

# the Local Voice



**OLE MISS**

**#438 FREE**  
March 7-21, 2024

**& OXFORD**

**LOCAL NEWS  
YOU CAN USE:**

**FOOD, DRINKS,  
ENTERTAINMENT,  
ARTS, EVENTS,  
AND MORE**



St. Patrick's Day  
March 17

THE LOCAL VOICE™ #438 - FREE - OXFORD - OLE MISS - LAFAYETTE - MISSISSIPPI - FOOD, DRINKS, & ENTERTAINMENT - READ AT MAXIMUM VOLUME™

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**SQUARE BOOKS PRESENTS...**  
Tuesday, March 12th • 5:30 PM • Off Square Books

**Di Rushing**  
for  
**THE DELTA IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR**

Thursday, March 21st • 5PM • The Ford Center

**Andrew McCarthy**  
for  
**WALKING WITH SAM**

CALL SQUARE BOOKS AT (662) 236-2262 OR SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



**OXFORD'S FAVORITE  
HAPPY HOUR AND MARGARITA!**

**HAPPY HOUR MONDAY-FRIDAY 3-6 PM**  
**HALF-PRICE APPETIZERS \$2 TACOS**  
**\$5 HOUSE MARGARITAS**

**\$20 HOUSE MARGARITA PITCHERS**

**TACO TUESDAY = ALL DAY HAPPY HOUR**

# the Local Voice™

Issue #438 • March 7-21, 2024 • Read at Maximum Volume • Oxford, Ole Miss, & North Mississippi

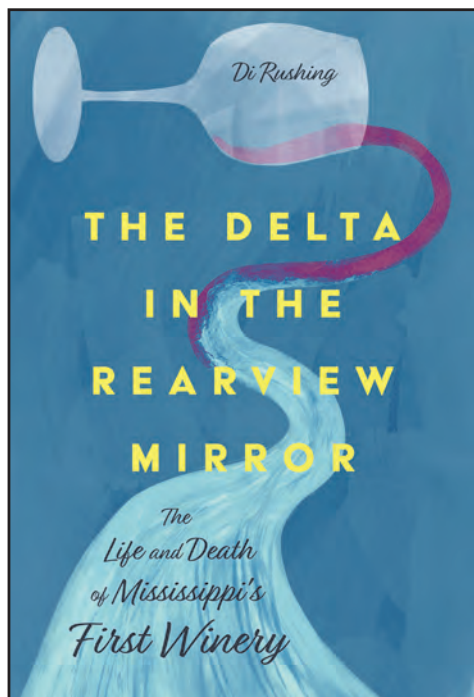
## Drama in the Delta: Tuesday March 12 at Off Square Books A Firsthand Account of the Splendid Rise and Frightening Fall of Mississippi's First Winery

After graduating from Mississippi State University in 1976, **Di Rushing** and her husband, **Sam**, found themselves back on their family farm near **Merigold, Mississippi**, with 350 acres and no real clue what to do.

The couple decided to open the first winery in Mississippi, and with it, a successful business was born. Six years later, a small restaurant joined the Delta winery. Both businesses were thriving by 1990, with eight national award-winning wines, a beautiful vineyard, and a successful restaurant.

But in March of 1990, a series of unforeseen events rocked the operation. After the Rushings discovered one of the tour guides, **Ray Russell**, selling drugs in the winery parking lot, they fired him. He responded with a terrorizing vengeance that persisted over the next nine months.

In the early morning hours, the former guide broke into the winery, crept into the wine cellar, and released the entire inventory—nearly a quarter of a million dollars' worth—down the drain. Fortunately, his incompetence thwarted his most destructive intention to blow up the restaurant. In his rampage, he broke all the windows, which allowed the gas from the kitchen oven to escape, sparing the premises. Though the Rushings rebuilt with the help of their community, Russell continued to stalk and threaten the young family. As his menacing behavior continued to escalate, the Rushings closed their business of fourteen years and moved to Ouray, Colorado, where they began rebuilding their lives. Culminating in the sudden, violent murders of Russell, his wife, and his father twenty-five years later, this book tells a story of both shock and resilience, charting Mississippi history in the process.



Intertwined with the true crime narrative, *The Delta in the Rearview Mirror: The Life and Death of Mississippi's First Winery* details author Di Rushing's life in and out of Mississippi, including growing up in 1960s **Greenville**, attending university, traveling overseas, and the relationships she cultivated along the way.

**Off Square Books** welcomes Di Rushing on Tuesday, March 12 at 5:30 pm.


Di Rushing grew up in the Mississippi Delta. In 1976, she and her husband established the state's first winery near Merigold, Mississippi. A few years later, Rushing opened **Top of the Cellar Tea Room** and published a companion cookbook featuring its recipes. In 1990, she and her family relocated to Ouray, Colorado, where she taught high school English for twenty years. She

still misses Delta sunsets.

**Coming Friday, March 8 at 5:30 pm  
at Off Square Books: Beto O'Rourke**

Activist and political leader **Beto O'Rourke** blends history, sociology, and travelogue for a thrilling, inspiring case for how voting rights is essential to a productive and healthy democracy.

In *We've Got To Try*, O'Rourke shines a spotlight on the heroic life and work of **Dr. Lawrence Aaron Nixon**. Nixon grew up in the Confederate stronghold of Marshall, Texas, before moving to El Paso, becoming a civil rights leader, and helping to win one of the most significant civil and voting rights victories in American history: the defeat of the all-white primary. His fight for the ballot spanned 20 years and twice took him to the U.S. Supreme Court.

With heart, eloquence, and powerful storytelling, O'Rourke weaves together Nixon's story with those of other great Texans who changed the course of voting rights and improved America's democracy. 



Make plans now to attend  
**Snackbar's 15th Anniversary Party Sunday, April 14**  
Stay Tuned for Details!



**SNACK BAR**

Dinner 5:30–10pm  
Tuesday–Thursday  
& 5:30–10:30pm  
Friday/Saturday



**Big Bad Breakfast Hours:**  
7am–1pm Weekdays  
(Closed Tuesday);  
8am–2:30pm Weekends



Lunch 11:30 am–2:30 pm;  
Dinner 6–10 pm  
Monday–Thursday &  
6–10:30 pm Friday/Saturday  
Upstairs Bar 4 pm–close



**Quack's**

**Moe's Original**  
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DRINKS



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FUNDAY**  
EVERY WEEK

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**Ole Miss** 20-9  
**BASKETBALL**  
VS. TEXAS A&M 3/9  
SEC TOURNAMENT  
MARCH 13-17



**Ole Miss WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
SEC TOURNAMENT QUARTERFINALS MARCH 8 AT 7 PM

**HOTEL  
BURGUNDY**  
LIVE AT THE LIBRARY  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY MARCH 8 & 9



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

**OLE MISS BASEBALL**

VS. MOREHEAD STATE MAR 8 @ 6:30 PM  
MAR 9 @ 4 PM, MAR 10 @ 1:30 PM  
VS. ULM MAR 12 @ 4 PM  
VS. SOUTH CAROLINA MAR 15 @ 6:30 PM  
MAR 16 @ 1 PM, MAR 17 @ 1:30 PM  
VS. SOUTHERN MISS MAR 19 @ 6 PM  
VS. TENNESSEE MAR 22 @ 5:30 PM  
MAR 23 @ 5 PM, MAR 24 @ NOON



**MARCH MADNESS! NCAA TOURNAMENT STARTS MARCH 19**

# ROUNDABOUT OXFORD™

## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

### THURSDAY 3.07.2024

- **Ford Center:** LAWRENCE BROWNEE (7:30 pm)
- **Mad Hatter:** KC & THE MOONSHINE BAND (7:30–10 pm)
- **Moe's:** BINGO (8 pm)
- **The Powerhouse:** Thacker Mountain Radio featuring author **DELANA R. A. DAMERON** with *Redwood Court*, plus music by **BETTY SOO** and **GHALIA VOLT** (6 pm)
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Lafayette County Master Gardeners Spring Lecture Series (noon)
- Proud Larry's: THE CASTELLOWS, KELLER COX
- Southside Gallery: Opening receptions for CATS & DOGS (6–8 pm)

### FRIDAY 3.08.2024

- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. MOREHEAD STATE (4 pm)
- **The Library:** HOTEL BURGUNDY
- **The Mad Hatter:** DUELING PIANOS (7–11 pm)
- **Off Square Books:** BETO O'ROURKE with *We've Got to Try* (5:30 pm)
- **OPA:** REESE HORTON (6–8:30 pm)
- **Rafters:** DJ DRUMM
- **Rooster's:** MATT ALLUM
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Storytime (10:30 am); Tell Me About It Book Club (4 pm)
- Proud Larry's: THE PINK STONES, ELIJAH JOHNSTON

### SATURDAY 3.09.2024

- **The Pavilion:** Ole Miss Men's Basketball vs. TEXAS A&M (1 pm)
- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. MOREHEAD STATE (4 pm)
- **Funkys:** CRAWFISH BOIL (1–4 pm)
- **The Library:** HOTEL BURGUNDY
- **The Mad Hatter:** SOULTONES COMMUNITY JAM (6–9 pm)
- DUELING PIANOS** (9–12 pm)
- **Rafters:** DJ DRUMM (9 pm)
- **Rooster's:** PHARMTRUCK
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Bones & Books (10 am)
- Ole Miss Band Hall: Ole Miss Ballroom Dance Club - BACHATA (7–9:30 pm; \$5 students/\$10)
- Proud Larry's: KATE TEAGUE, STYROFOAM WINOS, HARTLE ROAD

### SUNDAY 3.10.2024

#### Daylight Savings Time Begins (2 am)

- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. MOREHEAD STATE (1:30 pm)
- **Rafters:** Sunday Brunch (11:30 am–2:30 pm)
- Lafayette County Arena: SACRED HARP SINGING (9:45 am–until)

### MONDAY 3.11.2024

- **Rooster's:** DJ WADE
- Blind Pig: Trivia (8 pm)
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Pokemon Playdate (4 pm)
- Proud Larry's: COLOR GREEN

### TUESDAY 3.12.2024

#### Primary Election Day (7am-7pm)

- **The Library:** Watch Ole Miss Baseball @ ULM (4 pm)
- **Moe's:** Trivia (7 pm)
- **Off Square Books:** DI RUSHING presents *The Delta in the Rearview Mirror* (5:30 pm)
- **Old Armory Pavilion:** Oxford Community Market (3–6:30 pm)
- **Rooster's:** KARAOKE (5:30 pm); OPEN MIC NIGHT

### WEDNESDAY 3.13.2024

- **Funkys:** LADIES' NIGHT
- **Mad Hatter:** OPEN MIC with HAGGARD & OPIE (7–11 pm)
- **Moe's Penny Bar:** COMEDY OPEN MIC (9 pm)
- **Rooster's:** KARAOKE (5:30 pm–till)
- Campus Wines: Wine Tasting (5–7 pm)

