

the Local Voice

TLV #487
FREE

July 2026



Tyler Keith

"I Confess"

THE LOCAL VOICE™ #487 - ROUNABOUT OXFORD® - CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF PUBLISHING IN OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI 2006-2026

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RaftersMusicandFood.com

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Sunday-Tuesday closed



Miscellanea
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Oxford, MS 38655
MiscellaneaOxford.com

Hours:
Wednesday-Saturday:
5 pm-until
Sunday 5 pm-9 pm
Monday-Tuesday closed
Reservations recommended,
walk-ins welcome



Rafters on The Water
30117 Blackjack Road
Sardis, MS 38666
RaftersOnTheWater.com

Hours:
Thursday & Friday 5-10 pm
Saturday & Sunday
Noon-10 pm
Monday-Wednesday closed
Live entertainment every Friday,
Saturday, and Sunday evening

the Local Voice™

TLV Issue #487 · July 2026 · Oxford, Ole Miss, & North Mississippi · Read at Maximum Volume

Where's Waldo Hiding in Local Oxford Businesses this July?

Every summer, Square Books hosts popular scavenger hunt event to boost local economy

Celebrating its fourteenth anniversary in July 2026, Find Waldo Local has become a beloved summertime event in communities nationwide with hide-and-seek fun designed to encourage residents to patronize their local businesses.

There is no charge to participate, and the hunt lasts for the entire month of July.

We're officially on a Waldo Watch! Everyone's favorite stripe-clad seek-and-find friend is making his way back to Oxford. Keep an eye out—Waldo will waltz back onto the Oxford Square this July! Folks can pick up their Waldo "passports" and begin the hunt at Square Books Jr. starting Wednesday, July 1 and running through July 31. 📺



Participating Businesses

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Square Books Jr | Neilson's |
| Square Books | Olive Juice Gifts |
| Off Square Books | Olive Juice Kids |
| Cat Daddy's | Oxford Creamery |
| Daisy Gift Company | S&J Custom Framing |
| Fresh Ink | Something Southern |
| Gameday Apparel | Tom Beckbe |
| I Just Have to Have It | Univ. Sporting Goods |
| Lilypad | Visit Oxford |
| Lulu's | XOXO Boutique |
| Miss Behavin' | YaYa's |

Go Bananas for Sweet Bananas!

Wednesday, July 8, 5:30 pm at Off Square Books

Join Square Books and Emmy Award-winning author and screenwriter Jack Pendarvis (*Adventure Time*) for a special banana-themed event to celebrate his novel *Sweet Bananas*. Originally published in 2021 as a limited edition by Canadian publisher Hingston and Olsen, Square Books has a bunch of copies of the novel on the shelves for the first time.

In honor of this harvest—and Jack's birthday—come hear Jack read from *Sweet Bananas*, get your hands on a copy before they split, and enjoy some banana-related treats. Peel good vibes only!



About the book:

Boris and Clementine are married. They work from home, watch old movies, and spend an inordinate amount of time looking out the window when they hear a strange noise in the yard. *Sweet Bananas* is the story of a year in their life together, told one day—and one chapter—at a time.

Jack Pendarvis has written seven books. He won two Emmys for his work on the television show *Adventure Time*. He lives in Oxford. 📺

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FRIDAY
SATURDAY

JULY 3 & 4

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LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

THURSDAY 6.25.2026

Proud Larry's: ROCKET 88 (9 pm; FREE)
Chicory Market: Lunch & Learn - OXMS: Hamlet in the Hills (noon)
The Lyric: World Cup Watch Party USA Men's Nat'l Team vs. TURKIYE (noon doors, 2 pm kickoff; free)
Oxford & Lafayette Public Library: DIY Dragon Eggs (2 pm); America 250 Trivia Night (5:30 pm)

FRIDAY 6.26.2026

Betty Davis Ponderosa (Waterford):
NORTH MISSISSIPPI HILL COUNTRY PICNIC (1 pm-until)
Ford Center: Rodgers & Hammerstein's STATE FAIR (7:30 pm; \$20+)
The Library: **ROWDY (9 pm)**
Rafters on the Water: **THE SILVER SAINTS (7 pm)**
Rhythm & Rye: **WILL COPPAGE (7 pm)**

SATURDAY 6.27.2026

Betty Davis Ponderosa (Waterford):
NORTH MISSISSIPPI HILL COUNTRY PICNIC (all day)
Ford Center: Rodgers & Hammerstein's STATE FAIR (7:30 pm; \$20+)
The Library: **ROWDY (9 pm)**
Rafters on the Water: **BEN PRATT (7 pm)**
Rhythm & Rye: **GARRETT OSWALT (7 pm)**
Chicory Market: **TOMATO FEST (3-5 pm; live music, free samples, arts and crafts, tomato sammies, and more)**
Oxford & Lafayette Public Library: **Dr. Wacky Science (10 am)**

SUNDAY 6.28.2026

The Grove: Summer Sunset Series - DAVIS COEN (6 pm)
Rafters on the Water: MICHAEL THOMAS (5 pm)
The Coop: **Empty Nester Cocktail Hour (6 pm)**

WEDNESDAY 7.01.2026

Batesville Square: **Market & America250 Celebration (3-7 pm)**
Oxford Commons Cinema: **Midweek at the Malco - Trolls: World Tour (10 am; \$3)**
Oxford & Lafayette Public Library: **Open Mic Night (5:30 pm)**

THURSDAY 7.02.2026

Proud Larry's: DAVIS COEN (8 pm; free)
Oxford & Lafayette Public Library: **Thrilled to Build (10 am); Family Arts & Crafts - Patriotic Slime (2 pm)**

FRIDAY 7.03.2026

The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)
Old Armory Pavilion: Summer Sunset Series - THE SOULTONES (6 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **MICHAEL MCINTIRE (7 pm)**

SATURDAY 7.04.2026

INDEPENDENCE DAY
Oxford July 4th Children's Parade (10 am)
The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)**
M-Trade Park: **Oxford City FIREWORKS (9 pm)**
Rafters on the Water: **HUNT & THE HOWLERS (7-10 pm); FIREWORKS (8:15 pm)**
Rhythm & Rye: **JAMIE BAKER (7 pm)**
Trace State Park (Pontotoc): **Live Music (6-9 pm); Fireworks (9 pm)**

TUESDAY 7.07.2026

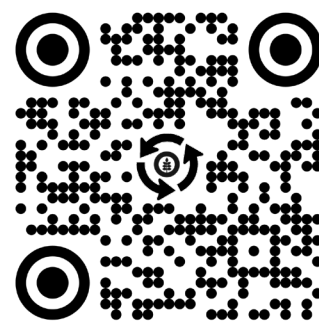
Old Armory Pavilion: BACK ALLEY STRING BAND at OXCM (3-6 pm)
University Museum: Brown Bag Summer Series: THAD LEE (noon)
Lafayette County Arena: **4H Cooking Camp (9 am)**

WEDNESDAY 7.08.2026

Off Square Books: JACK PENDARVIS for Sweet Bananas (5:30 pm)
Oxford Commons Cinema: **Midweek at the Malco - The Bad Guys (10 am; \$3)**
Oxford High School: **Fireside Chats (8-10 am)**
Proud Larry's: **DESIERTO SONORO (7 pm)**

THURSDAY 7.09.2026

Rhythm & Rye: Chamber After Hours (5 pm)
Proud Larry's: TRENTON AYERS & WOLFEAGLE (8 pm)



Scan the QR code for more events

or visit RoundaboutOxford.net

FEATURED WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

- **Blind Pig: Trivia (7:30 pm)**

Tuesdays

- **Moe's: TRIVIA NIGHT (7 pm)**
- **Old Armory Pavilion: Oxford Community Market (3-6:30 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)**
- **Quack's: DRINK EXCHANGE (9 pm)**
- **Lafayette County Arena: Farm Market (3-6 pm)**

Fridays

- **Rafters on the Water: Live Music (7 pm)**

Saturdays

- **Rafters on the Water: Live Music (7 pm)**
- **Square Books, Jr.: STORYTIME (10 am)**

Sundays

- **Rafters on the Water.: Live Music (5 pm)**



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ROUNDAABOUT OXFORD

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

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FRIDAY 7.10.2026

The Library: JON KOTT BAND (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: KYLE KITE (7 pm)

SATURDAY 7.11.2026

The Library: JON KOTT BAND (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: TOM FOOLERY (7 pm)
Square Books, Jr.: K-9 STORYTIME (10 am)
Chadwick Farm: CORELIX SUMMER SPLASH (All day; inflatables and foam party by Oxford Inflatable Rentals; games; all ages; \$20/\$25)
Cherry Creek Orchards (Pontotoc): PEACH FESTIVAL (9 am-6 pm)
Oxford & Lafayette Public Library: Raptors: Our Modern Day Dinos w/ Freedom Ranch Wildlife Center (11 am); Film Noir feat. ACE ATKINS & The Phenix City Story (1 pm)
The Powerhouse: 2nd Annual Oxford Uncorked Wine Festival (3-5:30 pm)
Oxford High School: Rhythm and Hoops: Community Basketball Tournament (1-7 pm)
Water Valley Pocket Park: Summer Sunset Series: ALANNA MOSLEY (7 pm)
Wynne House Inn (Holly Springs): Blues on the Porch w/ TRENTON AYERS (6 pm)

FRIDAY 7.17.2026

The Library: LOS RANGERZ (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: JAMIE BAKER (7 pm)

SATURDAY 7.18.2026

The Library: LOS RANGERZ (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: MISTI WILLIAMS (7 pm)
Lafayette County Arena: LOU Back 2 Success Fest (10 am)
Magnolia Coffee (Water Valley): BEAR RYAN (7 pm)

WEDNESDAY 7.22.2026

Off Square Books: 250 Great American Things (5:30 pm)
The Lyric: Movie Night: True Stories by David Byrne (7 pm)
Oxford Commons Cinema: Midweek at the Malco - The Bad Guys 2 (10 am; \$3)
Proud Larry's: DESIERTO SONORO (7 pm)

THURSDAY 7.23.2026

Off Square Books: STEPHANIE SOILEAU for *Should the Waters Take Us* (5:30 pm)

FRIDAY 7.24.2026

The Library: BLUFF CITY BANDITS (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: JAMIE BAKER (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: JED HARRELSON (8 pm; free)

SATURDAY 7.25.2026

The Library: BLUFF CITY BANDITS (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: AMBER VIOLET (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: LENNY KAYE (8 pm; free)
Magnolia Coffee (Water Valley): WILL STEWARD DUO (7 pm)


TUESDAY 7.28.2026

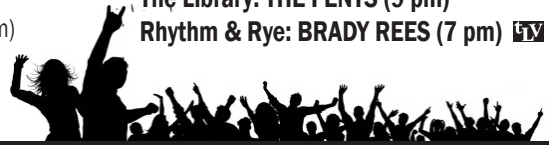
University Museum: Brown Bag Summer Series: JOHN T EDGE & BROOKE ALEXANDER (noon)

TUESDAY 7.28.2026

Oxford Commons Cinema: Midweek at the Malco *The Croods* (10 am; \$3)

FRIDAY 7.31.2026

The Library: THE FENTS (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: BRADY REES (7 pm) 




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From A River Runs Through It to Zippo lighters... Join us in honoring the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with 250 Great American Things - a celebration of the best of America

Wednesday, July 22
5:30pm @ Off Square Books



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The Local Voice is published every Thursday
Deadline is every Tuesday at noon. Next print deadline: July 21
We welcome submissions, contributions, local writers, and artists!
CELL: 662-832-3574 EMAIL: thelocalvoice@thelocalvoice.net

