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*Release Week*

**JUNE 29, 2026**

## Today's News, Tomorrow's Trends

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DONNA ERICKSON'S BEST BITES

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Donna Erickson

PHOTO CREDIT: Donna Erickson



## Make Deviled Eggs for Fourth of July and Summer Gatherings

Nothing sparks memories of family picnics and barbecue get-togethers like a platter of bright yellow-and-white deviled eggs! Sometimes dressed up with a dusting of paprika and capers or fancy sprigs of garden dill and chives on top for the yum of it, they welcome all ages to the buffet table to taste and enjoy.

Deviled eggs are a homemade dish involving several steps. You may take a shortcut by buying precooked and peeled hard-boiled eggs at some markets, but for most families, the basics begin with boiling the eggs just right.

Here's my standard method for making perfect hard-cooked eggs: Place eggs in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water 1 inch above the eggs. Bring to a full rolling boil on medium-high heat (no lid). Turn off heat, cover the pan, and let eggs sit for 10 minutes.

Immediately plunge the eggs in a bowl of cold water (I add a few ice cubes) to chill them rapidly so that the eggs release easily from the shell when peeling. Remove from water. Refrigerate eggs, or peel for this recipe.

### DEVILED EGGS

Makes 12

- 6 large hard-cooked eggs, peeled
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons of prepared mustard

depending on taste, or 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard

- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- Paprika (optional garnish)
- Sprigs of parsley, chives, or finely chopped scallions (optional garnishes)

Cut eggs lengthwise in half and remove the yolks. Set whites aside on a serving platter. Mash the yolks in a mixing bowl with a fork or pastry blender. Stir in mayonnaise and seasonings, and continue to mix until smooth.

Spoon or pipe mixture with a star tip (for a fancy presentation) into the egg-white halves and dust with paprika, if desired. Let kids top with parsley, chives or scallions. Or create a unique garnish using family favorites, such as sliced grape tomatoes, bacon bits, smoked salmon, pickle relish, capers, or grated cheddar cheese.



**Cook's Note:** Substitute mayonnaise with 3 tablespoons plain hummus, or make a half-and-half mixture of sour cream and Greek yogurt. Add a few drops of Tabasco or vinegar for an extra kick.

\*\*\*

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

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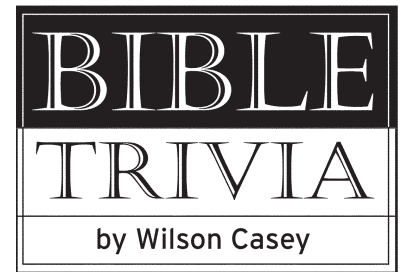
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**BIBLE TRIVIA**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Wilson Casey**



1. Is the book of Jude (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Acts 17, in what city were Paul and his companions accused of turning the world upside down? *Antioch, Smyrna, Thessalonica, Galatia*

3. How many days did it take Nehemiah to get the wall around Jerusalem completed? *6, 52, 100, 1,000*

4. From Genesis 3:15, the snake is supposed to strike at what part of man? *Throat, Hand, Heel, Eyes*

5. In Christianity, what's the title given to the head of a diocese? *Arch, Cardinal, Bishop, Reverend*

6. From Revelation 12, what angel fights against Satan? *Gabriel, Angel of the Lord, Cherubim, Michael*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Thessalonica, 3) 52, 4) Heel, 5) Bishop, 6) Michael

*More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.*

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# Contract Bridge

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CONTRACT BRIDGE

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Steve Becker

## SOLUTION TO A PREDICAMENT

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

### NORTH

♠ A K Q

♥ Q 4

♦ K J 9 5

♣ Q 9 6 3

### WEST

♠ 10 8 5 4 3

♥ 6

♦ 8 7 6 2

♣ 7 5 4

### EAST

♠ 9 7 2

♥ J 10 9 3

♦ 3

♣ K J 10 8 2

### SOUTH

♠ J 6

♥ A K 8 7 5 2

♦ A Q 10 4

♣ A

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	6 ♦	Pass
7 ♦			

Opening lead — eight of diamonds.

To be a good bridge player, simply relying on past experience in similar situations will not be good enough to carry you through in many cases. You must also be able to adapt to situations where things don't go exactly the way you would like them to go.

For example, take this case where South got to an excellent grand slam and went down one, losing 100 points when he should instead have made seven diamonds and scored 2,140 points.

It didn't take South long to go astray. He won the trump lead with the ten and continued with the ace, on which East discarded a club.

At this point, declarer realized that the only real threat to the contract was the possibility that the hearts might not be divided 3-2. So at trick three he led a heart to the queen and then led a heart back to the ace. Unfortunately, West ruffed, and the grand slam went down the drain.

Declarer would have done better had he taken more effective steps to guard against unfavorable divisions in both diamonds and hearts. All he had to do was to cash the ace of clubs at trick two, then lead a low trump to dummy's nine.

Upon discovering the 4-1 trump division, declarer ruffs a club, leads a spade to the queen and ruffs another club with his last trump. Now a spade to the king, followed by the K-J of trump, puts an end to the matter.

By playing this way, South scores all 13 tricks regardless of how the hearts are divided. He finishes with his four natural trump tricks, two club ruffs in his hand, the A-K-Q of spades, the A-K-Q of hearts and the ace of clubs. It seems ridiculously easy when the winning line of play is pointed out. The hard part is to think of it!

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by Steve Becker



by Dana Jackson

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CELEBRITY EXTRA

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Dana Jackson

Photo Credit: Depositphotos

Photo Caption: "Days of Our Lives" actor

Patrick Muldoon (1968-2026)

**Q.** Did they ever say the cause of death for actor Patrick Muldoon? He wasn't even 60 years old. I loved him on "Days of Our Lives."  
— *B.B.*

**A.** Actor Patrick Muldoon ("Melrose Place" and "Days of Our Lives") died suddenly at age 57 this past April. People magazine reported, according to his death certificate, that he died from a myocardial infarction (also known as a heart attack) — and that a pulmonary embolism and a hereditary clotting disorder were also on board.

Even though he was best known for his soap roles and the movie "Starship Troopers," in recent years, Muldoon produced projects in Hollywood, including the 2024 comedy film "Riff Raff," which starred Jennifer Coolidge ("The White Lotus"), Bill Murray ("Lost in Translation"), and Ed Harris ("Dutton Ranch").

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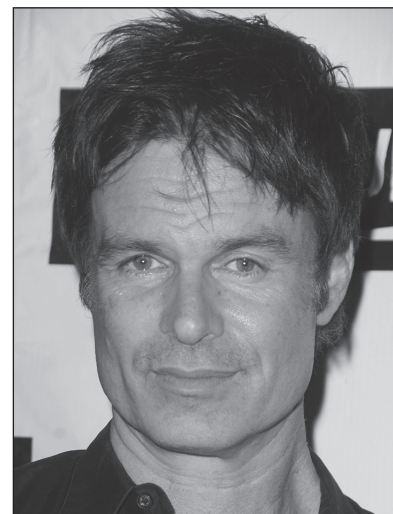
**Q.** I'm a big fan of Nathan Fillion and "The Rookie," but I haven't heard much about the spin-off "Feds." Is it returning for another season? — *K.S.*

**A.** "The Rookie: Feds," which premiered in 2022 and starred Niecy Nash-Betts, was unfortunately canceled after just one season. It had the misfortune of being delayed by the writers' and actors' strikes in Hollywood, and when it did premiere, it attracted only 2.2 million viewers, which is small potatoes in network television.

Co-creator Alexi Hawley explained to Deadline how ABC had other plans that didn't include a renewal of "Feds." He stated, "A lot had to do with the forces that led to strike ... the consolidation of the industry, the economic impact of the streaming wars ... on different companies. I do feel it was not a creative decision. It was a business decision."

According to TVLine, the fact that the spin-off aired at 10 p.m. ET on a Tuesday was a problem, which has long been considered ABC's "death slot." Interestingly, "The Rookie" airs at 10 p.m. on Mondays and is approaching its ninth season.

ABC is hoping that another spin-off,



Depositphotos

"Days of Our Lives" actor  
Patrick Muldoon (1968-2026)

"The Rookie: North," starring Jay Ellis ("Insecure"), will attract better numbers than "Feds." Look for it to debut mid-season in early 2027 with 10 episodes.

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**Q.** Is there actually going to be a new version of "Little House on the Prairie"? Are they sure that this is a good idea? — *G.M.*

**A.** Yes, a reboot/revival of "Little House on the Prairie" based on the books of Laura Ingalls Wilder is coming to Netflix this July. The original series aired on NBC from 1974-1983. The new series' showrunner Rebecca Sonnenshine told Entertainment Weekly that "the spirit of the original show is going to overlap."

Don't worry, it's not a modern retelling of the novels or an original, classic TV show. It's still set on a farm in the late 19th century but will feature new characters, alongside some familiar names from the Ingalls family. According to the cast list, troublemaker Nellie Oleson (played by Willa Dunn) will also be making an appearance.

Send me your questions at  
NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com.

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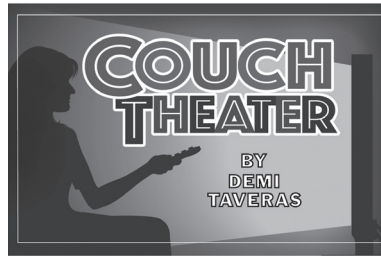
## COUCH THEATER

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Demi Taveras

Photo Credit: Courtesy of MovieStillsDB

Photo Caption: Ralph Fiennes stars in “The Choral.”



**“The Devil Wears Prada 2”** (PG-13) — Going to the theaters to catch the sequel to the 2006 film “The Devil Wears Prada” was quite euphoric, so a rewatch of “Prada 2” might be called for when it’s available to rent on June 30! Pulling in \$682.2 million against a \$100 million budget, the sequel obviously had to bring back Meryl Streep (“Hoppers”) to reprise her role as the cutthroat fashion editor-in-chief Miranda Priestly. Anne Hathaway (“Mother Mary”) is also back as Andy Sachs, who clearly didn’t get enough dirty looks from Miranda during her first go-round at Runway magazine that she’s willing to work under her again. A fun standout in the film was Emily Blunt (“Disclosure Day”), who goes even further off the deep end to maintain her career in fashion. (Amazon Prime Video)

**“I Love Boosters”** (R) — Boots Riley, please never stop making your weird movies! They’re so much fun! Riley made his directorial debut with “Sorry to Bother You” in 2018, and he’s enlisted an incredible group of actors to star in his sophomore film. Keke Palmer (“Good Fortune”), Taylor Paige (“IT: Welcome to Derry”), and Naomi Ackie (“Mickey 17”) lead the film as the Velvet Gang, who’ve made a name for themselves by shoplifting from fashion designer Christie Smith’s (Demi Moore) chain stores. When they hear mention of \$100,000 suits that Christie’s designed, the Velvet Gang — with the help of a few angry workers who are upset with Christie’s working conditions — plan to infiltrate a fashion show and take down the designer once and for all! Out now to rent. (Apple TV)

**“Elle”** (TV-14) — The long-awaited prequel to “Legally Blonde,” starring Reese Witherspoon, is finally premiering on July 1! As an executive producer of the series, Witherspoon was inspired by Jenna Ortega’s “Wednesday” series on Netflix and wanted to see what her iconic character of Elle Woods would be like before she ever got to law school. So, the series follows a teenage Elle, played by breakout star Lexi Minnetree, during her high school years as her father relocates their family to Seattle. June Diane Raphael (“Freakier Friday”) plays Elle’s mother, while Tom Everett Scott (“The Summer I Turned Pretty”) plays Elle’s father. In addition, Chandler Kinney (“Pretty Little Liars”) co-stars as mean girl Kimberly, who clashes with Elle at her new school. (Amazon Prime Video)



Courtesy of MovieStillsDB

**Ralph Fiennes stars in “The Choral.”**

**“The Choral”** (R) — This touching historical drama stars Oscar nominee Ralph Fiennes (“28 Years Later”) as a choirmaster in the fictional town of Ramsden, Yorkshire, during World War I. Although heavily judged for his homosexuality, “Germanophilia” and atheism, Dr. Henry Guthrie (Fiennes) is appointed as a replacement choirmaster when the original one is forced to join the army under military conscription. Along with their original choirmaster, many of the male singers in the choir are also conscripted, leaving Guthrie to recruit teenagers from a local hospital. As time ticks onward and the new boys face their own impending conscriptions, they’re able to find solace, joy and passion in their singing. Premieres July 2. (Netflix)

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DIVAS ON A DIME

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Patti Diamond

PHOTO CREDIT: [www.JasonCoblentz.com](http://www.JasonCoblentz.com)

PHOTO CAPTION: The Dot Cake gets a red, white and blue makeover just in time for

Independence Day.