### THURSDAY 3.14.2024

- **Mad Hatter:** MICHEAL MCINTIRE TRIO (7:30–10 pm)
- **Moe's:** BINGO (7 pm)

### FRIDAY 3.15.2024

- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. SOUTH CAROLINA (6:30 pm)
- **The Mad Hatter:** DUELING PIANOS (7–11 pm)
- **OPA:** RHEAGAN SKELTON (6–8:30 pm)
- **Rafters:** DJ DRUMM
- **Rooster's:** PINK SHEETS
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Storytime (10:30 am)
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church: WINTER LIGHTS: St. Partick's celebration (6 pm, in the nave)



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### SATURDAY 3.16.2024

- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. SOUTH CAROLINA (1 pm)
- **Funkys:** CRAWFISH BOIL (1–4 pm)
- **The Mad Hatter:** DUELING PIANOS (7–11 pm)
- **Rafters:** DJ DRUMM
- **Rooster's:** ROWDY
- Proud Larry's: TATE MOORE (5 pm), THE MOSQUITO BROTHERS (9 pm)

### SUNDAY 3.17.2024

#### St. Patrick's Day

- **Swayze Field:** Ole Miss Baseball vs. SOUTH CAROLINA (1:30 pm)
- **Old Armory Pavilion:** Oxford on Skates (3:30–5 pm, BYO Skates)
- **Rafters:** Brunch music with ROCKET 88 (11:30 am–2:30 pm); ST. PATTY'S DAY PARTY (3 pm–close)



### MONDAY 3.18.2024

- **Rooster's:** DJ WADE
- Blind Pig: Trivia (8 pm)

### TUESDAY 3.19.2024

#### Spring Equinox (10:06 pm)

- **Moe's:** Trivia (7 pm)
- **Old Armory Pavilion:** Oxford Community Market (3–6:30 pm)
- **Rooster's:** KARAOKE (5:30 pm); OPEN MIC NIGHT (9:30 pm)
- Barnard Observatory (University): Folk Punk on the Porch: AUSTIN LUCAS, Isom Student Gender Conference free pre-conference concert (noon)
- Ford Center: LOU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (7:30 pm)
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Baby Storytime (9:30 am)
- Proud Larry's: FUST, WILL GRIFFITH, SMALL TRUCKS

### WEDNESDAY 3.20.2024

- **Funkys:** LADIES NIGHT
- **Mad Hatter:** OPEN MIC with HAGGARD & OPIE (7–11 pm)
- **Moe's Penny Bar:** COMEDY OPEN MIC
- **The Powerhouse:** HONORS ART SHOWCASE (4:30 pm)
- **Rooster's:** KARAOKE (5:30 pm–till)
- Campus Wines: Wine Tasting (5–7 pm)
- Heartbreak Coffee: Oxford Spanish Hour (5–6 pm)
- Paris-Yates Chapel (University): RENAISSANCE CHORAL MUSIC CONCERT (7:30 pm)

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FRIDAY-SAT Noon-til  
SUNDAY 11 am-til

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*Saint Leo*



## MARCH LIVE MUSIC

THU MARCH 7TH - KC AND THE MOONSHINE BAND 7:30-10

FRI MARCH 8TH - DUELING PIANOS 7-11

SAT MARCH 9TH - THE SOULTONES COMMUNITY JAM 6-9

DUELING PIANOS 9-12

WED MARCH 13TH - OPEN MIC WITH HAGGARD & OPIE 7-11

THU MARCH 14TH - MICHAEL MCINTIRE TRIO 7:30-10

FRI MARCH 15TH - DUELING PIANOS 7-11

SAT MARCH 16TH - DUELING PIANOS 7-11

WED MARCH 20TH - OPEN MIC WITH HAGGARD & OPIE 7-11

## NOW OPEN ON THE OXFORD SQUARE

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for **Ole Miss Basketball**  
and **Baseball!**

## ST. PATTY'S DAY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Brunch 10:45 am-3 pm

\$3 Mimosas and *Famous Bloody Marys*

and Live Music 11:30-2:30 **ROCKET 88**

St. Patty's Party 3-9 pm

*Lucky Irish Shots \$3 COME PARTY!*

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## VOTED OXFORD'S FAVORITE PATIO

Live Music 6-8:30 pm

FRI March 8th - Reese Horton

FRI March 15th - Rheagan Skelton





King Crossword

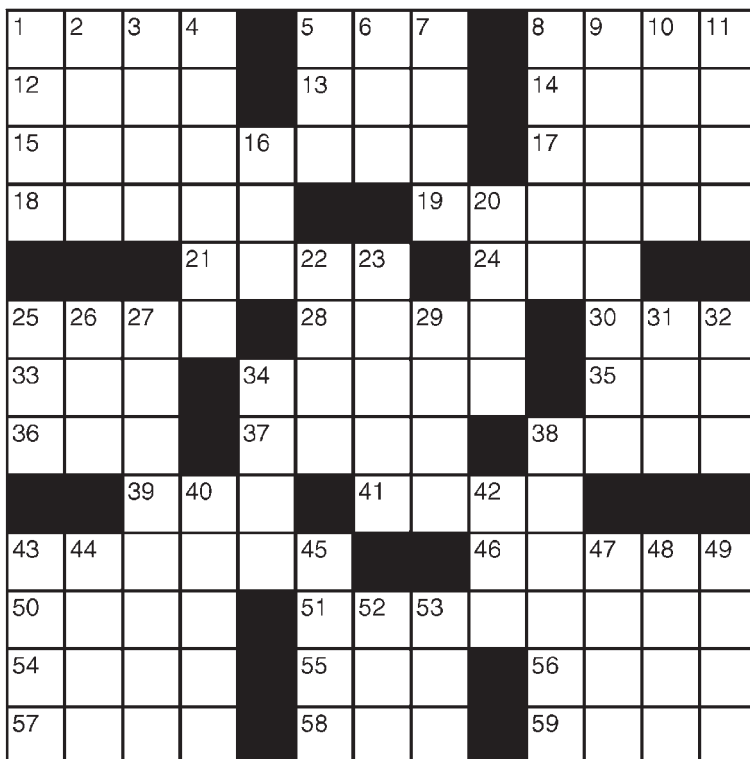
ACROSS

- 1 Manhandle  
5 Annex  
8 Trig function  
12 Within (Pref.)  
13 "Ben- --"  
14 Toledo's lake  
15 "Sure, of course"  
17 Bakery buy  
18 "Yippee!"  
19 Apple music service  
21 Pride parade initials  
24 "Let me think ..."  
25 Valley in California  
28 Indy event  
30 Wall climber  
33 Rocker Rose  
34 Plains grazers  
35 Formerly known as  
36 Earth (Pref.)  
37 Stink  
38 "It's -- real!"  
39 Texter's "Enough!"
- 41 Bring up  
43 Tell  
46 Pink hue  
50 Lena of "The Reader"  
51 Sake, e.g.  
54 Curse  
55 Greek mountain  
56 Zilch  
57 Rosebud, to Kane  
58 Camp bed  
59 Flag feature

DOWN

- 1 Calico's call  
2 My Way writer  
3 Beehive State  
4 Jesuit university  
5 Sushi fish  
6 Press for payment  
7 Zwei follower  
8 Blood part  
9 Ore source  
10 Aswan's river  
11 Congers  
16 Sailing hazard

- 20 Subsequently  
22 Party cheese  
23 Stunning gun  
25 Pester  
26 Chopper  
27 Story thread  
29 Pepsi rival  
31 Victory sign  
32 Longing
- 34 Telly watcher  
38 Cleveland squad  
40 Like lions  
42 Expert  
43 Filches  
44 Israeli carrier  
45 Guitarist Clapton
- 47 Funny person  
48 Visitor to Siam  
49 Ogler's look  
52 Altar  
53 Jazz lover



MAGIC MAZE

VERY SMALL CITIES OF ALASKA

T A X V S Q N K I F D A X V T  
Q N O M J H F C A E Y Y W U R  
P Y I N L J H F S L D S B M B  
Z X A O V T R E Q G S S K U O  
M Y K B (P E L I C A N) A I N R  
I H A F N T D K P E K P N I B  
Z A Y B T E O E G R O E G T S  
W V K E D W S L T R I L I A E  
Q O B T K L N R I L H A H L L  
K I H E A F O D A P K H C P A  
C A Z F X W V C U L A W S R W

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: LARGE BIRD OF PREY

- Akhiok Cold Bay Pelican St. George  
Atka Ekwok Pilot Point Wales  
Bettles False Pass Platinum Whale Pass  
Chignik Larsen Bay Ruby

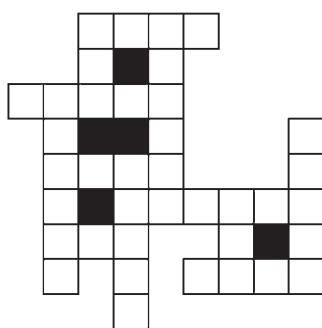
STICKELERS  
by Terry Stickels

Can you unscramble the letters below to form an ordinary word?

N G P R E E T C S E A

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

- UDM  
ULIMIE  
OPLIS  
♥OTEM  
♥NUTOAM  
PCU  
EMKA  
ACIMN  
OTO  
IMPCUE  
OKPKE  
IDCO



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.

Wishing Well®

3 4 3 7 6 7 4 7 2 7 2 7 8  
H A A Y L O W U C R A W E  
7 2 4 6 7 2 4 6 4 2 8 3 7  
A S A O N H R V M I N B T  
4 3 7 5 3 8 2 6 2 5 8 5 8  
F I S S T D N E A E U E R  
7 2 7 6 2 7 4 8 6 7 6 5 2  
A L R U E E R I P M H K T  
4 5 8 5 3 7 3 6 5 6 5 7 5  
I K N N S E I E O L W T L  
2 6 3 2 3 4 5 2 8 3 5 4 5  
T D M E P E E R G R D N G  
4 8 3 8 3 5 3 4 8 4 8 4 4  
D L O O V E E S V H E I P

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.



