.

The Dutch took the Old English "scolu" and turned it into "shoal" indicating a shallow body of water where fish hang out.

Why don't we have a school of whales, dolphins, or porpoises? This is likely because those are mammals, set apart from cold-blooded fish, and therefore deserve their own pluralization: *pods*. In Old English, the "F" sounded like an F if it was at the beginning of the word (father) or at the end of the word (wife). But if it was in the middle of the word, it was pronounced as a "V." Thus the original word "sefen" turned into "seven." If a word that ended in an F was then pluralized, the F-sound transformed into a V-sound: wife, knife, calf, half, life, hoof, wolf, elf, etc. turned into wives, knives, calves, halves, lives, hooves, wolves, and elves. Other languages didn't do this, so words ending in F that do not come from Old English do not change into Vs: roof, proof, huff, etc.

In Latin, nouns ending in "-us" were pluralized by turning the "us" into an "-i" as in cacti and fungi. However, the word "octopus" is not Latin; it's Greek, so you do not have two octopi, but instead have two octopodes.

It's Greek that turns our single crisis into many crises, one criterion into a bunch of criteria, and one phenomenon into a collection of phenomena. A single point of reference is a "datum" while many points of reference are "data." The word data is always plural.

Greek is also responsible for transforming vortex and index into vortices and indices.

The Norse Viking word "flokke" referred to a group of people, or "folk." This word became "flock" in English and referred not only to a group of people, but also a "flock" of birds, sheep, goats, or followers of any particular creed.



* On Oct. 14, 1957, The Everly Brothers scored their first No. 1 hit on the Billboard charts with "Wake Up, Little Susie." Though the lyrics described a perfectly innocent scenario, the song still managed to stir up enough controversy to get it banned in Boston for a time.

* On Oct. 15, 2004, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ruled that hearse manufacturers would no longer be required to install anchors for child safety seats in their vehicles, though the rare models that contain rear seats are not technically "funeral coaches" and are therefore subject to the same child-restraint rules as other car makers.

* On Oct. 16, 1991, George Jo Hennard drove his truck through a Luby's Cafeteria window in Killeen, Texas, before opening fire on a lunch crowd of more than 100, killing 23 and injuring 20 more. He was shot several times by police before fatally turning the gun on himself. No clear reason for one of the deadliest shootings in U.S. history was ever determined.

* On Oct. 17, 1835, Texans approved a resolution to create the Texas Rangers, a corps of armed and mounted lawmen designed to "range and guard the frontier between the Brazos and Trinity Rivers."

* On Oct. 18, 1977, New York Yankees outfielder Reggie Jackson hit three home runs in a row off of three consecutive pitches from three different pitchers -- a feat only Babe Ruth had ever previously pulled off -- in the sixth game of the World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

* On Oct. 19, 1796, an essay by a writer calling himself "Phocion" appeared in the Gazette of the United States, in which presidential candidate Thomas Jefferson was accused of carrying on an affair with one of his enslaved workers. Phocion turned out to be former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton.

* On Oct. 20, 1984, Monterey Bay Aquarium, one of the largest in the world, opened in California. Amongst its many firsts, the aquarium holds the distinction of being the only one in the world able to keep a great white shark captive for more than 16 days.

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FUN & GAMES

ALL PUZZLE ANSWERS WILL
BE IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

