

the Local Voice

OXFORD MISSISSIPPI

SEPTEMBER 2026

**LOCAL
FOOD,
DRINKS,
CULTURE,
ARTS,
EVENTS,
AND MORE INSIDE**

#491 FREE



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Shy Perry Earns Four Josie Music Award Nominations

by Davis Coen

Shy Perry is having a big year, with four nominations for the **2026 Josie Music Awards**. The Mississippi-based singer and songwriter is nominated for Artist of the Year, Album of the Year for *Daughter of a Bluesman*, Song of the Year for “If These Strings Could Talk,” and Vocalist of the Year.

The nominations are especially meaningful because of the personal story behind *Daughter of a Bluesman*. Released in January, the album was inspired by Perry’s father, bluesman **Bill “Howl-N-Madd” Perry**, who passed away in May 2023. The album tells the story of Perry’s life in music and the influence her father had on her as a performer and songwriter.

In a recent interview with *The Local Voice*, Perry explained that her connection to music began when she was a child. Her father took her into a recording studio when she was about 8 years old, and she later performed with him and with her family band, **The Perrys**. Music has remained a major part of her life ever since.

Daughter of a Bluesman is Perry’s fifth album. She wrote all of the songs herself and handled the production, arranging, engineering, mixing, and mastering of the project. The album also includes several spoken interludes featuring recordings of her father.

The four Josie nominations give Perry recognition not only for the album and its songs, but also for her work as an individual artist and vocalist. Perry said receiving the nominations is especially exciting because there were more than 101,000 submissions for this year’s awards.

The awards ceremony will be held September 20 at the **Grand Ole Opry House** in Nashville. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 7 pm, with a red carpet earlier in the evening. Perry is already preparing for the event and said, “There’s quite a bit to prepare for between now and then, so it’s definitely an exciting time!”



In recent weeks, Perry has been honing her craft by performing weekend shows at various stages in Jackson, Mississippi, and Birmingham, Alabama, typically alongside her talented keyboardist brother, **Bill Perry, Jr.**

For Shy, the recognition carries an added meaning because of the connection between the album and her father. “Having the album and one of its songs recognized alongside my Artist and Vocalist nominations is something I’m very proud of,” she said.

The nominations mark another step forward for an independent artist who has spent much of her life surrounded by music. With her father’s influence still present, Perry is continuing to build a career that honors where she came from while making room for her own voice. **TLV**



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Upstairs Bar 4 pm–close



Monday–Thursday 10:30 am–10 pm
Friday/Saturday 10:30 am–10:30 pm

Digital

Menu

Sports Bar
Quack's

Smash Burgers
Happy Hour
Brunch
NEW! Lunch
Open 11 am Daily



downstairs at *Moe's*

7 pm–close

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\$3 domestics

Tuesday
2-4-1 drafts

Wednesday
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well whiskey

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Sunday
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LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

THURSDAY 9.17.2026

The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
The Powerhouse: Thacker Mountain Radio **NATHANIEL RICH**
for **Cloudthief**; music by **CASH'S JUKE JOINT**, **KATRINA MILLER BAND**, feat. **DAMEIN WASH** (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **YAZOO, THE ICEMAN SPECIAL** (9 pm)
Square Books, Jr.: **Chapter Captain's Book Club** (6 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **Homeschool Hangout** (1:30)
SJB Pavillion: **ELLA LANGLEY: THE DANDELION TOUR** (7 pm)

FRIDAY 9.18.2026

The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
Off Square Books: **KATHRYN STOCKETT** for *The Calamity Club* (signing only, noon)
Rhythm & Rye: **BRADY REES** (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: **KUDZU KINGS** (9 pm)
Voyager's Rest (Water Valley): **CASH'S JUKE JOINT**
The Coop: **DAVIS COEN** (7 pm)

SATURDAY 9.19.2026

Vaught-Hemingway Stadium: Ole Miss vs. LSU (6:30 pm)
The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **MICAH BROWN** (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: **GEORGE PORTER JR. & RUNNIN' PARDNERS** (9 pm)
180 E. Park Ave. (Holly Springs): **Blues on the Porch**
feat. **BRACKISH WATER** (6 pm)

MONDAY 9.21.2026

Circle & Square: **The Enchanted Page Society book club** (6 pm)
Off Square Books: **ELIN HILDERBRAND** for
The Thoroughbreds - signing only (6 pm; ticketed event)
Proud Larry's: **Profane Presents Monday Massacre:**
HEELS, SKIN GRAPH, AUREUS (9 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **LEGO Club** (3 pm)

TUESDAY 9.22.2026

Off Square Books: **SEBASTIAN BARRY** for *The Newer World*
(5:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: **CHADWICK FAMILY BAND** (6:30 pm; free)
Barnard Observatory (UM): **SouthTalks: "Reclaiming the Legacy"** (5:30 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **Sewing Kids' Costumes w/ Sheila Howard-Baker** (5:30 pm)

WEDNESDAY 9.23.2026

Off Square Books: **SEBASTIAN BARRY** reads & signs
The Newer World (5:30 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **AIMEE NEKHUKUMATATHIL**
reading & signing (5:30 pm)

THURSDAY 9.24.2026

The Powerhouse: Thacker Mountain Radio featuring **JIM SHEPARD** for *The Queen of Bad Influences*; music by **JIM WHITE, TAYLOR HOLLINGSWORTH** (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
Barnard Observatory (UM): **SouthTalks:**
"Lawrence Guyot Jr. the Atypical
Activist" (5:30 pm)

FRIDAY 9.25.2026

The Library: **CLAY BARKER** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **KODY SHADE HARRELL** (7 pm)
Square Books, Jr.: **Teacher Appreciation Night** (6 pm)
Voyager's Rest (Water Valley): **TAYLOR HOLLINGSWORTH**
The Lyric: **Joint Campaign Rally: Our Mississippi, Our Future**
w/ **SCOTT COLOM, CLIFF JOHNSON** (6 pm)
Tom Beckbe Lounge: **Oxford Film Festival - Membership Party** (6 pm)

SATURDAY 9.26.2026

The Library: **CLAY BARKER** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **THE PISTOL & THE QUEEN** (7 pm)
Proud Larry's: **JOHNNY MULLENAX** (9 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **RUNAWAY PUPPET THEATER** (10 am)
Downtown New Albany: **TALLAHATCHIE RIVERFEST** (9 am-until)

MONDAY 9.28.2026

Square Books: **Midnight release party - REBECCA YARROS's**
Threshing Day (11:30 pm)



TUESDAY 9.29.2026

Off Square Books: **SHANE BROWN** in conversation with **BILLY RAY BROWN** for *A Place Called Tula* (5:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: **WADE FORSTER** (9 pm)
Lafayette Co. & Oxford Public Library: **Autumn Adventures w/ MDWFP**
(5:30 pm)

WEDNESDAY 9.30.2026

Barnard Observatory (UM): **SouthTalks: "Undocumented in the US South"** (noon)
Lafayette Co. & Oxford Public Library: **Conversation Cafe w/ DR. KRIS ZIEROLD** (11:30 am)

THURSDAY 10.01.2026

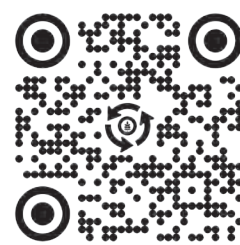
The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
The Lyric: **MAX MCNOWN** (8:30 pm)
Off Square Books: Thacker Mountain Radio featuring **KATE WESTBURY** for *The Oxford Guide to Scandal and Lies*;
music by **DEVIN SHAMEL, GOODNIGHT IRENE** (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **THE GREAT OUTDOORS, HALF STEP** (9 pm)

FRIDAY 10.02.2026

The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
Proud Larry's: **LAUREN WATKINS & JORDAN COBB** (9 pm)

SATURDAY 10.03.2026

The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
Voyager's Rest (Water Valley): **BARK!, DIRTY KNEES**
SJB Pavillion: **NATE BARGATZE - Big Dumb Eyes Goes to College**



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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

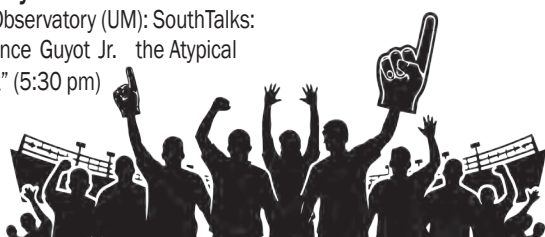
- **Rafters on the Square: DJ DRUMM**
- **Square Books, Jr.: STORYTIME** (10 am)

Sundays

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

Monday-Friday

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



Beth Ann Fennelly

Oxford's Favorite Writer

2020 & 2024

How long have you lived in Oxford? 25 years
Five things you love about living in Oxford:

1. **Square Books**—in particular, buying a book I've been anticipating and stepping outside to sink into a seat on the balcony so I can start reading ASAP.
2. **The Whirlpool Trails** (South Campus Rail Trail). I'm out there every Sunday. It's the only place in Oxford where one can run while in the shade (mostly) on a path that's not asphalt. I hope the city protects it from developers!
3. **City Grocery bar**, esp. the far corner on a Thursday afternoon when a bunch of regulars show up and chat a while.
4. **The Grove**—though for me I appreciate it most not while tailgating but while cutting across campus and relishing this deep green calming center of a busy workday.
5. **Thacker Mountain Radio**. I love the musical guests, the literary readings, and the unique offering of a live show that's open to all and that one can only find in Oxford. 



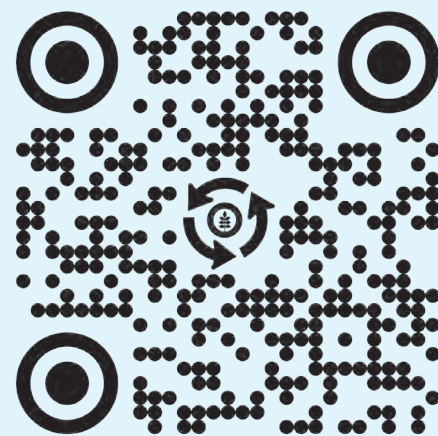
photograph by
Megan Wolfe

Townie
A few of your favorite things!

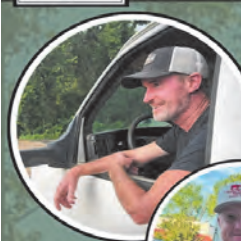


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Tuesday, September 29
5:30pm @ Off Square Books



Shane Brown
in conversation with **Billy Ray Brown**

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The Local Voice is published on Thursdays

Deadline is every Tuesday at noon. Next print deadline: September 29

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

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tLV King Crossword

ACROSS

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
			35			36		37		
38	39	40				41		42		43
44					45			46		
47				48				49		50
52				53				54		
55				56				57		

21 Corp. money exec	47 Archbishop Tutu	5 Stuffed shirt	28 Bed cover
23 Overly	49 Stag	6 Gift giver's words	30 Wee bit
24 Part of LGBTQ	52 Altar affirmative	7 Low digits	32 Tiara stone
25 Hit on the noggin	53 Reuben bread	8 Atlantic fish	33 Work unit
27 Japanese fish dish	54 More practical	9 — Holmes (Sherlock's sister)	34 Old Olds
29 Tranquil	55 Aachen article	10 Mortise partner	36 Census info
31 Sort of dive	56 Rowing need	11 Encryptions	38 "Sexy" Beatles girl
35 Police ID	57 Birch's kin	17 "Butterfly" singer Carey	39 "— say more?"
37 Employ		19 Medicated	40 Director Welles
38 Hairnet		21 "60 Minutes" airer	42 — apso (small dog)
41 Moray, for one		22 Nemesis	45 Novelist Seton
43 Past		24 Fill in — blank	46 Airline to Tel Aviv
44 Plane-related		26 Explosive sound	48 Spanish gold
45 Country song?			50 Born
			51 Blunder

DOWN

1 Roast beef au —	17 "Butterfly" singer Carey
2 "Suits" network	19 Medicated
3 "Shark Tank" star — John	21 "60 Minutes" airer
4 Flintstones' pet	22 Nemesis
	24 Fill in — blank
	26 Explosive sound



1. What was the hand jive?
2. What performing name did the Urlick brothers take?
3. Name the group that released "Georgy Girl."
4. Which Johnny Mathis song was adapted from an Old English folk song called "The Riddle Song"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "There is none so blind as he who will not see, We must not close our minds, We must let our thoughts be free."

