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SEA MONKEY BUSINESS
(cont. from Front Cover)

* Harold figured out how to package up a miniature brine-shrimp farm and sell it to kids for only 49 cents. Although he took the idea to all the biggest toy distributors, he was turned down flat; they had already been burned by Wham-Os "instant fish." He couldn't afford TV ads. Instead, Harold decided to go directly to the customer, bypassing both the middleman and the parents. He bought ads in the back of comic books: Send in 49 cents and receive in the mail an envelope containing "Instant Life."

* When the product hit the market in 1957, it was called simply "Instant Life." Kids were expected to provide their own fish bowl. The kit included a packet of water conditioner, a packet of eggs, and a packet of food. Following the instructions, children added the "magic crystals" to tap water, waited a day, added the eggs, waited 7 days, and then started adding the food.

* The first packet contained mostly salt and chemicals to balance the pH of tap water, but it also (secretly) included eggs. Waiting a day before adding the second packet allowed enough time for the secret first batch of eggs to hatch. The second packet, added the next day, contained more eggs - but it also contained a small amount of blue-green dye. When the dye hit the water, it made yesterday's tiny hatchlings more visible in the water, thus living up to the claim of "instant life!" The third packet contained powdered spirulina algae and yeast, highly nutritious for growing brine shrimp.

* Harold later labelled them as "exotic Saskatchewan brine shrimp" before coming up with the name "Sea Monkeys" because they have a curly tail, like a monkey. The newly-named Sea Monkeys hit the market in 1962, now priced at \$1. The kit included a tiny plastic aquarium with built-in magnifying lenses.

* Now Harold's dilemma was that the sea monkeys tended to die too quickly. He went to marine biologist and micro-crustacean expert Anthony D'Agostino for help. He was the perfect guy to begin cross-breeding brine shrimp to create a new hybrid that was heartier, larger, and longer-lived. It was officially named Artemia NYOS, an abbreviation of the New York Ocean Science Laboratory where it was created.

* Harold hired comic book artist Joe Orlando to help him with marketing. Orlando later became vice president of DC Comics and associate publisher of MAD magazine. Orlando drew a happy sea monkey family, with their wide smiles, pot bellies, and tiny crowns. There was a disclaimer in fine print: "Caricatures shown not intended to depict actual creatures" which was widely ignored.

* The instruction manual that came with the kit made all kinds of claims: that Sea Monkeys would follow commands, learn tricks, dance, play, be hypnotized, play baseball, and run races. In reality, the only thing Sea Monkeys do is flit around in the water, eating algae, and occasionally mating. But they will gravitate towards light, such as a flashlight. And they always swim against the current, so they could "race" and "play baseball" when placed in little plastic mazes with water flowing through.

* Of course, there were many little "extras" that could be purchased. There was the "wrist aquarium" and the "aquarium necklace" so you could squirt a few sea monkeys into a sealed plastic water bubble and take them with you. There were all sorts of different shapes and sizes of tanks: tanks shaped like submarines, tanks that glowed in the dark, tanks with bumpy bottoms which gave algae more room to grow. (more sweet info on page 3)

TIDBITS

NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

The children's show "The Amazing Live Sea-Monkeys" aired on CBS in 1992. The series - which starred Howie Mandel as a professor who accidentally enlarges three Sea-Monkeys to human size - aired in the U.S. and Australia and lasted just 11 episodes.

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SEA MONKEY BUSINESS

(cont. from page 2)

* There was also an entire selection of specialty packets: vitamins, super-food, growth stimulator, mating powder, medicine, and even a "banana" dessert.

* Another packet called "Sea Diamonds" was billed as toys that the Sea Monkeys would play with. This was actually a packet of tiny plastic shards, which floated to the surface or sank to the bottom of the tank depending on the salinity level. Given the right conditions, the plastic bits would float in the middle of the tank, which was billed as "magic!" However, Sea Monkeys may flit past the "diamonds" but never truly interacted with them as claimed. They mostly served as a substrate for algae to cling to.

* Nearly all of these extra specialty packets were filled with salt, eggs, and algae. They all cost a dollar or two, and were advertised in the back of the 32-page instruction manual included with every kit.

* By now, Harold was awash with orders for Sea Monkeys, so he added products: X-Ray glasses, Hypnosis glasses, and glasses that would let you see underwater. He sold the "Crazy Crab" which was actually a live hermit crab shipped in a box. There was even "hairy paper" which would sprout hair through a chemical reaction. Harold eventually held nearly 200 patents.

* In the 1950s, Harold Braunhut changed his name to Harold von Braunhut because he wanted to sound less Jewish and more German. He tried a get-rich scheme and actually got rich. With his riches, he supported the Ku Klux Klan and the Aryan Nation. He was once quoted as saying, "Hitler wasn't a bad guy, he just got bad press." Harold von Braunhut died in 2003 at the age of 77 as a result of a bad fall.

* Today, the Sea Monkey empire continues, now owned by the Transcience company.