King Crossword

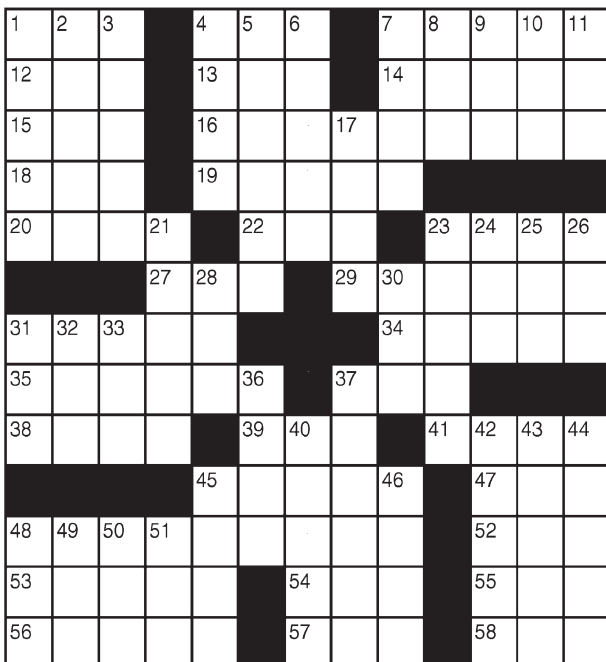
ACROSS

- 1 Buddy
- 4 Rm. coolers
- 7 Bashes
- 12 Epoch
- 13 Speck
- 14 Mowing sites
- 15 Goal
- 16 Handel com-positions
- 18 Author Harper
- 19 Purse part
- 20 Trudge
- 22 Mess up
- 23 Prejudice
- 27 Mardi Gras VIP
- 29 Borneo beasts
- 31 Pocket breads
- 34 Harley rider
- 35 Delphi figure
- 37 In shape
- 38 Title for Helen Mirren
- 39 Gorilla
- 41 Wild guess
- 45 Cornell and Yale, e.g.
- 47 E.T.'s craft
- 48 Citrus drink

- 52 Carnival city
- 53 Sal of "Exodus"
- 54 Just out
- 55 Rage
- 56 Croc's kin
- 57 Hosp. areas
- 58 Homer's neighbor

DOWN

- 1 Daily trio
- 2 Disney mer-maid
- 3 Star's bit part
- 4 Big fusses
- 5 Brain layer
- 6 Fab Four drummer
- 7 Dud
- 8 Hearing thing
- 9 Prefix with night
- 10 Rock producer Brian
- 11 Snake's warn-ing
- 17 Tropical tuber
- 21 Preprandial prayer
- 23 Entices
- 24 Pen filler
- 25 Get older
- 26 Old map let-ters
- 28 Immigrant's subj.
- 30 Hitter's stat
- 31 Group of seals
- 32 Nest egg acro-nym
- 33 Highland hat
- 36 Roof overhang
- 37 Birdseed hold-er
- 40 Steinway prod-uct
- 42 Shroud city
- 43 Blazing
- 44 Greeted a bully
- 45 Borodin's "Prince —"
- 46 Gives a darn?
- 48 Texter's "Heavens!"
- 49 Estuary
- 50 Busy insect
- 51 Opposite of paleo-

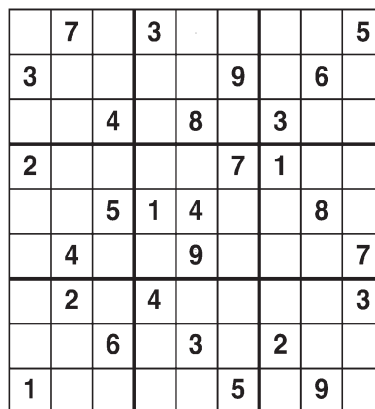


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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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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KNIGHT MOVES

O	R	E
G		V
E	C	A

Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

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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: S equals Z

J LZDP Z NGZSSM GPR UVJSSFM-
NLZXPX ZVPZ VWU, CWH J
YPPX ZDIJKJGU JH. JH'N Z
CPZV HI RZFY IG.

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STICKELERS

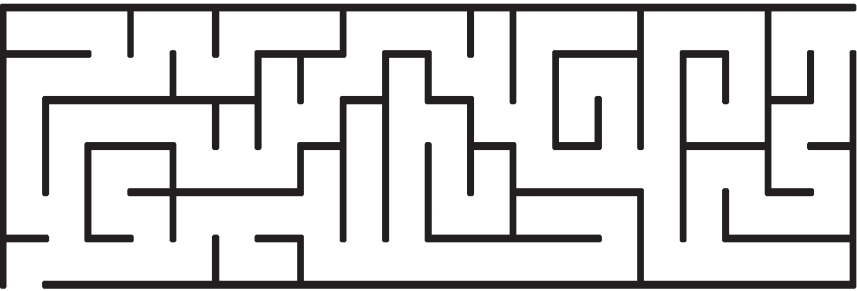
by Terry Stickels

Can you fill in the blanks below using the rest of the numbers 2-16 so each row, column and diagonal adds up to the same sum?

