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March 21, 2023  
Volume 11 • Issue #26

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March 21, 2023

TIDBITS of the Lake Area

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### LAUGH-A-BIT WITH TIDBITS

I took my friend's board game without him noticing. Now he doesn't have a CLUE!

Q: What do you call stormtroopers playing Monopoly?  
A: Game of Clones!

Yesterday I robbed the board game store. It was a RISK I was willing to take!



TIDBITS® PLAYS

## BOARD GAMES

by Janet Spencer

Some of the oldest games in history are chess (from India), Mancala (from Ghana), backgammon (from Mesopotamia), and Pachisi (India). Come along with Tidbits as we play games!

### THE OLDEST BOARD GAMES

- The world's oldest playable board game where the rules are known is the Royal Game of Ur. It was created in what is now Iraq around 2500 BC. Game boards have been discovered all over the Middle East, Crete, and Sri Lanka. The most famous one was found in the Royal Tombs of Ur in ancient Iraq, from which the game gets its name. The game was likely called simply "the game of 20 squares" back then. Even King Tut's senet board (see next page) had this game etched into the other side. We know the rules of the game because a curator at the British Museum translated a cuneiform tablet written in Mesopotamia in 177 BC which explained the rules. Modern versions are available.

- The game called Gioco dell'Oca, meaning Game of the Goose, was the first board game that was produced commercially. When Philip II of Spain received a copy as a gift from Duke Francesco de Medici sometime in the late 1500s, it became all the rage. Copies of the game dating between 1774 and the late 1800s include the rules in French, German and Italian.

### KING TUT'S GAME

- When King Tut's tomb was excavated in 1923, archaeologists found four board games among the treasures. One of them was recognized by the researchers because identical games had been found in other tombs and among other ruins.

- The game board had 30 squares. Hieroglyphs appeared on some of the squares, though which squares varied from game to game. Game pieces were variously cones or spools or figurines. Researchers knew that the game was called "senet" which means "passing" but the rules of the game eluded them.

- The oldest set dates to about 3000 BC, the time ancient Egypt was founded. Other excavations elsewhere showed that the same game was being played by Alexander the Great nearly 3,000

continued on page 2

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continued from page 1

years later. Hieroglyphs of various ages depict the game being played, and ancient graffiti boasted about winning the game. Game boards were scratched into the floors of temples, carved in ancient wooden loading docks on the Nile, and written about on a papyrus scroll. Artwork on the walls of Nefertari's tomb showed her playing the game against an invisible opponent. The game is mentioned in the Book of the Dead which was written around the year 1250 BC.

• Use of the game seems to have tapered off after the fall of Rome. The rules were lost to history. So perplexed were archaeologists about this enigmatic game that in 1946, researchers at the Metropolitan Museum of Art called in George Parker, founder of Parker Brothers game company, and asked him what he thought the rules of the game were. Parker invented his own set of rules, though it was all conjecture. Parker Brothers released a modern version of the game which enjoyed moderate success and is still available today.

**THE ADVENT OF BOARD GAMES**

• Archaeologists excavating the ruins of Pompeii were

amused to find a series of paintings on a wall that depicted two men playing a game of backgammon in a tavern, then getting into an argument over the game, then being kicked out by the innkeeper.

• One of the earliest commercially produced modern board games came out in England

in 1800. It was called Mansion of Happiness, with the "mansion" being heaven, and players racing through the tribulations of Life in order to get there. In 1860 Milton Bradley reworked it and released it as The Checkered Game of Life. Today it's now known simply as The Game of Life.

• The rules for backgammon were defined in the year 1743 by Edmond Hoyle, who published the rules of many

**Amber Waves**



by Dave T. Phipps

games in a book originally entitled "Mr. Hoyle's Treatises of Whist, Quadrille, Piquet, Chess and Back-Gammon." It has now named simply "Hoyle's Rules of Games." It led to a common phrase "according to Hoyle."

• Board games increased in popularity in the early 1900s, when mass-production techniques allowed them to be made cheaply on a commercial scale, and transportation systems distributed them easily to stores across the country.