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March 15th, 2026

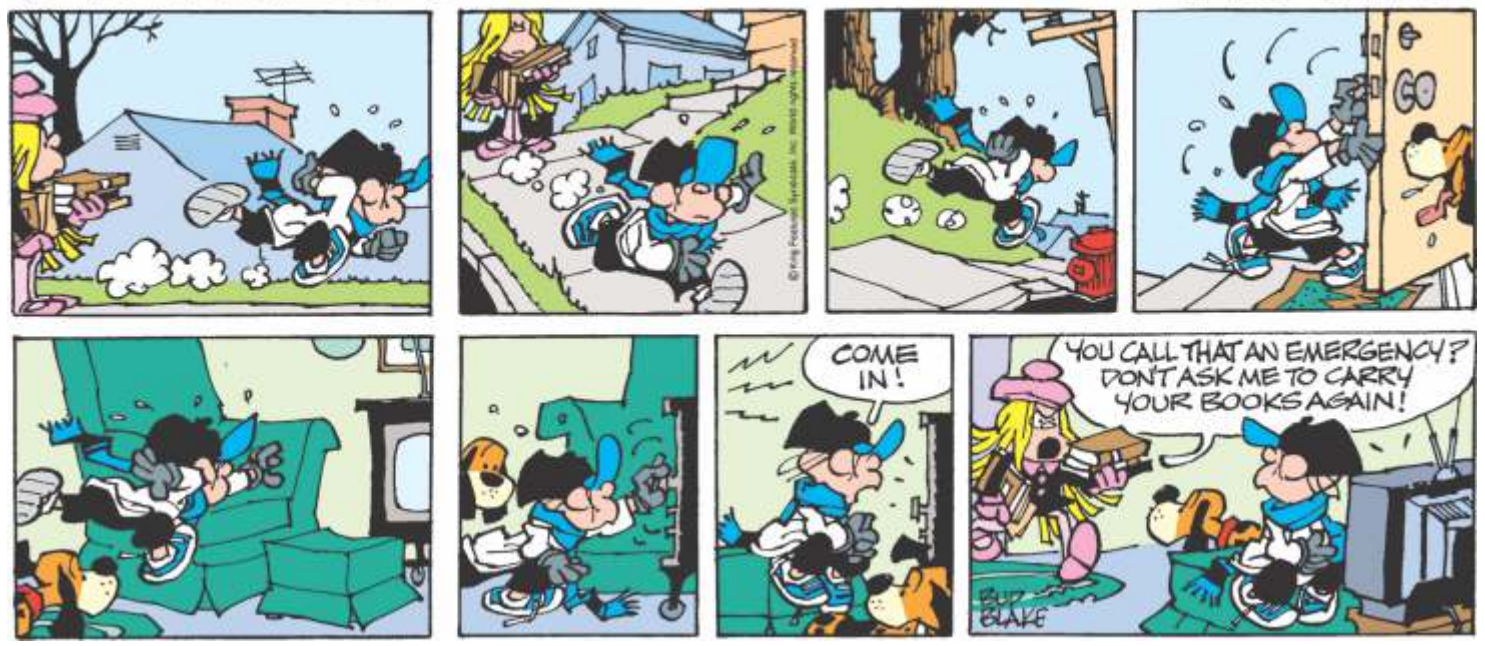
SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Curse; 2. Chord
3. Teach; 4. Stench

Today's Word
DESSERT

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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BETTER GOLFERS' "TOPS" ARE USUALLY THE RESULT OF THE LEGS AND BODY GETTING TOO FAR AHEAD AT IMPACT RELATIVE TO THE HANDS AND CLUBHEAD. SIMPLY SWINGING LESS AGGRESSIVELY, PARTICULARLY WITH THE LOWER BODY, USUALLY FIXES THE PROBLEM.





* Kenner Toys was one of the biggest toy companies in the country in the 1950s and 1960s. Named after the Cincinnati street where their headquarters was located, they had a couple gang-buster successes such as the Bubble-Matic (a toy guy that shot bubbles) and Spirograph.

* One day, a Kenner employee was walking down the street in New York when he was inspired by the portable ovens used by street vendors selling hot pretzels, and the headlamps that kept them warm. Taking the idea back to the company, he suggested marketing a tiny oven that would really bake things.

* Other Kenner employees designed an oven that used two 100-watt incandescent light bulbs to heat a small oven to 350°F (177°C), hot enough to bake tiny cakes, cookies, and brownies. The Easy-Bake Oven was born.

* Released in November of 1963, it sold like hotcakes – over half a million in its first year. The price tag was steep at \$15.95, about \$150 in today's dollars. But sales boomed, and the Easy Bake industry was off and running.

* The oven came with baking pans, a mixing bowl, utensils, a cookbook, and pre-packaged cake mixes that required only water to activate. Their popularity led to the constant release of improved and innovative designs, with about a dozen different models released over the years. There were many, many mixes.

* When a 13-year-old girl petitioned the company to release a model geared towards boys, a sleek black-and-silver model joined the pink-and-purple models on the shelves, depicting boys doing the cooking.

* In 2003, the Real Meal Oven was capable of cooking larger portions and main courses. It could cook two pans at once and handle items like pizza and nachos.

* There was also the Queasy Bake Cookerator, marketed exclusively to boys. It featured recipes such as Chocolate Crud Cake, Delicious Dirt, Mud n' Crud Cakes, Drip and Drool Dog Bones, and Worms 'n' Bugs.

* One of the first significant challenges occurred when lightbulb standards were tightened. A 100-watt incandescent lightbulb emits only 5% of its energy as light, with the remaining 95% released as heat. But improved technology led to the phasing out of incandescent bulbs, replaced by more efficient designs that did not get hot enough to bake a tiny cake. Customers were required to supply their own lightbulbs, and when incandescent bulbs became obsolete, so did Easy Bake Ovens that used them. The result was the release of the Easy-Bake Ultimate Oven, which uses a heating element.

* The Easy-Bake Oven was inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame, just in time for its first big disaster. All previous models had been designed so that baked goods were pushed through the oven, slid forward with a spatula. The 2006 model was the first to feature a front-loading oven with a door that pulled open, allowing kids to reach inside and pull out the hot dishes. Kids were instructed to use tongs (included) to grasp the hot pans, which they did not do. When reports of burn injuries started rolling in, over a million units were recalled and replaced with safer models.

* In 2003, the Toy Industry Association listed the Easy-Bake Oven on its Century of Toys list. Time magazine named it as one of its 100 All-Time Great Toys in 2011.

* Kenner Products was purchased by General Mills, then by Tonka, and finally by Hasbro, which now distributes the Easy Bake Oven. By 2025, sales had surpassed 50 million units. Today, a wide selection of specialty cookbooks is available that cater to Easy-Bake chefs.

