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TLV #493

OCTOBER 2026

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The Justice Narrative:

When Journalists Put the Legal System on Trial

For centuries, the courtroom has served as the principal and final mechanism for presenting evidence and rendering a verdict. But, as any consumer of popular culture knows, the courtroom does not always have the last word. Today, perhaps more than ever, the court of public opinion is a powerful rival.

True crime has likely captivated audiences since the first human engaged in the first anti-social act. Today, true crime has exploded into every contemporary medium: from traditional print media into viral podcasts. What was once mostly the purview of sensationalistic and factually dubious yellow journalism has now become a genre that, for many of its best practitioners, is characterized by deep investigation and rigorous reporting that has unlocked and applied the full power of narrative storytelling to the world of true crime. In many instances, it, and not the courtroom, is where people turn for true justice.

Understanding the intersection of investigative journalism, true crime, and the law is increasingly important for lawyers, journalists, and the public alike.

On Thursday, October 22, the University of Mississippi School of Law, in partnership with the School of Journalism & New Media and the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, present a roundtable discussion, "The Justice Narrative: Investigative Journalism, True Crime, and the Law." The symposium will take place at the Overby Center at 6 pm and will feature five panelists, each with their own perspectives on the justice narrative.

The featured speakers are:

- **Pamela Colloff** is a two-time National Magazine Award winner, *New York Times* Magazine and ProPublica reporter, and author of true crime book *Catch the Devil: A True Story of Murder, Deception, and Injustice on the Gulf Coast*, which was recently awarded the 2026 Kirkus Prize in nonfiction. She has spent her career

drawing on deep reporting and character-driven storytelling, attentively exploring the American criminal justice system and revealing the ways in which it falls short of delivering justice.

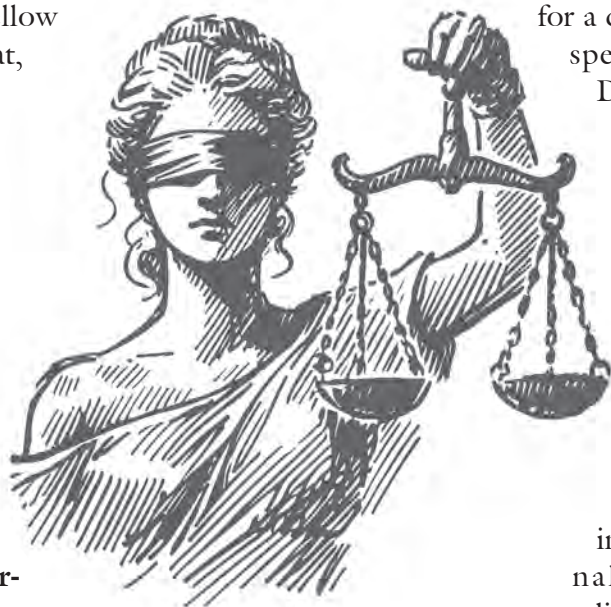
- **Madeline Baran** is a Pulitzer and Peabody award-winning investigative journalist and host of *The New Yorker* podcast, *In the Dark*, which TIME Magazine heralded as "perhaps the best true crime podcast ever made." Season Two of *In the Dark* examined the case of

Curtis Flowers, a Black man from Winona who was tried six times for a quadruple homicide and spent over 20 years on Death Row. His case was finally thrown out, and he was released in December of 2019. Flowers passed away on October 7 of this year.

- **Jo-Ann Sagar** is a partner at **Hogan Lovells Cadwalader**, where she has an active pro bono practice focusing on civil rights, criminal law, and prison conditions. She is also a former law clerk to US Supreme Court Justices **Stephen Breyer**, **Brett**

Kavanaugh, and **Ketanji Brown Jackson**. Jo-Ann's specialized knowledge of the Supreme Court has allowed her to strategically litigate numerous high stakes appeals on behalf of criminal defendants, giving her a distinctly unique perspective on what it takes to persuade the highest court in the nation to take another look at a case that lower courts have considered settled.

- **Kate Rodemann** is a longtime magazine and book editor whose projects have won National Magazine Awards and been optioned for film and television.



The Justice Narrative . . . continued on page 4 →

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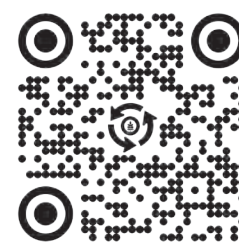


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FEATURED WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- **Moe's: TRIVIA NIGHT** (7 pm)
- **Old Armory Pavilion: Oxford Community Market** (3–6:30 pm)
- **Oxford Intermediate School: More than a Meal** (5 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: After-school Zone** (3:45 pm)

THURSDAY 10.15.2026

The Library: **NEUTRAL SNAP** (9 pm)
The Powerhouse: Thacker Mountain Radio featuring **ISAAC FITZGERALD** for *American Rambler*; **CANNONBALL RED**, **VITAMIN CEA**, feat. **DAMEIN WASH** (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **NEAL FRANCIS, THE PSYCHEDELICS** (9 pm)
Square Books, Jr.: Chapter Captains Book Club (6 pm)
City Hall Pocket Park: Third Thursdays music by **JIWON LEE & THE GOLDEN HOURS**
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: Mahjongg Meetup (10 am); Homeschool Hangout (1–3 pm)
Paris-Yates Chapel (UM): **UM CONCERT SINGERS** (7:30 pm)
The Velvet Ditch: Rescue Revival Pack Leader Celebration (5 pm)

FRIDAY 10.16.2026

Funkys: **OLDIES NIGHT**
Gordon Gallery (Water Valley): Free screening of **MICHAEL FERRIS SMITH's** short film *Chasing Rabbits* (5:30 pm social; 7 pm film)
The Library: **ROWDY** (9 pm)
Proud Larry's: **GUNBOAT, HAMPTON SMITH** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **BRADY REES** (7 pm)
The Lyric: **THE MOLLY RINGWALDS** (8:30 pm)

SATURDAY 10.17.2026

Vaught-Hemingway Stadium: **Ole Miss vs. MISSOURI** (TBA)
Funkys: **OLDIES NIGHT**
The Library: **ROWDY** (9 pm)
Proud Larry's: **GUY VINCENT** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **KYLE KITE** (7 pm)

SUNDAY 10.18.2026

Proud Larry's: **BURNSIDE EXPLORATION 2** (5 pm)
The Powerhouse: Halloween **PUNK FLEA MARKET** (4 pm)

MONDAY 10.19.2026

Circle & Square: The Enchanted Page Society Book Club (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **VISIT NEPTUNE, BELHAVEN** (9 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: **LEGO Club** (3 pm); **EVAN PEACOCK** author visit & signing for *Return to Elkins Creek* (5:30 pm)

TUESDAY 10.20.2026

Proud Larry's: **UM JAZZ COMBOS** (7 pm)
Square Books Jr.: **No Cap Chap Book Club** (6 pm)
Ford Center: Don't Stop Me Now: Celebration of Rock Musicals (7:30 pm)
The Lyric: **CONGRESS THE BAND** (8 pm)
Oxford Intermediate School: **MORE THAN A MEAL** (free hot meal & fellowship; 5 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: Baby Storytime (9:30 am); Mahjongg Meetup (5:30 pm)

WEDNESDAY 10.21.2026

Off Square Books: **MATT KESSLER** in conversation with **MELISSA GINSBURG** for *The Wiregrass* (5:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: **DENT MAY** (9 pm)

THURSDAY 10.22.2026

Hendricks Bldg. (Water Valley): Thacker Mountain Radio featuring **ARIEL LAWHON** for *The Pirate Queen*; music by **JOE AUSTIN & THE TALLAHATCHIES**, **HOPE CLAYBURN'S SOUL SCRIMMAGE** (6 pm)
Off Square Books: Signing: **ARIEL LAWHON** for *The Pirate Queen* (4 pm)
Overby Center: The Justice Narrative: Investigative Journalism, True Crime, and the Law (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **MYLES MORGAN** (9 pm)

FRIDAY 10.23.2026

The Library: **MICHAEL PACE** (9 pm)
Proud Larry's: **THE DELTAZ** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **THE BLUES DOCTORS** (7 pm)
Nutt Auditorium: **UM OPERA THEATRE - Fall Opera Scenes** (7:30 pm)
Old Armory Pavilion: Maker's Meetup Pop-Up Market (3–6 pm)

SATURDAY 10.24.2026

Austin, Texas: **Ole Miss @ TEXAS** (6:30 pm)
The Library: **MICHAEL PACE** (9 pm)
Rhythm & Rye: **THE PISTOL & THE QUEEN** (7 pm)

SUNDAY 10.25.2026

Circle & Square: **OFF-CAMPUS VINTAGE MARKET** (noon–6 pm)
Cedar Oaks: Community Trick or Treat (1"30–3:30 pm)
Nutt Auditorium: **UM OPERA THEATRE - Fall Opera Scenes** (3 pm)

MONDAY 10.26.2026

The Library: **HAUNTED HOUSE**
Voyager's Rest (Water Valley): **Monday Social Club w/ HEARTBREAK HILL, HOWLIN HURD**
Ford Center: **DOVER STRING QUARTET** (7:30 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: Autism Connection w/ **DR. ANNE KRISTEN GLASER** (5:30 pm)

TUESDAY 10.27.2026

Off Square Books: **SUSAN B. ADAMS & MEREDITH WULF** for *Wild Work* (5:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: **THE INSPECTOR CLUZO** (9 pm; free)
Oxford Intermediate School: **MORE THAN A MEAL** (free hot meal & fellowship; 5 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: Cross-Stitch 101 w/ **ANDI BEDSWORTH** (5:30 pm)

WEDNESDAY 10.28.2026

Off Square Books: **JERE NASH & ANDY TAGGART** for *Mississippi Politics* (5:30 pm)
Proud Larry's: **TYLER NANCE, HUDSON MACREADY** (9 pm)
Oxford-Lafayette Public Library: Conversation Cafe w/ **DR. GLENN PARSONS** (11:30 am)

THURSDAY 10.29.2026

The Powerhouse: Thacker Mountain Radio Sarahfest Show featuring **MICAIAH JOHNSON** for *The Unhaunting*; music by **ANNIE & THE CALDWELLS, DAWN BARHAM** (6 pm)
Proud Larry's: **ZACH JOHN KING** (8 pm)
The Lyric: **COSMIC CHARLIE** (8 pm)



The Justice Narrative, continued from page 1

Kate Rodemann has devoted her career to helping writers condense and refine years of reporting, research, and competing perspectives into elegant sentences, paragraphs, and narratives capable of reaching and leaving a lasting impact on wide audiences. Now Director of Nonfiction at Verto Literary, Kate brings an editor's instinct for finding and bringing out the questions at the very heart of these complex stories.

• **Laura Fernandez** is a Clinical Lecturer in Law, Research Scholar, and Senior Liman Fellow in Residence at **Yale Law School's Liman Center for Public Interest**, where her research focuses on prosecutorial power, ethics, and accountability. Laura's work reaches far beyond the world of academia. As a fierce public interest advocate, she has devoted her career to challenging the accepted narrative and demanding greater accountability from the institutions entrusted with administering justice.

Tucker Carrington, Associate Dean of Clinical Programs, Professor of Law, and the Director of **The Innocence Project**, is the primary organizer of the symposium. He hopes the event will stimulate interest in finding a deeper understanding of the justice system.

"Oftentimes, you think of journalists as trailing

the law," said Carrington. "In other words, there's a case, there's a trial, and the journalists come in and cover what happened. What [these panelists] have done as investigative journalists is to come in *behind* the case. They don't just report on it. They excavate the case in a way you would think the justice system should have done but didn't. So, their work begs questions about the efficiency and correctness of the system, about whether things need to be recalibrated. And if so, how? And why did this happen? They're not only the consumers and reporters of what happened in court, they're actually skeptics. And as it turns out, they have some profound things to report on and to say about what happened."

Ultimately, a conversation about the justice narrative is a conversation about the stories through which we attempt to understand the idea of justice itself. It asks us to challenge ourselves to ask: Who gets to tell those stories? How should they be told? Whose voices should be heard? And what should happen when these stories, and the public scrutiny that follows, reveal a new truth?

The Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics is located at 555 Grove Loop. The event begins at 6 pm and is free and open to the public. 