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the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sleep out in a tent
 - 7 Nutrition std.
 - 10 Fishing throw
 - 14 Alpaca's kin
 - 19 "Moonlight" actress Harris
 - 20 Suffix of element names
 - 21 Analogy words
 - 22 Ancient Athens or Sparta, e.g.
 - 23 Construction vehicles with tilting beds
 - 25 Chooses a finger over a pacifier
 - 27 Before, in verse
 - 28 "The Raven" writer
 - 29 German art songs
 - 30 Qatari capital
 - 31 1920s-'30s American mobster
 - 36 Young lady
 - 38 "Bali —"
 - 39 Slugger Gehrig
 - 40 Plant swelling
 - 42 How food is often fried
 - 44 Title dragon of a '70s kids' show
 - 50 Silly sorts
 - 53 French suffix with jardin
 - 54 Neighbor of Venus
 - 56 Fish-tailed males of myth
 - 57 Hi-tech "appt. book"
 - 58 Radical type
 - 60 1040 org.
 - 62 Suffix with ball or bass
 - 63 Roman 901
 - 66 Northern French river
 - 68 Roofing piece
 - 70 Essential (to)
 - 72 Stiff-bristled bath item
 - 74 Dazed from a heavy blow
 - 76 Incentive
 - 77 GI no-shows
 - 79 Small needle cases
 - 80 Suffix with Canton
 - 81 Turkey Day vegetable
 - 82 GI R&R center
 - 83 Racecar fuel
 - 85 Articulate
 - 87 River crafts
 - 89 "Cool beans!"
 - 91 Get weary
 - 92 No-bake pie base
 - 96 Some heirs' cash sources
 - 99 Concerning kidneys
 - 100 Brooklyn art institute
 - 102 Granola bit
 - 103 Big bush bird
 - 104 Apiece
 - 107 Brand of popcorn with peanuts
 - 114 Part of UTEP
 - 116 Deep and hoarse, as a voice
 - 118 — de toilette
 - 119 Hugs, in a love letter
 - 120 "Painful to face the reality!"
 - 122 Speechless from shock
 - 126 Very mad
 - 127 Actor Liu of "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings"
 - 128 Mined matter
 - 129 Séance state
 - 130 Stocking fiber
 - 131 Padlock part
 - 132 Oozy gunk
 - 133 Alternatives to Cokes
 - 7 Big name in photocopiers
 - 8 Blue Devils' sch.
 - 9 Mornings, in brief
 - 10 Inhabitant
 - 11 Tennis great Arthur
 - 12 Seven-card poker variety, e.g.
 - 13 Marisa of film
 - 14 Vinyl albums, in brief
 - 15 Booming
 - 16 Liquor
 - 17 Russia's Gorbachev
 - 18 Tears into
 - 24 Scannable ID in a market
 - 26 "It's cold!"
 - 29 U.K. "Inc."
 - 32 Sleuth's aid
 - 33 Great athletes get elected to it: Abbr.
 - 34 54-Across orbits it
 - 35 Headed out
 - 37 Compared with
 - 41 Daisy relatives, for short
 - 43 Mother Teresa, e.g.
 - 44 Place for a fanny pack
 - 45 Censors, as part of a text
 - 46 With 122- Down, rodent with a bark-like cry
 - 47 Ready
 - 48 Ankle bone
 - 49 Eurasian mountains
 - 51 Horse to bust
 - 52 Suffocate
 - 55 Homer, e.g.
 - 58 Not for sale
 - 59 Matt of "Friends"
 - 61 Taken-back auto, for one
 - 63 Village
 - 64 Kind of roof with four sloping sides
 - 65 Sort
 - 67 Addition total
 - 69 "Eureka!" moments
 - 70 As originally placed
 - 71 Minions' leader in "Despicable Me"
 - 72 Fresno-to-L.A. dir.
 - 73 Gossipy tidbit
 - 75 Pertaining to an arm bone
 - 78 Got the gold
 - 82 Gorbachev's fed.
 - 84 How- — (DIY manuals)
 - 86 "Of course!"
 - 87 Nashville awards org.
 - 88 Great elation
 - 90 Rebuke to "Brute"
 - 91 Ballet attire
 - 92 Entered stealthily
 - 93 Wed again
 - 94 Anomalous
 - 95 Affixes to a corkboard, e.g.
 - 97 Cargo weight
 - 98 Relatives, informally
 - 101 Test out
 - 105 Frau's "Alas!"
 - 106 Pulverize
 - 108 Prefix with biology
 - 109 Tiny role
 - 110 Wheel middle
 - 111 Verbs' counterparts
 - 112 Spherical bacteria
 - 113 Improves superficially, with "up"
 - 115 Filmmaker Preminger
 - 117 24/7 sources of \$20 bills
 - 121 Cackling bird
 - 122 See 46-Down
 - 123 Inits. at Indy
 - 124 Half of sei
 - 125 Jay-Z's genre

SUDOKU

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

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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92	93	94									95						97	98					
99										100				101						102			
103							104	105	106				107			108	109	110			111	112	113
114							115									118						119	
120							121														123	124	125
126																					129		
130																						133	



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 and have our digital edition sent to you.

Five Spot™

Aviators' convention?

F	L	O	C	K

Move as a group

Type of acid

Organizes a hose or rope

Trustworthy

A noteworthy Day

Chickens and turkeys

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.

FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

CDU
GEMLIN
URNAL
♥EKTA
♥ADONCE
ARN
♥AMEC
♥OMNLE
♥ARG
COOTLE
♥ADMLE
KULR

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.

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CODED RIDDLE

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ

XIZ JT IJTUPSZ UIF TXFFUFTU

TVCKFDU?

CFDBVTF JU JT GVMM PG EBUFT.

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. Suture | __ T __ _ _ _ | Exchange places | __ W __ _ _ _ |
| 2. Infant | __ _ _ _ D | Put on ice | __ _ _ _ L |
| 3. Warlock's brew | P __ _ _ _ _ | Whim | N __ _ _ _ _ |
| 4. Sweeper | __ _ _ _ M | Babbling stream | __ _ _ _ K |
| 5. Alice's mad friend | __ _ T __ _ _ | Horse strap | __ _ L __ _ _ |
| 6. Chicken coop sound | __ L __ _ _ _ | Actor Norris | __ H __ _ _ _ |
| 7. Snow particle | __ _ _ K __ _ | Flicker | __ _ _ R __ _ |
| 8. Prison curator | __ _ _ D __ _ _ | Actor Beatty | __ _ R __ _ _ |
| 9. Poke your nose in | __ N __ _ _ _ | One-masted sailboat | __ L __ _ _ _ |
| 10. Church singers | __ _ O __ _ _ | Rocker or recliner | __ _ A __ _ _ |

SUNDAY PLATE LUNCHES

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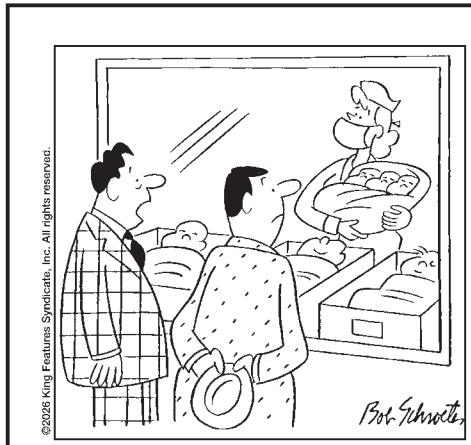
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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Force	SUDERS	□	□	□	□
Grasp	RENAL	□	□	□	□
Increase	AIRES	□	□	□	□
Slew	ADMIYR	□	□	□	□

TODAY'S WORD



"In the digital age, people spend countless hours throughout the day on social media and at the end of the day have absolutely nothing to show for it."

— Germany Kent (born July 29, 1975)

Oxford Rock Veteran Tyler Keith Comes Full Circle on 15th Album, "I Confess"

Get the album now at BlackAndWyattRecords.com/tyler-keith

For more than three decades, Tyler Keith has occupied a unique place in Oxford, Mississippi's musical landscape.

Long before Oxford became known nationally for its vibrant cultural scene, Keith was helping shape the city's reputation as a home for independent music. Through bands such as **The Neckbones**, **The Preacher's Kids**, **The Apostles**, **Teardrop City**, and a variety of solo projects, he has remained one of the community's most prolific and enduring musical voices.

Now, the veteran garage-rock guitarist, singer-songwriter, and storyteller has reached another milestone with the release of *I Confess*, his 15th album.

For many artists, a 15th record might represent a victory lap or a polished summation of a long career. Keith's latest effort, however, is something different. Rather than expanding his sound with bigger production or elaborate studio techniques, *I Confess* finds him stripping things down and returning to the methods that first inspired him as a songwriter decades ago.

"This is number 15," Keith said, while reflecting on the album's place within his extensive catalog. "Four or five are from The Neckbones. I had a band called The Preacher's Kids, and there were maybe three or four of those. Then a couple of solo records and records with The Apostles and Teardrop City."

Back to the Beginning

The album emerged during a transitional period in Keith's life. As bandmates became increasingly occupied with work and family obligations and regular rehearsals became harder to coordinate, he found himself revisiting a familiar piece of equipment from his early years: a Tascam four-track cassette recorder.

For Keith, the machine represented more than nostalgia. It became a creative tool that allowed him to reconnect with the spontaneous spirit that first drew him to songwriting.

by Davis Coen
illustrations by Megan Wolfe

For years, he used similar four-track recorders to create demos, capturing songs with minimal instrumentation and little concern for perfection. Those recordings often featured a simple setup: one microphone for drums, one for bass, one for guitar, and a fourth track for vocals. The limitations forced him to focus on the song itself rather than studio technology.

"I always really was fond of the way that sounded," Keith said. "I love the minimal sound."

Much of *I Confess* was recorded in Keith's Oxford home using that same basic approach. The result is an album that feels intimate and immediate, preserving the raw energy that often disappears during lengthy studio sessions.

The decision also allowed Keith to capture what he considers one of the most exciting parts of the creative process—the moment a song first reveals itself.

"It's the first moment of the song really coming together," he explained. "The moment of really discovering a song comes for me on that four-track. Capturing that moment of creation—that's what interests me."

That philosophy runs throughout *I Confess*. The record embraces imperfections and instinct, allowing ideas to develop organically rather than through endless revision.

The title track offers a glimpse into that mindset. Opening with the lines, "The lights are in my face, smoke is in my eyes," the song unfolds like a late-night confession from someone confronting mistakes and self-examination.

"There's something confessional about a four-track machine," Keith said. "I'm interested in that psychiatrist's couch element of songwriting, for my own personal reasons, just to see what's going on."

The Open Road & the Creative Process

The album's themes are shaped not only by introspection but also by the extensive travel that has become part of Keith's professional life—as a top researcher in the field of traffic safety for Oxford-based **Preusser Research Group (PRG)**.

Much of his recent work has taken him all over the United States, including out West—where long stretches of highway, remote towns, and solitary motel rooms have strongly affected his songwriting.

One of the album's opening tracks, "Out on a Limb," reflects those experiences. Referencing places in New Mexico, Idaho, and Utah, the song captures the mixture of freedom and isolation that comes with life on the road.



Keith describes finding inspiration in everything from roadside motels and desert landscapes to crime novels, old television programs, and the peculiar characters that seem to populate small towns throughout the West.

“There’s a loneliness to it,” he said of traveling alone. “Especially out West. There are a lot of places you come across that are like something out of a story.”

That sense of searching permeates much of *I Confess*. The album’s characters are often moving, questioning, or trying to make sense of their surroundings. While earlier songs in Keith’s catalog tended to draw directly from personal experiences, he says his writing has evolved over the years.