**MODERN GAMES**

• Trivial Pursuit was the blockbuster sensation of the 1980s, selling 20 million copies in 1984, a year when top-selling Monopoly sold only 3 million copies. By 1986, one out of every four American homes owned a copy.

• Milton Bradley once published a game called The Sinking of the Titanic, which caused such outrage that the name was changed to Abandon Ship a year later.

• To prevent Boggle players from using a certain swear word, the letters F and K only appear once on the same cube.

**MODERN GAMES**

• The prisoner on the jail space in Monopoly has a name: Jake the Jailbird.

• The "patient" in Operation is named "Cavity Sam." For the game's 40th anniversary in 2003, Americans were asked to vote for a new ailment for Cavity Sam: either a growling stomach, tennis elbow, or brain freeze. The winner was brain freeze, and players must now remove an ice cream cone from Cavity Sam's brain.

• Back in the early '80s, a young waiter in Seattle, whenever he had downtime between diners, would choose a word from the dictionary at random and draw it for others to guess. The result was Pictionary.

• While traditional Scrabble sets come with wooden tiles with grooved letters, these tiles aren't used in high-level tournaments. That's because players have been caught "brailing" while choosing tiles by feeling for the smooth tiles that are the valuable blanks.

**A GAMING PLACE**

• "Snakes & Lattes" is a chain of board game cafes that opened in Toronto in 2010. Patrons pay a small fee to play board games with others while drinking coffee. The business was so popular that they opened a corollary store called Snakes and Lagers, and then expanded into Chicago and Arizona. Similar stores have opened worldwide, including a chain of 130 storefronts in Seoul, South Korea, where they rent out a selection of over 1,000 board games by the hour, while also renting out the tables by the hour, and also selling refreshments on the side.

**IT'S A FACT**

• The phrase "back to square one" was inspired by Chutes and Ladders, also called Snakes and Ladders.

• The word "backgammon" comes from the words "back" and "game."

**Just Like Cats & Dogs**

by Dave T. Phipps



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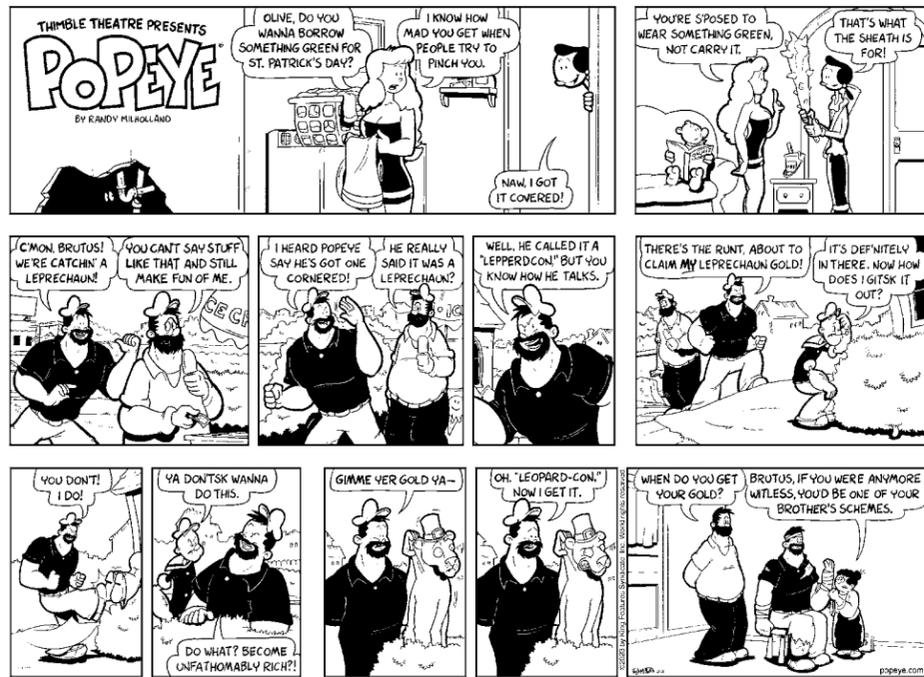
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**Reader Contest: "HAPPY SPRING"**

**Angel's Attic** Watertown Mall  
**SENIOR MAX'S** Watertown Mall

FIND THE THREE (3) SNOW SHOVELS (pictured to the right) in advertisements in this issue and enter to win a \$25 Gift Certificate from Senior Max's in Watertown, SD, and a \$25 Gift Certificate from Angel's Attic Thrift Store in Watertown, SD.