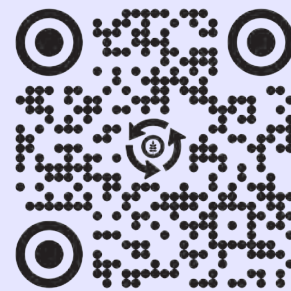


Wednesday, October 21
5:30pm @ Off Square Books



Matt Kessler

in conversation with **Melissa Ginsburg**



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THE LOCAL VOICE #493

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Nature Humphries, Editor-in-Chief.

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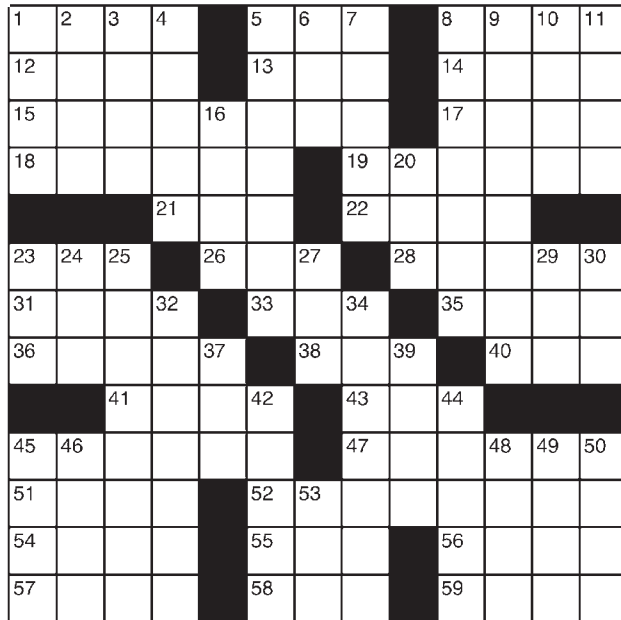


Here are some games to play, in your free time, to keep your mind sharp, and focused.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Havana's land
- 5 High tennis shot
- 8 Pitt of "Moneyball"
- 12 Spoken
- 13 Shock partner
- 14 Shakespear-ean villain
- 15 Military groups
- 17 Bar fight sou-venir
- 18 Order by classes
- 19 Vehement protest
- 21 High school subj.
- 22 Poi base
- 23 Likely
- 26 Small battery
- 28 Cowboy in "Toy Story"
- 31 Indy winner A.J.
- 33 Away from SSW
- 35 Peevish fit
- 36 Seized vehi-cles
- 38 Business mag
- 40 Punker
- 41 Vicious
- 43 Cyclades isle
- 45 1912 Olympic legend
- 47 Relatives of loons



- 51 Mine, to Marcel
- 52 Spoofs
- 54 Dresses in
- 55 Org. with a style manual
- 56 Squad
- 57 Celeb's aide
- 58 Tummy mus-cles
- 59 Young fellows
- 4 Choir mem-bers
- 5 From Vientiane
- 6 Personal
- 7 Make drunk
- 8 Casual eater-ies
- 9 Masked mammals
- 10 Lab gel
- 11 "Finding Nemo" fish
- 16 Killer whale
- 20 Motor City labor org.
- 23 Ghana's cont.
- 24 "The Bells" writer
- 25 Violent storms
- 27 Blackbird
- 29 Nero's 502
- 30 Since Jan. 1
- 32 Sightseer
- 34 Bafflers
- 37 NASCAR advertiser
- 39 Business abbr.
- 42 1965 march site
- 44 Capital of South Korea
- 45 "I did it!"
- 46 Med. plan options
- 48 — fide (genu-ine)
- 49 Oklahoma city
- 50 Bygone jets
- 53 Cleric's tunic

DOWN

- 1 Club in a Manilow song
- 2 Web address-es
- 3 Sheepish remarks



1. Which group released "Cry a Little Sometime"?
2. Who released the most famous version of "I Only Have Eyes for You"?
3. On the cover of the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" album, Paul McCartney is wearing a badge on his sleeve with letters on it. What are the letters and what do they stand for?
4. What was Shambala in the 1973 song by Three Dog Night?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Sometimes in our lives we all have pain, We all have sorrow, But if we are wise, We know that there's always tomorrow."

Answers

1. Joey Dee and the Starlites, in 1965. Their biggest hit, however, was "Peppermint Twist" in 1961.
2. The Flamingos, in 1959. The group successfully sued Pepsi in 1997 for unauthorized use of their song in a TV commercial.
3. The letters were OPP, for Ontario Provincial Police. The shoulder patch was given to him by members of security at the airport.
4. Shambala was a mythical kingdom in the Himalayas.
5. "Lean on Me," by Bill Withers in 1972. The song stayed at the top of the Hot 100 chart for three weeks and was later inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

Solutions to puzzles are inside
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MAGIC MAZE ● SHE'S IN THE MIDDLE

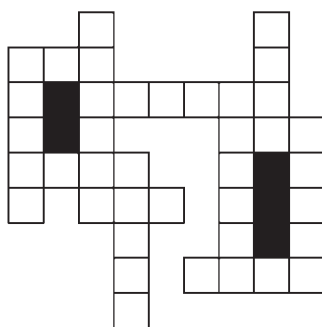
D U R P N K I G D B Z E X V S
S R E H S U Q O M K K Y S R R
I G S F E T C A O I Y E E Y E
W U S L I Q E S V L A H S P H
N L J H L S H E D S S S L N S
F E C A Y E H E H I X I E E A
V U S (C A S H E W S) Q F H H W
P N M K L S L S R J D S S S H
F E C O A L B Z G Y A E U A Y
X V B B S U T R Q G P O B M L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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: GUIDES YOU TO YOUR SEAT

Abashedly	Bolshevik	Fishery	Seashells
Ashen	Bushels	Fisheye	Washers
Ashes	Cashews	Freshener	Wishers
Bedsheets	Eggshells	O'Shea	



WPA
HAMSPI
♥ELTSI
♥ITLA
♥HERTWI
ISK
♥ENSW
ARKTA
IRP
RWPLAS
♥ANLIP
♥AKEL



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

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SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

BROTHERLY POSSESSIONS

ACROSS

- 1 Unsettles
9 Beginning of a process
16 Opposed to
20 Woman from Madrid's land, to Madrid natives
21 Relatives of grapefruits
22 Cut of beef
23 Start of riddle #1
25 Pea holders
26 Kyoto coin
27 Actress Longoria
28 Astern
29 Diameter halves
30 Middle of riddle #1
37 Star of "10"
40 Foe of Spinks
41 Most polar
42 End of riddle #1
48 Second-rate
49 Suffix with glob or duct
50 Spicy
51 V-shaped cut
55 Hand-talking syst.
56 90 degrees from norte
58 Intend to do
61 Great sorrow
62 "That's it!"

DOWN

- 65 Answer to riddle #1
69 Humility
72 Mensa stats
73 Performs in front of
74 Start of riddle #2
79 Casino stake
80 Flaky dessert
81 Unit of a sentence
82 Tell — story (try to evoke sympathy)
84 Undergrad degs.
87 Drinking aid
90 Part of ENT
91 Actress Ortiz
92 Actor Skeet or drummer Lars
95 Middle of riddle #2
100 Warship fleet
103 "I'll take that as —"
104 Civil War general Grant
105 End of riddle #2
111 Kicked in seed money
112 Bottom line
113 Chum
114 Crunches work them
117 Injure badly

DOWN

- 1 Like many wet lawns
2 "This —" (telephone response)
3 Arch across
4 Pic on a chest, maybe
5 Mom's bro
6 Jumping Aussie critter
7 Feature of a cloudless day
8 Balm
9 Secret agent
10 As well
11 Very tall bird
12 Praline ingredient
13 1957-91 king of Norway
14 "Affliction" star Nick

- 15 Course for U.S. immigrants
16 "Scarface" star
17 Strip of pasta
18 Neatens up
19 Refuse to yield
24 Pappy
29 Puerto —
30 Te- — (giggles)
31 Municipal laws: Abbr.
32 Yeshiva teacher
33 Scarce
34 Styled after
35 Victory
36 Fruit drink brand
37 — Raton
38 Avian hooters
39 Genetic structure with "rungs" of base pairs
43 Novel writer, e.g.: Abbr.
44 Pooch pest
45 Gabfest
46 Charged atoms
47 Sink as low as
52 Drill attachments with spiraling grooves

- 53 Paint layer
54 Sub in a deli
57 Reaping tools
58 Arouse
59 Misplaced
60 Pittsburgh Steelers' org.
63 Whack down
64 Burning residue
66 Waterways, to Mexicans
67 "— Four" (Beatles)
68 Dark deli bread
69 Atlas features
70 Handling the matter
71 Strike gently
75 Part of UAE
76 Uncovered
77 Sharp pain
78 Morales in movies
83 Horn for taps
85 Nagging pain
86 "— Out of My League"
88 The universe of universities
89 Walked through water
91 After a while
93 Distance unit in astron.
94 Optimistic
96 Road gunk
97 On the — (escaping)
98 Yoko of art
99 Roast that may include chopped cashews or almonds
100 Los —, New Mexico
101 Title anew
102 Beating at chess
106 When many a driver stops
107 Touchy- —
108 To any extent
109 Jungle beast
110 Sister of Malia Obama
114 On a mattress, say
115 Squeezing snakes
116 WWII battle site in Normandy
118 X, to Greeks
119 — Aviv
120 Kin of mono- (Ping-Pong place)
121 — room
122 Prez #32
123 Car club inits.
124 Stat involving wt. and ht.

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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80						81						82			83			84	85	86
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			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	121			122	123	124	
125							126								127					
128							129								130					



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™

A cliché

B	A	S	I	C

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.

Cable subscription option

Gelatin

Dog's portion?

Agricultural output

Everyday writing

Narrative device

FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

YMG
LANTIE
AYGNT
♥ ELSA
RINAUT
♥ LPA
UMNE
♥ PEMLA
♥ ETN
RYSTUE
REPGU
RMPI

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

XIBU EP ZPV HFU JG ZPV DSPTT

DPMVNCVT EBZ BOE IBMMPXFFO?

HIPVM - VNCVT EBZ.

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. Recluse	H _ _ _ _ _	Sesame Street frog	K _ _ _ _ _
2. Translucent	_ _ _ _ _ R	Luster	_ _ _ _ _ N
3. Detonate	_ L _ _ _ _	Monster	_ E _ _ _ _
4. Wisconsin's animal	_ _ D _ _ _	Grocery store worker	_ _ G _ _ _
5. Bullwinkle	_ _ O _ _ _	Rat's smaller cousin	_ _ U _ _ _
6. Georgia's fruit	_ _ A _ _ _	Roost	_ _ R _ _ _
7. Thirsty fabric	_ E _ _ _ _	Linger	_ A _ _ _ _
8. Slapstick, e.g.	_ _ _ _ _ D _	Attractive	_ _ _ _ _ L _
9. Closet accessory	_ A _ _ _ _	Appetite	_ U _ _ _ _
10. Ditch	T _ _ _ _ _	Parisian language	F _ _ _ _ _

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!

Mull
ENDROP

Shine
SHIPLO

Bore
CREEPI

Deli
MAILAS

TODAY'S WORD

"For gosh sakes, don't forget to bring back some _____!"

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— Wayne Gretzky

(born January 26, 1961)

From Water Valley to the World: Welcoming a New Artist in Residence Program

by Davis Coen

WATER VALLEY is preparing to welcome its first artist in residence through a new program designed to bring creative talent to the small Mississippi town, support its growing arts community, and introduce its unique character to people beyond its borders. The program begins **October 18** with musician **John Calvin Abney**, who will spend time at **Dial Back Sound** recording an album.

The initiative grew out of an idea developed by **Matt Patton**, owner of Dial Back Sound recording studio and its associated record label, **Dial Back Sound Records**. After years of building his businesses in Water Valley, Patton began thinking about ways to strengthen their connection to the town and create opportunities for the community to benefit from the music and artists passing through his studio.

"I was looking around at other labels and studios that were notable, and I noticed that those labels and studios a lot of times became synonymous with the towns they were in," Patton said.

Dial Back Sound has been operating since 2009, while the label began in 2018. Through recordings, merchandise, publicity, and other business activities, Patton has consistently identified Water Valley as the home of both enterprises.

