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TIDBITS® INVESTIGATES

AMAZON.COM

by Janet Spencer

When Jeff Bezos quit his job as a Wall Street hedge fund executive and started the company out of his garage in 1995, it was just a simple bookstore. He didn't actually have any books on hand, but when orders came in, he would find the book, buy it, and re-sell it at a profit. Little did he know the heights of success his business would grow to. Keep reading to find out just how high those heights reached!

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th
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 Fri & Sat 11am-9pm
 Sun 11am-7pm

IN THE BEGINNING

- The first book that ever sold on Amazon was titled "Fluid Concepts and Creative Analogies." It was purchased by John Wainwright, a friend of Bezos' only employee, Shal Kaphan. The sale was made on April 3, 1995. Previously, the only books they had sold were run through the system as tests. Later an Amazon building was named after Wainwright to honor his purchase.
- Bezos first wanted to call the company "Cadabra" as in "abracadabra" until his lawyer pointed out that it sounded too much like "cadaver." "Amazon" was chosen as a name not only because it served as an iconic goal – to become the largest river of books in the world – but also because it started with the letter "A" putting it near the top of alphabetical search engines.
- A third choice, Relentless.com, still takes you straight to Amazon.
- Amazon's logo shows a smile stretching from A to Z, underscoring the name and signifying that "the company is willing to deliver everything to everyone, anywhere."
- During the company's first year in business, Bezos hired a series of mobile billboards to drive by various Barnes & Noble locations, displaying the question, 'Can't find that book you wanted?' along with Amazon's website.
- Barnes & Noble sued Amazon in 1997, alleging the slogan 'Earth's Largest Bookstore' was false. The case was settled out of court, but Amazon still used the slogan.
- Although Barnes & Noble operates 585 storefronts across all

continued on page 2

MILBANK AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 COMMUNITY WELCOME

chamber coffee

JOIN US! 7:30-9AM
 THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

This is a casual gathering to make connections, build relationships and highlight businesses/organizations within our community. For event details, visit our website or follow us on social media!

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2024 Dances - Masonic Temple

ALL dances will be held on Saturday evenings from 7-10 pm in the Masonic Temple, 215 N. Broadway, Watertown, SD. \$10 per person.

NEXT DANCE.....Norgaards
Saturday, April 6th • 7-10PM

UPCOMING DANCE: May 4.....Classics

We hope you have fun, make new friends and we thank you for supporting the Northeastern General Auxiliary in their goal to help provide wheelchairs for Shriners Children in the Twin Cities!

continued from page 1

50 states, Amazon still outsells them, and did in fact become Earth's largest bookstore.

- The first year that Amazon turned a profit was 2004. Today, Amazon is the world's fourth largest public firm by revenue, after Walmart, Saudi Arabia's oil and gas company Aramco, and China's State Grid Corporation.

- Amazon employs nearly 1 million full and part-time people in the U.S. Amazon is the second largest private employer in the nation, with only Walmart employing more. Worldwide, there are 1.6 million Amazon employees. There are also some 750,000 mobile robots assisting in the network of Amazon warehouses worldwide, shuttling products to workers, reading barcodes, and issuing directions.

- Amazon.com averages 1.67 billion visits every month, more than any other e-commerce site.

- As of 2022, Amazon had captured about 37% of the e-commerce market, with Walmart, Apple, and eBay each capturing 6% or less.

- Amazon.com consistently ranks near the top of the list of the most visited websites in the U.S., although Google, YouTube, and Facebook usually outrank it.

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

The OIG in Our Corner

You hate to learn of it, but per a Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (OIG) report, a former veteran who worked at a VA hospital was found guilty of stealing money out of patient accounts. It came about when the sister of a deceased veteran checked her brother's account and discovered the missing funds. An investigation showed that the thief was stealing from accounts where the veteran was unable to appear in person at the cashier window to withdraw money due to illness and tried to blame the missing funds on someone using fake identification. All he got for his crimes was six months in jail and six months with an ankle bracelet at home.

An elderly veteran lost his foot due to deficient podiatry care. The whole sorry mess involved defective specialty diabetic shoes, blocked blood flow to the leg, a patient fall due to the shoes, lack of patient education, lack of communication among staff ... and ended with amputation of the patient's foot.

There was enough blame to go around, but nobody to throw in jail. The podiatrist didn't adequately instruct on the proper fitting of the shoes. The fall wasn't correctly reported because the safety officer was new. It could not be determined who did/didn't warn the patient about possible amputation. And so on.

- Amazon alone offers over 12 million different products, not including books and other media. When third-party vendors are included in the count, over 353 million products are available. Just over 60% of Amazon's revenue comes from third-party sellers.

- Things that you cannot purchase on Amazon include full-size homes, automobiles, any meat from China, tobacco, lottery tickets, fireworks, and live animals, among others.

