



# THE LOCAL VOICE™ ROUNDAABOUT OXFORD® & OLE MISS

**TLV**  
**#475**  
**FREE**

October 30–  
November 13,  
**2025**

**Local News You Can Use**



THE LOCAL VOICE™ #475 - ROUNDAABOUT OXFORD® - OLE MISS - LAFAYETTE - MISSISSIPPI - FREE - READ AT MAXIMUM VOLUME™

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Monday–Wednesday closed



## Proposed Asphalt Plant Will Now Be Built in the County Industrial Park

The owner of a controversial construction company has had a change of heart and announced he is moving a proposed asphalt plant to the county industrial park.

Magnolia Materials owner J.W. McCurdy announced October 28 that he will now construct the asphalt plant at the Lafayette County Industrial Park, located at the intersection of Old Highway 7 and County Road 166. The forty acres owned by Magnolia Materials on Mississippi Highway 328 near Taylor will be freed for other commercial growth.

"I've lived in this county my whole life, and I plan on living here the rest of my life," McCurdy said. "Our site on 328 is an outstanding industrial node, and that's not changing, but I'm also happy to change for the sake of peace."

The owners of Falkner Farms, the driving force behind the opposition to building the plant on Highway 328, were rejoiciful.

The Falkners posted on their social media: "We want to express how thankful we are for the overwhelming support our family and farm have shown these past months ... We are exceedingly grateful and appreciative for each one of you that has stood with us throughout this process."

"It is our understanding that the rezoning request is being rescinded, and the asphalt plant's location is set to move to the Industrial Park," the post continued. "From the beginning, our request has always been for a location where all parties can operate in a way that benefits our community."

### Staff Report

The controversy erupted on September 5, 2025, when a "Notice of Zoning Hearing" sign

was placed across the street from the Falkner's farm on Highway 328 near Taylor, Mississippi. The intent of the rezoning was to change A-1 rural agricultural land on Highway 328 to I-2 Heavy Industrial. The request was made by Magnolia Materials.

A hearing was held September 22 by the Lafayette County Planning Commission, which is composed of planning

commissioners Chad Cregar, Ray Garrett, Tyler Gore, Kate Rosson, and James Thompson. Despite the Falkner family's opposition, the commission voted 3 to 1 to recommend that the Board of Supervisors officially change the zoning at their meeting on October 20.

Immediately following the commission's recommendation, an online campaign was launched to garner local support against the zoning change. Social media posts became wild, unhinged, and heated as opponents and proponents of the proposed asphalt plant argued their positions. Every local media outlet covered the news, as well as outlets in Memphis, Tupelo, and Jackson.

The Board of Supervisors meeting on October 20 was packed with locals who wanted to voice their support one way or the other. The six-hour meeting devolved into heated exchanges and debates among highly opinionated and passionate individuals. Some voiced concerns about the proposed plant's potential impact on the environment, including noise, dust, water safety, and the loss of rural character. Others defended property rights, commercial investments, and job creation.

**Asphalt Plant** ...continued on page 13 →



**Sports Bar**  
**Quack's**

Sandwiches  
Hot Dogs  
Happy Hour  
Brunch  
Late Nite Food



DINING: MON–THU: 10:30 am–10 pm  
FRI–SAT: 10:30 am–10:30 pm  
BAR HOURS: MON–WED: 4 pm–12 am  
THU: 12 pm–1 am FRI–SAT: 10:30 am–1 am



7 am–1 pm Weekdays  
8 am–2:30 pm Weekends



Dinner 5:30–10 pm Monday–Thursday  
& 5:30–10:30 pm Friday/Saturday  
Happy Hour 4–6 pm Daily



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



# Moe's Original

— BBQ —

## OXFORD'S FAVORITE BBQ

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## Holiday Menu

Whole Smoked Turkey  
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**SUNDAY FUNDAY**  
NOW WITH  
WITH FOOTBALL!

## OLE MISS FOOTBALL

VS. SOUTH CAROLINA

NOV 1 - 6 PM



VS. THE CITADEL

NOV 8 - 12 NOON



NFL GAMES \* THURSDAY \* SUNDAY \* MONDAY

THU - FRI - SAT: OCT 30 - 31 - NOV 1

Neutral  
Snap

LIVE!

**HALLOWEEN**



HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST \$2500 GRAND PRIZE!



**BLUFF CITY BANDITS**

NOV 7 AND 8  
LIVE ON STAGE



**JOEY BORETTI EXPERIENCE**

LIVE AT THE LIBRARY  
NOVEMBER 14 & 15

THE SMOKE LIVE AT THE LIBRARY NOVEMBER 21 & 22



**Ole Miss BASKETBALL**

VS. SE LOUISIANA 11/3  
VS. LA MONROE 11/7  
VS. MEMPHIS 11/11



**Ole Miss WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

VS. NORFOLK STATE 11/3  
VS. SOUTHERN 11/12  
VS. LONGWOOD 11/24





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## FEATURED WEEKLY EVENTS

### Mondays

- **Quack's: MARIO KART**
- **Blind Pig: Trivia (7:30 pm)**

### Tuesdays

- **The Balcony: Ladies Night w/ DJ KING KOVA**
- **Moe's: TRIVIA NIGHT (7 pm)**
- **Old Armory Pavilion: Oxford Community Market (3:30–6 pm)**
- **Quack's: KARAOKE (9 pm)**

### Wednesdays

- **Circle & Square: TRIVIA NIGHT (7 pm)**
- **Funkys: LADIES' NIGHT**
- **Moe's Penny Bar: OPEN MIC NIGHT (9 pm)**
- **Square Books, Jr.: STORYTIME (10 am)**

### Thursdays

- **Moe's: BINGO (7 pm)**
- **Rhythm & Rye: KARAOKE (5 pm)**

### Fridays

- **The Balcony: DJ**
- **Booth's BBQ: Line Dancing (9 pm)**
- **Old Henry: DUELING PIANOS (7 pm)**
- **Rafters: DJ DRUMM (9 pm)**

### Saturdays

- **The Balcony: DJ**
- **Old Henry: DUELING PIANOS (7 pm)**
- **Rafters: DJ DRUMM (9 pm)**
- **Square Books, Jr.: STORYTIME (10 am)**

### Weekend Brunch

- **Big Bad Breakfast: Sat & Sun: 8 am–2:30 pm**
- **Kingswood: Sat & Sun 9 am–2 pm**
- **Old Henry: Sun 11 am–3 pm**
- **Quack's: Friday noon–3 pm; Sat–Sun: 11 am–3 pm**
- **Saint Leo: Sat & Sun: 10:30 am–3 pm**
- **Tallahatchie Gourmet: Sat & Sun 11:30 am–3 pm**

## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

### THURSDAY 10.30.2025

- ▶ **The Old Henry: DOC SINCLAIR (7 pm)**
- ▶ **The Powerhouse: Thacker Mountain Radio feat. author DELANEY NOLAN with Happy Bad, music guests TWURT CHAMBERLAIN, KODY SHADE HARRELL (6 pm)**
- First Presbyterian Church: THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW Opus 108 by RACHEL LAURIN (6 pm)
- The Graduate Hotel: MAHJONG TRUNK SHOW (noon–6 pm)
- Lafayette County Arena: Halloween Spooktacular Safestop (5 pm)
- Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library: Afterschool Zone: Feel Factor (3:45 pm)
- The Lyric: CODE PINK - FANGBANGER (8:30 pm)
- Miss. Blood Services Center (2627 W. Oxford Loop #C): Glow for a Good Cause - Halloween Blood Drive (9 am–5 pm)
- Oxford Health & Rehab: Trunk or Treat (6 pm)
- Nutt Auditorium (University): LOW BRASS ENSEMBLES (7:30 pm)
- Proud Larry's: GRACE BOWERS, YAZOO (9 pm)

### FRIDAY 10.31.2025

## HALLOWEEN

- ▶ **Circle & Square: SINGLEWIDE (6–8:30 pm)**
- ▶ **The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm) Halloween Costume Contest with \$2,500 Grand Prize and \$1,000 Runner Up Prize**
- ▶ **The Old Henry: DOC SINCLAIR & JOE BOOGIE (7 pm)**
- ▶ **Oxford Activity Center: HEALTHY HALLOWEEN 2025 (5:30 pm)**
- ▶ **Quack's: DJ RYBACK-ATCHA**
- Chicory Market: Football Friday Supper Club (7 pm)
- Gillom Athletic Center (University): OM VOLLEYBALL vs. ALABAMA (6 pm)
- Lafayette Co. & Oxford Public Library: Storytime w UM Museum (10:30 am); Trick-or-Treat (2:30–5 pm)
- The Lyric: THE MOLLY RINGWALDS (8:30 pm)
- Mississippi Blood Services Center (2627 W. Oxford Loop #C): Glow for a Good Cause - Halloween Blood Drive (9 am–5 pm)
- Old Armory Pavilion: SPOOKY CAR SHOW (5 pm)
- Proud Larry's: BLUE MOUNTAIN, TYLER KEITH & HELL'S REBELS (9:30 pm)

### SATURDAY 11.01.2025 Game Day

- Vaught-Hemingway: OLE MISS vs. SOUTH CAROLINA (6 pm)**
- ▶ **The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)**
- ▶ **Off Square Books: MELODY GOLDING for Hometown Mississippi (11 am)**
- ▶ **The Old Henry: Dueling Pianos: KYIA & DANNY (7 pm)**
- ▶ **Oxford Skate Park: Oxford Skateboarding Association HALLOWEEN JAM & FUNDRAISER (10 am–3 pm)**
- ▶ **Quack's: BEDLXM**
- Lafayette County Arena: WOVE You Are Worth It "Friendsgiving" (noon)
- The Lyric: LASO Halloween Bash (9 pm)
- Proud Larry's: BLUE MOUNTAIN, TAYLOR GROCERY BAND (9:30 pm)

### SUNDAY 11.02.2025

- ▶ **The Old Henry: BILL PERRY (11:30 am)**
- ▶ **The Powerhouse: ANUBIS IMPROV presents SLACKER (7 pm)**
- Fudgetown Farm: Farm Tour (2–4 pm)
- Saint Peter's Episcopal Church Courtyard: All Soul's Day storytelling concert by REBECCA JERNIGAN, LYNN WELLS, DON NEWLIN (6 pm)
- South Campus Rec Center (University): Glass Recycling Drive (1–5 pm)

### MONDAY 11.03.2025

- ▶ **Circle & Square: Thrills & Chills Book Club (7 pm)**
- ▶ **Off Square Books: JOSHUA CLARK & JUDY LONG for The Most Powerful Word (5:30 pm)**
- Ford Center: LOU Orchestra Side-by-Side Concert (7:30 pm)
- SJB Pavilion (University): Ole Miss Women's BASKETBALL vs. NORFOLK STATE (11 am); Men's BASKETBALL vs. SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA (7 pm)

### TUESDAY 11.04.2025

- Ford Center: UM WIND ENSEMBLE (7:30 pm)

### WEDNESDAY 11.05.2025

- Ford Center: UM Jazz Ensembles Concert special guest PAUL TATE (7:30 pm)
- North Oxford Baptist Church: Fall Festival (6–8 pm)
- Proud Larrys: NIK PARR & THE SELFLESS LOVERS (9 pm)

### FOUNDATIONS OF DOG OBEDIENCE

## THURSDAYS OCT. 30-DEC. 18

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*in concert* NOVEMBER 7, 2025 • 7:30PM

### GERTRUDE C. FORD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



# ROUNDABOUT OXFORD

## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

Send your events to **The Local Voice** for inclusion in **Roundabout Oxford®**:  
email Editor-in-Chief **Nature Humphries** at [nature@thelocalvoice.net](mailto:nature@thelocalvoice.net)



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### THURSDAY 11.06.2025

- Off Square Books: JERE NASH in conversation with MARSHALL RAMSEY for Reconstruction in Mississippi (5:30 pm)
- Old Henry: LIVE MUSIC (7 pm)
- The Powerhouse: ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW screenings (7 pm & 10 pm)
- The Ford Center: RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC (7:30 pm)
- Proud Larry's: WAX MONKEY (9:30 pm)

### FRIDAY 11.07.2025

- The Library: BLUFF CITY (9 pm)
- Quack's: BEDLXM
- Voyager's Rest (Water Valley): BAXTER ARENDER & CO., JACOB KYNARD, ALEX HUEY (7:30 pm)
- Chicory Market: Football Friday Supper Club (7 pm)
- Ford Center: THE PRIDE OF THE SOUTH in concert (7:30 pm)
- Proud Larry's: NEON JUNKIES (8 pm)
- SJB Pavilion (University): Ole Miss Men's BASKETBALL vs. LOUISIANA MONROE (6:30 pm)

### SATURDAY 11.08.2025 Game Day

- Vaught-Hemingway: OLE MISS VS. WASHINGTON STATE (11:45 am)
- The Library: BLUFF CITY (9 pm)
- Proud Larry's: THE OCHO (9 pm)

### SUNDAY 11.09.2025

- Foxfire Ranch: Sunday Blues Series ERIC DEATON (5 pm)
- The Old Henry: LIVE MUSIC (11:30 am)

### MONDAY 11.10.2025

- Off Square Books: JAMIE HARRISON & TODD GODDARD for *A River Dream and Devouring Time* (5:30 pm)

### TUESDAY 11.11.2025

- Off Square Books: MATT BONDURANT for *North Country* (5:30 pm)
- Square Books, Jr.: No Cap Book Club (6 pm)
- Ford Center: Veterans Day Concert (7:30 pm)
- SJB Pavilion (University): Ole Miss Men's BASKETBALL vs. MEMPHIS (8 pm)

### WEDNESDAY 11.12.2025

- The Lyric: FUTUREBIRDS (8 pm)
- SJB Pavilion (University): Ole Miss Women's BASKETBALL vs. SOUTHERN (6 pm) **LTV**

Find more events at [RoundaboutOxford.net](http://RoundaboutOxford.net)  
Do you have an event that you'd like to see listed in **The Local Voice**? Email [thelocalvoice@thelocalvoice.net](mailto:thelocalvoice@thelocalvoice.net) or text us at **662-832-3574**.