“When I first started, everything had to be exactly true to life,” he said. “Over the years, it’s developed more into stories and characters.”

Yet despite the album’s references to distant highways and western landscapes, Oxford remains an important presence in Keith’s work.

A decades-long resident and fixture of the local music scene, Keith has witnessed dramatic changes in the city over the past thirty years. Oxford’s growth has brought new opportunities and new audiences, but it has also transformed the community that many longtime residents once knew.

Keith acknowledges that those changes have affected him personally.

“I feel somewhat like an outsider in my own hometown,” he said.

It is a sentiment that many local residents may recognize. As the city continues to evolve, balancing rapid growth with its historic identity, questions about belonging and change have become increasingly common.

Those feelings quietly influence *I Confess*. The album’s recurring themes of movement, displacement, and searching often feel connected to Keith’s relationship with the town he has called home for most of his life.

Still, there is no bitterness in his observations. Rather, there is the perspective of someone who has watched Oxford transform from a relatively small college town into a nationally recognized destination while continuing to pursue his own creative path.

Today, Keith remains one of the last active links to several generations of Oxford’s independent music history. Through changing trends, shifting audiences, and countless local bands that have come and gone, he has maintained a remarkably consistent commitment to making records on his own terms.

That commitment may also explain why he continues creating at such a prolific pace.

Keith admits that by the time one album is completed, mixed, manufactured, and released, he is usually already thinking about the next project. Song titles, unfinished lyrics, and new ideas are rarely far away.



“I always kind of have something else developing in the wings,” he said.

For listeners, *I Confess* serves as both a new chapter and a reminder of what has made Tyler Keith such an enduring figure in Oxford music. The album embraces simplicity, honesty, and the kind of do-it-yourself spirit that has defined much of his career.

Fifteen albums in, Keith shows little interest in chasing trends or commercial formulas. Instead, he continues to follow his instincts, trusting the songs to lead the way.

For Oxford music fans who have followed his journey over the years, *I Confess* offers another compelling entry in a catalog that remains one of the most distinctive bodies of work to emerge from North Mississippi’s independent music scene. **TV**



the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND



SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!



Oxford Community Market
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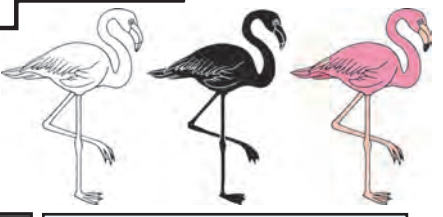
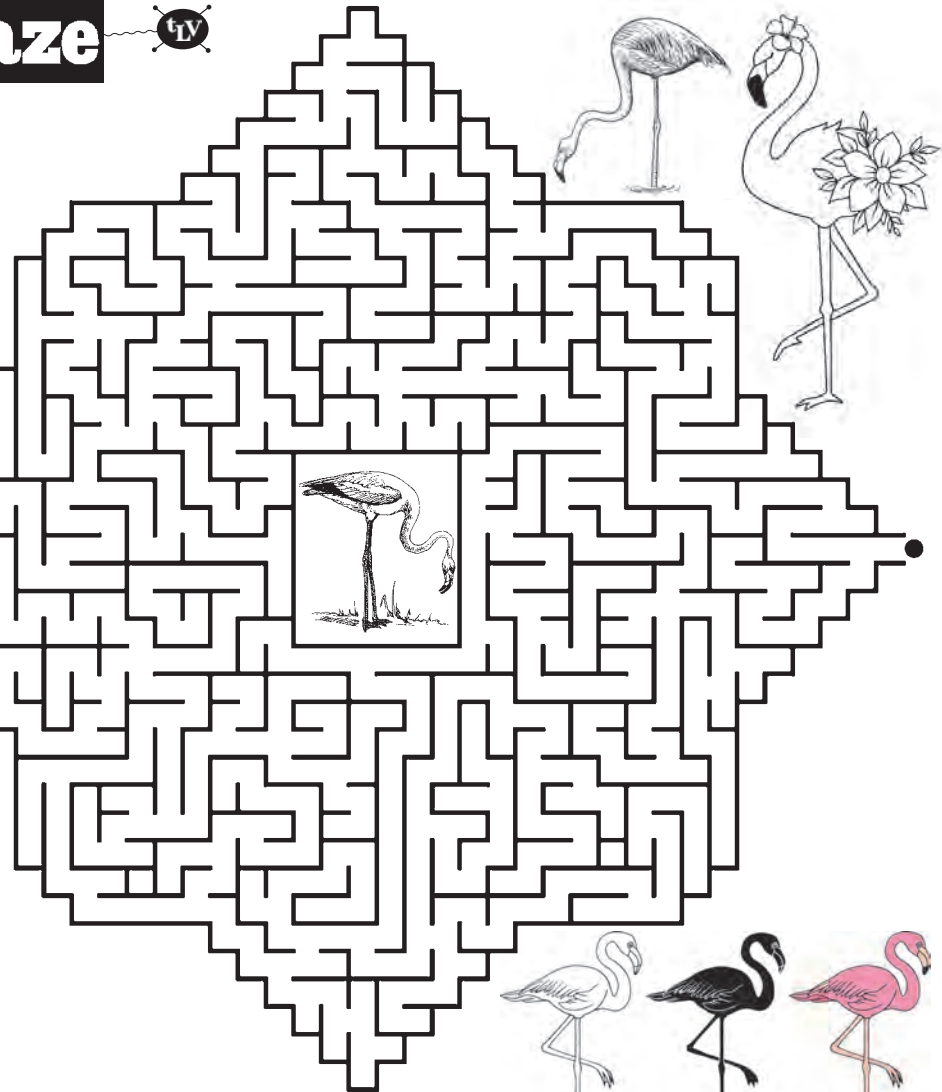
ACROSS

- 1 Police dept. alert
- 4 Celtics, on scoreboards
- 7 Like messy beds
- 13 Beard go-with, for short
- 19 French department head
- 21 Got ready, with "up"
- 22 Epithets
- 23 Refreshing a web page that has detailed contract wording?
- 26 Half a quart
- 27 Meadowland
- 28 Navigate
- 29 It might make you red in the face
- 30 Annual bebop music festival in Sri Lanka's capital?
- 34 Discontinue
- 36 That girl
- 37 It might make you red in the face
- 38 Unbroken
- 39 Basketball-stuffing pros taking part in a zigzag ski race?
- 44 "C'mon, do me this favor"
- 47 Fountain in Rome
- 48 Spoil
- 49 Writer Ferber
- 50 Visualize
- 52 "—, vidi, vici"
- 54 Sheriff Taylor's son
- 58 Dol. units
- 61 Becoming less energetic at the disco?
- 66 Barbie's little sister
- 69 "I won't — word"
- 70 Male bud
- 71 D.C.'s land
- 72 Having a boss who will only communicate with you by singing?
- 78 Boxer Laila
- 79 Wanted-poster abbr.
- 80 "Let — already!"
- 81 IRS probes
- 82 Technique of kneading bivalve mollusks before cooking them?
- 87 Big inits. in fashion
- 88 Watering aid
- 89 Rescue
- 90 Big inits. in fuel additives
- 92 This, in Lima
- 96 "Golly!"
- 99 Dog tether
- 102 Maligns
- 105 Girls' shirts worn as part of a classroom dress code?
- 110 Province west of Sask.
- 111 "Nope"
- 112 — kwon do
- 113 Born as
- 114 Strauss opera performed correctly in every detail?
- 117 Europe-Asia border river
- 119 Tree yielding chocolate
- 123 Zodiac feline
- 124 Actress Teri
- 125 Repainting all your yuletide ornaments black and white?
- 131 Prairie canine
- 132 Taken illicitly to luggage
- 133 ID attached
- 134 Unfurled, e.g.
- 135 Trunks
- 136 That girl
- 137 Hurly-burly

DOWN

- 1 Spring mo.
- 2 Got ready
- 3 Native of Belmopan
- 4 Officer patrolling an area
- 5 Condition with rituals, in brief
- 6 Ben and Jerry of comedy
- 7 "Roots" actress Leslie
- 8 After-tax
- 9 — jongg
- 10 War god
- 11 Masterful
- 12 Falco of TV
- 13 Breastbone
- 14 Gratuity
- 15 Razor option
- 16 Trite phrase
- 17 "Taxi" actress Marilu
- 18 Acid-alcohol compounds
- 20 "Happy Days" cool guy, with "the"
- 24 Natal lead-in
- 25 Requirement
- 30 Agree (with)
- 31 Yoko of art
- 32 Deli classic
- 33 Rowing blade
- 35 Genetic ID
- 40 — Strauss
- 41 Pizza cooker
- 42 Very valuable vase
- 43 Ray of McDonald's
- 45 Vanzetti's old partner in crime
- 46 Actress Thompson
- 51 Israeli airline
- 53 "— happy to!"
- 55 Second-century pope
- 56 Map extra
- 57 "By Jove!"
- 59 Kind of wave
- 60 Japanese watch brand
- 62 Olive of old comics
- 63 "Which — Up?" (1977 comedy film)
- 64 Orderly lineup
- 65 "— ordo seclorum" (phrase on a dollar bill)
- 66 Break to bits
- 67 Verizon, e.g., in brief
- 68 Pseudonym
- 73 Salary limits
- 74 Depot: Abbr.
- 75 Trendy Aussie boots
- 76 Bards
- 77 Did nothing
- 83 Toy brick brand
- 84 Galleria
- 85 2004 Chevy debut
- 86 Football Hall of Famer Junior
- 91 Military units
- 93 Mexican miss
- 94 Mine railway
- 95 Tennis star Arthur
- 97 Untold eras
- 98 Voted in
- 100 Boise-to-Vegas dir.
- 101 Witch's spell
- 103 Gore and Hirt
- 104 Heat-vs.-Suns matchup, e.g.
- 105 Wall plaster
- 106 Drive-in restaurant server
- 107 Cry from a town crier
- 108 Sunlight ray
- 109 Hair parlors
- 115 Cartoon pic
- 116 Tardy
- 118 Jungle cat
- 120 Put in a role
- 121 Regarding
- 122 Stench
- 126 Holy Mlle.
- 127 Raised rails
- 128 Co. bigwig
- 129 Cheering cry
- 130 Many an intl. charity

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18			
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23								24							25								
	26					27					28							29					
30					31				32	33				34		35			36				
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105	106	107						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																							137



Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION:** Which TV sitcom features a pet pig named Arnold Ziffel?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which three countries make up Scandinavia?
- MONEY:** When was the euro currency introduced?
- MEDICAL TERMS:** What is a more common name for myocardial infarction?
- MYTHOLOGY:** Who is the Egyptian god of the underworld?
- MOVIES:** What is the building whose steps Rocky Balboa climbs triumphantly in the movie "Rocky"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** Which three signs of the Zodiac are considered to be water signs?
- GAMES:** How many wooden blocks are in a game of Jenga?
- U.S. STATES:** Which state is home to the Petrified Forest National Park?
- ANATOMY:** Which system in the human body is responsible for hormone production and regulation?

ANSWERS BELOW

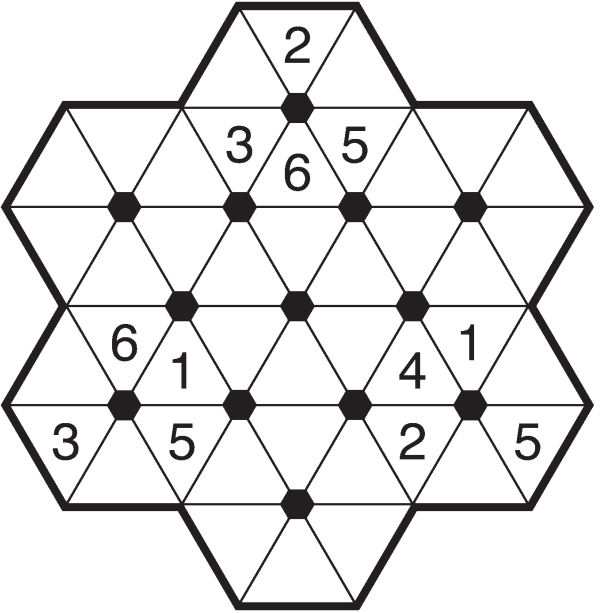
GO FIGURE!