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

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**Pizza Hut** ENTRY DEADLINE FOR March 21, 2023, Volume 11, Issue #26 IS FRIDAY, MAR 31, 2023, 4PM

**DEADLINE FOR March 14, 2023, Volume 11, Issue #25 is Friday, March 24, 2023 - 4 PM** SEARCHING FOR: (3) POTS 'O GOLD

\$25 Gift Certificate from High Mountain Supper Club, Altamont, SD, and a \$25 Gift Certificate from Peddler's Market in Watertown, SD.

**Peddler's Market** Watertown SD  
**HIGH MOUNTAIN SUPPER CLUB** ALTAMONT SD

**WINNER for March 7, 2023, Volume 11 Issue #24: Kathy Scharf, Watertown, SD**

SEARCHING FOR: (3) CLOCKS

PRIZE: \$25 Gift Certificate from Page's Place Cafe & Grill in Watertown, SD, and a \$25 Gift Certificate from Community Corner Thrift Store in Watertown, SD.

Locations for March 7, 2023 (v11 #24)  
 #1: Krantz MotorCity, Watertown, SD, pg 1  
 #2: Big Stone City Municipal Liquor Store, pg 3  
 #3: Milbank Area Chamber of Commerce, pg 7

**PAGE'S PLACE** Cafe & Grill  
**Community Corner** Thrift Store

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  
 ENTRY DROPOFF: 100 South Maple St., Ste. 106, Watertown, SD 57201  
**BY APPOINTMENT**  
 PRIZES ARE MAILED WITHIN 2-3 WEEKS OF WINNING. NO SUBSTITUTIONS.



**In Cats, Ear Infection Can Have Subtle Symptoms**

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** My cat Chester seemed perfectly healthy, but when I brought him in for his annual checkup, the veterinarian said that he has an ear infection. I didn't notice any behavior or odd symptoms previously. I gave Chester the expensive eardrops he was prescribed, and he seems just fine. Was the vet just making up the infection? — *Jeanine C., Buffalo, New York*

**DEAR JEANINE:** Cats are really good at hiding the symptoms of an illness. I'm glad you brought Chester in for his regular checkup, because those are very helpful in determining hidden acute problems like an ear infection, and noting potential problems (for example, if his weight is getting higher than normal, or he's developing arthritis).

Now that Chester has been treated, keep an eye out for

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signs of the infection recurring. Look, listen and smell (yes, smell!) around his ears periodically and note certain behaviors. Hold Chester on your lap and shine a little flashlight into each ear.

A healthy ear is pale pink, with little to no earwax visible and no debris.

Trouble signs include: A strong odor from the ear; lots of earwax buildup; debris or discharge that looks like coffee grounds; or discharge that is yellow or black. You (or the vet) may see redness or swelling of the ear flap or in the ear canal.

Ear infections cause behavioral changes, too. Some of them are subtle: Chester may shake his head after you scratch around his ears, or he may tilt his head more in one direction

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than another. More serious symptoms include loss of balance, disorientation, hearing loss or even facial paralysis.

*Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.*  
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**TIDBITS QUOTE**

"If you're not prepared to lose every friend you have over a board game, you're not playing hard enough."  
 -Anon

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**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES:** What is the name of Scarlett and Rhett's daughter in "Gone with the Wind"?
- GEOGRAPHY:** What body of water lies between Australia and New Zealand?
- TELEVISION:** Eric Camden is a minister on which TV dramedy?
- CHEMISTRY:** Which element has the Latin name stannum (Sn)?
- LITERATURE:** Which book is first written in C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia series?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What is the name of the bird logo on Twitter?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** How long does it take a sloth to digest food?
- PSYCHOLOGY:** What is the irrational fear represented by coulrophobia?
- MYTHOLOGY:** Which Greek god stared at his own reflection until he died?
- INVENTIONS:** What did Alessandro Volta invent?

