

HERKIMER
Country Editor

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DECEMBER 17, 2021

Delivered by the
U.S. Postal Service

518-673-3237
Volume 11 Number 27

And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger,
and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. John 6:35



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Finding a home for the holidays

"25 Cats Of Christmas" campaign

Started Nov. 27 and running until Dec. 21, HALO (Helping Animals Live Organization) are featuring one of their HALO House shelter cats every day, hoping to find a home of their own for the holidays. The feature will be on their Facebook page and the website for "My Little Falls." Consider sharing your heart and home with one more to help find homes for their shelter kitties.

For more information, call 315.985.3738 and visit halorescue.net. You may also consider supporting HALO with a donation during the Staffwork Fund "Save A Life Campaign," where every donation received in December will be matched.

Donations can be mailed to HALO, 615 Albany St., Little Falls, NY 13365 or click the donate button on the website.

Consider sharing your heart and home with one more to help find homes for local shelter kitties. For more information, call 315.985.3738 or visit www.halorescue.net. Photo courtesy of HALO



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The Glove Theatre and Caroga Arts Collective present 'Holiday Sweets and Suites'

Final performance of the Caroga Lake Music Festival's WinterFest 2021

The historic Glove Theatre on Main Street in Gloversville will host the Caroga Arts Collective's final concert of the 2021 season. "Holiday Sweets and Suites" will be presented on Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. at the Glove Theatre, featuring selections from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite," Bach's "Brandenburg Concerti" and other holiday favorites.

The Glove Theatre will present this whimsical concert with holiday-themed concessions for purchase including hot chocolate, baked goods and offerings from the Mohawk Harvest Food Co-op, located steps from the theatre.

Tickets are \$10/person, or buy a family package of four tickets for only \$30 (use "familydiscount" promo code when purchasing to receive the reduced price) at facebook.com/theglovetheatre.

"Holiday Sweets and Suites" marks the closing performance of this year's Caroga Lake Music Festival's WinterFest. Caroga Arts Collectives founder and artistic/executive director, Kyle Price has assembled a chamber ensemble of professional musicians from around the country to treat the public to a wonderful evening of live music. This year's ensemble will feature violinist Suliman Tekalli, whose arrange-

ment of "The Nutcracker Suite" will be featured during this performance.

"The Glove acoustics are really special and not to be taken for granted. It is special to perform at the Glove," said Price about his excitement for this upcoming concert. "To hear live instrumental music during the holidays brings back memories of when I was young."

"Holiday Sweets and Suites" concludes the shortened 2021 calendar year for the Glove Theatre. Announcements of a full schedule of musical, plays and movie events at the Glove are planned for 2022.



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MOU signed for feasibility, predesign phase of Utica Impact Center project

The Mid-Utica Neighborhood Preservation Corporation (MUNPC) and the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties have signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) as the next step in development of MUNPC's Leisure Time Activity Center site on West Street in Utica as a collaborative multi-purpose "impact center."

Under the terms of the MOU, the Community Foundation will enter into the feasibility and predesign phase of the project to explore how an impact center on MUNPC's property could provide services to residents of a diverse, high-need neighborhood.

"This is an important part of our commitment to community investment and equity," said Alicia Fernandez Dicks, president/CEO of the Community Foundation. "Collaborative centers that match non-profit programs and services with resident needs are part of our long-term strategy to build and rebuild vibrant neighborhoods in our two counties."

As part of its \$10 million, 10-year commitment to racial equity and social justice, the Community Foundation has been engaging with neighborhood residents and nonprofit partners. A community advisory group researched and discussed equity barriers and potential solutions for much of 2021, delivering its findings and seeking resident feedback and ideas at a public forum in October. With multiple partner projects and potential sites under consideration in Utica, MUNPC's West Street properties have been discussed for several months, and the Community Foundation and MUNPC hosted a cookout for residents at the Leisure Time Center in September to discuss a potential project for the site. A formal MOU, Dicks said, is the next step in the process.

MUNPC Board of Directors President, Attorney Oneka Roach-Campbell, said, "I am confident in the Community Foundation's collaboration with MUNPC and

other like-minded organizations in our area. It is just what is needed to ensure that Black and Brown persons in Cornhill and surrounding areas get a proper piece of this equity pie. Together, we are putting boots on the ground to finally do the type of work that delivers much-needed programming and services to our

communities, while ensuring we retain an intact heritage for generations to come. We are stronger together."