	15	1	
4			14
5		8	
		12	

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Kids' Maze



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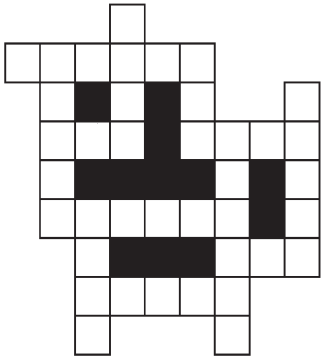
- ✓ Auto
- ✓ Motorcycle
- ✓ ATVs
- ✓ Watercraft
- ✓ Trailers

FUN & GAMES

ALL PUZZLE ANSWERS WILL
BE IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED



- ITH
♥ESPELA
TENIL
♥HTWE
WRETLO
♥ELE
♥ELRA
♥OLTLA
♥WLO
♥GHETHI
♥NEATO
RTTA



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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.

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. Garden plot | ___ T ___ | Dry out | ___ R ___ |
| 2. Tall | ___ O ___ | Southpaw | ___ E ___ |
| 3. Scrub | ___ R | Talent investigator | ___ T |
| 4. Sir ___ Raleigh | W ___ | Bridle | H ___ |
| 5. Fingerless glove | M ___ | Infant feline | K ___ |
| 6. Go pale | ___ L ___ | Tree limb | ___ R ___ |
| 7. Some future time | ___ T ___ | Pilsner | ___ G ___ |
| 8. Tailor's cord | ___ D | Intimidation | ___ T |
| 9. ___ monoxide | ___ B ___ | Milk container | ___ T ___ |
| 10. Acclimatize | ___ A ___ | Take as one's own | ___ O ___ |

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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 BEES USE TO FIX THEIR HAIR?

- | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-------|
| ANTHEM | ___ | MEANT | RACING | ___ | GRAIN |
| PIANOS | ___ | PAINS | TAILOR | ___ | TRAIL |
| NECTAR | ___ | REACT | CAMELS | ___ | SCALE |
| RODEOS | ___ | DOORS | FIBBER | ___ | BRIEF |
| DROWSY | ___ | WORDS | THINGS | ___ | NIGHT |

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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!