The artist in residence program represents a way to build on that connection, giving visiting artists an opportunity to work there while allowing the town to benefit from the exposure their projects can generate.

A Community Effort Takes Shape

The idea began to move forward during an informal conversation at **Magnolia Coffee**, where Patton found himself among **Water Valley to the World**



board members, including **Brandon Presley**. The discussion brought about the suggestion of an artist in residence program that could be supported through private donations.

Patton envisioned bringing an artist with a decent following to town for a period of several weeks to perhaps a month, depending on what was needed to complete a project. For musicians, that could mean recording an entire album at Dial Back Sound. The artist would also document the experience, sharing impressions of the town and the creative process with an audience that might otherwise have little reason to discover Water Valley.

The concept soon expanded beyond music. Presley and **Bradley Gordon**, known to many

as **Gordo**, helped develop the idea, suggesting that the program could eventually welcome visual artists, writers, and people working in other creative disciplines.

Patton welcomed the broader vision, seeing an opportunity to encourage an artistic environment that already exists in Water Valley while introducing visiting creatives to the people and places that make the community distinctive.

The effort has also benefited from the experience of local artist **Coulter Fussell**. A full-time professional artist who has participated in residencies around the country and hosted visiting artists in Water Valley, Fussell offered Patton guidance on how such a program might work.

Other community members have offered practical support. Gordon has made a studio space outside of town available as a place for visiting artists to stay, while some donors have offered spare bedrooms. Organizers hope to build a broad network of residents and supporters willing to contribute lodging, meals, ideas, and other help.

That cooperative approach will be important as the program develops. Rather than relying on one person or business to provide everything, the initiative has hopes to draw on the town's collective resources and enthusiasm for the arts.

Although the inaugural residency is already taking shape, Patton expects a more formal application process to be established for future participants. For the first artist, he developed a shortlist and discussed candidates with donors and others involved in the effort before settling on Abney.

John Calvin Abney Opens the Door

Abney was a natural choice to launch the program, Patton said, because he is an accomplished musician with an established following and connections throughout the music industry.



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Matt Patton in the Dial Back Sound control room. Submitted Photo.

"He's talented. He's well-versed in a number of instruments," Patton said. "He has quite a following. He's a great hang."

Abney has worked with a number of respected artists, including **John Moreland** and **Margo Cilkner**, and is currently touring with **S.G. Goodman**. Patton believes those connections could help introduce Abney's visit, and Water Valley itself, to listeners who may already be familiar with the musicians he has worked alongside.

The goal is not just to bring a household name to town immediately, Patton explained, but to attract talented people whose work and professional relationships can help spread the word about Water Valley.

Putting Water Valley on the Creative Map

Patton sees the program as part of a larger effort to highlight what Water Valley already has to offer.

He used **Marfa, Texas**, as an example of a small community that has developed a reputation for its arts and music scene while retaining the character of a rural town.

Marfa has shown how a destination can become known for its creative culture, drawing visitors who want to experience more than the typical attractions found along a highway. Patton hopes Water Valley can build on its own strengths in a similar way.

He believes the compact layout is one of its advantages. Visitors can walk between businesses and restaurants, giving them an opportunity to experience the community at a relaxed pace.

But there are practical challenges to consider, particularly lodging. Patton noted that the limited availability of accommodations makes it hard to organize larger events because visitors need somewhere convenient to stay. He hopes the town will consider additional options as it continues developing its identity as a destination for arts and entertainment.

For now, the program is an opportunity to begin building that reputation one project at a time. It offers artists a place to concentrate on their work while giving the town a chance to share its personality with audiences elsewhere.

For Patton, that connection between creative work and community identity remains at the heart of the effort. Every recording made at Dial Back Sound carries the Water Valley name, and the new program will give that connection another way to reach the world.

With Abney's arrival—kicked off by a reception in the alley next to **The Gordon Gallery** on South Main Street—the initiative transitions from a community discussion into a tangible project. While its future relies on continued local participation, Patton believes the town has the creative energy and community spirit to sustain it.

The hope is each artist will leave with more than a finished project. They will also leave with a story about Water Valley, one they can share with fans, fellow artists, and anyone curious about the creative possibilities found in a small Mississippi town. **TV**



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- Th** **THIRSTY THURSDAY | 5P - CLOSE**
ALL DRAFTS \$5.00
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LOCAL & SEMI LOCAL VOICES
OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING
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LOCAL & SEMI LOCAL VOICES
OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING
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A Taste of Lebanon, a Touch of Mississippi YAC to Offer Lebanese Cooking Class

by Suad Patton Bey

When Lana Hand sat across from me at Heartbreak Coffee, something about her was immediately familiar. She reminded me of the older women I had known growing up in Lebanon—the *tetas* of Beirut, with faces that seemed to carry generations of family history. Then Hand began to speak, her voice unmistakably Mississippi, and the resemblance became more complicated.

Hand has never been to Lebanon or Syria. Yet the food of both places has followed her throughout her life.

On October 27, Hand will bring the Lebanese recipes passed down through her family to Oxford, where she will lead a hands-on cooking class organized by the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council (YAC).

"I started cooking when I was in my twenties after watching my parents," Hand said. "Most of what I know is from watching my parents cook, and then I decided I needed to learn for myself."

Hand explained that some recipes can be shared over the phone, while others are best learned through observation.

"I can tell you how to make the taboule, but the rest of it you really need to watch," Hand said.

"My dad did not use recipes or measurements in his cooking, he would just taste it." As she got older, Hand became less willing to taste the raw meat mixture used to prepare kibbeh, a traditional dish made with ground meat and bulgur wheat. Hand tasted the "perfect" kibbeh at a party and asked the woman who prepared it to share the recipe. The woman provided precise seasoning measurements, allowing Hand to prepare the kibbeh without tasting the raw mixture.

"She gave me the amount of the salt and pepper, so that's how I got the full recipe," Hand said.



In Hand's family, cooking was something learned through observation, taste, and practice. Now, she's bringing that same approach to a new generation of cooks in Oxford.

Hand's family particularly loves spinach pies, fried kibbeh, and kusa (stuffed squash).

Among the dishes participants will prepare are vegetarian stuffed grape leaves. Hand uses plenty of lemon in her cooking, an ingredient central to Lebanese cuisine.

The class will also prepare kibbeh and baklava, a dessert made with layers of phyllo dough and nuts, topped with sugar syrup.

Hand usually bakes her kibbeh, but because the oven will be occupied with baklava, she plans to fry it for this class. Hand emphasizes that the class will be hands-on, with participants preparing the dishes under her supervision.

"I always call it hands-on cooking with Lana 'cause you will be participating," Hand said.

Hand is no stranger to Oxford. She lived here 13 years ago and taught a free cooking class. She saw an advertisement from the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council seeking instructors and decided to apply.

In her hometown of Vicksburg, her church, St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, has been

hosting Lebanese dinners for more than 60 years, Hand said.

"I helped serve while in high school but later on I helped prepare the food and serve at different times," Hand said.

Hand's Lebanese cooking class will take place Tuesday, October 27, from 6 to 9 pm at the Lafayette County Multipurpose Arena in Oxford. Registration costs \$80 for YAC members and \$85 for nonmembers. The deadline to register is October 25. Registration for all YAC classes is available online at yacarts.com.

"She is one of three new teachers this cycle as we added a yoga class and photography class," said Wayne Andrews, executive director of YAC.

Andrews believes the class will be both educational and entertaining, offering participants an opportunity to learn about the culinary traditions of Mississippi's Lebanese diaspora.

"She has structured the class so everyone takes part in the process and then everyone shares a meal. So you are learning new skills, making new friends, and tasting wonderful food," Andrews said.

For Andrews, the class reflects the Arts Council's larger mission of bringing people together through shared experiences.

"The Arts are really about building community and understanding other people," Andrews said. 

More Classes This Fall Offered by YAC

Other creative workshops offered in Oxford this season.

YOUNG WRITERS

Instructor: Nancy Opalko

Mondays, October 19 and 26; November 2 and 9
4–5:30 pm; Ages 9+ • The Powerhouse

Cost: \$65

PHOTOGRAPHY

Instructor: Adam Smith

Six Mondays beginning October 19
6–7:30 pm; Ages 18+ • Lafayette County
Arena, Large Classroom

Cost: \$290

POTTERY SIP AND UNWIND

Instructor: April Dupuis

Monday, October 26 | 6–8 pm
Adults • The Powerhouse

Cost: \$95 

OFFBEAT IN GENERAL

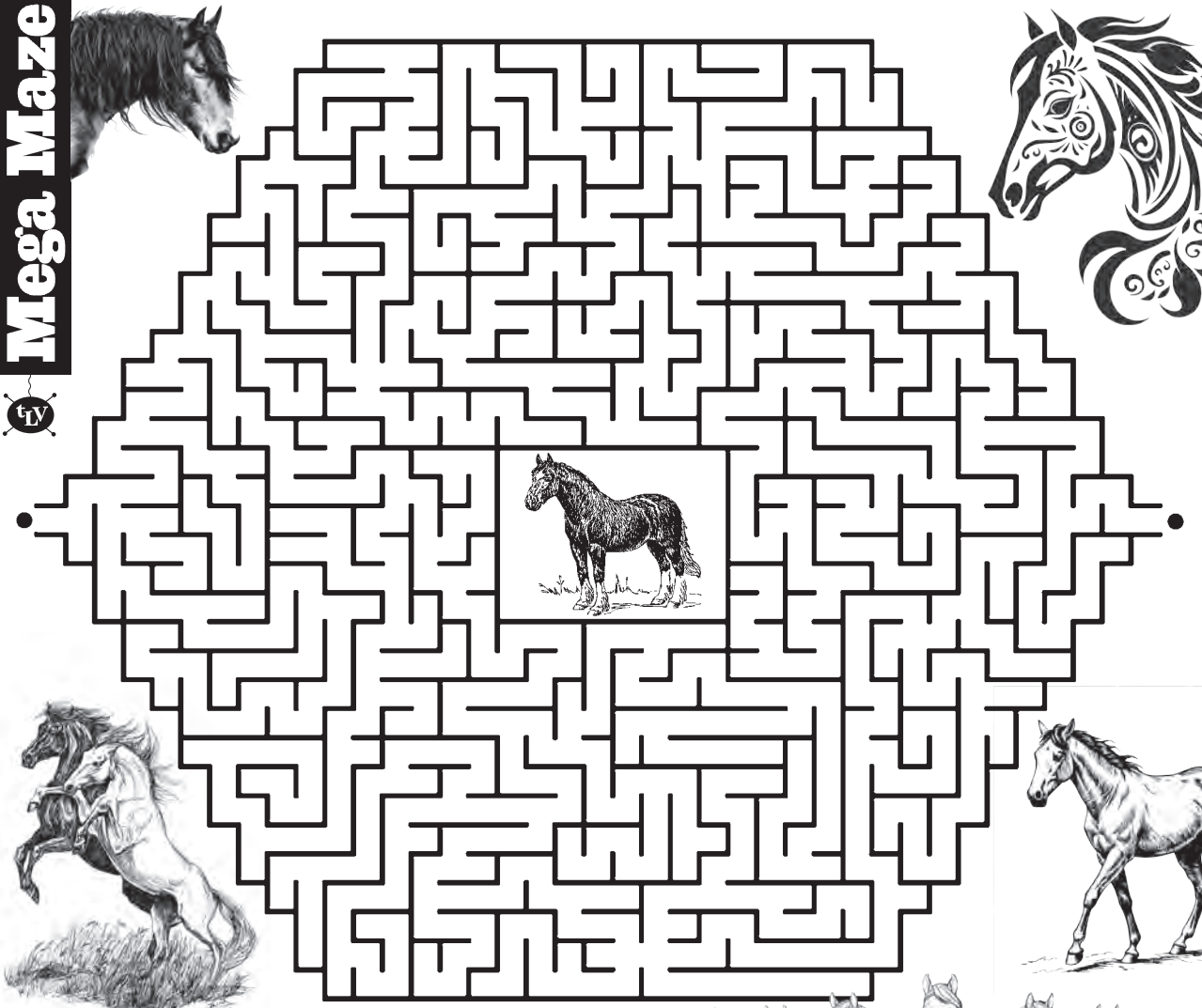
114 Town Square Lane • Taylor, Mississippi 38673