*answers on page 7*

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Bruce Willis	3/19/1955
Mister Rogers	3/20/1928
Matthew Broderick	3/21/1962
William Shatner	3/22/1931
Joan Crawford	3/23/1905
Harry Houdini	3/24/1874
Aretha Franklin	3/25/1942

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**RECIPE OF THE WEEK**

**Baked Blueberry Cheesecake Dessert**

3 cups frozen unsweetened blueberries  
1 cup Splenda Granular  
12 (2 1/2-inch) graham cracker squares  
2 (8-ounce) packages Philadelphia fat-free cream cheese  
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour  
1/2 cup Land O Lakes no-fat sour cream  
2 eggs or equivalent in egg substitute  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. In a medium bowl, combine 2 cups frozen blueberries and 1/2 cup Splenda. Set on counter until blueberries thaw, stirring occasionally.  
2. Heat oven to 325 F. Spray a 9-by-9-inch cake pan with butter-flavored cooking spray. Evenly arrange 9 graham crackers in prepared cake pan.  
3. In a large bowl, stir cream cheese with a sturdy spoon until soft. Add remaining 1/2 cup Splenda, flour, sour cream, eggs and vanilla extract. Mix well using a wire whisk. Fold in remaining 1 cup frozen blueberries. Evenly spread batter over "crust." Crush remaining 3 graham crackers. Evenly sprinkle crumbs over top of filling.  
4. Bake for 45 minutes or until a knife inserted in center comes out clean. Place cake pan on a wire rack and allow to cool for 15 minutes. Refrigerate both cheesecake and thawed blueberry mixture for 2 hours.  
5. Cut dessert into 8 servings. For each serving, place 1 piece cheesecake on a dessert plate and spoon about 1/4 cup blueberry mixture over top.

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

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Some unsettling facts about a past situation could come to light. And, while you'd love to deal with it immediately, it's best to get more information to support your case.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) A straightforward approach to a baffling situation is best. Don't allow yourself to be drawn into an already messy mass of tangles and lies. Deal with it and move on.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Don't be discouraged or deterred by a colleague's negative opinion about your ideas. It could actually prove to be helpful when you finally get around to finalizing your plan.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Ignore that sudden attack of "modesty" and step up to claim the credit you so rightly earned. Remember: A lot of people are proud of you and want to share in your achievements.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A financial "deal" that seems to be just right for you Leos and Leonas could be grounded more in gossamer than substance. Get an expert's advice to help you check it out.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Don't ignore that suddenly cool or even rude attitude from someone who is close to you. Asking them for an explanation could reveal a misunderstanding that you were completely unaware of.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Unless you have sound knowledge, and not just an opinion, it's best not to step into a family dispute involving a legal matter, regardless of whom you support. Leave that to the lawyers.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) An awkward situation presents the usually socially savvy Scorpion with a problem. But a courteous and considerate approach soon helps clear the air and ease communication.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A calmer, less tense atmosphere prevails through much of the week, allowing you to restore your energy levels before tackling a new challenge coming up by week's end.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Your approach to helping with a friend or family member's problem could boomerang unless you take time to explain your method -- and how and why it (usually!) works.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Someone who gave you a lot of grief might ask for a chance for the two of you to make a fresh

**FEAR KNOT**  
By: rj Johnson  
DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

OTC  
KENTIA  
ONCLO  
EASK  
PANTIC  
♥NKI  
♥HICN  
ANKSC  
PPU  
♥PLOTIS  
♥LUSEP  
KICN

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.

answers on page 7

Fear Knot brought to you by MUTTLY'S in CLEAR LAKE

start. You need to weigh the sincerity of the request carefully before giving them your answer.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Too much fantasizing about an upcoming decision could affect your judgment. Better to make your choices based on what you know now rather than what you might learn later.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of seeing the best in people and helping them live up to their potential.

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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! answers on page 7

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SATURDAY NOON-CLOSE

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**Americanisms**

"You can cut all the flowers but you cannot keep spring from coming."  
— Pablo Neruda

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**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Poster is missing. 2. Firing is missing. 3. Arm is missing. 4. Headset is missing. 5. Belt is missing. 6. Light strip is missing.