- There are currently 110 Amazon fulfillment centers in the U.S. Add to that another 75 spread across the rest of the planet. These centers average 800,000 square feet (74,322 square meters) in size.

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SPONSOR OF TIDBITS WEEKLY VET'S POST ARTICLE

But not all OIG investigations are so serious. There was the VA employee auction of VA property, which was for the purpose of gathering funds for employee activities and parties. When purchasing agents placed orders for supplies, sometimes there were freebies or incentives sent by the manufacturer when the order was large enough. The employees would then auction off the extra goods, which were government property. It appears that the auctioning of the freebies had gone on for many years, with nobody admitting to the OIG that the vendor was selected because of the freebies they would get. The bulk of the free goodies were big-name expensive coolers.

- The Amazon fulfillment center in Phoenix, Arizona, occupies 1.2 million square feet (111,483 square meters), equal to 28 football fields. Employees at such large warehouses walk miles per shift.

- About 200 million people have an Amazon Prime subscription. These subscribers are spread out across the 27 countries where Amazon Prime is available, with around 150 million in the U.S. It's been estimated that between 60 and 70% of American adults are members of Amazon Prime.

- Prime members spend an average of \$110 on Amazon each month, but non-members spend only \$38 per month.

- Amazon has over 300 million active users globally. Of

continued on page 3

WATERTOWN, SD

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra

April 5, 2024 / 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM CDT
 South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Dakota String Quartet & Dakota Wind Quintet Anne Waltner, piano Presented by: Watertown Area Community Foundation
 Goss Opera House 100 East Kemp Watertown, SD / Admission:\$40
<https://thegossoperahouse.com/events/south-dakota-symphony-orchestra-presented-by-wacf>

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April 6, 10AM FREE Community Showing of The Croods: A New Age, Sponsored by Dakotaland FCU of Watertown. Odyssey Grand 8 Theatre, 1201 5th St SE, Watertown, SD

April 11, GPLHS Musical Production "Bye Bye Birdie"
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CDT, GPLHS auditorium
<https://www.gplhs.org/>

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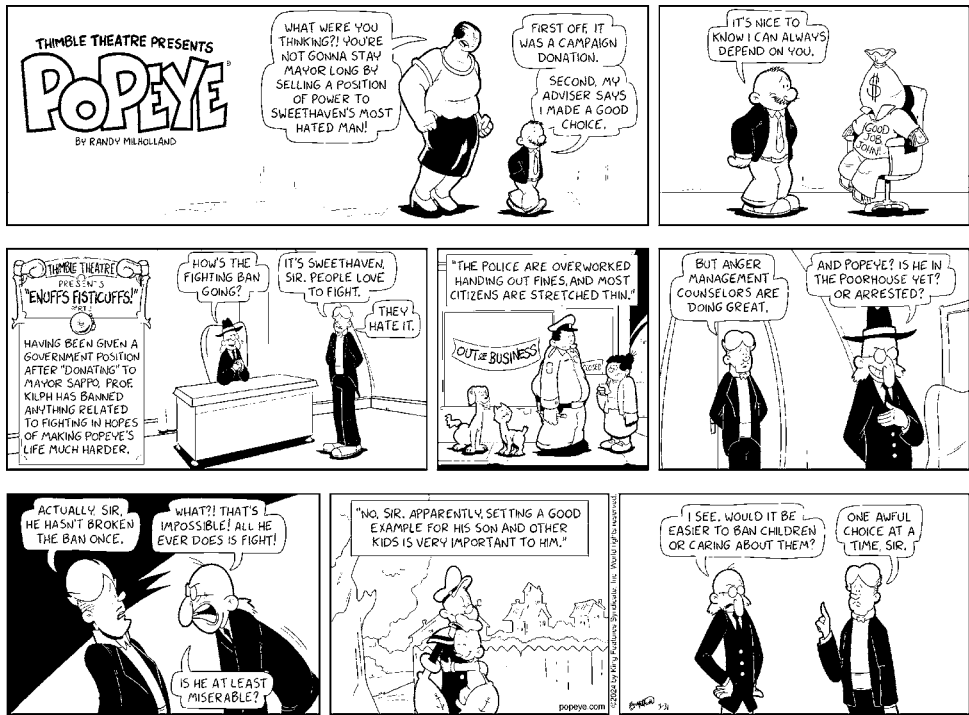
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continued from page 2

those, an average of 197 million use Amazon at least once a month. Over two-thirds of consumers prefer using their desktop computers to make purchases. The Amazon mobile app comes in second place. Trailing in last place are the voice-activated devices such as the Amazon Echo, Dot, and Alexa.

- Amazon's income jumped by 37.6 percent in 2020, largely because the pandemic changed shopping habits.
- The most popular products on Amazon are electronics. Gaming systems including the Nintendo Switch and the PS5, laptop computers, and headphones such as AirPods are consistent best-sellers. They are followed by wearables (clothes, shoes, and jewelry), home and kitchen, beauty and personal care, and finally books.
- The first Kindle e-book reader sold out in 5 hours. Released in the U.S. on November 19, 2007, it sold out despite the \$399 price tag. At the time, all it did was read

Reader Contest: GONE OUTDOORS!