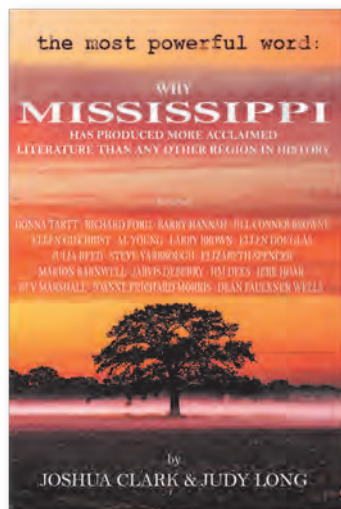
### Square Books Events

November 2025

1 11am	Melody Golding for <i>Hometown Mississippi</i> <i>Signing only</i>
3 5.30pm	Joshua Clark & Judy Long for <i>The Most Powerful Word</i>
6 5.30pm	Jere Nash & Marshall Ramsey for <i>Reconstruction in Mississippi</i>
10 5.30pm	Jamie Harrison & Todd Goddard for <i>A River Dream &amp; Devouring Time</i>
11 5.30pm	Matt Bondurant & Tom Franklin for <i>North Country</i>

ALL EVENTS AT OFF SQUARE BOOKS  
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## The Most Powerful Word

Why Mississippi has produced more acclaimed literature than any other region in history

Join authors Josh Clark and Judy Long in a discussion of the age-old question:  
Why has Mississippi produced so many great writers?

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025, 5:30 PM**  
**OFF SQUARE BOOKS**



@nightbirdparlour





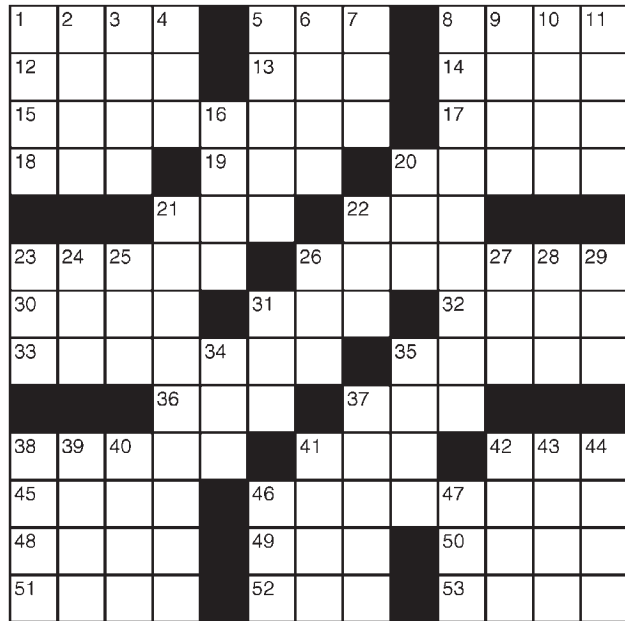
EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN!

Here are some games to play, in your free time, to keep your mind sharp, and focused.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Dandies  
5 Patient's need, briefly  
8 Small town  
12 "Yeah, right!"  
13 Brazilian city  
14 Screenwriter James  
15 Buyer's offer  
17 "Pinocchio" fish  
18 Six, in Milan  
19 Devoured  
20 Dexterity  
21 "See ya!"  
22 Knock  
23 Apiary homes  
26 Business magnates  
30 "Shake —!" ("Hurry!")  
31 Singer Carly — Jepsen  
32 Aussie hoppers  
33 Lend a hand  
35 Composer Joplin  
36 Priestly garment  
37 "Humbug!"  
38 Music category  
41 JFK Library architect  
42 "— the sea-son ..."  
45 During  
46 "Troy" actor



- 48 Flintstones' pet  
49 Long. crosser  
50 Skin care brand  
51 Ollie's pal  
52 Corp. symbols  
53 Conference leader?
- DOWN**
- 1 Little lies  
2 Theater award  
3 Mani counter-part  
4 NASCAR sponsor
- 5 Banal  
6 Grown-up nits  
7 Iowa college  
8 Rear veranda  
9 Hybrid fruit  
10 Stagger  
11 Earth sci.  
16 Light beams  
20 Pouch  
21 "Excuse me?"  
22 Deli bread  
23 "So there!"  
24 — -de-France  
25 Speed (Abbr.)  
26 Make lace  
27 Tic-tac-toe win  
28 "— so fast!"  
29 Retired jet
- 31 Barbecue coating  
34 World Cup cheer  
35 Stated  
37 Pulsates  
38 Wanders  
39 Send forth  
40 Jazz singer Simone  
41 Baby carriage  
42 Scrabble piece  
43 Slanted type (Abbr.)  
44 Ocular woe  
46 Crunchy sandwich  
47 Soup cooker



1. Which group released "Best of My Love"? (Hint: It was on their "On the Border" album.)  
2. Name the first artist to release "Misty Blue."  
3. Who was the first to release "Put Your Hand in the Hand"?  
4. Which singer-songwriter released "Only the Lonely (Know the Way I Feel)"?  
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "All my life was a paper, once plain, pure and white."

Answers

1. The Eagles, in 1974. In 1975, Billboard rated it at No. 12 of all the songs for the year.  
2. Wilma Burgess, in 1966. Months later the song was covered by Eddy Arnold. It had been penned specifically for Brenda Lee, but she said no to recording it.  
3. Anne Murray, in 1970. The following year the Canadian group Ocean released the song on their debut album. A dozen others followed over the years with their own covers, including Joan Baez, Elvis Presley and Tennessee Ernie Ford.  
4. Roy Orbison, in 1960. The song was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1999.  
5. "You Decorated My Life," by Kenny Rogers, in 1979. The next year it won the Grammy for Best Country Song.

Solutions to puzzles are inside The Local Voice Digital Edition sent every Thursday to subscribers. Subscribe FREE at TheLocalVoice.net or scan this QR code to subscribe.



MAGIC MAZE • NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

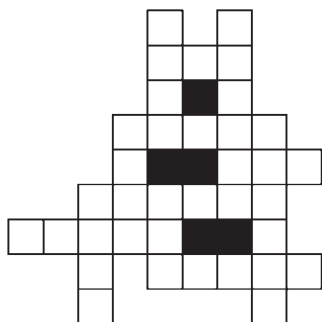
O A L X U R P M J G D D A X V  
S Q N I (H A M S T E R) K I F D  
A X V T B Q O G O R A G U O C  
H M J N H R T O O F P L C A Y  
W S U R O W E F C H O P W X N  
L J I H F O K G I E E D B O Z  
X V T F R M C K D R L G Q F O  
M K I H T B I C N A E O D D F  
D B Z Y W A R V A U B F T E T  
R Q O N L T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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A POLECAT

Badger	Cricket	Hedgehog	Raccoon
Bandicoot	Firefly	Leopard	Red fox
Catfish	Gerbil	Ocelot	Wombat
Cougar	Hamster	Owl	



- ♥ GMU  
DUSPLE  
PURGO  
RPSU  
♥ SEMUSA  
♥ NTE  
♥ TMSU  
♥ RDEPU  
♥ USP  
♥ NALTE  
♥ OPTER  
DOGA



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. ♥ RATHER becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

Wishing Well®

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

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.

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FRIDAY-SAT Noon-til  
SUNDAY 11 am-til



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THROUGH THURSDAY



# the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

## SUDOKU

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

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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Free background information available upon request. Listing of these areas does not indicate any certification of expertise there in.

- ACROSS**

1 Protestant denom.  
6 Command  
11 Duel weapon  
16 Blind — bat  
19 Fiji neighbor  
20 Acai, for one  
21 Peel remover  
22 Scanned ID on a pkg.  
23 “Is that something that ought to worry me?”  
25 Rembrandt or Rubens  
27 Arafat’s gp.  
28 Thurman of the screen  
29 With it, once  
30 “I Got a Name” singer Jim  
31 Patient information document  
38 Be a thespian  
39 Discount vouchers  
40 ER “PDQ!”  
41 Wanna- — (copycats)  
43 Coll. dorm overseers  
45 Spanish “a”  
46 Young miss  
48 “I’m stepping away for just a sec”  
52 Actress Bingham
- 55 “... boy — girl?”  
58 Gut-punch response  
59 On the whole  
60 Embarrassed oneself  
63 Rubs clean  
64 Spinning, archaically  
65 Peru’s — Picchu  
66 Suffix with 29-Down  
67 Fifth-cen. pope  
68 What “etc.” means  
72 City sections  
77 Oversee  
79 Android, e.g.  
80 Some steel girders  
81 Wise up  
85 Always the wrong way to go about it  
89 With 49-Down, miraculous biblical staff  
90 Singer Yoko  
91 Science advocate Bill  
92 Spa treats for feet, for short  
93 Felled  
96 Tip of a boot  
98 Org. for a periodontist
- 100 Pigs’ hangout  
101 Female pig  
102 Slithery fish  
105 Left on one’s plate  
108 In what way  
110 More so  
114 Grads  
116 Lyricist Kahn  
117 Slugger  
118 Actor Stephen  
119 Psyching-out activities  
122 Time to sing the tune suggested by the starts of 10 long answers in this puzzle  
127 Co. name abbr.  
128 Lott of politics  
129 Highly skilled  
130 Sporty car roofs  
131 Stretch (out)  
132 Threescore  
133 Harbors  
134 Perception
- DOWN**

1 Twisty letter  
2 Oom- — band  
3 “I think,” to a texter  
4 Add juice to, as an engine  
5 Peruvian city near Lima  
6 Honshu sash  
7 Mow again  
8 Serious plays  
9 Straying  
10 Bread type  
11 Do a satire of  
12 “Where’s —?”  
13 Munic. law  
14 Sleep-stage acronym  
15 Storied vampire, for short  
16 Dictators  
17 Striking thing to behold  
18 Unit of area  
24 Carrying out the task  
26 Span. lady  
29 Falling star  
31 Prefix with puncture  
32 Bend out of shape  
33 Bicker  
34 Hush-hush govt. org.  
35 Hailed ride  
36 1993-2020 Supreme Court justice, for short  
37 Dr. Oz’s first name  
42 Over the entire shop, as a sale  
44 “The — the limit!”  
47 Lindsay of “Get a Clue”  
49 See 89-Across  
50 Stipulations  
51 Youth org. with dens  
53 “Permit Me Voyage” author James  
54 Food dyes  
56 Shipping dept. stamp  
57 “Horton Hears —!”  
60 Notes after mis  
61 Tax evasion agt.  
62 Very unusual  
66 Analogy part  
69 Tooted thing  
70 Online auction site  
71 Thesaurus compiler  
73 Place — (participate on 70-Down)  
74 Glow with joy  
75 German city  
76 Org. issuing nine-digit IDs  
78 Final result  
81 Chatters idly  
82 Alternative to AOL or NetZero  
83 Unit equal to about 31 grams  
84 Astros, on scoreboards  
85 Tacit “yes”  
86 Rocker Brian  
87 People taking oaths  
88 From 1968 on, for tennis  
94 A pair of  
95 Born, in Nice  
97 “Days of — Lives”  
99 Pantry pest  
103 Texas city of song  
104 One packing things away  
106 Puts forth  
107 One little bite  
109 Nuke, e.g.  
111 Intermediary  
112 Like hurricanes  
113 Cairo’s land  
114 Lady friend, in Le Havre  
115 Mil. bigwigs  
120 Meyers of “Dark Horse”  
121 Tex- —  
122 Brief sleep  
123 Martians, e.g.  
124 History unit  
125 Corp. execs  
126 Suffix with Siam

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15		16	17	18
19						20						21							22	
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	108		109		110		111	112						113						
114				115			116				117				118					
119					120	121				122				123				124	125	126
127				128						129						130				
131					132					133						134				



Solutions to puzzles are inside **The Local Voice Digital Edition** sent every Thursday to subscribers. Subscribe **FREE** at [TheLocalVoice.net](http://TheLocalVoice.net) or scan this QR code and have our digital edition sent to you.

## Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

### RIDDLE SEARCH – LET’S MAKE COOKIES!

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the **UNUSED** letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: **Who sells cookies to goblins on Halloween?**

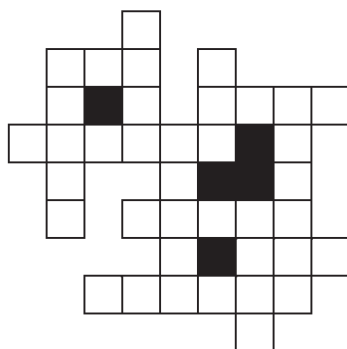
BAKING SODA  
BANANAS  
BUTTER  
CANDY  
CHEESE  
CHOCOLATES  
CREAM  
EGGS  
FIGS  
FLOUR  
FRUIT  
JAM  
JELLY  
OATMEAL  
OIL  
PEANUTS  
SALT  
SUGAR  
VANILLA

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

Riddle answer: \_\_\_\_\_



IEH  
FONGAL  
KAPRA  
♥ENPO  
♥NEPTIC  
OHR  
♥THSO  
♥NERSI  
♥OTP  
PNINKA  
KIFSR  
LHEO



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.