Answers

1. Hand jive was a dance that was mostly a complicated pattern of hand clapping movements. It started in London in a bar where there was no space to actually dance. Hand clapping was all they had room to do.
2. The four brothers (Ed, Joe, Gene and Vic) originally called themselves the Amory Brothers until they changed it to the Ames Brothers. Their first chart-topper was "Rag Mop."
3. The Seekers, in 1966. It was used as the title song for the film of the same name and received an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Song.
4. "The Twelfth of Never."
5. "Everything Is Beautiful," by Ray Stevens, in 1970. Penned by Stevens himself, the song took the Grammy award for Best Contemporary Male Vocal Performance.

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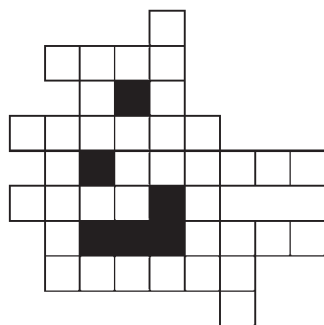
K Q N K H D A X U R P M S J E
G D A X V S Q N K B I A L Z O
F D A T X V T Q O M E V I A J
H F C A O S Y W S P U A T R W
P N L J H O F D K A M S N H Y
B Z X V T R R C R Q N S E S E
O M K I H G I W F R D A L Y L
B Z Y W E H V T O R T C N Q R
O N L K C U I C H R F D C A A
T E L L I M A A Z X R W V U B
S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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: THE FRUIT OF THE OAK TREE

Arrowroot	Cassava	Millet	Rye
Bananas	Chickpeas	Oats	Sorghum
Barley	Lentils	Potatoes	Wheat
Beans	Maize	Rice	



CY O
NEOGIS
♥TOSUP
GYLU
EPYCUE
EAG
♥TCSA
APNEC
♥EGL
EPYLON
GYSIO
♥ESLA



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.

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

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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THROUGH THURSDAY**

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TV-Super Crossword JUST ADD WATER

ACROSS

- 1 "May I talk to you briefly?"
- 8 Placed
- 12 Motor oil additive
- 15 TV character whom you "better call"
- 19 Certain outlet accessory
- 20 River of Aragon
- 21 Weeding tool
- 22 Singer Amos
- 23 Like a gallery that has five dozen paintings by artist Antoine?
- 25 Sort of
- 27 Shar- (wrinkly dogs)
- 28 What a hailstorm is doing when composer Jean-Philippe is caught in it?
- 30 Hawaiian for "appetizer"
- 32 Little League precursor
- 33 Calling device in a forest east of Paris?
- 41 Banquet, e.g.
- 45 Four eighths
- 46 Let borrow again
- 47 Monte —
- 50 Oil from flower petals
- 53 Aliens, briefly
- 54 August hrs.
- 55 Guilty feeling
- 56 Garage oil
- 58 Hilo hellos
- 64 Giving the go-ahead for
- 68 Atmosphere
- 69 Raised, flat land that you are visiting today?
- 72 Rapa — (Easter Island)
- 73 Bookish sort
- 75 Giorgio of fashion
- 76 Apartment policy about animals
- 78 Island porch
- 80 Goat's cry
- 82 Application file extension
- 83 Festive antique hat?
- 91 Slanting
- 93 "Nay" sayers
- 94 Shower sponges
- 95 100-page story, maybe
- 97 Portend
- 98 That powerful essayist Henry David?

DOWN

- 101 Sea's edge
- 102 Have — (lose it)
- 103 Flat-bottomed vessel sailing across the River Styx from Hades?
- 111 Notion, in Paris
- 115 An hour before midnight
- 116 Teasing tribute held at the Green Bay Packers' stadium?
- 119 Sold out, say
- 120 "Rock and Roll, Hoochie —" (1973 hit)
- 121 Leg, e.g.
- 122 Tom Cruise/Dustin Hoffman film
- 123 Puts in place
- 124 Pastor's talk: Abbr.
- 125 Legs' counterparts
- 126 Iran neighbor
- 7 Deep-fried crustacean appetizers
- 8 Riga native, old-style
- 9 Aid in crime
- 10 "Dies —" (Latin hymn)
- 11 Gloomy
- 12 Tibias
- 13 Native of Nuku'alofa
- 14 Eye care chain
- 15 Fruit discard
- 16 Top-tier
- 17 — Major (constellation)
- 18 In — of
- 24 Tightly strung
- 26 Mineo of "Exodus"
- 29 "— to Be You" (pop standard)
- 30 Bartlett, e.g.
- 31 "Friendly skies" carrier, for short
- 33 Python's kin
- 34 — -coated aspirin
- 35 Large central feature of the Astros' logo
- 36 — apso
- 37 Be mistaken
- 38 Singer Brenda
- 39 Chicago Loop trains
- 40 Luau paste
- 41 British bud
- 42 Previous to
- 43 Taking after
- 44 Singer Rawls
- 47 Chevy pony car
- 50 "Let's just leave — that"
- 51 Toy train, when repeated
- 52 "— Matata" ("The Lion King" song)
- 54 Part of FDR
- 56 Car tankful
- 57 Spreads out, as fingers
- 59 Meadowland
- 60 Crew tool
- 61 Engine noise
- 62 Org. for cavity fillers
- 63 It rises daily
- 65 Kicked out of a country
- 66 Chocolate spread brand
- 67 U.S. soldiers
- 70 — Sea (salt lake in Asia)
- 71 "Sands of Iwo —"
- 74 Basic trick for a skateboarder
- 77 Actor O'Toole
- 79 Baseless bit of gossip
- 81 Ditz relative of Samantha on "Bewitched"
- 83 Sharp punch
- 84 Singer Yoko
- 85 "Inc." relative
- 86 Orbiter with a tail
- 87 — polloi
- 88 Olympic code for Kabul's country
- 89 Oom- — band
- 90 "C'— la vie"
- 91 State firmly
- 92 Fraternity "T"
- 96 "Well now!"
- 98 Flat, hollow sounds
- 99 Crested bird with black-and-white wings
- 100 Harvard rival
- 101 Submission encl.
- 103 Pleads
- 104 Balm plant
- 105 Camp shelter
- 106 Nights before
- 107 Stewpot
- 108 Impartial
- 109 "I wonder ..."
- 110 Recedes
- 111 Actress Skye
- 112 Accurse
- 113 Morales of film and TV
- 114 Volcano in Sicily
- 117 Egypt and Syr., once
- 118 Crater's edge

SUDOKU

				1			4	9
				4	3			5
6	1	4			9	7		
						9	7	
			1			3		4
1		2	3	9		6		8
4	6	7	9			5		3
9	5				8	2		7
2				3			9	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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27						28						29									
				30	31							32									
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115										116						117	118				
119						120				121					122						
123						124				125					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™ My Toothpaste

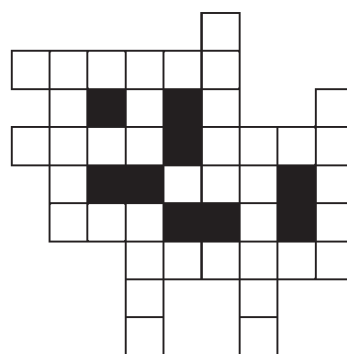
M	I	N	T	Y

- Dental floss option
- Like walking through a cloud
- To dispatch someone biblically
- Runs out of steam
- Where Bilbo Baggins lived
- Straight from the farm

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.



- BFI
- LIWFON
- ♥ RHONT
- CHET
- SABUCA
- OLG
- ♥ LAMU
- WISMA
- EHO
- HOECUT
- ♥ ELFRA
- ♥ RGBA



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

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

XIFO EP BTUSPOBVUT FBU

UIFJS NJE-EBZ NFBM?

BU MBVODI UJNF.

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.

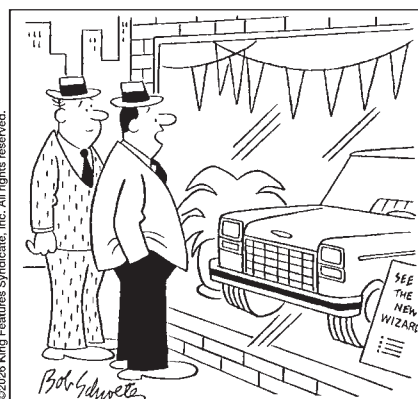
- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Almost | ___ _ _ _ L _ | At hand | ___ _ _ _ B _ |
| 2. Stubble | ___ E _ _ _ | Get on a ship | ___ O _ _ _ |
| 3. Schedule | R _ _ _ _ | Wanted ad | P _ _ _ _ |
| 4. Desert mammal | ___ _ _ _ L | Minor acting part | ___ _ _ _ O |
| 5. Thrill | ___ _ A _ _ | Select few | ___ _ I _ _ |
| 6. Detection device | ___ _ _ S _ _ | Junior's dad | ___ _ _ I _ _ |
| 7. Gander and gosling | G _ _ _ _ | Actress Witherspoon | R _ _ _ _ |
| 8. Royal abode | ___ _ _ _ C _ | Roof of the mouth | ___ _ _ _ T _ |
| 9. Bread ingredient | ___ _ _ U _ | Rug location | ___ _ _ O _ |
| 10. Company strategy | ___ _ _ _ _ Y | Law enforcement | ___ _ _ _ _ E |

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!

- Restore MYSONNY [] []
- Short FIBER [] []
- Fiend LOUGH [] []
- Injury ASPRIN [] []

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— **Julia Child**

(August 15, 1912 – August 13, 2004)

Voyager's Rest: Where Water Valley's Music Comes Alive



Justin Showah at The Voyager's Rest. Photograph by Faith Neenan.

The Voyager's Rest in Water Valley has presented live music since February of 2023, and after a summer break it reopens on September 18 with the Georgia-based blues group **Cash's Juke Joint**, who draw upon the Sacred Steel slide guitar tradition. The relatively small and funky venue is in the south end of the building housing the popular **Crawdad Hole** restaurant, and there are still hints of its former use as a gas station repair bay. The owner is local musician, label owner and sound technician **Justin Showah**, who opened the **Crawdad Hole** in early 2011.

Also scheduled for the fall are Birmingham-based singer-songwriter **Taylor Hollingsworth**, who has a new record out on Water Valley's **Dial Back Sound**, **Folk and Roll** (September 25); Water Valley's **Bark** together with **Dial Back Sound** recording artists **Dirty Knees** (October 3); Memphis-based blues/soul/rockabilly duo **Heartbreak Hill** with **Howlin' Hurd**, the erstwhile frontman of the garage-punk/blues band **Daddy Long Legs** (October 26); and experimental guitarists **Mike Baggetta** and **Eli Winter** along with Jackson musician/writer **Sherry Cothren** (November 7).

The diversity and quality of the lineup reflect Showah's active role in the region's music scene for three decades; he's also aided in booking by fellow Water Valley resident and musician **Tim Lee** of **Cool Dog Sound**. Showah began playing music casually as a high school student in Jackson, and after moving in 1996 to Oxford to attend the University he began playing with the band **Coldwater Independence**.

