



the Local Voice

TLV #489 - FREE
AUGUST 20 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

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Rafters on The Water
30117 Blackjack Road
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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 #489 • August 20, 2026 • Oxford, Ole Miss, & North Mississippi • Read at Maximum Volume

Thacker Mountain Radio Opens Fall Season Sept. 10, Adds MPB-TV Debut

The **Thacker Mountain Radio Hour** kicks off an exciting fall season at 6 pm Thursday, September 10 at the **Powerhouse**. Admission is free and the public is invited.

Guests for the season premiere will include **Mahalia Jackson** biographers **Timothy B. Tyson** and **Mary D. Williams**, North Carolina songwriter **Laurelyn Dossett**, and Oxford blues collective **Blue Velvet**.

The show is hosted by **Jim Dees**, with house band **Paul Tate & the Yalobushwhackers**. Wine and libations from **Cathead Distillery**, **Wonderbird Spirits**, and **Red Panther Brewing Co.** will be for sale.

Doors open at 5:30 pm; showtime is 6 pm. A book signing follows at 7 pm.

Thacker Mountain radio is broadcast live every Thursday on University of Mississippi radio station **WUMS 92.1 FM**. The show is also replayed on the air and online at 5 pm Saturday and 6 pm Sunday by Mississippi Public Broadcasting. For a complete schedule of air times from Alabama to New Mexico, visit thackermountain.com and select the microphone tab in the toolbar. All shows are archived for one month at **WYXR Memphis**.

This year, in addition to the audio broadcast and recording, Thacker Mountain Radio will also be filmed by **MPB Television** as a 30-minute telecast. The show's television debut is at 8 pm Friday, September 18 on **MPB-TV**. The TV season airs at 8 pm every Friday, with new episodes weekly through November 20. The TV show will also stream online.

Thacker executive director **Lucy Gaines** believes audiences at the Powerhouse are in for a special season this fall, with great music and compelling authors, plus some novelty. **Damein Wash (pictured)** will appear in a three-show residency with the **Yalobushwhackers** this season, supported by the Mississippi Arts Commission and National Endowment for the Arts.

"We ended last year with an increase in memberships and attendance," Gaines said. "This year, with such a strong line up, and television coming online, we hope to add to the excitement with some surprises."

Production director **Tim Lee** agrees. "We strive for a strong and diverse show every week," he said. "We're particularly excited about this fall."

Highlights of the upcoming fall season include:

- Georgia slide guitar duo **Cash's Juke Joint**
- Short story master **Jim Shepard**, surreal songwriter/author **Jim White**, and folk artist **Taylor Hollingsworth**
- *Today* correspondent and travel writer **Issac Fitzgerald** retracing **Johnny Appleseed's** journey
- **Hope Clayburn's Soul Scrimmage** and **Joe Austin & the Tallahatchies** in Water Valley
- A special **Sarahfest** show with soul gospel group **Annie & the Caldwell's**
- **National Folk Festival** in Jackson
- Season finale with **Anissa Hampton** of **Bigg Sexyy**, **Ra'Shad The Blues Kid**, and **Damein Wash** with the **Yalobushwhackers**

For information and ever-evolving updates, visit thackermountain.com. 

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Menu

Sports Bar
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LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

THURSDAY 8.20.2026

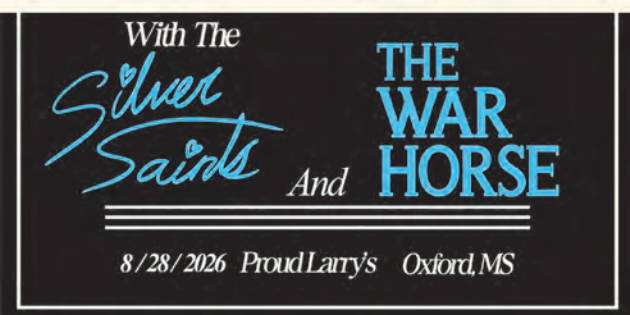
Square Books Jr.: Chapter Captains Book Club
(ages 6-9; 6 pm)
Proud Larry's: MICHAEL FARRIS SMITH & THE SMOKES
(8:30 pm; free)

FRIDAY 8.21.2026

The Library: J. CANCHOLA (9 pm)
Off Square Books: LAWRENCE WELLS reads & signs
Backstory (5:30 pm)
The Old Henry: DJ WADE
Rafters on the Water: KODY SHADE HARRELL (7 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: DAVIS COEN (7 pm)
Plein Air (Taylor): Sunset show with THE BAND BELHAVEN,
LO NOOM (7:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: COLOUR REVOLT (9 pm)

SATURDAY 8.22.2026

The Library: J. CANCHOLA (9 pm)
The Old Henry: DJ WADE
Rafters on the Water: ROBERT PICKLE (7 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: KYLE KITE (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: SINGLEWIDE (8 pm)
265 Roling Rd. (Holly Springs): Blues on the Porch
feat. KYIA KING (7 pm), DUWAYNE BURNSIDE (8 pm)
Jackson Avenue Center (UM): Communiversity 2026
Lifelong Learners Expo (9 am-noon)
Magnolia Coffee (Water Valley): HARTLE ROAD



SUNDAY 8.23.2026

Rafters on the Water: STEVE MCGREGORY (5 pm)
Proud Larry's: Oxford Comedy Collective - Powerhouse
Comedy (6 pm)

MONDAY 8.24.2026

Lafayette County Arena: Makers Meet Up: Show and Tell (6-8 pm)

TUESDAY 8.25.2026

Off Square Books: HALLIE ELIZABETH NEWTON
for *Agnes Lives!* (5 pm)

WEDNESDAY 8.26.2026

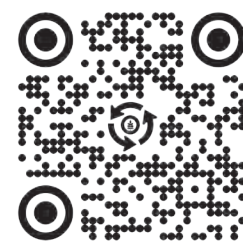
Off Square Books: SUSAN EVA O'DONOVAN in conversation w/
ROBERT COLBY for *Moving Toward Freedom* (5:30 pm)
Lafayette Co. & Oxford Public Library: Conversation Cafe:
MONTY NICHOLS (4:45 pm)
The Lyric: EOAM movie night - *Summer Tour* (7 pm; \$5 tix/\$17 w/food)

THURSDAY 8.27.2026

The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)
Proud Larry's: SUPERSTAR (9 pm)

FRIDAY 8.28.2026

76th ANNUAL G.O.A.T. PICNIC (8647 HWY 51S, Coldwater, Miss.):
BRAD FIELDER (4 pm); BUBBLES BROWN (4:45 pm);
PROUD HOUND (5:30 pm); BLUE MOTHER TUPELO (6:15 pm);
B. DOUGLAS & THE TRAVELERS FOR PEACE (7 pm);
THE DOUBLE D'S (7:45 pm); CASH'S JUKE JOINT (8:30 pm);
JANKY (9:45 pm); LADY TRUCKER (10:15 pm)
The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)
Rafters on the Water: LIVE MUSIC TBA (7 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: DANIEL ROEBUCK (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: BELHAVEN THE BAND,
THE SILVER SAINTS, THE WAR HORSE (9 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)

Fridays

- Rafters on the Square: DJ DRUMM

Saturdays

- Rafters on the Square: DJ DRUMM
- Square Books, Jr.: STORYTIME (10 am)

Sundays

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

Monday-Friday

- Lafayette Co. & Oxford Public Library:
Afterschool Zone (3:45 pm)





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SATURDAY 8.29.2026

76th ANNUAL G.O.A.T. PICNIC (8647 HWY 51S, Coldwater, Miss.):

LAST CHANCE JUGBAND (3:30 pm); MOSES CROUCH (4:30 pm);

DOUBLEWIDE SURPRISE (5:15 pm); MUDHOUNDS (6 pm);

MICHAEL NEW (6:45 pm); DUWAYNE BURNSIDE (7:30 pm);

RISING STARS FIFE & DRUM BAND (8:15 pm);

BOBBY RUSH (9 pm)

The Library: NEUTRAL SNAP (9 pm)

Rafters on the Water: LIVE MUSIC (7 pm)

Rhythm & Rye: JAMES GOOLSBY (7 pm)

Proud Larry's: POTHOLE PARADISE (9 pm)

Magnolia Coffee (Water Valley): HUNTER MYERS (7 pm)

SUNDAY 8.30.2026

Rafters on the Water: LIVE MUSIC (5 pm)

Proud Larry's: OXFORD GOLDEN HOURS (6 pm)

September

TUESDAY 9.01.2026

Off Square Books: SUSAN B. ADAMS in conversation with
MEREDITH WULFF for *Wild Work* (5:30 pm)

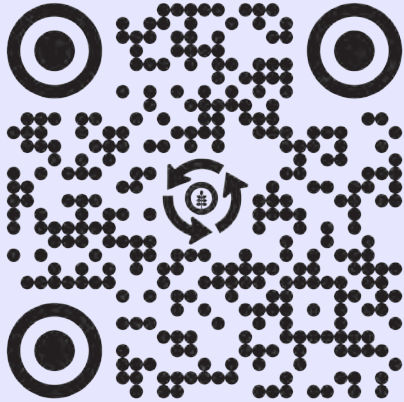


Friday, September 18
Noon @ Off Square Books



SIGNING ONLY

Kathryn Stockett



For up-to-date event listings in **Oxford, Mississippi** scan the **QR code** above for all things **Roundabout Oxford®**

oxford film FESTIVAL

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The Local Voice is published every Thursday

Deadline is every Tuesday at noon. Next print deadline: September 1

We welcome submissions, contributions, local writers, and artists!

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

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THE LOCAL VOICE #489 - Newt Rayburn, Publisher. Nature Humphries, Editor-in-Chief.

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Published in loving memory of **Thomas McCarver Rayburn** (June 6, 1978-August 13, 2021)

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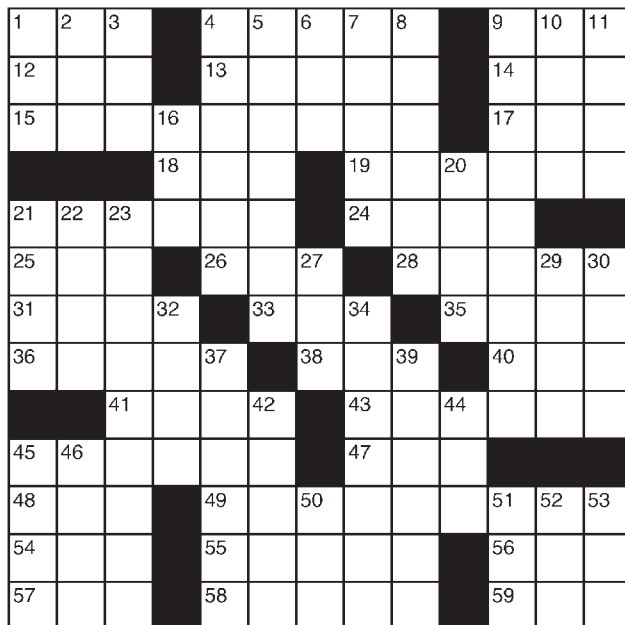


Here are some games to play, in your free time, to keep your mind sharp, and focused.

tLV King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Layer
- 4 Radiant
- 9 Soup legume
- 12 Dubai's country, for short
- 13 Kin of "Presto!"
- 14 Online chats, briefly
- 15 Keyboard piece for two
- 17 Impose
- 18 Pained sounds
- 19 Nobel-winning Mother
- 21 "Hooray!"
- 24 Story lines
- 25 Hollywood's Gabor



- 26 Genetic stuff
- 28 Nasser's successor
- 31 Stinging insect
- 33 Pop
- 35 Arias for one
- 36 Animal's nose
- 38 Mexican Mrs.
- 40 Teeny
- 41 "Phooey!"
- 43 Disney exec Michael
- 45 1912 Olympic legend
- 47 MGM motto start
- 48 Tease
- 49 Teen's formalwear

- 54 Under the weather
- 55 Perfume compound
- 56 To and —
- 57 Flamenco cheer
- 58 Belittle
- 59 Box office buys, slangily

- 7 "Get Here" singer Adams
- 8 Tends the lawn
- 9 Stops talking
- 10 Flightless birds
- 11 Hammett pooch
- 16 M-Q connection
- 20 Some HDTVs
- 21 Evergreen trees
- 22 Nobelist Pavlov
- 23 Latin ballroom dance

- 27 Small batteries
- 29 Sheltered
- 30 Wedding cake layer
- 32 Kitten's sound
- 34 Visionary
- 37 Designated
- 39 Put on a clothesline
- 42 Succinct
- 44 Lith., once
- 45 Small combo
- 46 Mound
- 50 Non-Rx
- 51 Newt
- 52 — Lanka
- 53 Boston squad, for short

DOWN

- 1 Young dog
- 2 Chou En- —
- 3 Pro vote
- 4 Acknowledged
- 5 Blessing
- 6 Actress Lucy



1. Who was the Beatles drummer before Ringo Starr?
2. How did Jefferson Airplane lead singer Grace Slick (think: "White Rabbit") get her name?
3. Name the first No. 1 song the Beatles had in the U.S. Which song first topped the charts in the U.K.? (They're not the same!)
4. Who was known as the "Queen of Soul"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Big Sam left Seattle in the year of '92, With George Pratt his partner and brother Billy too."