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.

	+		-	=	2			
+		+		-				
	+		+	=	16			
x		+		x				
	+		x	=	18			
=		=		=				
30		17		2				
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



"Nothing is ever really lost to us as long as we remember it."
- Lucy Maud Montgomery
 (November 30, 1874 - April 24, 1942)

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.

JOSG LFRJ WOKQ OBBJOCI,
 LGJ RXILJCX FI LGJCJ FQ
 FLI JQLFCJLX.

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: V equals S

UPSY M VSS VNQSXPMYO
 ESBWWZ KLXS BYF OSX XPS
 LEOS XN SQGSWWMVP MX,
 M KEZ "PNU BFNEYBGWS!"

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Answers: 1. "Green Acres." 2. Denmark, Sweden and Finland. 3. 1999. 4. Heart attack. 5. Osiris. 6. The Philadelphia Museum of Art. 7. Pisces, Cancer and Scorpio. 8. 54. 9. Arizona. 10. Endocrine.



Rebel Wine & Spirits

Remember the Party Starts Here!

1429 North Lamar (at Molly Barr)
 Oxford, Mississippi 38655

the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

STICKELERS

by Terry Stickle

Below are four squeeze puzzles. Can you find the correct word to be placed in the middle of each to create two new words, one front-end, one back-end? Here's an example of how it works: fire **PROOF** read

- 1) death _____ torch
- 2) thunder _____ lock
- 3) general _____ shape
- 4) feather _____ wise

PUZZLE CARD

Illustrated by David Coulson

DON'T MISS SHOOTING DOWN THIS ONE! See if you can remove 8 straws from the 24 shown here and have two squares left.

Answer: If you remove straws 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 17, 19 and 20, you'll be left with one large square and one small square.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A FIVE-COURSE PUZZLE FEAST!

LARD
CARD
CORD
CORK
COOK

Can you cook up the answers to our Ladder Puzzles in five minutes? In these puzzles, you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. See if you can change the following words in four moves each.

1. FIRE to WALL
2. PEAT to MOSS
3. POLE to CATS
4. CARD to FILE
5. TOAD to HALL

Answers:
1. FIRE, WIRE, WARE, WALE, WALL
2. PEAT, MEAT, MOAT, MOSS, MOSS
3. POLE, PALE, PATE, PATS, CATS
4. CARD, CARE, FARE, FIRE, FILE
5. TOAD, TOLD, TOLL, TALL, HALL

KNIGHT MOVES

O	V	C
R		K
O	O	E

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.

A BETCHA PUZZLE! Place an odd-shaped piece of paper (fig 1) on the table and challenge your friends to cut it into four equal pieces, all the same size and shape. The solution is shown in figure 2.

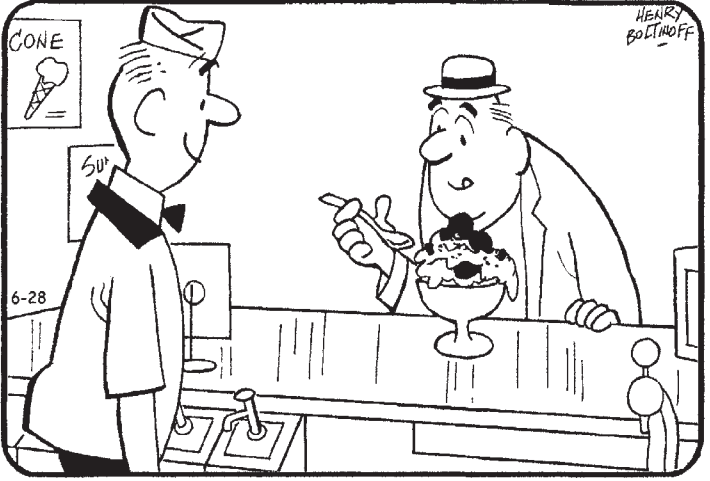
IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 7 through 16 to fill in this Magic Number Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 60. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you. Use trial and error — and a good eraser!

	17	22	
21			18
	24		
			23

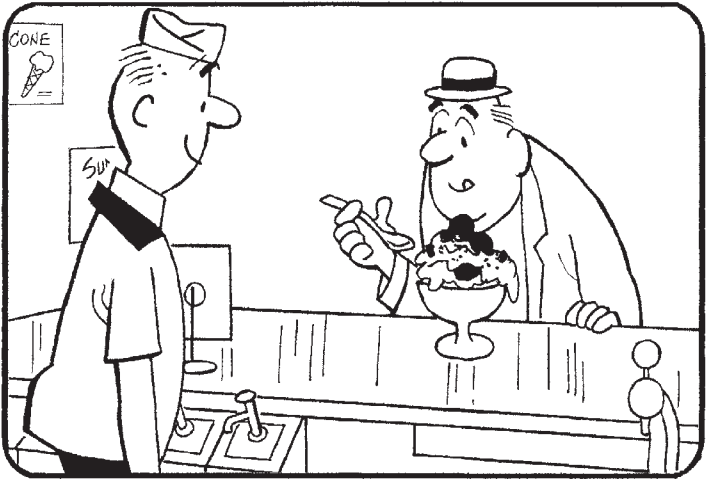
[60]

Our answer: First row: 14, 17, 22, 7. Second row: 21, 8, 13, 18. Third row: 9, 24, 15, 12. Fourth row: 16, 11, 11, 10, 23.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Lapel is different. 2. Bow tie is missing. 3. Sign is smaller. 4. Napkin holder is missing. 5. Ear is smaller. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

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. Hold responsible | ___ M ___ | Knife's edge | ___ D ___ |
| 2. Bowling score | ___ K ___ | Zebra's mark | ___ P ___ |
| 3. German river | ___ I ___ | Swiss river | ___ O ___ |
| 4. Excuse | R ___ | Spring or Fall | S ___ |
| 5. Milk container | ___ R ___ | Ohio city | ___ N ___ |
| 6. Skirt fold | ___ T ___ | Beg | ___ D ___ |
| 7. Spiritual request | ___ R ___ | Actor | ___ L ___ |
| 8. Ms. Degeneres | E ___ | Actor Woody | A ___ |
| 9. Out of date | ___ A ___ | Shoulder wrap | ___ O ___ |
| 10. Irish greenery | ___ O ___ | Shrewd | ___ E ___ |

WORD SPIRAL

W		T
G	S	
	D	

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.



Every Independence Day I post a music video of the song "I See America"* by Ken Medema on my Facebook page. Medema is a blind pianist/singer/songwriter who excels at improvisation. I was utterly amazed when I heard his work in person decades ago.

Medema was given the topic of the speaker's message just before going on stage. He then performed about a 10-minute improvisation that wove multiple ideas and musical styles that at first seemed unrelated, but in the end, he brought everything together in a powerful and poignant point that greatly emphasized the speaker's message. To nearly all of us there, that was a magnificent jaw-dropping experience. He did that twice a day for five days straight.

Medema, a progressive Christian, often sings about social justice and equality. In "I See America," he creates a clear and balanced approach between the freedoms we have, the achievements of Americans, and the shortcomings we still need to address.

Medema sings of the natural beauty of our land while noting the environmental hazards we've created in the process. He sings of the pilgrims who immigrated from their home countries in search of liberty. Medema praises our inventiveness in industry while reminding us that children still play in dirty streets, "where no one seems to care." He points out the many privileges that have been fought for and won throughout our history, while reminding us that tyranny is not yet dead. He does all this through the eyes of love.

*I See America through the eyes of love.
I long for all her people to be free.*

To see America through the eyes of love means we must practice compassion in all our ways. It means that we see all people as equal under the



law. It means that we actively seek justice day by day by day by day by day.

As we all know, America was built on the concept of liberty and freedom. The revolutionaries sought and gained those. Still, many were enslaved and mistreated in that new nation. Women could not vote. Indigenous peoples could not vote. African Americans, Asians, indentured servants, and slaves could not vote.

*And if you see, put your hand to the plow,
There is work that must be done...*

Great strides have been made toward making our nation even more free for every person who calls America home. We must remember, though, that first Americans were driven from their land and most of them still live in poverty on reservations. Poverty itself still plagues us in the forms of homelessness, food insecurity, and unjust wages. Prejudices regarding race, gender, religion, and political differences abound. Tyranny lives on.

*'til freedom's song is sung,
'til freedom's bell is rung,
From sea to shining sea.*


While freedom has been won, not everyone hears freedom's song. Not everyone hears freedom's bell ring. We must continue the work of our founders.

Thomas Jefferson wrote, "God forbid we should ever be twenty years without such a rebellion." Jefferson was saying that Americans should

regularly rebel against unjust causes, leaders, policies, and laws. He wasn't calling for anarchy; rather, he was telling us that if we the people don't rebel against injustice, oligarchy, or a monarchy, we could very well lose our freedoms, leading to the fall of our nation.

As we celebrate our nation's 250th birthday, we have every reason to be exuberant. In that exuberance, let us not only praise the multitude of freedoms we have and those who gave their lives for them, but let us also remember that there are many imperfections and injustices that we must continue to address and seek to solve. Yes, there is work that still must be done. There always will be. But I contend that if we see America through the eyes of love as blind Ken Medema does, well, she may just last another 250 years.

...and that's the View from Beyond 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 does his best to see America and Americans through the eyes of love. Randy may be reached at: randallsweeks@gmail.com 

* I See America video: <https://youtu.be/5HJIDuKkY3M?si=8KasZyDfG5YJ7GjB>

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Sunday: \$5 Mimosas & Bloody Marys

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Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: TAB

Big Bad Breakfast

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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

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Tue-Thu: 11 am-8 pm

Fri-Sat: 11 am-10 pm

Sun: 11 am-8 pm

Tue: \$4 drafts

Wed: \$5 Margaritas

Thu: 2-for-1 wells

Fri: \$2 off all frozen drinks & signature cocktails + LINE DANCING

Sat: \$15 pitchers & buckets

Sun: \$5 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

Happy Hour 4-7 pm:

M-Th \$2 High Life, \$3 domestics,

\$4 wells, \$5 frozen, \$6 daily

cocktail, \$7 house wines

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

City Grocery

152 Courthouse Square

Mon-Sat:

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

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

Bar Mon-Sat: 4 pm-till

Happy Hour 4-6 pm:

M-F \$1 off wells & domestics

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

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

Mon: Industry Night - 25% off for

service industry professionals

'Tini Tues: 1/2-price classic martinis &

\$7 specialty 'tinis

Wine Down Wed: 1/2-price bottles of

wine (under \$200)

Little Easy

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Sun: 11 am-9 pm

Happy Hour 3-7 pm

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LIVE MUSIC

Miscellanea

306 South Lamar Boulevard

Wed-Sat: 5 pm-until

Sun: 5 pm-9 pm

Monday-Tuesday closed

Reservations: website

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

Tue: TRIVIA + \$25 High Noon buckets

Wed: OPEN MIC

Thu: BINGO + \$5 Bushwhackers

Sun: Kids 12 & under eat free

(6 pm-close)