HIGH MOUNTAIN SUPPER CLUB ALTAMONT, SD
The Pump 2.0 Milbank, SD

FIND THE THREE (3) SUNS (pictured to the right) in advertisements in this issue and enter to win a \$25 Gift Certificate for High Mountain Supper Club, Altamont, SD, and a \$25 Gift Certificate for The Pump 2.0 in Milbank, SD

This is exactly what you are looking for, only smaller ... like this one

PLUS A \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR PIZZA HUT IN MILBANK, SD
 ENTRY DEADLINE FOR April 2, 2024, Volume 12, Issue #27 IS FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024, 4PM

DEADLINE FOR March 26, 2024, Volume 12, Issue #26 is Friday, April 5, 2024 - 4 PM SEARCHING FOR: (3) EASTER BUNNIES

Bullpen Steakhouse Lake Norden
Angel's Attic Watertown Mall

\$25 Gift Certificate for The Bullpen Steakhouse, Lake Norden, SD, and a \$25 Gift Certificate for Angel's Attic Thrift Store in Watertown, SD

WINNER for March 19, 2024, Volume 12 Issue #25: Lois Verhelst, Canby, MN

SEARCHING FOR: (3) BIRDS
 PRIZE: \$25 Gift Certificate for Muttly's Bar in Clear Lake, SD, and a FREE Order of Wings & Tots (Wed. Evening only) for Mikey's Bar & Grill in New Effington, SD.

MUTTLY'S BAR & GRILL Clear Lake, SD
Mikey's Bar & Grill New Effington, SD

Locations for March 19, 2024 (v12 #25)
 #1: Wilmot Foods, Wilmot, SD, pg 3
 #2: The Bullpen Steakhouse, Lake Norden, SD, pg 6
 #3: Deuel County Farmers Union SD, pg 7

Enter Only Once Per Contest
HOW TO ENTER:
 RECORD THE 3 LOCATIONS AND SEND VIA...
 MAIL: Reader Contest (Vol & Issue#)
 P.O. Box 313, Big Stone City, SD 57216
 WEB: www.LakeAreaTidbits.com
 Click On Reader Contest
 EMAIL: Sean@LakeAreaTidbits.com
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e-books. There were about 90,000 e-books available at the time. Successive generations of Kindle readers expanded its abilities, and now the platform offers features similar to any Android-type device. Today there are over 12 million e-books available for use on Kindle. Although Amazon still reigns supreme as the world's largest seller of books, it now sells more e-books than paper books.

- Amazon now receives 66,000 orders per hour and ships out 1.6 million packages daily, not including third-party sellers.
- Out of the 195 countries in the world, Amazon ships to over 100 of them. Countries that Amazon does not ship to

include Iran, Cuba, Sudan, North Korea, and Syria.

- In August of 2013, Amazon services went offline for about 40 minutes. At the time, the company was generating revenue of about \$120,000 per minute. This short delay was costly for the company, with an estimated \$4.8 million in losses, though it's assumed that most shoppers returned later in the day to complete their shopping.
- During the Pokémon craze of 1999, Amazon purchased the entire Pokémon stock from the Toys-R-Us website. They were selling so fast on Amazon that there was fear of selling out, so they raided the fledgling e-commerce site of Toys-R-Us.



Bringing an Old Dog to Heel

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: After my aunt passed away, I gladly agreed to take in her dog, "Hunter," a rather squat, obese Beagle. He's a happy old dog of about 9 years, but my aunt gave him little to no training other than housetraining. That makes walking him

-- something the vet recommended I do twice a day, in addition to a diet -- a chore. Hunter will walk a few steps, then sit down and refuse to budge. When he does feel like walking, he either tugs the leash forward or lags behind. How can I correct this?
 -- James T., Plano, Texas

DEAR JAMES: Hunter is not used to the new lifestyle yet, and he's reacting in a predictable way. He's also out of shape and probably more stressed than you think. The first thing I prescribe is patience. The second thing I'd prescribe is persistence.

You'll want to gradually lengthen his walks. Each day, always at the same time, put Hunter on his leash and start the walk. As soon as Hunter begins to lag or tug forward, stop walking, adjust the distance so that he's standing or sitting next to you, and start again, saying, "Heel" as you step forward.

When he sits and won't budge, encourage him to go a few more steps by giving him a very small treat. Then turn around and go home. On your next walk, repeat this encouragement, going just a little farther. See what I'm getting at? Make each walk just a tiny bit farther.

As Hunter loses weight, learns to trust you and gains confidence on the leash, he will eventually pull you along. Time, patience and consistency will do the trick.