Answers

1. Pete Best. He was the Beatles' drummer from August 1960 until August 1962, when he was replaced by Ringo Starr. Best's mother had a coffee house (called the Casbah Club) in the basement of her house, which was where the band first played. The Casbah is now available for Airbnb rental.
2. She married Gerald Slick in 1961. She was born Grace Barnett Wing.
3. "I Want to Hold Your Hand" topped the charts in the U.S. and "From Me to You" in the U.K.
4. Aretha Franklin.
5. "North to Alaska," by Johnny Horton, in 1960. The song was used in the 1960 film of the same name and tells the tale of a man going to the frozen north to look for gold. Sadly, Horton died five days before the movie came out.

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 ● MEASURED WORDS

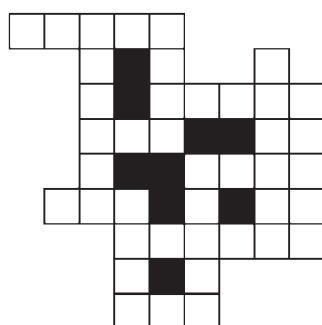
K P N K I F C A X V S Q O L J
H E C A F X V D R A Y E N I V
T R S P N O L J I H L R F D B
M Y M X V (F O O T A G E) F T R
P I I O M K H T N A M T O O F
I C L I N C H Y W R G E O E D
B Z E E N X A W A E U M T T R
Q O N I A R L D J I A I H E G
F D C C D G R I N C H R O A R
Y X W V T A E N O T S E L I M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

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

Cinch	Foothold	Halyard	Perimeter
Clinch	Footman	Lanyard	Smile
Diameter	Footwear	Mileage	Yardarm
Footage	Grinch	Milestone	



- HET
WOPNUT
♥ ARMCO
EWOM
REACNA
♥ MYA
♥ ENMA
AWMCA
♥ ENW
SORRAT
PYNPI
♥ RYNA



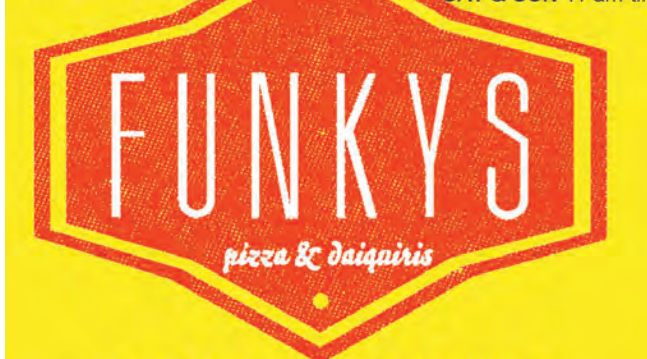
Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥ RATHER becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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7	6	4	2	7	4	5	2	8	4	5	2	3
S	J	B	T	E	E	B	H	E	E	U	I	Y
7	5	6	7	2	4	5	2	7	4	3	6	4
R	I	O	V	N	X	L	K	E	P	O	B	R
2	8	5	3	4	2	3	2	3	2	6	2	3
I	X	D	U	E	N	R	G	B	C	S	L	O
7	2	7	3	5	8	2	6	8	3	5	8	2
O	E	T	S	B	P	A	E	R	S	R	E	R
8	4	7	4	7	6	7	6	4	5	2	8	2
S	S	H	S	E	C	R	U	I	I	S	S	U
3	8	4	5	2	4	7	8	6	3	5	8	3
I	I	V	D	P	E	S	V	R	S	G	E	H
8	6	5	6	5	8	3	8	3	6	3	8	3
L	I	E	T	S	O	A	V	P	Y	P	E	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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the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND



ACROSS

- 1 Lie down in rest
- 7 Pedometer unit
- 11 Trial fig.
- 14 Pig in a kids' series
- 19 A bit coarse, as humor
- 20 — sapiens
- 21 Informal talks
- 23 Personae non — (unwelcome sorts)
- 24 At the summit
- 25 Nielsens, e.g.
- 26 Start of a riddle
- 29 Granola bit
- 30 Goose of Hawaii
- 31 Many a craft brew, in brief
- 32 — center (play area)
- 33 Thu. follower
- 36 "That's — blow!"
- 38 Riddle, part 2
- 43 Suffix with billion
- 45 High-IQ crew
- 46 Harp relatives
- 47 Uncouth sorts
- 50 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
- 52 City near Seattle
- 56 Riddle, part 3
- 62 Hat for Indiana Jones
- 63 Esther of "Good Times"
- 64 China's Chou En- —
- 65 Uncertainties
- 68 Very last part
- 70 Opus
- 72 Freaks out
- 75 Gore, Roker and Pacino
- 76 Relative of .edu or .org
- 78 Base for head hair
- 80 Like many Coast Guard rescues
- 81 Riddle, part 4
- 86 Feature of the word "jot"
- 87 Execs' mag
- 88 Idea sources
- 89 Skylit lobbies
- 92 Project deets
- 96 James of "Alien Nation"
- 98 End of the riddle
- 103 Pirate's drink
- 107 Bunch
- 108 "Deck the Halls" contraction
- 109 Mined stuff
- 110 Egyptian canal
- 112 Year, in Brazil
- 113 Riddle's answer
- 119 Like the work of insurance risk calculators
- 121 "Bye-bye!"
- 122 Walk really quietly
- 123 Lambastes
- 124 Pre-'91 empire
- 125 "7 Rings" singer
- 126 Applesauce brand
- 127 "Fancy that!"
- 128 Chinese dog, in brief
- 129 Became taut

DOWN

- 1 Singer Belle or Spektor
- 2 Lengthy reprimand
- 3 Beseech reverently
- 4 Preminger of film
- 5 Former teen idol Cassidy
- 6 Glasses and contacts
- 7 Unselfish sort
- 8 Carry around
- 9 Like theatrical behavior
- 10 Appear like a jack-in-the-box
- 11 Last part of some plays
- 12 Saloon
- 13 Castle tower
- 14 Org. against leather
- 15 Estrada of "CHiPs"
- 16 Miss terribly
- 17 Tent stake
- 18 Hoofed beast
- 22 Nickname for Louis Armstrong
- 27 Make beloved
- 28 Sculling tools
- 34 Comic Issa
- 35 SSNs, e.g.
- 37 Artist Andy
- 39 Iconic "Dragnet" line
- 40 Granola bits
- 41 Often-tickled Muppet
- 42 With 48-Down, "Barry Lyndon" star
- 44 French river or depart-ment
- 47 U.K.'s counterpart to an Oscar
- 48 See 42-Down
- 49 A bit strange
- 51 Neither's partner
- 53 Ocean east of Ga.
- 54 Mined stuff
- 55 Columbus citizen
- 57 Mexican general Villa
- 58 Donovan of "Clueless"
- 59 Decide (to)
- 60 Decompose
- 61 "— Cousins" (Elvis Presley film)
- 66 Grazing area
- 67 Doesn't leave
- 69 Mail slot spot
- 71 Plaza Hotel girl
- 73 Rho follower
- 74 Botching it up
- 77 "Rocky III" co-star
- 79 Wordplay bit
- 82 "That so?"
- 83 Persian ruler
- 84 Like a snoop
- 85 Build up, as interest
- 89 Piercing tool
- 90 Even if, in brief
- 91 Snare drum sound
- 93 Inadequate
- 94 Annual basketball contest on the Continent
- 95 Silk nightdress
- 97 Proficient in
- 99 Pong maker
- 100 Clamping down on
- 101 Lordly home
- 102 Beachward
- 104 Believers in Jah, informally
- 105 Common soccer score
- 106 Conk out, as a machine
- 111 Old name of the Congo
- 114 "Hooper" star Reynolds
- 115 Junior miss
- 116 Big ice mass
- 117 Bit of work
- 118 Revolve
- 119 It's pressed for cash
- 120 Co. big shot

SUDOKU

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

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						
23							24					25									
26						27					28										
29				30					31			32						33	34	35	
36			37		38			39				40				41	42				
			43	44				45								46					
47	48	49				50	51					52	53	54	55						
56					57				58	59	60							61			
62							63						64					65	66	67	
68						69		70				71		72		73	74				
75						76		77		78				79		80					
			81	82	83				84						85						
			86									87				88					
89	90	91							92	93	94	95			96	97					
98						99	100	101						102				103	104	105	106
107						108				109				110			111		112		
			113	114	115					116				117				118			
119	120																				
123																					
126																					



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™

Investment terms

J	O	I	N	T

Knee or knuckle

Part before the singing starts

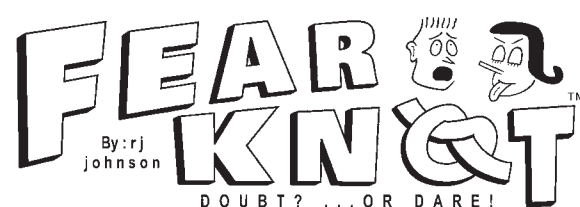
A bridge position

Unable to raise sufficient funds

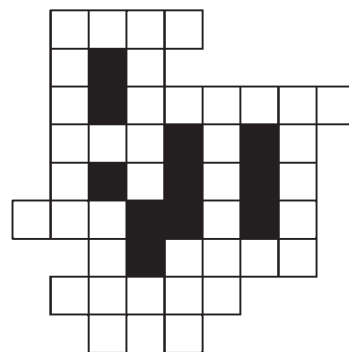
Speak badly about

Offer to others

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.



GIW
WEPORD
AILEK
PEKL
WULOAT
♥ ADW
♥ AEGP
DALPI
♥ RKI
KADLET
ROLGW
♥ ERWE



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

CODED RIDDLE

by Helene Hovanec

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:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

XIZ JT HSBTT TP EBOHFSPVT?

CFDBVTF JU JT GVMM PG CMBEFT.