PIZZA KNIGHTS

Thursday–Saturday
Night
5:00–8:00 pm

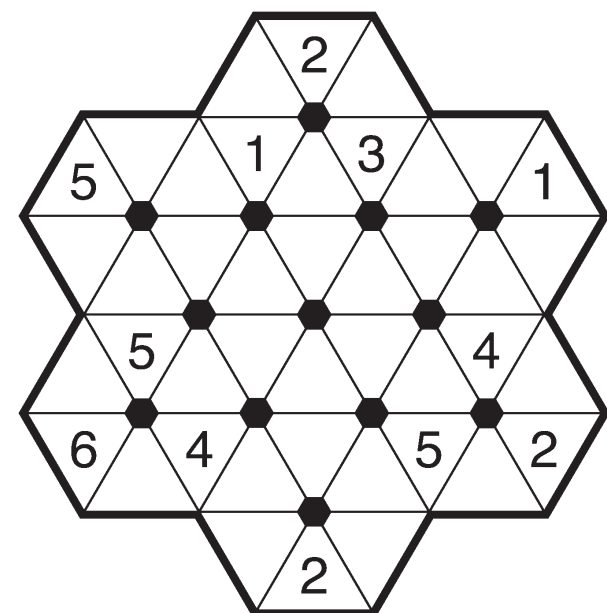
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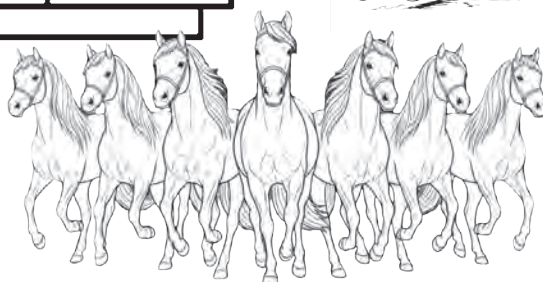
SNOWFLAKES

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.

ZYMWRKF MGF ZXFT QRTKZQ
MGF HZETRTJ BRE RW BII
BQBWG QRMG BTJFIW.
— EROGBEK QRIUYE

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: B equals S

LIECUEAZ BRQJLRJQW MERP
QJAZB RPFR QWLWEKWB
OFUJIVJB QWKEWMB:
F IFTTWQ VO
QWLVCCWATFREVA.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** How many eggs does an average queen bee lay in a day?
- LITERATURE:** Who wrote the novel *The Kite Runner*?
- MOVIES:** What is the main character's name in *Ratatouille*?
- ANATOMY:** How much of the adult human body is made of water?
- GEOGRAPHY:** How many countries make up Central America?
- SCIENCE:** How old is the Earth?
- TELEVISION:** Which decade is the drama *Mad Men* primarily set in?
- GAMES:** In U.S. Monopoly, which properties are the least expensive?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What color is citrine, a type of quartz?
- MATH:** What's the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals XXXIX?

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.

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

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Answers: 1. 1,000 to 2,000 a day 2. Khaleed Hosseini
3. Remy 4. 55%-60% 5. Seven: Guatemala, Honduras,
El Salvador, Belize, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and
Panama 6. 4.54 billion years 7. The 1960s
8. Mediterranean Avenue and Baltic Avenue, \$60
each 9. Yellow 10. 39



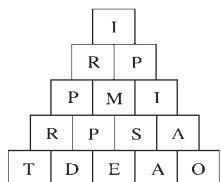
Rebel Wine & Spirits

Remember the
Party Starts Here!

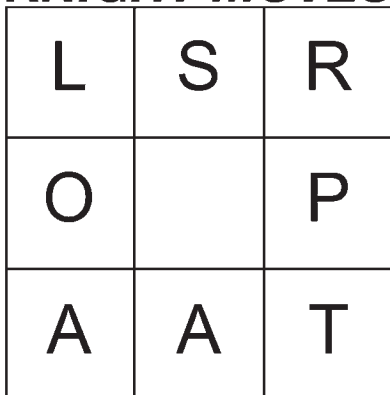
1429 North Lamar (at Molly Barr)
Oxford, Mississippi 38655

STICKELERS by Terry Stickels

This is a common 15-letter word ending in the letter "D." See how long it takes you to identify it.



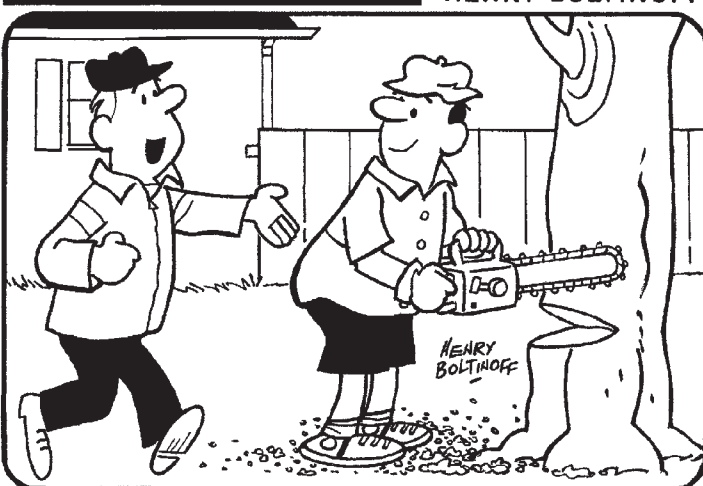
KNIGHT MOVES



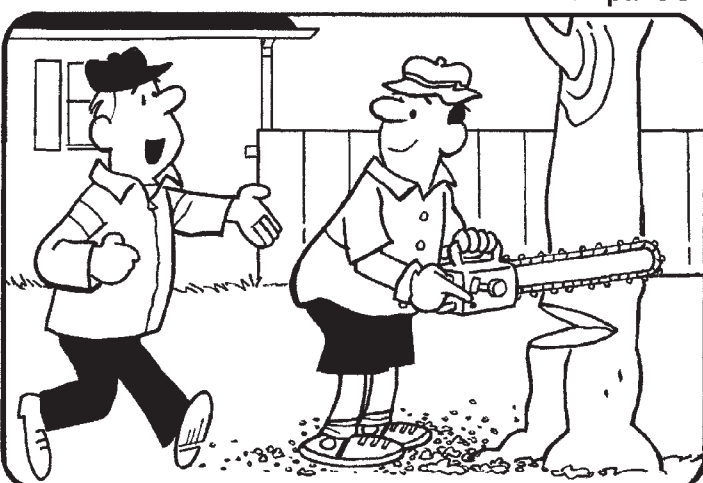
Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is shorter. 2. Saw blade is longer. 3. Hat is different. 4. Finger is moved. 5. Leg is moved. 6. Tree is thinner.



DON'T BE SCARED OF THIS ONE! Hidden in the above frame is an old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the "H" in the bottom rail: "His bark is worse than his bite."

TRY SEWING THIS ONE UP IN FIVE MINUTES! To solve this problem you must replace the letters in our AlphaMath puzzle with the digits 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition expression. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get a higher total than we did.

Our answer: T=8, E=7, A=6, R=1, M=9, O=5, N=2, D=0, (8761 + 959 = 9720.)

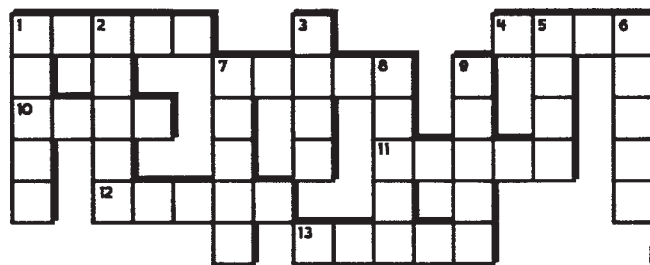
CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Mako, make, male, malt, mole, molt, moat, moan.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A HAUNTED HOUSE FILL-IN PUZZLE



Illustrated by David Coulson

Below are 15 words associated with scary stories and places. You must place them in the crossword puzzle grid shown above. Use the trial-and-error method, and keep a good eraser handy.

ATTIC	CRYPT	MOANS
BEAST	CURSE	MUMMY
BODY	GHOST	OWLS
CRASH	GLOOM	RATS
CROSS	HOWL	YELLS

Answers: (Across) 1. Crash, 4. Body, 7. Gloom, 10. Rats, 11. Moans, 12. Cross, 13. Crypt. (Down) 1. Curse, 2. Attic, 3. Howl, 5. Owls, 6. Yells, 7. Ghost, 8. Mummy, 9. Beast.

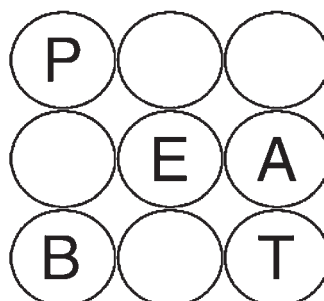
Even Exchange

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. Vegetable plot | G _ _ _ _ _ | Prison keeper | W _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Admonish | _ _ _ O _ _ | Burn with water | _ _ _ A _ _ |
| 3. Blue ribbon or trophy | _ _ _ _ Z _ | Cost | _ _ _ _ C _ |
| 4. Chit chat | _ _ _ N _ _ | Trade | _ _ _ R _ _ |
| 5. Kangaroo's pocket | P _ _ _ _ _ | Feel | T _ _ _ _ _ |
| 6. H2O | _ _ _ T _ _ | Thin biscuit | _ _ _ F _ _ |
| 7. Pious | _ _ _ _ _ T | Alternate route | _ _ _ _ _ R |
| 8. Ag | _ _ _ I _ _ | Tray | _ _ _ A _ _ |
| 9. Pathway | _ _ _ _ _ L | Teach a dog | _ _ _ _ _ N |
| 10. Corn cob segment | _ _ _ R _ _ | Canine lodge | _ _ _ N _ _ |

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.



Murder American Style

Coming soon to a live streaming outlet available to you: the public execution by firing squad of Nidal Hasan!

Plus, waiting in the wings is the third and perhaps final attempt at executing Christina Pike, who survived two botched attempts at the hands of state-sanctioned executioners in Tennessee. Boy howdy! I just got a box of Orville Redenbacher's microwave butter popcorn. I'll pick up a six-pack of Corona Light and I'll sit my skinny butt down on my couch and watch the show! Yee-haw!

Nidal Hasan was a US Army psychiatrist convicted of killing 13 people during a shooting rampage at Fort Hood, Texas, in 2009. Pike was convicted of the 1995 torture and murder of a 19-year-old classmate. There's no doubt that both Hasan and Pike committed heinous acts of violence against others, so we should just kill 'em both! Right?

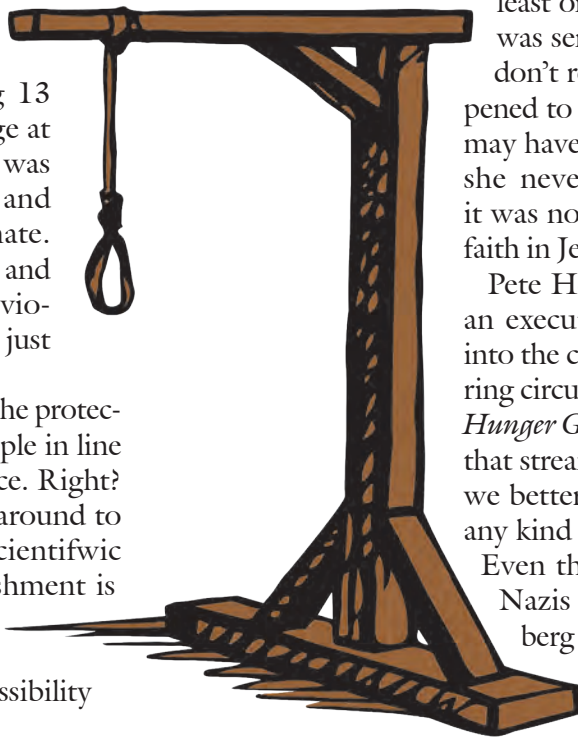
State-sanctioned murder under the protection of the government keeps people in line and prevents more of such violence. Right? Wrong! Yes, the executed aren't around to kill anymore, but decades of scientific research show that capital punishment is not a deterrent to murder. Plus, executions are much more costly than life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The thirst for vengeance, often thinly veiled as justice, is a natural human reaction. We want to get back at someone for hurting us. For those bent on vengeance, remember this: killing the killer does *not* bring back loved ones, nor does it fill the gaping hole in your heart.