- Chic

GELATEN

Cavort

ENPARC

Ache

RAENY

Hollow

UFLITE
-

TODAY'S WORD



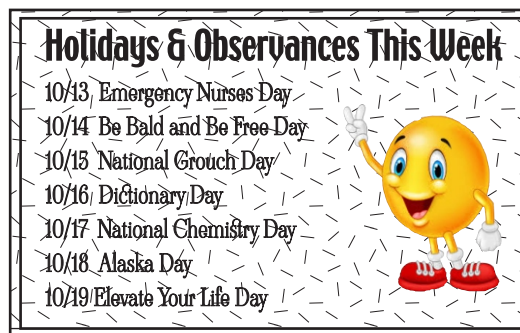
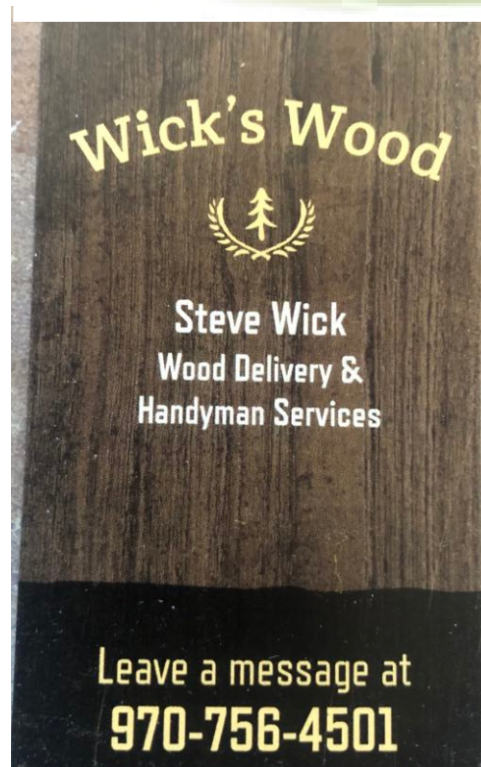
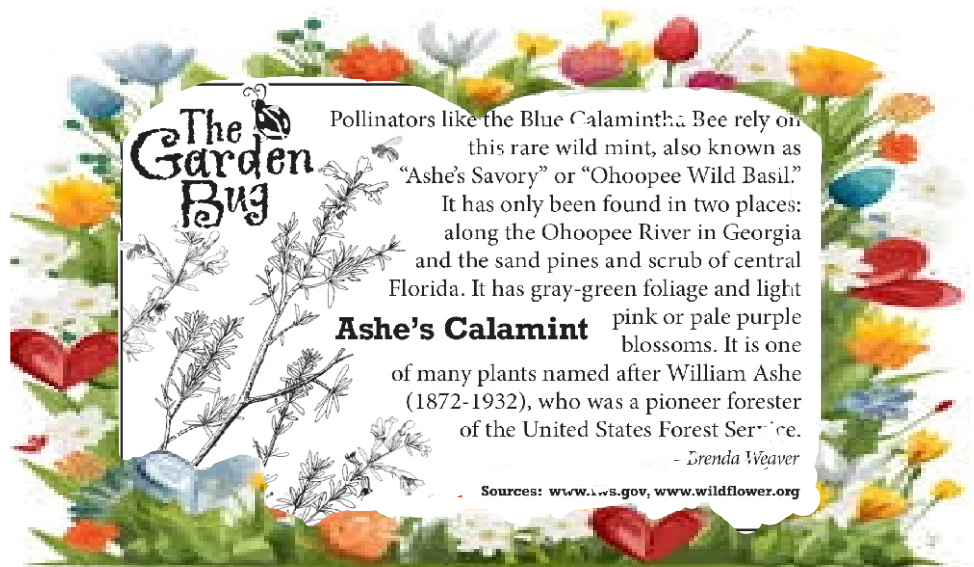
"I hate to complain, Alice, but my husband thinks you're not really _____."

- * There's a surgical procedure called selective amygdalohippocampectomy that removes moves half of the brain's amygdala -- and with it, much of the patient's sense of fear.
- * Obituary writers have their own awards, which are called The Grimmys.
- * Londoners in the 1600s were advised to keep "fart jars" -- consisting of trapped fart odors -- on hand to combat bubonic plague. The idea was that the potent smell would somehow purify the air!
- * During World War II, the term "security blanket" was slang for measures meant to keep military information secret, or covered up.
- * Future Martians might marvel at the Valles Marineris (a.k.a. Mariner Valley) the same way Earthlings marvel at the Grand Canyon. The huge rift is more than eight times than eight times the length of the Grand Canyon, and four times as deep.
- * The Eiffel Tower leans slightly toward the shade on sunny days.
- * Forbes estimates that Barbie's Dream House would be worth around \$16 million if it were real. The three-story house has house has seven rooms, an elevator, a garage and a pool.
- * In 1897, Indiana state legislators tried to pass a bill that would have legally redefined the value of pi as 3.2.
- * A game show in Japan featured one item in a room that was replaced with a look-alike item made of chocolate or other candy. Contestants would try to find it by biting into various objects.
- * The ancient Greeks believed that pearls were the hardened tears of joy from Aphrodite, the goddess of love.
- * Elton John has pianos named after Aretha Franklin, Nina Simone and Diana Krall.
- * There's a five-story, blood-red waterfall in Antarctica.

Thought for the Day: "The greatness of a man lies not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively."

-- Bob Marley

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October 7th, 2024

CryptoQuip
answer

What phrase would properly describe both dog food and the cost of a bus ride?
Greyhound fare.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Gearing Up For Winter

I think I'm ready for winter. I say that with fingers crossed because, truly, around here you just never know, despite what the annual Almanac says. How about you? Are you ready to get through the coming winter?