"Living with regrets is like driving a car that only moves in reverse."  
— Jodi Picoult  
(born May 19, 1966)

Rooster's  
BLUES HOUSE  
KARAOKE  
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
5:30 PM

OPEN MIC NIGHT TUESDAYS AT 9:30 PM  
LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS



# the Local Voice

## PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

### SUDOKU

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

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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## Super Crossword

ADDITIVE-FREE

### ACROSS

- 1 Not suitable  
6 "Sorry to intrude ..."  
10 Capricious ideas  
15 Cartoonist Addams, informally  
19 Payments to the IRS  
20 Oscar winner Robert De —  
21 Capital of Vietnam  
22 Sword handle  
23 Fifth Avenue skyscraper  
26 Other, in Acapulco  
27 Identity hider  
28 Altitudes: Abbr.  
29 — -C (PC copy command)  
30 What a groom may toss  
32 "Uh-huh"  
34 Pioneer Boone, informally  
35 Orthodox Jewish movement  
37 Rapper — Rida  
40 Technique for viewing a slow process quickly  
43 Cattle farm  
45 Prefix with nourished  
46 In a daze  
47 First first lady of the U.S.  
51 Gets close to  
55 Sesame seed paste  
56 Pucksters' org. with the Calder Cup  
57 Newspaper think piece  
60 Born as  
61 Toon sheet  
62 Hedy of "Ecstasy"  
66 Rome's — Fountain  
67 Dollar bill  
68 Advance inquiry into a crime, e.g.  
72 Israeli city close to Ben Gurion Airport  
73 Big name in life insurance  
74 Decrease  
75 Doc for the neck up  
76 D-H linkup  
77 FDR or HST

- 78 Former "Idol" judge  
79 Bob of play-by-play  
82 Wolfed down  
84 Launching of people into orbit  
88 Insurance payment  
92 "The Simpsons" shopkeeper  
93 Was overlong  
94 Dual-focus course about bodily structures  
100 Some kitchen appliances, for short  
101 From a northwest Italian port  
102 Certain South African  
103 Arena level  
105 "Hallelujah Chorus" composer  
106 Rough- — wood  
107 City vehicle  
108 Gas brand  
112 Water, in Acapulco  
113 What love is, per a Four Aces #1 tune, with "a"  
118 Crate piece

- 119 Capital of South Korea  
120 Actress Best  
121 Really mad  
122 The "T" of 66-Down  
123 Day divisions  
124 Bargain  
125 Restaurant notice that's applicable to this puzzle's seven longest answers?

### DOWN

- 1 Bit of news  
2 Wine valley  
3 Allies' rival  
4 Sprightly  
5 Mao — -tung  
6 Object of hate  
7 Thwacks  
8 Before  
9 Woman's quaint headpiece  
10 Jacuzzi, e.g.  
11 Recital venue  
12 Not Rep. or Dem.  
13 Mimi's "me"  
14 Celebrates with a tune  
15 Animal with a backbone  
16 Relative of a shout-out  
17 Anew  
18 Tempestuous  
24 Spicy cuisine  
25 — Reader (magazine)  
31 Carrier based in New Delhi  
33 Hawke of film  
34 Salvador of surreal art  
35 Spicy  
36 From — Z  
37 Sig Nu, e.g.  
38 Video game tomb raider  
39 Teetering  
41 — -di-dah  
42 Attila follower  
44 Refrigerate  
48 More artful  
49 — a soul  
50 "— in Manila" (Ali-Frazier fight)  
52 Consecrating  
53 Nevada airport  
54 In view  
57 Mining finds  
58 Sampras of the court  
59 Show plainly  
63 Poker cost  
64 Supplies with personnel  
65 Coach Parseghian  
66 LG or RCA products  
68 Petition  
69 "Thumbs-up!"  
70 Gas in signs  
71 Gasless car  
78 Tipoffs in hoops, e.g.  
80 Christie's "A Pocket Full —"  
81 Depots: Abbr.  
83 Not old-fashioned  
84 Cabinet dept since 1965  
85 Twosome  
86 Abbr. on military mail  
87 Societal  
89 It might have mascara on it  
90 Pas' mates  
91 Opal ending  
94 Horror-struck  
95 All-Star pitcher Denny  
96 Yearly  
97 Gordie of hockey  
98 Itched (for)  
99 Seine feeder  
104 Trendy again  
106 Stimulate  
107 — fide  
109 Phony  
110 Creates a lap  
111 Blood type, for short  
114 Prefix with pagan  
115 Part of TTYL  
116 HST follower  
117 Loud noise

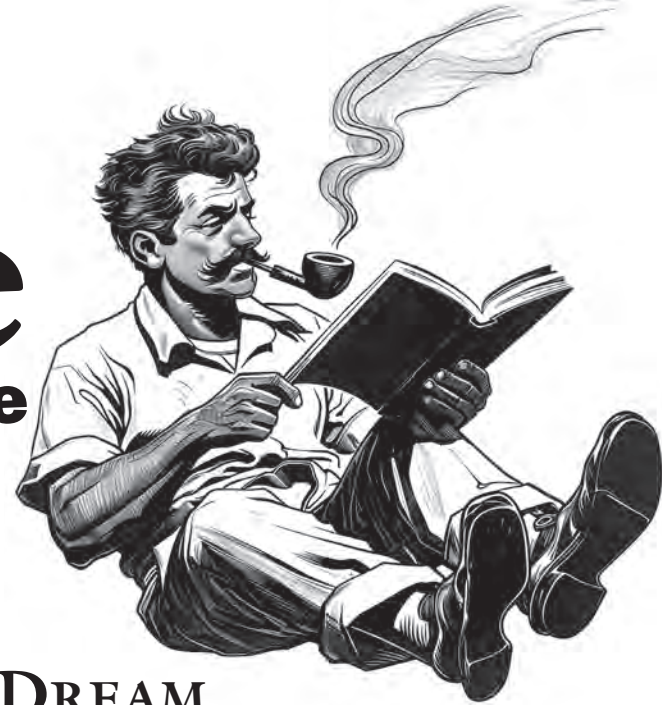
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18		
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# the Local Voice

## Reading Issue

### Spring 2024



## SMELLS LIKE SPRING TODAY

Smells like spring today  
And I saw the first daffodils  
Roadside and at Rowan Oak  
In Oxford

I had lunch there  
Yesterday  
On the square

With my friend Kate  
At Ajax Diner

I drove home

And realized we are all  
On the same journey  
Cradle to grave

I stopped at a broken railroad  
crossing  
And joined the other drivers  
Navigating our fear and  
programming

Find a solution, keep  
Moving

I passed Quitman's School Bus Shop  
And realized exactly where I was  
This past isn't dead,  
It isn't even past.

A new season starts  
The season of newness  
The renewal of mind  
In opposition to the pattern of this  
world

We are the universe  
Becoming conscious  
We are here  
Only to be

Only to be

—Lisa Maraventano

## BITE



BY WILLIAM BITTNER

Your blood beat. With each pulse of warmth I remembered my beginning, when I left the water-logged tire of my birth and buzzed into the sunlight. You should have been flattered that you were such a fount of fertility, but I knew you wouldn't. Thanks to your soft, exposed skin, my bloodline would not end with me.

I landed on your bare forearm, unsheathing my mouth and dribbling numbness in ecstatic anticipation. The surface tension of your skin broke and our exchange began. Blood struck my nerves, and the world exploded into a prism of existence.

At that moment, all the world unfolded as I drank deeply from your vein. My mouth had disappeared into the puncture. Unfocusing my many eyes, I saw your skin, your uncaring face turned away, the sunlight halo around your head, the air molecules upon which it reflected and, further, the space blanket atmosphere, the vacuum, the planets, moons, stars, galaxies, and the edge of the universe as it ran in all directions.

Suddenly, I was buffeted with air. I refocused, pushing through the fog of joy, and locked eyes with you. Fat with blood - angry blood. Your anger crashed down on me with a thunderclap, our bond ended, and my life was snuffed out. Nothing was left except an imprint on the time stream and a splotch of your beautiful, life-bringing, life-ending blood smeared across your palm.

## FLORIDA DREAM

I am watching my murder  
mystery wearing my green  
shirt. I listened  
to my favorite Destroyer  
all afternoon. I am going gray

in my twenties. I have a baby  
face but inside I am a cool  
machine. I am alive in Mississippi  
dreaming the Florida

dream, reading a gulf  
history. I am seeing  
the first white to see

the Mississippi. I am  
hearing his men sunk  
him in the great  
birth, and left

boars in their wake  
into the Arkansas  
infinity. I look up

and see the police  
in the interview  
room with the thief  
after the storm.

I fry big  
pans of greens  
and bacon. I call  
my left wife

I preach  
to her about the bats  
at sunset here,  
and her falcons,  
as she drives the Oklahoma

tollway where she always used  
to spot them. I smoke  
less. I feed

the birds. I finish  
the novel. The novel,

Tacoma. The novel,  
Balustrade. The novel,  
Heaven on Earth. The novel

sets in: Topeka, Kansas,  
late nineteen sixties,  
tracking an extended family  
as they hunt for work  
into Missouri.

I follow their car.  
Followed by bluebirds. I tune  
their rattling radio.

In the morning, I take a painted  
concrete tunnel under the Iowa  
River. I see the two great eagles  
diving—fishing—in its pollution  
oil perspiring off them in refracted  
rainbow mist. Into my teaching

town, I pass the Dollar  
General, a long line  
of fence bordering  
the highway—chain

linked, sheets  
of tin, and rotted pine  
painted red, silver,  
and black running into the pines  
before the pines  
disappear in the fucked-up soy  
fields beyond this town.

—Joseph Daniel Duffy



## UNANSWERED

The voices in my head for once have gone dormant

No longer asking the questions my heart longs for  
No longer questioning my legacy that will be left behind

In this moment, those things are not relevant

My feet stand still  
Sinking into the hearts of my loved ones instead

How I love them so

The blood flowing through my veins waves them  
goodbye  
My lips drag out a sigh

I am so dramatic

I am only a trophy in their lives  
This is a statement  
Not a thought

I am only a stepping stool in their lives  
This is a statement  
I'm a mat

The silence grows louder and for once I am thankful  
The silence grows stronger and for once I am hopeful

They can't get to me any more  
Where I am going  
You need a pass

They can't get to me anymore  
Where I am going  
You need not ask

—Chrisona Stanfield



# WORK FROM HOME

BY ANDREW CARPENTER

My boss's 5:15 email is most unwelcome, especially as the first thing I see when I fumble for my phone. Its harsh light becomes my 'good morning' anthem. I only grabbed the phone to play a mindless word game.

It's my fault for keeping work email notifications on.

No boundaries.

I go through the motions of showering, but don't feel clean.

But I work from home. And that makes it all OK. I won't see anyone today. No one can smell your breath over Zoom. No one knows you aren't wearing any pants. No one much cares that you exist.

Oh, not you. I'm sure lots of people would dump hundreds of dollars on your table to keep you out of prison in your own personal *It's a Wonderful Life* moment.

This is me, the one fading into the background.

I work from home and sometimes weeks go by and I get no emails.

But not today. Today clients scream because of a website bug.

I make it upstairs to my wonderful office with its panoramic view of the lake and the smattering of trees. Deer munch on the pumpkins Carrie and I had bowled down the hill.

Pumpkin bowling! It's so fun! Carrie and I are... *were* like that.

The pumpkins maintain structural integrity for a couple bounces. Then, the force of the impacts becomes too much. Seeds fly everywhere. It explodes into a glorious mess. But the deer love to eat it. They come in droves.

The pumpkins were decorations, but they'd gone bad. Kind of like my marriage. Rotting a little each day, impossible to see from the outside until the wrinkled skin begins to implode, and the decorative fruit starts to stink.

But now I'm coding.

See, when construction guys screw up, people notice right away. When a door leads to a fifty foot dropoff, inspectors find that. Once the building's up, everything's pretty solid. Software isn't like that. It's organic, writhing and moving and constantly changing. And clients pay through the nose for shiny new features on the daily. Sometimes those shiny features break and they get pissed. But they also want things fast. You want a pumpkin pie, you gotta run your software devs ragged and smash a few marriages.