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

Nightbird

425 S. Lamar Blvd.

Open at 4 pm nightly

Mon: Industry Night - 25% off for

service industry professionals

'Tini Tues: 1/2-price classic martinis &

\$7 specialty 'tinis

Wine Down Wed: 1/2-price bottles of

wine (under \$200)

Offbeat in General

Plein Air, Taylor

Tue-Wed: 10 am-6 pm

Thu-Sat: 10 am-8 pm

Sun: 10 am-3 pm

Pizza Knights Thu-Sat 5-8 pm

The Old Henry

1002 East Jackson Ave

Wed-Sat: 6:30 pm-1 am

Summer special: \$3 domestics;

\$5 wells all day

Wed: half-price glasses & bottles of

wine; \$15 buckets of beer or seltzer

Rafters on the Square

1006 East Jackson Ave

Mon-Sat: 5 pm-1 am

DJ Fri & Sat

Rafters on the Water

30117 Blackjack Rd., Sardis

Thu-Fri: 5 pm-1 am

Sat-Sun: noon-10 pm

LIVE MUSIC Fri-Sat-Sun

Quack's

122 Courthouse Square

Mon-Sat: 11 am-close

Sun: 11 am-9 pm

Fri-Sun: Brunch 11 am-3 pm; Mimosa

specials & \$9 Espresso Martinis

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,

2-4-1 wells ALL DAY

Thur & Fri: \$1 off drafts, bottles &

cans (4-6 pm)

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

Rhythm & Rye

Rooftop Tavern

305 E Jackson Ave

Sun: 5-9 pm

Mon-Thu: 5-10 pm

Fri-Sat: 5-11 pm

Tue: Taco Night: \$2 tacos, \$5 Margs

Wed: Old Fashioned Night: \$6 burger,

\$7 Old Fashioned

Thu: \$5 drafts

LIVE MUSIC Fri & Sat

Sun: BOGO ENTREE NIGHT

Southern Coop

705 Sisk Ave.

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: Door Dash, TAB

Snackbar

721 N Lamar Blvd

Mon-Thu: 4-10p; Fri-Sat: -10:30p

Happy Hour 4-6 pm:

\$2 domestics, \$4 drafts, \$6 wines, \$8

classic cocktails, small plate & oyster

specials

Mon: INDUSTRY NIGHT

SoLa

401 S Lamar Blvd

Wed-Sun: 5-9 pm

Happy Hour 5-6 pm: \$6 fresh

Margaritas

Wed: Spaghetti + \$6 wine

Thu: Ramen & \$5 Rosé

Sun: Oyster Happy Hour (5-6 pm)

Tallahatchie

Gourmet

1221 Van Buren Ave

Mon-Wed: 11 am-2:30 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

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

\$3 tacos; \$5 drafts & wine, 1/2-price

apps & domestics

Tues (all day): \$2.50 tacos, \$20

pitchers, \$5 drafts, 1/2-price apps

Sun: Service Industry Sunday

Delivery: Door Dash

Volta Taverna

710 N Lamar Blvd

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm;

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

1/2-price Margaritas & Mojitos

Monday, Thursday, & Saturday 



HAPPY HOUR 3-7 PM
MON • WED • THURS • FRIDAY

\$6 MARGS • \$3 TACOS • HALF-OFF APPS

\$5 22 OZ DRAFT BEERS • 1/2 OFF DOMESTIC BOTTLE BEERS • \$5 WINE

ALL DAY HAPPY HOUR
EVERY TUESDAY

\$2.50 TACOS • \$20 PITCHERS • \$5 22 OZ DRAFT BEERS • HALF-OFF APPS

The Kudzu & the Ice

by Suad Patton Bey

Five months ago, I packed up my life in Pennsylvania and moved back to Mississippi.

It was not exactly a dramatic homecoming. I had returned many times over the years, visiting family, walking familiar streets, and maintaining a connection to the place I once called home. Yet moving back felt different. Visiting is one thing. Belonging again is another.

My connection to Oxford is older than my own memories. My father's family has lived in Lafayette County since Reconstruction, and my grandmother spent more than twenty years working at the University of Mississippi. As a child, I would visit her in her office, not fully understanding that I was already being introduced to a place that had shaped generations of my family. Years later, I would return as a journalism student at Ole Miss, seeing the same campus through very different eyes.

Oxford has changed too. New businesses have appeared, old ones have disappeared, and even the University of Mississippi has transformed. I still have not stepped inside the new Student Union, a building redesigned during the years I was away. It is a strange feeling to return home and discover parts of your hometown that are new to you.

At thirty, I often feel both young and old here. Around college students, I am reminded that I belong to a different stage of life. Yet I also find myself surrounded by generations before me—my parents, my grandmother, and longtime residents whose memories stretch back decades.

Winter Storm Fern arrived during my first weekend back in Taylor.

After six years in Pennsylvania, I thought I understood winter. Mississippi quickly reminded me that familiarity and predictability are not the same thing.

The trees surrounding our house became encased in ice. Throughout the night, they cracked and popped like distant fireworks before crashing to the ground. My parents woke in the middle of the night to move the cars out of harm's way. The power went out, and suddenly our routines narrowed to the basics: staying warm, finding food, and keeping our phones charged.

For two weeks, we cooked meals in the fireplace. I slept in my heaviest winter coat. We charged our phones in the car and stepped carefully across a yard transformed into what felt less like Mississippi and more like an ice-skating rink. At one point, I could see my breath inside the house.

It was not the homecoming I had imagined. Yet there was something strangely fitting about it. Returning home is often portrayed as a comfortable return to the familiar. Instead, my first weekend back was a reminder that home can still surprise you. The Mississippi I returned to was not frozen in memory. It was a living place, capable of changing just as much as I had.

As temperatures rose and the ice melted, the cleanup began. Several damaged trees had to be removed for safety. We hired workers to drag branches to the roadside for county collection. Yet the more debris we cleared, the more visible another change became. Kudzu had steadily claimed what remained of the old family farm.

As we cleared the land, I found myself thinking not only about what had changed, but about what remained. I remembered the sheep we raised—the ones we cared for, loved, and eventually buried. My childhood pet sheep, Blackberry, is still buried on that farm. I recently learned that our donkey, whom I had rehomed a few years earlier, had also passed away.

The farm carries more than trees and soil. It carries memory. It holds the traces of animals we loved, the work of previous generations, and the stories that shaped our family long before I was born.


Now my family is making plans for what comes next. Once the kudzu is cleared, the possibilities are open. We are not yet sure what the land will become. A pasture, perhaps. A garden. Something entirely different.

That uncertainty feels fitting.

When I first moved back to Mississippi, I thought I was returning to a place I already knew. Instead, I found myself getting reacquainted with it. Some landmarks were gone. Others were new. Trees had fallen. Kudzu had spread. Even the university I once attended had changed.

Yet beneath those changes remained the threads that have always connected me to this place: family, memory, and community.

Perhaps that is the real gift of coming home. Not finding a place exactly as you left it, but discovering it again with new eyes.

Suad Patton Bey is a writer based in Taylor. A graduate of the University of Mississippi and Penn State University, her interests include Southern history, culture, food, and exploring the connections between place, memory, and identity. 



SPECIALS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

- Tu** **TACO NIGHT | 5P - CLOSE**
\$2 STREET TACO (EACH)
\$5 MARGARITAS
- We** **BULLEIT OLD FASHIONED NIGHT | 5P - CLOSE**
\$6 BURGERS
\$7 PER CLASSIC OLD FASHIONED
- Th** **THIRSTY THURSDAY | 5P - CLOSE**
ALL DRAFTS \$5.00
- Fr** **LIVE MUSIC | 7P - 10P**
LOCAL & SEMI LOCAL VOICES
OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING
- Sa** **LIVE MUSIC | 7P - 10P**
LOCAL & SEMI LOCAL VOICES
OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING
- Su** **BOGO NIGHT | 5PM - CLOSE**
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE ENTREE
(OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE)

DAILY HAPPY HOUR 5-6P!

**FOLLOW US
+ SCAN FOR AN
EXCLUSIVE OFFER!**



LOCATED ON TOP OF THE
COURTYARD MARRIOTT

OFFBEAT IN GENERAL


114 Town Square Lane • Taylor, Mississippi 38673

PIZZA KNIGHTS
Thursday–Saturday
Night
5:00–8:00 pm

NOW SERVING The Jimmy Pesto, The CRAZY German, and My First Love
Plus, your all-time favorites, including: Pepperoni, Supreme, and Veggie!
Cauliflower crust also available.

Dine-in or pick-up. Call 415-412-8610 menu at: www.offbeatgeneralstore.com

21ST Happy Birthday



VOLTA

taverna

**HALF-PRICE MARGARITAS
AND MOJITOS ALL JULY LONG!**

TV COMIX

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

THIS CASE OF SUGAR-FREE, CARB-FREE SODA YOU PICKED UP SHOULD LAST US... WELL, THE REST OF OUR LIVES.

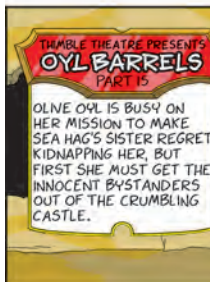
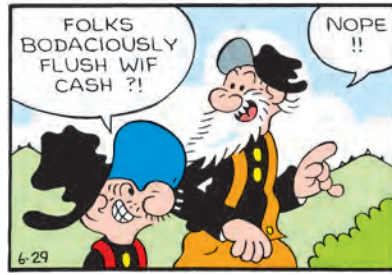
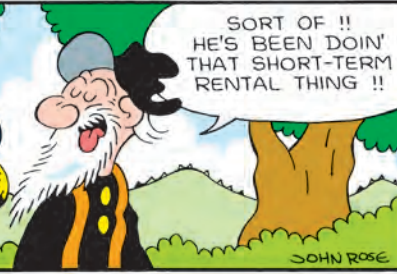
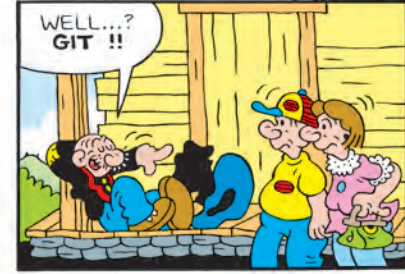
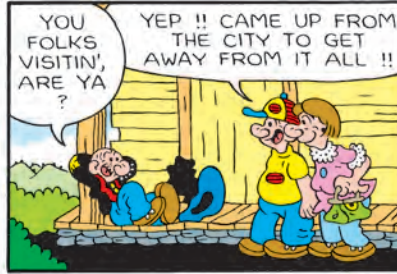
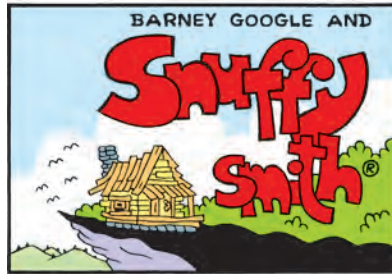


GRIN and BEAR IT

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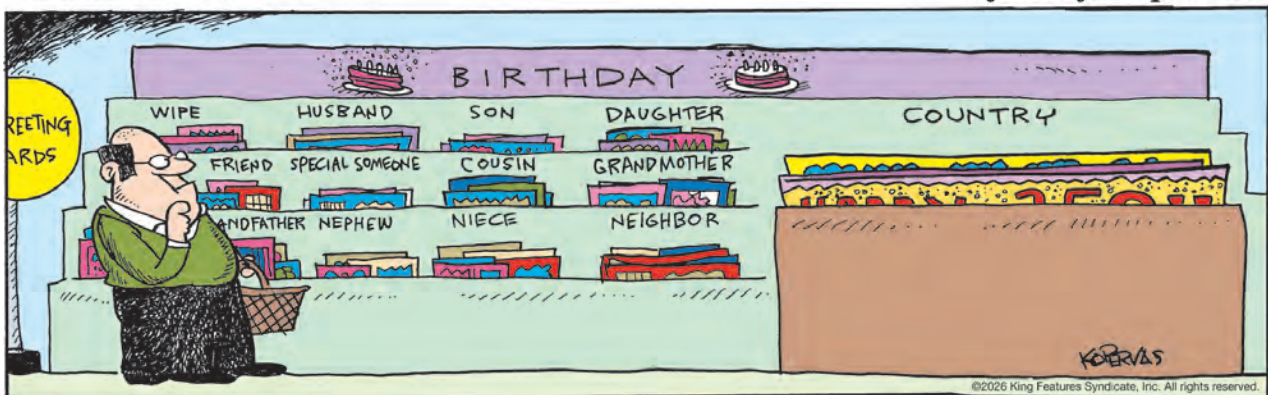


"I'll put you on hold while I try to calm him down."