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March 15th, 2026

Sticklers Answer

- 1) sound STAGE coach
- 2) guide LINE age
- 3) king FISHER man
- 4) ram PART ridge

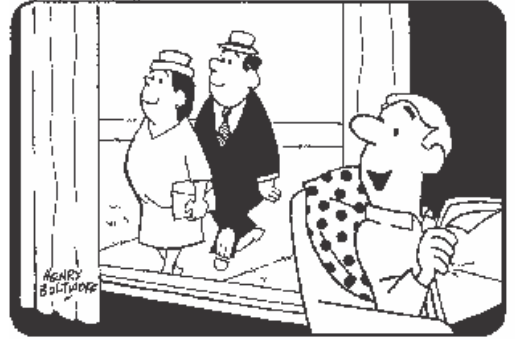
Word Spiral Answer
SALTWATER



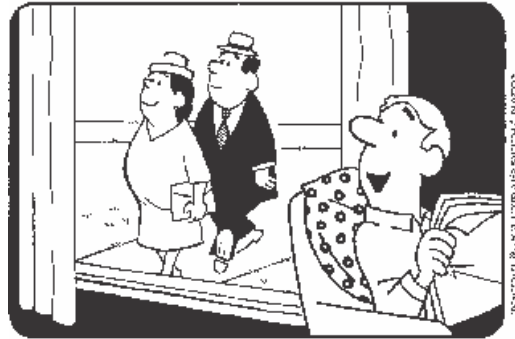
OLIVE OYL



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Page is added to newspaper. 2. Hat is smaller. 3. Arm is shorter. 4. Pillow is different. 5. Child is added to sleeve. 6. Curtain is not as wide.

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* Artemia is a genus of aquatic crustaceans commonly known as brine shrimp, named after Artemis, the Greek goddess of forests and hills. Although they are known as "sea monkeys" they don't live in the sea, and do not even vaguely resemble monkeys.

* Brine shrimp measure only half an inch long (1.2 cm) at full maturity. Their natural habitat is salt lakes and salt flats, where they dine on algae. They can be found in about 500 lakes worldwide. Not only do they keep stagnant water clean, but they also act as an important food source for many aquatic creatures.

* A female brine shrimp can produce 100 eggs a week for her entire life. She is able to self-fertilize; no male required, though male involvement is preferred.

* If the water is warm, clean, and full of food, the female will give birth to live, swimming babies called nauplii. This allows the population to explode rapidly when conditions are perfect. But if the water is too salty, too cold, or food is scarce, she will instead produce hard-shelled "cysts." These eggs will remain dormant until conditions improve, ensuring the next generation survives even if the current colony dies out.

* The dormancy, called cryptobiosis, is similar to suspended animation. This allows them to survive prolonged droughts. The trick is a special sugar called trehalose, which forms a glass-like protective matrix inside their cells, preventing damage to cell membranes and DNA even when totally dry. These cysts can survive boiling for many hours at 212°F (100°C) or freezing to almost absolute zero which is -459°F (-273°C). They can survive exposure to harsh chemicals, pesticides, and even pure alcohol without harm. They can hatch even after being dormant for up to 50 years.

* Mature brine shrimp don't have gills or lungs. Instead, they breathe through their feet, all 11 pairs. The constant movement of their feathery feet allows oxygen in the water to enter their bodies. If they stop moving, they suffocate. Their feet also guide nutrients towards their mouths.

* When oxygen levels drop too low in the water, they can produce high levels of hemoglobin (the same protein in human blood). When they do this, the entire colony can turn a noticeable shade of pink or deep red, maximizing every available molecule of oxygen.

* When the eggs hatch, the shrimp are about as big as the period at the end of this sentence.

* They are born with only a single rudimentary and primitive eye in the middle of their forehead, which is capable only of sensing light and dark. This guides the tiny hatching towards the light, because the algae it needs to eat is found at the surface. As the shrimp matures, it develops two additional eyes at the ends of short eye stalks. The original eye remains, acting as a permanent light meter to keep them oriented, while the stalked eyes are sophisticated, multifaceted eyes (like a fly's) which can detect movement and possibly perceive color.

* Their typical lifespan is usually several months, though they can survive for several years under ideal conditions.

* Because they cannot survive outside of salt water, there is no danger of them becoming an invasive species if they are flushed down the drain.

* The fossil record shows they started out in fresh water but later adapted to thrive in salt water environments as well, likely distributed around the world on birds' feet.

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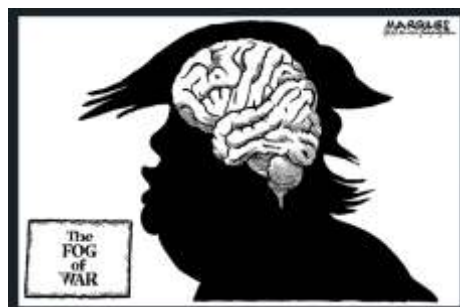
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Here's what to watch and where to watch it for the week of March 23, 2026.

ON NOW: "Wonder Pets: In the City" (Season 2) — Apple TV

23-March: "Sentimental Value" (R) Hulu

23-March: "Inside" (Season 3) — Netflix

24-March: "Jeff Ross: Take a Banana for the Ride" (Comedy Special) — Netflix

25-March: "Bait" (Season 1) — Prime Video

26-March: "Something Very Bad Is Going to Happen" (Season 1) — Netflix

27-March: "BTS: The Return" (Documentary) — Netflix

27-March: "From the World of John Wick: Ballerina" (R) — HBO Max

27-March: "House of David" (Season 2) — Prime Video


27-March: "For All Mankind" (Season 5) — Apple TV

March 15th, 2026

Weekly SUDOKU									
Answer									
8	2	9	3	4	5	6	7	1	
1	5	6	2	9	7	4	3	8	
3	7	4	6	8	1	2	5	9	
2	9	5	8	1	3	7	4	6	
7	4	8	5	6	9	1	2	3	
6	1	3	7	2	4	8	9	5	
5	3	1	4	7	8	9	6	2	
4	8	2	9	3	6	5	1	7	
9	6	7	1	5	2	3	8	4	

TIPBITS
Laughs!

Why don't shrimp share their food?
Because they're shellfish!