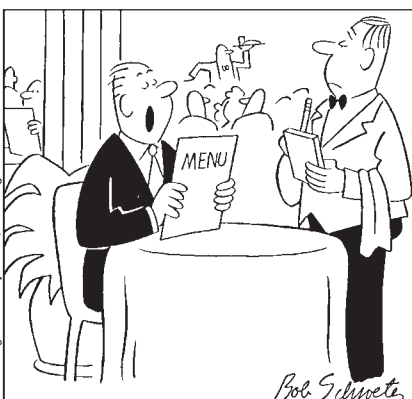
Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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. Heavenly | ___ _ _ _ V _ | Divvy up | ___ _ _ _ D _ |
| 2. Certain quartet | ___ T ___ _ _ | Planting season | ___ P ___ _ _ |
| 3. Express gratitude | ___ _ A _ _ _ | Mull over | ___ _ I _ _ _ |
| 4. Coronet | ___ _ _ _ N | Multitude | ___ _ _ _ D |
| 5. Pendant | ___ _ _ _ _ T | Student's closet | ___ _ _ _ _ R |
| 6. Beehive | ___ P _ _ _ _ | Bird sanctuary | ___ V _ _ _ _ |
| 7. Lombard or Burnett | ___ _ _ _ L | Chocolate alternate | ___ _ _ _ B |
| 8. Arrogance | P _ _ _ _ _ | Groom's mate | B _ _ _ _ _ |
| 9. Stockholm native | ___ W _ _ _ _ | Velvety leather | ___ U _ _ _ _ |
| 10. Rowling's character | ___ _ T _ _ _ | Composer Cole | ___ _ R _ _ _ |

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!



Student
RENTIN

Rural
SIRCUT

Slime
GLUDES

Anarchy
HAMMEY

TODAY'S WORD

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"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."
— **Mae Jemison**
(born October 17, 1956)

G.O.A.T. PICNIC

CELEBRATES 76 YEARS OF MUSIC, HERITAGE, AND COMMUNITY

AUGUST 28-29, 2026

FOR 76 YEARS, the G.O.A.T. Picnic has been more than a festival — it has been a celebration of family, culture, and one of Mississippi's most treasured musical traditions.

Held every August in Coldwater, Mississippi, the event continues the legacy of the late **Otha Turner**, the legendary fife master whose annual Labor Day picnics helped preserve one of Mississippi's oldest living musical traditions.

Today, that legacy lives on through Turner's granddaughter, **Sharde Thomas-Mallory**, and her husband, **Chris Mallory**, leaders of the **Rising Stars Fife & Drum Band**. Together, they have brought this centuries-old tradition across the United States and abroad while inspiring a new generation to embrace Mississippi's rich cultural heritage. The Rising Stars recently introduced Mississippi's fife and drum tradition to an even wider audience through their appearance in the Academy Award-winning film *Sinners*, showcasing a musical tradition that remains deeply rooted in North Mississippi while continuing to reach new audiences worldwide.

This year's G.O.A.T. Picnic features an exciting lineup of live entertainment, highlighted by legendary Grammy Award-winning blues icon **Bobby Rush** and the Rising Stars Fife & Drum Band. Along with the music, guests can enjoy unique offerings like the BBQ Goat Nachos, one of the many traditions that make the G.O.A.T. Picnic a one-of-a-kind experience.

The 76th Annual G.O.A.T. Picnic, taking place August 28–29, 2026, has earned national recognition by being selected for the Smithsonian's **Of the People: The Smithsonian Festival of Festivals**, a nationwide initiative celebrating America's cultural traditions and expanding the Smithsonian Folklife Festival during the nation's 250th anniversary. The partnership recognizes the G.O.A.T. Picnic as an important cultural event dedicated to preserving the music, history, and traditions of North Mississippi.

The G.O.A.T. Picnic is more than an annual event; it is a living testament to the power of community, and music heritage. As Otha Turner's legacy continues through the Rising Stars and the next generation of musicians, the festival remains a place where Mississippi's past is celebrated, its present is honored, and its future is preserved.

The 76th Annual G.O.A.T. Picnic takes place August 28–29 at 8647 Highway 51 South in Coldwater, Mississippi. Admission is free, and all are welcome to experience one of Mississippi's most enduring cultural traditions. For more information and event updates, visit G.O.A.T. Picnic on the web at goatpicnic.com, and on Facebook: www.facebook.com/goatpicnic/. 

Left: Rising Stars Drum & Fife Band perform at the 2026 North Mississippi Hill Country Picnic. Photograph by Jean Frank. Below: 3x GRAMMY winning legend, Blues Hall of Famer, six-time Grammy nominee, and 18-time Blues Music Award winner Bobby Rush. Photograph by Bill Steber.



FRIDAY 8.28.2026
music starts at 4 pm

- LADY TRUCKER •
- JANKY •
- CASH'S JUKE JOINT •
- THE DOUBLE D'S •
- B. DOUGLAS &
THE TRAVELERS FOR PEACE •
- BLUE MOTHER TUPELO •
- PROUD HOUND •
- BUBBLES BROWN •
- BRAD FIELDER •

SATURDAY 8.29.2026
music starts at 3:30 pm

- BOBBY RUSH •
- RISING STARS •
- DUWAYNE
BURNSIDE •
- MICHAEL NEW •
- MUDHOUNDS •
- DOUBLEWIDE SURPRISE •
- MOSES CROUCH •
- LAST CHANCE
JUG BAND •

RISING STARS FIFE AND DRUM BAND PRESENTS

GOAT PICNIC

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AUGUST 28-29

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LOCAL CELEBRITY

by Megan Wolfe

The “Maine” attraction in Taylor this summer is Hemingway, the 39 inches-long and 26 pound Maine Coon cat owned by Catherine McQueen.

Hemingway holds court from the plush couches of Lost Dog Coffee Shop, looking down upon mere peasants like you and I. His royalty makes an appearance twice-a-week, as Catherine chauffeurs the impressively large cat to the coffee shop for socialization in the form of scratches and handshakes, in his very own carriage. His royal carriage is simply a baby stroller, but in Hemingway’s case, it is fit for a king.

While his dietary needs don’t include coffee, tea, or even a puppacino (Hemingway consumes an all raw diet to stay clear of allergies), he is an accomplished world traveler. So far, he’s lived in Virginia, Rwanda, Kenya, and currently, Mississippi.

Catherine admits Hemingway has become famous from their outings, but she doesn’t let him get overwhelmed by the attention. With a treat and a command, Hemingway displays an impressive ability to follow directions, and hops into his carriage, away from ‘paparazzi’. 



photograph by Megan Wolfe

Townie

A few of your favorite things!



Aaron Hamilton (at McEwen’s) Oxford’s Favorite Bartender 2024

How long have you lived in Oxford? 16 years

Five things you love about living in Oxford:

1. Cool fall nights right after a football game
2. The incredible music scene. I’ve seen the best shows of my life here.
3. The best food and drinks in the South. You could throw a rock and hit three fantastic restaurants.
4. Oxford Community Market on Tuesdays at the Old Amory Pavillion
5. It’s like living in a postcard! There’s magic here, and we are all family. 

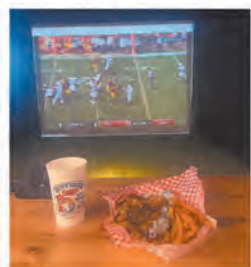
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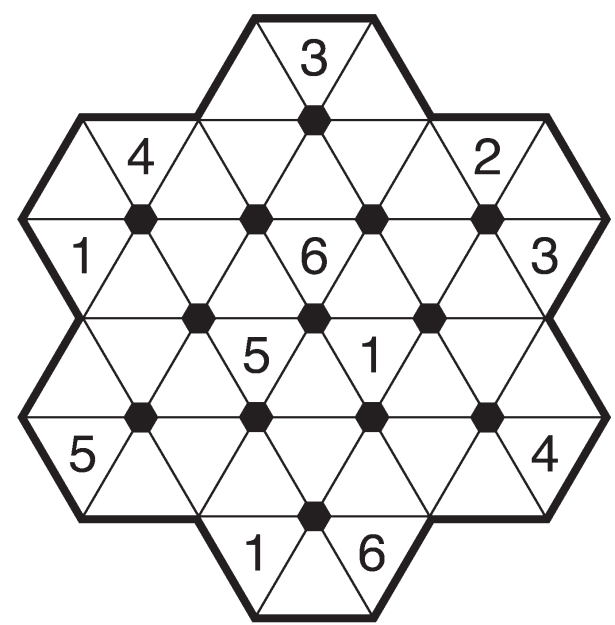
Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. **TELEVISION:** Which musical instrument does Leonard play in "The Big Bang Theory"?
2. **MUSIC:** In what year did the Woodstock music festival take place?
3. **MOVIES:** Which horror movie features a character named Ellen Ripley?
4. **HISTORY:** When did the French Revolution begin?
5. **FOOD & DRINK:** What is carpaccio?
6. **UNITED STATES:** How many states border Mexico?
7. **GAMES:** How many wooden blocks are in the game of Jenga?
8. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the longest mountain chain in the world?
9. **ART:** Who painted the Mona Lisa?
10. **MATH:** How many sides does a hexagon have?

ANSWERS BELOW

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.

KHYO HU WDD UGDCW WD
LHUU DXW DP WGO
EOFXWHYXK WGHPNU, KHRO
F TDXEKO BGOOUOEXCNOC.
— BGFPPHPN WFWXL

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: L equals Y

EXFSXFHIG AF EXLA MKXM'Q
XJJFAZHEXMGPL KXPTOXL
MAOXFV HMQ GZJHFXMHAI
VXMG: EHVVPG-XSG QJFGXV.

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.

	+		÷		= 12			
+		+		+				
	+		÷		= 5			
÷		-		÷				
	+		÷		= 6			
=		=		=				
2		10		2				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

UBREAKIFIX

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Answers: 1. Cello 2. 1969 3. Alien 4. 1789 5. Thinly sliced raw meat or fish 6. Four: California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas 7. 54 8. The Andes in South America 9. Leonardo da Vinci 10. Six



Rebel Wine & Spirits

Remember the Party Starts Here!

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

STICKLEERS

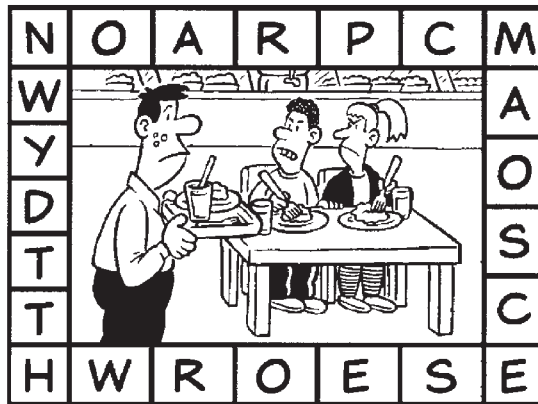
The three numbers at the top of each group will produce the fourth number directly below. The same operation occurs in each group. What is the missing number in the last group?

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

KNIGHT MOVES

L	C	E
R		U
R	L	S

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.



ODD MAN OUT! Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it counter-clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the bottom "T" in the left rail: "Two's company, three's a crowd."

A HIRAM HAYSTACK PROBLEM!

If Hiram has 25 haystacks in one field, 14 in another, 9 in yet another, and 5 in his smallest field, how many haystacks would there be altogether?

Answer: If he had them altogether, he'd have one very large haystack.

A TIGHT SQUEEZE! In this puzzle, all of the words get progressively longer, and they all start with BOA. Some hints are:

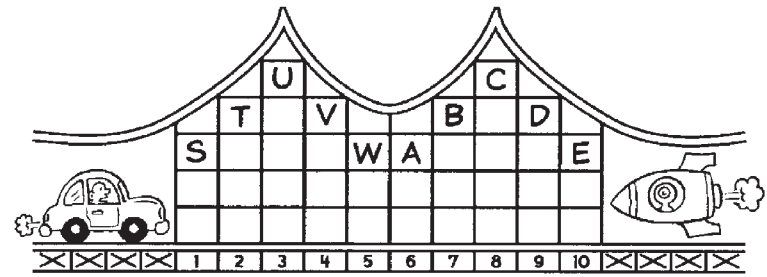
1. BOA (in place).
2. Has tusks.
3. To brag.
4. A straw hat.
5. Summer sport.
6. Type of house.