PUMPKINS!

This bug means my boss is super pissed.

High-profile lawyers who use our website now must do their actual job instead of relying on our AI to search mountains of data and hand them arguments on a silicon platter. My screwup keeps slick billionaires who wear watches more expensive than my car from making an extra \$100k today.

Sound the alarms!

So, I fire up my nifty Integrated Development Environment (IDE) and start to debug, ignoring the ten other emails in my inbox.

When Carrie confessed the affair, my first instinct was to grab the pistol. I own one, but've never fired it. I didn't really want to *shoot* him (I'm writing it so I can believe it). I wanted it to be *my* head rolling down the hill, splattering gore and worthless bits of gray matter for the deer to munch.

But I'm a coward. The gun stays unloaded, locked away.

I work fast, despite my predilection to distraction. Coding is easy for me. This change is simple. Just a few lines of code. Click, click, and bam! Push that shit up to the build server and let it fly.

My response to the email flood:

"It's fixed."

But, of course, it isn't.

The Zoom icon flashes angry and insistent, with my boss's severe cru cut on his mound of a head that looks like a botched circumcision. I want to ignore it, maybe go back to bed.

I mentioned my cowardice?

"Yes?"

"That didn't do it! Still a problem. We're losing money every second this is broken. Go through the problem, step-by-step. Then, outline your fix." The rotten condescension drips like rancid honey.

"It works on my local setup, I don't know—"

"I don't pay you to sleep in and submit shoddy work. Now get it—"

Weird, the connection cut out.

Must be something wrong with my computer.

I lug the bulky thing downstairs.

I should take it into the office, give it to the IT department.

Instead, I stand atop the hill, leading down to the trees and the lake. Where Carrie and I had stood just days before.

As the blocky system rolls down the hill, I laugh. It scares the deer away. Computer parts burst out of the exploding chassis, flying in all directions. I picture the deer coming back, sniffing and turning their noses up at the wire and silicon.

Time to turn off those email notifications. Grab a Xanax. Catch up on sleep.

I'm home, but not for work. Not today.





# No MONEY TO SPARE

BY DAVID G. TATUM

## PORT GIBSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE 6, 1965

My best friend is the preacher's daughter.  
We're in her yellow VW Beetle,  
the church steeple fading in the rear-view mirror.

We stop at Buffalo Bob's,  
buy a dollar's worth of gas, a bag of chips,  
ten-cent ice cold Coca-Colas.

Back in the car, top down,  
sun on our faces, wind whirling our hair,  
we head down Highway 61, turn up the radio.

That muscular, unyielding three-note ostinato  
—Keith Richards' fuzzy opening guitar riff.  
Mick Jagger's restive, rebellious voice.

Satisfaction.

—Dianne Mason



## FORGOTTEN YESTERDAYS

Changing times,  
Generations fall,  
fall, falling

Stopping  
of the tick-tocking  
heart beats...  
Beaten down

Decades of  
keeping rhythm  
To Earth's pulse  
Nature's sound

Lessons learned,  
Lo' more forgotten,  
And history  
sleeps tight

Whispers from the past,  
Just beyond the ear  
Bleed through the wounds  
Of forgotten time.

—Cassandra Pipkin

Mr. Luigi Giovanni works his nightclub. It opens at 3 pm and closes at 3 am. He makes sure the food is fresh with ingredients he picks up daily before opening. He gets the bar stocked just in the nick of time. He closes the books and cleans after closing. He's finally home at 5 am.

He's sixty-seven now and isn't sure how much longer he can keep this up.

His home life has all but disappeared. Waking up at 11 am, he gets ready to do it all over again.

As he leans to kiss his wife goodbye, she turns her head. The marriage has become plutonic.

He gets to work. While preparing to open, he lights a cigarette and stops, wondering how his life got to this. The kids are grown and no longer living in New York City. He has no time for friends, and he doesn't know his wife anymore.

His enjoyment is watching the Yankees on his small tv behind the bar and arguing back and forth with customers over why they lost to the St. Louis Cardinals, the Chicago White Sox, or some other team. Occasionally he'll put a wager on the game. The ring of the register when he opens it, is a familiar sound to his customers. They know he's either throwing in his winnings or taking his losses out to pay his debt. Either way he makes sure to have plenty of cash on hand.

One night his son appears and he's tired, disheveled, and broke. He's in trouble with The Lucky Roll Casino in Las Vegas. He owes eighty-five thousand in loses. "Rocco, son listen to me, I don't have that kind of money."

"Couldn't you sell the place or ...?" "I'm not going to lose everything I've worked so hard for just to pay your gambling debts."

"You've got to help. Don't you love me dad?" "It's not about that Rocco and you know it! Besides the only time your mother and I see you, is when you need us to bail you out!"

Rocco's beautiful redheaded wife walks in. "He's warped Mr. Giovanni. What a total loser I married."

Rocco slowly walks over to a booth, falls in, and falls fast asleep from heavy drinking.

Alessandra is sitting at the bar and asks for a drink. Luigi pushes it over to her. She grabs his hand and gives him a sensuous look. "Luigi we could work this out. Rocco is desperate and" "I can't Alessandra. I mean you're my son's wife for crying out loud." Luigi is lonely and hadn't made love to a woman for years now. The proposition is tempting. "Besides, I don't have that kind of money."

"Luigi, they'll give him time if he can make payments."

"That's just it, Alessandra, he won't make payments, I will. Absolutely not!"

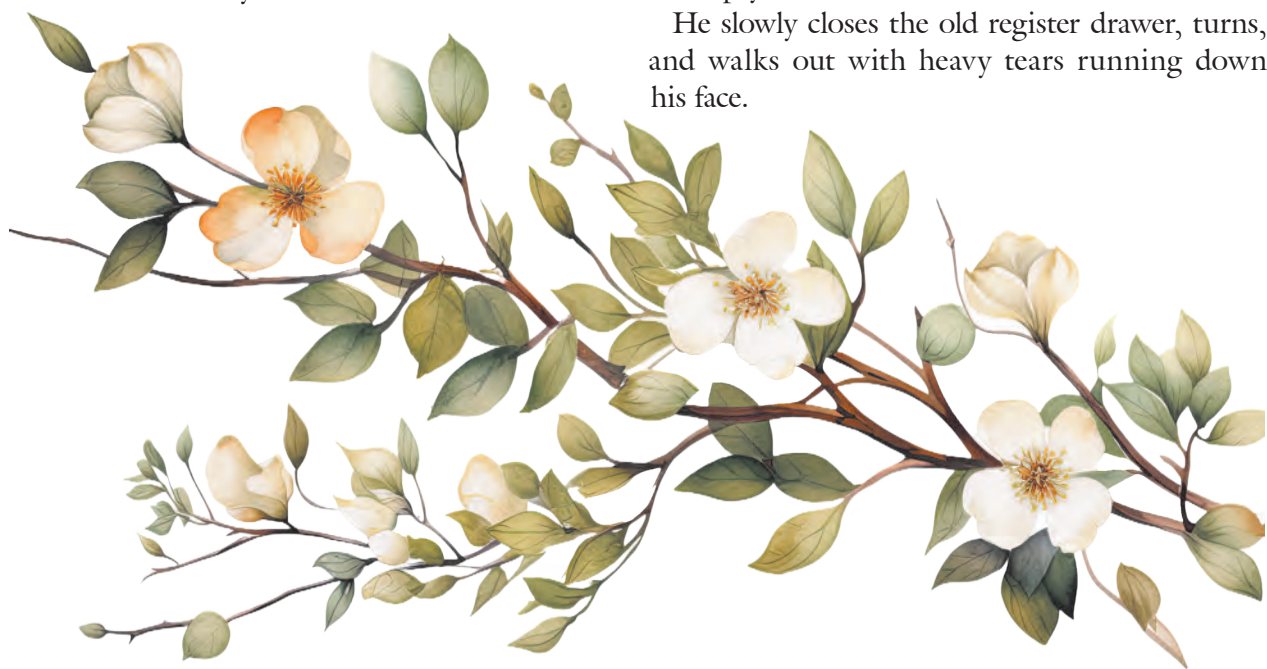
She moves closer and her scent is alluring. Her voice is soft, "Luigi, you'd do it for me wouldn't you? I'll do anything you want. I'll." "Stop it. I can't do this, I won't!" He loudly shouts, "Get up Rocco, you both have to leave."

Alessandra lights a cigarette and tells Luigi, "You never loved your son. You're nothing but an old dwindling fool with no life, just look at yourself!"

Luigi grabs her arm hard, "Don't you ever say that again. I worked day and night for those kids, only for this one to be stupid enough to get himself in this position. He expects me to lose everything just to pay his gambling debts. Ask yourself Alessandra, is that love for his father? You know the answer!"

They walk over to Rocco and he's passed out. Alessandra asks Luigi if she can at least sleep in his office for a few hours before they head back to Phoenix. He tells her yes and starts to lock up but leaves a back door unlocked. He opens the cash register and leaves the workday's cash in and puts another two thousand in from his safe. It's the best and all he can do. Luigi knows the cash register will be empty tomorrow as he leaves it unlocked.

He slowly closes the old register drawer, turns, and walks out with heavy tears running down his face.





# EVERYTHING'S COMING UP DAISY

## LIVING AFTER DEATH

BY VICKI LITTLEWATER

I lost a grandson. My world ended. I wanted nothing to do with anything. I was born into a religious family. I dated atheists. God was and became a foreign object. To me. Life existed but it was a nebulous existence. Meaning was subjective. Each day made less sense. Were I to breathe the sky needed to open. I needed a river to part. Basically I wanted to be left alone.

I am a country woman. As a child I grew up in and around woods. I found my solace there. I listened before I knew what listening was. Basically I just stared. It lapsed into adulthood and I found myself being misunderstood.

"Do you have a borderline personality?" I was asked by someone I loved. I hoped not. I couldn't deal with death. I awakened in the mornings and nights stabbed me. My feet moved.

Something remained. I wasn't sure what it was. I listened. Understanding nothing. Some call it God. I was a writer. I tasted words and it was there I learned when I opened my eyes something still appealed to me. I didn't know what it was.

I still search sometimes. Rivers turn like they always do. I try on words like ladies do diamonds and pearls. I miss him.

If God is love and if love makes the world go around I pray in my own way for something even I am aware of or un of. I listen. With my heart. And when I can't or don't, there is a place that rests with some of us. We call it different things. And I am home.