Fun Fact

Reese's Peanut Butter Cups are the **best-selling candy** in the U.S., with \$2.84 billion in sales, and stocked in 97% of grocery stores and 89% of convenience chain stores. Skittles follow with \$1.91 billion in sales, as do Hershey's Milk Chocolate Bars with \$1.76 billion. M&Ms, Starburst, Snickers, and Twizzlers also have high sales.

Source: www.allbaba.com

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This week offers new opportunities for adventurous Sheep, both personally and professionally. Single Sheep could find romance with a Taurus or Scorpio.



Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Your big break is about to happen in the workplace. Expect to hear more about it within a few days. Meanwhile, enjoy some much-needed fun time.



Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Your past tendency for breaking promises could be catching up with you. You need to reassure a certain someone in your life that, this time, you'll keep your word. Good luck!



Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Watch your tendency to be overcautious in your personal relationships. Give people a chance to show who they are -- not who you assume them to be.



Leo (July 23 to August 22) Aspects favor closer attention to family matters, especially where it concerns older relatives who might need special care. A co-worker has information that can help.



Virgo (August 23 to September 22) A workplace change causes a temporary delay in your plans. Continue working on your project so that you'll be ready when it's time to start up again.



Libra (September 23 to October 22) Stick with your plans despite some recent disappointments. Persistence will pay off. Meanwhile, a family member's health takes a happy turn for the better.



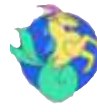
Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) Your gift for seeing through to the heart of a matter (or the heart of a person) impresses someone who is in a position to make you a very interesting offer.



Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Your colleagues believe in your leadership abilities because you believe in yourself. Your strength inspires others to follow your example.



Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) A sensitive situation needs careful handling. Show more patience than you usually do. This will allow everyone time for some really hard thinking.



Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You are determined to take charge of a difficult situation and turn it around. Good for you! Accept much-needed help and advice from a Libra.



Pisces (February 19 to March 20) You are able to help people by sensing their deepest pain, but be careful not to let your own emotions get injured. Try to maintain a safe balance.



BORN THIS WEEK: Not many people know this, but yours is the most emotional sign of the zodiac. You are empathetic and have a deep spiritual core that gives you great strength.

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THIS WEEK'S CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Eric Idle	3/29/1943
Eric Clapton	3/30/1945
Christopher Walken	3/31/1943
Debbie Reynolds	4/1/1932
Emmylou Harris	4/2/1947
Washington Irving	4/3/1783
John Cameron Swayze	4/4/1906

TIDBITS

Neil & Jess

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TAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

MOVE SMOOTHLY

When approaching the net, you should slow down and gain body control, best done by doing a "split step" - where you pause and get your feet evenly balanced beneath you, your weight on your toes and leaning slightly forward.

Once you see where the ball's going, you should turn and move forward. It's important to move forward and not wait for the ball to come to you. So don't just stand there after you split step - close in.

TIDBITS QUOTE

"I'm still a small shrimp, not a dragon."
~Barry Lam

March 15th, 2026

CryptoQuip answer

Florida resort town in which everybody loves singing sacred hymns of praise: Psalm Beach.



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- * On March 30, 1815, Philadelphia inventor Hymen Lipman received a patent for the first pencil with an attached eraser. Years later, however, the U.S. Supreme Court erased the patent, ruling that his combination of two existing devices made Lipman's invention unworthy of a patent.
- * On March 31, 1995, pop star Selena Quintanilla Perez was shot to death in a Corpus Christi, Texas, motel by the president of her fan club, Yolanda Saldivar, who then engaged the police in a nine-hour standoff in the motel's parking lot until her arrest. She was tried and convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison.
- * On April 1, 1970, President Richard Nixon, who was known to enjoy the occasional cigar himself, signed legislation officially banning cigarette ads on television and radio. The last such TV ad aired during "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" on Jan. 1, 1971.
- * On April 2, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to send U.S. troops into battle against Germany in World War I. In his address to Congress that day, he called it "a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war." Four days later, Congress obliged.
- * On April 3, 1876, following a public fistfight the previous day between policeman Wyatt Earp (who won) and William Smith, a candidate for Wichita, Kansas, county sheriff, Earp was fined \$30 and fired from his position.
- * On April 4, 2007, syndicated talk radio host Don Imus incited a nationwide storm of criticism after making racially disparaging remarks about the Rutgers University women's basketball team, insulting their appearance, tattoos and, most infamously, dubbing them "nappy-headed hos." He apologized on his show two days later but lost his job and a number of sponsors, though he was ultimately able to save his career.
- * On April 5, 1945, U.S. Pvt. 1st Class Sadao S. Munemori destroyed two German machine gun nests and fell on a live hand grenade to save his comrades. He became the first Japanese American awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, posthumously.



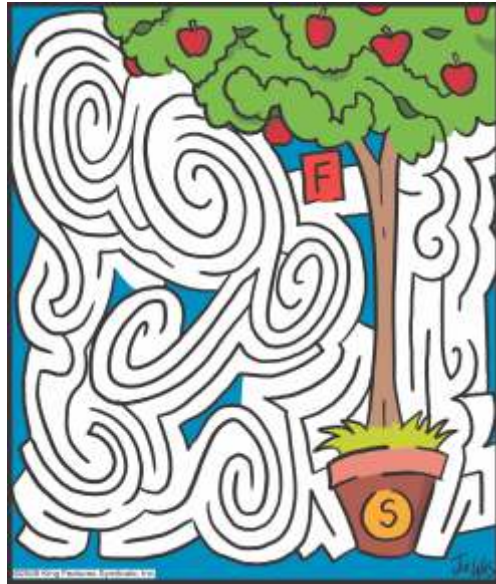
The Garden Bug
Ox-eye daisy
When in bloom, it's easy to see why this European native was introduced in the U.S. as a garden and florist ornamental in the 1800s. It now threatens as an invasive species in the wild. It is commonly found along roadways or spread across fields, meadows and lakeshores. Once established, it can spread rapidly by means of roots and seeds, crowding out native plants. The end result is of use to few wildlife species.