Answers: 1. Boar. 2. Boar. 3. Boast. 4. Boater. 5. Boating. 6. Boarding.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A WORD BRIDGE!



The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus the following hints:

1. How you drink hot liquids.
2. Found on new clothes.
3. Found in a Broadway theater.
4. Second to the president.
5. A type of museum.
6. A hole-in-one.
7. To cheat or swindle.
8. A monotonous, rhythmic call.
9. To show how to do something.
10. A large, flightless bird.

Answers: 1. Sip. 2. Tags. 3. Usher. 4. Veep. 5. Wax. 6. Ace. 7. Bilk. 8. Chant. 9. Demo. 10. Emu.

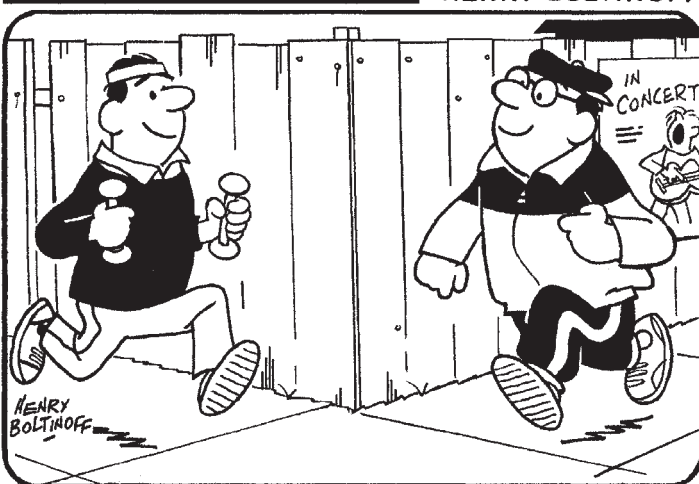
Illustrated by David Coulson



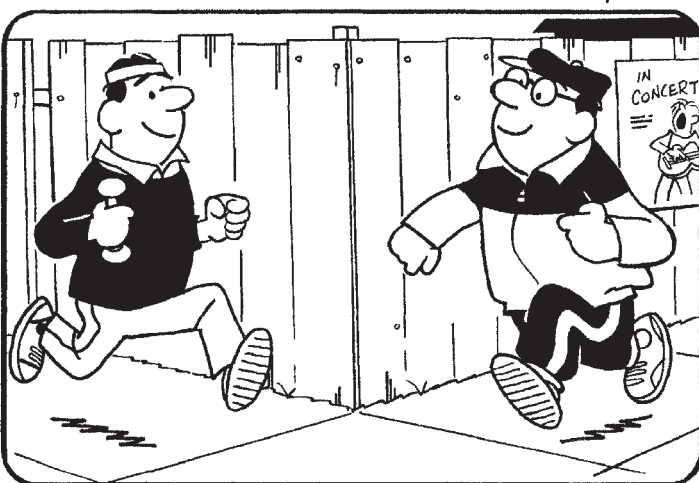
1. BOA
2. BOA
3. BOA
4. BOA
5. BOA
6. BOA

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is raised. 2. Poster is smaller. 3. Weight is missing. 4. Cap is reversed. 5. Line in sidewalk is moved. 6. Leg is moved.

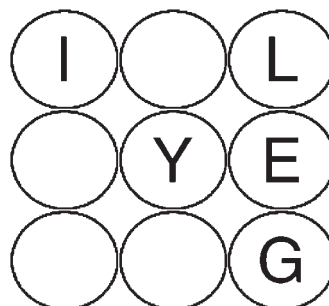
Even Exchange

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. Rework | ___ L ___ | In search of | ___ F ___ |
| 2. TV accessory | ___ ___ T ___ | Get rid of | ___ ___ V ___ |
| 3. Luster | ___ O ___ | Crystal | ___ A ___ |
| 4. Pursue | ___ A ___ | Selected | ___ O ___ |
| 5. Deputy Fife | ___ N ___ | Cereal grain | ___ L ___ |
| 6. Roomer | ___ D ___ | Lumberjack | ___ G ___ |
| 7. Carpet location | ___ R ___ | Surge of water | ___ D ___ |
| 8. Green Bay player | ___ A ___ | Prepare to kiss | ___ U ___ |
| 9. Aesop's tale | F ___ | Spreadsheet | T ___ |
| 10. Amble | ___ T ___ | Parchment paper | ___ C ___ |

WORD SPIRAL



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

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Dateline: August 2026

Congress is moving toward making Daylight Saving Time (DST) permanent. At this writing, the Sunshine Protective Act has passed the House of Representatives and is now on the plate of the Senate. There is plenty of research that supports permanent DST, and plenty of research that does *not* support permanent DST. My question is, “How in the world can we save daylight?”

I refer you to the Jim Croce hit song, “If I Could Save Time in a Bottle.” As far as I know, Croce was not a scientist. But he had the common sense to know that time can’t be saved.

The Old Testament records two times when time stopped or reversed. One was in the book of Joshua. Joshua was leading the Israelites in battle to take over the city of Gibeon. Joshua prayed to G_d for the sun and the moon to stand still. According to scripture, time stopped for nearly a day so that the Israelites could win the battle in daylight, which they decisively did. Second, in Isaiah 38:8 G_d moved time back “ten steps” so the prophet Isaiah could heal King Hezekiah of a terminal illness.

In both of these cases, G_d was the one who stopped and/or turned time around. Now Congress appears poised to attempt to usurp divine power for the convenience of humanity in the good ol’ USA.

DST was first used in Canada in 1908. The USA first adopted it in 1918, went back to “natural” time in 1966, then became today’s alternating version in 2007. During all that time, I am not aware of either the sun or the moon paying any attention whatsoever to any laws the USA has enacted to “manage” them.

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Saving Time

I can’t help but chuckle.

In 1964 The Beatles released George Harrison’s song, “I’ll Follow the Sun,” followed in 1969 by his song, “Here Comes the Sun,” He sings, “Tomorrow may rain, so I’ll follow the Sun.” I think George was extremely wise in this song, that seems to state that the best course in life is to follow the Sun, not have the Sun following us.

Burt Bacharach and Hal David wrote the B.J. Thomas hit “Raindrops Keep Fallin’ on My Head,” which included the line, “I just did me some talkin’ to the Sun, and I said I didn’t like the way he got things done.” Do you think the Sun cared one whit about that? And do you think the Sun changed its course because of Elton John’s “Don’t Let the Sun Go Down on Me”?

It seems ludicrous to even suggest we can change time to suit our preferences. I see this as one more way American culture seeks to make the universe conform to us rather than us conforming to it. Here’s a startling fact: we earthlings are not the center of the universe. Copernicus discovered that around 1515.

The 1950 film, *Cheaper by the Dozen* (NOT the Steve Martin remake) tells the true story of an efficiency expert. The father finds every way possible for his family to use less time in daily living. For example, he taught his children how to bathe

during the time it took for a song to play on their record player. The father knew better than to try to control time. He was extremely innovative, however, in controlling how he and his family used time as it is.

Can we alter our circadian rhythm? I suppose it could be done, but changing our sleep cycle twice a year pretty much negates the evolution of such a change. Think teenagers. Credible research shows that it’s natural for older children and teens to sleep later in the mornings and stay awake later at night. Because of their trust in science, many schools have changed their schedules so students can sleep a little later and grades have risen.

We can easily change our clocks, thus controlling how we measure time, but changing time itself is impossible—an illusion of control, and time goes marching on. We are *not* in charge. So let’s just get on board and conform to the Universe rather than try to get the Universe to conform to us. Contrary to what the Rolling Stones sang, *time is not on our side*.

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

Randy Weeks is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Board Certified Telemental Health Provider, Certified Shamanic Life Coach, ordained minister, singer-songwriter, actor, and writer.



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Ajax Diner

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Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: TAB

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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: DoorDash

Booth's Barbeque

2200 South Lamar Blvd.

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: DoorDash, 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: DoorDash

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-9 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: DoorDash, 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 (til 9 pm)

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: ½-price classic martinis &

\$7 specialty 'tinis

Wine Down Wed: ½-price bottles of wine (under \$200)

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The Library

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LIVE MUSIC

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Monday-Tuesday closed

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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 ½-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: DoorDash, TAB

Nightbird

425 S. Lamar Blvd.

Open at 4 pm nightly

Mon: Industry Night - 25% off for

service industry professionals

'Tini Tues: ½-price classic martinis &

\$7 specialty 'tinis

Wine Down Wed: ½-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: 5 pm-1 am

Wed: \$1 WINGS; ½-price wine;

\$15 beer/seltzer buckets

Thu: Happy Hour 6-8 pm

½-priced cocktails & wine

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: DoorDash, TAB

Rafters on the Square

1006 East Jackson Ave

Tue-Sat: 6:30 pm-1 am

DJ DRUMM 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

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: DoorDash, 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 classics, select food & oysters

Mon: INDUSTRY NIGHT

SoLa

401 S Lamar Blvd

Wed-Sun: 5-9 pm

Happy Hour 5-6 pm: \$6 fresh

Margaritas; \$22 Happy Hour Happy

Meal (ends after August)

Wed: Spaghetti + \$6 wine

Thu: Ramen & \$6 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, ½-price

apps & domestics

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

pitchers, \$5 drafts, ½-price apps

Sun: Service Industry Sunday

Delivery: DoorDash

Volta Taverna

710 N Lamar Blvd

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm;

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

½-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

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EVERY TUESDAY

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

Hallie Elizabeth Newton to Discuss Her Debut Novel *Agnes Lives!* at Off Square Books Tues. Aug. 25

Hallie Elizabeth Newton will read from and sign her debut novel, *Agnes Lives!*, at Off Square Books at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, August 25. Born in Mississippi and now living between New York and the Deep South, Newton brings readers into the mind of Agnes Maurer, a fading New York socialite determined to find someone willing to kill her before her next SoulCycle class.

In the book, Agnes believes that understanding men will help her understand the world. What makes them comfortable? What interests them? What earns their approval? If she can learn the rules, perhaps she can navigate life successfully.

But there is a contradiction at the center of *Agnes Lives!*: Is studying men a form of power, or evidence that Agnes has learned to understand herself primarily through men's eyes?

Newton didn't begin the novel with a grand theory about women. She began with a desire to experiment with the way people actually think—the competing narrations running through our heads while we drive, clean, shop, and move through ordinary life.

It started with a woman shopping. Then Newton gave her a strange desire: Agnes wants someone to kill her.

Newton said it wasn't until the second or third draft that Agnes truly began to come alive. As she revised, she found herself confronting larger questions about the character—and about the worth of a woman like Agnes.

"That's when she started to really show herself to me," Newton said. "And I'm happy now that there can be a conversation around it, because I think that for a character like Agnes, they are all intermingled."

From there, *Agnes Lives!* became an exploration of a woman's mind—and a larger question: What makes a woman valuable?

Agnes's boyfriend attempts to explain her accomplishments through the successful men she has dated, collapsing her professional achievement, intellectual status, and sexual history into a single judgment of her worth.

But Newton sees another layer in Agnes's character. She isn't simply performing for the men in her past. She is also performing happiness.

"Not just performing for these men in her past, but also performing or pretending at the very least that she's happy. Because I think there's a difference between pretending and performing," Newton said.

That distinction becomes especially revealing when Agnes moves onto social media, where she can construct an image of herself for anyone willing to look.

"She posts on Instagram to show people an aspect of herself, the aspect of herself," Newton said.