They asked if it rained  
I told them about myself

Mom's dresser crowded with  
hygienics  
Never clean themselves

I climb up the magnolia  
Tell God I'm angry  
Sunsets on a small town

A boy apologizes for not getting better  
Flames lick walls  
Disguised devils give fleeting thoughts

God are you mad at me

Little girl twirling around the room  
Number on chest  
Life is an audition

I'm not expecting to be everyone's favorite character

Paint, paint  
Reminisce  
Do I only reflect the stories most self flattering

Of course you're on my side  
It's just perspective  
Of course you're on my side  
I buried that name before it was mentioned  
So introspective

Sorry to have scarred you at 17  
Gun only loaded with grief



The best parts of you  
Still are the best parts to me  
A little evil can coexist with humanity

I'm a shiny kaleidoscope  
In an empty room  
If you didn't scare me  
You'd see I glow

The screams at the sky give no answers  
Clouds mock those unable to drift

Does the spider  
Under your heel  
Think he deserves this  
Do I feel this pain  
Cause I earned it

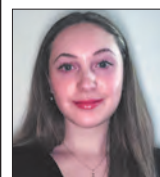
House on stilts  
Shakes in the wind  
I didn't see him  
I couldn't be him  
My ambition died  
Right by the water

Wind screams  
Like she's someone's forgotten daughter

They asked if it rained  
What about me  
What about me

—Emory Barrios

## CONTRIBUTORS:



**Emory Barrios** is a college student at the University of Mississippi studying public policy. She loves the flexibility and creativity in writing, and how it can be a tool to understand the world.

To her, poetry is a place where feelings can live while the body moves forward.



**William Bittner** is a freshman at the University of Mississippi, where he studies Arabic. His work has been published in Parallax, Crashtest, Paper Crane, and others, and has been recognized by the Alabama Writers' Forum.



**Cassandra Pipkin** is an author, born and raised in the American South, where she currently resides.



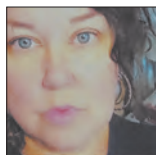
**Joseph Daniel Duffy** is a writer from Gautier, Mississippi. His work can be read online in outlets such as Juked, Rejection Letters, and Tilted House. A graduate of Ole Miss and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, he lives in Austin, Texas.



**Chrishona Stanfield**, from Sontag, Mississippi, is a Junior journalism major at the University of Mississippi. She has been writing poetry for seven years now and it is one of her favorite art forms.



**Lisa Maraventano** is a writer who has lived all over the United States and abroad. She has found her home in the Delta, inspired by the extraordinary people and place. Her new book of poetry, *Shifting Sands: Poems from the Delta*, will be released this spring.



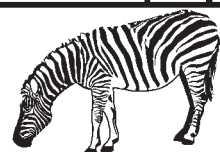
**Vicki Littlewater** lives alone in the woods in south central Mississippi. A schoolteacher for many years, she spends her retirement years gardening.



**Dianne Mason** grew up in Vicksburg and Port Gibson, Mississippi. She now lives in Matthews, North Carolina, and has had poems published in *Beyond Words Literary Journal*, *County Lines a Literary Journal*, *Share Literary Journal*, and one to be published in the next edition of the *Main Street Rag*.

**Andrew Carpenter** enjoys curling up with a good book almost as much as his three cats enjoy knocking that book out of his hands. Though he's never been published before, he hopes he's spent enough time wandering the cedars of Rowan Oak to gain, by osmosis, some level of literary adequacy. **TV**

# TV Mega Maze



## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** Which large US city is nicknamed Rip City?
- MOVIES:** Which movie features the quote, "She doesn't even go here!"
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which national capital city is the northernmost in the world?
- TELEVISION:** Which long-running sitcom features a dad named Phil Dunphy?
- GAMES:** In chess, how many knights does each player have at the beginning?
- GEOLOGY:** What natural phenomenon is associated with igneous rock?
- LANGUAGE:** How many official languages are in the United Nations?
- MUSIC:** David Grohl was a drummer in which band before he became the frontman for the Foo Fighters?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is a group of alligators called?
- FOOD & DRINK:** What kind of meat is used in Hasenpfeffer, a traditional German stew?

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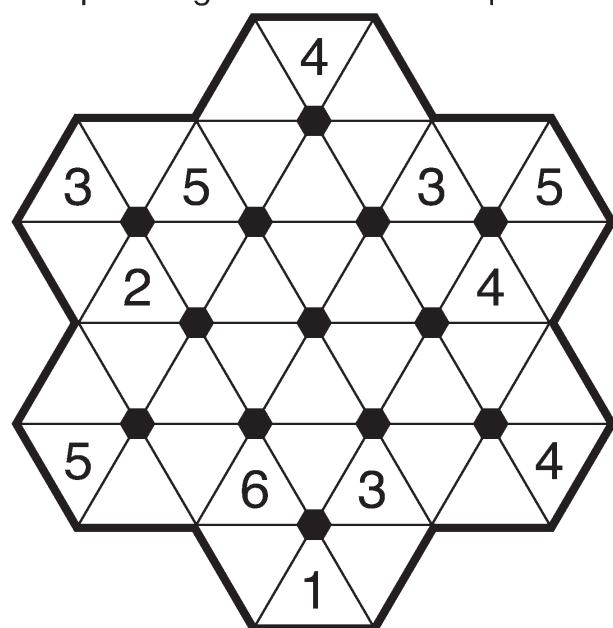
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**Answers:** 1. Portland, Oregon 2. Mean Girls 3. Reykjavik, Iceland 4. Modern Family 5. Two 6. Volcanic eruption 7. Six 8. Nirvana 9. A congregation 10. Rabbit

## 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

## 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.

MBFLPKMLTMKD MZ L FSBFSOZ  
ILBN USP MIWMUUNPNIRN,  
HEMRE MZ LI NTNQLIK ILBN  
USP MQISPLIRN.  
- Q.J. RENZKNPKSI

## 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: **D** equals **P**

NC Z DLKAGE RGAS Z VOGRL  
PIEYO GC VLNQOS, WG HGI  
AIDDGAL OL YGIRW QLS Z  
EG-PLRRH DKNFL?

## 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.

	+		÷		=	4
+		+		+		
	+		-		=	5
-		×		+		
	+		-		=	2
=		=		=		
4		60		16		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 8 9

**DIFFICULTY:** ★ ★  
★ Moderate ★ ★ Difficult  
★ ★ ★ GO FIGURE!

# THE LOCAL VOICE PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

Solutions to puzzles are inside **The Local Voice Digital Edition** sent every Thursday to subscribers. Sign up FREE at [TheLocalVoice.net](http://TheLocalVoice.net)

N	H	D	E	J	M	U
T						E
E						S
S						A
E						T
E						N
H	I	T	F	S	I	

**A CEREAL CHALLENGE!** Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the "T" in the bottom rail. "The end justifies the means."

**A WAGER!** Place 22 toothpicks on the table, forming eight squares (Fig. 1). Challenge friends to remove four of them so that you're left with only three equal squares.

The tricky solution, in fig. 2, leaves us with three, large, overlapping squares.

**DOESN'T READ "JUNIOR WHIRL"!** Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Slang for food.
2. To cover over.
3. A table game
4. What a goofball does.

G			
O			
	O		
		F	

GRID A

B			
A			
		L	

GRID B

1. City or town (informal).
2. Good to eat.
3. An outdoor game.
4. A young horse.

Answers: 1. Grub-burg. 2. Coat-taco. 3. Pool-polo. 4. Loaf-toal.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



Illustrated by David Coulson

**THE PYRAMID OF WORD POWER!** You have three minutes to unlock the secrets of Word Power! Starting with the given word WHISKERED, at the bottom of our pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters, at each level, spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with WHISKERED.

1. Had a beard.
2. Made a loud, frantic call.
3. Avoided doing his duty.
4. He bet everything he had on red.
5. He was irritated when he lost.
6. Type of dreadful warning.
7. Anger; wrath.
8. In reference to.
9. Compass direction (abbr.)

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Answers: 1. Whiskered. 2. Shrieked. 3. Shifted. 4. Risked. 5. Liked. 6. Dire. 7. Ire. 8. Re. 9. E (east).

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## KNIGHT MOVES

S	O	L
F		R
U	E	Y

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.

662-638-3767

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## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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

- |                        |             |                   |             |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Personal conviction | B _ _ _ _ _ | Freedom from pain | R _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Pirate's board      | _ L _ _ _ _ | Practical joke    | _ R _ _ _ _ |
| 3. Semi or pickup      | _ _ U _ _ _ | Runner's pathway  | _ _ A _ _ _ |
| 4. Stagger             | _ O _ _ _ _ | Space telescope   | _ U _ _ _ _ |
| 5. Thirst quencher     | _ _ T _ _ _ | Hem and haw       | _ _ V _ _ _ |
| 6. Sluggish            | _ L _ _ _ _ | Light rain        | _ H _ _ _ _ |
| 7. Eden fruit          | _ P _ _ _ _ | Plenty            | _ M _ _ _ _ |
| 8. Dormant             | _ _ T _ _ _ | Bemoan            | _ _ M _ _ _ |
| 9. Singer Shelton      | _ _ _ K _ _ | Razor, e.g.       | _ _ _ D _ _ |
| 10. Ice cream spoon    | _ C _ _ _ _ | Meddle            | _ _ N _ _ _ |

**Ollie's**  
DO-NUTS

2151 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD.  
OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI  
662-281-8414  
5:30 AM - 1 PM

\* PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR ORDERS OVER FIVE DOZEN \*



# Voyagers Are We All

In 1977 NASA launched the aptly named space probe *Voyager 1* to study the farthest reaches of what we casually call “outer space”. According to Wikipedia, as of January 2024, *Voyager 1* was 15.2 billion—that’s billion with a capital B—miles from Earth, making it the most distant human-made object from Earth. At the same time, there is an inward journey that can’t be measured in miles because it is of a transcendent, unearthly nature.

The voyage without comes from an unquenchable human desire to know all we can about what’s “out there.” Space exploration has yielded many discoveries about our universe and how it works, as well as practical creations such as scratch resistant lenses, ear thermometers, shoe insoles, invisible braces for teeth, cordless tools, memory foam, and smoke detectors, to name only a few.

Likewise, the voyage within comes from an equally unquenchable human desire to know all we can about what’s “in there.” Photographs from space exploration have also impacted our inner world, bringing us wonder, amazement, awe, transcendent moments, and a perspective of the vastness of creation and our minuscule place in it. We join the inner journey in ways such as reading, writing, music, meditation, prayer, human connection, and engaging with the natural world.



## “Blind Jim Ivy”

In 1892, **Jim Ivy** was part of the construction crew building a bridge over the **Tallahatchie River** when coal tar paint got in his eyes. He was blinded for life. Some say Jim was at the baseball game selling peanuts, while others say that he just wandered in. Either way, **Texas** was whipping the **Rebels** pretty good when Jim began hooping and hollering that we would win this game! Jim kept cheering, the students took notice, and by game’s end, when Ole Miss had indeed made the crazy comeback against the **Longhorns**, the foundation of what Blind Jim Ivy would mean to **Ole Miss** was set. Photograph by J.R. Cofield



We are all on our own outward and inward voyages. They both matter. Our outward voyage is largely manifested in the actions we take and seeks to satisfy the goals and dreams we have. A college freshman embarks on a voyage to earn a degree, then, having achieved that goal, they shift that voyage to a search for a career in which they can go from an entry-level position to an executive one and possibly beyond.