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- Agamer's advantage
- Tall structure
- Last option on some surveys
- Belonging to them
- Robber
- Go from second to third

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

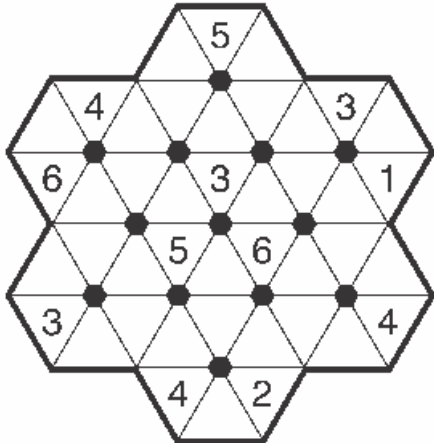
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SNOWFLAKES

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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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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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.

	-		×		=	10		
+	■	+	■	-	■			
	+		+		=	11		
+	■	-	■	×	■			
	-		+		=	15		
=	■	=	■	=	■			
22		3		16				
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 E, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Billfold	W	Baywatch's theme	R
2. Prank	___ P ___	Provide food	___ T ___
3. Country	___ A ___	Idea	___ O ___
4. Readers	___ G ___	Part from	___ V ___
5. Thomas of Saint	___ R ___	Rosie's argot	___ T ___
6. Hairstylist	___ A ___	Carpet style	___ E ___
7. Pasture growth	___ A ___	I've dozen	___ O ___
8. Throw a horseshoe	___ I ___	Repair torn jeans	___ A ___
9. Nest or Warren	___ _	___ and the Beast	___ U ___
10. Shady alcove	___ B ___	Knight's gear	___ M ___

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All Puzzle Answers will be in the March 1st Issue

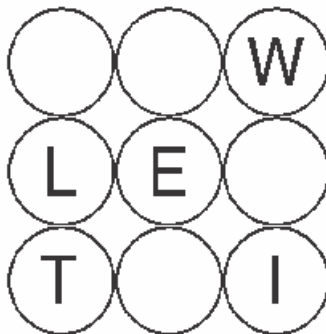
KNIGHT MOVES

S	O	F
L		H
B	I	W

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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WORD SPIRAL



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

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STICKELERS (w/1)

by Terry Stickels

How many words can you form from the letters a, c, e, p, r and s?

Use all six letters once and only once for each word.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

KNWP IBNGF HNBP

EBPHPUYNXFKE DXKK, FGTDE,

ZNTIUQUE, QF EVP CPQBF

HXKETZKC. — RQUP IBPC

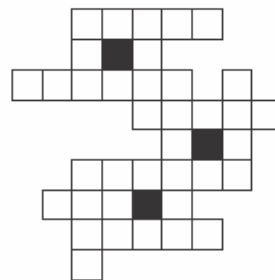
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FEAR KNOT

By: [i] Johnson

DOUBT? ...OR CARE?

- ERY
- ARNGDB
- SYMAN
- ♥ LGFD
- ♥ IRVNEA
- OMO
- ♥ ETAN
- ♥ ALNER
- OBY
- VERGLA
- ARTEK
- ♥ ALEM



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). Fill each string's word either across or down to knit all twelve strings together.

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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!



- Decay
- SNOWER**
- Layer
- RITE**
- Remove
- SEARE**
- Banish
- LEXIE**

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Hall Trees

With April showers comes the question: What do you do with your dripping raincoats and umbrellas? By the Victorian age, wealthy households had hall trees or hall stands in the entryway. They were functional pieces, kept against a wall to save space and featuring a place for everything: coat hooks, an umbrella stand, a bench with storage and often a shelf for small items. They usually have a mirror, too; after all, you want to look your best when you're leaving the house or visiting someone else's. And speaking of looks, hall trees were rarely just functional; they were often highly decorative. This one, which sold at Fontaine's Auction Gallery for \$1,875, was made about 1900, placing it at the end of the Victorian era. In addition to carvings and stick-and-ball decoration, it has a few unusual details. Instead of a storage bench, there is a drawer under the upholstered seat. A colorful leaded glass panel graces the top, and an inset clock adds yet another functional feature.



Q: I have some antique books I would like prices on. There are about 24 little books with green leather covers and some Big Little Books. How can I find someone who wants to buy them?

A: Your green leather books sound like they are from the Little Leather Library, a publishing company founded in New York in 1915.

They published classic literature titles in miniature format for affordable prices. They were first made as advertising premiums for the Whitman's Candy Company of Philadelphia. Then they were sold at retailers like Woolworth's, where they cost 10 cents each. The green covers are synthetic leather, which the company started using during World War I. By 1922, they changed the books' binding to a shiny red leatherette and operated as the Little Luxart Company. Big Little Books were published by the Whitman Publishing Company in Racine, Wisconsin, starting in 1932. They were about 3 1/2 by 4 inches, had full-page illustrations and originally cost 10 cents each. The first title was "The Adventures of Dick Tracy." Other Big Little Books also featured popular radio, comic strip and film characters, including Disney characters. In 1938, Whitman changed their name to Better Little Books. The prices of your books depend on the rarity of the titles. Today, individual Little Leather Library books can sell for about \$5 to \$30 each. Big Little Books are usually under \$20 each. The easiest way to sell books like these is through a local used bookstore.

TIP: Mirrors made before 1850 had thin glass. To judge the thickness of a mirror, hold a pencil point against the glass. The difference between the point and the reflection is the thickness.

CURRENT PRICES

Clock, Coca-Cola, round, red center, Drink Coca-Cola, metal, Telechron, 1951, 18 inches, \$60.

Textile, wall hanging, embroidered, pictorial, two cranes, marsh landscape, trees, bamboo, flowers, silk, Japan, late 1800s, 83 x 63 inches, \$350.