In Agnes's case, the performance becomes part of how she understands herself. She knows how she appears and what others might think. But knowing



by Suad Patton Bey

how to present yourself is not necessarily the same as knowing who you are.

That tension—between being seen and actually being known—may be at the heart of *Agnes Lives!*.

Newton is reluctant to make Agnes too easy to sympathize with. She is privileged, educated, and surrounded by opportunities many people never have. She can be selfish, judgmental and difficult to like. But for Newton, that doesn't make Agnes's loneliness any less real.

"If I heard about her through gossip," Newton said, "if I were like sitting in a bar and my friend were telling me about this person named Agnes and what happened, [I'd] be like, 'God, why can't you just get it together?'"

But the question remains: Why can't she?

Newton sees Agnes's isolation as part of a larger contradiction in contemporary women's lives: the expectation that women should be independent, socially connected, sexually liberated, and endlessly capable, while navigating a culture that encourages them to measure themselves against one another.

Newton recalled scientist Roger Revelle, who argued that mechanized society had unintentionally produced women who were among the "loneliest, hardest working, most isolated" people to have ever lived.

Newton sees a continuity between that world and Agnes's. The vacuum cleaner and washing machine reduced domestic labor but also made it possible for women to remain isolated inside their homes. Decades later, social media offers connection without proximity.

"Now we've got Instagram," Newton said.

Agnes lives in New York City, yet struggles to reach the people she actually wants to reach. She can't get in touch with her best friend, Moon Hour, and seeks connection through Craigslist and Instagram. Despite being surrounded by people, she can't find anyone who will really stop and listen.

"She is really isolated despite being in the busiest city in America," Newton said.

Perhaps that is what makes Agnes more recognizable than sympathetic. Her loneliness does not erase her privilege or her flaws, but it reveals something beneath them.

"I think that there is something about the female experience that is unifying about the experience of being a woman," Newton said.

Agnes may be unusually difficult. But her loneliness is not unusual.

Hallie Elizabeth Newton received the Goldwater Fellowship in Creative Writing from New York University in 2016. She received her first screenplay credit for *At Any Price*, and her short story "Man Made" won first prize in Columbia Journal's 2020 fiction contest. *Agnes Lives!* is her debut novel.



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
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(OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE)

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TV Super Crossword

CHARGING JOE

SUDOKU

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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.

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ACROSS

- 1 Reserves of stock
- 9 Person applying a mail stick-on
- 16 Understands
- 20 Actress Palicki of "Friday Night Lights"
- 21 Popcorn personage Redenbacher
- 22 Out of the wind, nautically
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Watson of "Little Women"
- 26 Was bested
- 27 Rug threads
- 28 Emo of zany comedy
- 30 Crafty plans
- 34 Arnaz of "I Love Lucy"
- 35 Have in mind
- 36 King, in Paris
- 37 Riddle, part 2
- 41 Unhappy
- 44 Almonds, e.g.
- 45 See
- 63-Across
- 46 Jamaican music genre
- 47 Alpine climber's tool

- 49 Extra NFL periods

- 51 Actress Long of "Missing"
- 53 Nobelist Bohr
- 54 Riddle, part 3
- 60 "The Taking of — 123" (2009 film)
- 61 Check casher, e.g.
- 62 Pre-2001 space station
- 63 With 45-Across, informed on the latest
- 67 Lacking living organisms
- 69 Shampoo brand
- 71 Vidal — (shampoo brand)
- 73 Some till bills
- 74 Helium, e.g.
- 76 Dot in the ocean
- 78 Fife sound
- 79 Riddle, part 4
- 82 Pong producer
- 86 Tart's cousin
- 87 Capote, to his pals
- 88 "The First 48" network
- 89 Ricky Martin's old boy band

- 91 "Sir," in colonial India

- 95 "Hey there, tiger!"
- 97 Wee child
- 98 End of the riddle
- 102 Yoga chants
- 103 Loosen up
- 104 Tolkien trilogy initials
- 105 To some degree
- 109 Popular rum brand
- 111 Swindling guy
- 113 Really ruin
- 114 Scraped (out)
- 115 Riddle's answer
- 120 Give for a while
- 121 Determines the sum of
- 122 Thief's activity
- 123 Uno + dos
- 124 Some tax cheats
- 125 Lays out for proofing

DOWN

- 1 Cries loudly
- 2 Like a one-off committee
- 3 Fail suddenly
- 4 Purring baby
- 5 Precept

- 6 "Warzone" singer Yoko
- 7 Wildebeest
- 8 Narcissist's love
- 9 People crying loudly
- 10 Maple fluid
- 11 Greed for wealth
- 12 Russian-built fighter jets
- 13 Arafat's gp., once
- 14 Formed a secret union?
- 15 Ginger's trait
- 16 Scottish Celt
- 17 Suburb of Phoenix
- 18 Pertaining to time
- 19 Ocean coasts
- 24 "White Flag" singer of 2003
- 29 Have in mind
- 31 Tailless feline breed
- 32 Aussie bird
- 33 New Jersey's — Hall University
- 35 Smaller than large
- 38 Lens aperture setting
- 39 Russo of "The Intern"

- 40 Hi-tech movie effects
- 41 Hold to one's decision
- 42 Novelist Chinua
- 43 Buy and sell
- 48 Eldest of the Musketeers
- 50 Suddenly lose patience
- 52 Warts and all
- 55 Pal, in Peru
- 56 Song line
- 57 Kin of "Oy!"
- 58 Beautiful, in Bologna
- 59 Poetic Muse
- 63 Old Glory's land, informally
- 64 Really strong
- 65 City in Spain or Ohio
- 66 A short round of tennis
- 68 Al who drew the Yokums
- 70 For fear that
- 72 To the extent that
- 75 Bern's land, to the French
- 77 Australia Zoo owner Irwin
- 79 Not as messy
- 80 Harvest
- 81 "The Flight Attendant" star Kaley

- 82 Bandleader, informally
- 83 Drink infusing device
- 84 Cutoff cry from a film director
- 85 Long to undo
- 90 Out with one's sweetie
- 92 Hint-providing columnist
- 93 "My thoughts exactly"
- 94 Alternatives to GIFs or JPEGs
- 96 Hulk Hogan's 1980s org.
- 99 Isaac of sci-fi
- 100 Actress Drescher
- 101 Sings in the Alps, perhaps
- 106 Perez of film
- 107 Quaint reply of denial
- 108 Canoodles, in Cambridge
- 110 Determines the sum of
- 111 Street rep
- 112 Hawk's home
- 116 Plato's "H"
- 117 Hog's home
- 118 Vivacity
- 119 "Little" actress Issa

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by Dave T. Phipps

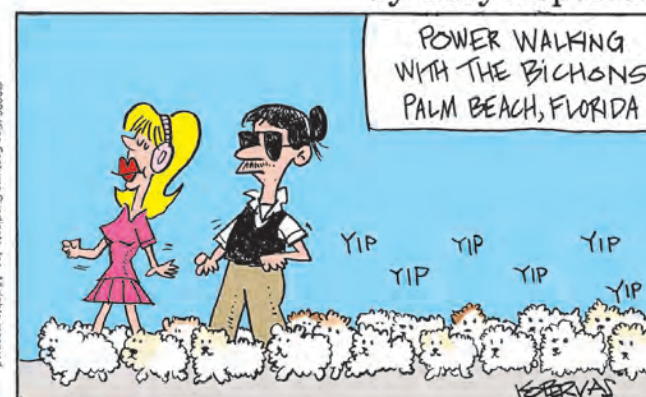
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COMING OUT OF THE CLOSET.. 2026 STYLE...



by Gary Kopervas



Prince Valiant
BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

AN OLD MAN APPROACHES NATHAN IN THE BAZAAR - AND MUTTERS EXCITEDLY ABOUT GIOVANNI'S ARTIFACT AND ITS RETURN TO THE MISTY ISLES!

NATHAN DRAGS THE MAN TO BUKOTA. THE STRANGER TREMBLES AT THE SIGHT OF THE AB'SABAN: "YOU! YOU ARE OF THE PEOPLE WHO GUARD SOLOMON'S IMPRISONED DJINN! ANOTHER SIGN!"

THE OLD MAN'S KNOWLEDGE SEEMS PRESCIENT - AND OF ENOUGH POSSIBLE IMPORT TO WARRANT A TRIP TO THE CHAMBER WHERE GURYAN STILL CLINGS TO THE ARTIFACT WHILE QUESTIONED BY VAL AND KAREN.

...UNTIL THE AGITATED STRANGER GESTURES WILDLY AT THE ARTIFACT:

"IT IS THE TALISMAN! THE SOUL OF ASIA! IT HAS RETURNED TO THE MISTY ISLES! GIOVANNI SENDS A MESSAGE THROUGH ME - NOW! NOW IS THE TIME!"

GURYAN RISES AND FINALLY SPEAKS! "AT LAST!"

NEXT: Guryan's story

Americanisms

"The two things you can't fake are good food and good music."
— Etta James

Amber Waves

GERALD, DEAR, YOU ONLY EAT MAC & CHEESE AND FISH STICKS. TRY THIS CASSEROLE I MADE.

MMPHH...

GULP! CHOAK! ACKK!

YEAH, MY TASTE BUDS HAVE A STRICT "2-INGREDIENT POLICY."

by Dave T. Phipps

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ANTHONY FAUCI

5th AMENDMENT

The Spats

GULP

I WISH I WAS A BANANA...

...I'D REALLY LIKE TO SPLIT!!

by Jeff Pickering

IT'S WHITE PRIVILEGE WHEN SOPHIE CUNNINGHAM BRUISED MY KNUCKLES WITH HER FACE...

AND I GET EJECTED!

CARRINGTON

WINBA

HITCH

TIGER

YOU'RE CROWDING ME, STRIPE

LEMME PAST, STRIPE

OUTTA MY WAY, STRIPE

NOT SO CLOSE, STRIPE

BACK UP, STRIPE

MOVE! I CAN'T SEE, STRIPE

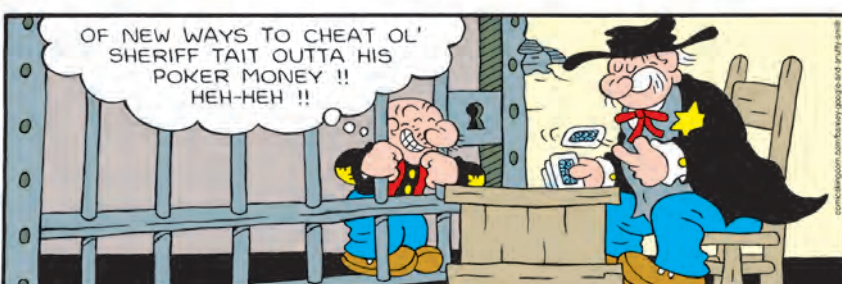
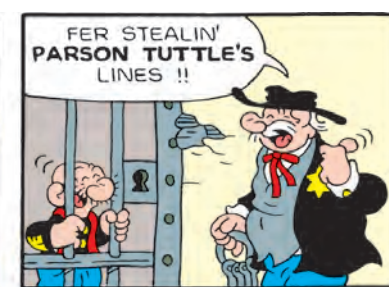
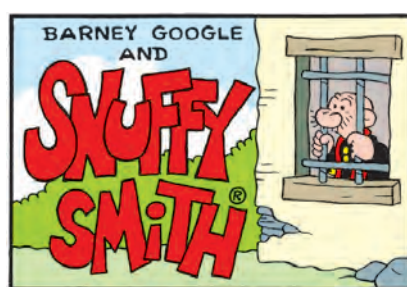
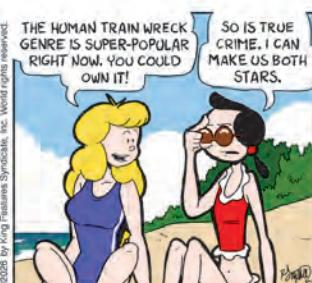
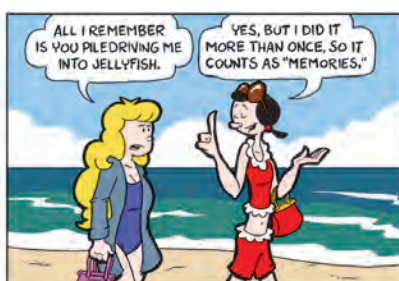
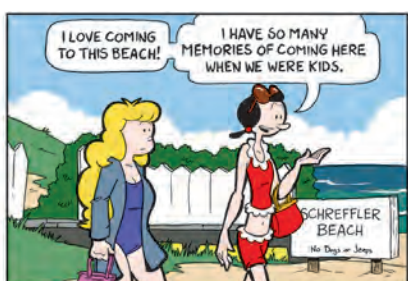
SEE IF YOU CAN FIND STRIPE ANYWHERE