Our inward voyage is a horse of a different color as it is a quest to know oneself better and explore the inner meaning of a life with purpose and value. It is a trip into our deepest selves to discover answers to the hows and whys of existence itself. Unlike the outward voyage that focuses on doing, the inward voyage focuses more on being. It is often considered to be a spiritual quest for a mystical and divine way of knowing that transcends the facts of science in favor of seeking the possibilities and promises of that which cannot be contained in a test tube.

In my therapy practice clients often say they’re looking for meaning in life but they don’t know how to find it. I typically ask them to do an exercise I call “living backwards.” They are to imagine that they live a healthy, full life until they’re eighty years old. Then I ask what, at age eighty, they would like to be able to say about the life they lived. Sometimes that takes some homework on their part to come up with the answer(s). Once they’ve done that I tell them that every morning they are to ask themselves, “What can I do today that will move me closer to my life’s desires?” The final step is simply to go and do those things. It’s not at all unlike a person who wants to retire with a million dollars in the bank. How will they get there? By saving money consistently over time. That, my friend, helps create a map for their personal voyage through life.

We need a balance between our inner and outer voyages. They inform each other in the trek of our earthly existence. Too much or too little of either can make both useless. I’m reminded of the gospel song, “You’re So Heavenly Minded You’re No Earthly Good.”

Try seeing your life as a voyage. What’s your destination? What can you do today to make sure you get there? How will you be in this world that will make your doing count? What will you do that will take you deeper into being? It’s *your* voyage—*your* journey. Set your course wisely.

...and that’s the View from The Balcony.

*Randy Weeks is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Certified Shamanic Life Coach, an ordained minister, a singer-songwriter, and an actor. Randy may be reached at [randallweeks@gmail.com](mailto:randallweeks@gmail.com).*

North Mississippi Roots & Wings  
and the Rosa Foundation present

...a path to another perspective



## BEHIND the BIG HOUSE

APRIL 4-6, 2024



Michael Twitty

Jordan Wimby

Thu, 4-4 9 - 4  
Fri, 4-5 9 - 5  
Sat, 4-6 9 - 5

Craft Home (1851) &  
Quarters (1847)  
184 S. Memphis Street  
Holly Springs, MS 38635



Joseph McGill



Tammy Gibson

Free!

Experience the inclusive story through tours and conversation with national experts and our own local interpreters. Learn the art of brickmaking, cooking, and laundry onsite where enslaved people lived and worked. Investigate how archaeology and genealogy help us to understand our history more fully.

For more info: [sallygodard@earthlink.net](mailto:sallygodard@earthlink.net)



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Behind the Big House,  
Holly Springs, MS

Funded by grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council through support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Mississippi Hills Heritage Area Alliance through support of the National Park Service, University of Mississippi Diversity & Community Engagement, Holly Springs Tourism Bureau, and the Rosa Foundation. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the above funders.



# EAT IN OXFORD

## DAILY FOOD & DRINK OPTIONS

The Local Voice updates are posted every day by 11 am on our website and social media.

[www.TheLocalVoice.net](http://www.TheLocalVoice.net) [f](#) /thelocalvoice [@TheLocalVoice](#) [@TheLocalVoice](#)



sponsored by

# FETCHT DELIVERY

[www.FetchtDelivery.com](http://www.FetchtDelivery.com)

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### Ajax Diner

**Mon-Thu:** Lunch 11 am-2:30 pm;  
Dinner: 4:30-9 pm  
**Fri-Sat:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht

### Big Bad Breakfast

**Mon, Wed-Fri:** 7 am-1 pm  
**Sat-Sun:** 8 am-2:30 pm  
**Closed Tue**  
**Early Bird Special:**  
Wed & Thur 7-9 am: 10% off

### Boure

**Mon-Thu:** 11 am-10 pm  
**Fri-Sat:** 11 am-10:30 pm  
**Bar:** Mon-Wed 4 pm-midnight;  
Thu-Fri 4 pm-1 am;  
Sat noon-1 am  
**Delivery:** Fetcht

### City Grocery

**Mon-Sat:**  
Lunch: 11:30 am-2:30 pm;  
Dinner 6-10 pm;  
Fri & Sat till 10:30 pm  
**City Grocery Bar**  
**Mon-Sat:** 4 pm-till  
**Happy Hour 4-6 pm:**  
M-F \$1 off wells & domestics

### Funkys

**Mon-Thu:** 2 pm-1 am  
**Fri:** noon-1 am  
**Sat:** 11 am-1 am  
**Sun:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht   
**Mon:** \$5 Octanes  
**Tue:** \$5 Grape Gatorade  
**Wed:** LADIES' NIGHT:  
\$5 Skinny Bitches  
**Thur:** \$3 domestics

### The Library

**Mon-Fri:** 3 pm-1 am  
**Sat:** 11 am-1 am  
**Sun:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Happy Hour 3-7 pm**  
Mon-Fri \$1 off all drinks

### The Mad Hatter

**Mon-Thu:** 3 pm-midnight  
**Fri-Sat:** noon-1 am  
Kitchen open till 10 pm daily  
**Wed:** OPEN MIC  
**Thu:** LIVE MUSIC  
**Fri & Sat:** DUELING PIANOS

### McCormick's

**Mon-Sat:** Breakfast: 6:30-11 am;  
Lunch: 11 am-2 pm;  
**Wed-Sat:** Dinner: 2-9 pm  
Bar: 2 pm-till  
**Sun:** 6:30 am-2 pm  
**Wine & Whiskey Wednesday:**  
2-for-1 glasses of house wine; \$1  
off whiskey  
**10% UM discount**

### Moe's BBQ

**Mon-Sun:** 11 am-10 pm  
**Penny Bar** open 3 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht   
**Happy Hour 3-6 pm:**  
Mon-Fri 1/2-price apps,  
2-for-1 wells, wines & domestics  
**Mon:** \$2 domestics + \$1 PBR  
**Tue:** TRIVIA + \$25 High Noon  
buckets  
**Wed:** COMEDY MIC NIGHT  
**Thu:** BINGO (8 pm) + \$5  
Buskwhackers

### Ollie's Donuts

**Sun-Sat:** 5:30 am-1 pm

### OPA!

**Mon DEC 4:** 4 pm-9 pm  
**Tue-Thu+Sun:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Fri-Sat:** 11 am-10 pm  
**Tues & Thurs:** 2-for-1 Lemonadas  
**Wed:** 1/2-off house wines &  
Martinis  
**Fri:** \$5 Margarita  
**Delivery:** Fetcht

### Quack's

**Wed-Thu:** 4 pm-1 am  
**Fri-Sat:** 11 am-1 am  
**Sun:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Happy Hour 4-6 pm W-F:**  
2-for-1 wells, \$1 off all beer  
**Wed:** All Day Happy Hour  
**Friday:** Free Fri-day (Free side of  
fries with hot dog purchase)  
**Sun:** Chicken and Waffles,  
brunch specials

### Rafters

**Mon-Fri:** 5 pm-1 am  
**Sat:** 11 am-untill  
**Sun:** Brunch: 10:45 am-3 pm;  
\$3 Mimosas

### Rooster's

**Mon-Sat:** 3 pm-1 am, Sun till 9p  
**Mon-Fri:** \$5 Domestics  
**Mon:** DJ WADE + \$4 Pitchers + \$1  
Rooster Shot  
**Tue:** KARAOKE (5:30 pm)  
OPEN MIC NIGHT + 2-for-1s  
**Wed:** KARAOKE + \$3 Vodka &  
Whiskey  
**Thu:** LADIES NIGHT + \$1 Lemon  
Drop + \$3 Well Vodka  
**Fri & Sat:** LIVE MUSIC  
**Sun:** \$1 Mimosa shots

### Saint Leo

**Tue-Sun:** Lunch 11 am-3 pm  
Bar & Pizza 3-5 pm  
Dinner 5-10 pm  
**Brunch Sat & Sun:**  
10:30 am-3 pm  
**Happy Hour 3-5 pm:**  
\$10 Pizzas, Bubbles + Fries,  
\$6 Wine & Cocktails

### Snackbar

**Tue-Thu:** 4-10 pm  
**Fri-Sat:** 4-10:30 pm  
**Happy Hour 4-6 pm:**  
\$2 domestics, \$4 drafts,  
\$6 select wines, \$8 select  
classic cocktails, small plate &  
oyster specials  
**Tues:** INDUSTRY NIGHT

### SoLa

**Wed-Thu:** 5-9 pm,  
**Fri-Sat:** 5-10 pm  
**Sun Brunch:** 10:30 am-2 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht   
**Happy Hour 5-7 pm:** \$5 fresh  
Margaritas  
**Wed:** Spaghetti Night + \$5 wine  
**Thu:** Ramen & \$5 Rosé

### Southern Coop

**Tue-Thu:** 11 am-8 pm  
**Fri-Sat:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht

### Tallahatchie Gourmet

**Mon-Wed:** 11 am-2:30 pm  
**Thurs-Fri:** 11 am-9 pm  
**Brunch Sat & Sun**  
11:30 am-3 pm  
**Delivery:** Fetcht

### Uno Mas

**Mon-Sat:** 11 am-10 pm  
**Sun:** 11 am-9 pm  
**late night menu Thu-Sat**  
**Happy Hour 3-6 pm:**  
**Mon-Fri:** \$2 tacos; 5 house  
Margaritas (\$20 pitchers); 2-for-  
1 domestics; 1/2-off appetizers  
**Tuesday:** HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY

### Volta Taverna

**Mon-Thu:** 11:30 am-9:30 pm;  
**Fri-Sat:** 11:30 am-10 pm;  
**Happy Hour 4-6 pm:**  
\$1 off all drinks  
**1/2-price Margaritas &  
Mojitos every Mon, Thu &  
Sat**



Scan code and have  
food delivered!



## Fetcht.com

### Oxford's Local Food Delivery Service

Over 85+ restaurants delivered to your door, including

Abner's  
Ajax Diner  
B's BBQ  
Bim Bam Burgers  
Blind Pig  
Boure  
Byrd House Cafe  
Casa Mexicana  
Chicken on a Stick  
Chicken Salad Chick  
China Royal  
City Hall  
Cheesecake

Chow King  
Common Ground  
Costa Mexican  
El Agave  
El Charro  
El Mariachi  
Fergndans Pizza  
First Watch  
Fox's Pizza Den  
Funkys  
Good Day Cafe  
Greenline  
Guthrie's Chicken

H2O  
Heartbreak Coffee  
Hempville CBD  
Honey Baked Ham  
Jake's Craft BBQ  
Kabuki  
King's Steakhouse  
Krystal  
La Perla Tapatia  
Lamar Yard  
The Landshark  
Lenora's  
Living Foods

Lost Pizza  
Ming's Kitchen  
Moe's BBQ  
Mugshots  
Noodle Bowl  
Oby's  
Ole Coop  
OPA!  
Oxford Burger  
Company  
Oxford Creamery  
Oxford Gourmet  
Oxford Nutrition

Phillip's Grocery  
Pizza Den  
Pizzashop  
Proud Larry's  
R&R Cookies  
Raising Cane's  
Rocky Mountain  
Chocolate  
Rosati's  
SmallCakes  
SoLa  
South Depot Taco  
Southern Coop

Steak 'N Shake  
Subway  
Tallahatchie  
Gourmet  
Tarasque  
The Sipp  
Taco Shop  
Toyo  
Venice Kitchen  
Walk Ons  
Yaya's  
Yugo  
and more!