Readers, how did you train an older dog? Tell me about it at ask@pawscorner.com.

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Holidays & Observances This Week

- 3/31 National Bunsen Burner Day
- 4/1 Earthquake Preparedness Month
- 4/2 Children's Book Day
- 4/3/1860 Pony Express Day
- 4/4 404 Day Message Not Found
- 4/5 Bell Bottoms Day
- 4/6 Fresh Tomato Day

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Christopher Walken	3/31/1943
Debbie Reynolds	4/1/1932
Emmylou Harris	4/2/1947
Washington Irving	4/3/1783
John Cameron Swayze	4/4/1906
Bette Davis	4/5/1908
Merle Haggard	4/6/1937

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TIDBITS
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COMICS

THIS WEEK'S SPONSOR!!

Angel's Attic Thrift Store

Watertown, SD
See Ad on Page 1

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Strange BUT TRUE
by Lucie Winborne

- Modern brunch was first proposed in 1895 as a post-hangover meal.
- Quetzalcoatlus, the largest known flying animal, was as tall as a giraffe and may have used its powerful forelimbs to pole-vault into the sky.
- Cathay Williams became the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Army in 1866. Since women were barred from joining the military at the time, she enlisted as a man under the pseudonym William Cathay.
- In Australia, weed whackers are called whipper snippers.
- Beaver College changed its name to Arcadia in 2001, partly because anti-porn filters blocked access to its website.
- The human body emits visible light, but it's not visible to the naked eye.
- The FBI dubbed Ted Kaczynski "The Unabomber" because his early mail bombs were sent to universities (UN) and airlines (A).
- As astronauts spend months traveling to Mars, their eyeballs may change shape. Some scientists believe that's due to the pressure from fluids that won't drain from their heads, thanks to the low-gravity environment.
- President Thomas Jefferson hated formal affairs so much that he would often greet foreign dignitaries in his pajamas.

Amber Waves



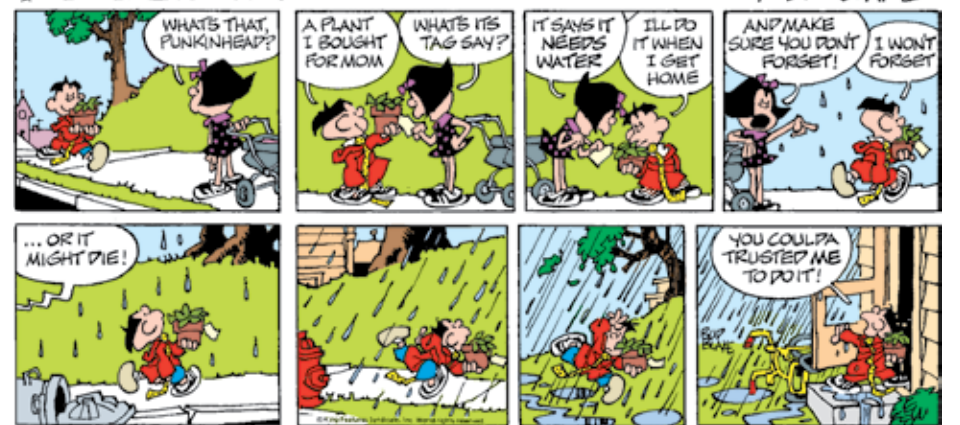
The Spats



Out on a Limb



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SUNDAY 9AM-3PM

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WEEKLY SPECIALS

- **TUESDAYS - BOGO BURGER NIGHT 4PM-8PM** (DINE IN ONLY) Buy any burger on the menu, get 50% off second burger. See server for details.
- **WEDNESDAYS - CHISLIC BASKET...\$9.99 4PM-8PM.** With your choice of 1 side.
- **THURSDAYS - PASTA NIGHT.....\$14.99**
- **FRIDAYS - All You Can Eat Rib Night...\$13.99** with Baked Potato, Coleslaw and Texas Toast

700 West Kemp Ave., Watertown, SD
PHONE: 605-753-0151

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Cheddar & Chicken Quiche

1 refrigerated unbaked 9-inch pie crust
1 full cup (6 ounces) diced, cooked chicken breast
1 (8-ounce) can cut peas and carrots, rinsed and drained
1 (2.5-ounce) jar sliced mushrooms, drained
3/4 cup (3 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese
2 eggs or equivalent in egg substitute
1/4 cup half & half
1 (10 3/4-ounce) can cream of chicken soup

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Place pie crust in a 9-inch pie plate and flute edges. Evenly sprinkle chicken, peas and carrots, mushrooms and Cheddar cheese into prepared pie crust.
2. In a large bowl, beat eggs with a wire whisk until foamy. Stir in half and half, and chicken soup. Pour egg mixture evenly over all.
3. Bake for 50 to 55 minutes or until center is set. Place pie plate on a wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Cut into 8 wedges.

RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU COURTESY OF
Graceville Market, Graceville, MN

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Door is taller. 2. Toolbox is taller. 3. Man is taller. 4. Dormer is taller. 5. Ladder rung is missing. 6. Line in sky is taller.



Egg-citing Delights: Deviled Eggs Galore!

As Easter rolls around, so does the inevitable surplus of hard-boiled eggs. But we're about to transform those humble eggs into delectable delights: deviled eggs! These egg-celent creations are not only perfect for post-Easter gatherings, but can be enjoyed all year round. Versatile, flavorful and oh-so-satisfying, deviled eggs are the ultimate crowd-pleaser.

The Green Ring Dilemma. Ever wondered about that unsightly green ring around hard-boiled egg yolks? It's not a culinary catastrophe, but merely a harmless reaction between sulfur and iron during cooking. To avoid this, follow our fool-proof method for perfectly boiled eggs: Gently simmer them in water, cover, and let them rest before cooling in an ice bath.

Some Diva tips: Always boil extra eggs, because some won't peel cooperatively, and a few extra yolks makes for abundantly filled deviled eggs. For the classic deviled egg experience, use good old yellow mustard. Also, leave perfectionism out of this. Remember, even the ugliest deviled egg tastes delicious! Absolutely worst-case scenario, chop them up and serve egg salad on croissants.

CLASSIC DEVILED EGGS

Yield: 24 deviled egg halves
Total Time: 1 hour

- 12 large eggs
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard
- 1 teaspoon white wine vinegar or rice vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon table salt
- Paprika, for garnish (optional)



Lay the eggs flat in a pan and cover with cold water. Put the pan over medium heat and bring to a rolling boil. Once at a boil, immediately cover with a lid, remove from heat and let the eggs sit for 12 minutes. Submerge in very cold water until cooled.

Once the eggs are cool, gently tap each egg on a hard surface to crack the shell, then peel under cool running water. Pat the eggs dry with a paper towel.

Slice the eggs in half lengthwise and carefully remove the yolks. Place the yolks in a separate bowl and mash them with a fork until smooth.

Add the mayonnaise, mustard, vinegar and salt to the mashed yolks. Mix until well combined and creamy. Spoon the yolk mixture back into the egg white halves, dividing evenly. Alternatively, spoon the yolk mixture into a baggie and cut the corner for easy squeezezy egg filling.

If desired, sprinkle the deviled eggs with paprika for a classic touch. Refrigerate the deviled eggs for at least 30 minutes before serving to allow the flavors to meld together.

Serve chilled and enjoy these timeless appetizers at your

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next gathering! To ensure food safety, store any leftover deviled eggs in the refrigerator and consume within two days.

Egg-citing Varieties to Try:

Spicy Sriracha: Add a fiery twist to your deviled eggs by incorporating a generous drizzle of sriracha sauce into the filling. It's sure to spice up any occasion!

Bacon Lover's Dream: Indulge in savory bliss by topping your deviled eggs with crispy bacon bits. The smoky flavor pairs perfectly with the creamy filling.

Avocado Avenger: For a healthier spin, swap out mayo for mashed avocado in your deviled egg mixture. It's creamy, luscious, and oh-so-delicious.

Zesty Mediterranean: Elevate your deviled eggs with a burst of Mediterranean flavors. Mix in chopped olives, sun-dried tomatoes and a sprinkle of feta cheese for a taste of the Mediterranean sunshine.

Everything Bagel Bliss: Embrace the flavors of your favorite breakfast treat by sprinkling everything bagel seasoning on top of your deviled eggs. It's a crunchy, savory delight that will leave you craving more.

With endless variations to explore, deviled eggs are sure to become a staple in your culinary repertoire. Enjoy!

Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com. © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

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1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When did April Fools' Day come into being?

2. GEOGRAPHY: In which nation is the Great Victoria Desert located?

3. MOVIES: What sport is featured in the movie "The Mighty Ducks"?

4. HISTORY: What is the name of the island where Napoleon was exiled in 1814?

5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest rodent in the world?

6. LITERATURE: What is the name of Ron Weasley's pet rat in the "Harry Potter" book series?

7. U.S. STATES: Which letter of the alphabet is not in any U.S. state's name?

8. TELEVISION: Which iconic 1960s sitcom inspired two spinoff hits, "Petticoat Junction" and "Green Acres"?

9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery in WWII?

10. ANATOMY: How many pairs of spinal nerves exist in humans?

answers on page 7

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FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

- OLT
- OCNYTO
- YAHNE
- RDMO
- PAROSE
- RYP
- HEOC
- ♥ ORTET
- ♥ PMA
- MOYDLE
- EACPA
- ♥ OMRO

answers on page 7

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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King Crossword

answers on page 7

ACROSS

1 Goal

4 Hosp. hook-ups

7 "Peter Pan" pooch

11 "Pygmalion" writer

13 Use a straw

14 Bone-dry

15 Teeny bit

16 Capita lead-in

17 Makes lace

18 Tic

20 Laptop connection

22 Deli choice

24 Radiated

28 Reach

32 Battery part

33 King of the jungle

34 Dog's foot

36 Similar

37 Canal vessel

39 iPads, e.g.