He later joined the **Circuit Riders**, featuring Warren Black and David Gilmore, which became the house band for **Thacker Mountain Radio**. After graduation—he majored in Southern

by **Scott Barretta**

photographs by Faith Neenan and Bebe Faulkner

Studies and English—Showah was asked by Blue Mountain's **Cary Hudson** to be the band's tour manager. It was an odd turn for Showah, who had learned how to play bass largely studying their album *Dog Days*. Showah also began playing with Hudson after he went solo.

"It was then I realized I could make money playing music," says Showah.

In the early 2000s Showah, Hudson, and musicians including **Tommy Ledford** and **Ed Dye** began playing regularly on Sunday nights at **Taylor Grocery**, initially on a flatbed truck next to the porch. They eventually became the **Taylor Grocery Band**, and with drummer **Kinney Kimbrough** toured around the southeast before disbanding around 2006.

Around this time Showah began playing with **Afrissippi**, featuring vocalist/guitarist **Guelel Kumba** from Senegal, Kimbrough (who is the son of Junior Kimbrough), and guitarist **Eric Deaton**. The group was resurrected recently, and plays relatively regularly at Voyager's Rest, often accompanied by multi-instrumentalist **Baxter Arender** and percussionist **Chad Henson**. Kumba moved to Oxford in the early 2000s after a visit during which he was introduced to the music of Junior Kimbrough and R.L. Burnside, which he found to have affinities with the music of **Senegal**. An early version of the group featured drummers Cedric Burnside and Wallace Lester and bassist Garry Burnside, who Showah eventually replaced.

In the early 2000s Showah created a home studio at his home 1520 Madison, which he dubbed "Voyager's Rest." The studio grew after **Jimbo**



Mathus closed his studio in Clarksdale and moved equipment there, and artists who recorded albums or sessions there included Mathus (Old School Hot Wings), El Obo, David Kimbrough, John Sinclair, Burnside Exploration, Eric Deaton, and St. Louis bluesman George Brock, featuring Howlin' Wolf's guitarist Hubert Sumlin.

Showah also joined Mathus' country-style group the **Starlite Wranglers**, and in 2009 began engineering at Mathus' studio in Como. He appeared on Mathus' Knock Down South, Jimmy the Kid, Confederate Buddha and White Buffalo albums and recorded and performed with the **South Memphis String Band**, featuring Mathus, **Luther Dickinson** and **Alvin Youngblood Hart**.

In 2008 Showah started **Hill Country Records** to release an album by Afrissippi, and over the next four years the label released albums by artists including Mathus, Eric Deaton, Kinney Kimbrough, Ted Gainey, Robert Reed, and south Mississippi bluesman L.C. Ulmer. He traveled with both Afrissippi and Ulmer to perform in Europe.

The Crawdad Hole opened in 2011. Initially it was only open during crawfish season, and it became open throughout the year in 2012, which largely ended Showah's work with touring and recording. He came to the business as a veteran of cooking crawfish, as his father opened the first Crawdad Hole in 1995 in Jackson, in an abandoned beer barn on Lakeland Drive, and he was the first employee. For ten years Showah ran a music festival at the Jackson location and hopes to do something similar in Water Valley.

The Water Valley Crawdad Hole occasionally featured live music in its screened-in seating area, and in February of 2023 the Voyager's Rest debuted as a music venue—there's no regular food service and the bar sells beer from regional breweries—with a show by **Tyler Keith & the Apostles**. The venue has a lived-in ambience, with old, non-matching couches, tables, and chairs, surrounded by an array of posters, art, piles of books, vintage instruments, and odd objects.

“Ron ‘Ronzo’ Shapiro and his Hoka Theater in Oxford were the inspiration for the decor and vibe of Voyager's Rest. Ronzo spoke to me in a

dream and told me to open the space,” says Showah. “From the bar to the piano to the speakers, curtains, and tables, most of the items in the room were donated by members of the community. I wanted to give back to Water Valley and give back to the musicians who've inspired me to live a life full of purpose and passion. It's a space that celebrates the unsung heroes of American music and provides a gathering spot for community and free thinking. I think that's what makes it special.”

Shapiro, who died in 2019, ran the **Hoka**, a combination café, movie theater, and late-night hang, from 1976 to 1996, and later ran a juice bar with a similar feel.

Over the last three years the Voyager's Rest has presented shows by artists including Alvin Youngblood Hart, Alicja Trout, Bark (Tim and Susan Lee), Cary Hudson, David Dondero, Tate Moore, Fake, Great Dying, Johnny Dowd, Amy LaVere & Will Sexton, Marcella Simien, Alex McMurray, Drunken Prayer, Ferd, Thomas Dollbaum, and Austinites Mike Buck, Eve Monsees, and Speedy Sparks. Showah creates the richly designed show posters himself.

In May it hosted a very well attended and successful fundraiser for **Kinney Kimbrough**, whose house burned down, with multiple artists from the region, including Kenny Brown, Eric Deaton, Garry Burnside, Kody Shade Harrell, Tate Moore, Guelel Kumba, and Davis Coen. Various items, including photos from **Bill Steber** and **Adam Smith**, were auctioned off for the cause, and friends of the venue provided food to be sold.

Last year Showah introduced the **Monday Night Social Club**, an early evening gathering featuring short sets by multiple artists, guest cooks, and **DJ Swarthy Menace** spinning 45s. Particularly in the spring during crawdad season Showah is exhausted from cooking, and Mondays are ideal for him to relax with friends. Seating is relatively limited in the cozy venue, and many guests hang outside in a fenced in area. The next Monday Night Social Club is the Heartbreak Hill and Howlin' Hurd show on October 26. **TV**



Above: Afrissippi with guest Jeff Callaway - Justin Showah, Kenny Kimbrough, Guelel Kumba, Eric Deaton, Chad Henson; photograph by Scott Barretta.
Below: *From Outside*, by Bebe Faulkner.
Bottom: *45 Dejay*; by Bebe Faulkner.



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Sebastian Barry to Discuss and Sign The Newer World September 23

by Suad Patton Bey

Irish novelist **Sebastian Barry** is no stranger to the American South. When he arrives in Oxford this month, he will enter a place that has occupied his imagination from thousands of miles away.

The South—and the complex history buried within it—has become familiar territory for Barry. His latest novel, *The Newer World*, follows Tennyson Bouguereau, a formerly enslaved man from northwest Tennessee whose first years of freedom are marked by violence and displacement. After defending his home from a group of defeated Confederate rebels, Tennyson is forced to leave the land he and his sister, Rosalee, had hoped to make their own.

Barry's fascination with the region is not simply historical. During an interview with *The Local Voice*, he described the South as a place where some of the questions that have occupied his writing for decades—memory, history, identity and, above all, courage—remain unusually visible.

"If you're a writer interested in courage, maybe the South isn't the worst place to be thinking about," Barry said, "because it has been such a complicated history."

History, for Barry, is compelling precisely because it refuses to produce simple heroes, villains, or narratives. Tennyson's own journey is filled with such contradictions. After emancipation, he receives an education in Nashville and becomes a singer before eventually joining the Army. He is sent West, where he finds himself helping to take freedom from Native Americans after having only recently gained his own.

"That's why I think we love history, isn't it?" Barry said. "Because they're so full of peculiar ironies and contradictions, largely because history is made by human beings and we are contradictory and complicated creatures, obviously."

Those contradictions have occupied Barry for decades. He described *The Newer World* as part of a roughly 30-year literary project made up of interconnected books, some inspired by members of his own Irish family and particularly by the "renegades" and outsiders within it. His larger purpose, he said, has been to recover people from what he called the "cold realm of the past" and imaginatively return them to the "book of life."

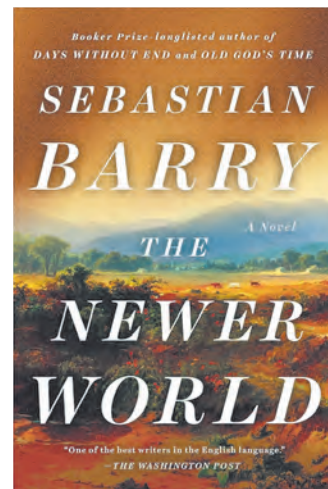
That same fascination with people pushed to the margins is central to Tennyson. Barry is particularly interested in those who are easily overlooked—the "quiet ones," the "put-upon ones" and the "demoted ones"—rather than the powerful figures who traditionally dominate historical narratives. Tennyson embodies that fascination: through him, Barry explores both the darkness human beings are capable of inflicting on one another and the courage people can summon in response.

Barry's interest in America's darker history exists alongside a deep affection for the country. Growing up in Ireland, he said, American culture was so pervasive that American films became a kind of mythology for Irish children.

"We're all in love with America," Barry said. "When we're kids, it isn't, you know, the famous Irish heroic stories that we grow up on. Basically, our mythology is American films."

But affection, for Barry, does not require looking away from the country's contradictions.

"Being in love with something or even someone doesn't mean you're not interested in their deficits and the dark parts of their history," Barry said. "Maybe it makes you more interested in those things."



Barry hasn't simply been writing about the antebellum and post-Civil War South from a distance. He has visited the United States numerous times—as a tourist, employee, writer, and researcher. During a 2024 trip, he visited six or seven plantations while researching the history that surrounds his fiction. At several of them, he said, he encountered conversations about how the history of slavery is remembered and presented, including claims that some information was being suppressed.

Oxford itself seems particularly suited to Barry's interests. The town is celebrated for its literary culture, while its history is also inseparable from the racial conflicts that have shaped Mississippi and the South. Barry was particularly struck by the history of **Rowan Oak**, the antebellum home best known as **William Faulkner's** residence. Before Faulkner, the property belonged to **Colonel Robert Sheegog**, an Irish immigrant who came to Mississippi from Tennessee. To Barry, the Irish connection reminded him of an unfortunate truth: people who may be the victims in one chapter of history can become the villains in the story of others.

"Irish people generally have a sense of victimhood in history," Barry said, "but that hasn't prevented some of us from visiting horrors on others."

It has taken Barry years of preparation and research to transform a complex history into fiction. "The more you read, the more likely you are to write your own book," Barry said. "You have to find your own birdsong inside yourself."

Barry will appear at **Off Square Books** in Oxford on **Wednesday, September 23 at 5:30 pm**, where he will discuss *The Newer World*. **TV**

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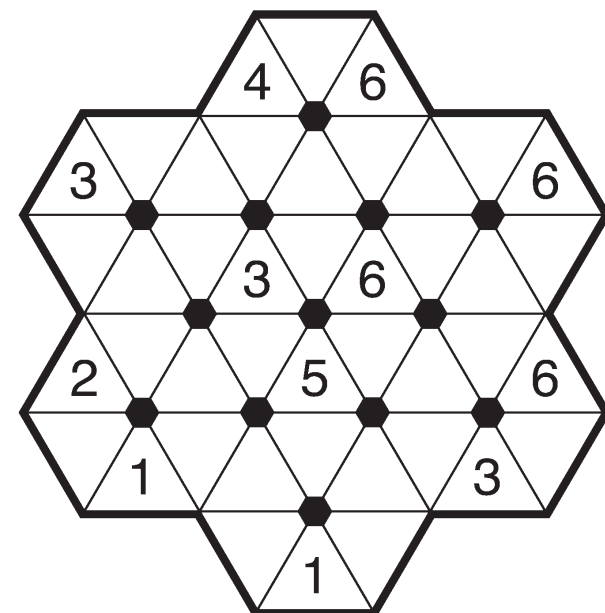
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SNOWFLAKES

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.