Many Christians here in the Bible Belt use scripture to justify state-sanctioned murder. I've never known anyone, including myself, who hasn't at times cherry-picked Bible verses to serve their own purposes. The same people who cite "an eye-for-an-eye" do not place the same weight on similar Levitical laws that we now see as outdated and irrelevant, like stoning a belligerent son to death. So pick the cherries you like and leave the rest to die on the tree. Hmmm.

Is redemption not a fundamental tenet in Christianity? Does a person on death row no longer have a chance to be redeemed? Are we better as a culture for killing a person who has killed? Is a life sentence without the possibility of parole not a death sentence in its own way?

I have never lost a loved one to murder. My mother, who was the epitome of kindness, did, though. Her father, my grandfather whom I never met, was beaten and thrown into a dry well where he died, all for a relatively small amount of money. Mama would never talk about it. I do know that at



least one of the perpetrators was sent to Parchman, but I don't really know what happened to the other two. Mama may have wanted revenge, but she never sought it because it was not consistent with her faith in Jesus' teachings.

Pete Hegseth wants to turn an execution by firing squad into the center circle of a three-ring circus. Will there soon be a *Hunger Games*-like reality show that streams executions? Aren't we better than that? Death of any kind is not entertainment. Even the hanging of the 10 Nazis convicted at Nuremberg of war crimes was carried out privately because it was considered inhumane to hold public executions.

I believe in redemptive justice—justice that offers the possibility for all of us, even for a person convicted of murder, to receive mercy and grace while behind bars. The one who has murdered may never be released from prison, but they may be able to contribute good things to the community in which they live and even to those of us who are outside the prison walls.

I know my words will not sit well with many people. The words of the Old Testament prophets did not sit well with governments during biblical times either. But we can choose to use the power of our words to seek redemption for the "unredeemable" rather than getting our rocks off on watching them get snuffed out. We could choose that. Will we?

I contend that it's impossible to read the Sermon on the Mount and not come against capital punishment. (Tony Campolo, Christian sociologist and author.)

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

Randy Weeks is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a 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. TV

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Tuesdays: \$4 Drafts Wednesdays: \$5 Margs

Thursdays: 2-for-1 wells

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plus Friday night line dancing!

Saturday: \$15 pitchers & buckets

Sunday: \$5 Mimosas & Bloody Marys

Open for Lunch
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11 am-2:30 pm

BRUNCH
Saturday & Sunday
11 am - 3 pm

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

Ajax Diner

118 Courthouse Square

Mon-Sat: 11 am-9 pm

Delivery: TAB

Big Bad Breakfast

719 N. Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Fri: 7 am-1 pm

Sat-Sun: 8 am-2:30 pm

Early Bird Special:

Wed & Thur 7-9 am: 10% off

Delivery: 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 Freixenet, \$6

Spritzes, \$7 specialty 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.

Breakfast: 7-11 am, Mon-Fri

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

1503B White Oak Ln.

Catering: 662-801-4194

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, 25% off food

SoLa

401 S. Lamar Blvd.

Wed-Sun: 5-9 pm

Happy Hour 5-6 pm: \$6 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:** 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

Delivery: DoorDash

Volta Taverna

710 N. Lamar Blvd.

Mon-Thu: 11 am-9 pm; \$2 Coors & Miller Light + Yueling; \$4 High Noon

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

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

½-price Margaritas & Mojitos

Monday, Thursday, & Saturday



@nightbirdparlour

Suffocating in the Velvet Ditch

At the LOU Housing Summit in 2025, I asked a question: What will pull the heartstrings of those already undisturbed by the masses unable or struggling to meet basic human needs: food, housing, and health-care?

In spring 2025, I was a 27-year-old single mother, unemployed, approaching houselessness. My child was 3. I had just survived metastatic invasive ductal carcinoma:

A long list of side effects

From hormone reducing medications
to prevent cancer recurrence

After

16 rounds of chemo

2 surgeries

Daughter held and

Drain pumps hanging

Out of my body

Lost my job as a nanny

When the chemo

Destroyed my body

Disability denied

After lingering in the

Unemployed void

Then to decide

Radiation or not?

Uninsured, Medicaid denied, reinstated, denied,
"you're self-employed"

Ma'am I have cancer and am a single parent of
a toddler.

I'm making \$980 and rent is \$1000.

Can't afford childcare, so I care for children.

They said it's a choice.

I have to go to work to pay for the house and car

I need to go to work to fix my broken down car

so that I can go to work to feed myself and my

child to go to work to pay for the place to place

her while I go to work so that I can work and

then I got cancer and I have to get better

so that I can go to work to raise my daughter so

that she can grow up and go to work to pay for

the house and car she needs to go to work to

feed herself so that she can go to work

for who?

To radiate or radiate?

Dry skin and damaged lung,

Remission not guaranteed

Every day, pin point frequencies

Blasting to shrink possibilities

Of recurrence

Shrinking ability to

Presence

Shrinking

Ability

It is

Not

Working

Those who turned the "Little Easy" into the "Velvet Ditch" toot their horns while our motors give out. Are their/there heartstrings to be pulled at all? It is those who remember the Hoka and \$150 monthly rent, but actively created/create an environment where that does not and cannot easily exist.

Observe Oxford's development the past 7 years: luxury condos, white boxes, no sidewalks or spaces to exist, paywall to existence, barren spaces and multi-million market values with no added value, roundabouts and road expansions but no way to easily walkabout.

We spend 40 hours or more a week preparing and serving you food to come home to barren cabinets and vacant refrigerators. We care for your children to barely have time to care for ours. We clean your houses, then return to our residences smaller than your foyer. We build and renovate your house, dispose of your waste, we are your foundation.

We are the raccoons in your dumpster. We are the plants growing in concrete cracks. Shadows and harsh conditions can't dim our light or our desire for life. We are resourceful, nurturing, imaginative. We are joyous, playful, creative. We are collaborative, curious, and experimental.

We are composting old structures that are inherently harmful to life, redistributing waste and other resources, forming networks of care and creation, and building an ecologically harmonious system.

We are mycelium, decomposers, scavengers. Innovators, dreamers, learners.

We are here to re-imagine the failed experiment of suburbia and nuclear families, of hate and destruction, of disconnected living and abuse of life, of overproduction and overconsumption, of exploitation and extraction. We are here to collectively grieve the history that brings us here. We are here to collectively create a "here" with conditions for all to thrive.

We must take our power back.

Power is work over a period of time.

Work is force times distance.

What work we do over time generates power.

What work are we doing and for whom? Who is getting the power of our work? My work has been walking-attempting to build a familiarity with this town, to appreciate it and accept that I am here, to know where I am.

I walk around town, what do I see? Vacant houses reserved for AirBNB, multi-million dollar properties, beer cans cosplaying as pansies. May I show you around? Crevices of possibility abound!

Here, Here, and Here, and over there ooo and under that street lamp and the old motel, too!

Here: Behind Supertan. Connected to Molly Barr trail. Near pedestrian bridge, close to schools.

An arcade and outdoor recreation area. Hike, hammock, sway, play! There's a stage for jamming, open-mic all the time. Also curated outdoor movie nights on projector, concerts, and any other performances that wish to take shape. A field where you can dance, a forest where you can escape.

Here: Corner lot near Circle and Square.

A community garden with salad staples, herbs, and an emphasis on native perennial plants. A bench swing to gaze, snack, or read.

Here: Corner Lot South 11th St & Buchanan Ave.

A nature/exploration based playground using found materials and repurposing waste (think cable spool climbing towers), Food forest, emphasizing native edible trees, shrubs, and flowers. Compost drop-off/residential compost operation.

Here: 712 S 11th St (vacant, out of state owner).

An artist guild in which this space is dedicated to the selected crafts, skill-sharing, material and tools available to learn the craft, and potential residencies/apprenticeships. The studio is open to the public.

Ideally, many vacant, historical properties can be transformed into artist guilds, and we can develop as many crafts and skills as people wish to practice.

Here: Corner Lot of S 11th and Hayes Ave.

A house used to stand here. There is a drive, and stairs leading to a field. This space could be used as a library of things focused on outdoor equipment and tools. Think camping gear, yard tools, various saws, and also seed sharing and leave/take spaces. Sheds can be constructed with rain-water harvesting installed and roofs covered in vegetation. Of course, there are edible plants incorporated into the environment when possible.

This is a tiny glimmer of my imagination. What do you see? 

the Local Voice PUZZLE PLAYGROUND

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
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Old Armory Pavilion • 1801 University Ave.

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LV — Super Crossword JOURNALISTIC SET

ACROSS

- 1 Principal part of a ship's rigging
9 Glucose and dextrose
15 Want greatly
20 Phrase before a memoir co-author
21 Result of iron deficiency
22 Opponent
23 Question to someone barking orders
26 Wiggly fish
27 Extinct bird
28 Swerving billiards shot
29 Teeny
30 Suspenseful NFL periods
33 CIA worker
35 PC fixer, e.g.
37 "Hey, amigo"
39 Highest price customers are amenable to paying
47 "Less filling" Miller beer
48 Prefix similar to "equi-"
49 Vaccination fluids
50 Neighbor of Monterey Park, Calif.
51 Connections
53 Maximum
56 Rustic hotel
58 Lean- — (simple huts)
59 Time to steel oneself and power through
66 Congregated
67 Goes past the time limit
68 Cold shoulder preventer?
69 A humidifier moistens it
71 Suddenly blazing stars
73 Pungent salad veggie
77 Lhasa — (small dogs)
80 Official assisting a referee
83 "Rapa- —" (1994 Esai Morales film)
84 Classic Maurice Sendak book
89 Cabinet dept. focused on homes
90 "— culpa"
91 Wedge for filling a gap
92 Show fatigue reflexively
93 Mother on "Bewitched"
97 Aruba, e.g.
100 Steal from

DOWN

- 1 Greedy gullet

- 102 Medicine bottle
104 Jesus' words after "My God, my God," in Matthew
109 "You bet!," in Baja
110 Favorite cereal of a "silly rabbit"
111 "I'm — loss for words"
112 Pub barrel
113 "La-la" lead-in
116 "Jay — Garage"
119 Best draft status
121 Business mag
123 Response upon hearing about an astonishing feat
130 "Aida," e.g.
131 Dogs from Japan
132 They often get mashed
133 Stopwatch button
134 Despotic ruler
135 They begin this puzzle's long answers
2 Fire residue
3 Figure skater Midori
4 Central point
5 Superlatively sneaky
6 University on Long Island
7 "— be an honor"
8 Put freight in
9 Less happy
10 Opens with a key
11 "Well, I'll be!"
12 Radio toggle letters
13 Actress Hayworth
14 Gives a quick greeting
15 Disney villainess De Vil
16 Chest bone
17 State boldly
18 Rose holder
19 Otherwise
24 — bene
25 "— Mio"
30 Hooting bird
31 Toward there
32 Feeling of fullness
34 Sycophantic guys
36 Bray syllable
38 Crunches tone them
40 High schooler, e.g.
41 Some rock band synthesizers
42 Calc prereq
43 Subsides
44 Caesar's final reproach
45 Bump on —
46 Unduly quick
52 Zebra
54 Shortly
55 Resort town near Rome
57 High degree
59 H-bomb, e.g.
60 "Lummox" author Fannie Shute
62 Large pianos
63 Clingy wrap
64 Like a banjo's sound
65 On in years
70 Bern's river
72 Comic Rogen
74 Very shortly
75 "Smith" is the commonest one in the United States
76 Hasten
78 Resistance unit
79 Understand the point
81 Bake, as an egg
82 Brunch cocktail
84 "Close call!"
85 "Come again?"
86 Water swirl
87 Do laundry
88 Goalie's goal
94 Elle King's "Ex's & —"
95 Lambastes
96 Valuable trait
98 Auction unit
99 Former Volkswagen seven-seater
101 "Freedom" singer Jon
103 Shin's place
105 Soldier's steel helmet
106 Best in quality
107 Yaks, e.g.
108 Wichita site
113 Thunder god
114 Lasso, e.g.
115 Stupefies
117 Tasting of wood, as wine
118 Move a bit
120 Session with a dr., e.g.
122 — Field (Mrs. Met's home)
124 Deep anger
125 Greek vowel
126 "La-la" lead-in
127 Fight like Ali
128 Actor Ayres
129 Snaky letter

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130							131						132							
133							134						135							



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

NORMALLY THE RULE OF THUMB IS YOUR BOWL SHOULD BE SMALLER THAN THE TUB OF ICE CREAM IT COMES IN.