# 21st ANNUAL Oxford film FESTIVAL March 21st-24th 2024

**Thursday**

**March 21st 2024**

**5pm- 10 pm**



**OPENING NIGHT FILM**  
**ADAM THE FIRST**

With Director Irving Franco

**7:30 pm**

Thacker Mountain Radio Hour (Live)  
Andrew McCarthy

**5:00 pm**



**KEGAN COLEMAN**  
TRIAL ATTORNEY



Featuring Music from  
**Steven Johnson**  
(Robert Johnson's Grandson)

**Friday Night Party**

**@ THE POWERHOUSE**

**413 S. 14TH ST**

**Friday, March 22nd**

**9pm-1am**

**Craft Cocktails  
& Mocktails**

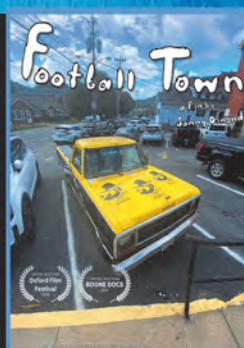
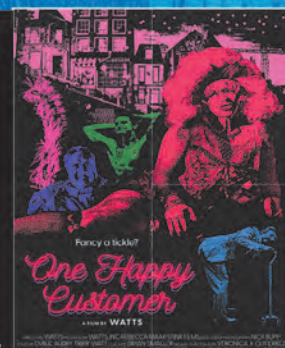


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**WWW.OX-FILM.COM**



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visitmississippi.org

**NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
for the  
ARTS**  
arts.gov

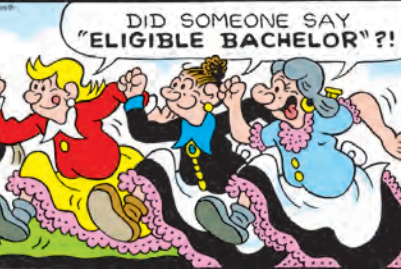
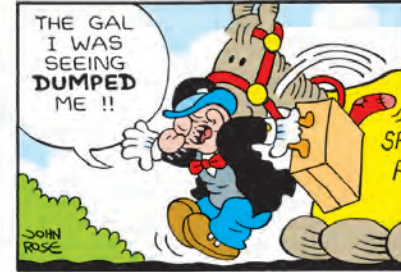
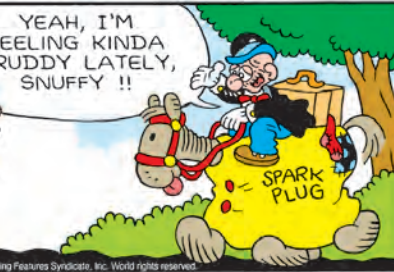
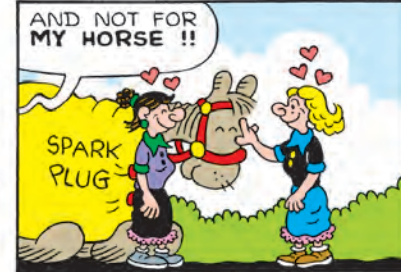
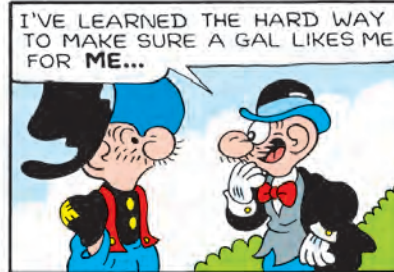




Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



VAL AND GAWAIN'S MYSTERIOUS CHAMPION, RORY, AND THE MALICIOUS STEWARD OF LOCKBRAMBLE, SIR ROGER, HAVE ADVANCED TO THE TOURNAMENT FINAL. BEFORE THE FINAL ROUND BEGINS, STRATEGIES ARE DISCUSSED. "THE CROWD IS BEHIND ME NOW," SAYS RORY. "IT IS TIME TO PUT ON A SHOW."

**Prince Valiant**  
Hal Foster's  
BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

YEATES 1/6/13 3961

ROGER SHOOTS FIRST. HE HAS SEEN THE CROWD TURN FROM HIM AND CHEER HIS OPPONENT. DO THEY NOTICE THAT HIS AIM IS NOT SO STEADY AND EFFORTLESS AS BEFORE?

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**BROKEPARTY MOUNTAIN**

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ROGER'S SHOT IS FAIR, BUT NOT PERFECT. RORY GLANCES CALMLY AT THE UNNERVED STEWARD...

... AND THEN SPLITS HIS ARROW! THERE IS A MOMENT OF SHOCKED SILENCE, BEFORE THE GRANDSTANDS BURST INTO WILD CHEERS!

NEXT: **Revelation**

KEN PAXTON'S PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP

RESPECT  
HONESTY  
VISION  
HOPE  
COMPASSION  
INTEGRITY  
ETHICS

©2024 KING PAXTON  
HOUSTON CHRONICLE

**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps

TODAY'S THE DAY. I REALLY NEED TO GET IN SHAPE.

I SUPPOSE I REALLY COULD START EXERCISING MORE.

BESIDES, I'M WILLING TO BET IT'S MOSTLY GENETIC.

THAT'S IT. ONLY ONE ACRE FOR LUNCH FROM NOW ON.

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**Americanisms**

"Shallow men believe in luck. Strong men believe in cause and effect."  
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

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**The Spats**

by Jeff Pickering

I TAKE MY WIFE EVERYWHERE

...BUT SHE KEEPS FINDING HER WAY BACK.

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**TIGER**

by BUD BLAKE

LET'S RACE!

OKAY, HUGO - WE'LL RACE DOWN 'ROUND THE FIRE-PLUG, UP OVER THE HILL, AND BACK HERE

READY, SET, GO!

HEY, YOU DIDN'T EVEN RACE!

LET'S LOOK AT IT THIS WAY: I CAME IN SECOND

BUD BLAKE

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I think the TRUMP SHOES really complete the look.

MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN

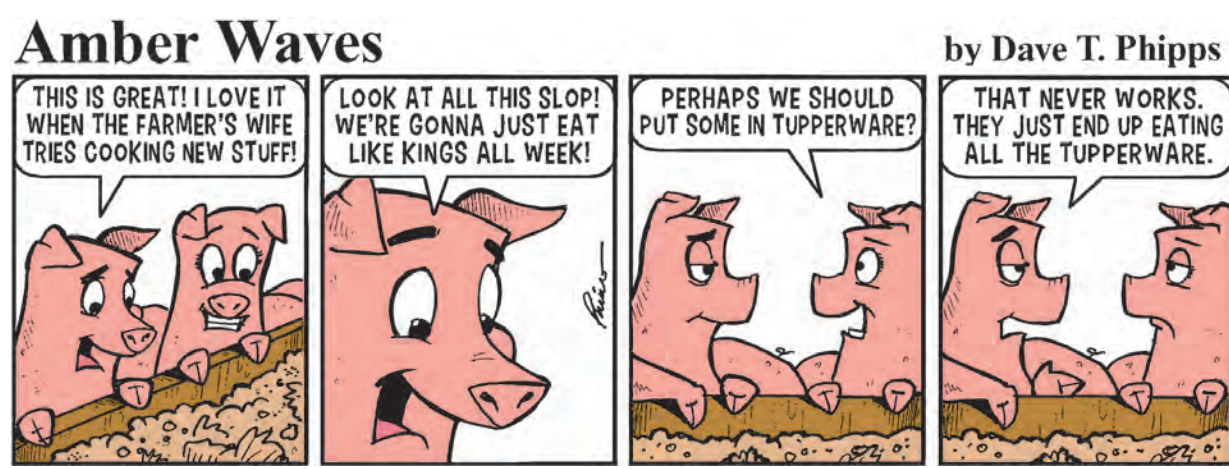
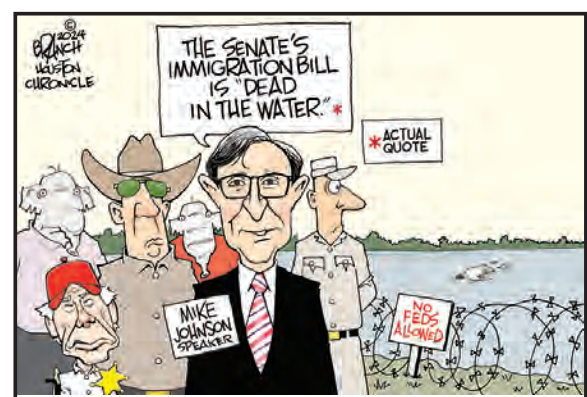
PUTIN + TRUMP 2024

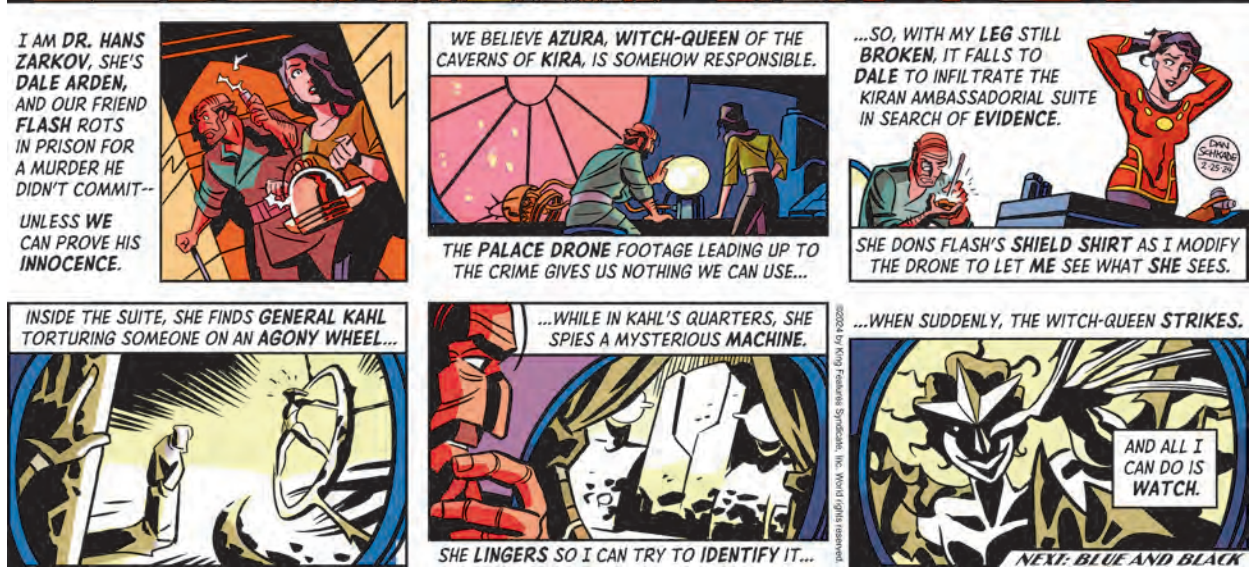
BAN BOOKS BY THE BLACKS

RE-ELECT THE RAPIST IN-CHIEF

COUNTERPOINT.COM

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### MINI SUDOKU

1				3	2
				4	1
2		4			
	6				
			4		
		3		2	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