Furniture, linen press, mahogany, split scrolled crest, scallop finial, twist pilasters, two doors over two short over two long drawers, England, 1800s 85 1/2 inches, \$900.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit: www.Kovels.com

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March 15th, 2026

Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Square, Squire | 6. While, Whine |
| 2. Chili, Chill | 7. Realty, Really |
| 3. Margin, Marvin | 8. Skull, Skill |
| 4. Paddle, Saddle | 9. Thing, Think |
| 5. Angel, Anger | 10. Poster, Porter |

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at:

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * Adding bubbles to your bath keeps the water warm for a longer amount of time.
- * To perform Kermit's early swamp scene in "The Muppet Movie," Jim Henson had to spend a day in a 50-gallon steel drum under a pond.
- * Wakes were originally held in case the apparently deceased returned to life.
- * The word "love" or "zero" in tennis possibly derives from the French word "l'oeuf," meaning "egg," which may represent the figure zero.
- * Giraffes have the highest blood pressure of any mammal.
- * Because the speed of Earth's rotation changes over time, a day in the age of dinosaurs was 23 hours long.
- * The Pyramid of Khufu at Giza, the largest Egyptian pyramid, weighs as much as 16 Empire State buildings.
- * A stork shot by a hunter in Germany in 1822 was found with a Central African spear piercing its throat, providing scientists with the first evidence for long-distance bird migration.
- * Soccer stars Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi were born 869 days apart, and their respective eldest sons were also born exactly 869 days apart.
- * The SkyWheel in Helsinki is the only Ferris wheel in the world featuring a sauna in one of its gondolas.

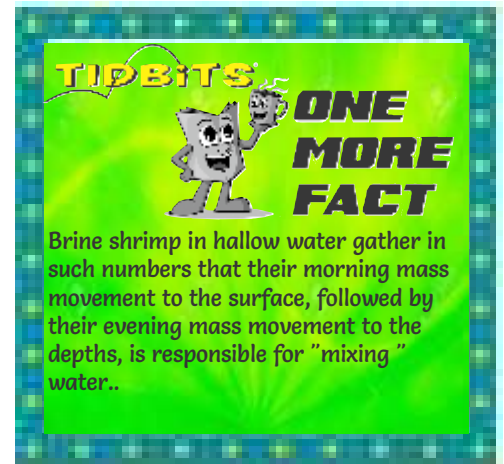
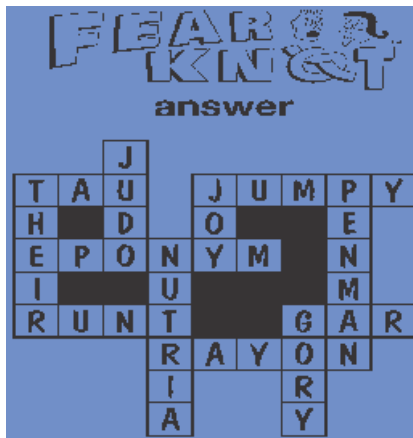
- * "To Have and Have Not," starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, was made into a movie after director Howard Hawks told Ernest Hemingway he could make a great film from what Hemingway called his worst book.
- * Peru is the only country whose English-language name can be typed on a single row of a standard QWERTY keyboard.
- * Pulmonary arteries are the only ones in the human body that carry de-oxygenated blood.***

Thought for the Day: "An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves." ~ Bill Vaughan

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March 15th, 2026



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answers

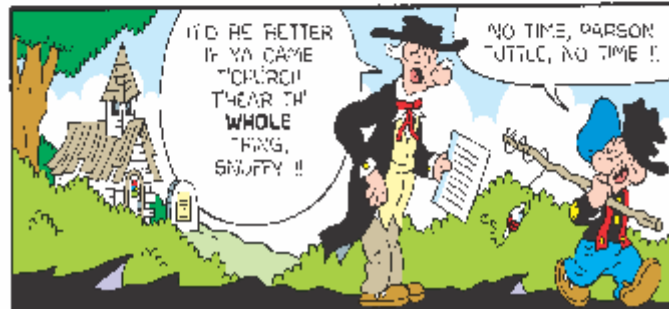
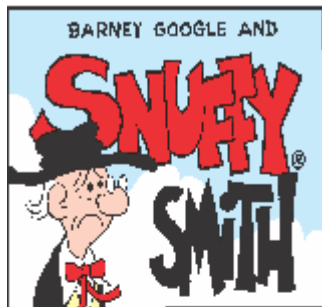
1	+	5	+	4	= 10
+		+		+	
7	+	9	÷	8	= 2
+		+		÷	
6	-	3	-	2	= 1
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14		17		6	

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S	O	L	A	R
M	O	L	A	R
R	E	A	L	M
M	E	D	A	L



- * When you make a meringue, be sure to spread it all the way to the crust on all sides. If you do, it won't shrink.
- * "Newspaper bags are handy hand covers in many situations. Keep them close if you are painting, doing a DIY art project, working in the shop with sticky or greasy materials or baking and working with dough. If you are interrupted, simply slip a bag over your hands to answer the phone or door, etc. It's much quicker than washing and drying your hands, and you can go right back to it once you have dealt with the interruption." -- W.A. in Oregon
- * "To clean burned-on bits from your cast iron skillet, scrub with a plastic scrubbie and salt as an abrasive. Dry immediately and rub with oil to keep moist." -- R.T. in Ohio
- * Metal shower hooks can be used in the sewing basket to hold safety pins. They can be used in a jewelry box to corral costume rings as well.



- * "Line the edges of a plastic shower curtain on both sides with duct tape. Then snip out a few holes through the tape edging. You can use the holes to tie the plastic stretched out between trees for a wind break or as a quick shelter from the rain. You can tie bagged sand to the corners as a car cover. Stake it to the ground under your blanket to avoid ground moisture. Lots of possibilities." -- F.C. in Georgia
- * After your dishwasher has run its course, open up the door and let the dishes air-dry. On cold days, there's the added bonus of humidifying the house with the steam that escapes.