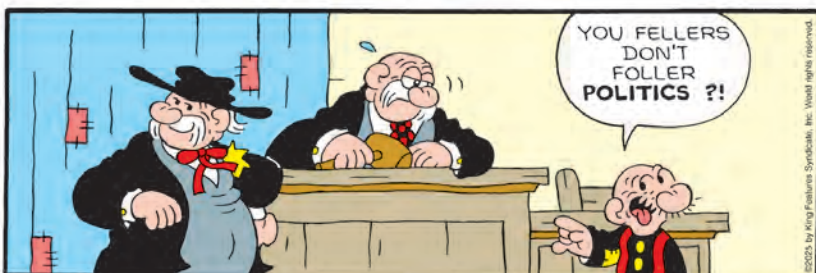
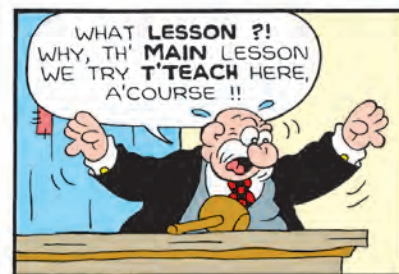


GRIN and BEAR IT

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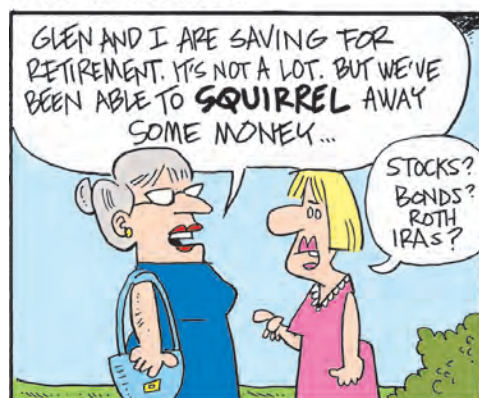
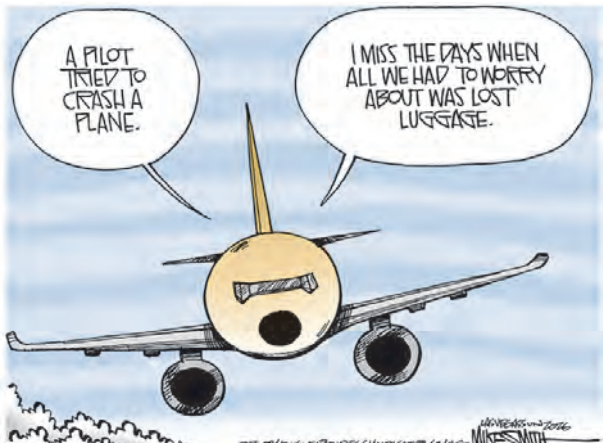


"I hate it when jousting season begins!"



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



Prince Valiant BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

GURYAN AND MURSHID HAVE PLANNED CAREFULLY - THEY HAVE LEFT THE MISTY ISLANDS, WITH KAREN, ABOARD A SPEEDY SAMBUK.

KAREN'S MISSION TO FIND HER HUSBAND HAS TURNED INTO SOMETHING FAR MORE MYSTERIOUS AND FRIGHTENING. SHE WATCHES AS GURYAN MAKES A SACRIFICE TO HIS SKY GODS...

4097

...AND RECOGNIZES HOW MUCH THE SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY OF THE TALISMAN TO GIOVANNI MEANS TO THESE PEOPLE. MURSHID SEES HER CONCERN AND SPEAKS: "A GREAT BATTLE IS COMING - ONE THAT COULD CHANGE THE WORLD..."

Americanisms

"What a day for new day,
And our star shines like a
miracle, And our world is
almost beautiful again ..."

— Dan Wilson

"...THE SORCERER AZAR RASA WOULD EMPLOY MONSTROUS BEINGS - DJINN - TO DO HIS BIDDING, AND THAT WILL NOT GO WELL FOR PRESTER JOHN'S TEETERING EMPIRE. NOR FOR THE HUMAN RACE." KAREN'S IMAGINATION ENVISIONS TERRIBLE THINGS.

"YOU, GURYAN AND I," CONTINUES THE ARAB, "ALL HAVE PARTS TO PLAY IN THIS. YOUR FATHER AND HIS FRIEND FROM AB'SABA ARE FATED AS WELL - BUT FOR NOW IT IS GOOD THAT THEY WERE MISDIRECTED TO THERA. WHERE I SUSPECT YOUR FATHER HAS BECOME A VERY FRUSTRATED MAN."

NEXT: Gabala

YEATES 8/16/17 ©2015 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

TONIGHT ON TRUMP TV: NAKED AND AFRAID

KIRK @DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE email: writers@kfsk.com

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

I'VE HAD IT WITH HELEN. SHE'S ALWAYS RUNNING AROUND LIKE A CHICKEN WITH ITS HEAD CUT OFF.

ALWAYS ACTING BOSSY. I THINK SHE FEELS SHE RULES THE ROOST.

SHE'S ALWAYS PUTTING HERSELF FIRST IN THE PECKING ORDER....

DID YOU PAUSE FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT OR JUST RUN OUT OF MORE CHICKEN PUNS?

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU LOVE GRANDMA?

OF COURSE I DO!!

DO YOU EVER BUY HER FLOWERS?

I DIDN'T KNOW SHE SOLD FLOWERS.

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THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS SO ENAMORED WITH AOC'S EXTREME-LEFT POSITIONS...

THEY'VE ASKED HER TO MAKE CAMPAIGN APPEARANCES DURING THE NOV.9 ELECTION!

BUT THE ELECTION IS NOV.3!

SHHH!

NO MORE PRISONS!

BAN ICE

HITCH

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

MY FOLKS TOOK ME TO THE OPERA LAST NIGHT

HOW'D YOU LIKE THE OPERA?

TOO CROWDED

WHAT WAS THE PLOT?

I DUNNO. IT WAS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

JUST STANDING AROUND SINGING ACTION?

HOW 'BOUT SNACKS?

NO POPCORN, NO CANDY, NOTHING!

COSTUMES AND SETS?

COULDN'T SEE

LIKE THE MUSIC?

I FELL ASLEEP

SO WHY DID THEY TAKE YOU?

FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

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BRUNCH 2026 KING FEATURES

HOLY BIBLE

SOCIAL STUDIES

©2014 THE NEW YORK TIMES **KIRK**

"NO WORRIES...WE PUT IT IN A CAGE."

CIVIL LIBERTIES

TECH BROS

CAMERAS

FLOCK

KIRK
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GRIN and BEAR IT Wagner

BELCHFIRE MOTORS

SERVICE DEPT

SALES

"It drives great! How does it tow?"

"That's the question!"

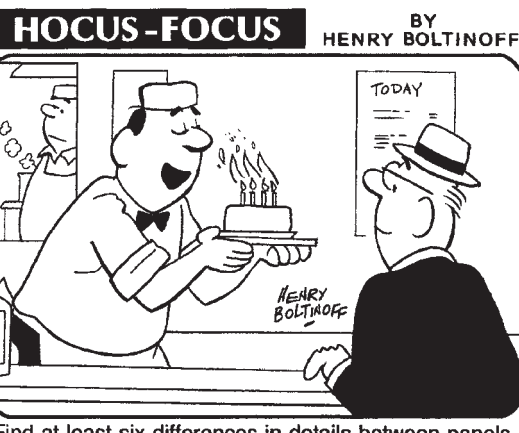
Wagner

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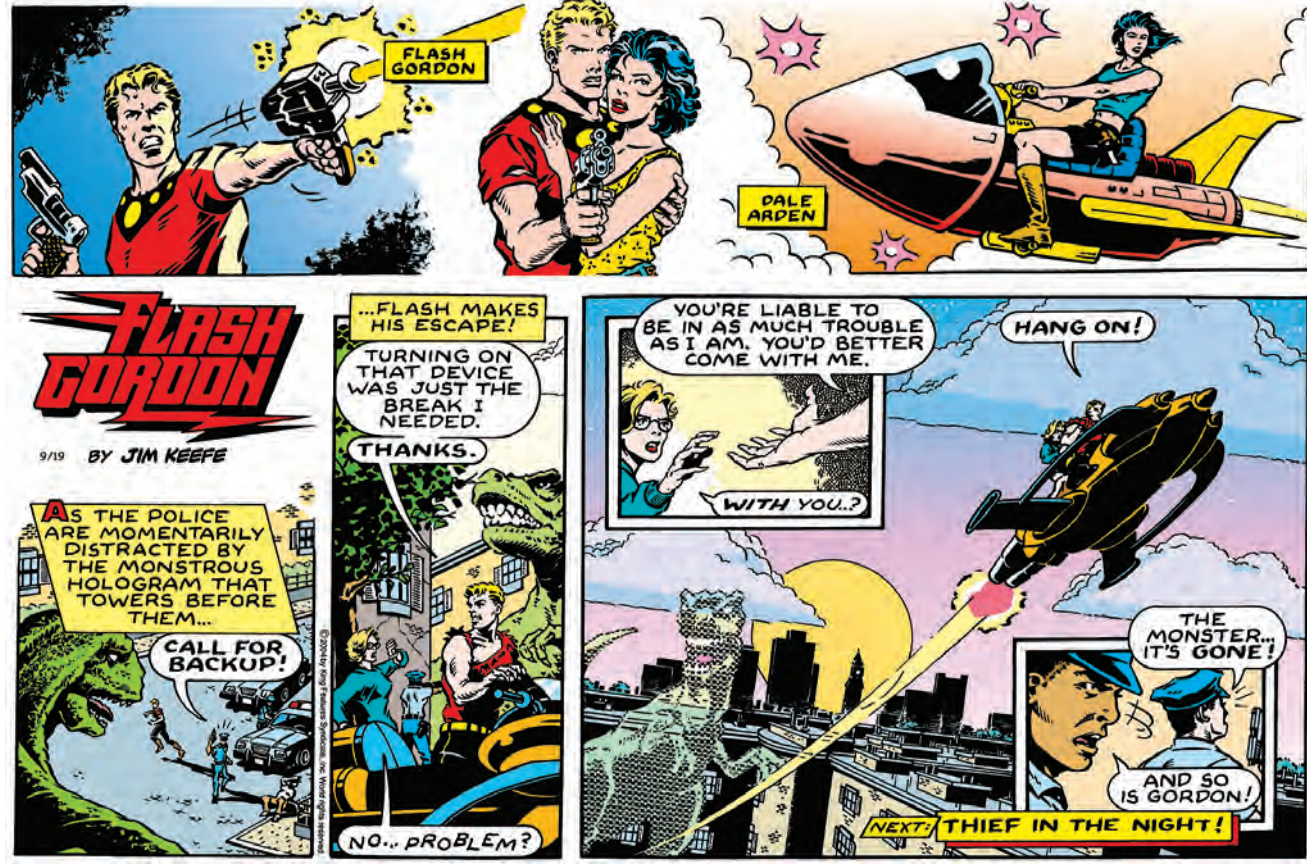
by Dave T. Phipps



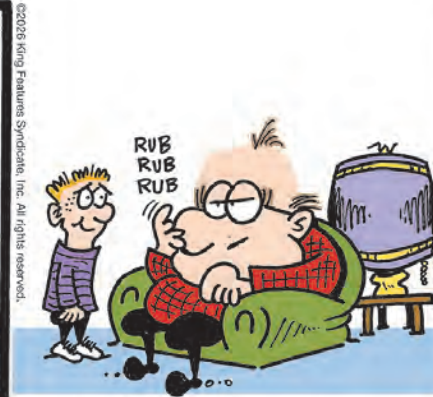
“Heart is what separates
the good from the great.”
— *Michael Jordan*



Differences: 1. Word is different. 2. Glasses are missing. 3. Mouth is different. 4. Hat is larger. 5. Back of stool is added. 6. Mouth is different.