One of the biggest and most important items on my to-do list was to find a new (and reliable) snow plow guy. It had to be someone with not only a plow on the front of his truck to take care of the heavy stuff in the driveway, but also a crew that would do the shoveling and ice chipping on the sidewalk and steps.

It's not only for my safety, keeping everything free of ice. The grocery delivery people need a safe walking surface as well. Last year I kept putting notes on the delivery order. Instead of "small bananas, please," my notes were along the lines of "BEWARE!! Ice on the sidewalk!! BEWARE!!" As far as supplies, I've stocked up on canned goods, dry packaged foods, gallons of water, batteries and paper goods. (If you do this, keep an eye on the expiration dates of the food.) By stocking up, I'll need to go out to get groceries less often or have fewer deliveries.

And I haven't forgotten the cat. He'll be taken care of as well, with several cases and bags of his favorite food. I will, however, need to drive several towns away to the pet specialty prescription store.

And the car, scheduled for oil change and tire rotation ... check. Clear plastic on windows ... check. Batteries in the smoke detectors ... check. Mittens, hat, vest to wear under coat ... check, check, check.

A winter activity to be considered for cold weather: writing a novel. National Novel Writing Month (nanowrimo.org) began in 1999 to challenge people to complete a 50,000-word novel during the month of November. Interested? Check the website for loads of suggestions, tools and help!

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1. MOVIES: Which animated film was the first to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture?
2. SCIENCE: What is a common name for the Aurora Borealis?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the third U.S. president?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Maldives (islands) located?
5. MUSIC: Who was the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame?
6. TELEVISION: What is Dorothy's job on "The Golden Girls"?
7. MATH: Which number doesn't have a Roman numeral equivalent?
8. LITERATURE: In the Harry Potter series of novels, what was Lord Voldemort's name before he changed it?
9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which dog breed doesn't "bark"?
10. FAMOUS QUOTES: Who wrote the poetic line about all, "Nature's first green is gold"?

Answers

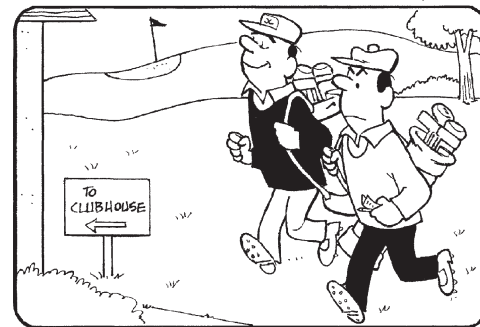
1. "Beauty and the Beast."
2. Northern Lights.
3. Thomas Jefferson.
4. Indian Ocean.
5. Aretha Franklin.
6. Substitute teacher.
7. Zero.
8. Tom Marvolo Riddle.
9. Basenji.
10. Robert Frost, "Nothing Gold Can Stay."

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



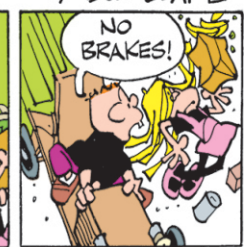
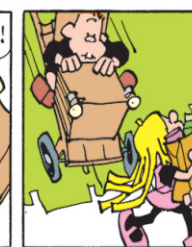
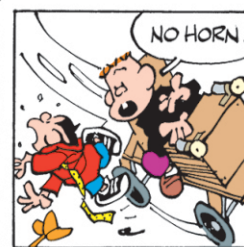
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Flagstick is moved. 4. Tree is different. 5. Shoulder pad is missing. 6. Sign is taller.



TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

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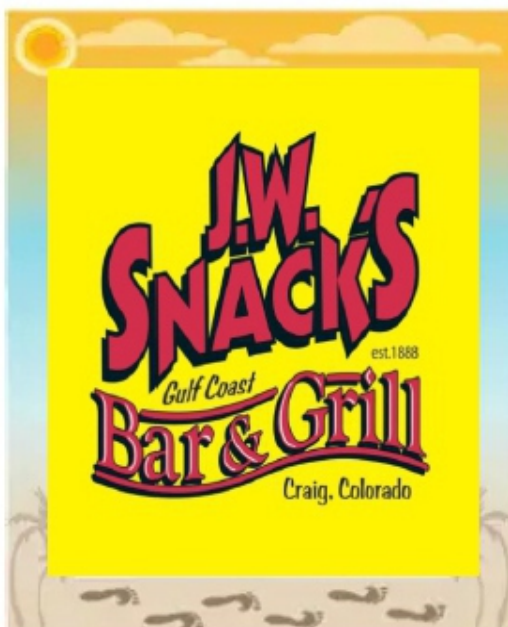
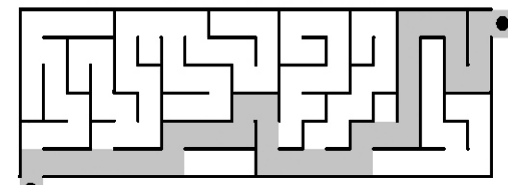
- * Fill your salt and pepper shakers a fourth of the way with uncooked white rice. Dry rice will allow the salt or pepper to flow more freely from the shaker. If your shaker is opaque, you can tell when it's time to add more salt or pepper when the shaker starts to rattle.
- * Mark old toothbrushes with masking tape so you can tell the difference between cleaning brushes and those you use for your teeth. You can clean a toothbrush in the dishwasher. Put it with the silverware.
- * Because fabric softeners can leave residue in the dryer's lint trap, clean yours out at least every other month. Just scrub with plain old soap and water.
- * "Add this to the list of wonderful cleaners for wood floors: tea. Just brew a couple of cups and use the tea as you would your regular wood floor cleaner. It's nice and shiny afterward." -- P.L. in Oregon
- * Use a turkey baster to "squirt" pancake batter into your frying pan. Mix the batter as normal and unscrew the top of the baster to load. You can use it to make letters for fun kids' breakfasts. No drips!
- * If you have trouble opening the lid on glass jars, try using a pair of standard dishwashing gloves. They work to grip both the lid and the jar. They work especially well if your hands are the least bit moist.

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

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October 7th, 2024

Kids' Maze Solution



Animal Hide

If a piece of furniture is described as having paw or claw feet, it usually means they were carved or molded. For some pieces, like this table, furniture "legs" and "feet" can be taken literally. The table, made of zebra hide, complete



with zebra legs and hoof feet, sold for \$500 at a Hindman auction. Buying, selling and collecting pics made of animal hides or other taxidermy requires

care. It's always a good idea to check federal and state laws on selling animal parts before a sale or purchase. And once you have your piece, it takes careful cleaning and storage.

Don't keep taxidermy in bright sunlight; do dust it at least every other week and keep watch for moths and other insects.

Q: Crown Distillers suggested I contact you to see if an unopened bottle from 1968 is worth anything.

A: Crown Royal is a blended Canadian whiskey that was first made in 1939 and first sold in the United States in 1964. Twentieth-century mass-produced bottles do not sell for as high of prices as 19th-century bottles, and serious bottle collectors, the ones who dig up antique bottles from old dumps, will not be interested in them. Unopened whiskey bottles from the 1940s, '50s and '60s tend to sell at house sales and estate auctions, not at specialized bottle auctions or shows. They may also sell at sales of whiskey or liquor bottles held by national auction houses. We have seen vintage unopened Crown Royal bottles sell for about \$150 to \$200 recently. If the original box and bag are included, the price will be higher. Empty bottles sell for much less, about \$20 to \$50. If you intend to sell your Crown Royal bottle with its contents, check state and federal laws for selling alcohol.

TIP: Don't store antique furniture in the attic, near a fire-place or near a heat duct. Basements can be damp or hot and are not a good place for furniture.

CURRENT PRICES

Nautical, chart, mariner's, four boat diagrams, world map, star charts, portraits of historical navigators, c. 1940, 24 x 43 inches, \$40.

Match holder, two hunters, deer head crest, rabbit, game bird, cast iron, wall mount, 11 x 5 inches, \$70.