## Five Spot™

In the library

T	O	P	I	C

What we're talking about

Start of a new series

Rot

Ski venue

Mender's targets

Undersea formation

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.

## 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. Alphabet entry    | __ E __ _ _ _ | Set of kittens      | __ I __ _ _ _ |
| 2. Corn              | __ _ _ Z _    | Augusta's locale    | __ _ _ N _    |
| 3. Goddess of Wisdom | __ _ _ _ A    | Greek metropolis    | __ _ _ _ S    |
| 4. Fully fledged     | __ _ _ W _    | Gripe and moan      | __ _ _ A _    |
| 5. Pints in a gallon | E __ _ _ _    | After dark          | N __ _ _ _    |
| 6. Voting paper      | __ _ _ _ O _  | Pavlova performance | __ _ _ E _    |
| 7. Trumpet's cousin  | __ _ _ N _    | Lacy undergarment   | __ _ _ S _    |
| 8. Flagon            | __ _ _ _ K    | Flicker             | __ _ _ H      |
| 9. Acute or right    | __ _ G _ _    | Lower leg joint     | __ _ K _ _    |
| 10. Turmoil          | __ _ _ O _    | Blokes              | __ _ _ P _    |

## 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!

Supporter  
**TARPON**

Break  
**TRUEPUR**

Regard  
**DIRECT**

Fuse  
**DORSEL**

TODAY'S WORD



"If we ever have a \_\_\_\_\_  
in this class, it's going to be me."

**Little**  
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"I can't even read notes.  
But I can teach someone how  
to make a guitar smoke."

— **Ace Frehley** (April 27, 1951 – October 16, 2025)



## Do You Have One? (An opinion, that is)

Are you passionate about an issue? Do you have a unique perspective, a compelling story, or a strong stance on matters that deserve attention? We want to hear from you.

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### Brewing

# CIRCLE

## AND

# SQUARE

### Company

NOW OPEN  
WED – SUN  
FOR  
DINNER



GET SPRITZED

# Mississippi Puts Real Money Into Schools. Now Let Parents Choose.

by Dana Criswell

When I served in the Legislature, every time I spoke up for school choice I heard the same tired line: “If you support choice, you’re anti-school.” Nonsense. Mississippians value education—and we pay for it. The question is whether our kids are actually learning and whether parents have the power to put their child in a school that fits.

### What we spend

Mississippi now spends roughly \$12,000 per student (that is a lot of money), right in line with our neighbors. We are not starving the system. We’re funding it. Taxpayers have done their part.

### What we get

Some wins: Our early-grade reading reforms worked. Fourth graders have posted some of the best gains in the country. Graduation is up, too. That’s good news and it took effort.

But, by eighth grade the edge fades. Too many students are walking across the stage without the skills they need for college, a trade, or the military. That’s not a funding problem; that’s a results problem.

### How we stack up to private schools

Private high schools typically graduate more of their seniors and post stronger scores. Yes, some of that reflects family factors, but it also reflects mission, discipline, and the freedom to run a school that fits its students. Families who can match a child to the right school usually see better outcomes. That’s not “anti-public.” That’s pro-student.



### Are we getting our money’s worth?

Partly. We paid for improvement and got some—especially in early literacy. But taxpayers aren’t buying fourth-grade scores; we’re investing in adults who can read, reason, and work. If a child spends twelve years in a school system and still isn’t ready for what’s next, the system—not the child—failed. Paying more into the same structure and expecting different results is the political habit we need to break.

### How school choice helps Mississippi kids

Choice isn’t a threat to public schools; it’s a promise to parents. When money follows the student, every school—district, charter or private—has to earn a family’s trust.

Mississippi has proven we’ll pay for education. That should end the slur that conservatives are “anti-school.” We’re anti-excuses. If we truly value kids more than systems, we’ll let parents choose, let schools compete, and demand results worthy of the dollars we already spend. **TV**

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# Education is a Public Good— Not a Consumer Product

by Bradley Robertson

Few topics in education stir as much passion as school choice. On the surface, the idea sounds simple and appealing: give families state dollars and let them decide where to send their children to school. But beneath that slogan are serious consequences for Mississippi's children, communities, and future—consequences we cannot afford to ignore.

As Mississippi's public education system experiences its most impressive gains in decades, we must ask an important question: Why now? Why introduce a policy that would destabilize a system that is clearly working?

Over the past decade, Mississippi has seen remarkable growth, with 87% of districts now earning a C or higher, according to the Mississippi Department of Education. Notably, eight of the 19 districts rated D, F, or not rated at all are charter schools. Our state's national ranking for K–12 achievement has climbed from 50th to 16th, and Mississippi now leads the nation in early literacy gains and fourth grade reading growth. These results were not achieved through privatization or vouchers—they were achieved through focus, consistency, and intentionality by teachers and administrators across our state.

When a system is continuously improving, research is clear—now is not the time to blow it up. It is the time to double down on what works. The path forward for Mississippi lies in refining and strengthening our current educational system, not abandoning it for one that lacks accountability or proven results.

## Accountability Should Apply to Everyone

Public schools in Mississippi operate under one of the most transparent and rigorous accountability systems in the nation. Every school and district receives an annual letter grade—A through F—based on clear, publicly reported indicators such as student achievement, academic growth, graduation rates, and college and career readiness. Those results are not hidden in a report or spreadsheet—they are published statewide each year, tied directly to state and federal funding decisions, and used to guide support and improvement efforts.

When schools fall short, the state steps in. The Mississippi Department of Education provides targeted assistance, professional development, and intervention strategies to help struggling schools improve. Local school boards are required to discuss results in open meetings, and the public has full access to performance data by school, grade, and subgroup. In short, the public knows exactly how



their schools are performing and can hold leaders—like me—accountable for results.

Private schools receiving taxpayer-funded vouchers, however, face none of these same expectations. They are not required to administer state assessments aligned with Mississippi's academic standards, report graduation rates, publish any data showing whether students are actually learning, or required to have certified teachers. There are no annual report cards, no performance frameworks, and no transparency measures that allow parents or taxpayers to see results.

That lack of oversight raises a serious question: if public money is funding private education, how are families—or lawmakers—supposed to know whether “school choice” is actually working? Without data, there is no way to compare outcomes or determine whether students receiving vouchers are gaining ground, standing still, or falling behind.

If public dollars are going to private institutions, the public deserves to know what they're getting in return. Accountability should not stop at the schoolhouse door simply because the sign out front doesn't say “public.”

Transparency is not a punishment—it's a promise. It's the reason Mississippi's public education system has achieved record gains in the last decade. We turned years of stagnation into a story of improvement precisely because we were willing to measure results, confront reality, and act on what the data showed. If accountability has helped strengthen our public schools, shouldn't it be expected of any school that receives public funds?

## The Cost of Disruption

Universal school choice would drain critical resources from public schools—the very institutions that anchor our communities. When public dollars follow students out the door, the schools left behind still carry the same responsibilities: teaching every child who walks through their doors, keeping class sizes manageable, and providing programs in the arts, athletics, and career-technical education. What disappears are the resources to sustain that work.

Unlike public schools, private schools that receive vouchers are not required to serve all children. They can—and often do—set admissions criteria that exclude students with disabilities, English language

learners, or those with behavioral or academic challenges. They may decline to provide transportation, limit access for low-income families, or charge additional fees beyond the voucher amount. That's not freedom or fairness; that's selective access.

Public schools, by contrast, open their doors to every child, every day. They are the great equalizer—places where opportunity is not limited by income, background, or ability. Public schools don't get to choose their students. They simply choose to serve them all.

In every community, the public school is more than a building—it's a gathering place, a unifying symbol, and a promise that every child deserves a fair start. To weaken that promise by diverting funds to institutions that operate without the same responsibility or transparency is to risk unraveling one of the most essential threads in the fabric of our state.

## Education Is a Public Good

At its core, education is a public good, not a consumer good. It exists not to serve individual preference but to ensure the collective well-being of our communities and the strength of our democracy. Public education thrives on shared responsibility, transparency, and inclusion—values that cannot be reduced to marketplace competition or transactional choice.

When we begin to treat education as a commodity to be bought and sold, we risk eroding the foundation of equal opportunity and civic unity that has anchored this nation for more than a century. Public schools are where our children learn not only academics, but empathy, cooperation, and the responsibilities of citizenship.

## A Better Path Forward

Mississippi's recent success story proves what's possible when we invest in what works—early literacy, teacher development, career pathways, and continuous improvement. Rather than expanding programs that siphon resources away from public schools, we should continue building on the practices that have moved Mississippi from the bottom of national rankings to one of the most improved states in the country.

The future of Mississippi's children depends on the decisions we make today. If we want every child, in every community, to have a fair shot at success, we must protect and strengthen our public schools. Let's continue to refine what's working instead of dismantling a system that is finally moving in the right direction.

Education is not a marketplace—it's a promise. And that promise belongs to every child in Mississippi. **TV**



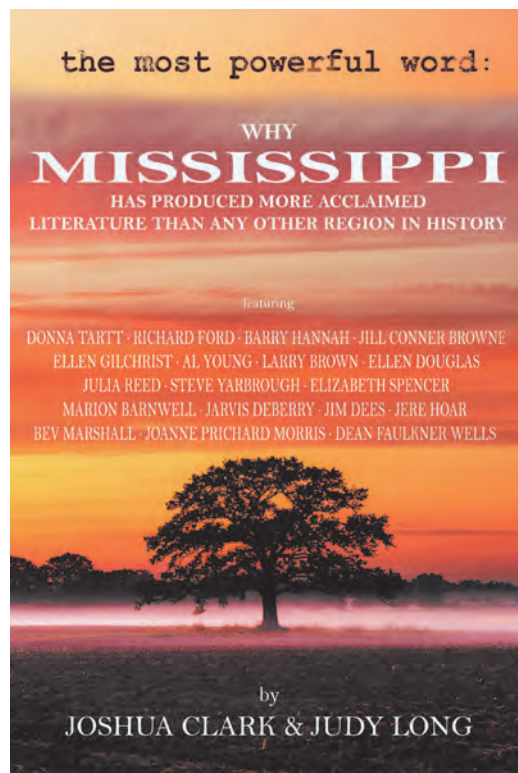
# The Most Powerful Word: Reading and Signing New Book Examines Mississippi's Place in Literature

Reading at Off Square Books Monday, November 3

For more than two decades, writers and scholars Josh Clark and Judy Long have pondered the question: Why has Mississippi produced so much acclaimed literature? Their new book, *The Most Powerful Word*, attempts to answer that question.

Clark and Long interviewed Donna Tartt, Richard Ford, Barry Hannah, Ellen Gilchrist, Larry Brown, Elizabeth Spencer, Ellen Douglas, Julia Reed, Al Young, Ralph Eubanks, Dean Faulkner Wells, Jim Dees, and dozens of other Mississippi writers about that very question.

The authors orchestrated these never-before-published interviews with many of the state's most acclaimed authors — some living, many long gone — in a conversation revealing the secrets to becoming a great writer and digging into the roots of Mississippi's singular literary DNA: how it formed and why it still matters. Their voices move from one theme to the next, from history to geography to storytelling to booze to race, touching on eras marked by the sorrow of segregation and the upheaval of integration.



The result is a book rife with humor, horror, and hope. This symphony of narratives captures Mississippi's influence on world literature, showing how this complex and contradictory land has shaped the soul of storytelling like no other region its size in human history.

Also woven throughout this tapestry are lesser-known excerpts from the state's literature, archival material, historical accounts, and revealing statistics.

Mississippi's literary heritage is more relevant today, with our continued racial reckoning, than ever. *The*

*Most Powerful Word* is a journey to understand not only how great writing is born, but how art, and so civilization, can evolve.

Josh Clark and Judy Long will be in conversation at Off Square Books in Oxford on Monday, November 3 at 5:30 pm and at Lemuria Books in Jackson on Tuesday, November 4, at 5 pm.

For more information, contact Square Books or Lemuria Books, or email the publisher at [info@nautiluspublishing.com](mailto:info@nautiluspublishing.com).

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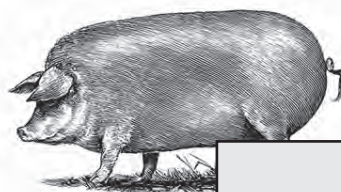
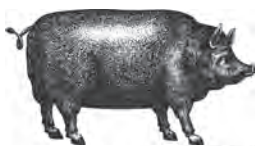
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## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION:** What was the name of the dog on "The Brady Bunch"?
- U.S. CITIES:** Which major U.S. city was called Yerba Buena until 1847?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Where is Bryce Canyon National Park located?
- HISTORY:** Where did the Renaissance begin?
- MOVIES:** What is the nickname of the serial killer in "The Silence of the Lambs"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Who was the 20th president of the United States?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** How many amendments are in the United States' Bill of Rights?
- ASTRONOMY:** What type of galaxy is the Milky Way?
- MUSIC:** Which rock band sings the theme song to "The Big Bang Theory"?
- LITERATURE:** What is the last name of the family in "Little Women"?