With multiple partners, the Community Foundation is planning to invest substantially in additional potential impact centers and other developments across Cornhill, West Utica and other high-need neighborhoods in Oneida and Herkimer counties. Apart from buildings, such projects could include miniparks and other green spaces, community gardens, farmers markets and urban fitness trails.

"Our equity investments in these neighborhoods will embrace both infrastructure and services that help people succeed, including child-care and afterschool programs, tutoring and ESL instruction, career encouragement and workforce development, healthy food availability, health services and emergency referrals," Dicks said. "We are committed to a long-term strategy that lifts up neighborhoods and our entire two-county community."



Mid-Utica Neighborhood Preservation Corporation (MUNPC) and the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties have signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) as the next step in development of MUNPC's Leisure Time Activity Center site on West Street in Utica as a collaborative multi-purpose "impact center." With multiple partners, the Community Foundation is planning to invest substantially in additional potential impact centers and other developments across Cornhill, West Utica and other high-need neighborhoods in Oneida and Herkimer counties.

Photo courtesy of Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties

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Methodist Church to host annual Christmas Dinner

The annual Christmas Dinner at the First United Methodist Church in Herkimer will take place on Christmas Day Dec. 25 from noon - 2 p.m.

This is the only dinner offered in the Mohawk Valley.

Reservations are not necessary. All are welcome.

For shut-in delivery, call 315.867.1204 by Dec. 21. Deliveries are made primar-

ily in Herkimer, Mohawk and downtown Ilion.

Volunteers are needed for serving, clean-up and some deliveries. To volunteer, call Toby at 315.868.5560.

This dinner is sponsored by the churches in the Mohawk Valley and private donations.

Smullen prepares broadband bill for 2022 session

Assemblyman Robert Smullen (R,C,I,SAM-Meco) has drafted a bill in partnership with Sen. Joseph A. Griffo to strengthen and enhance broadband capabilities across all of New York. Dubbed the "Regional Broadband Expansion and Access Program" (RBEAP), the bill would help to decentralize the current "New NY Broadband" process and allow localities to work together and design regionally based plans to

ensure internet access to every citizen in their area. An avid proponent of expanded broadband infrastructure, Smullen is tackling the issue head-on.

"For too long, New York's broadband infrastructure has failed to appropriately accommodate the needs of New Yorkers in rural areas. My bill will help serve those people in New York with zero internet access by giving them the freedom to design their infrastructure

as needed," Smullen said. "With the COVID-19 pandemic hitting us, we truly became a 'remote world,' with work, school, telehealth and more dominating our means of business and communication. To support this ever-advancing technological leap, we need to recognize as a state that reliable broadband is becoming a necessity, not a luxury.

"The strength of the bill really lies in its ability to empower localities to co-

ordinate with broadband companies on a level playing field. I look forward to passing this bill and helping the local townships secure the best broadband for their areas," Smullen concluded.

Smullen represents the 118th Assembly District, which includes Hamilton and Fulton counties as well as parts of Herkimer, Oneida and St. Lawrence counties.

Bible Trivia

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Luke in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?



2. From Matthew 1:18, when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers

3. How many times is "nativity" mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? Zero, 1, 2, 7

4. At the birth of Jesus, who was king of Judaea? Solomon, Herod, Balak, Belshazzar

5. What was the home city of Mary and Joseph? Capernaum, Nazareth, Aphek, Shechem

6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense

Answers: 1) New; 2) Engaged; 3) 7 (4 times in Ezekiel); 4) Herod; 5) Nazareth; 6) Silver

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Utica Zoo offers chance to win \$10,000

The Forever Forest Raffle benefits the zoo and Red Panda conservation efforts

The drawing for the grand prize in Utica Zoo's Forever Forest Raffle is nearing. If 30 raffle tickets are sold each day between Dec. 6 and the drawing on Dec. 23, one lucky person can win \$10,000. Even if the goal is not met, ticket holders are still in the running to win \$1,500.

Tickets are \$25 each or \$100 for five and can be purchased at the Utica Zoo Treetop Gift Shop, open 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily, or 5 - 7 p.m. during Bright Nights.

Other ticket locations include:

- Chanatry's, Utica
- Desantis Meat Market & Deli, Barneveld

• Desantis Adirondack Discount Beverage Center, Barneveld

- Gems Along the Mohawk, Herkimer
- Mazzaferro's Meats & Deli, Rome
- Melrose Supermarket, Frankfort
- Oil Well, Old Forge
- Wilderness Interiors, Old Forge
- Zipp Hardware, Dolgeville

Net proceeds of the Forever Forest Raffle support the zoo's new red panda exhibit as well as a percentage earmarked for conservation efforts with the Red Panda Network.