H GEJ'O VTJO AKEFSDZC
CESUDG REK ZD. H VTJO OLD
RHCLHJN KEG, JEO OLD RHCL.
— QTJJH

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: R equals C

QINY RMVKL BMV RNKK FCMFKC
QIM GMYC "HM" MH EMACYIJHP
JH N KCPJEKNYJGC NEECAZKB?
NHYJ ZMLJCE.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION:** What is the name of Jon Snow's dire wolf in "Game of Thrones"?
- HISTORY:** Which Civil War general literally used "scorched earth" tactics in his march from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia?
- MOVIES:** Which 1960s movie has the tagline, "A man went looking for America, and he couldn't find it anywhere"?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which body of water includes islands known as the Seychelles?
- CHEMISTRY:** Which element's symbol is Sn?
- LITERATURE:** What is the length of a traditional sonnet?
- GEOLOGY:** What is a common name for calcium carbonate?
- FOOD & DRINK:** Which fast-food chain goes by the name Hungry Jack in Australia?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Which president gave radio addresses that were described as "fireside chats"?
- ASTRONOMY:** What is the shape of the Milky Way?

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.

	+		+		= 11			
+		+		+				
	-		×		= 21			
÷		+		×				
	+		+		= 14			
=		=		=				
1		11		39				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Answers: 1. Ghost. 2. General William T. Sherman. 3. "Easy Rider." 4. Indian Ocean. 5. Tin (stannum). 6. 14 lines of poetry. 7. Limestone or chalk. 8. Burger King. 9. Franklin D. Roosevelt. 10. Spiral.



Rebel Wine & Spirits

Remember the Party Starts Here!

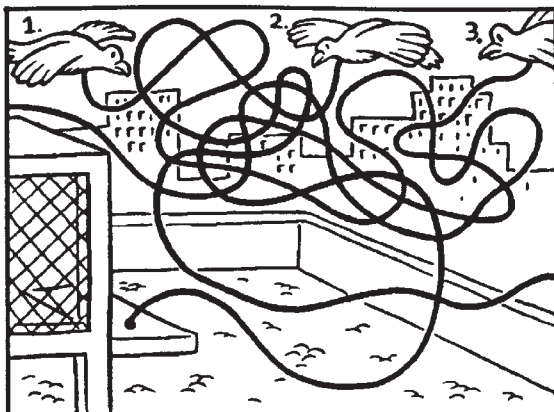
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Oxford, Mississippi 38655

STICKERS



Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 1. penurious | a. dirty, filthy |
| 2. fruition | b. realization |
| 3. alimentary | c. resentment |
| 4. umbrage | d. stingy |
| 5. squalid | e. related to nourishment |



Illustrated by David Coulson

TRY HOMING IN ON THIS ONE! Can you guess which of the three pigeons found its way back to the coop?

Answer: Pigeon number 3.

A CONEY ISLAND RED-HOT STUMPER! See if you can cut the mustard on this AlphaMath problem. You must replace the letters in the board with the digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get the highest possible total.



Our Answer: R=7, O=4, L=2, B=9, E=6, F=1, A=0, N=8, K=3 (7422 + 9661 = 17083).

IT'S A "SIN" IF YOU DON'T GET THEM ALL! In this puzzle all of the words get progressively longer, and they all start with SIN. Some hints are:

1. SIN (in place).
2. To inform against (slang).
3. Between then and now.
4. Burns the ends off.
5. Found on fishnets.
6. A monotonous voice tone.



Answers: 1. Sin. 2. Sing. 3. Since. 4. Sings. 5. Sinkers. 6. Singsong.

PYRAMID OF WORD POWER!

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

1. A secured gate.
2. To bring negotiations to a standstill.
3. A well-dressed superhero.
4. Needed something.
5. A car window decoration.
6. Covered with a metal skin.
7. An ungentlemanly individual.
8. A public notice.
9. Lowest passing grade.

Answers: (from the bottom up): 1. Padlocked. 2. Deadlock. 3. Cloaked. 4. Lacked. 5. Decal. 6. (Iron)Clad. 7. Cad. 8. Ad. 9. D.

KNIGHT MOVES

A	Y	E
N		R
C	V	L

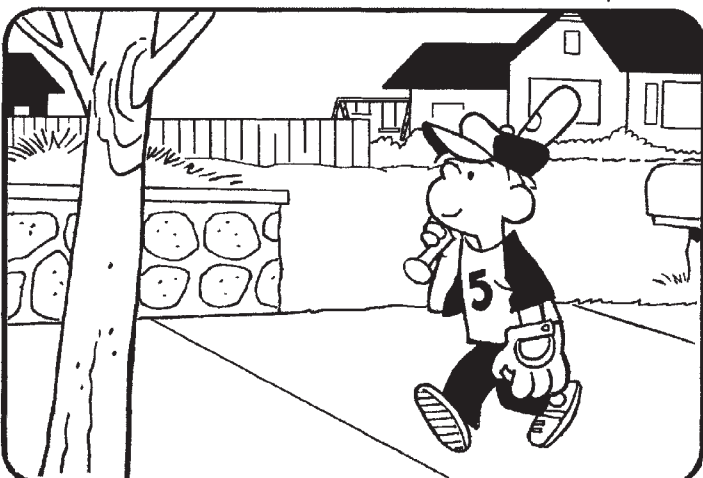
Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Number is smaller. 2. Cap is different. 3. Shutter is smaller. 4. Mailbox is lower. 5. Tree is missing. 6. Wall is not as wide.

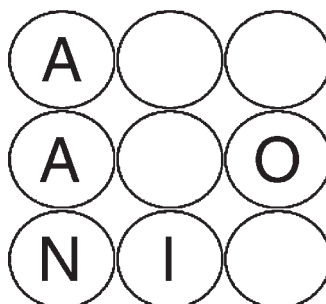
Even Exchange

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. White Cliffs of _____ | O _____ | Under water worker _____ | I _____ |
| 2. Monkey with _____ | A _____ | Bad humor _____ | E _____ |
| 3. Police ID _____ | D _____ | Flat-bottomed boat _____ | R _____ |
| 4. Canonized one _____ | S _____ | Muffled _____ | F _____ |
| 5. Dollywood owner _____ | T _____ | Come again? _____ | D _____ |
| 6. Whittle _____ | A _____ | Bend in the road _____ | U _____ |
| 7. Saunter _____ | B _____ | Abundant _____ | P _____ |
| 8. Mountainous _____ | I _____ | Yuletide shrub _____ | O _____ |
| 9. Scream, like a pig _____ | L _____ | Noisy door sound _____ | K _____ |
| 10. Royal chair _____ | E _____ | Multitude _____ | G _____ |

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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Derailing the Lane Train

During the spring recruiting season, Pete Golding and Lane Kiffin found themselves relieving themselves at side-by-side urinals in the same gas station restroom. Lane finished first and washed his hands. Before he could get out the door, Pete finished and was walking out behind Kiff. Kiffin stopped, looked back at Golding, and asked, "Didn't your mama teach you to wash your hands after you take a leak?" Golding shot back, "Didn't your mama teach you not to take a leak on your hands?"

On Saturday, September 19, college football's Black Hatted Bad Boy Villain returns to the scene of what may be his biggest crime in his NCAA football coaching career, with his new team, LSWho. Emotions will be running high as the boys wearing Royal Poople and Pee Yeller slither into the Vaught to try to lay a whoopin' on the Cardinal Red and Navy Blue men. (It's not yet known what shade of blue the Rebs will wear, but fans will "Stripe the Vaught," donning powder blue or cardinal red, depending on their seating section.)

I don't really want to rehash the story of Kiff's betrayal, but I will comment on it. Remember when Sinator Tommy Tooberville said he wasn't going to leave for Auburn? I saw T-shirts in the Grove based on the Jim Carrey movie "Liar, Liar," with Tubbyville's mug on them. Seemed apropos to me. It would be apropos even now.

To be fair, there are some understandable reasons head coaches lie about leaving one team for another, morale being a huge one. When a team thinks their head coach who has led them to an amazing winning season is about to jump tracks for another school, spirit could easily go off the rails. In my sometimes-less-than-humble opinion, an honorable head coach would never do that. But that's in a perfect world, and I think we all know how imperfect college sports can be.



Coaches have a right to build their careers by moving to a more challenging and lucrative position, just as a salesperson has a right to try to move into management and/or ownership or to even move to a different company to advance their careers. It's the lack of loyalty that bugs me. In my ignorance of exactly how the NCAA works, it seems to me they could fix this.

Why not ban coaches from leaving their team and signing with another until the season and/or post-season is over? Even if coaches are being considered for other teams, they can still have a commitment to the team they coached all season long.

I applaud Pete Golding for how he stepped up to the plate—wait—that's a baseball metaphor. I applaud Pete Golding for taking the snap and leading the Rebs to victories after Lame took his train on a different track. I hope Golding leads the Rebels to a crushing victory over LSWho, one that derails that damn train. But, hey, a one-point win in overtime might be the best revenge! Watch out, Lame, the Hotty Toddy Express is rolling your way!

By the way, a county-wide run on corn dogs and mustard is almost a given. I've got mine. Get yours while you still can!

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

Randy Weeks is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Board Certified Telemental Health Provider, a Certified Shamanic Life Coach, an ordained minister, singer-songwriter, actor, and writer. He may be reached at randallswweeks@gmail.com. If you see him out and about, buy him a corndog and make sure to have plenty of mustard! TV



Anubis Improv's Half & Half Combines Theatre with Improv Comedy

Anubis Improv presents **Half & Half** on **Saturday, September 26 at 7pm at The Powerhouse.**

The show, presented in collaboration with the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council, takes four two-character scripts and splits them in half, giving each character's sides to a different actor to memorize. On the night of the show, each actor is paired with an improviser who has no knowledge of the scenes. The actors must say their lines as written no matter how the improviser responds. The audience will see both halves of each of the scripts throughout the show, and often enjoys trying to match them up.



"This show has become a favorite of both the audience and the performers," says the show's producer and Anubis Improv member Dylan Kerr. "Sometimes the improvisers' responses fit perfectly into the script, which is amazing, and sometimes they very much do not, which is hilarious!"

Actors include Theatre Oxford veteran **Tori Hutchinson**, Anubis Improv graduate **Angela Durham**, and Oxford thespians **Noah Cochran** and **Gavin Lane**. The improvisers are all Anubis Improv graduates and Oxford comedy veterans and include **Stephanie Wheeler**, **Elizabeth Burklow**, **Scott Burklow**, and **Dylan Kerr**.

Tickets are available online and will also be on sale at the door on the night of the show if available.

To learn more about Anubis Improv; follow @AnubisImprov on Facebook and Instagram. TV

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Saturday



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Thursdays: 2-for-1 wells

Friday: \$2 off all frozen drinks
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plus Friday night line dancing!

Saturday: \$15 pitchers & buckets

Sunday: \$5 Mimosas
& Bloody Marys

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Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: TAB

Big Bad Breakfast

719 N. Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Fri: 7 am-1 pm

Sat-Sun: 8 am-2:30 pm

Early Bird Special:

Wed & Thur 7-9 am: 10% off

Delivery: DoorDash

Booth's Barbeque

2200 S. Lamar Blvd.

Tue-Thu & Sun: 11 am-9 pm

Fri-Sat: 11 am-10 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: TAB, 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; open early on home football weekends

Happy Hour 4-6 pm:

M-F \$1 off wells & domestics

Circle & Square

100 Depot St.

Tap Room Hours:

Mon-Wed: 7 am-9 pm,

Thu-Sat: 7 am-10 pm

Sun: 9 am-7 pm

Kitchen Hours:

Mon-Tue: 7 am-8 pm

Wed-Sat: 7 am-8:30 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)

Little Easy Catering

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Sunday Plate Lunches

Sun: 10 am-2 pm

The Library

120 South 11th St.

Mon-Fri: 3 pm-1 am

Sat: 11 am-1 am

Sun: 11 am-9 pm

Happy Hour 3-7 pm

Mon-Fri \$1 off all drinks

LIVE MUSIC

Miscellanea

306 S. Lamar Blvd.

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

Penny Bar Happy Hour 3-6 pm:

Mon-Fri ½-price apps, \$15 High Life buckets, \$6 Bushwhackers

Mon: \$3 domestics (7p-till)

Tue: TRIVIA + 2-for-1 drafts (7p-till)

Wed: OPEN MIC; ½-price wine & well whiskey (7p-till)

Thu: BINGO + \$5 Bushwhackers (7p-till)

Sun: \$3 PBR (3 p-till)

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 E. 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

Proud Larry's

211 S. Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Sat: Kitchen, 11 am-9 pm

Bar open late

Sun: Lunch 11 am-3 pm

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 E. Jackson Ave.