ANSWERS BELOW

### GO FIGURE!

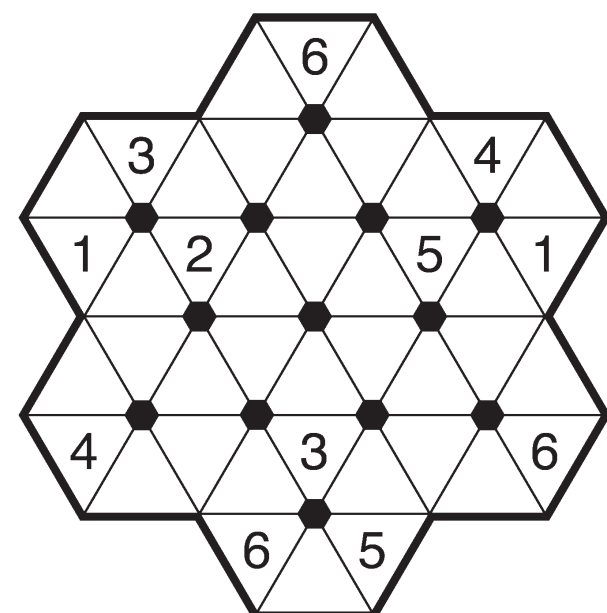
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each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

	+		×		= 42			
+		-		+				
	+		×	7	= 70			
÷		×		-				
	+		+		= 15			
=		=		=				
12		5		4				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9



## SNOWFLAKES

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.

ANH ZTNG, ANH YNT'W  
OSXJ WN MJ ESPNHI, ANH  
CHIW OSXJ WN PSZJ ANHD  
PNWOJD STY ESWOJD VDNHY

### 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: **K** equals **F**

IVMB NVYZCL AYZ OMCC MQ  
MDFA YKKXOHD IVY CXEHN  
OYDQ FYDH BVMQ MQA YBVHD  
KYYL? CXHZBHQMQB EHDQHC



"Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe."  
— **Abraham Lincoln**  
(February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865)

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Answers: 1. Tiger, 2. San Francisco, 3. Utah, 4. Florence, Italy, 5. Buffalo Bill, 6. James A. Garfield, 7. The first 10 amendments (of 27 to date), 8. Spiral, 9. Barenaked Ladies, 10. March.



## Rebel Wine & Spirits

Remember the Party Starts Here!

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Oxford, Mississippi 38655



## STICKELERS



Try your hand at these analogies ...

- 1) Killing one's brother: fratricide::  
Killing one's wife: ?
- 2) Bone: osteo:: ear: ?
- 3) Anglo: England:: Sino: ?
- 4) Occidental: West  
Oriental: East

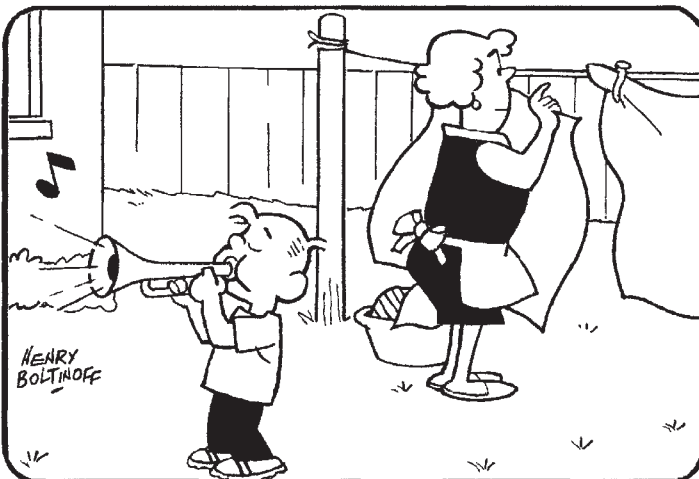
## KNIGHT MOVES

E	F	M
R		S
S	N	I

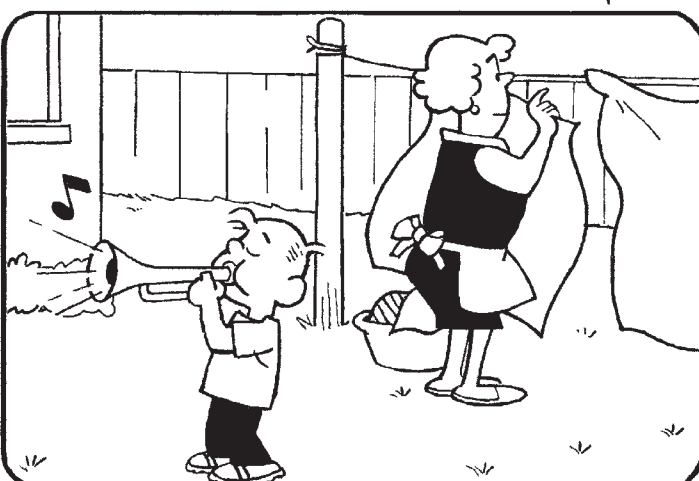
Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

## HOCUS-FOCUS

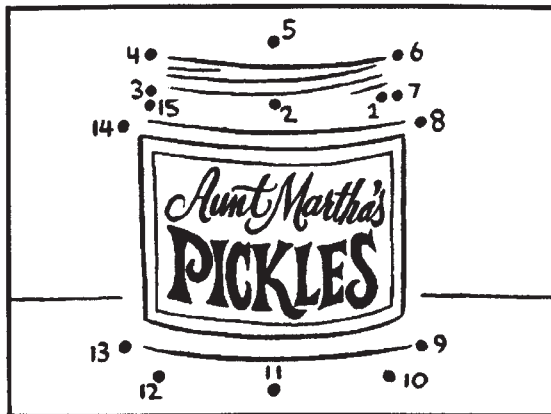
BY HENRY BOLTHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



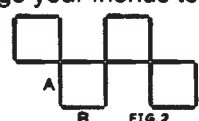
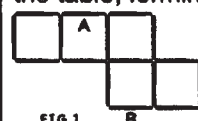
Differences: 1. Music note is missing. 2. Leg is wider. 3. Clothespin is missing. 4. Sheet is longer. 5. Window is wider. 6. Arm is not showing.



WHEN IS A DOOR NOT A DOOR? Connect the dots and find out.

Answer: "When it's a jar."

A "PICKY" PROBLEM! Here's a neat little wager. Place 16 toothpicks on the table, forming five squares as shown in fig. 1. Challenge your friends to move two of them to new positions so that you will have only four equal squares. The solution is shown in fig. 2



FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "PLANET." Can you replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four 3-letter words across and three 4-letter words down? Time limit: 60 seconds.

Answers: (Across): Pat, ale, see, ten. (Down): Past, alee, teen.

P		A	
L			E
A			E
N	S		
E	T		

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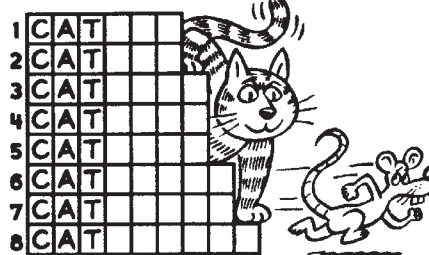
1. An easily remembered tune.
2. A short rest.
3. A tomato favorite. (Var.)
4. A disapproving whistle.
5. Found at big parties.
6. Found in swamps.
7. Great for moving heavy objects.
8. A well-known slogan.

Answers: 1. Catchy. 2. Catnap. 3. Catchup. 4. Catcall. 5. Caterer. 6. Catalls. 7. Catapult. 8. Catchword.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

### THE CAT'S "MEOW" PUZZLE!



You'll be sitting in the "catbird's seat" if you finish this one. To the left is a stack of eight words, each of which begins with the word "cat." Using the following hints, see if you can catch them in less than five minutes

## Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

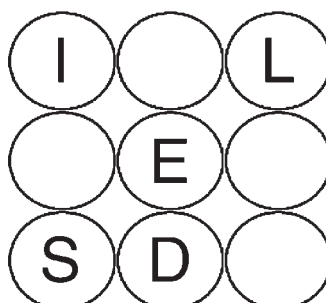
Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Investigate
2. Royal home
3. Mountainous
4. Flag
5. Ire
6. Crowd
7. Keep back
8. Make amends
9. Military rank
10. Shaving foam

\_\_\_ E \_\_\_ Barnyard baby  
\_\_\_ C \_\_\_ Roof of the mouth  
\_\_\_ I \_\_\_ Christmassy plant  
\_\_\_ N \_\_\_ Money loaner  
\_\_\_ N \_\_\_ Boring tool  
\_\_\_ D \_\_\_ Stable inhabitant  
\_\_\_ N Facet  
A \_\_\_ Pebble  
\_\_\_ J \_\_\_ Estate  
\_\_\_ H \_\_\_ Second (of two)

\_\_\_ I \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ T \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ O \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ K \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ U \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ S \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ L \_\_\_  
S \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ N \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ T \_\_\_

## 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.





# Read More at TheLocalVoice.net

Scan our QR code for quick access to TheLocalVoice.net



## Max Williams Left His Mark and Mississippi

Williams, a demographer, director emeritus of Ole Miss's Center for Population Studies and professor emeritus of sociology and anthropology, died October 14, 2025, leaving his fingerprints on not only the university, but also the state.

## Ole Miss Internship Brings Soul Force Into Digital Age

Through a new internship with the Burns-Belfry Museum and Multicultural Center, doctoral student Gabbie Bowden digitized more than two decades of Soul Force, a community newsletter that began everyday life in Freedmen Town in the early 1970s.

Photo of the Week:

## "Morgan Jewelry on The Square in 1961" by John Cofield

Kids distributing *The Oxford Eagle* when it was a weekly publication.

## Lafayette County Master Gardeners: "Marigold" by Bronwynne Bailey

Traditionally used in Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations in Mexico, Tagetes erecta holds deep symbolic significance, believed to guide the spirits of the deceased with its vivid color and strong fragrance.

## Broadway Conductor Returns to His Roots for Concert, Master Class at University of Mississippi

University of Mississippi alumnus and Broadway musical director William Waldrop joins the UM Opera Theatre and the Lafayette-Oxford-University Symphony Orchestra for a joint concert Monday, November 3, 2025, in the Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts.

## Study Links Faith to Black Americans' Mental Health Outcomes

Research underscores importance of holistic health care

Church pews, gospel songs, and prayer have offered comfort in Black communities for generations. But, even the strongest devotion to faith can also carry uncertainty, guilt, or grief that weigh on the mind. A new study from the University of Mississippi explored how those spiritual crossroads shape the mental health of Black Americans, offering insights that could improve care.

## Study Finds Community Violence Exposure Influences Behavior in School

New research from the University of Mississippi sheds light on how exposure to violence outside of school may lead some children to act out in the classroom.

## More Headlines

Oxford High School Senior Named a Coca-Cola Scholar Semifinalist

Oxford Dermatology Is First in Lafayette County to Offer Nonsurgical Treatment for Common Skin Cancer

Eighth Grade Oxford Middle School Football Team Finishes with Perfect Record in 2025

Bramlett Elementary Students Celebrate Farm to School Month

Ole Miss Researcher Lands NSF Funding for Brain-Inspired Chip

'The Mayo Lab Podcast' Builds Community Through Talk

Global Collaboration Reveals New Insights into 'Ghost Particles'

Ole Miss Alumna, Respected Journalist Creates Endowment

Hinds Community College Opposes New Reporting Requirements

Alumnus Increases Planned Gift to Ole Miss Athletics

Common Heart Medication Shows Promise Against Liver Cancer

## Local Crime:

Two from Greenwood Arrested for Shoplifting at Oxford Walmart

Read more at TheLocalVoice.net

At the end of the incredibly long meeting, the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors decided to delay an official vote on the zoning change until their next meeting, November 3. The Supervisors are Brent Larson, John Morgan, Tim Gordon, Scott Allen, and Greg Bynum.

Following the board's October 20 delay, social media chaos continued about the issue, which drew the attention of Mississippi's Agriculture Commissioner, Andy Gipson. Gipson visited Falkner Farm on October 23, and publicly voiced support against the proposed rezoning.

"I spoke with Elizabeth Falkner about the issue and was able to lend support last week ahead of the Board meeting," said Gipson, who is running for Governor. "Thanks to everyone for speaking out for our family farms when these zoning issues arise."

"As I remind folks every day, it is possible for Mississippi to have economic growth without sacrificing our crucial family farms!" Gipson exclaimed.

Five days later, McCurdy withdrew his proposed asphalt plant plans and thanked the Board of Supervisors.

"I particularly want to thank Supervisors Scott Allen, Greg Bynum, and John Morgan for their honest and fair input we heard at the Board meeting," McCurdy continued. "We're going to make this work, just in a new location."

Magnolia Materials' plant will be capable of producing 2,000 tons of asphalt per day. According to their press release, their asphalt plant will use the latest environmental control technologies, "resulting in an emission capture rate of over 99.94%, making it cleaner than commercial bakeries, gas stations, or even traditional farming."

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## The Local Voice is published every Thursday

Deadline is every Tuesday at noon. Next print deadline: November 11  
We welcome submissions, contributions, local writers, and artists! Get in touch and get published.