BUD BLAKE

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CELESTRA VICTIMS



Amber Waves



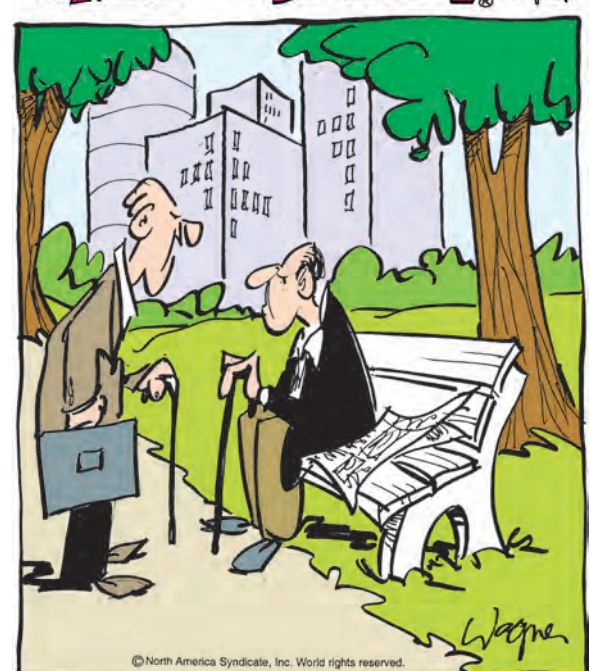
by Dave T. Phipps



"BUT WHAT REALLY CONCERNS US IS ANTHONY FAUCI."



GRIN and BEAR IT



"Checkers? No, this is my grandson's Xbox."

Americanisms



"People who love to eat are always the best people."

— Julia Child

WELL ... I SUPPOSE AT THIS POINT THERE'S NO DEBATING IF WE LIKE IT OR MAYBE HAGGLING OVER PRICE?

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS WANT NO BORDERS, NO JAILS, NO OWNERSHIP... NO SENATE, NO SUPREME COURT, NO POLICE, NO ELECTIONS... NO ELECTORAL COLLEGE, NO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS... SO... WHAT PART OF THIS FAR-LEFT MOVEMENT... IS ACTUALLY DEMOCRATIC?

The Garden Bug
Planting in early fall

When the earth is still warm but the air is getting cooler, leafy greens (such as spinach, kale, lettuce and arugula) and root vegetables (like carrots, radishes and beets) thrive. Later on, when the temperatures drop below freezing, the greens will have a noticeably sweeter taste, and the root crops will improve in flavor and tenderness. Early-fall planting of trees, shrubs and other perennials helps their roots anchor firmly, access nutrients, and prepare for winter dormancy. - Brenda Weaver
Source: www.epicgardening.com

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

FLASH GORDON

DALE ARDEN DR. HANS ZARKOV

STRANDED ON A HOSTILE, ALIEN PLANET. EVERY DAY A STRUGGLE JUST TO SURVIVE.

THEIR ONLY HOPE...

...TO STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND A WAY HOME.

MR. SMEER, THERE'S A LISA MEUNICH HERE TO SEE YOU. TELL HER I'VE LEFT FOR THE DAY, GRACIE.

I'M AFRAID SHE'S BEING RATHER... PERSISTENT. MR. SMEER, I KNOW MY INTERVIEW WAS FOR TWO O'CLOCK, BUT THERE WERE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

MY CAR HAD A FLAT TIRE, MY CELL PHONE WENT DEAD... ...AND THEN THERE WAS THIS METEOR THAT HIT GRACIE, CALL SECURITY.

AS EVENING APPROACHES, WORK WINDS DOWN AT THE LAW FIRM OF LYE, CHEETUM AND STEEL.

YES, SIR! SEE, I KNEW YOU'D FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE. THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT IT...

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A PIECE OFF THE MIR SPACE STATION OR WHAT, BUT IT TOTALED MY CAR! SOYUZAN... GRACIE, SECURITY... NOW!

MEANWHILE, GALAXIES AWAY... THESE COORDINATES WILL DIRECTLY LINK US TO THE SPACE PORTAL SENT TO EARTH.

HE'S MADE CONTACT! THEN IT'S TIME WE MADE OUR PRESENCE KNOWN...

NEXT: COUP D'ETAT!

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU KNOW WHERE HAPPINESS IS MADE?

NO... WHERE?

AT THE SATISFACTORY.

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

ISN'T IT IRONIC, DON'T YOU THINK?

SLOSH, GULP... SLOSH, SLOSH, SLOSH, GULP!

A COW EATS A BOX OF MILK DUDS

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

HERE'S A SITUATION WHERE IT SEEMS THE ONLY WAY OUT IS TO DROP CLEAR AND TAKE AN UNPLAYABLE - LIE PENALTY. BUT BE SURE TO CHECK EVERY OPTION BEFORE YOU GO THAT ROUTE.

STROKES CAN BE SAVED BY BEING INVENTIVE - PLAYING LEFT-HANDED, SWINGING FROM THE KNEES, OR JUST NUDGING THE BALL INTO A PLAYABLE POSITION WITH THE PUTTER.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT PAYS TO STRETCH YOUR IMAGINATION BEFORE ACCEPTING A PENALTY.



Roast Skinny Sweet Potato Fries

There's skinny this and skinny that — as in skinny jeans or a skinny latte — so I couldn't resist calling my family's favorite new version of roasted sweet potatoes: "Skinny Sweet Potato Fries."

It happened at the kitchen counter recently when a basketful of the tuberous root inspired me. Instead of cutting the sweet potatoes in wedges like I've always done for roasting vegetables, I slimmed the slices and turned them into a new experience for a tasty side to ribs, burgers, sandwiches and fish. They make a tasty and unique appetizer or a healthy snack, too.

Sweet potatoes have a rich, nutty and sweet flavor, and they're full of good-for-you beta carotene, antioxidants and fiber. Transformed into these fries, the vegetable is mouthwatering, delicious, and fun for dipping with good ol' ketchup (a kid favorite) or a tasty low-fat mayonnaise/Sriracha combo.

SKINNY SWEET POTATO FRIES

Serves 4

- 4 medium sweet potatoes approximately 5-inches long, peeled
- 1 tablespoon olive or vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt or to taste
- Pepper

Preheat the oven to 400 F. Cut the sweet potatoes in half lengthwise. Place them with the flat side down and cut

them into thin, long slices — about a 1/4 inch thick. Place the thinly sliced pieces on their side and cut additional thin slices, making sure that they're all uniform in thickness.

Place the cut potatoes in a single layer on a nonstick or parchment-lined rimmed cookie sheet. Drizzle with olive oil, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss well. Bake for 15 minutes, rotate the sheet, and continue baking for another 10-15 minutes until golden brown and tender. Serve hot.

Extra Serving Ideas:

— Spicy dipping sauce: Stir together 4 tablespoons of Sriracha hot chili sauce. Or substitute a squeeze of fresh lime juice for the sauce.



— Garlic dipping sauce: Stir together 2 tablespoons of low-fat mayonnaise with 2 tablespoons of fat-free Greek yogurt and 1 clove of garlic, crushed and minced.

— Season the fries before baking with any number of herbs and spices such as thyme, parsley, cumin, chili powder or smoked paprika.

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

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1. **Spider-Man: Brand New Day** (PG-13) Tom Holland, Zendaya
2. **The Odyssey** (R) Matt Damon, Tom Holland
3. **Toy Story 5** (PG) Tom Hanks, Tim Allen
4. **Minions & Monsters** (PG) Pierre Coffin, Trey Parker
5. **Moana** (PG) Dwayne Johnson, Catherine Laga'aia
6. **Hadestown: The Musical** (NR) Reeve Carney, André De Shields
7. **The Invite** (R) Seth Rogen, Olivia Wilde
8. **Evil Dead Burn** (R) Souheila Yacoub, Tandi Wright
9. **I Want Your Sex** (R) Olivia Wilde, Cooper Hoffman
10. **Young Washington** (PG-13) William Franklyn-Miller, Mary-Louise Parker

THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



THIS WEEK'S CATEGORY: Recognizing Black Businesses

August is National Black Business Month, which is a time to reflect on the history of Black entrepreneurship, its impact on the United States economy, and the resilience of the African-American community. The five podcasts below are considered to be the most popular ones that celebrate Black businesses year-round. They just might become a part of your regular podcast rotation:

"Side Hustle Pro" — This weekly podcast from host Nicaila Matthews Okome features interviews with fellow Black women entrepreneurs who started out as "side hustlers." Guests include women like Myleik Teele, who's a mom, mentor and community builder helping ambitious people to take on new challenges, embrace growth, and see their ideas through to fruition. In a recent episode, Okome shares seven things that she had to unlearn before leaving her corporate jobs at HBO and Google to become a "Side Hustle Pro." (SideHustlePro.co)

"Black Entrepreneur Blueprint" — Host Jay Jones' list of episode titles will instantly capture your attention. Most have a specific number in the title, like "3 Game Changing Tips to Become a Better Entrepreneur" or "The 7 Lies That Keep Entrepreneurs Stuck." It's a smart way to attract busy people who want specific answers and don't want to waste time downloading a podcast that doesn't pertain to their situation. Be sure to check out his

episodes on using the credit system to build wealth and the hidden cost of bad credit for entrepreneurs. (BlackEntrepreneurBlueprint.com)

"Earn Your Leisure" — Hosts Rashad Bilal and Troy Millings give you behind-the-scenes views into the entertainment and sports industries from a financial standpoint, but they also tell inspiring stories about Black entrepreneurs. Most episodes are short but impactful, like the one from early July about Jhalea Seymour. While she was just a young college student in Central Florida, Seymour turned a \$67 investment into a multimillion-dollar brand of natural feminine hygiene products. Salt XO is just one of many examples of Black entrepreneurial success. (RedCircle.com)

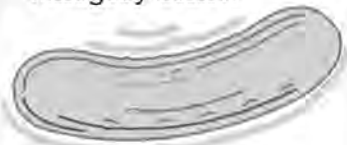
Don't Forget These Gems

"Black Tech Green Money" — Host Will Lucas knows what he's talking about. He's the brand manager at AfroTech, the world's largest Black tech digital platform and conference. His recent episodes on AI and data centers are timely and required listening, especially the one with Tennessee state representative Justin J. Pearson. Pearson stopped a billion-dollar oil pipeline and is now battling Elon Musk's xAI over its pollution in Black Memphis. (iHeart.com)

"I Am Black Success" — This motivational podcast is designed to spark your own path to success by sharing stories (more than 200 of them) of #BlackExcellence. With each episode, host Stephen A. Hart provides his listeners with a "blueprint for success, packed with actionable strategies and insights you can use today." In addition to episodes about Black icons like Oprah Winfrey, Berry Gordy and Rihanna, we also learn about folks you probably haven't heard of, who (just like you) started out with a dream and turned it into something exceptional. (IAmBlackSuccess.com)

Fun Fact

The Dutch phrase "in de pekel zitten" refers to vegetables or meats left to sit in a vinegary brine.