41 "In America" writer Susan

43 — Perignon

44 Partially mine

46 Chip choice

50 First light

53 Suitable

55 Roller coaster feature

56 "Zounds!"

57 Three, in Rome

58 Links org.

59 Pear variety

60 Storm center

DOWN

1 Tag sale words

2 Breakfast chain

3 — Hari

4 AOL, for one

5 Perspective

6 Parsley piece

7 Site of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

8 Coach

9 Quibble

10 Billboards

12 Capital on the Potomac and 7-Down locale

19 Astronaut Jemison

21 Ga. neighbor

23 Super Bowl VIP

25 Stirred

26 Tend texts

27 Cozy rooms

28 Priestly vestments

29 Pisa farewell

30 Trumpet

31 Chow down

35 Bankroll

38 Vichy water

40 "— voyage!"

42 Shred, as cheese

45 Agile

47 Mimic

48 Swine

49 October birth-stone

50 Cotillion celeb

51 Previously

52 Existed

54 Golf peg

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TIDBITS WORD POWER
answers on page 7

Unscramble this word:
GNAWNHOIST

Amazon's world headquarters is located in this state.

SCRAMBLERS answers on page 7

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!

Seek **UPUSER**

Entry **LOPART**

Sniff **HALIEN**

Dense **TUBEOS**

TODAY'S WORD

_____ of his."

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Snake plant	Boston fern	Hibiscus
Philodendron	Spider plant	Ti plant
English ivy	Jade plant	Gardenia
Diffenbachia	African violet	Geraniums

Source: extension.umn.edu

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- 6 The town of Bridgeville, CA: \$1.77 MILLION
- 7 Honus Wagner baseball card: \$1.1 MILLION
- 8 Ferrari Enzo: \$1 MILLION
- 9 Shoeless Joe Jackson's baseball bat: \$577,610
- 10 Ian Usher's "life": \$309,292

Source: FinancesOnline.com

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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. Hard-hitting	___ G ___	Affect emotionally	___ C ___
2. Clothing get-up	___ F ___	Get the better of	___ W ___
3. Subsequent	___ F ___	Fall bloom	___ S ___
4. Protect	___ F ___	Rely upon	___ P ___
5. Bit by a hive-dweller	___ G ___	Daring act	___ T ___
6. Blue ribbon, e.g.	___ Z ___	Cost	___ C ___
7. Junction	___ R ___	Trumpet's kin	___ T ___
8. Dish	P ___	Election choices	S ___
9. Take heed	___ T ___	Apprentice	___ V ___
10. Grid	___ R ___	Mantra	___ N ___

©2024 King Features Synd., Inc. answers on page 7

Thought for the Day

"If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future."

— Winston Churchill

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HOLLYWOOD
by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice" is the official title of the sequel to the 1988 film "Beetlejuice." The sequel, due Sept. 6, will star **Michael Keaton**, **Winona Ryder**, **Jenna Ortega**, **Justin Theroux**, **Catherine O'Hara** and **Willem Dafoe**.

Keaton also stars in and directs the thriller "Knox Goes Away," with **Marcia Gay Harden**, **James Marsden** and **Al Pacino**, which released in theaters on March 15. In addition, he has "Goodrich" with **Mila Kunis** and **Andie MacDowell** due later this year.

Al Pacino's gone to Italy for two films. The first is "Modì," a biographical drama about Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani, directed by **Johnny Depp**. The second is "In the Hand of Dante," co-starring **Oscar Isaac**, **Jason Momoa**, **Franco Nero**, **Gal Gadot**, **John Malkovich** and **Gerard Butler**.

Butler also has "Den of Thieves 2: Pantera" and the live-action "How to Train Your Dragon" in the works.

In 1959, when I was 13 years old, I hung around the off-Broadway Phoenix Theatre on New York City's Lower East Side. I became friends with the star of their current show, a send-up of "The Princess and the Pea" called "Once Upon a Mattress," featuring a then-unknown **Carol Burnett**.

During rehearsals, I met **Mary Rodgers**, the woman who created the music for the show, which ran for 470 performances. She was the daughter of Broadway legend **Richard Rodgers** of Rodgers and Hammerstein. The show was a runaway hit, moving to Broadway and making Carol a star. In 1966, Mary wrote another show, this time with **Stephen Sondheim**, called "The Mad Show." It ran for 871 performances and featured **Linda Lavin** ("Alice"), **Jo Anne Worley** ("Laugh-In") and **Paul Sand**.