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### Speedy Spanish Rice Is Easy, Versatile and Delicious

This week we have a very popular one-pot meal seasoned with a little bit of versatility. This family-friendly dinner is an extremely inexpensive yet soul-satisfying meal. It comes together fast, making it perfect for busy weeknight dinners. And one skillet? Yes, please and thank you!

The real beauty of the recipe is you can substitute any kind of protein for the hamburger I used. You could use ground or shredded turkey, pork, chicken, or go meatless with beans or meat-free crumbles. This makes it a perfect recipe to have on repeat, knowing you can make it with whatever is on sale this week.

Using brown rice in this recipe boosts nutrition and fiber. But because brown rice takes 45 minutes to cook, this speedy recipe calls for pre-cooked rice. Considering it takes the same 45 minutes to make four cups of brown rice or 12 cups of brown rice, I recommend making a big pot of rice then dividing and freezing it into meal-ready portions. Anything that helps get a healthy meal on the table quickly is a good thing.

If you prefer white rice or don't happen to have cooked rice on hand, I've included the white rice quick fix.

#### SPEEDY SPANISH RICE

Yield: 4 servings  
Total Time: 20 minutes

What You'll Need:

- 1 pound (85/15) ground beef
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 (16 ounce) bag frozen pepper and onion blend, thawed
- 1 (8 ounce) can tomato sauce
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups cooked brown rice (see note below)\*
- 1 cup cheddar or Mexican blend cheese, shredded
- Chopped green onions and/or cilantro, optional



www.JasonCoblentz.com

This Spanish rice dish is comforting and delicious.

Here's How:

In a large skillet, over medium-high heat, cook hamburger, breaking it into crumbles, until beef is no longer pink. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Drain the excess fat and liquid from the pan. You don't have to drain it all; a little liquid is good. Next, add the onion and pepper blend and cook until the onion is translucent. Stir in the tomato sauce, tomatoes and seasonings; bring to a boil. Add rice; heat

through, stirring occasionally. Let this simmer for at least 5 minutes to marry the flavors. Before serving, sprinkle cheese on top and cover with a lid for a minute to melt the cheese. Garnish with green onions and cilantro, if desired. And trust me, you desire. Serving suggestions: All you need is a big salad and call it done.

\*Note: If you don't have pre-cooked rice, just add 1 cup of uncooked white rice (not brown, it takes too long) and 2 cups chicken broth when you add the tomatoes and bring to a boil. Cover and reduce heat to a simmer for 20 minutes. Continue as written above.

This popular dish has many variations. I believe every family has their own "perfect and only" way to prepare Spanish rice. Here's a list of items you could add, and no one would be mad at you: green or black olives; corn; sour cream; green chilis; pinto, black or red kidney beans. And more cheese. We always need more cheese, please.

What's the difference between Spanish rice and Mexican rice? Spanish rice gets its yellow color from saffron (which is ridiculously expensive!). Mexican rice, meanwhile, takes on a unique reddish orange color by adding cumin and chili powder.

No matter how you make it, you'll love this simply comforting delish Spanish dish.

\*\*\*

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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## COMMUNITY CORNER



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WEDNESDAY

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THURSDAY

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## VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Association was given the highest score ever received by any goods and services organization that ACSI covers. And not for the first time. This recent rating marks the seventh time in a row that the cemetery association has come in first in a survey covering over 400 U.S. corporations providing everything from utilities, health care and insurance to restaurants, travel and manufacturing ... and cemetery services.

That's saying a lot. Given the nature of cemeteries in general and what they provide, for a cemetery association to be listed at the top of satisfaction surveys so many times is amazing, because there are many possible areas for unhappiness.

The VA's National Cemetery Administration provides services to the families of veterans at 121 locations. These services include burial, headstones and markers, medallions, military honors and more. In one year alone, last year, the NCA buried over 145,000 veterans and family members.

To determine if a veteran is eligible for VA burial benefits,

go to [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov). Look for information on types of discharge, applying for a burial allowance and services provided.