CELL: 662-832-3574 EMAIL: thelocalvoice@thelocalvoice.net

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# EAT IN OXFORD

## LOCAL FOOD & DRINK OPTIONS

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

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Transfer your old  
Video Tapes to Digital  
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### Ajax Diner

118 Courthouse Square

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: TAB

### Big Bad Breakfast

719 N Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Fri: 7 am-1 pm

Sat-Sun: 8 am-2:30 pm

Early Bird Special:

Wed & Thur 7-9 am: 10% off

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

(open early Sat-Sun of home game weekends)

### Booth's Barbeque

2200 South Lamar Blvd.

Tue-Thu: 11 am-8 pm

Fri-Sat: 11 am-10 pm

Sun: 11 am-8 pm

Wed-Thu: \$4 drafts & wells;

\$5 High Noons (4 pm-close)

Fri: 2-for-1 wells ALL DAY;

\$5 High Noons (4-8 pm)

Sat: \$7 Signature Cocktails

Sun: 1/2-price Bloody Marys & Mimosas

Delivery: Door Dash, Uber Eats

### Bouré

110 Courthouse Square

Mon-Thu: 10:30 am-10 pm

Fri-Sat: 10:30 am-10:30 pm

Bar: Mon-Wed 4 pm-midnight;

Thu-Fri 4 pm-1 am; Sat 10:30 am-1 am

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

### Circle & Square

100 Depot Street

Tap Room Hours:

Mon-Wed: 7 am-9 pm,

Thu-Sat: 7 am-10 pm

Sun: 9 am-7 pm

Kitchen Hours:

Mon-Tue: 11 am-7:30 pm

Wed-Sat: 7 am-7:30 pm

Sun: 9 am-6:30 pm

WED: TRIVIA 7 pm

Delivery: Door Dash, Uber Eats

### City Grocery

152 Courthouse Square

Mon-Sat:

Lunch: 11:30 am-2:30 pm;

Dinner 6-10 pm; Fri & Sat till 10:30

City Grocery Bar

Mon-Sat: 4 pm-till

Happy Hour 4-6 pm:

M-F \$1 off wells & domestics

(open early on Fri-Sat of home game weekends)

### Funkys

1012 E Jackson Ave

Mon-Thu: 2 pm-1 am

Fri: noon-1 am; Sat: 11 am-1 am

Sun: 11 am-9 pm

Mon: \$5 Octanes

Tue: \$5 Grape Gatorade

Wed: LADIES' NIGHT: \$5 Skinny Bitches

Thur: \$4 domestics

Delivery: TAB

### Kingswood

425 S. Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Wed: 4-9 pm; Thu: 4-10 pm

Fri: 11 am-2 pm; 4-10 pm

Sat & Sun: 9 am-2 pm; 4-10/9 pm

Happy Hour 4-5 pm: \$4 select drafts, \$8 Classic Cocktails, \$7 wines, food specials

### Nightbird

425 S. Lamar Blvd.

Open at 4 pm nightly

### Little Easy Catering

1503B White Oak Lane

Sunday Plate Lunches

Sun: 10 am-2 pm

### The Library

120 South 11th Street

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

### Moe's BBQ

311 S Lamar Blvd

Mon-Sun: 11 am-10 pm

Penny Bar open 3 pm

Happy Hour 3-6 pm:

Mon-Fri 1/2-price apps,

2-for-1 wells, wines & domestics

Mon: \$2 domestics; 50¢ wings

Tue: TRIVIA + \$25 High Noon buckets

Wed: OPEN MIC (starting Sept. 3)

Thu: BINGO + \$5 Bushwhackers

Sun: Kids 12 & under eat free (6 pm-close)

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

### Quack's

122 Courthouse Square

Mon-Thu: 4 pm-close

Fri: noon-1 am; Brunch noon-3 pm

Sat & Sun: Brunch 11 am-3 pm;

Mimosas & \$9 Espresso Martinis

Sun: 11 am-9 pm; \$1 off cocktails 3-9pm

Happy Hour:

Mon: \$1 off drafts ALL DAY

Tues: \$1 off drafts ALL DAY, \$1 off bottles & cans (4-6 pm)

Wed: \$1 off drafts, bottles & cans ALL DAY

Thur & Fri: \$1 off drafts, bottles & cans (4-6 pm)

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

### The Old Henry

1002 East Jackson Ave

Thu-Fri: 5 pm-1 am

Sat: noon-1 am

Sun: Brunch 11 am-3 pm

Happy Hour 6-8 pm Thu:

1/2-priced cocktails & wine

### Oxford

### Community Market

1801 University Ave

Tue: 3-6:30 pm

### Rafters on the Square

1006 East Jackson Ave

Tue-Fri: 5 pm-1 am

Sat: 1 pm-1 am

### Saint Leo

922 E Jackson Ave

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

(Tue-Thu): \$10 Pizzas, Bubbles + Fries, \$6 Wine & Cocktails

### Snackbar

721 N Lamar Blvd

Mon-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

Mon: INDUSTRY NIGHT

(open early on Fri of home game weekends)

### SoLa

401 S Lamar Blvd

Wed-Sun: 5-9 pm

Happy Hour 5-6 pm:

\$6 fresh Margaritas

Wed: Spaghetti

+ \$5 wine

Thu: Ramen & \$5

Rosé

### Southern Coop

705 Sisk Ave.

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

### Tallahatchie Gourmet

1221 Van Buren Ave

Mon-Wed: 11 am-2:30 pm

Mon-Fri: retail open until 4:30 pm

Brunch Sat & Sun 11:30 am-3 pm

Delivery: TAB

### Uno Mas

1101 E Jackson Ave

Mon-Sat: 11 am-10 pm

Sun: 11 am-9 pm

late night menu Thu-Sat

Happy Hour 3-6 pm: \$3 tacos; \$6

house Margaritas (\$20 pitchers); 2-for-1

domestics; 1/2-off appetizers

Tues: HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY

Sat: \$5 Frozen & \$20 pitchers

Sun: Service Industry Sunday

Delivery: Door Dash

### Volta Taverna

710 N Lamar Blvd

Mon-Thu: 11 am-9 pm;

Fri-Sat: 11 am-9:30 pm;

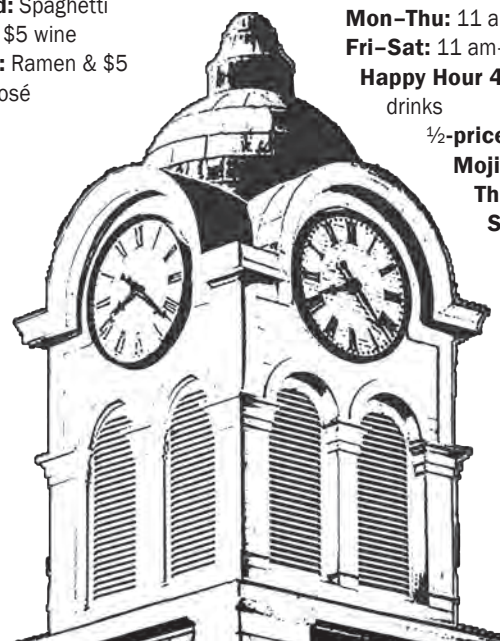
Happy Hour 4-6 pm: \$1 off all drinks

1/2-price Margaritas &

Mojitos Mondays,

Thursday, &

Saturdays 



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# Poems from the Pen of the Sundown Cowboy, Poet Lariat of The Balcony

Today I felt emptiness.  
It was nothing new.  
Hope called out to me  
with her quiet seduction  
and I leapt to reply  
with a thunderous, "YES!"  
Today I felt love.  
I welcomed her home  
and bade her stay.

Pleasure you. Pleasure me.  
She's getting used to missing you.  
I hold your heart. Think it out loud  
now that I don't have you anymore.  
Show me love right now.  
I show you pain.  
How can I take away  
what's already gone?  
If you still wanted me...

I never have been fond of Cadillacs.  
They seem a bit pretentious to me,  
an' puttin' on ain't where I'm at.  
But now, with you in my heart,  
blue Cadillacs jumpstart my soul.

When the shadows begin to fall  
and night is closing in,  
my thoughts of you flourish  
and I return to my motherland  
where I find you waiting,  
waiting patiently  
for me.




All my friends tell me  
I gotta get out of this town.  
Mama calls me every day  
to see if anyone's come round.  
Even the old flames try to rekindle the fire,  
but I'm holding out.  
Holding out  
for you.

Two states away.  
You are a full two states away.  
It makes me miss you all the more.  
Alabama and Georgia feel like  
Mercury and Neptune to me.

You said you were with me.  
I knew it was true.  
But you still had to show me,  
didn't you?  
That truck in the roundabout  
that moved so slow,  
annoyed me at first,  
but then, I know  
you sent it to me,  
for on its tag I saw  
the county of its origin  
and yours.  
Chickasaw.

Make peace with your parents,  
even if they lie dead.  
Make peace with your children,  
even the yet-to-be birthed.  
Make peace with your friends,  
the ones you've hurt or healed.  
Make peace with your enemies  
and turn them into friends.  
Make peace with your brothers and sisters.  
You sprouted from the same seed.  
Make peace with old lovers.  
You are still connected.  
Make peace with your Guide,  
for the path can be treacherous.  
Make peace with death,  
every kind there is.  
Make peace with life  
on which all others depend.

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

*Randy Weeks is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Certified Shamanic Life Coach, an ordained minister, singer-songwriter, actor, writer, and a former triathlete. He may be reached at randallsweeks@gmail.com. *

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# the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND



## the Local Voice - Super Crossword THE NIGHT BEFORE

### ACROSS

- 1 For the stock issue price  
6 Low voices  
12 Test version  
16 Aykroyd of "Coneheads"  
19 Small wine or oil container  
20 "Fighting" NCAA team  
21 Epochs  
22 Logging tool  
23 \* Fourth-day gifts in a Yuletide song  
25 \* Warming Yuletide drink  
27 Earthen cooking pot  
28 Bedazzled  
29 Suffix with art  
31 President Reagan  
32 \* Flying Yuletide team  
34 \* Leafy Yuletide door decoration  
37 Tooth: Prefix  
38 Fashion flair  
40 Shared by us  
41 Soften  
45 Fed, e.g.  
47 High trains  
48 Ill. neighbor  
49 Religious branches  
50 Figure skater Dorothy  
54 Some toy batteries

### 55 \* Much-

- anticipated Yuletide visitor  
57 \* Yuletide tinsel, ornaments and lights  
59 Wray of "King Kong"  
60 Circular square dance maneuver  
61 Actress Reid  
62 Keeps pelting  
64 Eat away (at)  
66 Backup strategy  
68 \* Plant hung up for Yuletide  
70 Jessica of "King Kong"  
75 Roaring cat  
77 Bombardier's attack  
79 Paper pack  
80 Quality evoking pity  
84 In time past  
85 \* Phrase from the Yuletide carol "Silent Night"  
87 \* What "it's lovely weather for" in a Yuletide tune  
90 NFL scores  
91 To a huge degree  
92 Church cries

### 93 Nav. leader

- 94 Be litigious  
95 Buddy  
96 Zesty taste  
97 Intl. 1940s conflict  
98 Misstep  
100 Edge along  
105 \* Yuletide tree, e.g.  
108 \* Time off for Yuletide, say  
110 "Scram!"  
113 Office tel. add-on  
114 — fire under (stirred up)  
115 Make — for it (try fleeing)  
116 \* Scrooge in a Yuletide classic  
119 Apt phrase spelled out by the first letters of the answers to the starred clues  
122 Spock's pointy part  
123 Toon frames  
124 Tough trial  
125 Capital of Ghana  
126 Seeded loaf  
127 Jenner of reality TV  
128 Subtle distinction  
129 Detested

### DOWN

- 1 Honda model  
2 Seat of Ireland's County Kerry  
3 Arrive at a stop, as a bus  
4 Tilted  
5 Camping gear retailer  
6 Conference for UC Davis  
7 Einstein or Camus  
8 Lost traction  
9 Knightly title  
10 Alternatives to escaroles  
11 Spacek of "Carrie"  
12 Scrooge's cry  
13 Vanity  
14 "Neon" fishes  
15 Chichi scarf  
16 Father, to a wee tot  
17 Skating jump  
18 "Adorkable" sort, perhaps  
24 Scot's denial  
26 Wearing stiletos, say  
30 Involving give-and-take  
33 — for "Murder" (Hitchcock film)  
34 Troubles  
35 Totally spoil

### 36 Word before

- while  
39 Brewing fungi  
42 Brazilian juice berry  
43 Kind of poker  
44 Canadian gas station name  
46 Smooth but unconvincing  
49 Meanie's look  
50 URL opener  
51 Asia's — Sea  
52 Actress Sorvino  
53 One-named supermodel  
54 Once more  
55 More reasonable  
56 Oral health org.  
58 Pixar title fish  
59 Book leaf  
63 Rocket part  
64 Targets  
65 Astrophysicist — deGrasse Tyson  
67 Online journals  
69 Wall Street worker  
71 Circle parts  
72 In tidy order  
73 Chutzpah  
74 TV trophy  
76 "Sorta"  
78 Opera queen  
80 Jr.'s exam

### 81 — mater

- 82 Adolescent  
83 Be determined by  
84 Be a fan of  
86 Chip topper  
88 Texters' playful growl  
89 "Yeah, dude"  
90 Rotate  
94 Transparent informally  
95 Empty talk  
97 "Buddy Holly" rock band  
99 Egg-holding capsule  
101 Lake that feeds the Mississippi  
102 Forthright  
103 Paris art museum  
104 Group of nine  
106 Sweater type  
107 Parolee, e.g.  
109 Vid recorder  
110 Bar brew  
111 Auction site  
112 Richard of "First Knight"  
114 Legal claim  
117 Roth of horror films  
118 Web feed format inits.  
120 Dietary std.  
121 Sigh of relief

### SUDOKU

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



**Oxford Community Market**  
Every Tuesday 3-6:30 PM  
Old Armory Pavilion • 1801 University Ave.



SAMANTHA HALEY  
ARTIST

artbysamanthahaley@gmail.com  
artbysamanthahaley

Mediums available for commission:  
colored pencil, water color, oil paint,  
digital, and graphite pencil.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15		16	17	18	
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116							117	118		119		120					121				
122										124							125				
126						127				128							129				





Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I TOLD THE DOCTOR YOU DIDN'T WANT TO WATCH FOOTBALL. HE SAID IF YOU REFUSE NACHOS TO BRING YOU IN ASAP.