## Why Dot Cakes Are the Perfect Dessert for America's 250th Birthday

For America's 250th birthday, I had visions of creating something historically significant. Perhaps a colonial recipe. Maybe a dessert inspired by early American kitchens.

Then reality arrived carrying a deadline.

Instead, I found myself making the internet's latest obsession: The Viral Dot Cake.

The funny thing is that the more I learned about the trend, the more appropriate it seemed. Dot Cakes aren't fancy. They're layers of cake, frosting and colorful sprinkles. They're cheerful, nostalgic and designed to be shared. In a year filled with grand celebrations, perhaps that's exactly the kind of dessert we need.

Sometimes the things that bring people together are surprisingly simple. Here's the funny part: The internet's favorite dessert isn't an elaborate goldleaf freckled showpiece or a complicated bakery creation requiring trips to three stores and a monastery.

It's basically birthday cake. Like the kind of cake that we remember from childhood. Colorful, affordable, nostalgic and easy to share, Dot Cake captures something we often forget: Joy doesn't have to be expensive or complicated.

The original viral Dot Cakes are typically made in small cups or jars with

layers of cake and frosting topped with a thick blanket of colorful nonpareils. For Independence Day, I gave mine a patriotic twist by tinting the cake batter red and blue and topping each cake with nonpareils or dots.

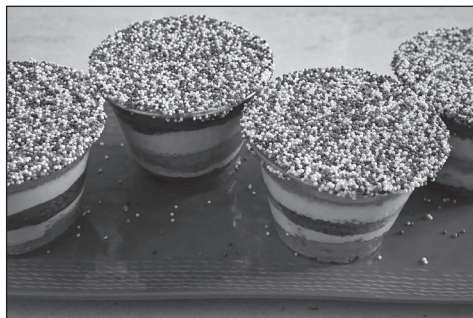
The beauty of Dot Cakes is that they're more about fun than perfection. Use a homemade cake or a boxed mix. Make frosting or open a can. The goal is a familiar birthday-cake flavor, plenty of frosting and a festive sprinkle topping that makes people smile.

### PATRIOTIC DOT CAKES

Yield: 4 (9-ounce) cakes  
Total Time: 40 minutes plus cooling  
*1 white cake mix, plus ingredients called for on package*  
*Red and blue gel food coloring*  
*1 batch frosting (recipe follows) or 1 container prepared frosting*  
*1 cup nonpareil sprinkles, aka dots*  
*4 clear jars, cups or ramekins (8- to 10-ounce size)*

### QUICK & EASY FROSTING

*8 ounces cream cheese, softened*  
*3 tablespoons butter, softened*  
*1 (7-ounce) container marshmallow creme*



[www.JasonCoblentz.com](http://www.JasonCoblentz.com)

*The Dot Cake gets a red, white and blue makeover just in time for Independence Day.*

Preheat oven to 325 F. Prepare a half-sheet pan (13 inch by 18 inch by 1 inch) with non-stick spray and line

it with parchment. Alternatively, use a 9 by 13 cake pan.

Prepare cake batter according to package directions. For thin red and blue layers, divide the batter between two bowls. Tint one bowl red and the other blue using gel food coloring.

Spread the colored batters side by side in the sheet pan and bake for 20 minutes.

Alternatively, simply bake the cake according to package directions in a 9-by-13-inch pan. Bake until done and cooled completely.

To make the frosting, beat cream cheese, butter and marshmallow creme with an electric mixer until smooth and fluffy. Refrigerate. This frosting firms up beautifully when cold.

To Assemble:

Using a round cutter slightly smaller than your serving cups, cut cake rounds. Place one round in the bottom of each cup. Add a layer of frosting. Repeat with additional cake and frosting layers as desired.

Finish with a smooth layer of frosting on top. Use an offset spatula to get a perfectly smooth surface. Pour sprinkles onto a plate and gently turn each cake upside down and press the tops of the cakes into the sprinkles until completely covered.

Refrigerate for at least 1 hour or up to overnight before serving.

These cakes travel beautifully, making them perfect for potlucks, picnics and Independence Day celebrations.

\*\*\*

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

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**FLASHBACK**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Mick Harper**



1. Name the artist who had a solitary hit with "Sunshine."
2. Which song was Barry Sadler best known for?
3. Name the group that had hits in 1967 with "Happy Together" and "She'd Rather Be with Me."
4. Wham! consisted of which two artists?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Don't know much about history, Don't know much biology, Don't know much about a science book, Don't know much about the French I took."

#### **Answers**

1. Jonathan Edwards, in 1971. The song, released on Edwards' debut album, lifted the mood of a lot of people during the Vietnam War. The song was later covered by Juice Newton and the Isley Brothers.
2. "The Ballad of the Green Berets," in 1966. The song stayed at No. 1 on the charts for five weeks.
3. The Turtles. Two of the members, Mark Volman and Howard Kaylan, started performing as Flo & Eddie while they were in the middle of contract problems.
4. George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley.
5. "Wonderful World," by Sam Cooke, in 1960. The song has been covered by several others over the years, including Herman's Hermits in 1965. In 1978, the song was used in "Animal House."



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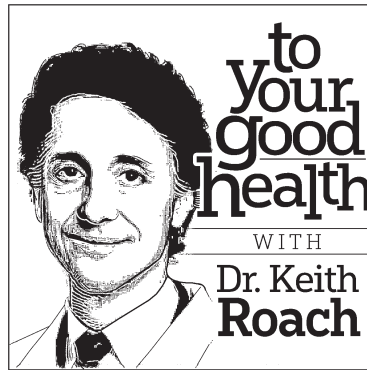
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TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Dr. Keith Roach



## Opiate Prescriptions for Pain Don't Provide Relief to Patient

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I have horrible neck, shoulder, back and hip pain, which are all from different traumas. I've been seeing a pain doctor for the past 14 years. I started out by taking 5 mg of Vicodin and 4 mg of trazodone. Over the years, my prescriptions have been raised to 7.5 mg of oxycodone four times a day and 800 mg of ibuprofen three times a day. I see my doctor every two weeks, and during these visits, I normally get shots (different ones in different places).

My problem is that my pain medicine isn't working anymore. Will I have to keep raising the dosage? I can't take it easy as I'm my husband's sole caregiver. He's had multiple strokes, and his leg was just amputated. Is there any other medication I can add to my current list that might help? Or is there a better pain medicine than oxycodone?  
—A.S.

**ANSWER:** I'm very sorry to hear about your predicament. Being a full-time caregiver while trying to deal with your own medical problems is a very difficult situation that many of my patients (and their caregivers) have been in. The most important advice I have is that opiates like hydrocodone (Vicodin is a brand name for hydrocodone and acetaminophen) and oxycodone aren't good long-term options for most people. As you've found, the dose often needs to be increased just to maintain the same pain relief.

The body gets used to the dose of opiates — a response that is called "tachyphylaxis," which is caused by decreasing the sensitivity of the receptors that opiates bind to in the brain. I've seen people get on exceedingly high doses of strong opiates without receiving adequate pain relief. Unfortunately, side effects of high-dose opiates can include

severe constipation, to which the colon doesn't become accustomed to.

While I don't know the details of the traumas that led to your chronic pain, a pain medicine specialist will usually use a combination of different medications to help. This might include injections; low-dose or microdose opiates; antidepressant medicines that help with chronic pain, such as duloxetine or amitriptyline; antiseizure medicines that help with pain, such as gabapentin; and physical therapy.

Anti-inflammatory drugs like ibuprofen sometimes provide significant pain relief when used in combination with other medicines. However, very high doses (you are on the highest recommended dose) can cause toxicities.

I do want to make it clear that tachyphylaxis is the usual response to opiates, especially at a high dose, but it isn't universal. I have patients who do very well with moderate amounts of opiates and remain on a stable dose with adequate control of their pain. Physicians should always consider the risks of opiates before prescribing them for long-term use.

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**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I'm an 82-year-old woman with sluggish gut issues. I recently heard a doctor say, "Don't take fiber supplements because they mess up your gut," and "Don't take laxatives. Take stool softeners, and it's OK to take them every day." I'm skeptical of both statements. What do you say? Thank you. —E.G.

**ANSWER:** The only statement I wholeheartedly agree with is that it's OK to take stool softeners (such as docusate) daily. I disagree with the recommendation against fiber supplementation. Fiber is very helpful for both diarrhea and constipation, and it also has other benefits, including modestly lowering cholesterol.

However, when fiber supplementation isn't enough, then laxatives such as polyethylene glycol 3350 (MiraLAX) are a very reasonable choice. People who need laxatives every day should still discuss this with their physicians to be sure that there's not some other medical reason for the constipation.

*Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to [ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu).*

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**NOW HERE'S A TIP**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By JoAnn Derson**



- Use a carabiner clip to hold the handles of grocery bags together. They will roll about less in the trunk and are easier to carry into the house when you get home.

- “Many people keep some pet food outdoors. If you have problems with ants in your pet’s food if feeding outside, you will like this trick: Place the bowl of food into a larger pan filled with water. The ants can’t cross it, and it has the added bonus of being another source of water for the animals. Be sure to change it frequently, and put out plenty of fresh water sources for outdoor pets”. — P.Y. in Alabama

- “We unexpectedly had our friends visit with their granddaughter. Since it was unplanned, and we aren’t used to little kids, we were unprepared. My quick-thinking husband split open a garbage bag to use as a protective liner on the bed in case of an accident.” — D.D. in Oregon

- Witch hazel is an old remedy for bruises and bumps. You can find it in the first aid aisle by the peroxide and rubbing alcohol. Simply moisten a folded paper towel, and park it right on the bump (never near the eyes or mouth). It prevents bruising and can lessen swelling in some cases.

- Need to cross out a note so nobody can read it? Take this tip to the scratch pad: Instead of scribbling over something to be crossed out, write random letters over your words until the whole thing is illegible.