Tue-Sat: 6:30 pm-1 am

DJ DRUMM Fri & Sat

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: \$8 select cocktails, 24% off food

SoLa

401 S. Lamar Blvd.

Wed-Sun: 5-9 pm

Happy Hour 5-6 pm:

\$6 fresh Margaritas

Wed: Spaghetti + \$6 wine

Thu: Ramen & \$6 Rosé

Sun: Oyster Happy Hour \$2/shuck (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



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Oxford's Own William Boyle Delivers a 'Screwball Noir' Masterpiece with *Heavy Sugar*

by Davis Coen

Southern Brooklyn has long been the primary canvas for Oxford resident **William Boyle**. In his latest novel, *Heavy Sugar*, the internationally acclaimed crime writer returns to the familiar, gritty streets of Gravesend, once again proving that the mysteries of the human heart are just as complex as any street-level hustle. While Boyle has lived in the Oxford community for over a decade, his literary voice remains deeply rooted in the New York City neighborhoods where he was raised.

In a personal note to his readers, Boyle reveals that *Heavy Sugar* was born from a desire for creative liberation. After the sprawling, multi-decade narrative of his 2025 release *Saint of the Narrows Street*, Boyle wanted to “slam his foot on the gas” and maintain that speed throughout. Forgoing “pre-ordained blueprints” and outlines, he embraced the freedom of discovery, resulting in what he describes as a “screwball noir.”

Arguably his best work yet, this new novel operates in a different gear than his previous books, synthesizing screwball comedy logic, family melodrama, and over-the-top violence into a narrative that unfolds over one “pulse-pounding” day.

The story is thick with the atmosphere of a bygone New York—a place of dingy dive bars and crumbling stoops where lives intersect in ways both accidental and calamitous, with a cast of characters who are all, in their own way, grappling with regret and the weight of the past.

Set largely on Thanksgiving Eve in 1991, the story follows Georgie Quinlan, who returns to his estranged family in Brooklyn after a botched robbery at a Bronx pub. Georgie arrives with trouble on his tail—specifically Clip O’Grady, the bar owner—and a stolen baseball signed by Joe DiMaggio that serves as a catalyst for the ensuing chaos.

The heart of the novel, however, lies with Georgie’s thirteen-year-old daughter, Roz. A character Boyle has mulled over for years, Roz is an eighth-grade Catholic school student at Our Lady of Perpetual Sorrow who talks out of the side of her mouth and carries a pepper spray-filled tube. In a standout moment of the book, she presents a school report on her “American hero,” the Depression-era bank robber Francis “Two-Gun” Crowley, much to the chagrin of her teachers.

The Quinlan household is a vibrant, if dilapidated, ecosystem of Brooklyn life. Roz lives with her alcoholic mother, Loretta, her brother, Danny (who she calls “Ratshit”), and her no-nonsense grandmother,



exploration of parenthood, young adulthood, and the impulsive decisions that can swiftly change the course of a life. It is a story about the neighborhoods and inhabitants Boyle knows all too well, painted so vividly that they transport the reader to another place and time. Despite the “frenzied” pace of the single-day narrative, Boyle maintains the deep themes of working-class life and family responsibility that have made him a singular voice in contemporary crime fiction.

For Oxford readers, Boyle is a familiar face and a “poet laureate of Brooklyn” whose books strike a coveted balance between grace and grit. The publication of *Heavy Sugar*—on sale January 5, 2027—isn’t just a new release, but a celebration of a writer who has become an integral part of the local literary scene. **Lyn Roberts**, General Manager of **Square Books**, notes that Boyle is “very much a part of the Oxford community,” adding that his readings are often lively events offering deep insight into his creative process.

His work has consistently earned high accolades, including shortlists for *The Washington Post*’s “Best Thriller and Mystery Books.” *Heavy Sugar* continues this trajectory with a narrative that flows intensely while maintaining a balance of lightheartedness and subtle comedy. The book is already being hailed by *Wild at Heart* author **Barry Gifford** as the “payoff for noir enthusiasts who still have a sense of humor.”

Local fans will have a chance to experience that spirit firsthand when **Off Square Books** hosts a release event featuring William Boyle in conversation with **Ace Atkins** on **January 26, 2027**.

Whether you are walking the courthouse square in Oxford or the Bath Avenue corners of Brooklyn, Boyle’s latest effort is a page-turner that firmly confirms his status as a master of atmosphere. **TV**

Nana T. Adding a touch of the “runaway energy of Italian folktales,” the family basement houses a witchy great-aunt named Lena, who eats only pastries and shoots arrows at wooden planks.

Boyle’s trademark ability to write from the perspective of women is once again on full display. Whether it is Loretta’s defensive posturing or Roz’s defiant individuality, the author captures the nuances of their experiences with a visibility and realism that he attributes to being raised by a single mother and a close grandmother.

Ultimately, *Heavy Sugar* is a crime drama rooted in an



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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!



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TV Super Crossword TWO-BY-FOURS

ACROSS

- 1 Device causing a machine to operate
9 Hindu religious retreat
15 Mini-plateaus
20 Regatta event
21 Cry before "No hands!"
22 Best of the lot
23 Long-running showbiz news program
25 New Jersey's — Hall University
26 Evening galas
27 Tiny bit
28 Some med. X-rays
30 Stay home for a meal
31 Single-session legislative group
34 The Old West's Wyatt
37 Slimy gunk
38 Injury vestige
39 French gal pal
43 — cake (ring-shaped dessert)
46 Olive in comics

DOWN

- 48 Break out of an egg
52 'A Streetcar Named Desire" dramatist
57 Hair hider
58 Milkshake alternatives
59 Was wearing
60 Certain fitness ctr.
61 Coconut tree, e.g.
62 Hurricanes, e.g.
64 "3022" co-star Omar
66 Diner fave
67 "— cost ya!"
68 Pleasant feeling after winning
73 Wizard, in fantasy fiction
74 "Presence" co-star Lucy
75 Where the Clintons met
76 Windbag's output
78 Litigates
79 Plus-size supermodel
81 Teepee-shaped
84 Ship wastewater
85 Color TV pioneer

DOWN

- 1 Humiliate
2 Fireside drink
3 Implied but not stated
4 Prenatal chambers
5 Gentleman thief Lupin of fiction
6 Subdue with a stun gun
7 Phil of folk
8 1910s-'20s auto
9 God of Islam
10 Certain vegan frank
11 With 113-Across, DIYers' guides
12 "Gunga Din" studio
13 BP's merger partner
14 Sirs' counterparts
15 Awaited saviors
16 "Mourning Becomes —"
17 Occupy, as a table
18 Make up (for)
19 Have a hunch
24 Kin of "Inc."
29 Cable inits. for film buffs
31 Sleep clinic diagnosis
32 "Neat!"

DOWN

- 33 In a demure way
35 Tummy muscles
36 Hurry along
39 After-hours \$\$\$ sources
40 Ragú product
41 Like many vehicles on steep hills
42 Main dishes
44 Pfeiffer of "Cybill"
45 Like some thickish paper towels
47 An arm and a leg
49 "Not true!"
50 Radio or TV station identifiers
51 Code for WWW pages
53 Squalor of Lemony
54 Situated
55 Human rights org.
56 Tennis event
61 Old Lutheran movement
63 Fifth-cen. pope
65 Sang alone
69 Be overly doting, in slang
70 Childhood malady

DOWN

- 71 Prada rival
72 Corn cores
73 Fig. on a new car sticker
77 Rules, in brief
80 Give a visual once-over to
82 "Beast" star Elba
83 Street rep
86 Performed for
87 Yemen's capital
88 Prior to
90 Salt for wintry roads
95 Decay
96 Twisting force
98 Star-related
100 Opening opera section
101 Audibly stunned
102 "I wanna try!"
103 Runs easily
104 Scale unit
105 Psyches
106 Seer's "gift"
108 Typical
109 Shul official
110 Products of 39-Down
111 Hard rain
114 Highway rig
115 Perfect spot
118 Skill, in Latin
119 Inferior grade
120 Statute

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

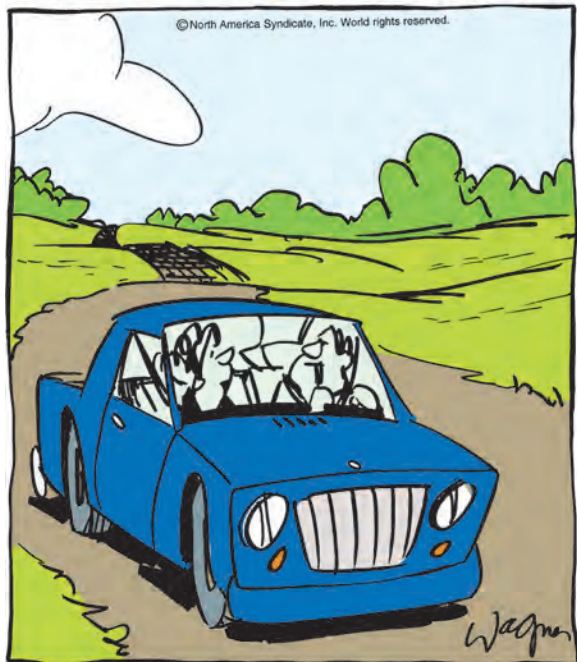
by Dave T. Phipps

WELL, LOOKING OVER YOUR CHART, I'D SAY YOU HAVE THE HEALTH OF A 30-YEAR-OLD...OF COURSE, THAT'S "DOG YEARS."

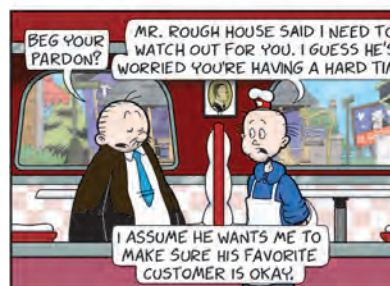
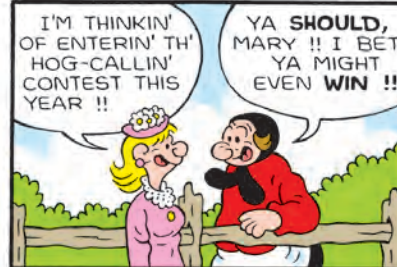


GRIN and BEAR IT Wagner

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"I checked the GPS and we're right here!"