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HAL FOSTER'S **Prince Valiant**
BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

AT LONG LAST, THE FAMILY VALIANT COMPLETES ITS VOYAGE FROM COLD, GRIM CAMELOT TO THE SUNNY MISTY ISLES.

4081 ©2015 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

ALETA HAS NOT SEEN HER HOME IN YEARS, AND HER EAGERNESS TO MAKE SHORE WILL NOT WAIT FOR A CUMBERSOME SHIP TO BE DOCKED.

SHE AND HER DAUGHTERS, ALL BORN TO THE SEA, WILL MAKE THEIR OWN WAY IN! WHILE BUKOTA AND THE IMAZIGHEN PASSENGERS ARE ASTONISHED BY SUCH UNINHIBITED ACTION FROM A ROYAL FAMILY, VAL IS AMUSED. HE'S SEEN THIS RITUAL PLAY OUT BEFORE.

NEXT: **Blonde invasion**

YEATES 4/26/15

Americanisms

"If you retain nothing else, always remember the most important rule of beauty, which is: Who cares?"
— Tina Fey

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

MOM, TAKE A LOOK. WE GOT TO BRING HOME THE WORK WE DID IN ART CLASS.

THIS ONE'S A GREEN HORSE WITH A LASER CANNON FOR A HEAD AND BIG OCTOPUS FINGERS.

THAT ONE'S JUST A CUPCAKE WITH FEET AND ONE BIG EYE.

OBVIOUSLY I'VE GOT TALENT. THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASKED IF SHE COULD KEEP SOME FOR HER FILES.

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I'M GOING TO USE AI TO WRITE MY RESUME.

FOR A JOB THAT AI WILL REPLACE.

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

I HAD TO CANCEL YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY.

WHY?

BUDGETARY REASONS...

...THE CANDLES COST WAY MORE THAN THE CAKE!!

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REMEMBER WHEN GRAHAM PLATNER SAID...

THAT WHITE, RURAL AMERICANS...

ARE STUPID?

AND TURNS OUT HE WAS RIGHT!

PLATNER WINS PRIMARY HANDILY

HITCH OLD ORCHARD BLEACH 26

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

NO FISHING NO SWIMMING NO PARKING NO FOOD NO NOTHING

NO FISHING

ANYHOW, THE WORMS WILL BE GLAD TO GET BACK HOME

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WE'RE SCREWED!

JUST WAIT...

DATA CENTERS

©2026 BRUNCH KING FEATURES



SEA HAG IS GIVING A LIFT TO POPEYE, OWING FAVORS TO HIS UNCLE DAVE JONES. AS THEY TRAVEL TO THE KINGDOM OF THE PAST, POPEYE HAS A FEW QUESTIONS FOR THE WITCH.

HEY, SEA HAG. WHEN WE FIRSK MET, DIDJA KNOW I WUZ THE BABY WOT YA SAT FER?

NAW, I LEARNED THAT LATER ON. HONESTLY, I WASNT SURE I ACTUALLY BABYSAT A KID. I THOUGHT I DREAMED IT UP.

WHY'S THAT?

I COULDN'T FATHOM A BABY THAT UGLY BEING REAL.

OLIVE OWL HAS FOUND A TREASURE TROVE IN THE DUNGEON OF SEA HAG'S SISTER. WHERE SHE AND HER THREE NEW FRIENDS SEARCH FOR A WAY TO ESCAPE OR THWART HER.

UH, IS THAT--?

YUP!

THIS IS THE MACHINE THE WITCH USED TO KIDNAP YOU ALL!

YOU CAN TELEPORT SOMEONE IN...

POOF!

... AND SEND 'EM BACK!

ZAP!

AND THE BOOK NEXT TO IT HAS INSTRUCTIONS, INCLUDING HOW YOU CAN SET IT TO TELEPORT ON A DELAY SO YOU CAN ALL GO.

WHERE IS YA GO'IN'?

TO DEAL WITH THE WITCH. BUT I WANTED YOU THREE TO MAKE IT HOME.

GOODBYE, AND I HOPE YOU'RE ALL ABLE TO GET BACK EVERYTHING SHE STOLE FROM YOU.

SHE'S WALKING OFF TO CERTAIN DOOM AND ALL SHE WAS FOCUSED ON WAS HELPING US... AND I DON'T THINK WE EVER GOT HER NAME.

I DUNNO ABOUT YOU TWO, BUT I'M GLAD I'M NOT THAT STUPID!

WHAT? WHAT IS IT? SOMETHING IN MY TEETH?

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH

TOUGH DAY, JUGHAID?

BOY !! I'LL SAY !!

THREE "UH-OHs," FIVE "OH NOS," AN' ONE "DANG !! AUNT LOWEEZY'S GONNA KILL ME !!"

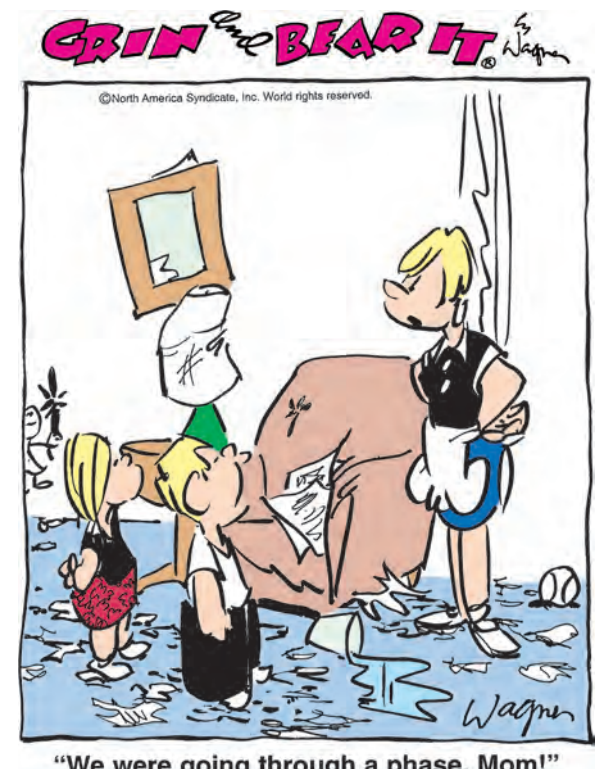
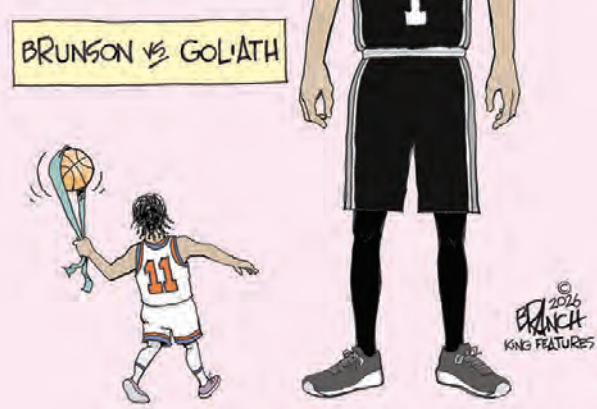
YA GOT A FUNNY LOOK ON YORE FACE, JUGHAID-- WHAT'S WRONG ?

ER, UM, NUTHIN', AUNT LOWEEZY !!

YA DON'T LOOK LIKE THAR'S NUTHIN' WRONG !!

YA LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO JEST BROKE MY FAV'RITE FLOWER VASE AN' GLUED IT BACK T'GETHER HOPIN' I WOULDN'T NOTICE !!

I WARNED YA, JUGHAID-- SHE'S BODACIOUS GOOD AT READIN' PEOPLE'S FACES !!



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HEY, FELLAS, I GOT A NEW FOOTBALL AND WILL BE PUTTING A TEAM TOGETHER.

NOW, LET'S SEE... OBVIOUSLY I'LL BE QUARTERBACK AND MIGHT AS WELL BE RUNNING BACK.

FOR SURE I'LL BE WIDE RECEIVER. I JUST GOTTA FIGURE OUT HOW THE HECK TO THROW TO MYSELF.

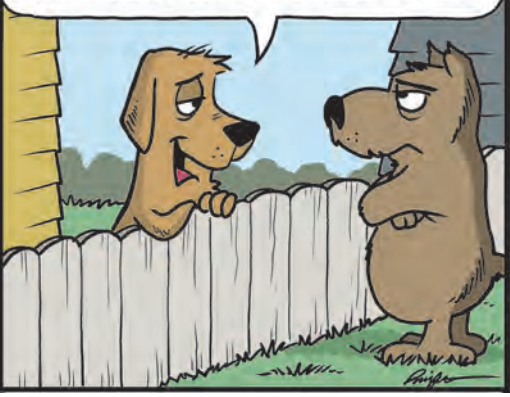
COME ON, GUYS. ODDS ARE I'LL STILL NEED A WATERBOY AND MASCOT!

Americanisms



"Sometimes the very thing you're looking for is the one thing you cannot see."
— Vanessa Williams

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD. IF YOU NEED TO BORROW ANY TOOLS I'VE GOT PLENTY FROM THE LAST GUY WHO DECIDED TO MOVE.



SO...JILL BIDEN IS REWRITING HISTORY... HAS CHANGED HER NARRATIVE... IS PAINTING A DIFFERENT PICTURE... AND NOW SHE OFFERS US HER TWISTED ALTERNATE REALITY?! AT LEAST SHE DOESN'T LIE LIKE THAT @#*!!@ DONALD TRUMP!



FLASH GORDON BY JIM KEEFE 5-30
www.kingfeatures.com

HAVING TAKEN POSSESSION OF KALLOP'S BODY, THE SORCERER CHOONG-LI PREPARES TO EXACT HIS REVENGE ON FLASH.

I THINK I'LL LET YOU LIVE, EARTHLING. PERHAPS AS A SLUG...OR A RANCOR.



FLASH, CHOONG-LI'S STILL WEAK FROM THE EXORCISM.

QUICKLY... PUT THE MASK OF TAO IN PLACE!

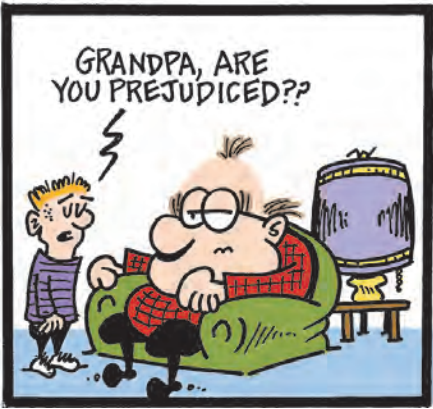
EVEN WEAKENED, I'M MORE THAN A MATCH FOR YOU!

KRAS!