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### The Spats



### Out on a Limb



## King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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



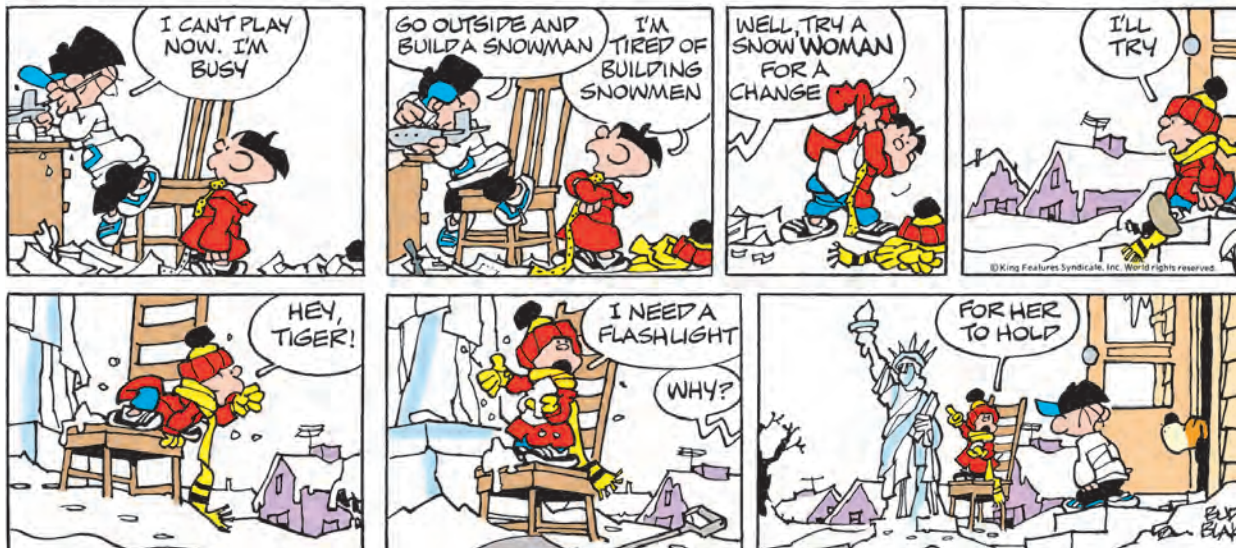
### The Garden Bug

Preparing for spring gardening can include taking a soil sample to your county extension office (or purchasing an at-home testing kit) to learn what nutrients may need to be purchased and integrated into your soil before planting.

Treading across the earth while it is still wet can lead to soil compaction; this impedes root growth and affects water drainage during the growing season. Plan walkways throughout your planting areas using stones, mulch or gravel.

If soil "heaving" has exposed your in-ground perennials and bulbs and temps are still very cold, protective mulch should stay in place over them and may need to be supplemented. - Brenda Weaver

Source: thespruce.com



WORD LADDERS

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

BLAME

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

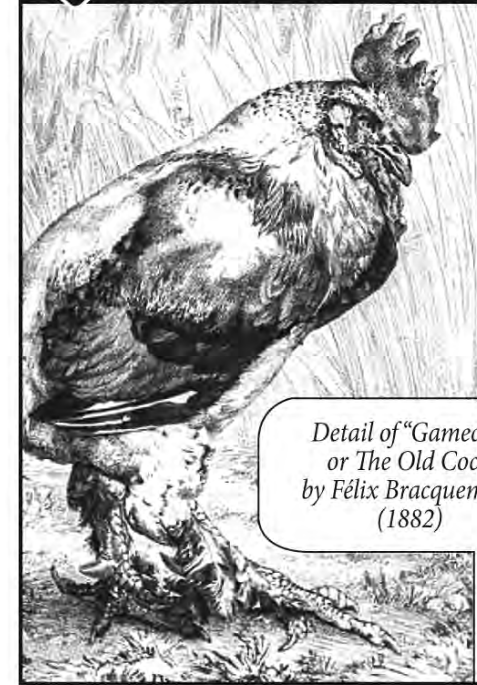
\_\_\_\_\_

FLUTE

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of "Gamecock  
or The Old Cock"  
by Félix Bracquemond  
(1882)

...Those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

MATTHEW 26: 73-75

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!

Beacon  
ALIGNS \_\_\_\_\_

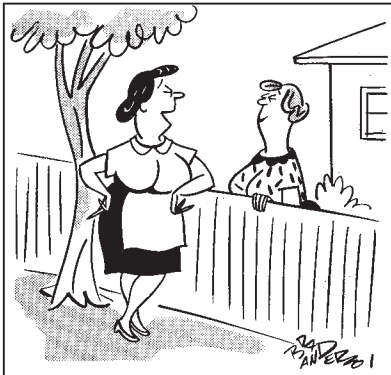
Value  
THROW \_\_\_\_\_

Process  
HOTMED \_\_\_\_\_

Record  
IMAGER \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_



"Of course, there's one advantage to being on the moon... we'd \_\_\_\_\_ less."

top ten

Countries with the Most Natural Resources

1. Russia
2. United States
3. Saudi Arabia
4. Canada
5. Iran
6. China
7. Brazil
8. Australia
9. Iraq
10. Venezuela

Source:  
Investopedia



the Local Voice

PUZZLES and BRAIN TEASERS





# PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS

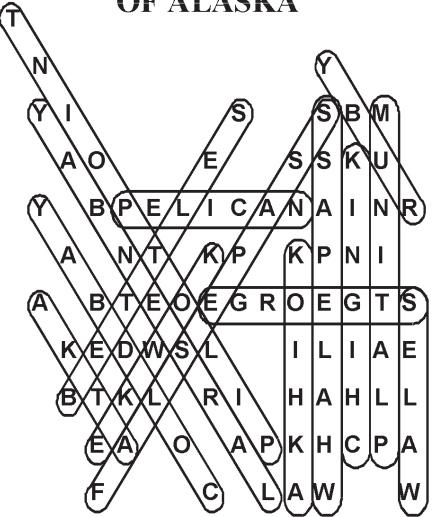


## Super Crossword

Answers

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

## VERY SMALL CITIES OF ALASKA



## WORD LADDER

Answer

BLAME, BLARE, FLARE, FLAKE, FLUKE, FLUTE

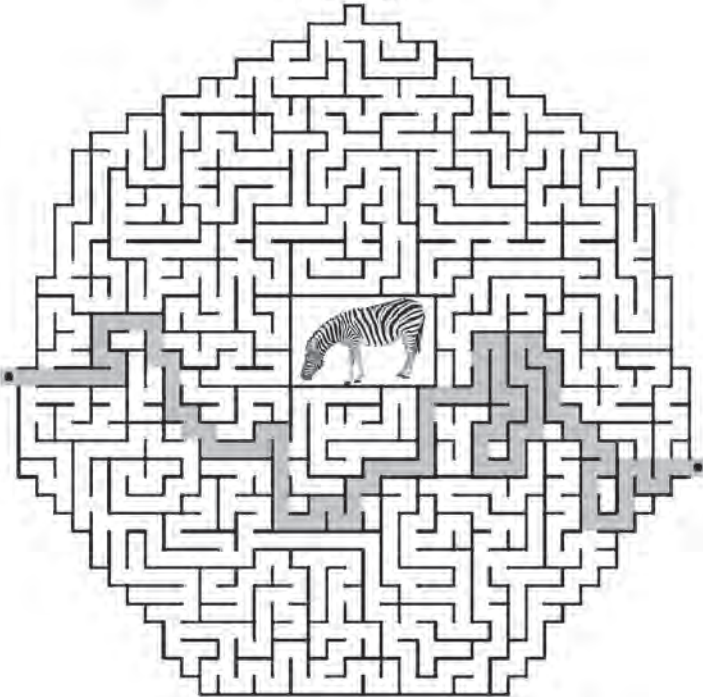
## KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

S	O	L
F		R
U	E	Y

## Mega Maze

Solution



## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## CryptoQuip

answer

If a person lost a whole bunch of weight, do you suppose he could get a No-Belly Prize?

## CryptoQuote

answer

Impartiality is a pompous name for indifference, which is an elegant name for ignorance.  
— G.K. Chesterton

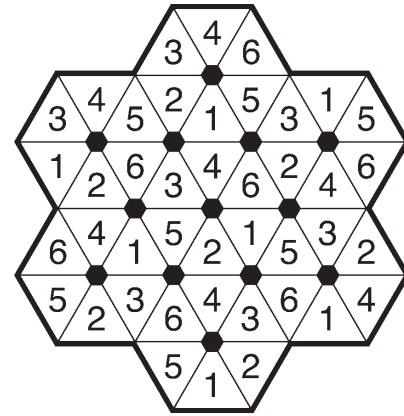
## Even Exchange

answers

1. Belief, Relief
2. Plank, Prank
3. Truck, Track
4. Hobble, Hubble
5. Water, Waver
6. Slower, Shower
7. Apple, Ample
8. Latent, Lament
9. Blake, Blade
10. Scoop, Snoop

## SNOWFLAKES

solution



## Go Figure!

answers

1	+	7	÷	2	=	4
+		+		+		
6	+	8	-	9	=	5
-		×		+		
3	+	4	-	5	=	2
=		=		=		
4		60		16		

## MINI SUDOKU

Answer

1	4	6	5	3	2
5	3	2	6	4	1
2	1	4	3	6	5
3	6	5	2	1	4
6	2	1	4	5	3
4	5	3	1	2	6

## Stickelers Answer

The word is "percentages."

## SCRAMBLERS

solution

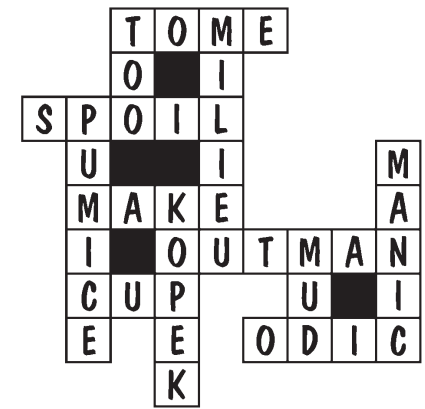
1. Signal
2. Worth;
3. Method;
4. Mirage

Today's Word

WEIGH



answer



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for  
**THE DELTA IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR**

Thursday, March 21st • 5PM • The Ford Center

**Andrew McCarthy**  
for  
**WALKING WITH SAM**

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