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

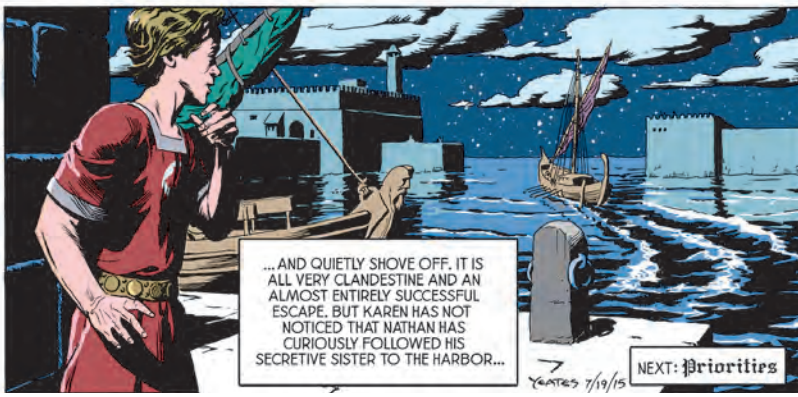




Americanisms

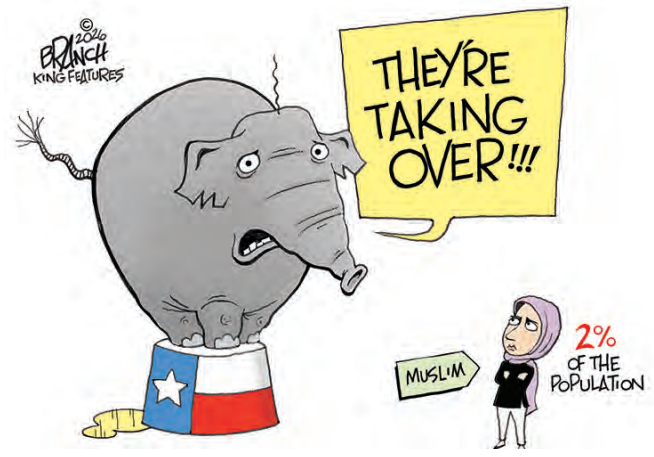


"When I no longer thrill to the first snow of the season, I'll know I'm growing old."
— Lady Bird Johnson



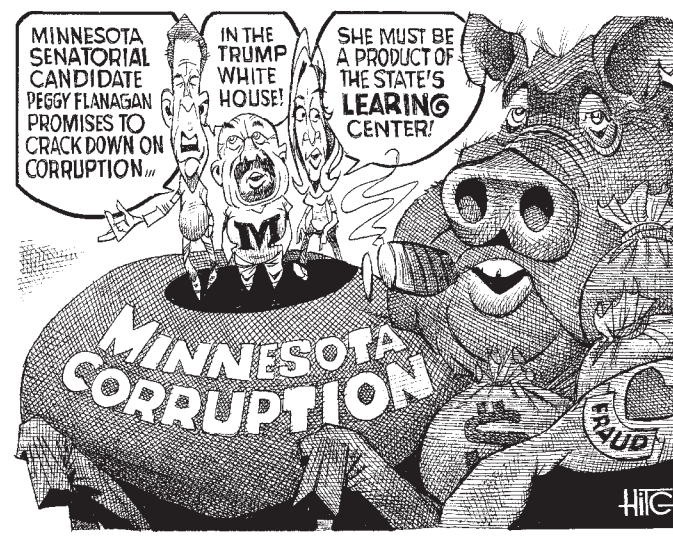
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



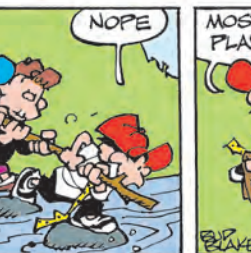
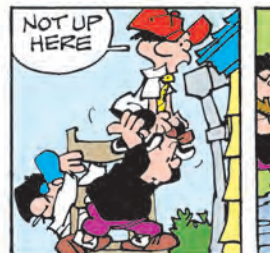
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



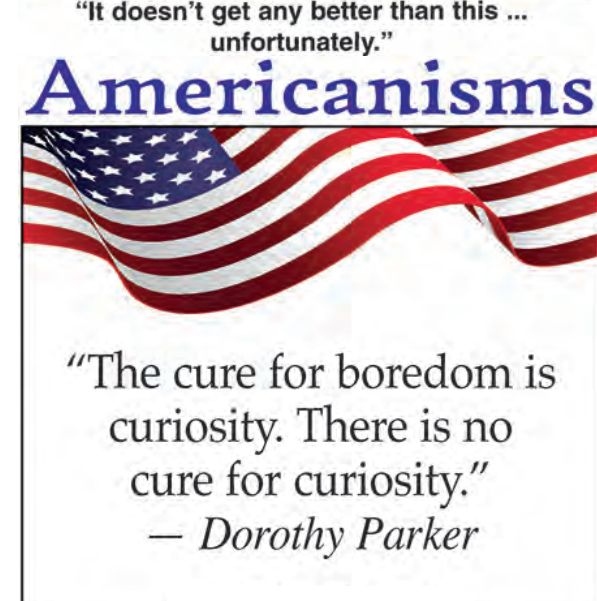
TIGER

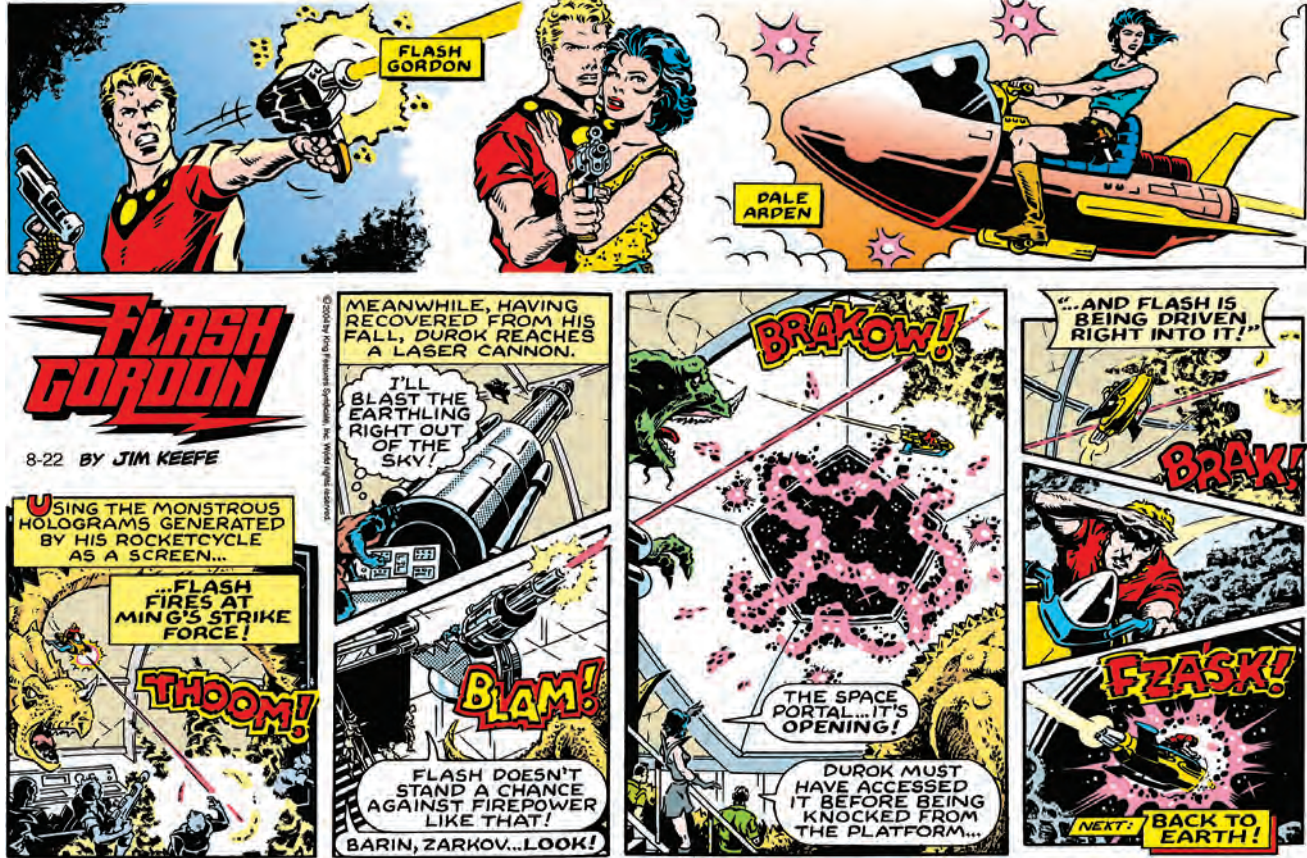
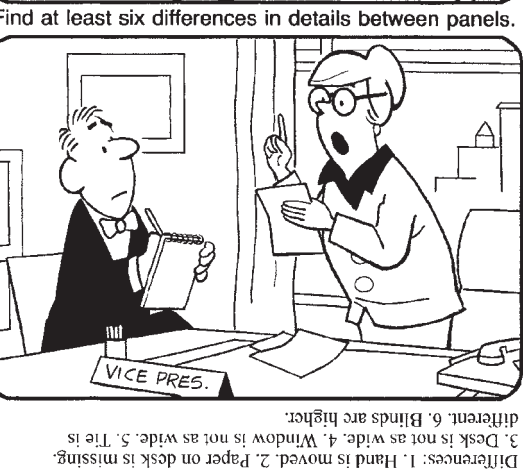
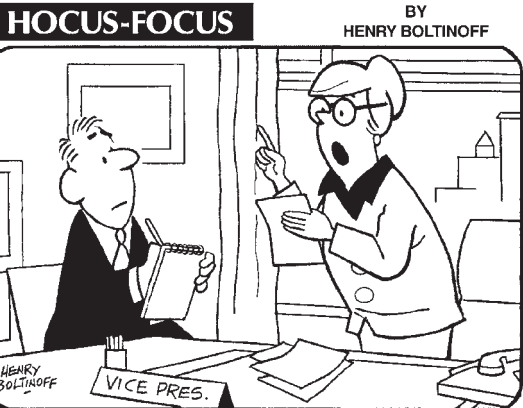
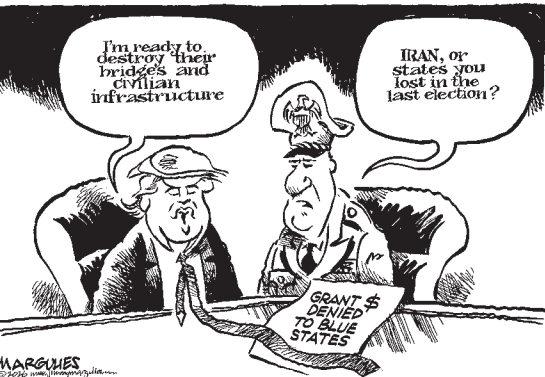
by BUD BLAKE





Amber Waves





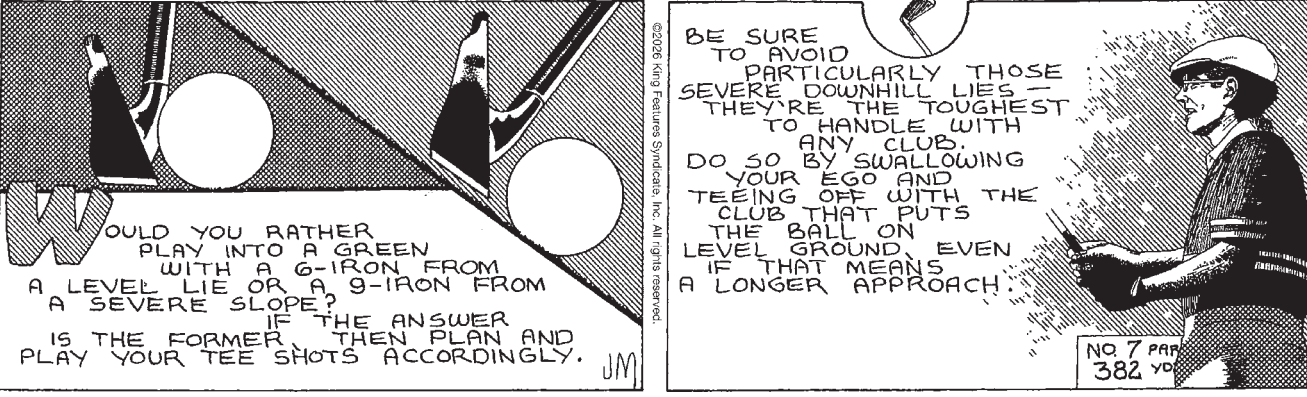
The Spats



Out on a Limb



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Crispy Plantain Chips Are a Global Family Treat

Go for an international twist when you embark on your next family cooking adventure! Discover healthy plantains. You've no doubt seen them in the produce section of your grocery store and possibly mistaken them a time or two for unripe green bananas. But don't be fooled by their appearance. Unlike bananas, they have thick skins, and they're not eaten raw.