- “File this under you CAN teach an old dog new tricks: While watching videos on a cellphone with my daughter, I found out that a pair of folded sunglasses really works as a fantastic stand.” — C.E. in Maine

*Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 1800 Pembroke Dr., Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32810.*

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# HOLLYWOOD

*by Tony Rizzo*

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HOLLYWOOD

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Tony Rizzo

PHOTO CREDIT: Depositphotos

PHOTO CAPTION: Josh Hartnett (Upcoming  
in "White Lies")

HOLLYWOOD — **Michael Douglas** and **Oliver Stone** joined forces again for the upcoming drama film "White Lies." Douglas, 81, and **Ellen Barkin**, 72, will be supporting **Josh Hartnett**, 47, whose character is the film's main focal point. Filming wrapped in June.

Stone won Best Director Oscars for "Platoon" (1986) and "Born on the Fourth of July" (1990), while Douglas won his second Best Actor Oscar for "Wall Street." "Wall Street" earned \$44 million against a \$16.5 million cost, while "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps" (2010) only made \$135 million after a \$70 million cost.

\*\*\*

**Hugh Jackman** hits screens as the elderly robber/baron of Sherwood Forest in "The Death of Robin Hood" (co-starring **Jodie Comer** and **Bill Skarsgard**), in which the former "Wolverine," 57, takes on Robin Hood's midlife crisis.

Jackman then immediately jumped into playing Long John Silver in **Ridley Scott's** upcoming reimagining of "Treasure Island." The book "Treasure Island" by Robert Louis Stevenson has sold more than tens of millions of copies since it was first published in 1883. In 1934, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) made a film version with **Wallace Beery** and **Jackie Cooper**.

In 1950, Disney produced an exciting version with **Robert Newton** and **Bobby Driscoll**, and in 1972, **Orson Welles** played Long John Silver. In 1990, a TV adaption starred **Charlton Heston**, **Christian Bale** and **Oliver Reed**. Since then, at least 50 film and TV versions have been produced.

My obsession with the 1950 Disney film must have been the reason why I eventually joined the navy!

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There's an apparent fascination with the 11 days when **Agatha Christie** disappeared in 1926 without a trace. In 1979, **Vanessa Redgrave** starred in "Agatha" with **Dustin Hoffman**, and in 2018, we saw "Agatha and the Truth of Murder." Now **Ryan McParland** ("The Gentlemen") will star with



Depositphotos

**Josh Hartnett (Upcoming  
in "White Lies")**

**Felicity Jones** and **Ben Hardy** in "Eleven Missing Days."

Christie's most successful play, "The Mousetrap," which opened on Nov. 25, 1952, has a unique contract clause specifying that a movie can't be produced until the stage production closes for at least six months. The never-ending London production of "The Mousetrap" has been running in the West End for over 73 years without signs of closing!

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**Zoey Deutch**, 31, and **Miles Gutierrez-Riley**, 27, star in "Gail Daughtry and the Celebrity Sex Pass," which opens on July 10. It's about a couple who grants each other a sex pass, and in time, they meet female celebrities like **Jennifer Aniston**, 57, **Elizabeth Banks**, 52, and **Elizabeth Perkins**, 65, for him. They also meet male celebrities like **Jon Hamm**, 55, **Henry Winkler**, 80, "Weird Al" **Yankovic**, 66, and **Paul Rudd**, 57, for her. You'd think that a young couple would want sex passes with celebrities who are a lot less geriatric!

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KOVELS ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Terry and Kim Kovel

PHOTO CREDIT: Woody Auction

PHOTO CAPTION: Colorful opaque glass was a popular choice for decorative lampshades in the late 19th to early 20th centuries.

## Glass Shades

The invention of the electric light bulb didn't just introduce an improved, more convenient, safer light source. It gave designers new inspiration. As the use of electric lights spread during the late 19th to early 20th centuries, lamps with colorful opaque glass shades became popular. They made beautiful decorations, whether on or off, and the intense electric light shining through the glass often gave the design a whole new look.

Tiffany, Handel, and Pairpoint made the most famous lamps of the time. They have stunning, high-quality shades made with complex techniques, and the bases are usually bronze and often have intricate designs or figural shapes. Unsurprisingly, they can sell for tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars today — a windfall if you've inherited one but a bit of an extravagant purchase for most collectors.

Similar lamps made by the many other companies active at the time may not quite reach those heights, but especially striking and well-made examples can still sell for impressive prices, even without a known maker. Even though its maker was not identified, this lamp sold for \$3,000 at Woody Auction. Its light blue, orange, and caramel-colored glass panels make an eye-catching combination, especially with the ornate scrolls, wreaths, and flowers on its metal frame. A lighted base adds to its appeal.

\*\*\*

**Q:** Our handpainted Nippon chocolate set, including a pitcher and five cups and saucers, has been in our family for over 60 years. It is decorated with roses and gold and has a blue mark on the base with a leaf. We are wondering what it is worth so that we can list it correctly in our estate.

**A:** The leaf mark was used by the Morimura Bros., who opened their trading company in 1876. In

1904, they founded the company that was later known as Noritake, one of the most famous names in 20th-century Japanese ceramics. Morimura and Noritake used the maple leaf mark with the words "Nippon" and "Hand Painted" starting in 1891. The mark could be blue, green, or magenta. Nippon chocolate sets the size of yours, with the blue leaf mark and similar decorations, have sold for about \$150 to \$300 at recent auctions.

For a more precise estimate, you may want to contact a collector's club, like the International Nippon Collectors Club ([nipponcollectorsclub.com](http://nipponcollectorsclub.com)), or an auction house or dealer that sells similar ceramics. To list the value of your estate, you may need to get a professional appraisal; however, they tend to be very expensive and may not be necessary if the value of the item is under a certain amount.

\*\*\*

**TIP:** When changing an antique, like rewiring a lamp or reupholstering a chair seat, keep the old pieces and parts you remove. When you sell your antique, the new owner will pay more if the old parts are part of the history.

\*\*\*

## CURRENT PRICES

*Game*, mahjong, bone tiles, wood case, foldout front, brass mounts, two top handles, label, Mah-Jongg Sales Co. of America, San Francisco, 7 x 8 x 8 inches, \$100.

*Carousel*, horse, jumper, walnut, front hooves raised, painted, multi-color saddle and blanket, carved mane and tail, rectangular base, 47 x 55 1/2 inches, \$290.

*Dental*, tool cabinet, quartersawn oak, hinged lid, pullout front, three folding shelves over 10 drawers, marked, H. Gerstner & Sons, 15 1/2 x 16 x 9 inches, \$420.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit [www.Kovels.com](http://www.Kovels.com)

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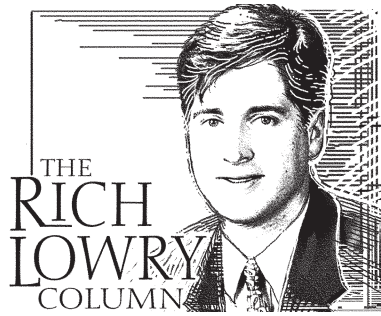
*Colorful opaque glass was a popular choice for decorative lampshades in the late 19th to early 20th centuries.*



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THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Rich Lowry**



## **Why Trump couldn't bring Iran to heel**

Iran, a second-rate power in a state of economic collapse, just fought the U.S. to a standstill in a major military conflict. The disappointing outcome has echoes of Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, in that a major world power hasn't been able to impose its will on a militarily inferior foe.

The problem comes when we run into an enemy that has a high threshold for pain and is determined to outlast us, while we make what we hope will be a time-limited commitment, seek to avoid escalations that carry unpredictable risks and operate from a tenuous base of domestic political support in the United States.

This is why we can utterly dominate our adversaries and still succumb to asymmetric campaigns of attrition; it explains, in short, why in the post-World War II era, we haven't lost battles, only wars.

It's extraordinary to think that, in the struggle over control of the Strait of Hormuz, the country that has carrier fleets and advanced fighters effectively lost to the country that has drones and fast boats. We didn't lack the capability to reopen the strait; we lacked the stomach for a risky and protracted operation.

The famous Taliban adage was, "You have the watches, but we have the time." George C. Marshall once said the U.S. couldn't fight a Seven Years' War; the outcome of the Iran conflict suggests we can't even tolerate a seven-month one.

Trump pushed back against impatience about the pace of the war by saying that Vietnam lasted years. True enough, but Trump was almost as eager to see an end to the war as his critics. He originally conceived of it as a four- to six-week operation, and when it dragged on, he could only tolerate high gas prices ahead of the mid-term elections for so long.

We tend to believe that our ability to

missile, bomb and shell our enemies at levels never before seen in human history guarantees military success.

As Max Boot notes in his book on America's small wars, "The Savage Wars of Peace," when queried by a reporter about how the Americans would defeat the Viet Cong, Gen. William Westmoreland responded simply: "Firepower."

We possessed it in abundance, then as now. Boot writes: "The U.S. side had sensors, ground radar, infrared equipment, defoliants, herbicides, cluster bombs, missiles of various varieties, tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery of various calibers, naval vessels ranging from small patrol boats to giant nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and, of course, all the aircraft — everything from B-52 bombers to UH-1 Huey helicopters to specially fitted C-47 airplanes known as Puff the Magic Dragon equipped with automatic machine guns capable of spitting out 6,000 rounds a minute."

All told, LBJ's bombing campaign, Rolling Thunder, unloaded roughly 800 tons of ordnance a day for three and a half years, according to Boot. Throughout the entire war, the U.S. dropped 8 million tons of bombs, far eclipsing what we used in World War II. Much of this was the equivalent of Joseph Conrad's gunboat futilely firing into the jungle in "Heart of Darkness."

The target list in Iran was more discriminating and achieved concrete goals of degrading the regime's military and industrial capacity. But the idea that simply listing the number of targets hit, or saying we were "ahead of schedule," proved that we were close to achieving strategic goals — toppling the regime, or getting it to give up its highly enriched uranium, or reopening the Strait of Hormuz — smacked of the empty bean-counting that characterized the U.S. government's defense of the conduct of the Vietnam War.

Every war depends on a combination of capability and will. In Iran, we demonstrated that our weapons systems and warfighters are world-class, but that our staying power and willingness to bear costs are limited. That's why we're allowing a cruel and deranged enemy that absorbed untold punishment to win significant benefits at the negotiating table, and live to fight another day.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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## Moments in time

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MOMENTS IN TIME

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

• On **July 13, 2013**, Patrisse Cullors, a Los Angeles community organizer, read a friend's Facebook post expressing distress over the acquittal of George Zimmerman, who'd killed Trayvon Martin the year before, and replied to the post with the first instance of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag.

• On **July 14, 1918**, Quentin Roosevelt, a 20-year-old pilot in the United States Air Service and the fourth son of former President Theodore Roosevelt, was shot down and killed by a German Fokker plane over the Marne River in France.

• On **July 15, 1953**, John Christie, one of England's most notorious killers, was executed. Four months earlier, police and a tenant in West London had discovered the remains of four women, one of whom was Christie's wife, at a house where he'd lived, and he was apprehended and confessed a week later. Detectives soon found additional bodies buried in the yard behind the house as well.