If you've lost a veteran, are you familiar with the Veterans Legacy Memorial? It's a digital platform with over 4.5 million veterans listed where friends and families can post biographies, documents and photos of their veteran. Each individual bio includes branch of service, dates of birth and death, war period, rank and more. The profiles can also be emailed and posted to Facebook and Twitter. (Unfortunately, Arlington National Cemetery is not included in this memorial.) To find the memorial, go to [www.vlm.cem.va.gov](http://www.vlm.cem.va.gov).

If you are a veteran who might be eligible for burial in a national cemetery, consider planning in advance. Search for "Pre-need eligibility" on the [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) website.

An amusing note: While the NCA received a satisfaction score of 97%, the overall rate for all government agencies was 66%. The Department of the Treasury, of course, came in last.

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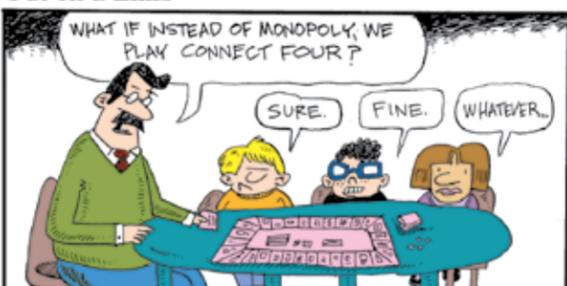
## VA Cemetery Association Ranks High

**Charlie's Tips:**  
Check your sump pumps. The melting snow will find its way to your basement!

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### Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



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**BIBLE WORD SEARCH**  
by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

Psalm 25:3-4

No **one** who **hopes** in you **will ever** be **put** to **shame**, **but** shame will **come** on **those who are** treacherous **without cause**. **Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.**

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

answers on page 7

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

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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**Holidays & Observances This Week**

3/19	Anonymous Giving Week
3/20	French Language Day
3/21	International Day of Forests
3/22	National Goof-Off Day
3/23	National Chip & Dip Day
3/24	World Tuberculosis Day
3/25	National Pecan Day

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: **First American Woman Sally** —

Chawla	Dunbar	Magnus	Rubins
Clark	Fisher	Meir	Seddon
Cleave	Higginbotham	Ochoa	Sullivan
Currie	Jemison	Resnik	

answers on page 7

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• Check your local newspaper or city/county government for programs that provide free or near free water barrels or trees. Many areas have a program, and they really do help keep your water costs down if you have flowers or vegetable gardens.

• To keep the edges of lettuce from browning, tear it or use a plastic knife sold just for this purpose. Metal will make the edges brown.

• "If you want same-size cookies, roll and freeze your dough for 10-15 minutes. Most doughs will harden enough to slice into perfectly uniform slices, and the freezing doesn't really affect cooking time too much. (Watch your first batch, though.)" -- R.L. in Missouri

• If you are reattaching a button to shorts or pants, try using dental floss, the unwaxed kind. It's much stronger and can hold the button better

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

**top ten**

**Least Independent U.S. States 2022**

1. Kentucky
2. Louisiana
3. Mississippi
3. Alaska
4. South Carolina
5. West Virginia
6. Alabama
7. Tennessee
8. Indiana
9. New Mexico
10. Michigan

Source: WalletHub

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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. Basement	— E — — — —	Neck band	— O — — — —
2. Preacher	P — — — —	City, Nevada	C — — — —
3. Untangle	— — — — L	Poe's bird	— — — — N
4. Spin a baton	— — — — R —	Woven fabric	— — — — L —
5. Congregate	— U — — — —	Chess expert	— A — — — —
6. Goddess of wisdom	— — — — — A	Parthenon's city	— — — — — S
7. Petrify	— C — — — —	Gawk	— T — — — —
8. Gamble	— — G — — —	Thin cookie	— — F — — —
9. ——— Shields	— — — — — E	Babbling streams	— — — — — S
10. More secure	— — F — — —	Calvary weapon	— — B — — —

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**PRIME RIB AFTER 5PM**

**SATURDAY MARCH 25**  
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PRIME RIB AFTER 5PM

**SUNDAY MARCH 26**  
CLOSED

**MONDAY, MARCH 27**  
PRIME RIB FRENCH DIP

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28**  
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**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29**  
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answers on page 7