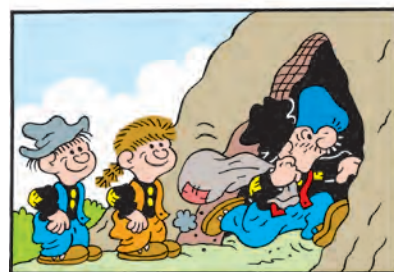
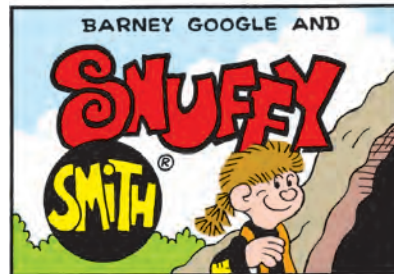


GRIN and BEAR IT



"We can scratch one more sitter from the list. ... Your mother recognized my voice."

WHEN AMERICAN POLITICS DEVOLVES INTO A BAD JAPANESE MONSTER MOVIE...



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas





HAL FOOTEERS BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

# Prince Valiant

THE SKJALDDIS HAS SUCCEEDED IN LURING THE PIRATE VESSELS INTO THE TERRIBLE TIDAL CURRENT AND DESTRUCTION...

...VAL, BUKOTA AND THE IMAZIGHEN WOMEN RACE FROM THE ISLAND'S HIGH GROUND TO DO WHAT THEY CAN TO CONTAIN THE SURVIVORS...

...AND IN THE SUNKEN WRECK OF THE ISLAND QUEEN, ALETA HAS AT LAST LOCATED THE VALUABLE ARTIFACT ENTRUSTED BY KAREN'S HUSBAND, GIOVANNI, TO HER ASIAN GUARD. BUT AS SHE STRUGGLES TO RAISE HER PRIZE, HER LUNGS BURNING FOR WANT OF AIR, A HORRIBLE APPARITION WRITHES THROUGH THE DISTURBED WRECKAGE!

NEXT: A race with death

# Americanisms

"A man says a lot of things in summer he doesn't mean in winter."

— Patricia Briggs

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## Amber Waves

THIS IS SO UNFAIR. I'M REALLY EXPECTED TO WAIT UNTIL THE HOLIDAYS FOR PRESENTS?

YOU KNOW... THERE MAY BE A SIMPLE SOLUTION TO THIS.

SO, DAD, DID YOU THINK ABOUT IT?

GIVE IT UP. TEARING PAGES FROM THE FRIDGE CALENDAR WON'T MOVE UP CHRISTMAS.

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by Dave T. Phipps

### THE PENTAGON ISSUES NEW PRESS RULES:

## The Spats

I'M BATTING A THOUSAND TODAY

...UNFORTUNATELY THEY WERE ALL FOUL BALLS.

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by Jeff Pickering

WELL, NOT ALL OF THE HOSTAGES HAVE BEEN RELEASED!

HE'S STILL A NAZI!

TRUMP DERANGEMENT SYNDROME

HITCH

## TIGER

BUD BLAKE

by BUD BLAKE

COLLEGE CAMPUS

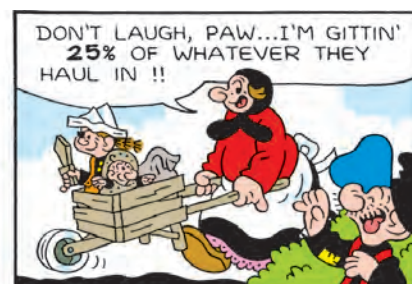
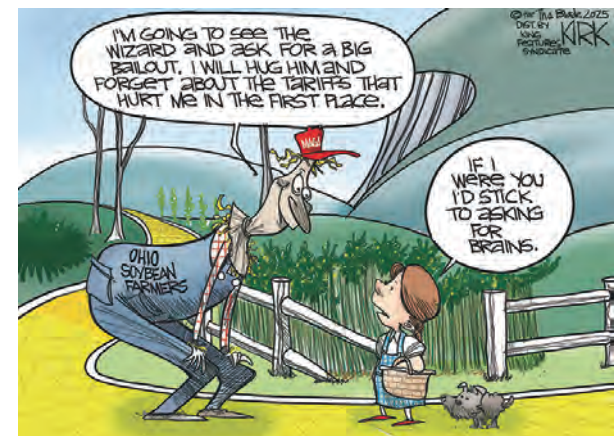
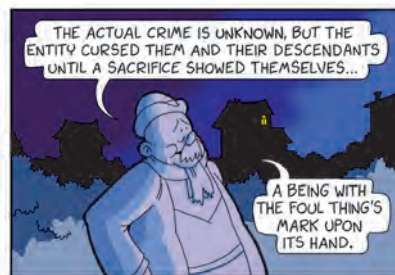
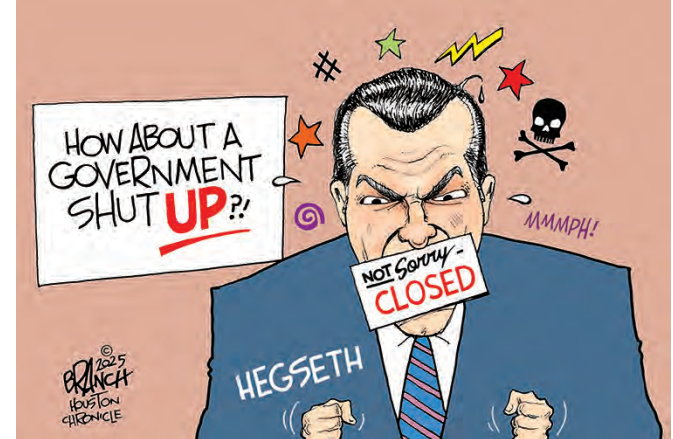
There's no place for ANTISEMITISM here...

Only HERE

YOUNG REPUBLICAN RACIST TEXTS

MARGULIES





## Americanisms



"Halloween is not only about putting on a costume, but it's about finding the imagination and costume within ourselves."  
— Elvis Duran

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps





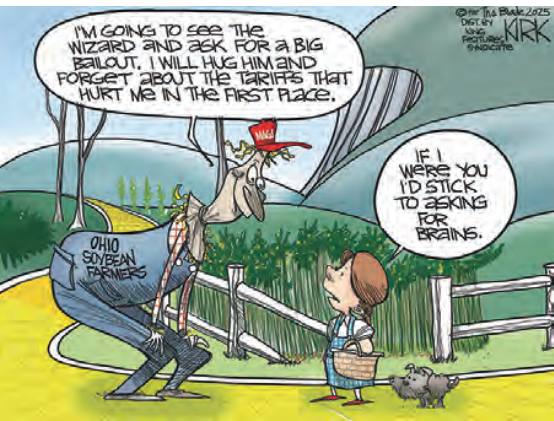
I DON'T KNOW WHY IT WON'T WORK. EITHER THIS COMPUTER HAS GOTTEN TOO OLD OR WE HAVE.



I'M GOING TO SEE THE WIZARD AND ASK FOR A BIG BAILOUT. I WILL HUG HIM AND FORGET ABOUT THE TARIFFS THAT HURT ME IN THE FIRST PLACE.

OHIO SOYBEAN FARMERS

IF I WERE YOU I'D STICK TO ASKING FOR BRAINS.



**The Garden Bug**

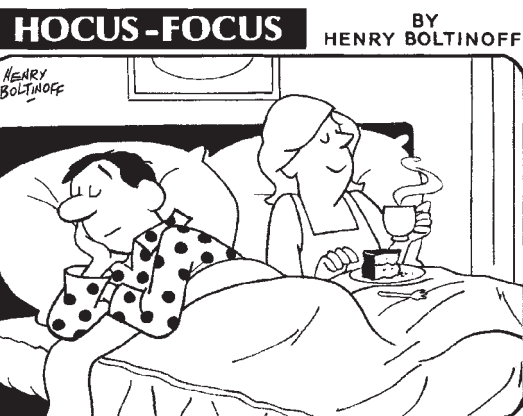
This low-maintenance succulent from Mexico gets its name from its thick, whitish-green leaves, which can become pink-tinged in hot, dry weather, and blueish when in shade. In spring it forms clusters of small star-shaped flowers that are white with small red dots. It likes full sun to partial shade, and well-drained soil is a must. Once it is established, it is drought tolerant. It does well in rock gardens, containers, as a ground cover or on the patio. It is easily propagated by rooting leaves, division or stem cuttings. - Brenda Weaver

**Ghost Plant**

Sources: plants.ces.ncsu.edu, www.smgrowers.com



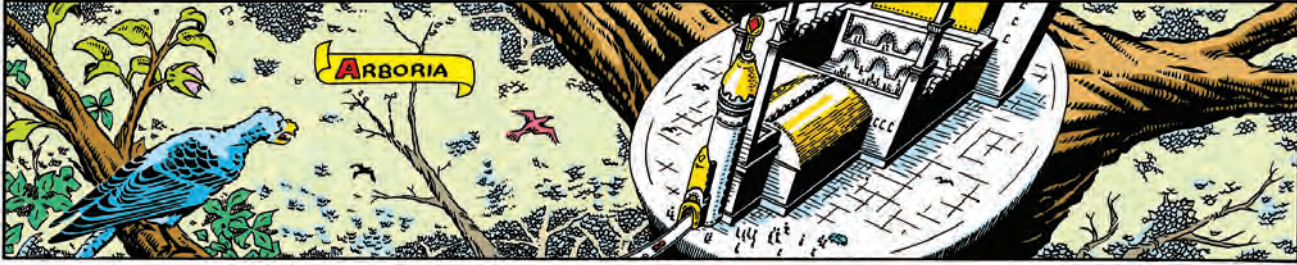
**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



**ARBORIA**



**FLASH GORDON** BY JIM KEEFE

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HAVING NARROWLY DEFEATED MING'S FORCES, FLASH AND MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL ALLIANCE REGROUP IN BARIN'S FOREST KINGDOM OF ARBORIA.

MING MUST BE STOPPED...ONCE AND FOR ALL!

EASIER SAID THAN DONE, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM.



WE DO HAVE ONE LEAD. REDDOL...THE SHAPE-SHIFTER MING SENT TO ASSASSINATE BARIN.

HE WAS ONCE A FOLLOWER OF A MADMAN NAMED GARAKAHN...

...CHANCES ARE WE'LL FIND A CLUE TO MING'S WHEREABOUTS IN GARAKAHN'S OLD ABANDONED FORTRESS.

MY LIEGE, IF FLASH DEFEATED REDDOL, IT'LL LEAD THE EARTHLING RIGHT TO THIS CASTLE!

OF COURSE IT WILL, AND BY THE TIME GORDON ARRIVES...

THE TRAP WILL BE SET!

NEXT: TO SUMMON A DEMON!



The Spats

HAROLD, IT'S SO NICE TO SEE YOUR BACK.



REALLY??



YES, IT'S SO MUCH NICER THAN SEEING YOUR FRONT.



by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb

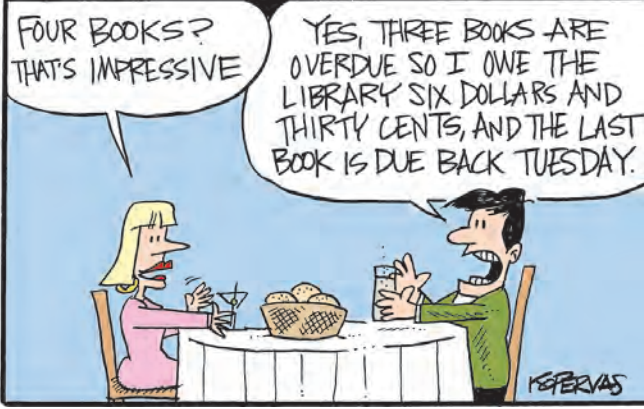
SO, TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF, GREG...