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



The Garden Bug Urushiol oil

Poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac are all species within the genus *Toxicodendron*, which means "poison tree." These types of plants are native to the United States and are found in every state. They all contain an oily resin called urushiol, that protects the plant from fungal, bacterial and viral attacks. If urushiol touches your skin, it binds to proteins in your skin cells and can cause redness, itching, swelling and blisters. —Arenda Weaver

Sources: awaytogarden.com, etc.usf.edu, mayoclinic.org

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Differences: 1. Box is larger. 2. Tie is longer. 3. Railing is longer. 4. Hat is larger. 5. House is wider. 6. Jacket sleeve is different.

WOULD ANYONE LIKE MAPLE BUTTER ON THEIR CRABCAKES? OR SOME BLUEBERRY SYRUP ON THEIR CRABCAKES? OR POWDERED SUGAR ON THEIR CRABCAKES? OR FRUITY PATOOTY SWEET N' SHABOOTY ON THEIR CRABCAKES?

IHOC

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

THE KEY TO ACHIEVING MAXIMUM HEIGHT ON AN IRON SHOT IS TO OPEN THE CLUBFACE AT ADDRESS, THEN KEEP IT OPEN THROUGH IMPACT BY DELAYING THE ROLL OF THE RIGHT HAND OVER THE LEFT.

TO HIT AN IRON SHOT EXTRA LOW DELOFT THE CLUBFACE BY SETTING THE HANDS WELL AHEAD OF THE BALL AT ADDRESS, THEN KEEPING THEM AHEAD OF THE CLUBHEAD THROUGH IMPACT.



Have Outdoor Grill Fest Fun With Family and Friends

Open wide windows and doors to welcome in warm weather, friends and outdoor activities! Relaxing weekends are ahead and made just for gathering people together for a picnic at a city park or right on your own turf. A family-style get-together can kick off this longed-for new season with a superlative gathering including the people you know and want to get to know.

Keep it low-key and relax in the knowledge that being together with family, friends and newcomers in your community is the key ingredient that makes an event especially fun and memorable. Of course, some of the basics like burgers and potato salad might be essential to your gathering, but conversations, giggles, hugs, off-kilter moments, and laughter become the lasting impressions that children cherish.

Here are some ideas for prepping a grill fest for all ages:

Get Everyone Involved: Once you decide on a place and time, divide prep responsibilities for salads, veggies, grilling, desserts, games and entertainment among individuals and families. For example, if cousin Jessica plays the guitar, ask her to bring it along for a rousing songfest. If Uncle Pete plays the fiddle, you'll no doubt get everyone dancing with his music. Get kids' assistance in shucking corn (match tasks to the appropriate ages and skill levels), or encourage others to stage a humorous play or a

bicycle-and pet parade.

Beverage Center: Fill a small kiddie pool with bags of crushed ice. Bury canned sodas, juices, sparkling water, watermelon and water balloons in the ice. While the drinks and fruit stay chilled, the balloons will be ready for some cool-down wet fun after the meal.

Fun and Games: Create an atmosphere of activity with active games to play. Setting equipment out encourages people to participate and interact. Bring your ping pong table outside and create a tourney grid to keep players and fans engaged in lively competition. Set out a bubble brew with bubblers, chalk for hopscotch, jump ropes, and baseball gloves. Why not even play a round or two of musical chairs?



Grill Fest Pics: Snap some candid group photos with people posed in a large empty frame, hanging from a tree branch.

Plant a Family Tree: Do you have a favorite picnicking spot? Somewhere at Aunt Chloe's vineyard or in your grandfather's backyard? Plant a "family tree" in honor of a loved one at the location you choose and watch it grow over the years — right along with the children who planted it.

Donna Erickson creates relationships and community through food and fun. Find more to nourish and delight you at www.donnaerickson.com.



- 1. Scary Movie**
(R) Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans
- 2. Masters of the Universe**
(PG-13) Nicholas Galitzine, Camila Mendes
- 3. Backrooms**
(R) Chiwetel Ejiofor, Renate Reinsve
- 4. Obsession**
(R) Michael Johnston, Inde Navarrette
- 5. The Amazing Digital Circus: The Last Act**
(NR) Lizzie Freeman, Michael Kovach
- 6. Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu**
(PG-13) Pedro Pascal, Brendan Wayne
- 7. Michael**
(PG-13) Jaafar Jackson, Nia Long
- 8. The Breadwinner**
(PG) Nate Bargatze, Mandy Moore
- 9. Pressure**
(PG-13) Andrew Scott, Brendan Fraser
- 10. The Devil Wears Prada 2**
(PG-13) Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway

THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



THIS WEEK'S CATEGORY:

Pride Month

June officially became recognized as Pride Month by President Bill Clinton in 1999. While one particular administration has done its best to remove the federal recognition of all things Pride, these five podcasts continue to march forth with perseverance:

"Making Gay History" — This podcast comes highly recommended for its use of archival interviews to promote these sometimes-forgotten stories. It concluded its 14th season in 2025, but there are 155 free episodes to download from the show's archives. Through recorded and written memories, "The Nazi Era" (season 14) tells us how the walls closed in on LGBTQ people after Hitler came to power. In "Stonewall" (season 13), listeners can "travel back to the turbulent 1960s to the tinderbox that was Greenwich Village on the eve of an uprising." (MakingGayHistory.org)

"LGBTQ&A" — This Outstanding Podcast nominee at the GLAAD Awards features weekly interviews with whom it touts as "the most interesting LGBTQ+ people in the world." Guests include former United States secretary of transportation Pete Buttigieg, who discusses what it was like serving in the Navy under the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, as well as actor and centenarian Alan Shayne, who recently released his memoir

"And It Only Took 100 Years ..." Also, be sure to listen to the episode from May of this year that celebrates the life and contributions of the late Massachusetts congressman Barney Frank. (LGBTQPodcast.com)

"Coming Out Stories" — This podcast takes its audience back to some of the most important moments in many people's lives. It doesn't matter if you haven't had a conversation like this yourself. "Everyone can recognise the innate human desire to love and be loved," teases the podcast. "And that's what these stories are about." Stories are featured from people like Wendy Cole, who knew from age 3 that she was a girl despite being assigned male at birth, and Bobby Jean Spears, who grew up queer in rural West Virginia and has developed a large following on social media. (ComingOutStoriesPodcast.com)

Don't Forget These Gems

"You're Wrong About" — This popular podcast is hosted by journalist Sarah Marshall who, each week, "reconsiders a person or event that's been miscast in the public imagination." A memorable 2019 episode titled "The Stonewall Uprising" is praised for recognizing the people who often aren't given credit for their bravery during this 1960s rebellion — the drag queens, trans women of color, and sex workers. (Buzzsprout.com)

"Gender Reveal" — This Peabody-Award-nominated podcast hosted by Tuck Woodstock began in 2018 as a search for an answer to the question: "What exactly is gender?" It has since evolved into "an excuse to chat with a bunch of smart, funny, hot people" about a very wide range of topics — everything from anarchism and literature, to immigration and health care, and gender of course! (GenderPodcast.com)

Fun Fact

YouTube was created in early 2005 in San Mateo, California, by three friends named Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim. **The very first YouTube video** was uploaded on April 23, 2005 by Jawed Karim, and was titled "Me at the zoo."

A year later, YouTube was sold to Google for 1.65 billion dollars.

Source: www.studiobinder.com





Front door refreshing

Plants, attractive decor and tidiness play an important part in welcoming your guests.

- Pressure-wash and paint your entryway walls, sidewalks and door, if needed. Make sure your walkway is visible and safe.
- Place healthy, seasonal plantings adjacent to the walkway to your door. Keep them pest-free and trimmed back, so they cannot obscure your walkway.

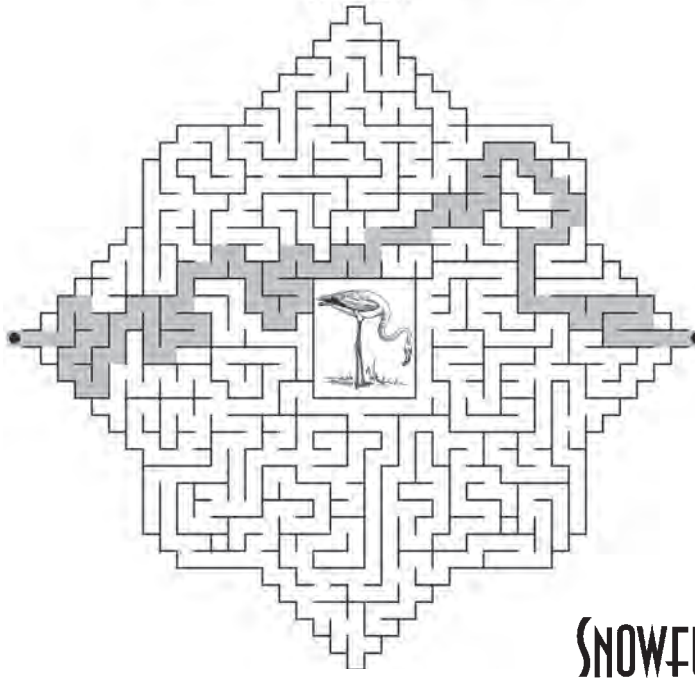


Source: www.bhg.com



Mega Maze

Solution



Super Crossword

Answers

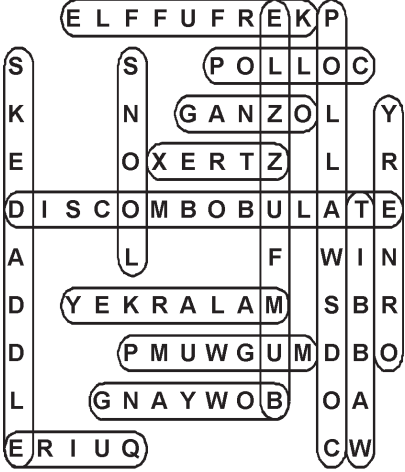
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D	U	M	P	T	R	U	C	K	S	T	H	U	M	B	S	U	C	K	S
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P	D	A	U	L	T	R	A	I	R	S	O	O	N	C	M	I			
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S	C	R	U	B	B	R	U	S	H	P	U	N	C	H	D	R	U	N	K
S	T	I	M	U	L	U	S	A	W	O	L	S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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

INTERESTING WORDS



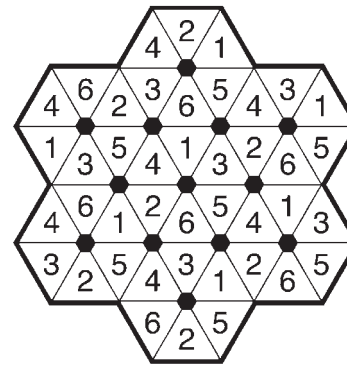
Even Exchange

answers

1. Blame, Blade
2. Strike, Stripe
3. Rhine, Rhone
4. Reason, Season
5. Carton, Canton
6. Pleat, Plead
7. Prayer, Player
8. Ellen, Allen
9. Stale, Stole
10. Clover, Clever

SNOWFLAKES

solution



CryptoQuip

answer

When I see something really cute and get the urge to embellish it, I cry "How adorable!"