• On **July 16, 1862**, Ida B. Wells, a future educator, investigative journalist and civil rights activist, was born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi. Motivated in part by racism within the women's suffrage movement, she would eventually found and co-found the NAACP, the National Association of Colored Women, and the Alpha Suffrage Club.

• On **July 17, 1996**, a TWA Boeing 747 jetliner headed for Paris exploded over the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 passengers and crew aboard and creating a fireball seen along most of the Long Island coastline. A highly criticized investigation ended two years later with the conclusion that the tragedy had been caused by mechanical failure rather than a suspected bomb or missile.

• On **July 18 1995**, "Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance," a memoir by a law professor by the name of Barack Obama, was published prior to its author's entry into the political realm. Thirteen years later, that largely unknown professor would be elected America's 44th president.

• On **July 19, 1952**, air traffic controllers in Washington, D.C., sighted UFOs flying over the White House and U.S. Capitol. More would appear a week later, but all were dismissed as simply a weather phenomenon.



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PAW'S CORNER

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Sam Mazotta

## Fireworks and pets do not mix

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I am so frustrated by the incredible amount of fireworks set off by neighbors on July Fourth. My two dogs, "Skip" and "Marbles," cower in the farthest corner of the house and are emotionally wrecked for days afterward. People need to be considerate of pets and not set off unregulated fireworks in neighborhoods. They should go and watch the professional fireworks displays instead; it'll be a better experience for everyone. —  
**Jill S. in Orlando, Florida**

**DEAR JILL:** You're absolutely right, and thank you for telling them. There is no reason to set off loud fireworks in the driveway or backyard; it's a dangerous activity (14,700 injuries and 11 deaths occurred in 2024, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission). Loud fireworks stress out pets to the point that many need medical attention. Some dogs and cats react aggressively to the sudden loud noise, turning and snapping at anyone in reach.

You get the picture. Fireworks are not fun for pets, and they can injure themselves or others in a frenzy of fear.

Great, some of you are saying; how does that help my pet? I know that completely stopping neighborhood fireworks is difficult, perhaps impossible.

As a pet owner, you can take proactive steps to keep your pet comfortable. Talk to the veterinarian and create a strategy. For example, take your pet for a long walk or play session in the afternoon of the Fourth of July to tire them out. Before sunset, give your dog or cat anti-anxiety medication and set up a cozy nook — or even their carrier crate — with their favorite blankets, water and snacks. This can help them stay calmer during the hours after sunset as random fireworks go off.

*Send your tips, comments or questions to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).*

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THE POD REPORT

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Dana Block

## THE POD REPORT

By Dana Block



### THIS WEEK'S CATEGORY: Hospice and Palliative Care

Caring for a loved one with a terminal illness is an emotionally complex journey that is also physically exhausting. While hospice is an excellent resource, caregivers are often surprised that a nurse typically only visits once a week. These five podcasts can help prepare and guide you through this difficult transition:

#### “The Heart of Hospice Podcast”

— With diseases like Alzheimer's and other types of dementia on the rise, the need to plan for end-of-life caregiving is more essential than ever. Be sure to check out the “Back to Basics” episode from Dec. 16, 2025, with hospice social worker Rosie Gaston. Before it's too late, ask your loved one where they want to live out their life, which treatments they want (and don't want), who would be their primary caregiver, and who will pay for the expenses surrounding their care. (TheWholeCareNetwork.com)

“Ask a Death Doula” — Suzanne B. O'Brien is an experienced hospice and oncology nurse, whose mission is to help people “accept death as a natural part of life.” In an episode from March, she addresses one of the most common but distressing questions for families of dying loved ones: What happens when your loved one stops eating and drinking in the stages before death?

This podcast answers questions like this one and more. (AskDeathDoula.Podbean.com)

“Hospice Explained” — Host Marie Betcher, RN, launched this podcast as a way to decrease fear and increase education for families of patients who are on their end-of-life journey. Her guests include several fellow nurses, whose advice will help you better manage your expectations. In episode 136, Jamie Haberman, RN, discusses common misconceptions about hospice. She also explains what to do if you're not satisfied with your hospice provider. (HospiceExplained.com)

#### Don't Forget These Gems

“What It's Like to Be ... with Dan Heath” — In this fascinating podcast hosted by New York Times bestselling author Dan Heath, learn what it's like to “walk in someone else's (work) shoes” from people who love what they do. In an episode from May 2025, he talks with a retired hospice nurse about how she knew when the end was imminent — and how she handled dilemmas like end-of-life regrets and frayed relationships between patients and families. (WhatItsLiketoBe.com)

“In Sickness” — This podcast is hosted by two millennial caregivers of chronically ill spouses who live on opposite sides of the country. What started out as a short, six-episode series has grown into a weekly podcast that is now seven years running! Their guests include other caregivers of all kinds, as well as experts like death doulas, caregiver policy representatives, and trauma-informed yoga therapists. They also invite their listeners to attend a virtual support group based on the episode's topic. (InSickness.care)

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## **SALOME'S STARS**

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

EDITORS: These horoscopes are for use the  
week of JULY 6, 2026.



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Is someone at work resisting your Aries charm? Hard to believe. But seriously, Lamb, you might want to back up your ideas with some solid data, then watch the “yeas” pile on.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your hard work could pay off in ways that you didn’t expect but certainly deserve. Tend to a pesky health problem now so that you’ll be in top shape to tackle the new projects coming up.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Planning a family event can be stressful, unless you make it clear from the start that you’re in charge. You might accept suggestions, but it’ll be your decisions that count.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You still have a way to go to bring a professional matter to a satisfactory conclusion. Meanwhile, an important personal situation could require more of your attention by week’s end.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) There’s something about you Fine Felines that makes people want to tell you secrets. But once again, be wary of who’s doing the telling. You might not want to be this person’s confidante.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Creating a fuss about a family matter might get everyone’s attention. But it might be better to talk one-on-one with family members in order to spare a loved one from unnecessary embarrassment.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You’re making progress on

a career move, albeit not as quickly as you had hoped. But stay with it. Meanwhile, your personal life takes an unexpected (but very welcome) new turn.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) If you feel like you’ve been unfairly treated in a workplace decision, correct the situation now while there’s still time to do so. Arm yourself with facts and go to it. Good luck!

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Devising your own system of doing things might be the best way to handle an increasingly complex situation. But do it tactfully in order to avoid ruffling too many of your colleagues’ feathers.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A family member’s health problem might once again require you to shift some of your current priorities around. But this time, make certain that other relatives will be around to help.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Catching up on tasks that you’ve left undone will take a while to accomplish. But the sooner you complete them, the sooner you’ll be able to take on another time-sensitive project.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You might feel swamped by everything that you’re expected to do. But take a moment to come up for air, then handle things one at a time. You’ll soon get through them all.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Although you love being at home with your family and furry ones, you also enjoy traveling, exploring, and making new friends.

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# SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

## Stay aware of recalls

Sometimes the list of recalls mentioned on the evening news makes us wonder what else we're not hearing about.

Here are a few current ones:

There is a recall on 25-milligram blood pressure medication chlorthalidone tablets due to what the FDA says is "failed dissolution specifications." Over 11,000 bottles across the country are affected.

And we have the 125,000 vehicles that are being recalled again because the repairs weren't completed correctly the first time the vehicles were recalled. While there are a few issues in those recalls, the problem with the clutch might be the most important — it can leak fluid and cause a fire.

In some cases we really have to wonder how mistakes were allowed to get out the door. We have dark chocolate raisins that have undeclared peanuts in them. We have saline nasal spray with mold in it, ricotta cheese with listeria and vitamins with salmonella.

And the pancake mix we use for Sunday morning breakfasts? Undeclared soy and milk. How about the cheese bread and garlic croutons? Salmonella. How about the fruit ice pops we give to the grandkids? Milk, pecans, pistachios and both yellow and red dye.

Our pets aren't left out of the mistakes. One freeze-dried brand of cat and dog food has levels of vitamin B-1 that are too low.

Sometimes recalls don't immediately make it to the evening news, and it's up to us to stay on top of these things. Start a weekly habit of checking the various government recall websites. Go to [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov) and click on "Recalls." Or see the food safety website ([www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls)). Go online to [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov) and you have a choice of consumer products, vehicles, boats, food, medicine, cosmetics and environmental product recalls to review. You can click on recent recalls or do a search through the recalls.

Stay aware — and stay safe.

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Matilda Charles





by Ryan A. Berenz

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**SPORTS QUIZ**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Ryan A. Berenz**

1. Which racetrack, site of the 1959 Formula 1 German Grand Prix, had a 43-degree banked turn known as the “Wall of Death”?

2. What large-scale video display, produced by Mitsubishi Electric, was first installed at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles for the 1980 MLB All-Star Game?

3. In April 2001, 43 people were killed in an over-capacity crowd surge during a soccer match at Ellis Park Stadium, located in which country?

4. Who knocked out “Oklahoma Giant” Carl Morris 14 seconds into the first round of a December 1918 heavyweight boxing match in New Orleans?

5. The NFL’s 1979 rule banning tear-away jerseys was inspired by and informally named after what Cleveland Browns running back?

6. In December 2021, which team defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder 152-79, making the 73-point win the biggest blowout in NBA history?

7. In 1974, Ted Giannoulas first donned the costume of which world-famous sports mascot?

#### **Answers**

1. AVUS (Automobil-Verkehrs- und Übungsstraße).

2. Diamond Vision.

3. South Africa.

4. Jack Dempsey.

5. Greg Pruitt.

6. The Memphis Grizzlies.

7. The San Diego Chicken.

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By Lucie Winborne

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**STRANGE BUT TRUE**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Lucie Winborne**

- Time slows down so dramatically near a black hole that if you stood close enough to it, years could pass for the universe while just minutes passed for you.

- After trading \$3 billion worth of Pepsi-Cola to the U.S.S.R. in exchange for vodka, submarines and other military hardware, the Pepsi company briefly had the sixth largest military in the world.

- Iceland's parliament, the Icelandic Althingi, first formed in 930 A.D., is the oldest in the world.

- The tradition of carrying the bride across the threshold started in medieval Europe when many people believed that a bride was especially vulnerable to evil spirits through the soles of her feet. To guard her from such attacks, the chivalric groom would carry her into their new home.

- Los Angeles has the world's largest Korean population outside of Korea.

- In J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," dragon blood is revealed to be an effective oven cleaner.

- The Pyramids of Giza are the only Great Wonder of the ancient world still standing.

- During WWII, the Polish army adopted a brown bear named Wojtek into their ranks. The animal was fond of cigarettes and beer, and even received a promotion from private to corporal.

- A sloth can take up to two weeks to digest a single meal.

- Actress Roseanne Barr once attempted to run for president and got as far as filing with the Federal Election Commission, under the "Green Tea Party Ticket."

- Lightning isn't limited to thunderstorms, but can also occur in volcanic eruptions, wildfires and snowstorms.

- During certain periods in feudal Japan, executions of condemned criminals were used by some samurais to test their new swords.