WELL, I HAVE FOUR BOOKS OUT IN THE PAST TWO YEARS



FOUR BOOKS? THAT'S IMPRESSIVE

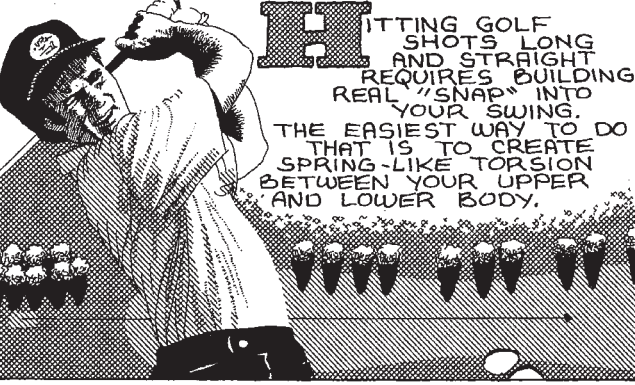
YES, THREE BOOKS ARE OVERDUE SO I OWE THE LIBRARY SIX DOLLARS AND THIRTY CENTS, AND THE LAST BOOK IS DUE BACK TUESDAY.



by Gary Kopervas

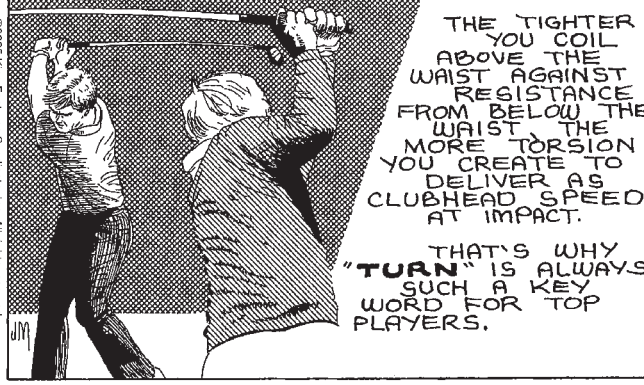
Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

HITTING GOLF SHOTS LONG AND STRAIGHT REQUIRES BUILDING REAL "SNAP" INTO YOUR SWING. THE EASIEST WAY TO DO THAT IS TO CREATE SPRING-LIKE TORSION BETWEEN YOUR UPPER AND LOWER BODY.



THE TIGHTER YOU COIL ABOVE THE WAIST AGAINST RESISTANCE FROM BELOW THE WAIST, THE MORE TORSION YOU CREATE TO DELIVER AS CLUBHEAD SPEED AT IMPACT.

THAT'S WHY "TURN" IS ALWAYS SUCH A KEY WORD FOR TOP PLAYERS.







## Try This Zucchini Chile-Cheese Bake

Leaves that were green may be turning to brown, gold and red, but summer's growing season isn't over yet. Tall and free, sunflowers still climb upward like Jack's beanstalk. Their bright yellow blooms sway with afternoon breezes, crossing property lines and surpassing the heights of fences. They're so full of life and growth, and I recently observed a bright sunflower bold enough to peek into a second story window.

Lower to the ground, to accommodate my granddaughter's reach, a few cherry tomatoes ripen for her picking in our backyard. Lurking under a last pepper, three zucchinis are another happy discovery. Just what I need for this delicious, nutritious, family-style dish!

A last hurrah to the growing season, this Zucchini Chile-Cheese Bake with tomatoes and peppers is a healthy side for dinner or a hearty main vegetarian dish paired with a salad for lunch.

### ZUCCHINI CHILE-CHEESE BAKE

Makes 8 servings

- 1 cup uncooked rice
- 3 medium zucchini, thinly sliced
- 2 cups sour cream
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- 1/4 cup green onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup red or green peppers, loosely chopped
- 7-1/2-ounce can diced green chiles

— 12 ounces Monterey jack cheese, shredded or thinly sliced in strips

— Handful of cherry tomatoes (about 8), sliced; or one large tomato, sliced

— 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

**To prepare oven and casserole:** Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter a 3-quart casserole.

**To prepare rice, zucchini, and sour cream mixture:** Cook rice according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a saucepan, cook zucchini in water until tender, about 3-5 minutes. Drain. Or saute in olive oil, if you prefer.

In a small bowl, combine sour cream, garlic powder, salt, oregano, onions and chopped pepper.

**To assemble:** Spoon the cooked rice for a base layer in the casserole. Spread chiles evenly over the rice, then sprinkle half of the cheese. Place zucchini slices evenly over cheese, then add a layer of tomato slices.

Crack or sprinkle pepper over tomatoes. Spoon and spread sour cream mixture over tomato layer. Sprinkle remaining grated cheese or arrange strips over all.



**To bake:** Bake for 50 minutes uncovered. Let stand a few minutes.

**To serve:** Spoon freely out of casserole or cut into portions.

\*\*\*

*Donna Erickson creates relationships and community through food and fun. Find more to nourish and delight you at [www.donnaerickson.com](http://www.donnaerickson.com).*

## THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



### THIS WEEK'S CATEGORY: "Pinktober"

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You can never educate yourself too much about this particular cancer, which is the most common one among women according to the World Health Organization. It might be surprising how much you didn't know about the disease after listening to these five podcasts:

**"Real Pink"** — Susan G. Komen passed away from metastatic breast cancer (MBC) in 1980. Her sister, Nancy Brinker, started a foundation that was named after her loved one, and it has become synonymous with breast cancer awareness to this day. Hosted by Adam Walker, this podcast features candid conversations with survivors, researchers, physicians and more. Recent episodes focus on what it's like to live with MBC today, decoding genetic testing, and bringing care to the Black community. (African American women are 40% more likely to die from breast cancer.) (RealPink. Fireside.fm)

**"Our BC Life"** — While new episodes are only released monthly, this informative podcast has plenty of old episodes in its library that will be relevant for years to come. Listen in as breast cancer patients and survivors share their stories, helping the newly diagnosed to stay informed, remain hopeful, and feel less isolated. The podcast also illustrates the importance of self-exams for early detection of

breast cancer in women before the age of 40 — including the story of Kelsey Litwin, who was diagnosed with stage 3 triple-negative breast cancer at just 24 years old. (Buzzsprout.com)

**"I'm Still Here: Lessons from Life with Metastatic Breast Cancer"** — Heather Jose was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer at the age of 26. This was back in 1998, and she now continues to share her experience on her podcast with her husband, Larry. They discuss life with the disease "as it impacts every area from health, finances, family planning" and more. Guests include "sensational survivors" who have been living with a metastatic form of the disease for a decade or more. They discuss fear and "how to get relief" when living with breast cancer in its advanced stages, as well as the challenges that can occur within relationships. (HeatherJose.com)

### Don't Forget These Gems

**"Dear Cancer, I'm Beautiful"** — This podcast is unique in that it's the "first podcast of its kind to bridge the gap between life-saving cancer treatment and fashion, beauty and wellness advice." This is because it's hosted by veteran publicist and triple-negative breast cancer "thrivor" Melissa Berry. Her mission is to assist cancer patients and survivors to reclaim their inner and outer beauty. Guests include areola tattoo artists, post-mastectomy lingerie designers, clean-beauty gurus, and more! (CancerFashionista.com)

**"Breast Case Scenario"** — While it can be rare, men can get breast cancer, too, and since they don't get yearly mammograms, it's easy to overlook. Be sure to listen to the episode from December 2024 titled "The One Percenters — A Male Breast Cancer Experience" with survivor Phil Alderson, and share the information with your XY-chromosomal loved ones. (ListenNotes.com)

## Fun Fact

Listening to your favorite music enhances sensory-motor processing, and eases access to cognitive, memory, and emotional components in the brain. Music training enhances social bonding, cognitive abilities, and language processing.

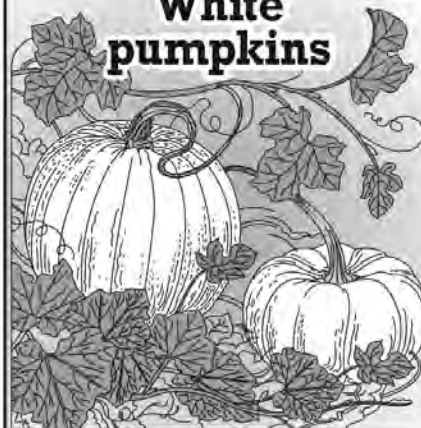
Source: [pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](http://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

## top 10 movies

1. **Tron: Ares** (PG-13) Jared Leto, Greta Lee
2. **Roofman** (R) Channing Tatum, Tony Revolori
3. **One Battle After Another** (R) Leonardo DiCaprio, Sean Penn
4. **Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie** (G) Laila Lockhart Kraner, Kristen Wiig
5. **The Conjuring: Last Rites** (R) Patrick Wilson, Vera Farmiga
6. **Soul on Fire** (PG) Joel Courtney, John Corbett
7. **Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba - The Movie - Infinity Castle** (R) Zach Aguilar, Ryan Bartley
8. **The Smashing Machine** (R) Dwayne Johnson, Emily Blunt
9. **The Strangers: Chapter 2** (R) Madelaine Petsch, Gabriel Basso
10. **Good Boy** (PG-13) Indy, Shane Jensen

## The Garden Bug

### White pumpkins



Both white and orange pumpkins are members of the Cucurbita family, which includes winter and summer squash, cucumbers, and melons.

White pumpkin varieties such as "Lumina," "Snowball" and "Casper" were developed about 40 years ago using albino pumpkin seeds. They tend to be smaller and more "round" than other pumpkin varieties. "Lumina" are the most popular for carving and making decorative displays for the fall holidays.

- Brenda Weaver

Sources: [chefsmandala.com](http://chefsmandala.com), [www.epicgardening.com](http://www.epicgardening.com)





# PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS

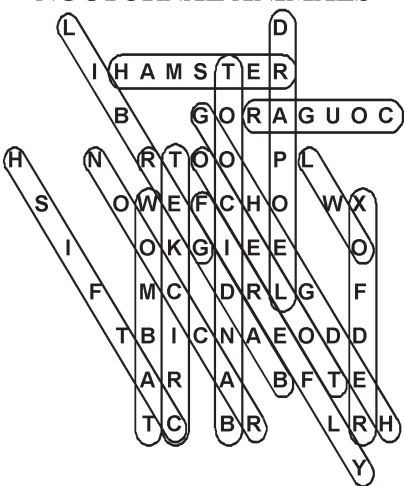


## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

### NOCTURNAL ANIMALS



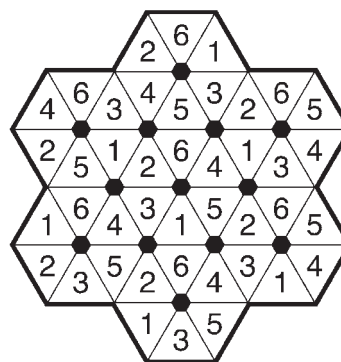
## Even Exchange

### answers

1. Check, Chick
2. Palace, Palate
3. Hilly, Holly
4. Banner, Banker
5. Anger, Auger
6. Horde, Horse
7. Detain, Detail
8. Atone, Stone
9. Major, Manor
10. Lather, Latter

## SNOWFLAKES

### solution



## CryptoQuip

### answer

When Oklahoma residents make humorous mistakes in speech, would people call those Soonerisms?

## CryptoQuote

### answer

Wine and cheese are ageless companions, like aspirin and aches, or June and moon, or good people and noble ventures. — M.F.K. Fisher

## Go Figure!

### answers

1	+	9	÷	5	=	2
+		-		+		
2	+	3	+	7	=	12
×		-		÷		
8	-	4	×	6	=	24
=		=		=		
24		2		2		

### Stickelers Answer

- 1) uxoricide
- 2) oto
- 3) China
- 4) Boreal: North  
Austral: South

## Five Spot™

### Solution

G	R	O	U	P
P	U	R	G	E
G	R	A	P	E
L	A	G	E	R
B	A	G	E	L
T	A	B	L	E



### answer



## Weekly SUDOKU

### Answer

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

## Word Spiral

### Answer

### LANDSLIDE

## —KNIGHT MOVES—

### Answer

E	F	M
R		S
S	N	I

### FIRMNESS



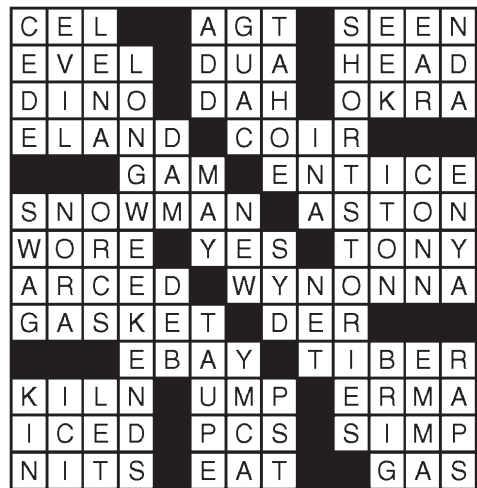


# PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS



## King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.



## SCRAMBLERS solution

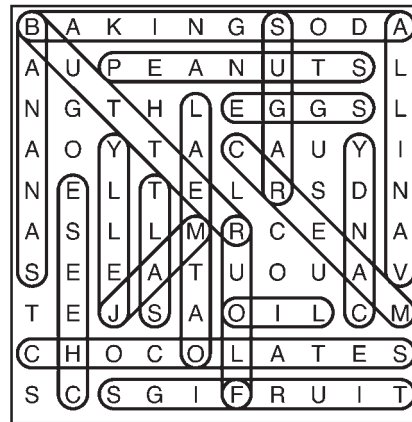
1. Patron; 2. Rupture;
3. Credit; 4. Solder