Part of the banana family, plantains are typically grown around the globe in equatorial regions of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. Different cultures have their favorite preparation methods of baking, boiling or frying the fruit. Since my trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo, I've been preparing the nutritious food the way I enjoyed it with the families I visited — yummy, crispy chips!

Plantain chips are versatile as a snack with a sprinkle of salt and a squeeze of lime for a Caribbean twist, or they can be served as a side with rice and a main dish such as peanut chicken stew, which is common in West Africa. The chips are equally tasty with a scoop of guacamole, salsa, or your favorite dipping sauce.

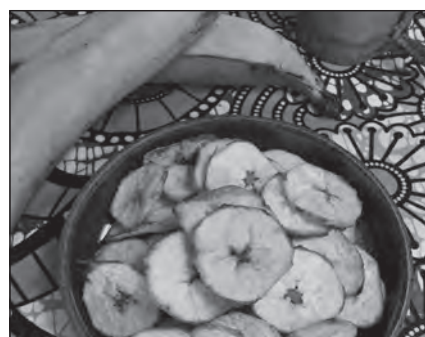
PLAINTAIN CHIPS

Makes 6 half-cup servings
— 2 medium ripe plantains (If purchased green, let ripen on the counter to a yellow-green color.)
— Vegetable oil
— Salt

Cut off the ends and carefully peel the plantains with a knife. Thinly slice into 1/8-inch equal-size rounds. I use my mandoline on its thin setting for ease and consistency in size. Plan on approximately 50 chips per plantain.

Pour about 1/2 inch of oil in a deep skillet or medium-size saucepan. Heat the oil on medium to 350 F. Fry rounds in one-layer batches (do not overcrowd the pan), until the chips turn a deeper yellow and the edges are slightly brown. They cook quickly, about 3-4 minutes per batch.

Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Salt lightly to taste and serve immediately.



Cook's Note: This recipe should be prepared by an adult or a kitchen-savvy teen. Younger kids can sprinkle the salt and serve the chips.

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

THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



"My favorite part of podcasting is running my mouth for an hour. The only time I don't like it is when I'm off. Then that hour feels like a day and a half." — Bill Burr

Looking for a new podcast to add to your listening library? These five shows are new and noteworthy and could be the next "Serial," the next "SmartLess," or simply your personal favorite:

Society and Culture: "Joy 101" — Like many TV talk-show hosts before her, Hoda Kotb has turned her retirement into a podcast gig. While she's greatly missed from NBC's "Today" show, she's still connecting with her audience and interviewing celebrities by asking how they "find, allow and experience joy." (Pssst ... they're rich!) Kidding aside, her interviews offer inspiration, support and useful tools to her fans. A wide array of guests are featured, like actor Henry Winkler, Peloton instructor Robin Arzon, and tennis pros Mary Carillo and Pam Shriver. (iHeart.com)

Food: "Bitefully" — Listening to this podcast carries the risk of making you undeniably hungry during it, but you can always press pause and swing through a drive-through. The majority of the podcast is in Spanish, so it's also an excellent way to test what you've learned so far from your Duolingo app. This wonderful new

podcast hosted by Fox's "MasterChef" winner Claudia Sandoval explores "the stories we inherit through food — the memories, migrations, traditions and transformations that shape who we are." It's not pretentious either; there's even an episode devoted to Velveeta! (ImmigrantPod.com)

Business: "The Blind Spot" — This new podcast that releases fortnightly is hosted by Jason Lee (not the actor) of the company Z Cyber. Z Cyber is a security-operating partner for regulated mid-market companies that assesses, tests and remediates on their AI-native GRC platform. The podcast kicked off with an episode in June about the gap between leadership boards and CISOs (chief information security officers). Recent episodes are more techy, like the one breaking the bad news that AI can reach the data you once thought was unhackable. (ZtekCyber.com)

Comedy Fiction: "HumorUs Stories" — Looking for a short pick-me-up? Each episode consists of one short story that is "narrated with care and a raised eyebrow" by professional voice actor Don McDonald. Discover classics by Mark Twain that you were never required to write a book report about in high school, like "The Story of the Good Little Boy" and its counterpart "The Story of the Bad Little Boy." The podcast also sprinkles in some new modern tales, but all will make you chuckle. (Shows.Acast.com)

Aftershows: "Outer Banks: The Official Podcast" — Fans who can't get enough of Netflix's action-adventure teen-drama series will welcome this six-episode podcast with the show's cast. Now in its planned final season, this podcast hosted by "Outer Banks" superfan Ria Ciuffo is essential listening, as the cast weighs in on the mysteries of the show and the bond that they'll always share. (Netflix.com)

Fun Fact

Before the year 1900, the most popular early soda drinks were ginger ale, ice cream soda, root beer, Dr Pepper, Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola.

Dr Pepper was the first brand-name soda, invented in 1885 by Charles Aderton.

Sources: www.thoughtco.com, www.historyofsoftdrinks.com



top 10 movies

1. **Spider-Man: Brand New Day** (PG-13) Tom Holland, Zendaya
2. **Coyote vs. Acme** (PG) Will Forte, Lana Condor
3. **The Odyssey** (R) Matt Damon, Tom Holland
4. **Insidious: Out of the Further** (PG-13) Amelia Eve, Island Austin
5. **The Dog Stars** (R) Jacob Elordi, Margaret Qualley
6. **Buddy** (R) Cristin Milioti, Delaney Quinn
7. **PAW Patrol: The Dino Movie** (PG) Carter Young, McKenna Grace
8. **The End of Oak Street** (PG-13) Anne Hathaway, Ewan McGregor
9. **Mutiny** (R) Jason Statham, Chaneil Kular
10. **Tony** (R) Dominic Sessa, Antonio Banderas

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Orchard mason bees

Shiny, dark-blue and smaller than a honey bee, the orchard mason bee can be encouraged to live in urban areas, as it is beneficial, non-aggressive and non-damaging to structures. Build it a bee house, by taking a 4x4 untreated block of wood, drilling smooth holes about 5/16" in diameter in a grid on one side, and at least 3" deep into the wood. Create an over-hanging roof, and hang it firmly at least 3 feet up.

— Brenda Weaver

Source: gardening.wsu.edu





PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS



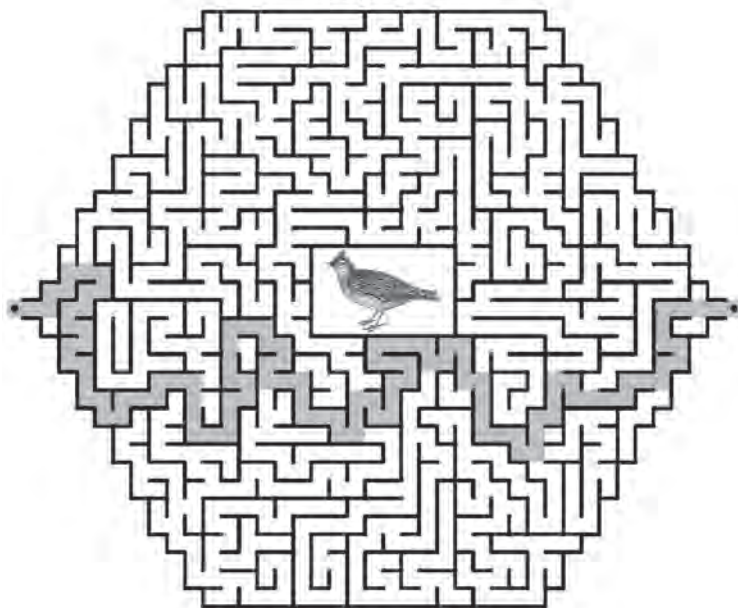
Super Crossword

Answers

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

Mega Maze

Solution



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

CryptoQuip

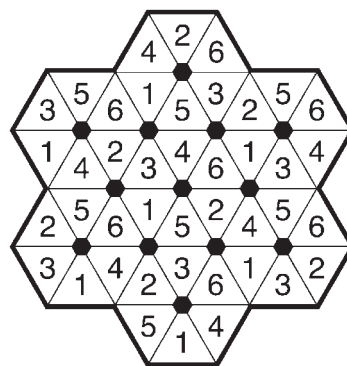
answer

What could you call people who vote "no" on something in a legislative assembly?

Anti bodies.

SNOWFLAKES

solution



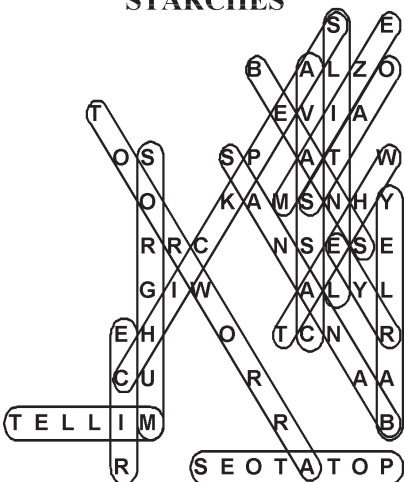
CryptoQuote

answer

I don't want problems solved for me. I want the fishing rod, not the fish.

— Yanni

STARCHES



Even Exchange

answers

1. Dover, Diver
2. Tamper, Temper
3. Badge, Barge
4. Saint, Faint
5. Parton, Pardon
6. Carve, Curve
7. Amble, Ample
8. Hilly, Holly
9. Squeal, Squeak
10. Throne, Throng

Go Figure!

answers

1	+	4	+	6	= 11
+		+		+	
8	-	5	×	7	= 21
÷		+		×	
9	+	2	+	3	= 14
=		=		=	
1		11		39	

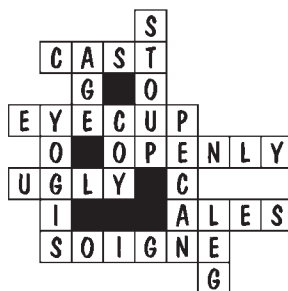
Five Spot™

Solution

S	U	P	E	R
S	P	A	R	E
T	A	P	E	S
P	A	N	T	S
S	A	T	I	N
G	I	A	N	T

FEAR & KNOT

answer



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Word Spiral

Answer

ABDOMINAL

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

A	Y	E
3	8	5
N		R
6		2
C	V	L
1	4	7

CRAVENLY

Stickelers Answer

1-d, 2-b, 3-e, 4-c, 5-a



King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.



SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Synonym; 2. Brief
3. Ghoul; 4. Sprain

Today's Word
FAMILY

Puzzles4Kids

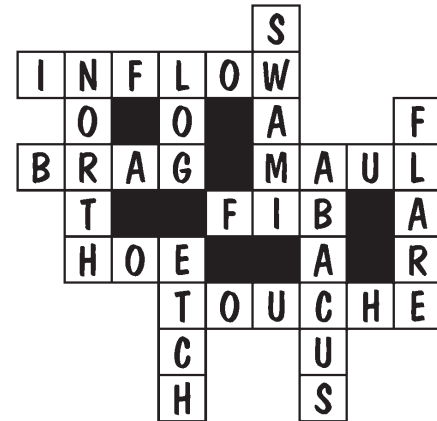
Answer

When do astronauts eat their mid-day meal?

At launch time.

FEAR KNOT

answer



Even Exchange

answers

1. Nearly, Nearby
2. Beard, Board
3. Roster, Poster
4. Camel, Cameo
5. Elate, Elite
6. Sensor, Senior
7. Geese, Reese
8. Palace, Palate
9. Flour, Floor
10. Policy, Police



"Why Did I Get Married Again?"