In modern English, the phrase "in a pickle" has come to mean a difficult time, perhaps when one's only option is to sit and stew for a while.

Source: www.bonappetit.com
peterbstories.com

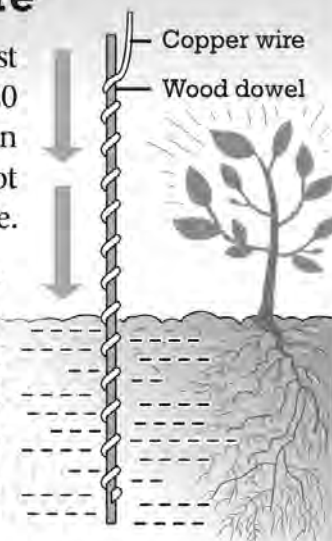


Electroculture

Though this concept was first written about more than 120 years ago, with claims of success in accelerating plant growth, it was not further studied seriously in western culture.

In 2023, the Academy of Sciences in Beijing compared regular pea plants to pea plants that were exposed to an electrical field. The electrified pea seeds germinated faster, and later produced higher yields.

Sources: www.greenmatters.com
www.nature.com/articles/s43016-021-00449-9





PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS

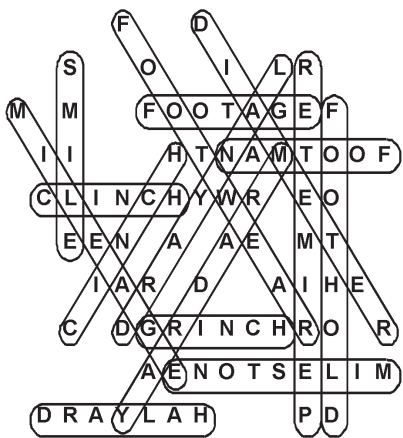


Super Crossword

Answers

REPOSE	STEP	ATT	PEPPA
EARTHY	HOMO	CAUSERIES	
GRATAE	ATOP	TVRATING	S
IFYOUWERETO	OVERTAKE		
NUT	NENE	IPA	REC
ALLOW	ADRIVER	ON	HEROAD
	AIRE	MENSA	LYRES
BOORS	ANA	TACOMA	
ANDHEP	ROCEED	STOHONK	
FEDORA	ROLLE	LAI	JFS
TAILEND	PIECE	LOSES	SIT
ALS	COM	SCALP	AIRSEA
	HISHORN	ATYOU	ANGRILY
	SHORTO	INC	MINDS
ATRIA	SPECS	CAAN	
WHATHAVEYOU	HEARD	GROG	
LOT	TIS	ORE	SUEZ
	ABLAST	FROM	THEP
ACTUARIAL	CIAO	TIPTOE	
TEARS	INTO	USSR	ARIANA
MOTTS	GEE	PEKE	TENSED

MEASURED WORDS



Even Exchange

answers

- Alter, After
- Remote, Remove
- Gloss, Glass
- Chase, Chose
- Barney, Barley
- Lodger, Logger
- Floor, Flood
- Packer, Pucker
- Fable, Table
- Stroll, Scroll

Go Figure!

answers

4	+	8	÷	1	= 12
+		+		+	
6	+	9	÷	3	= 5
÷		-		÷	
5	+	7	÷	2	= 6
=		=		=	
2		10		2	

Stickelers Answer

The answer is 9. Keep adding the digits together until you get a single digit.

$$8 + 9 + 1 = 18$$

$$1 + 8 = 9$$

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

CryptoQuip

answer

Margarine or mayo that's approximately halfway toward its expiration date: middle-age spread.

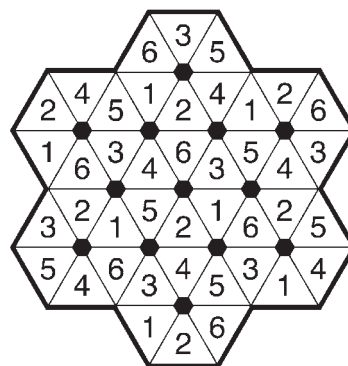
CryptoQuote

answer

Life is too short to miss out on the beautiful things, like a double cheeseburger.
— Channing Tatum

SNOWFLAKES

solution



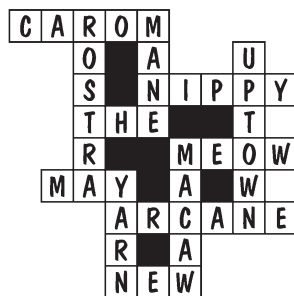
FiveSpot™

Solution

S	T	I	C	K
T	A	C	K	S
C	A	K	E	S
S	C	A	R	E
C	R	E	A	M
F	R	A	M	E

FEAR! & THE KNIGHT

answer



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

PLY		AGLOW		PEA
UAE		VOILA		IMS
PIANO	DUET		PUT	
	OWS		TERESA	
YIP	PEE		ARCS	
EVA		DNA		SADAT
WASP		DAD		SOLLI
SNOUT		SRA		WEE
		DRA		EISNER
THOR	PE		ARS	
RIB		PROM	DRESS	S
ILL		ESTER		FRO
OLE		DEC	RY	TIX

Word Spiral

Answer

ILLEGIBLY

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

L	C	E
4	1	6
R		U
7		3
R	L	S
2	5	8

CRULLERS



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Intern; 2. Rustic
3. Sludge; 4. Mayhem

Today's Word

GRATUITY

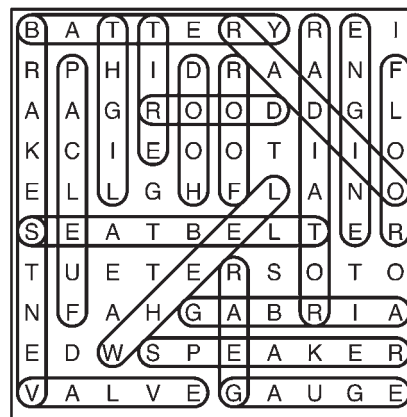
Even Exchange

answers

1. Divine, Divide
2. String, Spring
3. Thank, Think
4. Crown, Crowd
5. Locket, Locker
6. Apiary, Aviary
7. Carol, Carob
8. Pride, Bride
9. Swede, Suede
10. Potter, Porter

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

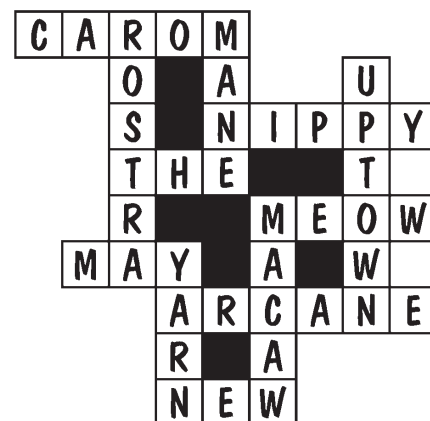


Riddle Answer:

It gets toad.

FEAR KNOT

answer



"Camp Rock 3" (TV-G) — Almost 16 years after "Camp Rock 2: The Final Jam" premiered on The Disney Channel, the third film of the series is set to release on Aug. 14. The film was announced last fall, with news of the Jonas Brothers ("A Very Jonas Christmas Movie") and Maria Canals-Barrera ("Wizards Beyond Waverly Place") returning to reprise their roles. (Demi Lovato, who played lead Mitchie Torres in the previous films, serves only as an executive producer.) The film picks up as fictional band Connect 3 (Joe, Nick and Kevin Jonas) head back to their beloved camp to find a new opening act after the original opener cancels at the last minute. They plan to host a competition, and a few new campers, including Sage (Liamani Segura) and Fletch (Malachi Barton), have their sights set on taking it all. (Disney+)

"Don't Say Good Luck" (PG-13) — Adam Sandler's youngest daughter, Sunny Sandler ("Happy Gilmore 2"), is slowly starting to make a name for herself! In this musical teen drama, she stars as 15-year-old Sophie, opposite Melanie Lynskey ("Yellowjackets") and Max Greenfield ("New Girl"). A theater kid with dreams of taking the stage as the lead in her high school musical, Sophie's preparing for the biggest audition of her life, just as jaw-dropping news hits her family. Her mom's (Lynskey) cancer has unfortunately returned, and even though Sophie's overjoyed to eventually get the part, the weight of her mom's illness overshadows her happiness. With no choice but to push through and continue to live her teenage life, Sophie must balance her grief against her aspirations and figure out how to find a silver lining in the situation. Premieres Aug. 14. (Netflix)

"Busboys" (R) — This goofy buddy-comedy film was self-financed by comedians David Spade ("Outcome") and Theo Von ("Sweet Dreams"), who also decided to team up to star together in the film. Markie (Spade) and Steef (Von) are best friends in the septic cleaning sphere who are craving more cash and an easier life. After Markie's girlfriend gets seduced by a waiter while they're on a date, he convinces Steef that becoming waiters is the key to an upgrade in their life. So, the buds spot an opening for busboys, thinking it'll be a quick way to move up to being a waiter. Much to their dismay, they realize they weren't the only ones who had this idea, but viewers shouldn't underestimate how willing Markie and Steef are to cut corners to get what they want. Out on Aug. 14. (Hulu)



Sunny Sandler, left, and Melanie Lynskey star in "Don't Say Good Luck."

"The Gates" (R) — Mason Gooding ("Scream 7"), Algee Smith ("Euphoria"), and Keith Powers ("Uglies") thriller film that's out now to stream. "The Gates" follows three friends who are on their way to meet up with girls and decide to take a dodgy shortcut to outmaneuver the traffic. They are led into a wealthy gated community but get lost, deciding to pull over and ask one resident for help. However, before they can even utter a word, they witness the resident succumb to death at the hands of another. The killer, a pastor named Jacob (James Van Der Beek), is hot on their trail and employs the help of other residents in the community to hunt the boys down. This was Van Der Beek's final film role before he passed on Feb. 11 of this year. (Amazon Prime Video)



Too Hot to Cook? Meet Gazpacho.

Some recipes ask you to preheat the oven. August politely declines.

This chilled tomato and vegetable soup is my shortcut adaptation of the classic Spanish soup gazpacho.

Traditionally, gazpacho is made with fresh, ripe, raw tomatoes, blended with vegetables, olive oil and vinegar, then chilled until the flavors mingle. Any Spanish purist will tell you that's the only proper way to make it, and they're right. Please tell your Abuelita I said that before she chases me with a wooden spoon. But as costs rise and budgets lower, let's adapt and have some perfectly refreshing soup on a hot summer day. I'm happy to bend tradition a bit in the name of good food and common sense.

There are as many recipes for gazpacho as there are people who make it. I focused on inexpensive and easy, two of my favorite things. Canned fire-roasted tomatoes provide rich tomato flavor year-round, so you can enjoy a refreshing bowl of gazpacho even when fresh tomatoes are expensive or disappointingly bland.

That said, promise me you'll make it the traditional way at least once during peak tomato season. A ripe, sun-warmed tomato from the garden or farmers market has a sweetness and depth of flavor that's almost impossible to find in

most grocery stores. When tomatoes are at their best, substitute about 2 pounds (5 to 6 medium) ripe tomatoes for each 28-ounce can in this recipe. Simply core, roughly chop, then blend the tomatoes with the remaining ingredients. No need to peel or seed them. Chill the soup for at least four hours, though overnight is even better, allowing the flavors to marry into something truly special.

SHORTCUT GAZPACHO

Yield: 9 cups (6 main-dish or 8 appetizer servings)

Total Time: 4 hrs. 15 mins.