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**Thought for the Day:** "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." — *Tom Brokaw*

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**Here's what to watch and  
where to watch it for the week  
of July 6, 2026.**

ON NOW: "X-Men '97" (Season 2)  
— Disney+

ON NOW: "The Simpsons: Simpsley"  
(Exclusive Episode) — Disney+

6-July: "Hamnet" (PG-13) — Netflix

8-July: "Trying" (Season 5) — Apple  
TV

9-July: "The Five Star Weekend"  
(Limited Series) — Peacock

9-July: "Little House on the Prairie"  
(Season 1) — Netflix

10-July: "Project Runway" (Season  
22) — Hulu

10-July: "Shipwrecked: Nightmare at  
Sea" (Documentary) — Netflix

12-July: "The Westies" (Season 1)  
— MGM+

12-July: "Married at First Sight"  
(Season 20) — Peacock

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TOP TEN MOVIES

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

1. **Toy Story 5**  
(PG) Tom Hanks, Tim Allen
2. **Disclosure Day**  
(PG-13) Emily Blunt, Josh O'Connor
3. **Obsession**  
(R) Michael Johnston, Inde Navarrette
4. **Backrooms**  
(R) Chiwetel Ejiofor, Renate Reinsve
5. **Scary Movie**  
(R) Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans
6. **Masters of the Universe**  
(PG-13) Nicholas Galitzine, Camila Mendes
7. **Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu**  
(PG-13) Pedro Pascal, Brendan Wayne
8. **The Death of Robin Hood**  
(R) Hugh Jackman, Jodie Comer
9. **Leviticus**  
(R) Tyallah Bullock, Stacy Clausen
10. **Michael**  
(PG-13) Jaafar Jackson, Nia Long

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**TRIVIA TEST**

**FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026**

**By Fifi Rodriguez**

1. MOVIES: Who was the only actress to appear in the 1961 and 2021 film versions of “West Side Story”?

2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month of the year has the most letters in its name?

3. SCIENCE: What protects the Earth from solar winds?

4. TELEVISION: What is the name of the bar in “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia”?

5. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the first Ben & Jerry’s ice cream shop?

6. LITERATURE: What are the names of the two brothers in the “Hardy Boys” novel series?

7. LANGUAGE: What is a polyglot?

8. FOOD & DRINK: Which herb is most often used in traditional pesto?

9. ANATOMY: Membranes called pleurae cover the surface of which human organs?

10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of South Korea?

#### **Answers**

1. Rita Moreno.

2. September.

3. The magnetosphere, an invisible magnetic bubble generated inside the Earth.

4. Paddy’s Pub.

5. Vermont.

6. Frank and Joe.

7. A person who speaks several languages.

8. Basil.

9. The lungs.

10. Seoul.

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by Freddy Groves

## Avoid foreclosure on a VA home loan

The VA Partial Claim Program begins now. The purpose? To help veterans avoid foreclosure on their homes.

The program was started last summer when the VA Home Loan Reform Act was signed into law. In this partial claim program, the VA can pay up to 25% of the unpaid principal.

Veterans in danger of losing their home to foreclosure should call the mortgage servicer to find out about eligibility to participate in the partial claim program.

To be eligible, you must have a VA loan, not FHA or conventional. The home has to be your primary residence; no vacation homes or investment properties can qualify. You have to be at risk of default on the loan. And, the biggie here, you have to prove you can make your payments.

It's not a handout, but it can be a hand up. One of the first steps is that the VA will advance funds to bring the mortgage current and then the veteran needs to prove he or she can stay current by making payments on a trial basis for three months.

If a trial repayment doesn't work, it's possible that a loan modification might (although those can be risky if the interest rate goes up on the new loan). There are a number of ways for veterans to keep their homes (it helped 173,000 veterans last year alone). Some of those include making modifications to traditional loans, disaster modifications, and 30- and 40-year loan modifications.

If you're having trouble dealing with your mortgage servicer, call the VA at 877-827-3702 and press 6 to get help.

Mortgage servicers have until November this year to get the program into their system.

For information on avoiding foreclosure, see [www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/trouble-making-payments](http://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/trouble-making-payments). Scroll down to see the seven ways to avoid foreclosure.

As always, beware the possibility of scams. If you suddenly receive calls about foreclosure help, don't give any information. Instead, call the VA or mortgage servicer yourself to be sure who you're talking to.

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257

VETERANS POST

FOR RELEASE JUNE 29, 2026

By Freddy Groves

# BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 42:8b-10b

a prayer to the God of my life. I say to God my Rock,  
“Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about  
mourning, oppressed by the enemy?” My bones  
suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to  
me all day long.

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

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

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram.  
They run in all directions — forward, backward, up,  
down and diagonally.

WWW.SEARCHING-FOR-JESUS.COM

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## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers

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

Classic Maze Toons



## 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: **U** equals **V**

V ITJWW QRK QUVQR UQAVJXK

XMQX QZZJQEW XD IDY VR

MJQUJR HDTEY OJ

HEQWWVNVJY QW Q OVAY

DN ZAQK.

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## CryptoQuip

answer

I guess any avian variety  
that appeals to God in  
heaven could be  
classified as a bird  
of pray.

# CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

H YUO HP H'W JZUMXHPMT.

H YUO HP H'W YXDNGQ.

ONM CHTT GNX LZXZDWHGZ

WO YXNDO - H CHTT.

- UWO YBVMWZD

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## CryptoQuote answer

I say if I'm beautiful.

I say if I'm strong.

You will not determine

my story - I will.

- Amy Schumer



# 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. Leg joint	__ _ K __ _	Viewpoint	__ _ G __ _
2. Agriculturalist	__ A __ _ _ _	Previous	__ O __ _ _ _
3. Inconsequential	__ I __ _ _	Estate	__ A __ _ _
4. Face makeup	__ _ _ _ E	_____ and ready	__ _ _ _ H
5. Financial manager	__ A __ _ _ _	Edith and Archie	__ U __ _ _ _
6. Shake from the cold	__ _ _ V __ _	Blackeye	__ _ _ N __ _
7. Cagney or Bond	J __ _ _ _	Domesticates	T __ _ _ _
8. Fall blossom	__ S __ _ _	Change	__ L __ _ _
9. Tonto's horse	__ _ _ U __	F. _____ Fitzgerald	__ _ _ T __
10. Baby toy	R __ _ _ _	Combative clash	B __ _ _ _

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## Even Exchange

answers

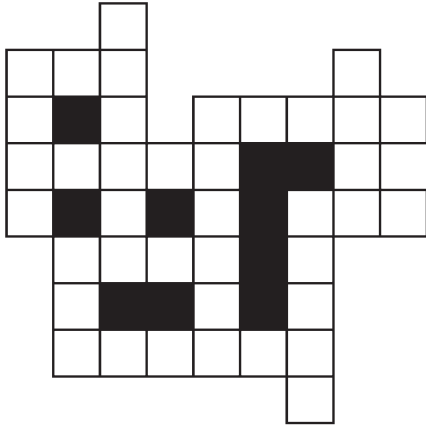
- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ankle, Angle   | 6. Shiver, Shiner  |
| 2. Farmer, Former | 7. James, Tames    |
| 3. Minor, Manor   | 8. Aster, Alter    |
| 4. Rouge, Rough   | 9. Scout, Scott    |
| 5. Banker, Bunker | 10. Rattle, Battle |

# FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- DMO
- ♥ ESPROU
- ESPEH
- ♥ OSDH
- ♥ ESPRIH
- ♥ IPH
- ♥ RISA
- ODERN
- ♥ ISP
- ♥ PLIDEM
- ♥ ANLER
- ♥ SMHE

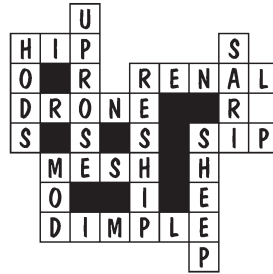


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Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. **HAGNEC** becomes **CHANGE**). Prepare to use only **ONE** word from any marked ( ♥ ) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥ **RATHE** becomes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

## FEAR KNOT

answer



P	R	I	N	T

- PC command
- Prepare for competition
- Low point
- Repairs a sock
- Gets info from a newspaper
- Lamp accessory

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.

FiveSpot™

Solution

P	R	I	N	T
T	R	A	I	N
N	A	D	I	R
D	A	R	N	S
R	E	A	D	S
S	H	A	D	E

# 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.

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	+			-		= 1		
+		+		-				
	+			-		= 7		
×		-		÷				
	-		÷			= 6		
=		=		=				
90		7		2				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Go Figure!

answers

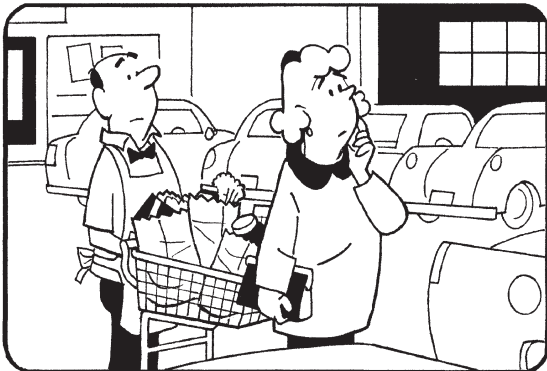
2	+	6	-	7	= 1
+		+		-	
8	+	4	-	5	= 7
×		-		÷	
9	-	3	÷	1	= 6
=		=		=	
90		7		2	

**HOCUS-FOCUS**

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF

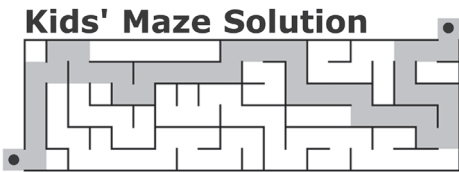
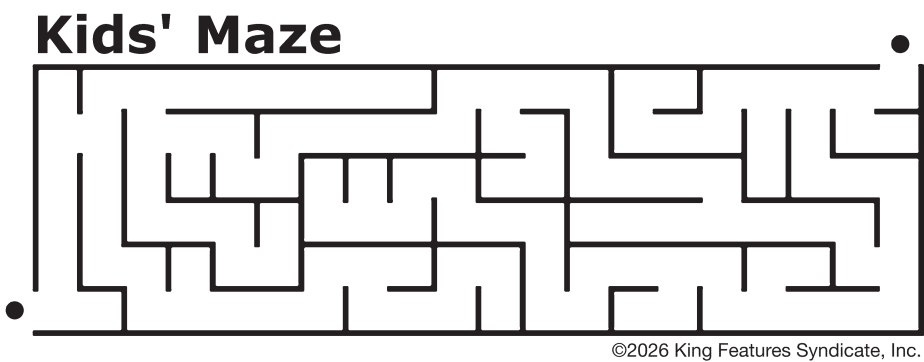


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Store windows are moved. 2. License plate is missing. 3. Bow tie is added. 4. Bumper is moved. 5. Coat is missing. 6. Hair is longer.