(PG-13) — In 2007, Tyler Perry directed a cast featuring Janet Jackson ("For Colored Girls") and Jill Scott ("Outlaw Johnny Black") for a comedy drama titled "Why Did I Get Married?" In 2010, the cast reprised their roles for "Why Did I Get Married Too?" But for this new sequel that premieres Sept. 9, Jackson is notably missing. The show goes on, however, with the addition of Taraji P. Henson ("Straw"). This third film follows the longtime friend group in their overseas trek to Italy for the wedding of Marcus (Michael Jai White) and Angela's (Tasha Smith) daughter, who feels a great pressure to be perfect due to the images that the older couples perpetuate within their marriages. With her father and his friends also disapproving of her betrothed, it's bound to be a messy vacation! (Netflix)

"Scary Movie" (R)

— Die-hard Halloween fans know that the arrival of September signifies the start of everything spooky, and we're already kicking off the first week of September with an OG spooky-season franchise. Also known as "Scary Movie 6," this parody film was written and produced by the Wayans brothers (Marlon, Shawn, Keenen Ivory and Craig), and it's considered to be a "spiritual sequel" to the first two "Scary Movie" films. Marlon and Shawn Wayans star opposite Anna Faris ("I, Object") and Regina Hall ("The Sheep Detectives"), who reprise their respective roles of

Cindy Campbell and Brenda Meeks. This sixth film features nods to the "Scream" franchise, "KPop Demon Hunters," and "John Wick." It's out now to stream after earning \$231.4 million in box office grosses, making it the second-highest-grossing film in the franchise so far. (Paramount+)

"Last Seen" (TV-MA) — This new suspenseful Australian series is led by Patrick Brammall, who you might've recently seen as Anne Hathaway's love interest in "The Devil Wears Prada 2." Based on the novel "The Dispatcher" by Ryan David Jahn, the six-episode series follows a police dispatcher named Ian, whose daughter went missing 11 years prior at only 3 years old. When he receives a distressing call from a confused and lost teenage girl, she mentions that her name could possibly be Maggie, which was his daughter's name. Ian becomes convinced that this teenager is his daughter, but with a serious lack of evidence and pretty much nothing to go on, he's urged to let it go by those closest to him. Still, Ian begins to abandon all logic to figure out her whereabouts. The first two episodes premiere on Sept. 9, with subsequent episodes releasing every Wednesday. (Apple TV)



Patrick Brammall stars in the six-episode series "Last Seen."

Courtesy of Apple TV



Ratatouille lentil soup has one foot in each season

I am not ready for sweaters. Not quite yet. And all the pumpkin-spice devotees need to sit down and let me finish my margarita.

Still, there is something intoxicating about the first feeling of autumn in the air. The days are growing shorter. A few leaves are beginning to turn. Summer mornings have lost their loud sparkle and begun to whisper, while sunflowers, mums and dahlias prepare to steal the final scene.

This may be my favorite time of year. That fleeting transition when the garden has not accepted that summer is ending, but a curl of wood smoke and a chilly evening make soup sound like a very good idea.

Ratatouille lentil soup is my culinary compromise: one foot in summer's garden and the other stepping toward soup season.

Classic ratatouille celebrates eggplant, zucchini, peppers and tomatoes. Roasting the vegetables gives them caramelized sweetness and beautifully browned edges. Lentils transform them into an inexpensive, satisfying main dish packed with protein and fiber.

As always, use what you have. Substitute yellow squash for zucchini, use fresh tomatoes when they are abundant or add that slightly imperfect pepper hiding in the crisper. Ratatouille is a formula, not a vegetable roll call enforced by the French culinary police.

The soup is even better the following day and freezes nicely. For a meatier variation, add browned Italian

sausage. Either way, it is summer produce dressed for autumn, delicious and cheaper than therapy for those of us not quite ready to let the season go.

ROASTED RATATOUILLE LENTIL SOUP

Yield: 8 servings

5 tablespoons olive oil, divided, plus more for serving

1 medium eggplant, unpeeled and cut into 1/2-inch cubes

1 large yellow onion, chopped

2 zucchini, cut into 1/2-inch half-moons

1 yellow summer squash, cut into 1/2-inch half-moons

1 red bell pepper, coarsely chopped

1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt, divided, plus more to taste

1/2 teaspoon black pepper, divided, plus more to taste

6 garlic cloves, minced

1 teaspoon Italian seasoning

2 tablespoons tomato paste

7 to 8 cups lower-sodium vegetable broth

1 (14.5-ounce) can diced, roasted tomatoes

1 1/2 cups uncooked green or brown lentils, rinsed

1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar

Grated Parmesan cheese, optional



www.JasonCoblentz.com

Summer vegetables meet autumn comfort in this hearty lentil soup.

Heat oven to 425 F. Divide eggplant, zucchini, squash, onion and bell pepper between two large, rimmed bak-

ing sheets. Toss with 4 tablespoons olive oil, 1 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Arrange in even layers.

Roast for 25 to 35 minutes, stirring and rotating pans halfway through, until vegetables are tender and browned around the edges. Remove any vegetables that finish early.

Meanwhile, heat remaining tablespoon oil in a large soup pot over medium heat. Add garlic and Italian seasoning; cook, stirring, for 30 seconds. Add tomato paste and cook, stirring constantly, until it darkens to a rusty red, about 2 minutes.

Add 7 cups broth, tomatoes, lentils, remaining salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer uncovered, stirring occasionally, until lentils are almost tender, 30 to 40 minutes.

Add roasted vegetables and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes, until lentils are tender. Add more broth as needed to reach the desired consistency. Remove from heat; stir in balsamic vinegar. Taste and adjust seasoning.

Serve with a drizzle of olive oil and Parmesan, if desired. Add basil, if you have some.

Autumn will arrive whether I approve of it or not; seasons have never been especially interested in my scheduling preferences. Until then, I'll enjoy summer's final vegetables in a steaming bowl, keep the margarita glass within reach and postpone the sweaters for one more perfectly delicious evening.

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



“The 78th Primetime Emmys” (TV-PG) — It’s time for the night of the year where primetime television gets its flowers! Premiering live on Sept. 14, the Emmys will be hosted by Mariska Hargitay (“Law & Order: Special Victims Unit”), and the categories are stacked with nominees from multiple HBO shows like “The Pitt,” “Hacks,” “A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms,” and “Euphoria.” Netflix scored with nominations for shows like “Beef,” “The Beast in Me,” and “Black Rabbit.” Not to mention Apple TV’s “Widow’s Bay” and “Pluribus” with 19 and 18 nominations, respectively! In addition, Michael J. Fox will be honored during the ceremony with the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award for his charitable efforts toward Parkinson’s disease research. (Peacock)

“Monster: The Lizzie Borden Story” (TV-MA) — This could be just me, but I do enjoy seeing a nepo baby flourish in the TV and film industry every once in a while, especially when their parents are as iconic as Ella Beatty’s (“Feud: Capote vs. The Swans”). Daughter of acting legends Annette Bening (“Lucky”) and Warren Beatty (“Rules Don’t Apply”), Ella takes on the lead role of Lizzie Borden in the fourth season of the crime-drama anthology series “Monster.” Starring opposite her is Charlie Hunnam, who played the titular role of Ed Gein in the third season of “Monster,” as well as Billie Lourd and Sarah Paulson of “American Horror Story” fame. This season follows Lizzie in 1892 Massachusetts, as she becomes a primary suspect after her parents are found murdered in their home with a hatchet. All eight episodes release Sept. 17. (Netflix)

“Dancing with the Stars: Season 35” (TV-PG) — Thirty-five seasons is an unbelievable feat for any television show, and with the buzz surrounding its new cast of contestants, “DWTS” still seems far from facing cancellation. (I’m not complaining, though!) “Summer House’s” Ciara Miller, who just came out of a recent scandal as a reality TV darling, was one of the first of the 16 contestants to be announced, along with “Love Island” presenter Maura Higgins. But the cast announcements that have truly rocked the world of “DWTS” fans were regarding to actress Julia Stiles from “10 Things I Hate About You,” actress/dancer Jenna Dewan from “Step Up” (get ready for all the “Wait, she can dance!” comments), and “Glee’s” Harry Shum Jr. The season’s set for a two-night premiere, beginning Sept. 15! (Disney+)



Courtesy of MovieStillsDB
Ella Beatty stars in “Monster: The Lizzie Borden Story.”

“Jay-Z in 8” (TV-14) — “Allow me to reintroduce myself,” teases Jay-Z in the trailer for this new eight-part docuseries. Sitting down with record prod Jam Recordings Rick Rubin, Jay-Z partakes in intimate discussions about his career, music, life experiences and creative processes. The black-and-white series was shot over the span of two days in a stunning and quiet hall in Paris, with Jay-Z recounting how he started writing music from the age of 9 and leading into how he produced iconic songs like “No Church in the Wild,” “99 Problems,” and “4:44.” The first two episodes premiere on Sept. 18, with new episodes coming every Friday. (HBO Max)



Flavor bases that run the world and rescue dinner

Nearly every cuisine relies on a traditional combination of aromatic vegetables to create its distinctive foundation of flavor. The French have mirepoix. Many Latin and Caribbean kitchens have sofrito. Across several East Asian cuisines, ginger, garlic and scallions provide the opening notes.

These aromatics may not be the stars of the show, but they are indispensable supporting players. Cooked together, they give meals the distinctive flavors we associate with cuisines around the world.

The only drawback is that they require chopping precisely when we are hungry, tired and considering cereal for dinner.

Why not prepare several batches now and freeze them in meal-size portions? You will create your own homemade convenience foods: little cubes of concentrated flavor ready to jump-start dinner.

Make one batch for tonight and one for the freezer. Cool cooked bases promptly, spoon into silicone muffin cups or ice-cube trays and freeze until solid. Transfer to labeled freezer bags, press out excess air and use within three months for optimal quality.

There is no need to thaw. Drop a portion directly into a hot pan, soup pot or slow cooker and proceed as though you had just chopped the ingredients. Look at you, starting dinner before you even knew what it was.

First, mirepoix traditionally con-

tains approximately two parts onion to one part each carrot and celery. Use it to begin soups, stews, sauces, potpies, casseroles or braised dishes.

CLASSIC MIREPOIX

Yield: 6 cups or 12 (1/2-cup) portions
Total time: 30 mins., plus cooling
2 tablespoons oil or butter
4 cups diced onion
2 cups diced carrots
2 cups diced celery

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add vegetables and cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 to 15 minutes, until softened but not browned. Cool and freeze in 1/2-cup portions.

Sofrito varies wonderfully by country, region and family. This versatile version lends rich flavor to beans, rice, soups, stews, ground meat and tomato sauces.



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Chop once, freeze in portions and give future dinners a flavorful head start.

TOMATO-PEPPER SOFRITO

Yield: 2 1/2 cups or 10 (1/4-cup) portions
Total time: 30 mins., plus cooling
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 large onion, chopped
1 red or green bell pepper, chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 teaspoon dried thyme
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon paprika

1 can (14.5 ounces) diced tomatoes, drained
1 bay leaf
large pinch of salt

Heat oil over medium heat. Add onion and pepper; cook until tender, about 8 minutes. Add garlic, thyme, oregano and paprika; cook 1 minute. Stir in tomatoes, add the bay leaf and cook until the mixture is thick and most of the liquid has evaporated, 10 to 15 minutes. Cool and freeze in 1/4-cup portions.

This Asian inspired blend is not intended to represent all Asian cooking, but it is a handy beginning for stir-fries, broth soups, fried rice, noodles and marinades.

GINGER-GARLIC-SCALLION STARTER

Yield: 1 1/2 cups or 24 (1-tablespoon) portions
Total time: 5 mins.

1/2 cup peeled, chopped fresh ginger
1/2 cup peeled garlic cloves
1 cup chopped green onion
2 tablespoons neutral cooking oil

Pulse everything in a food processor until finely chopped but not liquefied. Freeze uncooked in 1-tablespoon portions.

With a few fragrant cubes tucked into the freezer, you’re never starting dinner from scratch. You are starting with an advantage, and on a busy evening, that is worth its weight in onions.

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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