Send your tips to:

Now Here's a Tip
1800 Pembroke Dr. Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32810
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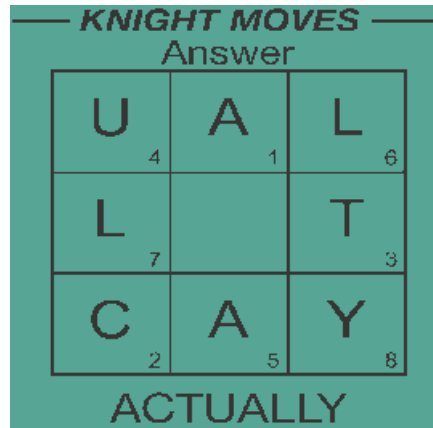
March 15th, 2026

Test Your Knowledge



1. Who wrote and released "Piano Man"?
2. Which artist wrote and released "Dirty Blvd"?
3. What was "Smoke on the Water" about?
4. Which artist released "Talk to Me"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I've been in love so many times, Thought I knew the score, But now you've treated me so wrong, I can't take any-more."

Answers on Back Cover



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1. MOVIES: Who is the director of the Oscar-winning movie "Parasite"?
2. FOOD & DRINK: What is miso?
3. LITERATURE: What are the names of the romantic couple in "Wuthering Heights"?
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which city's nickname is "Pearl of the Orient"?
5. HISTORY: In what year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
6. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Before becoming president, Barack Obama served as a senator from which state?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Which peninsula is the largest in the world?
8. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek god of war?
9. MUSIC: Who composed the opera "The Ring of Nibelung"?
10. ACRONYMS: In computer emails, what does the acronym "CC" stand for?

Answers on Back Cover



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Holidays & Observances This Week

- 3/29 National Mom & Pop Business Owner's Day
- 3/30 National Doctor's Day
- 3/31 National Bunsen Burner Day
- 4/1 Earthquake Preparedness Month
- 4/2 Children's Book Day
- 4/3 1860 Pony Express Day
- 4/4 404 Message Not Found Day

VETERAN'S ★ POST ★ by Freddy Groves

Fake Prescriptions Scam



How much would you trust a prescription cream compound that was whipped up in a back room by a bunch of untrained teenagers? Sounds dangerous, and it turned out to be just that by patients who used the fake cream and ended up with painful rashes. It was a real moneymaker for some scammers however: Have some kids mix up \$15 worth of ingredients in the back of a pharmacy, and then charge the government \$16,000 for each prescription.

The VA Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) was one of a handful of agencies who investigated a doctor who was part of this \$145 million scam, as well as his pharmacist pals. Besides the VA, the Department of Labor, the Post Office and the IRS were involved. There were bribes and kickbacks paid by unscrupulous pharmacy owners, unnecessary prescriptions written by the doctor (an orthopedic surgeon) and, of course, thieves don't pay taxes on their ill-gotten millions. The operation was a well-oiled machine devoted to making money. Special prescription pads were provided to the doctor that referred patients to a specific pharmacy, and the doctor's staff were instructed to write prescriptions for each patient seen that day, whether or not they even needed the compounded cream. One of the pharmacists checked several times a day to see how much had been billed that day. If out of the office, staff would text him the amount of money made.

The doctor was sentenced to eight years in prison and has to pay back \$13 million in restitution. One pharmacist was sentenced to 17 years in prison and will repay \$115 million in restitution. The other pharmacist will serve 15 years in prison. Together with his thief pharmacist buddy, they will forfeit \$405 million in seized assets. So there is some justice here. TITLE: None of them will be out of prison quickly, and when they are out, their fancy homes and cars won't be there, and neither will the millions they stashed in multiple accounts and shell companies.

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

Recall:
Rice Products
Might Contain
Glass

by Matilda Charles

A recent food recall for one manufacturer includes a list of fried rice, ramen and dumpling products that is 23 pages long. The list covers lot numbers and production dates going back many months. With 50 items per page, that comes to 1,100 items. The problem? They all might have glass in them.

The additional concern? They were sold under several brand names, including as the house brand for two big chains. One of those alone has a recall for over 30 million pounds of the rice products.

But there's more. We also have a BBQ sauce with undeclared allergens, the cat food without enough vitamin B1, dog treats with salmonella and cottage cheese that contains milk that wasn't pasteurized.

It's not only food items that are currently on recall lists. We have baby monitors that can catch fire while charging, the bath foam that can forcefully eject pieces (three injuries so far) when opened and the metal wire grill brushes that can break off and attach to the grill or food. Vehicles aren't being left out. Ford is recalling transit vehicles because the brake pedal can come apart and fail. (Free inspection and repair, however.) Certain 2025-2026 Subaru vehicles are being recalled due to fuel leak, which can cause a fire. (Again, there's a free repair.) BMW has damaged air conditioning wire harnesses, which can cause a fire. Kia Telluride, which has power front seats, are recalled because they might not restrain occupants in a crash. To find the list of rice products that might contain glass, go to www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls. At this writing, there is a banner across the top of the page, and it's classified as a Class 1 (High) recall.

Make it a weekly habit to take a look at recall sites, such as www.fsis.usda.gov (food), fda.gov (food and drugs), www.cpsc.gov/recalls (consumer products) and www.recalls.gov (a variety of products, food and medicine). Keep an eye on vehicle recalls at www.nhtsa.gov/recalls (you'll need your VIN). Stay safe!

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Americanisms



CRIM and BIAR IT



"You guys really wear diapers?"



- Hoppers** (PG) Piper Curda, Bobby Moynihan
 - Scream 7** (R) Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox
 - The Bride!** Jessie Buckley, Christian Bale
 - GOAT** (PG) Caleb McLaughlin, Gabrielle Union
 - Wuthering Heights** (R) Margot Robbie, Jacob Elordi
 - Crime 101** (R) Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo
 - EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert** (PG-13) Elvis Presley
 - Send Help** (R) Rachel McAdams, Dylan O'Brien
 - I Can Only Imagine 2** (PG) Arielle Kebbel, Milo Ventimiglia
 - Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle** Zach Aguilar, Saeko Akiho
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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Filipe



March 15th, 2026

King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 22 mins.