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# KNIGHT MOVES

R	V	T
R		E
O	U	E

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

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KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

R	V	T
R		E
O	U	E

OVERTURE



# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 "Chocolat" actor  
5 Audio giant  
9 Prune  
12 Antioxidant berry  
13 Egg  
14 — budget  
15 Plumbing problem  
16 Firsties  
17 TiVo precursor  
18 Foolproof  
19 Sch. URL ender  
20 Borscht base  
21 Sailing hazard  
23 — Victor  
25 Daughter of Muhammad  
28 Lynx  
32 "West Side Story" role  
33 Prefix meaning "water"  
34 Ocean bot-toms  
36 Grapevine talk  
37 Chow down  
38 "— was saying ..."  
39 Scoff  
42 Half of bi-  
44 Sod  
48 Napoleon's title (Abbr.)  
49 Mideast gulf  
50 Verifiable  
51 Brit. record label  
52 Get up  
53 Perimeter  
54 Lobbyists' org.  
55 Pitch  
56 Reddish brown  
8 Ambulance letters  
9 Zero, in tennis  
10 Formerly  
11 Section  
20 Date night hire  
22 D-Day beach  
24 Some Pacific salmon  
25 Passing craze  
26 Chemical suffix  
27 Gratuity  
29 LP successors  
30 NPR's Shapiro  
31 Pinnacle  
35 Recording site  
36 Olympic swim-mer Rowdy  
39 "M\*A\*S\*H" vehicle  
40 Tennis star Raducanu  
41 Grand tale  
43 Legendary loch  
45 Language of Pakistan  
46 Carpets  
47 Shoe fillers  
49 Illustrations

## DOWN

- 1 June honorees  
2 Beige  
3 Two of a kind  
4 Specialist in the heating/cooling indus-try  
5 Grocery store  
6 Roman poet  
7 Outlying area

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
		18						19				
20	21					22	23					
24					25					26	27	28
29					30					31		
32				33					34			
				35					36			
37	38	39					40					
41					42	43					44	45
46					47					48		
49					50					51		

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## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 "Chocolat" actor  
5 Audio giant  
9 Prune  
12 Antioxidant berry  
13 Egg  
14 — budget  
15 Plumbing problem  
16 Firsties  
17 TiVo precursor  
18 Foolproof  
19 Sch. URL ender  
20 Borscht base  
21 Sailing hazard  
23 — Victor  
25 Daughter of Muhammad  
28 Lynx  
32 "West Side Story" role  
33 Prefix meaning "water"  
34 Ocean bottoms  
36 Grapevine talk  
37 Chow down  
38 "— was saying ..."  
39 Scoff  
42 Half of bi-  
44 Sod  
48 Napoleon's title (Abbr.)  
49 Mideast gulf  
50 Verifiable  
51 Brit. record label

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15			16						17			
		18						19				
20	21					22	23					
24					25					26	27	28
29				30						31		
32			33						34			
			35						36			
37	38	39					40					
41					42	43					44	45
46						47				48		
49					50					51		

- 52 Get up  
53 Perimeter  
54 Lobbyists' org.  
55 Pitch  
56 Reddish brown  
7 Outlying area  
8 Ambulance letters  
9 Zero, in tennis  
10 Formerly  
11 Section  
20 Date night hire  
22 D-Day beach  
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25 Passing craze  
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31 Pinnacle  
35 Recording site  
36 Olympic swimmer  
Rowdy  
39 "M\*A\*S\*H" vehicle  
40 Tennis star  
Raducanu  
41 Grand tale  
43 Legendary loch  
45 Language of Pakistan  
46 Carpets  
47 Shoe fillers  
49 Illustrations

## DOWN

- 1 June honorees  
2 Beige  
3 Two of a kind  
4 Specialist in the heating/cooling industry  
5 Grocery store  
6 Roman poet

— King Crossword —  
Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

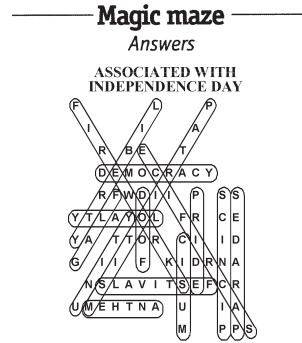
# MAGIC MAZE ● ASSOCIATED WITH INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

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

Anthem	Flag	Music	Pride
Democracy	Food	Parades	Sacrifice
Festivals	Liberty	Patriotism	Unity
Fireworks	Loyalty	Picnics	

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# Puzzles4Kids

by Helene  
Hovanec

## WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

**WHAT FRUITS ARE ALWAYS COMPLAINING?**

SECRET	___	STEER	CASHEW	___	CHEWS
PHRASE	___	HEAPS	SIMPLE	___	MILES
APACHE	___	PEACH	CASPER	___	RACES
GARBLE	___	LARGE	GRILLS	___	GIRLS
			RECIPE	___	PRICE
			MESSES	___	SEEMS

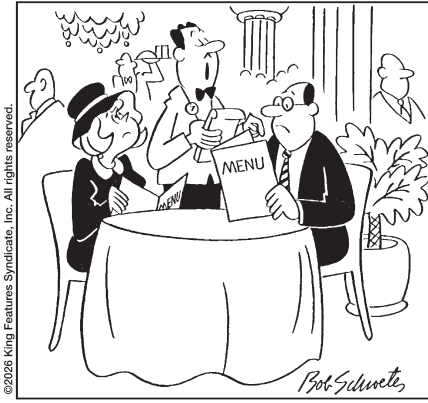
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## Puzzles4Kids

### Answer

SECRET	C	STEER
PHRASE	R	HEAPS
APACHE	A	PEACH
GARBLE	B	LARGE

CASHEW	A	CHEWS
SIMPLE	P	MILES
CASPER	P	RACES
GRILLS	L	GIRLS
RECIPE	E	PRICE
MESSES	S	SEEMS



"Of course, all those prices are just  
\_\_\_\_\_."

## 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!

Shield	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
MARRO	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
Laud	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
XELOT	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
Mug	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
NITES	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
Tower	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
PIERS	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>

TODAY'S WORD

## SCRAMBLERS

*solution*

1. Armor; 2. Extol  
3. Stein; 4. Spire

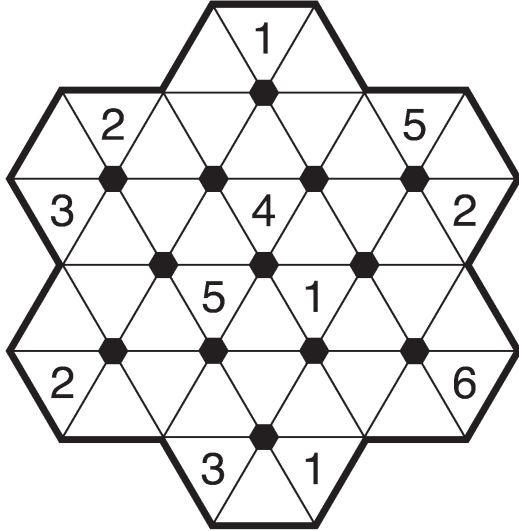
*Today's Word*

**ESTIMATES**

# SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

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.



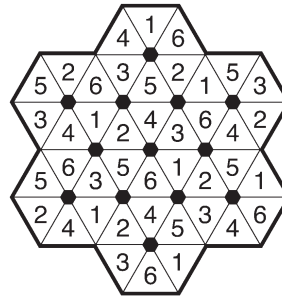
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy    ◆◆ Medium    ◆◆◆ Difficult

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## SNOWFLAKES

solution





# **STICKELERS** [sic].

by **Terry Stickels**

Here are some anagrams of well-known people, with hints in parentheses. Try your luck at deciphering their names.

- 1) Screen is a storm (director)
- 2) Knew the shaping (physicist)
- 3) Bar bet, uh? (Hall of Fame baseball player)
- 4) Unsocial print (American author)
- 5) Cool ego energy (American actor)

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## **Stickelers Answer**

- 1) Martin Scorsese (Screen is a storm)
- 2) Stephen Hawking (Knew the shaping)
- 3) Babe Ruth (Bar bet, uh?)
- 4) Upton Sinclair (Unsocial print)
- 5) George Clooney (Cool ego energy)

# Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate    ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