Today's Word  
**DROPOUT**

## Even Exchange answers

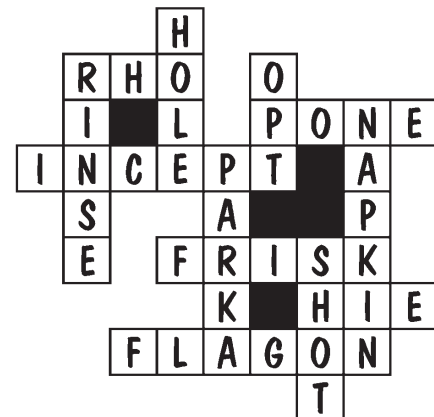
1. Letter, Litter
2. Maize, Maine
3. Athena, Athens
4. Grown, Groan
5. Eight, Night
6. Ballot, Ballet
7. Cornet, Corset
8. Flask, Flash
9. Angle, Ankle
10. Chaos, Chaps

## Puzzles4Kids Answer



Riddle Answer:  
**Ghoul Scouts.**

## FEAR KNOT answer



**"The Long Walk"** (R) — Based on the 1979 novel written by Stephen King ("It"), this dystopian thriller is led by Cooper Hoffman ("Saturday Night") and David Jonsson ("Industry"). Set during an alternate reality of the 1970s where a totalitarian regime reigns over the United States, the film follows an annual voluntary competition consisting of 50 boys who must walk nonstop at a pace of 3 miles per hour or face the consequences of death. "The Walk" only ends when there's one boy left, who then receives a cash prize and a wish of his choice. Although they're driven by an insatiable hunger to improve their families' lives, the boys severely underestimate the trauma they're about to put themselves through and whether their choice was ultimately worth the long walk. Judy Greer and Mark Hamill co-star in the film, which is available now to rent at home. (Apple TV+)

**"Lazarus"** (TV-MA) — "The Hunger Games" Sam Claflin stars in this new horror series alongside "Pirates of the Caribbean's" Bill Nighy. Only six episodes long, this series picks up as forensic psychologist Laz receives news of his father's (Nighy) death. Although his father's death was ruled to be a suicide, Laz finds certain similarities between this case and the death of his sister 25 years ago. Simultaneously, Laz also begins to experience weird and paranormal instances where his father visits him and speaks to him. Left with no choice but to either succumb to insanity or solve the case, Laz is determined to find out whether his father was murdered. All six episodes premiere Oct. 22. (Amazon Prime Video)

**"Chad Powers"** (TV-MA) — Glen Powell's ("Twisters") latest

sports-comedy series not only stars the 36-year-old actor, but it was also created by Powell based on the "Eli's Places" segment hosted by former quarterback Eli Manning. In the series, Powell plays Russ Holiday, a washed-up former football star whose career tanked after a championship game gone wrong. Russ has the bright idea to change up his identity so that he can continue to play football, so with the help of prosthetics, a wig, and some (bad?) acting, Russ transforms into Chad Powers. "Chad" then gets signed on to play for a small college that desperately needs some star power. With the whole football program relying on his success, the stakes are greater than ever for Russ/Chad to pull through — and not get caught while doing so. Four episodes of the six-episode season are out now to stream. (Hulu)



Courtesy of Netflix  
**Jay Lycurgo, left, and Cillian Murphy star in "Steve."**

**"Steve"** (R) — Since starring in the critical and box-office success of "Oppenheimer," Cillian Murphy seems to be enjoying lead roles in smaller films like "Small Things Like These" and this new drama film, which co-stars Jay Lycurgo ("Titans"). Murphy plays the titular character, the headteacher at a reform college tailored to boys who are experiencing issues behaviorally and societally. One particular boy, Shy (Lycurgo), is having a hard time with acting out violently and is unsure as to where he's headed in life. Even though headteacher Steve also has demons he's working through, he refuses to let Shy continue to live his life alone without the proper help. Out now. (Netflix)



## Batch, Bake and Be Ready: Stress-Free Breakfast Biscuits for Busy Days

October is here, and if your calendar is anything like mine, it's already buzzing with activities and events. The holidays are just around the corner, which means now is the perfect time to get ahead in the kitchen — so you can enjoy a little peace (and dare I say quiet?) later.

One of my favorite strategies? Making a few batches of breakfast biscuits that are freezer-friendly and easy to grab and go when mornings get hectic. Bake them on a weekend, stash them in the fridge or freezer, and suddenly those rushed mornings or surprise weekend guests are stress-free.

Starting your day with protein helps keep your energy steady and hunger at bay, which is especially important on busy mornings. Each of these breakfast biscuits packs about 13 grams of protein from eggs, sausage and cheese, giving you a hearty, satisfying start. The addition of sweet potatoes adds fiber, vitamin A and antioxidants, making these biscuits not just tasty, but nourishing too.

You can enjoy these biscuits straight from the fridge, warmed in the oven, air fryer or microwave. Store them in a sealed container in the refrigerator for up to five days or freeze for up to three months. To

reheat, bake or air fry from the fridge at 325 F for about five minutes. From the freezer, either defrost in the fridge for eight hours before baking or air frying at 325 F for five minutes, or bake/air fry frozen for 10-12 minutes.

## SWEET POTATO MAPLE SAUSAGE BREAKFAST BISCUITS

Yield: 15 biscuits  
Total Time: 50 minutes  
1 tablespoon coconut oil or olive oil  
1 1/2 cups grated sweet potato (grated using the large holes of a box grater)  
1 medium sweet onion, finely diced  
16 ounces ground maple sausage, pork or chicken  
1 tablespoon maple syrup  
6 eggs  
1 1/2 cups blanched almond flour  
1 1/4 cups whole wheat flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese, divided



www.JasonCoblentz.com

**Hearty, protein-packed breakfast biscuits that are perfect for busy mornings or cozy weekend brunches.**

Preheat oven to 400 F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a skillet over medium heat, cook the grated sweet potato and onion in coconut oil for about seven minutes,

until softened. Push veggies to the side, add ground pork and cook, stirring, until fully cooked, about seven minutes. Transfer to a large bowl, drizzle with maple syrup and let cool for 15 minutes.

Whisk eggs and stir into the cooled pork mixture.

In another bowl, combine almond flour, whole wheat flour and baking powder; add to pork mixture and stir until combined. Mix in 1/2 cup shredded cheese.

Scoop 1/4 cup portions onto the baking sheet, gently flatten with wet fingertips, and sprinkle remaining cheese on top.

Bake for 14 minutes, until firm and lightly browned. Cool before serving.

Flour Swap: If you don't have almond flour or prefer not to use it, you can substitute all-purpose flour 1:1 (use a gluten-free 1:1 blend if needed). You can also swap the whole wheat flour 1:1 with all-purpose flour for a milder flavor and lighter texture.

Freezing Tips: Wrap each cooled biscuit individually in parchment or wax paper, then place them in a sealed freezer-safe container or bag. This prevents sticking and makes it easy to grab just one or two at a time. Freeze for up to three months.

Just look at you! Smart, satisfied and stress-free, no scrambling, no extra dishes and plenty of time for that first glorious sip of coffee.

\*\*\*

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at [www.divasonadime.com](http://www.divasonadime.com) and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at [divapatti@divasonadime.com](mailto:divapatti@divasonadime.com)

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## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

### Answer

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



## Frightfully Good: Witch



### Finger Cookies That Cast a Sweet Spell

Halloween time is officially here, and I'm all about cookies that look a little spooky but taste completely delicious. These Witch Finger Cookies are made with a no-spread cookie recipe, which means all those little knuckles and creepy details stay exactly where you want them. No cookie blobs here!

This recipe is based on a recipe from the fantastic cookbook "Scare-cuterie" by Lori Castellon, a delightful guide for anyone who loves fun, festive and slightly eerie treats made into stunning spine-tingling charcuterie boards.

Bonus tip: This cookie dough isn't just for spooky season. Because it doesn't spread, it's perfect for cut-outs or shaped cookies any time of year — imagine hearts for Valentine's Day, bunnies for spring or stars for the Fourth of July. When you find a dough this dependable, you'll want to keep it in your recipe box right next to your favorite rolling pin.

#### WITCH FINGER COOKIES

Yield: 32 cookies  
Total Time: 1 hr. 35 mins.

#### For the cookie dough:

1 cup butter, softened  
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1 large egg  
3 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon salt  
1 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

**For decorating:**  
Whole almonds (for fingernails)  
Melted chocolate, to attach nails  
Cocoa powder, for dusting

In a stand mixer with a paddle attachment, cream together the butter and powdered sugar until fully combined. Add the vanilla and egg, and mix until smooth and fluffy. This will take a couple of minutes. Keep mixing.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, salt and cinnamon (or cocoa if making the chocolate version, or spices for chai version, recipes below). Slowly add to the butter mixture and mix on medium until dough forms.

Wrap the dough tightly in plastic wrap and chill in the refrigerator for one hour.



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**Finger food, the Halloween way! Deliciously spooky treats to scare up some fun for your Halloween festivities!**

#### Shaping the Witch Fingers:

Preheat your oven to 350 F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Scoop about 1 tablespoon of dough and roll it into a finger-shaped rope, roughly 5 inches long. Place on the prepared sheet. Pinch the dough at two points along each finger to make knuckles. Use a butter knife to score

light creases for knuckle detail.

Press an almond gently at the tip of each finger for the nail. Remove the almond before baking so the indentation stays.

Bake for 10-15 minutes, until just set. Cool completely on a wire rack.

#### Finishing Touch:

Dust fingers lightly with cocoa powder for a creepy effect. Reattach almonds with a small dot of melted chocolate to complete your spooky nails.

#### Optional flavor variations:

**Chocolate:** Replace 1/2 cup flour with 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder

**Chai Spice:** (Pictured) add 1/2 teaspoon of almond extract when you add the vanilla. And add the following to your dry ingredients along with the flour, salt and cinnamon: 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger, 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom, 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves, 1/4 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg, 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper.

#### Divas' Witchy Tips:

- Keep 'em from spreading: Don't skip the hour in the fridge! Chill that dough and keep it cool until you bake.

- Knuckle it up: Pinch, score and don't be shy. The more detail, the creepier the fingers.

- Store like a pro: Keep in an airtight container for up to a week or freeze unbaked for last-minute haunting.

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Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website *Divas On A Dime* — *Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous!* Visit Patti at [www.divasonadime.com](http://www.divasonadime.com) and join the conversation on Facebook at *DivasOnADimeDotCom*. Email Patti at [divapatti@divasonadime.com](mailto:divapatti@divasonadime.com)



### "It: Welcome to Derry" (TV-MA)

The new prequel series to the "It" films just premiered its first episode in the nick of time for Halloween, although episodes will continue releasing weekly well into December. Taylor Paige ("Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F") and Jovan Adepo ("His Three Daughters") play a couple who move to the fictional town of Derry, Maine, to find some normalcy for themselves and their son. Little do they know that Derry, of all places, doesn't have much normalcy to offer them. Just as they arrive at their new home, a boy goes missing, leaving the police department at a loss as to how it happened. But if you know the "It" franchise, you know it all comes down to the kids and their sleuthing. Hopefully, they're prepared for what they're going to find ... (HBO Max)

### "Devil in Disguise: John Wayne Gacy" (TV-MA)

The final pick for spooky-season viewing this year is this true-crime drama series about the life of 1970s serial killer John Wayne Gacy. Michael Chernus ("Severance"), who's usually known for more comedic roles, takes on the role of the titular character and presents a more menacing side to him than we've ever seen before. The series focuses on the many personalities of Gacy that he showed to his community — him as a contractor, a politician, and even a clown — but also the psychopathic side he kept hidden. As an investigation launches against Gacy and his crimes, viewers can watch along to see how he tries to slither out of the consequences of his own actions. All eight episodes are out now. (Peacock)

### "Ballad of a Small Player" (R)

Hailing from "Conclave" director Edward Berger is this new psychological thriller led by Colin Farrell ("The Penguin"). Based on the novel by Lawrence Sanders, the film follows gambling man Lord Doyle (Farrell), who is down on his luck but still gambling his life away in Macau, China. Between his incessant gambling and heavy drinking, Lord is a mess. So, when private investigator Cynthia Blithe (Tilda Swinton) shows up in Macau looking for him to settle the debts from his past, the high stakes get even higher for Lord to win some money. The setting of Macau is a vibrant playground for the storytelling of this film to kick off, and viewers can enjoy yet another stellar performance from Farrell when the film premieres on Oct. 29. (Netflix)



Courtesy of Netflix

Colin Farrell, left, and Tilda Swinton star in "Ballad of a Small Player."

### "Hedda" (R)

Last but far from least is this drama film based on the play "Hedda Gabler" written by Henrik Ibsen, but it puts an interesting spin on the original play. Tessa Thompson ("Creed III") portrays the title character, a woman named Hedda, in the 1880s who finds herself bored with her current life and marriage, even though money and a mansion are exactly what she thought she wanted. Then, over the course of one night, as if from wishful thinking, life tosses her the curveball she's been wanting — in the form of an ex-lover, Eileen, showing up at the party that she and her husband are throwing. The sole presence of Eileen puts the vibe of the night at an imbalance, leaving it to Hedda to find an equilibrium not only for the night but for the rest of her life. Out on Oct. 29. (Amazon Prime Video)





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