**King Crossword**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13			14			
15				16				17			
18						19	20				
23	24	25		26		27	28		29	30	
31			32		33		34		35		
36				37		38		39		40	
45	46					47			48	49	50
51					52	53					
54					55				56		
57						58				59	

**ACROSS**

- 1 Release money
- 5 Officer
- 8 Wife of Zeus
- 12 "Born Free" lioness
- 13 Billboards
- 14 Elliptical
- 15 Region of northern Italy
- 17 Breathing (Abbr.)
- 18 Start a round
- 19 Aviary noises
- 21 Irish actor Stephen
- 22 Visibility hindrance
- 23 Arced tennis shot
- 26 Like some humor
- 28 Avoids work
- 31 Gumbo or bisque, e.g.
- 33 Work unit
- 35 Minn. neighbor
- 36 Writer Lessing
- 38 Pouch
- 40 "Rah!"
- 41 Metric measure
- 43 — Alamos
- 45 Big lizard
- 47 Of the lower back
- 51 Gasp for air
- 6 Quirky by Alex Trebek
- 7 Intimidate, with "out"
- 8 Where earth meets sky
- 9 Battery brand
- 10 Grate
- 11 Swiss peaks
- 16 Not many
- 20 Actor Holbrook
- 23 "Acid"
- 24 Tic-tac-toe win
- 25 French red wine
- 27 Decade parts (Abbr.)
- 29 Air safety org.
- 30 Firmament
- 32 Pittsburgh team
- 34 Runs like a horse
- 37 — Salvador
- 39 Brilliant stroke
- 42 College study
- 44 Big hit
- 45 Apple product
- 46 Big bash
- 48 Party cheese
- 49 Tosses in
- 50 Deli loaves
- 53 Long time

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## People Worth Remembering MARVIN GLASS

• When Marvin Glass was a kid in Chicago in the early 1900s, he paid little attention to schoolwork or his social life. He preferred crafts with paper, cardboard, scissors, and art supplies. He constructed castles and airplanes and fantasy characters. At the age of 8, he designed a toy submarine that fired wooden torpedoes. He moved into a small apartment with a friend as a roommate as a young adult.

• His friend designed window dressings for storefronts for a living, and one day came home from work with the assignment to design some sort of toy that would capture the attention of passers-by. The two put their heads together, and came up with a projector that illuminated the Sunday comics. They were paid \$500 for the rights to their creation, a princely sum for the middle of the Great Depression, but the company that manufactured it ended up earning over \$30,000 from their idea. This ignited a fire in Glass. From then on he spent his life designing toys and selling the rights to companies for royalties on sales.

• Glass set up his own design factory, and his next creation was a hit. It was a Catholic Weather Chapel: when the weather was dry, a Sacred Heart popped out of the chapel; but when the weather was humid, Saint Barbara (patron saint of disasters) emerged.

• Many inventions followed. Some were hits, others misses. There was a plastic chicken that laid plastic eggs when it was pressed down. Ten million Busy Biddee Chickens sold. Next was the Yakity-Yak Talking Teeth, the wind-up chattering dentures. Then there was the Merry-Go-Sips, the drinking cup containing a carousel of plastic cartoon animals that spun around when toddlers sucked their milk through the straw. The fake barf made from latex and bits of foam rubber. The doll that cried when its pacifier was removed.

• Now Glass was rolling. He was a charmer and a tyrant; a chain-smoking workaholic who demanded the same from others. When his marriage ended, it inspired Mr. Machine, a wind-up robot with a transparent plastic body that showed the inner workings of its gears as it marched forward, squawking. It could be disassembled and reassembled. It was a hit.

• Then there was the Haunted House game, which unfolded into a 3D Addams Family style mansion that stood upright. Each room had round holes for the player's pegs. The owl spinner hooted every time it was spun, telling players how far they could advance their pegs as they progressed through rooms full of secret mechanical pop-up surprises such as vampires, skeletons, and ghosts, as they searched for the hidden treasure.