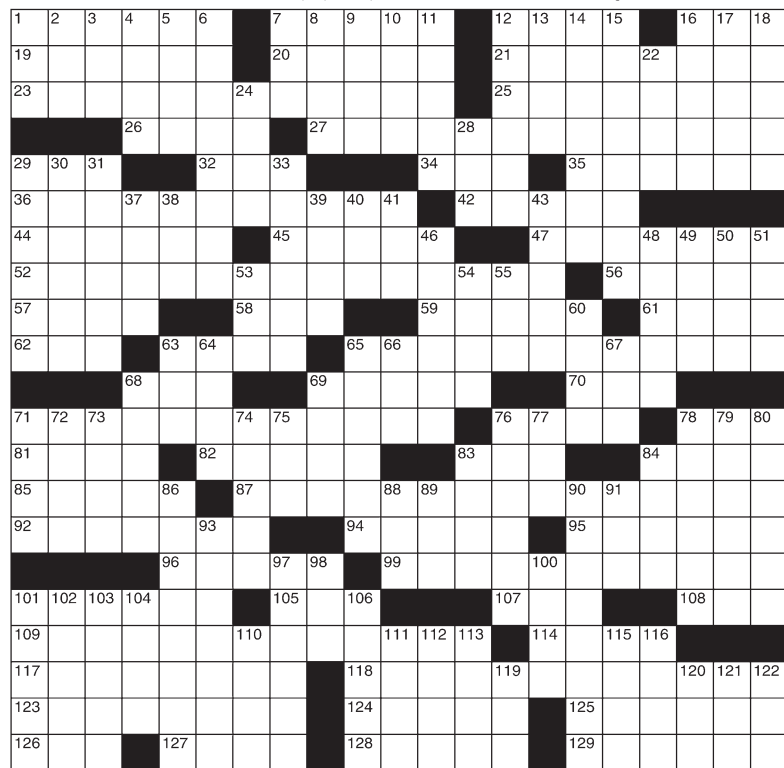
# Super Crossword

RAISING A RACKET

King Features Weekly Service  
June 29, 2026

## ACROSS

- 1 Streisand of "Nuts"  
7 President after Bush  
12 Japanese soup  
16 Beaker locale  
19 Fanatic  
20 Boo-boo  
21 State of mind  
23 "Can this be?!"  
25 Color close to aqua  
26 Leave shore  
27 "I'm to blame for everything"  
29 Mil. address  
32 Nada  
34 "— see!" ("Evidently!")  
35 Events that break ground  
36 Like K-Cup coffee pods  
42 Two-word conjunction  
44 Sol's Greek counterpart  
45 Bangor locale  
47 Built  
52 2011 Steve Carell film  
56 Puppeteer Lewis  
57 Opera song  
58 Gallery work  
59 Fox hangouts  
61 Nest eggs for srs.
- 62 Flanders on "The Simpsons"  
63 Quick, sharp punches  
65 Cocktail of bourbon, lemon and mint  
68 Purse  
69 Ross who ran against Clinton  
70 — in the bud  
71 It might consist of a dictionary, thesaurus and atlas  
76 Pouches  
78 Tic- — -toe  
81 "You wish!"  
82 They may get slammed  
83 Dad on "Rugrats"  
84 For takeout  
85 Fail to remain calm  
87 Annual mailing to the IRS  
92 Baskers' goals, often  
94 Birth-related  
95 Home for French presidents  
96 Lerner's musical collaborator
- 99 Kind of salute performed at military funerals  
101 Cherubs, e.g.  
105 Smartphone buy  
107 Emulate  
108 Picabo Street  
108 Mag bigwigs  
109 Heroic fighter pilot of the 1940s  
114 Sinister  
117 Studios with easels  
118 Question you might feel like asking after seeing nine key words in this puzzle?  
123 Yellow turnip  
124 Roast beef fast-food chain  
125 Big brand of cosmetics  
126 Water quality org.  
127 Pack neatly mailing to the IRS  
128 L.A.'s region  
129 Pitfalls
- 6 Post-workout feeling  
7 Multivolume Brit. lexicon  
8 Matzo — (Passover breakfast option)  
9 In — (stuck)  
10 Soft shoes, for short  
11 Locations  
12 Actress Marlee  
13 Agenda unit  
14 Stick around to see  
15 Rig accidents  
16 Doozies  
17 Fully grown  
18 Borscht base  
22 Kind of lift for downhillers  
24 Yalies  
28 Mauna —  
29 Waste barrel  
30 Capital of South Dakota  
31 Mounted to a backing for decoration  
33 Big-eyed primates  
37 Egyptian city with pyramids  
38 Myrna of old movies  
39 Spellbound  
40 Roman 7  
41 Finale  
43 Plow pioneer John
- 46 "Mama" Cass  
48 Orang cousin  
49 Figure skater Lipinski  
50 Epochs  
51 Plate  
53 Key near Q  
54 Brewery kiln  
55 Actor Sahay who played Lester Patel on "Chuck"  
60 Lip- — (mouth the words)  
63 Pantry container  
64 Got older  
65 Alternative to Mazola or Crisco  
66 Charlemagne ruled it: Abbr.  
67 Bro's sibling  
68 Suit well  
69 Orch. section with timpani, cymbals, etc.  
71 Performs like Drake  
72 Jacob's twin  
73 Twain's Huck  
74 Clamor  
75 Hoodwink  
76 Gets trite  
77 "La Cage — Folles"  
78 Muss, as hair  
79 "I concur"  
80 Chili dogs
- 83 Headliner  
84 "Ciao 4 now"  
86 Beat others in claiming something  
88 Dojo surface  
89 Old verb suffix  
90 Remade musicals, e.g.  
91 "Showdown" rock gp.  
93 "Easy-peasy"  
97 Polish capital  
98 Start for Pen or dermis  
100 Barely earns, with "out"  
101 Informed (of)  
102 Still in bed  
103 Garbo of old movies  
104 Singer Fitzgerald  
106 Gyro wraps  
110 Ship of myth  
111 Sleek, in brief  
112 "Fast Money" network  
113 "Watermark" singer  
115 A party to  
116 Constellation next to Hercules  
119 Oahu, e.g.: Abbr.  
120 Atop, in odes  
121 Scot's dissent  
122 Raised trains



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## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

**Micro Crossword**  
**Across**  
**1** Stand-up comic Jeong of “The Hangover” films  
**4** Fruit smoothie ingredient  
**6** Give a heads-up to  
**7** Icy downpour  
**8** “Take a sip”

*By Elizabeth C. Gorski*  

		1	2	3
4	5			
6				
7				
8				

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**Micro Crossword**  
 Answer

		K	E	N
M	A	N	G	O
A	L	E	R	T
S	L	E	E	T
T	A	S	T	E

- Down**  
**1** Body parts with caps  
**2** Great \_\_\_\_ (long-legged wading bird)  
**3** Night, in Italy  
**4** Ship pole  
**5** Spaghetti \_\_\_\_ Carbonara

MINI SUDOKU

5				1	
		2		3	5
2	5				
1					3
			1		4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

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MINI SUDOKU

Answer

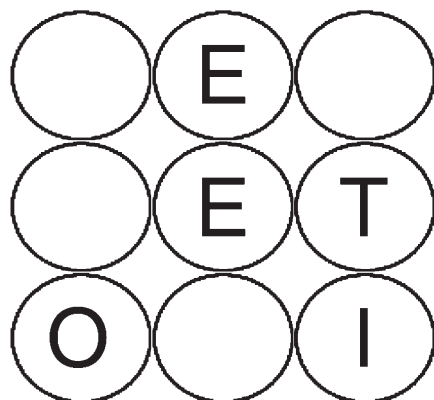
5	3	4	2	1	6
6	1	2	4	3	5
2	5	3	6	4	1
1	4	6	5	2	3
4	6	1	3	5	2
3	2	5	1	6	4

# Wishing Well®

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

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

# WORD SPIRAL




Word Spiral  
Answer  
OBJECTIVE

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

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# The Garden Bug



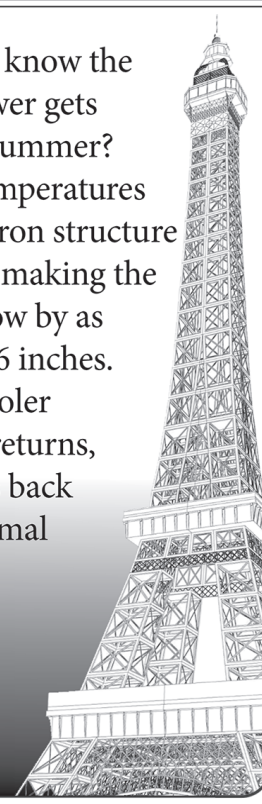
**Indian shot** is another name for *canna indica*, a wildflower of the Caribbean and tropical Americas.

Its spherical black seeds are hard and perfectly round, resembling oversized BBs or buckshot from a shotgun shell. They are also used as beads.

Sources: usf.edu, waynesword.palomar.edu


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# Fun Fact



“Did you know the Eiffel Tower gets taller in summer? When temperatures rise, the iron structure expands, making the tower grow by as much as 6 inches. When cooler weather returns, it shrinks back to its normal height.”

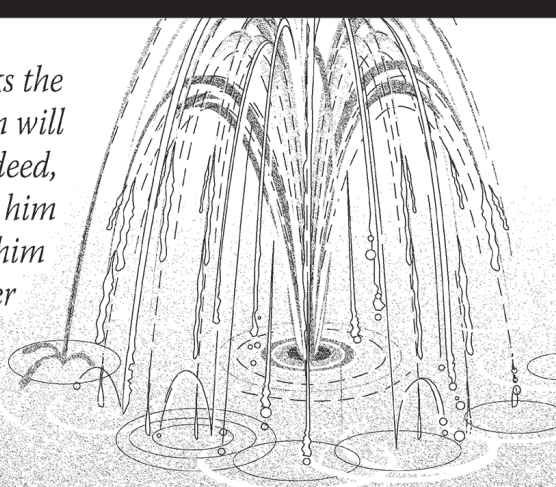
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# THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE


*...whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.*

JOHN 4:14



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# Americanisms



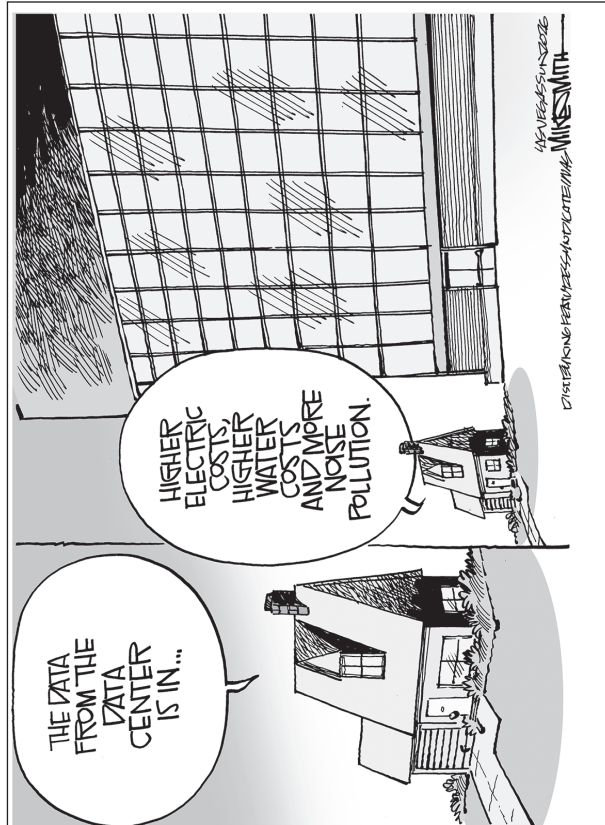
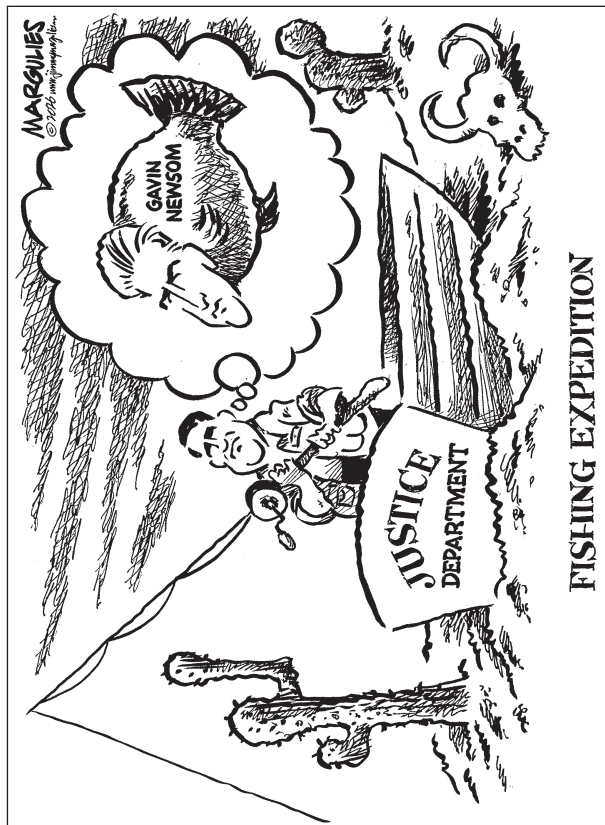
“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”

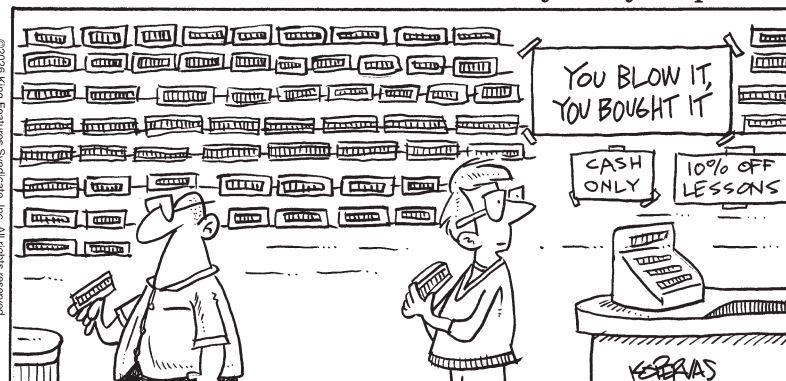
— James Baldwin

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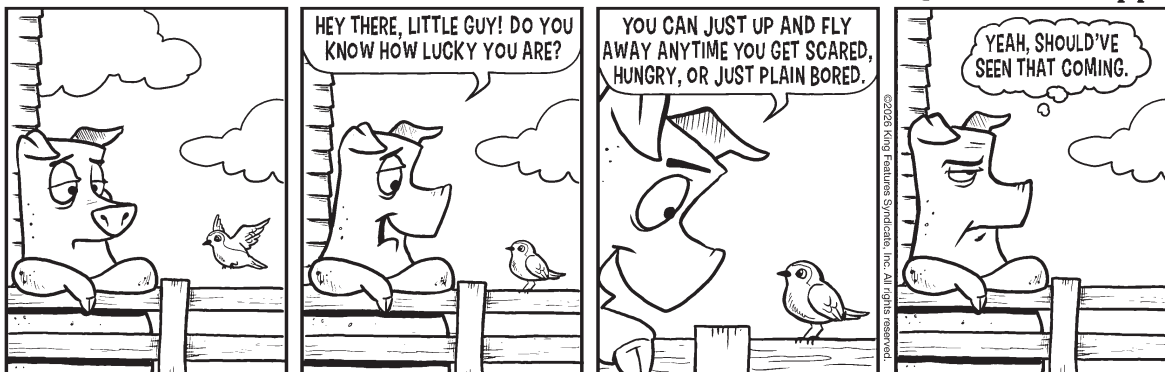






## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



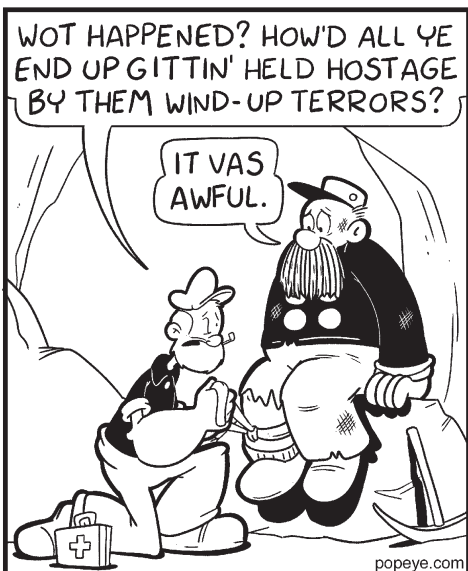
# Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland





# GRIN AND BEAR IT <sup>by Wayne</sup>

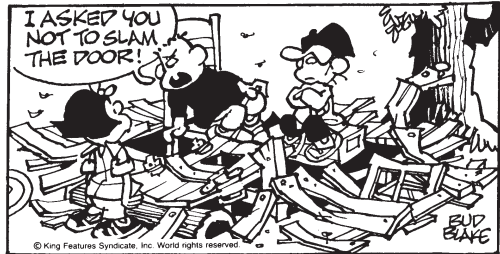
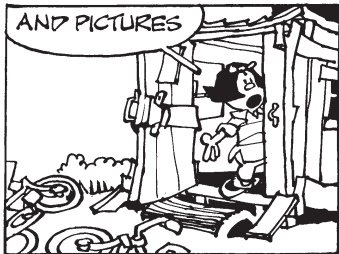
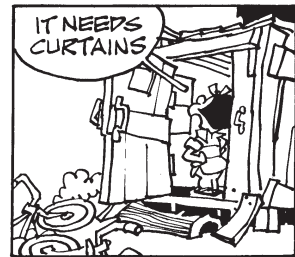
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"I object! Counsel is leading the witness!"

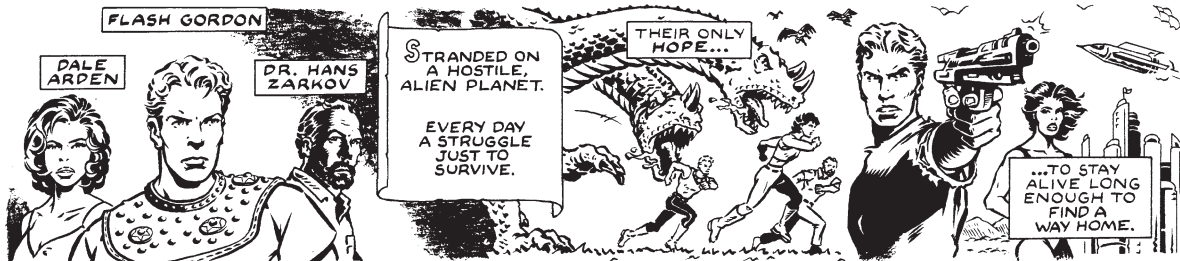
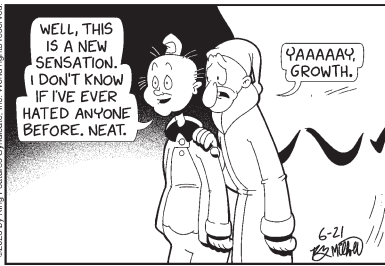
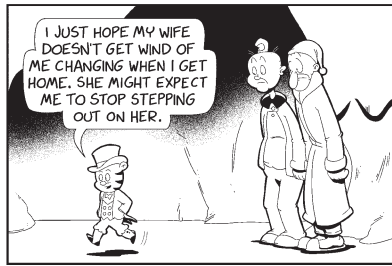
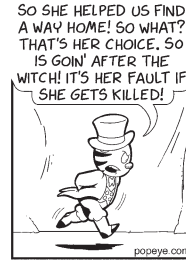
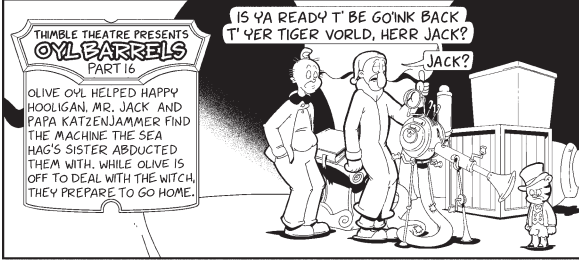
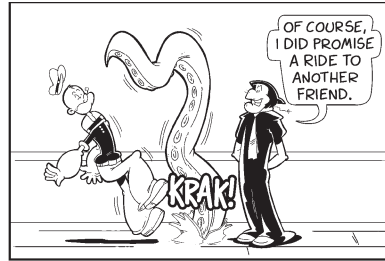
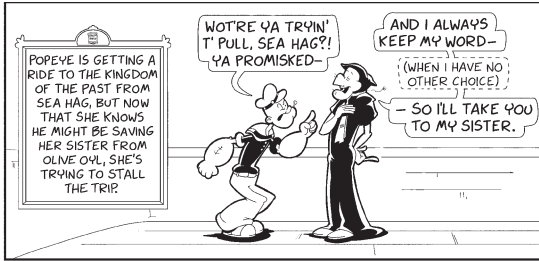
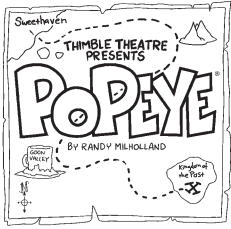
## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



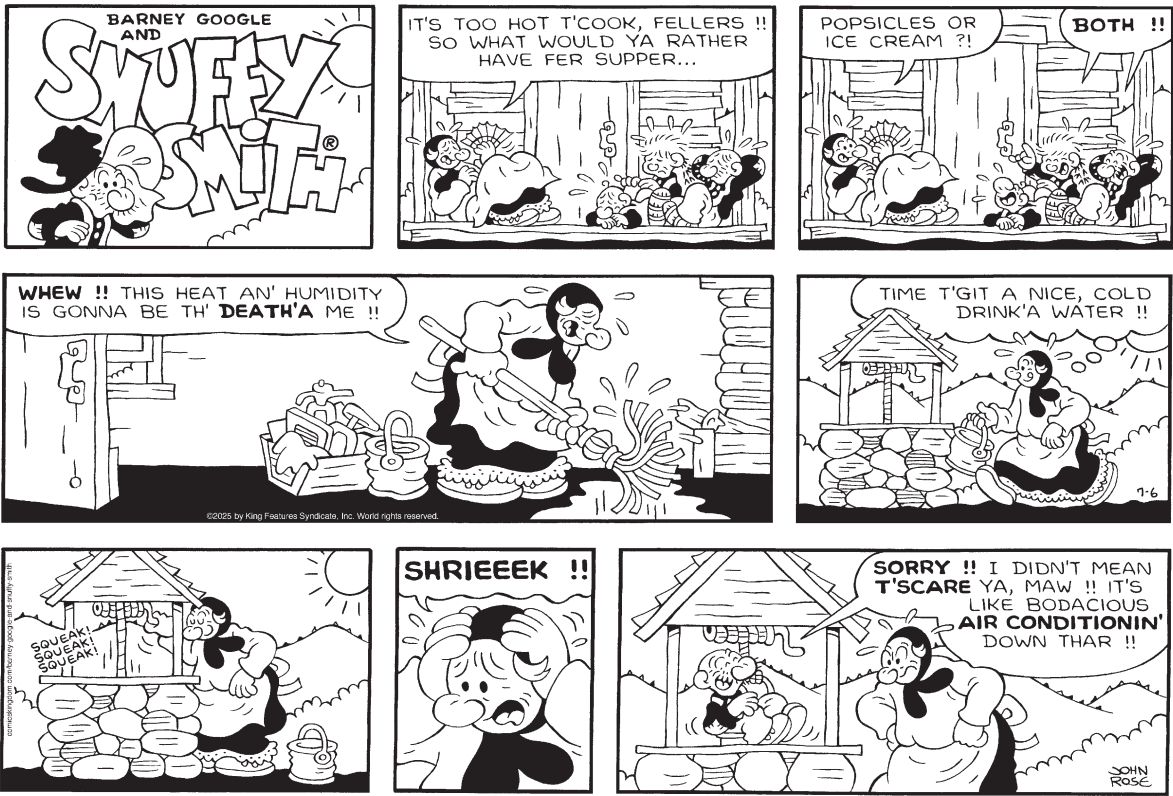
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June 29, 2026





June 29, 2026



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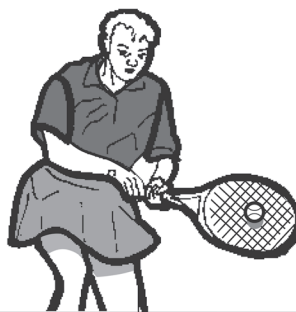
## STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS



### BACKHAND POWER

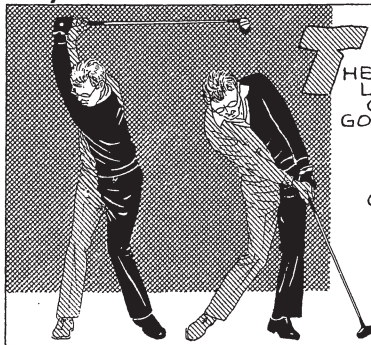
To unleash your power on the backhand, turn your upper body as you prepare to hit. Shift your weight forward as you swing, driving through the ball without any hesitation in your stroke.

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As you uncoil your upper body, your weight will transfer to your front foot. As you do that, bend your front knee and keep your center of gravity down low while you swing through the ball.

## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



HERE'S BEEN A LOT OF TALK OF LATE ABOUT GOLF BEING A "LEFT-SIDED" GAME.

I BELIEVE GOLF ALWAYS HAS BEEN AND ALWAYS WILL BE A TWO-SIDED GAME.

JM

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TO ME THE LEFT SIDE CONTROLS THE PATH OF THE SWING BY LEADING THE ACTION, WITH THE RIGHT SIDE FIRING IN AT THE PROPER TIME TO SUPPLY THE POWER. I BELIEVE YOU SHOULD USE BOTH YOUR SIDES IF YOU WANT TO HIT FAR AS WELL AS STRAIGHT.