In 1976, Mary wrote the screenplay for the film "Freaky Friday," which starred **Jodie Foster**, **Barbara Harris**, **John Astin** (Gomez Addams of



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

Michael Keaton in "Beetlejuice" (1988)

"The Addams Family") and **Dick Van Patten** ("Eight Is Enough"). It cost \$5 million and grossed \$36 million.

In 2003, it was remade with **Jamie Lee Curtis** and **Lindsay Lohan**, and it was an even bigger hit (grossing \$160.8 million against its \$26 million cost). For years, Curtis and Lohan have wanted to revisit "Freaky Friday," and thanks to the Oscar that was bestowed to Curtis for Best Supporting Actress (for "Everything Everywhere All at Once"), they're finally going to get their wish. Curtis and Lohan will reprise their roles from the 2003 film for "Freaky Friday 2," due sometime in 2025 at the earliest.

It sounds like prepping for the recent Oscars and doing his talk show on ABC at the same time has driven **Jimmy Kimmel** to the point where he is now talking about giving up the talk-show grind. Of course, Kimmel, who has two more years on his contract with ABC, may be using this as a negotiation tactic. The way to nip this in the bud is for ABC to tell Kimmel that they plan to replace him with his longtime feud mate — **Matt Damon!**

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 31:19b-20 answers on page 7

that you **bestow** in the **sight** of all, on **those who take refuge** in you. In the **shelter** of your **presence** you **hide** them **from** all **human intrigues**; you **keep** them **safe** in your **dwelling** from accusing **tongues**.

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

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

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Beautiful Body EAR WAX

- The nose is protected by hairs and mucus; the eyes are protected by hairs and tears; but the ear is protected by hairs and wax.
- Ear wax is not really wax, though it does have a waxy texture. It's composed of several things.
- First are cast-off cells from the special type of skin that lines the ear canal. Like all skin, it's constantly renewing itself because even the tiniest break in the skin here will lead to ear infections and ear aches.
- The skin in the ear canal is coated with an antimicrobial secretion from modified sweat glands. It's called cerumen, from the Latin word "cera" meaning wax. This kills bacteria and fungus spores that enter the ear canal, and is also a natural insect repellent.
- Oil glands in the ear canal, which are similar to the oil glands on the scalp, secrete an oily lubricant. Called sebum, its name comes from the Latin word for tallow. This oil helps trap dust and debris that enters the ear canal.
- There are also tiny hairs lining the outer part of the inner ear.
- This mixture is constantly renewing itself, while moving the old ear wax out of the way. This is accomplished by a "conveyor belt" which is activated by the movement of the jaw while eating or talking, by the vibration of the ear drum, and by the waving of the ear hairs. The wax moves out of the ear at a rate a little slower than the rate at which fingernails grow.
- Itchy ears can be a sign that too much ear wax is being removed through excessive cleaning. Low levels of wax leave the skin on the ear canal exposed.
- Too much ear wax can cause temporary hearing loss

as the build-up blocks sound waves from reaching the ear drum.

- Ear wax comes in two forms: wet and dry. Which kind you have depends on genetics. Wet ear wax is a dominant gene, so most people have wet ear wax. However, people of East Asian descent, particularly those whose heritage is from China, Japan, or Korea, as well as Native Americans, typically have the recessive gene for dry ear wax. Surprisingly, the same gene that results in dry ear wax also results in less underarm odor. Those who have the gene for wet wax, which includes most Caucasians, also have the gene for smelly armpits—as well as a gene for increased incidents of breast cancer.
- By tracking pockets of this recessive ear wax gene, anthropologists have been able to chart the migration of different cultures.
- Often, ear wax is pushed deeper into the ear canal when things are inserted into the ear, including cotton swabs, the end of a pencil, a bobby pin, safety pin, key, or paper clip. Things inserted into the ear also disturb the hairs inside the ear, and this stimulates the oil glands to produce more oil that turns into more ear wax, compounding the problem
- Things like hearing aids, earplugs, or earbuds hinder the natural movement of ear wax if worn too many hours of the day. Stress can cause an increase in the production of ear wax.
- To resolve problems with ear wax build-up, experts recommend a drop or two of mineral oil, glycerin, or olive oil to soften the wax. Then use a rubber bulb syringe to run room-temperature water through the ear, tilting the head afterwards to let it drain out.
- Using cotton swabs to dry out the inner ear after swimming or showering is a bad idea because they are very fragile when the tiny ear hairs are wet.
- People prone to swimmer's ear infections can use a few drops of rubbing alcohol in the ear.

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

SCRAMBLERS solution

1. Pursue; 2. Portal; 3. Inhale; 4. Obtuse

Today's Word **OPPOSITE**

WORD POWER ANSWER WASHINGTON

Even Exchange answers

1. Tough, Tough 6. Prize, Price 2. Outfit, Outwit 7. Corner, Cornet 3. After, Aster 8. Plate, Slate 4. Defend, Depend 9. Notice, Novice 5. Stung, Stunt 10. Chart, Chant

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

1. Likely in the late 16th century, when calendars changed from Julian to Gregorian.
2. Australia.
3. Ice hockey.
4. Elba.
5. Capybara.
6. Scabbers.
7. Q.
8. "The Beverly Hillbillies."
9. George H.W. Bush.
10. 31 pairs.