1/2 small purple onion, minced (about 1/2 cup)

1 teaspoon garlic, finely minced (one clove)

2 tablespoons red (or white) wine vinegar

2 tablespoons lemon juice

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 teaspoon sugar

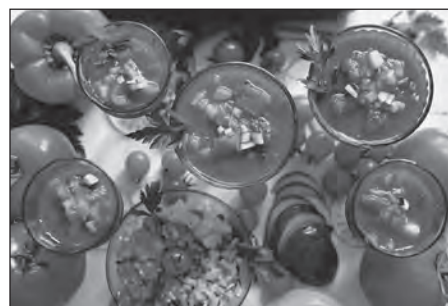
2 (28 ounce) cans diced tomatoes, divided

1 large cucumber peeled, seeded and finely chopped

2 bell peppers, finely chopped, one red and one green

1/4 cup finely chopped fresh parsley

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, or to taste



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Fresh vegetables, olive oil and a splash of vinegar transform into Spain's famous chilled soup, gazpacho.

1/4 teaspoon fresh ground pepper, or to taste

Tabasco or other hot sauce to taste, optional

In a small bowl, combine the onion, garlic, vinegar, lemon juice, olive oil and sugar and set it aside. Using a blender, puree one can of tomatoes until quite smooth. Add a tablespoon of each of the other veggies to the blender and puree, to infuse the flavors. In a large non-metal bowl (use glass if you can) combine all the ingredients together, including the onion-vinegar mixture, and combine thoroughly. Add salt and pepper to taste and Tabasco if desired. Let this sit in the refrigerator for at least 4 hours or preferably overnight for the flavors to blend. Taste again for seasoning. Serve in bowls. You may wish to serve this with toasted croutons and a little dollop of sour cream.

Whether you make the fresh or shortcut version, prepare it a day ahead if possible. Gazpacho improves as it rests, making it an ideal make-ahead meal. It makes a bright, zippy lunch or light supper and is equally at home as a first course instead of a salad for a Spanish-inspired dinner. I also love serving it as the opening course for brunch, followed by deviled eggs and a hearty ham frittata.

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



"Toy Story 5" (PG) — The third-highest-grossing film of 2026 is officially available to rent on Aug. 18, after a box-office run of \$1.096 billion against its \$250 million cost. (Pixar needed the money back since this installment is also one of the most expensive animated films ever made!) Tom Hanks, Tim Allen and Joan Cusack, respectively, reprise their roles as iconic characters Woody, Buzz Lightyear and Jessie; meanwhile, Conan O'Brien ("If I had Legs I'd Kick You") joins the cast as Smarty Pants, a toy that assists with potty training, and Greta Lee ("Past Lives") enters the series as Lilypad "Lily," a frog-themed tablet. The film, which takes place two years after "Toy Story 4," follows our favorite group of toys and their latest debacles as electronics start to take over their playtime with their current owner, Bonnie! Fun fact: Scarlett Spears, who now voices Bonnie, also played Young Glinda in last year's "Wicked: For Good." (Amazon Prime Video)

"Outer Banks: Season 5" (TV-MA) — The wait is almost over for the series finale of this hit 2020 series! Fans have followed these characters from the Outer Banks of North Carolina to the Bahamas, South America and Morocco, and they've even had to say "goodbye" to a much-beloved main character, Rudy Pankow's JJ Maybank. Season 5 kicks off right after JJ's death with his friends drowning in grief, but the Pogues are still determined to track down JJ's killer, his biological father

Chandler Groff (J. Anthony Crane), as well as the mythical artifact of the Blue Crown. The Pogues are still getting run out of their own town, and with no other people left to help them besides Sarah's deranged brother, Rafe (Drew Starkey), they embark on yet another unbelievable adventure full of close calls with death and spur-of-the-moment action! Look for all 10 episodes of season 5 to premiere on Aug. 20. (Netflix)

"The Invite" (R) — This comedy-drama film out now to rent is Olivia Wilde's third directorial feature film, following her 2022 psychological thriller "Don't Worry Darling." Wilde also stars in the film, with just three of her fellow actors rounding out the cast — Seth Rogen ("The Studio"), Penelope Cruz ("The Bride!"), and Edward Norton ("A Complete Unknown"). "The Invite" takes place over the span of one night in a San Francisco apartment owned by married couple Joe (Rogen) and Angela (Wilde). To Joe's surprise and dismay, Angela has invited their noisy upstairs neighbors over for dinner. But when neighbors Pina (Cruz) and Hawk (Norton) arrive for dinner, the night takes quite an unexpected turn for Joe and Angela, as they receive an extremely alluring invite of their own. (Fandango at Home)



Courtesy of MovieStillsDB
Drew Starkey, left, and Madelyn Cline star in "Outer Banks: Season 5."



The Great Protein Pivot: Make a little beef go a long way

Once, "What's for dinner?" was answered with a large piece of meat. Steak. Roast. Chops. Everything else was "the sides."

Today, that beef may require a financing plan.

The USDA predicts beef prices will rise 10.7% in 2026, while pork and poultry are expected to increase only 1.6% and 1%, respectively.

That doesn't mean we must bid burgers a tearful farewell and pretend lentils taste like rib-eye. It means it's time for the Great Protein Pivot.

For meat-centered meals, make less-expensive chicken and pork your regular choices. When you want beef, treat it as a flavorful ingredient rather than the stand-alone star. Beef still matters; it simply no longer receives top billing, a private dressing room and the entire grocery budget.

A pound of ground beef makes four modest patties. However, combined with mushrooms, onions, beans, lentils, rice or vegetables, it can provide six to eight servings of tacos, chili, meatballs or pasta sauce.

Choose dishes that distribute beef throughout the meal, then build layers of flavor rather than adding more meat. Brown beef thoroughly and use garlic, onions, tomato paste, Worcestershire sauce, soy sauce or broth to deepen its savory character.

Mushrooms are especially useful. Their meaty texture and natural

glutamates add umami, while finely chopped mushrooms blend into ground beef, contributing moisture and volume.

This week's beef and mushroom meatballs use one pound of beef to create a generous family meal.

BEEF AND MUSHROOM MEATBALLS WITH GRAVY

Yield: 6 servings

Total Time: 50 mins.

- 8 ounces sliced mushrooms, divided
- 1 large sweet onion, divided
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 small carrot, finely shredded (about 1/4 cup)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced, divided
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce, divided
- 1 pound ground beef (80% to 85% lean)
- 1 large egg
- 4 teaspoons Dijon mustard, divided
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- 3/4 teaspoon black pepper, divided
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 cups low-sodium beef stock
- Chopped parsley, optional



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One pound of beef, six satisfying servings.

Finely mince half the mushrooms. Cut the onion in half; finely mince one half (about 1 cup) and thinly slice the other. Reserve the sliced mushrooms and onion for the gravy.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large

nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add the minced mushrooms, onion and carrot. Cook until softened, 5 minutes. Stir in 1 clove garlic and 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce; cook 30 seconds. Transfer to a plate and let cool slightly. Do not wash the skillet.

In a large bowl, gently combine the beef, egg, 2 teaspoons Dijon, remaining Worcestershire sauce, panko, Parmesan, 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper, and cooled vegetables. Shape into 20 to 24 meatballs, using about 1 1/2 tablespoons mixture for each.

Heat the remaining oil in the skillet over medium heat. Working in batches, brown the meatballs on all sides; they will not be cooked through. Transfer to a plate.

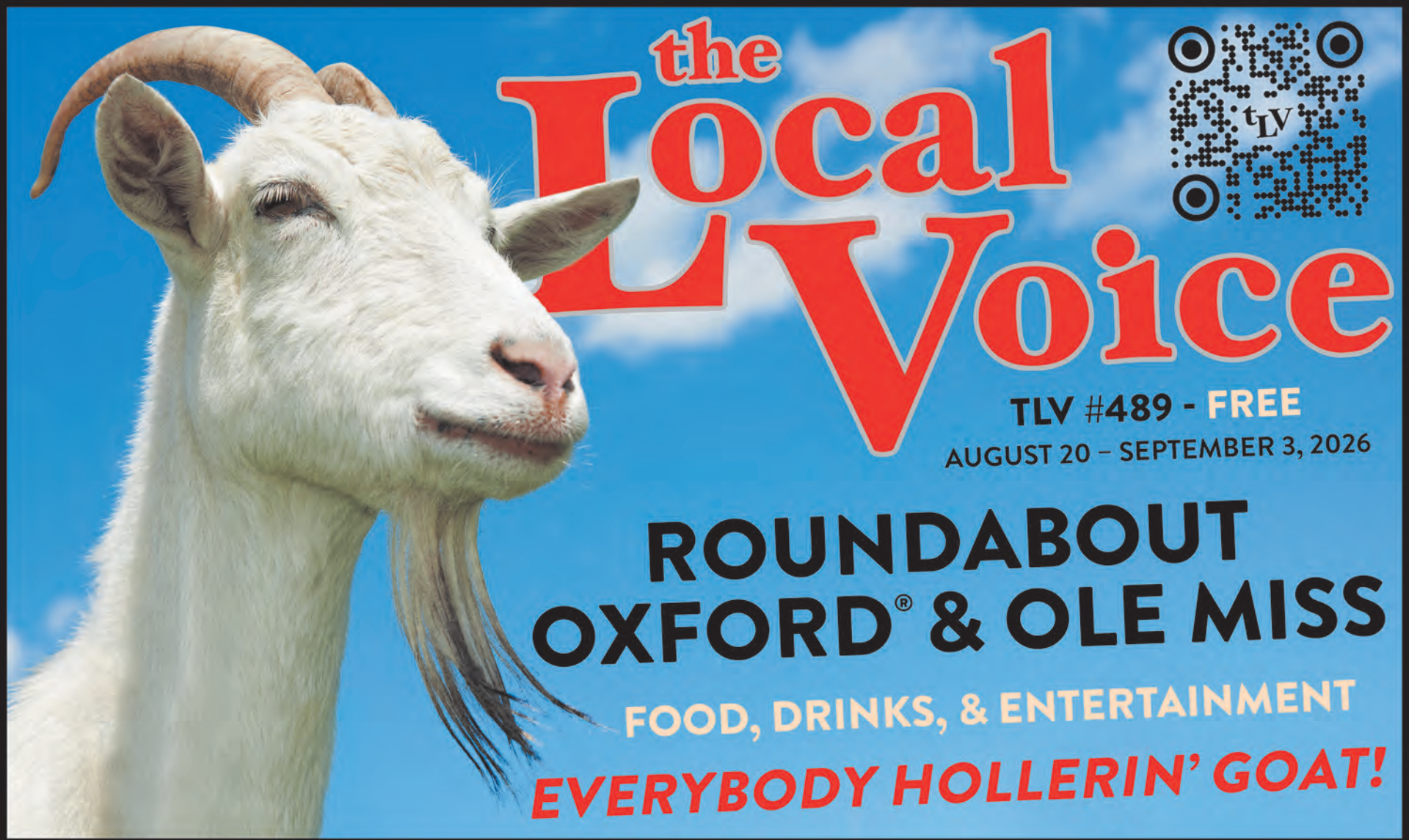
Add the reserved sliced mushrooms and onion to the skillet. Cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the remaining garlic, salt and pepper; cook 1 minute.

Sprinkle with flour and cook, stirring, for 2 minutes. Gradually stir in the stock and remaining Dijon. Bring to a simmer, then return the meatballs and their juices to the skillet. Reduce heat and simmer gently until the gravy thickens and the meatballs reach 160 degrees, 5 to 8 minutes.

Garnish with parsley and serve over egg noodles, mashed potatoes, polenta or rice.

The Great Protein Pivot isn't about giving up food we enjoy. It's about changing the proportions and making every delicious dollar pull its weight.

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



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