The Spats



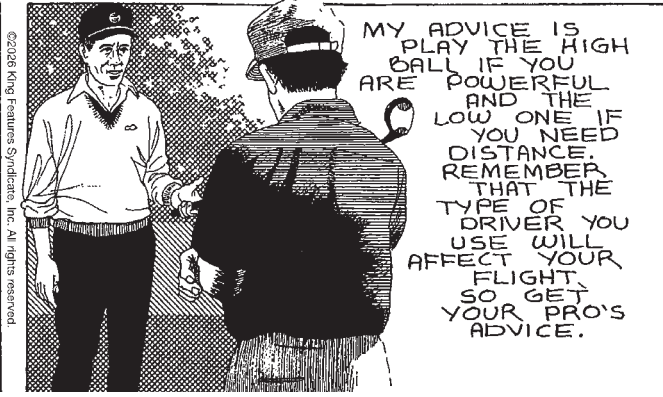
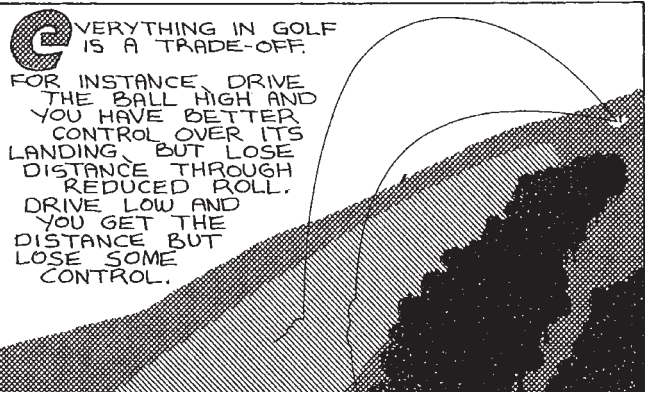
by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Make an Easy Zucchini Soup the Hit of the Season

“Go pick anything that’s bigger than your arm!” says Becca Newhouse, as 4-year-old son Ellis grabs a bucket and scampers off to the zucchini patch in their family garden. “If he sees a veggie that’s too ripe, he chucks it over the fence to the chickens,” she adds with a smile.

Becca knows firsthand that when kids dig in and help in the garden, the experience informs their eating habits. “Ellis actually asked for beets for lunch recently, a food he wouldn’t touch if he saw them in the grocery store. He eats handfuls of flavorful lettuce, although he still hesitates on the chard,” she admits.

When zucchini are in abundance, the nutritious squash will go from their plot to their plates in tempting presentations, whether they’re grilled, baked, boiled, sauteed, or hiding in a home-baked bread.

Even if you haven’t “grown your own,” you can provide a hands-on learning experience with your kids by taking a weekend jaunt to designated pick-your-own farms and orchards. Or bike together to an urban farmer’s market and check out the colorful displays. When you do, bring home plenty of zucchini and try this mild zucchini soup. Since you don’t have to peel this vegetable, the recipe goes together in minutes.

EASY ZUCCHINI SOUP

Makes 6-8 servings

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 large onion, roughly chopped
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 5-6 medium-size zucchini (about 2 1/4 pounds)
- 1 1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 cup half-and-half

Let your school-age child wash the zucchini and cut it into 1-inch chunks with a butter knife on a cutting board. Be sure that the ends are trimmed off.

Meanwhile, melt the butter in a large soup pot. Add onion and cook until the onions are soft but not brown, about 5 minutes.

Add stock and zucchini. The broth should just cover the chunks. Add nutmeg and salt. Bring to a boil, stirring frequently. Lower heat and simmer until zucchini is very soft, about 12-15 minutes.



Use an immersion hand blender to blend the ingredients. Or let soup cool (important!) and process in batches in a blender or food processor until smooth. Return the soup to the pot.

Stir in half-and-half, season with more salt if you wish, and heat through. Serve in a mug or soup bowl with a sandwich and fresh fruit on the side.

Cook’s Note: The soup freezes well.

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



1. **Avengers: Endgame** (PG-13) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans
2. **Resident Evil** (R) Austin Abrams, Zach Cherry
3. **Heart of the Beast** (PG-13) Brad Pitt, J.K. Simmons
4. **Primetime** (R) Robert Pattinson, Merritt Wever
5. **Forgotten Island** (PG) H.E.R., Liza Soberano
6. **Practical Magic 2** (PG-13) Sandra Bullock, Dianne Wiest
7. **Spider-Man: Brand New Day** (PG-13) Tom Holland, Zendaya
8. **The Odyssey** (R) Matt Damon, Tom Holland
9. **Coyote vs. Acme** (PG) Will Forte, Lana Condor
10. **Daniel and the Fiery Furnace** (PG-13) Mena Massoud, Elijah Alexander

THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



“One of the greatest advantages of podcasting is that listening is passive — we can listen while we do other things.” — Jaimi Ryan

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:

History: “Yasha” — This new podcast is based on the true story of an 11-year-old boy who fled his home in Belarus with his family, as the Nazis invaded it during World War II. Live through his harrowing story, which was composed of a six-year journey across thousands of miles. He was caught between Hitler’s advancing forces, lived in an abandoned circus, and later did hard labor during a harsh winter. These stories and more were relayed decades later to Yasha’s grandson, who saved the audio recordings of his grandpa’s story, which led to this incredible podcast. (YashaShow.com)

Music Commentary: “Light Box” — Mark Henry Phillips is a well-known composer who wrote the score for the groundbreaking podcast “Serial” and many others. One night, however, he realized that he could type “a few words into an AI music generator, and it did his job better than he ever could.” In the second episode, Phillips goes inside the world of songwriting camps, meets

hitmakers Mickey Shiloh and David Phelan, and asks why these successful songwriters need to use AI — and admit it? (LightBoxPodcast.com)

Documentary: “Unquiet Realities”

— This four-part limited series arrives just in time for spooky season. Hosted by a cool, unaffected dude who goes by the name of Winchester, this podcast guides you through creepy tales, including a lake in Mississippi with “a shape under the water you can’t quite track,” lights in the sky that “don’t behave like they’re supposed to,” and footprints that “don’t belong to anything you were taught to believe in.” (RedCircle.com)

True Crime: “Not Just A Terrible Story”

— It seems like every week, there’s a story on the news about a teacher who’s being accused of having an improper relationship with a student. This podcast tells the story from one student’s perspective — Stacie Love — who ended up marrying the “cool” teacher from her school just five years after her sophomore year. In 2005, a knock on the door would change everything. But it’d take two decades before Stacie gained the healthy perspective she has now to recognize the grooming that some educators use to snare their prey. (TerribleStory.Substack.com)

Comedy: “OMG Obsessed”

— Actress Zosia Mamet (“Girls”) invites guests on her new podcast to share their unapologetic hyperfixations, with everything from the flavor of Ben & Jerry’s ice cream they can’t stop ingesting to their favorite television show. Learn how Karan Soni (“Deadpool”) was so obsessed with the teen-drama series “The OC” that he “moved across the world to California” and made his mother call him “Seth,” who was the character played by actor Adam Brody on the show. Now that’s obsessed! (LemonadaMedia.com)

Fun Fact

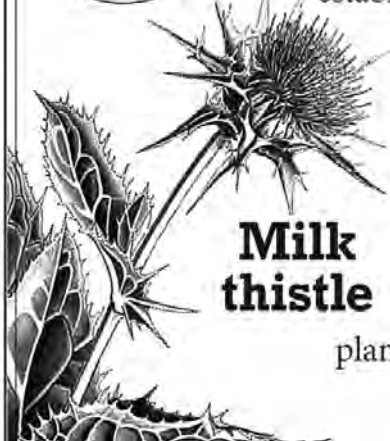
Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park Commission distributed the first U.S. license plates in 1900, in the form of leather tags.

In the last few years, specialty license plate design options number in the thousands, reflecting all kinds of interests.

Source: history.com



Its purple flowers may seem pretty, but this spiny plant is classified as a noxious weed in several U.S. states, and has the potential to overwhelm established ecosystems and agricultural areas.



Milk thistle

Though it can be very difficult, it is possible to remove these deep-rooted weeds by wearing very thick gloves and pulling or digging them out before they are well-established. They can also be killed with vinegar or boiling water. Just be careful not to splash any nearby plants that you want to keep. — Brenda Weaver

Source: homesandgardens.com



PUZZLES & BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTIONS



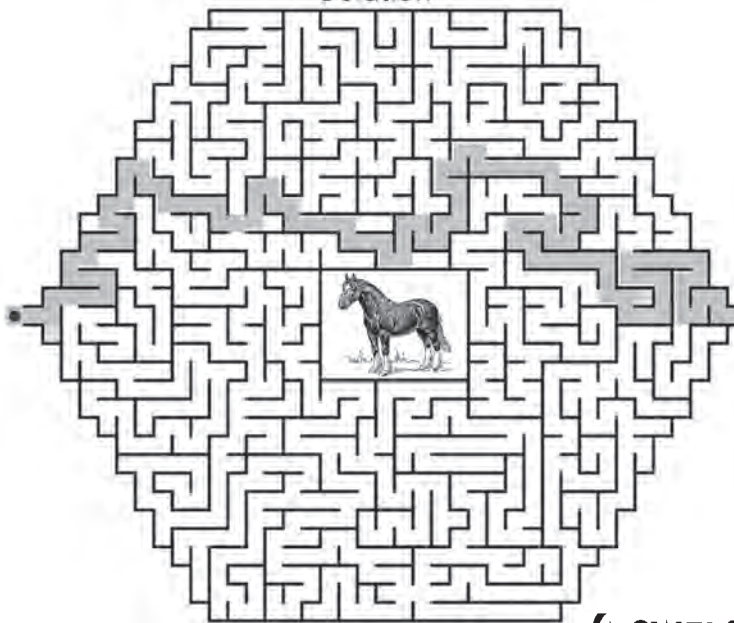
Super Crossword

Answers

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

Mega Maze

Solution



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

CryptoQuip

answer

Climbing structure with rungs that receives fabulous reviews: a ladder of recommendation.

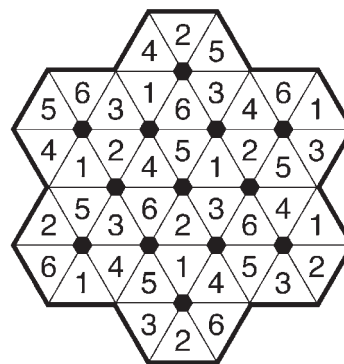
CryptoQuote

answer

Outside the open window the morning air is all awash with angels.
— Richard Wilbur

SNOWFLAKES

solution



Even Exchange

answers

- Garden, Warden
- Scold, Scald
- Prize, Price
- Banter, Barter
- Pouch, Touch
- Water, Wafer
- Devout, Devour
- Silver, Salver
- Trail, Train
- Kernel, Kennel

Go Figure!

answers

8	+	5	-	4	=	9
+		-		-		
6	-	1	+	3	=	8
-		+		x		
9	+	7	÷	2	=	8
=		=		=		
5		11		2		

Stickelers Answer

The word is "misappropriated."