Purse, beaded, pink roses, green leaves, yellow 3ground, multicolor geometrics around base, drawstring top, 6 x 5 inches, \$110.

Folk art, dovecone, pine, slatted door and walls, painted blue, yellow frame, brown roof, 1800s, 20 inches, \$345.

Clock, Howard Miller, Triad, round, black dial, three circles in center, red, green, light blue, red frame, 622-414, enameled acrylic, Irving Harper, 1975, 9 inches, \$525.

Photograph, Gitanes, black and white, street scene, group of children in shadow, two on bicycles, Arles, France, frame, 25 1/2 x 21 inches, \$705.

Tool, chest, top handle, hinged side, fitted interior; drawers, door, compartments, painted brown, with tools, 1800s, 29 1/2 x 17 inches, \$2,520.

Pottery, midcentury, plate, Motifs No. 17, brushed glaze, red, white, yellow and blue shapes, black trim, marked, Madoura, Pablo Picasso, 1963, 10 inches, \$4,410.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit:

www.Kovels.com

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GRIN and BEAR IT ^{by Wagner}



"Sorry, folks ... the great outdoors is full."

top ten

LARGEST STANDING ARMIES

IN THE WORLD: 2024

1. China	7. Pakistan
2. India	8. Iran
3. United States	9. South Korea
4. Russia	10. Vietnam
5. North Korea	
6. Ukraine	

Source: Statista

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October 7th, 2024

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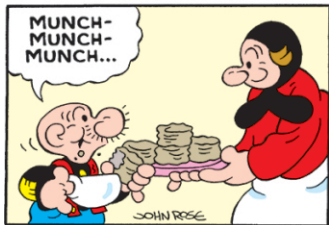
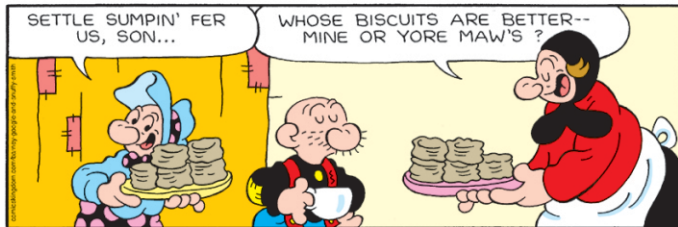
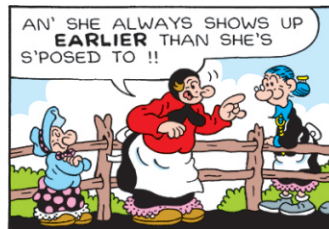
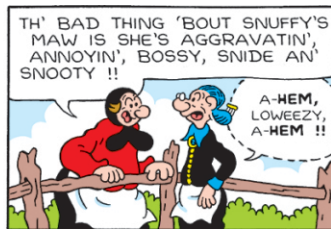
R E

K I P

S T

TIDBITS Laughs!

Have you heard about the rising political tensions between yogurt and penicillin? One side is probiotic, and the other is antibiotic. They're calling it a culture war!



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October 7th, 2024

Even Exchange answers

1. Lurch, Lunch	6. Auger, Anger
2. Strike, Strive	7. Better, Butter
3. Clock, Cloak	8. Throne, Throng
4. Arcade, Arcane	9. Baron, Aaron
5. Harry, Hurry	10. Maize, Maine



Proving A Negative?

An elderly Vietnam-era veteran is being hounded by a government agency that is insisting he pay back a loan ... a loan he never took out.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) says he took out the loan in 2021 and if he doesn't pay it back, they will take 15% of his Social Security check until it's paid for.

The veteran has tried to tell them he never applied for nor received any loan, that he hadn't owned a business (and therefore didn't qualify for a business loan), and the SBA wants him to prove it.

How do you prove a negative?

It seems that the SBA would have records of where they sent that loan money, if indeed the loan was issued. But no, they're insisting the veteran prove he didn't get the loan.

Granted, there were billions of dollars handed out to fraudsters and thieves in the SBA loan program during the pandemic. But again, how do you prove a negative?