• The success of the Haunted House led to his biggest hit yet. He was inspired by a cartoon drawn by Rube Goldberg, which showed how to remove the cotton from a bottle of aspirin using a ridiculously convoluted contraption. Glass designed his own Rube Goldberg contraption using plastic parts set up on a game board: a crank rotated gears that caused a lever to move a stop sign so it hit a shoe on which kicked a bucket causing a marble to roll down a staircase, enter a drainpipe, then nudge a rod with a hand that pushed a bowling ball off a ledge and into a bathtub then dropped through a hole, landing on a seesaw that launched a man backwards into a washtub that unbalanced a cage perched on top of a post so it dropped down and captured the mouse below. It was called Mouse Trap.

• Milton Bradley turned it down. Parker Brothers turned it down. Ideal Toy took it up. They couldn't make it fast enough. Glass followed that with another hit: "Operation."

• Marvin Glass died age 59 in 1974, having transformed the world of toys.

## Strange BUT TRUE

by Lacie Winborne

• What's in a gut bacterium? Possibly more than you might expect: Studies have shown that the types and amounts of such bacteria might influence your appetite, your food preferences and even the way nutrients are processed and stored in your body.

• While fish can cough, they don't sneeze.  
• Michael Jordan was nicknamed "Magic" in high school after Los Angeles Lakers icon Magic Johnson.

• In June 2022, the New York Public Library donated half a million books to kids under 18 so they could start their own personal book collections. Collecting and reading books has been found beneficial to learning, stress relief and even future success.

• And speaking of libraries, they're not always just for books: The Buffalo Tool Library in Buffalo, New York, allows members to take out tools for home improvement, gardening and repair projects.

• Provincial law in Quebec prohibits a woman from taking her husband's surname after marriage.

• Actor Morgan Freeman, after serving in the U.S. Air Force, got his first paid job in show business as a dancer at the 1964 World's Fair.

• After having a double mastectomy in her senior years, the ever-outspoken Alice Lee Roosevelt Longworth, eldest child of President Theodore Roosevelt, took to referring to herself as "Washington's only topless octogenarian."

• Dolbear's Law, which states the connection between air temperature and the rate at which crickets chirp, is accurate to

within about one degree Fahrenheit for the field cricket.

• The Chinese video sharing and streaming site Bilibili used 1,500 drones to create a light show celebrating the first anniversary of the release of mobile game Princess Connect! Re:Dive, which was followed by a huge QR code to download the game.

•••

## Thought for the Day

"A champion is afraid of losing.  
Everyone else is afraid of winning."

— Billie Jean King

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Sources: homeguides.sfgate.com, www.nps.gov  
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**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

**FEAR & KNIGHT**  
answer  
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K O N O  
P I S T O L  
P U P A O  
L S A K I E  
E

**U.S. WOMEN IN SPACE**  
R I G G I N B O T H A M  
A W L  
L O A V E N  
R O G A M N S L E D  
R O B E I B H L R D  
M L C U B R C S  
R A B N U D

**BIBLE WORD SEARCH**  
Answers  
D R B E M A H S N Q  
L E S W O H S W E C  
S V L H W A Y S O B  
E E W L S V U M W Y  
P T H I A E I O D  
O T H C W T U B O  
H A E Z O H S U N O  
J X U C C S A R T L  
T X T N W H O N E

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
Answer  
5 4 6 1 8 7 9 3 2  
9 3 1 4 2 6 5 8 7  
2 7 8 5 9 3 4 6 1  
8 1 2 9 6 4 7 5 3  
7 9 5 2 3 1 6 4 8  
4 6 3 8 7 5 2 1 9  
6 5 9 3 1 2 8 7 4  
3 2 4 7 5 8 1 9 6  
1 8 7 6 4 9 3 2 5

**King Crossword**  
Answers  
Solution time: 24 mins.  
1. Bonnie Blue Butler.  
2. Tasman Sea.  
3. "7th Heaven."  
4. Tin.  
5. "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe."  
6. Larry.  
7. An average of 16 days, and up to 30 days.  
8. Fear of clowns.  
9. Narcissus.  
10. The electric battery.  
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