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Decorative Silver

Collectors and makers alike know that there are many ways to decorate silver. It can have an engraved design or monogram. It can be pierced or reticulated with lace-like cutouts. A textured design may be hammered, gadrooned, repousse or made with another technique. Some of the most elaborate and complex decorations on silver are applied; that is, made separately and then attached to the silver piece.



Three-dimensional figures of animals and wildlife are often seen on elaborate silver pieces. This bowl takes a slightly different approach, with figures of sea animals attached to a wire net.

Applied pieces may be functional, like handles or finials, or strictly decorative. Three-dimensional figures, especially natural elements, human figures or mythological creatures, are popular.

This Italian silver plate bowl was listed as the "Sealife bowl" at a Rago auction, where it sold for \$1,188. Its design is more complex than a typical decorative silver bowl; instead of being applied directly onto the bowl, the three-dimensional silver sea creatures are "caught" in a wirework net attached to the rim.

Another feature of this bowl, its gilt enameled interior, may serve a purpose besides decoration. As any collector knows, silver is prone to tarnish, especially when exposed to substances like salty, acidic or sulfurous foods. Some tableware is coated with gold or enamel on the interior, which protects the silver as well as adding decorative value.

Q: I bought some toys at an estate sale. One is a 4 1/2-inch by 2 1/4-inch box that contains six smaller boxes that form

puzzles. The boxes can be turned to make two different pictures. Each of the smaller boxes contains a tiny bisque doll. I would like to know more about these tiny dolls in puzzle boxes.

A: We've seen a set like this marked "made in Japan," which means it was imported into the United States. The 2-inch dolls are painted wearing various costumes. The set was probably made in the 1930s. It's listed for \$125 but hasn't sold yet, so the price is probably too high.

TIP: Be sure to remove salt and pepper from shakers and dishes after use. Wash, then store.

CURRENT PRICES
Poster, travel, 1964 New York World's Fair, Come Back to the Fair, mother, father and two children with balloons, linen backing, 16 x 11 inches, \$110.

Quilt, applique, Bear Paws pattern, 16 squares, each with a small square center and bear paw corners, red on cream and cream on red printed fabric, Long Island City, 1910-1920, 72 x 72 inches, \$245.

Wooden sailor's chest, mahogany, brass mounts, escutcheon and latch, hinged top, side handles, 18th century, 14 x 36 x 22 inches, \$535.

Sewing machine, table top, Goodspeed & Wyman, single thread, C-shape frame, hand crank wheel, black metal, gilt decoration, 1800s, 8 x 12 1/2 x 4 1/2 inches, \$765.

Stoneware crock, cobalt blue stripes and twisting vines, stamped E. Lulley, 616 Penn. Ave., Washington, D.C., rolled rim, two applied ear handles, 4 gallons, 14 3/4 inches, \$1,240.

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Now here's a tip! by Jo Ann Durson

• "Technology can be really helpful, especially if you have very little storage area for papers. I had a trustworthy neighborhood teenager come over and help me scan in all my important documents. I have everything on flash drives and have given copies to appropriate people. She showed me how to scan a copy of warranty receipts so I can find the information I need quickly if I have an electronic item or appliance break down." — T.L. in Massachusetts

• D.B. in Minnesota has this to share: "When you are going fishing and only bringing a couple of lures, use an old, empty pill container. Holds well and you won't get poked!"

• Oranges are wonderful treats and full of delicious fiber and vitamin C. Save your peels and stash them in a net bag hanging from your rearview mirror for just a day or two. As they dry,

they give off the best smell.

• Need to take pills daily? Set a reminder on your cellphone. Most have alarm functions, and it works!

• "This tip is from my babysitter. She gives small children two 'get out of bed free' tickets at bedtime. If they get out of bed, say, for one last drink of water, etc. (we parents know these are stalling tactics), they have to give her a ticket. If they still have a ticket unused when they fall asleep, she will leave a prize with their parents for the morning." — M.J. in New Mexico

• "My friend and I found these great vintage spice bottles at a garage sale. We decided that since we got such a good deal, we would treat ourselves to a few new, interesting spices that were a little pricey -- and we went in half on them." — E.D. in Illinois

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing to You among the nations.
For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens,
And Your truth unto the clouds.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
Let Your glory be above all the earth.
PSALM 57:9-11

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: A DOUBLE BOGEY IN GOLF

All the map	Eggs easy	Get with	Moon Miami
All with	End end	Go big	Not yet
Come here	Fried easy	Hand fist	Voice IP
Do again	Get it	Head heels	

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