Five Spot™

Solution

I	N	P	U	T
P	I	N	T	S
M	I	N	T	S
M	O	I	S	T
S	T	O	R	M
F	O	R	M	S

FEAR & KNOT

answer



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Ponder; 2. Polish
3. Pierce; 4. Salami

Today's Word
ASPIRINS

Even Exchange answers

1. Hermit, Kermit
2. Sheer, Sheen
3. Blast, Beast
4. Badger, Bagger
5. Moose, Mouse
6. Peach, Perch
7. Terry, Tarry
8. Comedy, Comely
9. Hanger, Hunger
10. Trench, French

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

HABITS	H	BAITS
RODEOS	E	ODORS
STRUNG	G	URNS
CARHOP	O	PARCH
ASPECT	T	SPACE
VETOES	O	STEVE
HALVES	L	SHAVE
MADDER	D	DREAM
ALPINE	E	PLAIN
REGARD	R	GRADE

FEAR & KNOT

answer

L	A	P										
A		U					G					
S	U	R	E	T	Y							
E		G					M	E	N	U		
	T	E	N									
	A			P								
	N	U	T	R	I	A						
	G						I					
	Y						A	M	P	L	E	



"Spider-Man: Brand New Day"

(PG-13) — The fourth installment in Tom Holland's "Spider-Man" film series is finally out to rent on Oct. 6 after its legendary run in theaters, where it became the third-highest-grossing film of all time! (Luckily, Marvel isn't holding back with on-demand streaming of the film, like Universal is with Christopher Nolan's "The Odyssey.") Zendaya ("The Odyssey") and Jacob Batalon ("The Wrecking Crew") are back in their roles from the previous three films, while Jon Bernthal's Punisher makes his first appearance in the series. More newcomers include Florence Pugh ("Thunderbolts"), who joins the cast as her MCU character Yelena Belova, and Sadie Sink ("Stranger Things") makes her debut in the MCU as Jean Grey. The film picks up four years after Dr. Strange's spell wipes Peter's (Holland) existence off the face of the planet. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Animals" (R) — After teaming up with his longtime buddy Matt Damon for action-thriller film "The Rip," Ben Affleck is back on Netflix with this crime thriller, co-starring Kerry Washington ("Wake Up Dead Man") and Gillian Anderson ("The Julia Set"). "Animals" follows Los Angeles mayoral candidate Mark Kimball (Affleck), whose son suddenly gets kidnapped during his political campaign. The kidnapper demands a ransom, but with all his money spent on his campaign, Mark is forced to resort to more dangerous methods of getting his child back. In turn, amid the chaos, secrets from his and his wife's past emerge that they never expected to come to light. Steven Yeun ("The Rip") and Adriana Paz ("A Mouthful of Ash") round out the rest of the cast. Stream it on Oct. 9! (Netflix)

"Avatar: Seven Havens" (TV-PG)

— If you have any Zillennials in your home, you know the chokehold that "Avatar: The Last Airbender" still has on them. It's long regarded as one of the best animated fantasy series of all time and introduced us to beloved characters like Aang, Katara, Zuko, Appa and more. Shortly after the original "Avatar" series ended, a sequel series, "The Legend of Korra," aired from 2012 to 2014. Now, 12 years later, a third series is set to premiere on Oct. 9, following Korra's Avatar successor, Pavi, who's also a reincarnation of Korra. Taking place 225 years after "Korra," Pavi and her twin sister, Nisha, team up to save the Seven Havens before an apocalyptic event destroys their world. (Paramount+)



Courtesy of Apple TV

From left, Arturo Castro, Jessica Biel, John Cena, Teyonah Parris and Sam Richardson star in "Matchbox: The Movie."

"Matchbox: The Movie" (PG-13)

— After the \$1 billion feat that "Barbie" (2023) achieved in theaters, Mattel had no choice but to wonder, "What if we made movies about every iconic toy we have?" However, because "Masters of the Universe" bombed, they decided to go for a streaming-only release for this action-comedy film based on the Matchbox toy cars. John Cena ("Coyote vs. Acme") leads the film as spy and former soldier Sean Walker, who reconnects with the childhood friends he used to play cars with. But while they're at the bar, the entire group gets drugged and kidnapped by a group of criminals who are searching for a nuclear warhead; and even though his past almost gets his old friends killed, they decide to help Sean in an attempt to steal the bomb and clear their names. Check it out on Oct. 9. (Apple TV)



A Pound of Beef, a Little TVP and Dinner to Spare

There's a kindness in opening the freezer at 5:30 and finding that someone has already started dinner. Even better when that someone was you, when you had a skillet out and enough energy to chop an onion.

This Tex Mex beef and bean filling is worth making once and doubly worth making twice. It can become burritos tonight, sweet potatoes next week and a pot of chili on a day when the question "What's for dinner?" feels like a personal attack.

The trick in this Tex Mex filling is TVP, or textured vegetable protein. It takes on the flavors of the skillet and adds protein while helping stretch one pound of beef into about 5 cups of filling.

My family's favorite is the filling spooned over baked sweet potatoes with cheese and green onions. The sweet potatoes and savory filling are wonderful together.

If you have freezer space, double it and set half aside for future you. I use frozen chopped peppers and onions; one 16-ounce bag is just right when I double the recipe.

SUNDAY SUPPER STARTER:
TEX MEX BEEF AND BEAN FILLING

Yield: About 5 cups, enough for 6 generously filled burritos
Total Time: 35 mins.

1/2 cup beef broth or bouillon
1/2 cup dry TVP (textured vegetable protein)
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cups mixed onion and bell peppers, chopped
1 pound ground beef (80/20 blend)
2 tablespoons tomato paste
1 tablespoon ground cumin
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika, chipotle powder or ancho chili powder
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
1 (15-ounce) can black, kidney or pinto beans, drained
1 (10-ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chiles, undrained
Salt and pepper, to taste



www.JasonCoblentz.com

Ground beef, with protein-rich TVP and beans, becomes a filling for burritos, casseroles or sweet potatoes.

Heat the broth until steaming. Stir in the TVP and let stand for 5 minutes, or until the broth is absorbed. Set aside.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onion and peppers and cook until softened and beginning to turn golden, about 5 minutes.

Add the ground beef and break it into small pieces. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the beef is no longer pink and reaches 160 F. Do not drain.

Stir in the tomato paste and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the cumin, chili powder, brown sugar, paprika or chili powder, and oregano. Cook for about 30 seconds, until fragrant.

Add the rehydrated TVP, beans and tomatoes with their juices. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until the mixture is thick enough to mound on a spoon, about 8 to 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. If it becomes too dry, add a splash of broth or water.

TO FREEZE AND REHEAT

Divide the filling into portions sized for your household. Refrigerate or freeze within 2 hours of cooking. For best quality, plan to use them within 2 to 3 months. Refrigerated portions should be used within 3 to 4 days.

Thaw overnight in the refrigerator, then reheat in a covered skillet over medium-low heat, stirring and adding water or broth if needed. You can also reheat a frozen portion in a covered skillet over low heat, stirring as it loosens. Heat the filling throughout to 165 F.

That's enough for six generously filled burritos, but burritos are only the beginning. Spoon it over rice, tuck it into stuffed peppers or turn it into soup, chili or an enchilada casserole.

It's the sort of dinner that makes everyone think we had a plan all along. Because we did.

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



“VisionQuest” (TV-14) — The second spin-off series from 2021’s “WandaVision,” which followed former Avengers members Wanda Maximoff (aka Scarlet Witch) and Vision, is set to premiere its first two episodes on Oct. 14! “VisionQuest” follows the resurrected White Vision from “WandaVision,” who has all of the original Vision’s memories but lacks “his virtue.” Vision spends his time in the “MindSpace,” where Tony Stark’s past creations live, including the main villain in the second “Avengers” film — Ultron, played by James Spader (“The Blacklist”). It isn’t long, however, before a bounty is placed on Vision’s head, forcing him to go on the run alongside a peculiar teenager named Thomas Shepherd (Ruairidh Mollica). The remaining six episodes will be released every Wednesday following its premiere. (Disney+)

“Coyote vs. Acme” (PG) — This comedy film takes us back to the universe of “Looney Tunes” to get reacquainted with a long-beloved villain: Wile E. Coyote. But this time around, Wile E. gets to tell his story! After failing to catch his nemesis the Road Runner for the umpteenth time, Wile E. decides to speak with a personal injury attorney about his issues with Acme and its faulty products. (He could’ve thought of this sooner.) He teams up with a meek lawyer named Kevin Avery (Will Forte), who quickly realizes that this will be quite a memorable case for him when Wile E. refuses to settle. Not to mention, Kevin’s rival from law school, Buddy Crane (John Cena), is the acting lawyer for Acme and determined to shut them up with money. After a successful run in theaters, it’s out now to rent! (Fandango at Home)

“Masterplan” (PG-13) — Stanley Tucci (“The Devil Wears Prada 2”) leads this heist film co-starring Simona Tabasco (“The White Lotus”) and Victor Belmondo (“Bastion 36”). In the film, Tucci portrays a former master thief named Roger who’s decided to come out of retirement for the job of a lifetime. (Where have I heard this before? Maybe every heist film ever?) But this job, which isn’t your average heist, requires the expertise of two specific people: an Italian cybercrime expert named Chiara and a French explosives specialist named Jay. Why them? Chiara and Jay are also Roger’s children — long-lost siblings who have never met before. Now they get to reunite with their father and bond as thieves in a family dynamic that they’ve never experienced. Should be easy enough! Did I happen to mention that they’re stealing the Mona Lisa? Check it out on Oct. 16. (Amazon Prime Video)



Courtesy of MovieStillsDB

Paul Bettany stars in “VisionQuest.”

“Below” (TV-MA) — This supernatural thriller miniseries is the only spooky pick for this week’s titles, but trust me, the hair-raising vibes are real with this one! Led by a trio who are used to horror — Josh Hartnett (“Trap”), ak No Evil”), and Charlie Heaton (“Stranger Things”) — this six-episode series takes place in Snook’s Arm, Canada, a remote town by the sea. When a large iceberg suddenly appears by the town’s harbor, mysterious things begin occurring throughout the town, with signs pointing toward a sea creature in the water. But one fisherman, Calvin (Hartnett), is unwavering in his resolve to protect his family and his town. All episodes are out now to binge! (Netflix)



An Autumn Dinner Without the Wait

Every autumn, apples get recruited for pies, crisps and cakes, as though their entire purpose is to be a delivery system for cinnamon. Today, we’re giving them a different assignment: dinner. No rolling pin in sight.

These skillet pork chops with apples and onion deliver the comforting flavors of fall in about 20 minutes. Naturally, that depends on how quickly you can slice an onion and two apples. We’re making supper, not auditioning for a knife commercial.

Tender pork, sweet-tart apples and softened onions make a lovely combination. A splash of vinaigrette pulls everything together into a savory pan sauce, using something you may already have waiting in the refrigerator door.

This is exactly the kind of recipe I’ve been collecting for “The Diva Dinner Dash,” my upcoming cookbook of meals ready in 20 minutes or less. It can beat the delivery driver to your dinner table. Depending on the line, it might even beat a trip through the drive-thru. And you get to stay home in your comfy pants.

Choose firm apples that will hold their shape during cooking. Granny Smith offers a nice tart contrast; gala and Fuji are other good choices. Buy whichever variety is at the best price. There’s no need to send your grocery budget into a tailspin over two apples.

Leave the peels on if you like. Slice the apples and onion thinly so they cook quickly. Thick wedges are good for roasting, but this supper has somewhere to be.

For the pork, choose boneless or bone-in loin chops of similar thickness, about 1/2 inch for this quick preparation. Thickness matters more than weight when you’re watching the clock. A thick chop will need additional cooking time, regardless of what the recipe says.

Browning the pork first builds flavor. When you add water to the skillet, scrape up those tasty, browned bits so they become part of the sauce. Then return the chops for a gentle, covered finish.

The other shortcut is bottled salad dressing. Italian vinaigrette brings herbs and tang; balsamic vinaigrette gives a sweeter, deeper flavor. Use dressing, not straight vinegar, and shake the bottle before measuring.

While the pork rests, prepare instant



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Savory skillet pork chops with apples and onion bring autumn flavor to the table in about 20 minutes.

mashed potatoes or microwave left-over rice, and in about 20 minutes, with thin chops and overlapping prep, dinner is done.

Because sometimes the most useful thing a recipe can offer is a quick and easy solution to “You mean they want

dinner ... again?”

SKILLET PORK CHOPS WITH APPLES AND ONION

Yield: 4 servings
Total Time: 20 minutes

1 tablespoon olive oil
4 (6-ounce) thin pork loin chops, about 1/2 inch thick
1 medium onion, thinly sliced
2 medium apples, cored and thinly sliced
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup Italian or balsamic vinaigrette salad dressing
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

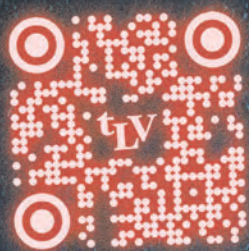
Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Brown pork chops for about 2 minutes per side. Transfer to a plate; they will finish cooking later.

Increase heat to medium-high. Add onion and saute for 1 minute. Add apples and saute for another minute.

Add water, scraping up browned bits. Return chops and any accumulated juices to the skillet. Drizzle with vinaigrette; sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for 3-5 minutes, or until chops reach 145 F and apples and onion are tender. Transfer chops to a clean plate and rest for at least 3 minutes before serving with apples, onion and pan sauce.

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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