CryptoQuote

answer

Each time dawn appears, the mystery is there in its entirety.
— Rene Daumal

Go Figure!

answers

1	+	9	-	8	=	2
+		+		-		
4	+	5	+	7	=	16
x		+		x		
6	+	3	x	2	=	18
=		=		=		
30		17		2		

Five Spot™

Solution

S	T	O	I	C
T	O	N	I	C
I	N	G	O	T
G	I	A	N	T
A	G	E	N	T
A	N	G	L	E

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

A	N	T	H	E	M	
R	E	E				
S	I	G	N	S		
O		G	A	Y		
E	N	R	A	G	E	
O		L	A	N	E	
A		I	A			
S		U	N	D	A	Y
T						

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Word Spiral

WATCHDOGS

KNIGHT MOVES Answer

O	V	C
7	2	5
R		K
4		8
O	O	E
1	6	3

OVERCOOK

Stickelers Answer

- 1) death BLOW torch
- 2) thunder HEAD lock
- 3) general SHIP shape
- 4) feather EDGE wise



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Duress; 2. Learn
3. Raise; 4. Myriad

Today's Word

UNMARRIED

Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Stitch, Switch | 6. Cluck, Chuck |
| 2. Child, Chill | 7. Flake, Flare |
| 3. Potion, Notion | 8. Warden, Warren |
| 4. Broom, Brook | 9. Snoop, Sloop |
| 5. Hatter, Halter | 10. Choir, Chair |

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

Why is history the sweetest subject?

Because it is full of dates.

FEAR KNOT

answer

	L	U	R	K								
	A			A								
	M	I	N	G	L	E						
O	E											
C	U	D		G					M			
E				C	A	N	O	E	D			
L	U	N	A	R					N			
O												
T	A	K	E									



"How to Make a Killing" (R) — Glen Powell ("The Running Man") leads this black-comedy thriller that also stars Margaret Qualley ("The Substance"), Topher Grace ("Flight Risk"), and Ed Harris ("Love Lies Bleeding"). It follows Becket Redfellow (Powell), who was born to an affluent family but was shunned due to his mother being a teenager when she had him. Stuck on the idea that he still deserves the life that his family has, Becket learns that he's still in line for the family fortune due to a loophole. So, he nefariously decides to murder the remaining living Redfellows so that he can claim the \$28 billion jackpot. The film barely made up its budget in theaters and didn't generate much buzz from audiences, which could be because it leans into "American Psycho" territory without the actual allure of the film. Premieres June 19. (HBO Max)

"Voicemails for Isabelle" (PG-13) — Netflix refuses to slow down on its genre of rom-coms. How are we supposed to keep up with the films that they keep cranking out when they all have the same poster, vibe, and type of actors? No offense to Zoey Deutch ("Anniversary") and Nick Robinson ("Love, Simon"), but what do they give that Jennifer Lopez and Brett Goldstein didn't in "Office Romance" or Rosamund Pike and Sacha Baron Cohen in "Ladies First"? (Both were just released on the platform earlier this year.) Deutch plays Jill, who

recently lost her sister, Isabelle, and continues to send voicemails to her phone as a form of comfort. Little does she know that Wes (Robinson), a real estate agent from across the country, was assigned Isabelle's old number, and he's been listening to every confession Jill's been making. Premieres June 19. (Netflix)

In Case You Missed It "Love Island USA: Season 8" (TV-MA) — It's almost unbelievable to think that it's already been a year since the hot mess that was season 7 of "Love Island USA." This time around, we've got a new batch of (somewhat) normal contestants, as opposed to the influencer-heavy group we had last year. For example, Beatriz Hatz from San Diego, California, is a Paralympic athlete looking to find a man who matches her spiciness. Of course, there are a handful of models, and digital creator Zach Georgiou is the brother of Charlie from last season. (Hopefully, he has better luck!) But overall, "Love Island USA" is back to its usual fashion of stirring up crazy amounts of drama with regular folks like the ones who are watching at home. Almost a dozen episodes are out now to watch, but you'll have to catch up quickly so that you don't miss out on the finale! (Peacock)



Courtesy of MovieStillsDB
Glen Powell stars in "How to Make a Killing."



Give Pork Chops the Steakhouse Treatment for Father's Day

Father's Day meals don't have to be elaborate to feel special. Sometimes all it takes is setting aside a little extra time and serving something that says, "I thought you'd enjoy this."

Many Father's Day menus revolve around steaks, burgers and the backyard grill. This year let's give the humble pork chop the star treatment. Stuffed with apples and onions and finished with herbs and Dijon mustard, they deliver steakhouse flavor without the steakhouse price tag.

One of the things I love about cooking is its ability to turn ordinary ingredients into something extraordinary. A celebration doesn't come from the price tag attached to the meal. It comes from the thought behind it. Whether it's Father's Day, a birthday or simply a Tuesday when everyone is home at the same time, a little extra effort can make dinner feel like an occasion.

APPLE & HERB STUFFED PORK CHOPS

- Yield: 4 Servings
Total Time: 50 mins.
4 thick-cut pork chops with bone if possible, about 1 1/2 inch thick
2 tablespoons olive oil, plus more as needed
1 teaspoon sea salt, plus more to taste



www.JasonCoblentz.com
Stuffed with apples, onions and herbs, these juicy pork chops bring steakhouse flavor to the table.

Preheat the oven to 375 F.

Using a small sharp knife, cut a deep pocket into the side of each pork chop, being careful not to cut all the way through. Season the chops inside and out with salt.

Heat an oven-safe skillet over medium heat. Add the oil and brown the pork chops on both sides, about 4 to 5 minutes per side. If the chops have a fat cap, briefly brown it as well. Transfer to a plate. The centers will still be undercooked.

Add the butter to the skillet. Cook the onion for 2 to 3 minutes until softened. Add the apple and cook until

tender. Stir in the vinegar, then add the panko breadcrumbs and cook for 1 minute more. Remove from the heat.

In a small bowl, combine the Dijon mustard, garlic powder, thyme, rosemary and pepper. Spread the mixture over the pork chops and inside the pockets.

Fill each pocket generously with the apple mixture and secure with toothpicks if needed.

Arrange any remaining apple and onion mixture in the center of the skillet and place the pork chops on top. Cover and bake for 20 to 25 minutes, or until the pork reaches 145 F in the thickest part. Let rest for 5 to 10 minutes before serving.

Make It Simpler

Don't feel like stuffing pork chops? No problem! This recipe is just as delicious served without the extra step. Simply skip cutting the pockets and reserve the apple-onion mixture. Before baking, spread the apples and onions into an even layer in the skillet and place the seasoned pork chops on top. Roast as directed until the pork reaches 145 F. You'll get all the same sweet-savory flavor with a little less fuss.

Serve with mashed potatoes, sautéed green beans and a simple green salad for a complete meal. Then bring out dessert. Life offers plenty of reasons to skip dessert. Father's Day isn't one of them.

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 and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com



Super Crossword

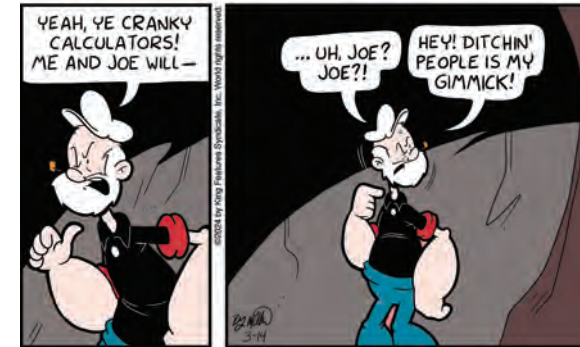
Answers

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



("IF") co-star. (Netflix)

"Strung" (TV-MA) — This latest Peacock original film is a psychological thriller from Blumhouse Productions, led by Chloe Bailey ("Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist") and Lynn Whitfield ("Eyes of Wakanda"). Bailey plays a violinist named Layla, who signs on to be a live-in music tutor for a young girl from a wealthy family. Upon meeting the young girl, Layla is put off by an odd mask that the girl carries, as well as an ominous air that permeates the house. On top of this, the girl's mother, Jasmine (Coco Jones), becomes increasingly hostile toward Layla, leaving her to think that she made a terrible mistake in taking this job. Lucien Laviscount ("People We Meet on Vacation") and Anna Diop ("The Man in My Basement") co-star in the film, which premieres on June 26. (Peacock)



Courtesy of Netflix

Eric Andre, left, and John Cena star in "Little Brother."

"Queens of the Dead" (TV-MA) — This campy zombie-comedy film is a great watch for Pride Month, and hopefully, it'll pave the way for more queer horror in the future. Led by Katy O'Brian ("Love Lies Bleeding"), the film takes place on the night of a giant warehouse party in Bushwick. Club owner Dre (O'Brian) is scattered in her preparation for the party, which makes her warehouse the prime spot for a zombie attack. Later that night, as zombies start blending into the chaos of the party, drag queens, club kids and disco dolls are forced to join forces and put up a gnarly fight against the monsters. Premieres June 26. (Hulu)



A Little Shrimp Goes a Long Way in This Summer Salad

Summer entertaining doesn't always involve firing up the grill or spending the afternoon in the kitchen. Some of the best warm-weather dishes are made ahead, tucked into the refrigerator and brought out like a cool, blissful surprise when guests arrive.

That's one reason I love make-ahead dishes. When the work is done in advance, everyone gets to relax, including the cook.

This bright shrimp and white bean salad has been one of my favorite warm-weather recipes for years. It combines tender shrimp, creamy white beans, fresh herbs and a bright lemon marinade into a dish that feels special enough for company but simple enough for a weeknight dinner. Best of all, a single pound of shrimp stretches beautifully to serve eight as an appetizer or four as a main dish, making it a delicious way to entertain without overspending.

Back when I first developed this recipe, shrimp felt like a luxury ingredient. These days, with the price of so many groceries climbing, shrimp isn't necessarily any more expensive than many everyday proteins. Pairing it with beans makes a dish that feels both generous and practical.

This recipe is incredibly versatile. You can serve it with crackers or chips, spooned into lettuce cups for an

easy appetizer, tucked into cute little tortillas for street tacos, piled over crisp greens for lunch or arranged over sliced avocado for a first course or light supper. Or eat it straight out of the jar with a fork. I don't judge.

Most recently I served it with cheese tortellini (cooked and chilled) and fresh spinach salad using the marinade as dressing for the pasta and the salad. It was easy and everyone loved it. It's the kind of flexible recipe that earns a permanent place in the warm-weather rotation.

Best of all, it can be made hours ahead. That's my favorite kind of entertaining food. While everyone else is cooking, you're already on the patio with a cold drink.



www.JasonCoblentz.com

This colorful shrimp and white bean salad is fresh, flavorful and ideal for summer gatherings.

LEMON HERB SHRIMP & WHITE BEAN SALAD

Yield: 4 to 8 Servings

Total Time: 2 hrs. 30 mins.

1/2 cup olive oil

1/4 cup lemon juice

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

1 teaspoon old bay seasoning

2 teaspoons kosher salt

1 teaspoon sugar

1/2 teaspoon celery seeds

1/4 teaspoon ground allspice

3 teaspoons fresh garlic, finely chopped

1 cup (packed) fresh herbs, finely chopped, such as parsley, cilantro or dill

1 cup celery, chopped

1 cup red pepper, diced

1 shallot, thinly sliced

1 lemon, very thinly sliced

1 (14 ounce) can Great Northern Beans, drained

1 pound cooked, deveined medium shrimp

In a large bowl, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, old bay, salt, sugar, celery seeds, allspice and garlic. Then add fresh herbs, celery, red pepper, shallot, lemon and beans. Give that a good stir. Add the shrimp and stir, making sure it's covered in marinade.

Place the mixture into a large glass dish with a lid or a couple of mason jars. Let this sit in the fridge for at least 2 hours before serving.

This salad is best after 2 to 4 hours in the refrigerator, when the flavors have had time to mingle without changing the texture of the shrimp. Because the marinade contains both lemon juice and vinegar, the acids will continue to "cook" the shrimp over time, similar to ceviche. After a day or so, the shrimp become noticeably firmer. Still delicious, but not quite as tender as they are on the first day.

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 and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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