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

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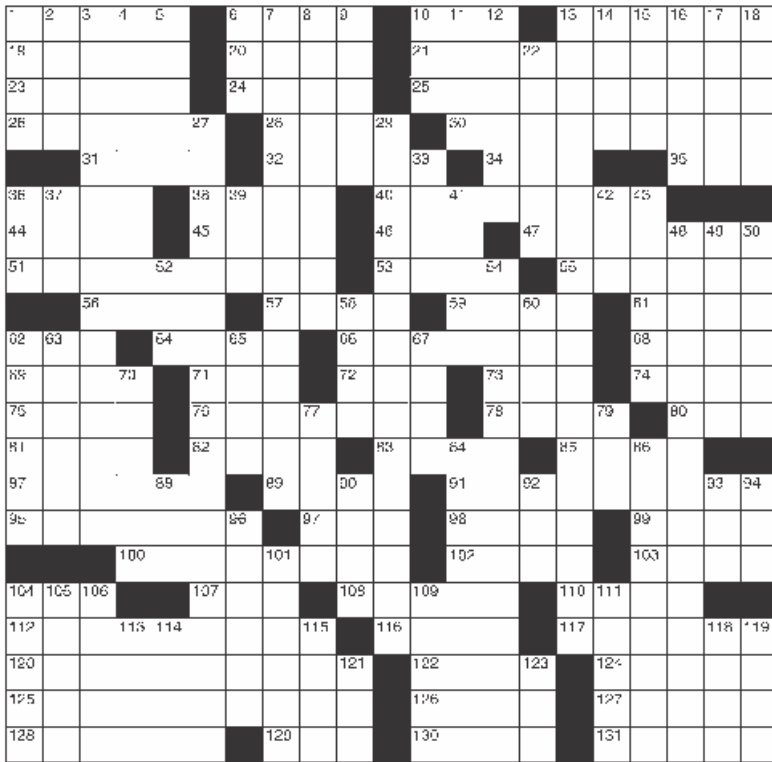
Craig Family Dental

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6

Super Crossword

DOWNWARD
TREND



ACROSS

- 1 Baldwin and Guinness
- 6 Pines on Jansin's
- 10 Google Play buy
- 13 In recent times
- 19 A lot of, in Tijuana
- 20 All over
- 21 Outstanding examples on display
- 23 Hot and bubbling
- 24 All over
- 25 Adds a little dash to?
- 26 Railroad tapper
- 28 Kind of rice
- 30 Nighttime light from a clear sky
- 31 Granite cooking pot
- 32 Actor Flynn
- 34 — standstill
- 35 Writer Fleming
- 36 Doll's call
- 38 Bean curd
- 40 Person with a mouth-related nervous habit
- 44 In a crowd of
- 45 Some breads and whiskeys
- 46 Equine beast
- 47 Blaze fighter's helmet
- 51 Facilities for processing a paddy product
- 53 Pea rally yells
- 55 Big gray windows
- 56 Cape (with)
- 57 Sea 33-Down
- 59 Env. directive
- 61 Back of the neck
- 62 Revolutionary Guevara
- 64 Baking pans
- 66 Tall center of California
- 68 Revise copy
- 69 — -Cola
- 71 This instant
- 72 — Zedong
- 73 Grand — wine
- 74 Clamors
- 75 Cyber-chuckles
- 76 French painter Monet
- 78 1996 running mare Jack
- 80 Circus narrod
- 81 Rival of Herz
- 82 Long period
- 83 Haiku, e.g.
- 85 Gavel noise
- 87 Low-status, as labor
- 88 Treatment tablet
- 91 Like lullaby food
- 95 Do the charpiron
- 97 Piero's "T"
- 98 Toward the mouth, in an anatomist
- 99 Bungalow, e.g.
- 100 Large plant with fronds
- 102 Horsey's toffee bar
- 103 Long periods
- 104 Turkey Day tuber
- 107 — -me
- 108 Sack-jawed
- 110 Actress Chaplin
- 112 Strangely beautiful quality
- 116 Garman for "genuine"
- 117 Quick-to-build house
- 120 Very strictly organized
- 122 Fix orders
- 124 World-weary
- 125 Navy aerial team
- 126 A Great Lake
- 127 Singer Gouking
- 128 Skip my
- 129 Decompose
- 130 OCL procedure
- 131 Bob of folk
- 77 Form a group
- 79 Golf form
- 84 Plane's livable zone
- 86 Overy — most type
- 88 Smog soils it
- 90 Actress — Flynn Boyle
- 92 Philosopher — Zhu
- 93 Investment optics, in brief
- 94 Investment optics, in brief
- 95 Tapping morays, say
- 101 Promote
- 104 California's — Buena Islano
- 105 Skating leaps
- 106 Media relative gig
- 108 Peaks
- 111 Formed into a ball
- 113 " — yellow album ..."
- 114 Somali supermodel
- 115 Prefix with drama
- 118 Laos' home
- 119 "It's — real!"
- 121 June hrs.
- 123 Stage design

Test Your Knowledge



ANSWERS

1. Bong Joon Ho.
2. Fermented soy-bean paste.
3. Heathcliff and Catherine
4. Manila, Philippines
5. 1896 in Greece.
6. Illinois.
7. Arabian Peninsula.



ANSWERS

1. Billy Joel, in 1973. Joel has said that the song was written about his time as a lounge piano player in Los Angeles.
2. Lou Reed, in 1989. The song topped Billboard's Modern Rock Tracks for four weeks.
3. Deep Purple was in Switzerland at the Montreaux Casino to do some recording when the casino caught fire.
4. Stevie Nicks, in 1985.
5. "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," by Lonnie Donegan, in 1962. Tom Jones released a cover of the song in 1967. Donegan's son auditioned for "The Voice UK" and performed a duet of the song with Tom Jones in 2019.

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Detractors say the song's famous opening riff was taken from Beethoven's 5th played backward. Others note, however, that it seems to be taken directly from a Bossa Nova song called "Maria Quiet." You decide.

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