The average monthly Social Security check this year is around \$1,782. Taking away 15% leaves \$1,514. Even before deducting that 15%, it's not a lot of money, and the veteran probably doesn't have a lot to spare at the end of the month.

At this point, taking the veteran's Social Security money is on hold -- for now -- after a local investigative reporter got involved and made calls.

But a quick look on the internet shows that this veteran is only one of many this has happened to -- people being nailed for loans they never received. When they complain, all are being told to send in a long list of financial documents, such as tax returns. At first glance it looks like a scam to steal personal information.

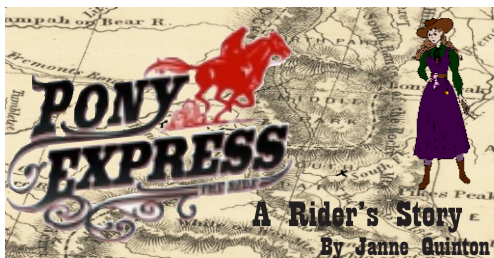
If you're the victim of fraud such as this, deal directly with the SBA Office of Inspector General and file a complaint. As an added step, consider submitting a FOIA request for all documents related to the problem, such as the loan application itself.

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Part 5

May 8th, 1860

Noon

The sun is high and mighty today. Meltin' away all the snow at least in front of us. It made for crossin' the Arkansas River yesterday nearly impossible! We're a bit behind, but hopin' to make up for lost time. The map makes it look like if the mountains weren't there, we could walk right over!

May 8th, 1860

7:30 pm

I think we're nearin' the curve in the trail! We've gone down into a valley now, mountains on both sides of us. The scenery is out of a storybook, I tell ya! Gonna set up camp for the night at the bend. Annie seems to be gettin' tired.

May 9th, 1860

4:30 am

My estimates were off. We were further from the bend than I imagined. But that'll change today. I plan on pushin' forward until we reach it!

May 9th, 1860

10:20 am

Been at it for almost six hours now. But progress is strong. Takin' a snooze beneath a big pine tree with Annie. We gotta be gettin' close, we just gotta!

May 9th, 1860

9:45 pm

After the longest day I have ever lived, we are finally at the bend in the map. Comparing the trail we walked to the rest, I reckon we have about three more days to go. More than I thought, but I'd rather be safe than sorry. We will be passin' through the settlement of Fairplay before arriving. Hopefully we can meet some nice folks like we did in Slabtown. The roads ahead are rough, but so are we!





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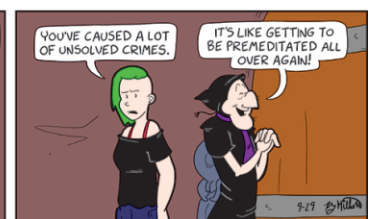
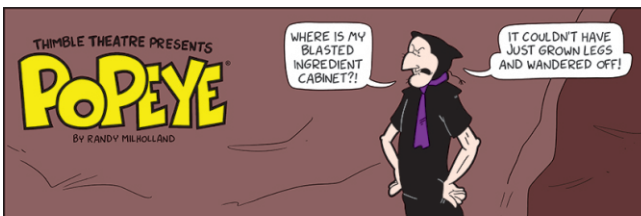
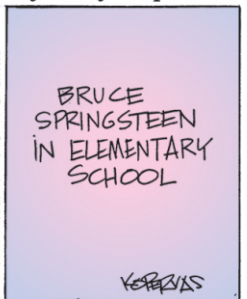
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Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



October 7th, 2024

— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

EVA	NAPS	DAWN
PAL	URSA	ESAI
ALS	ATIAN	MALL
OHM	STEEPLE	
TORIES	ART	
AGA	GAY	RENTS
MENS	SEX	RUSE
PESTO	WEE	PAM
ARC	DMITRI	
BAYLE	AF	PSI
ABEL	RECITALS	
SOLE	OMAR	LAP
HOLD	BADE	STY

SCRAMBLERS

solution

- Prosper; 2. Eschew;
- Sturdy; 4. Amok

Today's Word

HOUSEWORK

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KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

T	M	A
N		T
I	R	S

TRANSMIT