To stay updated, visit uticazoo.org/foreverforest.



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Published weekly on Friday by Lee Newspapers
 6113 St. Hwy. 5, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428

Publisher, President **Frederick W. Lee**
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Calendar of events

NOTE: Calendar items must be submitted by Tuesday prior to the publication date to be included in the Calendar of Events. Entries may be emailed to cfeditor@leepub.com

December 17 and 18

Pierogi, golumbki and bake sale featuring holiday breads from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Friday and 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Dec. 18 at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 324 Moore Ave., Herkimer. Pierogi \$7 a dozen; golumbki \$26 a dozen; \$13 half dozen or three-piece \$6.50.

December 18

First Annual Cookie Sale 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at The Suiter Mansion Museum, 400 N. Main St., Herkimer. \$15 dozen (Cookies will be prepackaged). Cookies For Coats. Bring a donation of a gently used coat and get a free Ugly Sweater Cookie. Bring a donation for the Community Fridge.

December 19

Holiday Sweets and Suites 4 p.m. at The Glove Theatre, Main Street,

Gloversville. Tickets are \$10 per person. Family package of four tickets for only \$30 (use "familydiscount" promo code when purchasing to receive the reduced price) at www.facebook.com/theglovetheatre

December 23

Christmas Candlelight and Carols Service 7 p.m. at Cold Brook United Methodist Church, 467 Main St. (Rt 8), Cold Brook. NYS mandates observed.

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4 p.m. at Newport United Methodist Church, 7488 Main Street Newport, St. Rt. 28.

December 25

Annual Christmas Dinner noon to 2 p.m. at First United Methodist

Church, Herkimer. Christmas Day. . All welcome. For shut-in delivery call 315.867.1204 by Dec. 21. Deliveries are made primarily in Herkimer, Mohawk and downtown Ilion. Volunteers needed. To volunteer, call Toby at 315.868.5560.

January 3

Town Board of the Town of Stratford 2022 Reorganizational Meeting 6:30 pm at Town Hall, 120 Piseco Road Stratford. Reorganizational meeting follows the Executive Session beginning at 6 p.m.

January 20

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner 4-7 p.m. (or sold out) at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, The Parish Hall, 594 Albany St., Little Falls. \$12. Free delivery to Herkimer and Little Falls. Call 315.741.4672 to reserve dinner. To go only.

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Sunday School 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 7 PM

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Pastor Len Byerly
12 Van Buren St.
Morning Worship 11-12:30 PM
Lunch 12:30-2 PM
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Deacon: Micheal Carbone
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AM; Monday & Wednesday 9 AM

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Rev. William Whalen, Associate Pastor
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Phone 823-3410
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Sunday Mass 10:30 AM

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
588-594 Albany St.
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Nursery & Sunday School 9:45 AM
(Sept.-May)
Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:15 AM
Choir Rehearsal 11:30 AM
Holy Day Masses as announced
Confessions by appointment

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Senior Pastor Timothy Parisi
559 E. Jefferson St.
Phone 823-4043 • firstaglf@gmail.com
Sunday Morning All Worship 10 AM
Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Sunday School 9:15 AM
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Wednesday Worship 11 AM & 6 PM

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16 Jackson St.
Phone: 315-823-3004
Email ffirstpres@gmail.com
www.presbylf.org
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Sunday School 10 AM

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Evening Worship 6 PM
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The impact reviews have on businesses

Online reviews have long been a mixed bag for small businesses. Though positive reviews can help businesses stand out from their competitors, negative reviews can be as harmful as positive reviews are helpful.

That's true even when negative reviews do not reflect the average customer's experience.

Search Engine Land, which covers digital advertising technology, reports 88% of consumers trust online reviews as much as personal recommendations. Unfortunately for businesses, Inc. Magazine and entrepreneur Andrew Thomas found that a customer who has a negative business experience is highly likely to share that experience by leaving a bad review.

On the other hand, someone who has had a positive experience is unlikely to leave a good review. Roughly 10% of happy customers say they were pleased by a product or service. Furthermore, Thomas indicates

it takes roughly 40 positive customer experiences to undo the damage from a single negative review.

Customer happiness should be the goal of businesses, with the added benefit of helping to generate more positive reviews and word-of-mouth recommendations. While that is happening, customers can think twice about online reviews.

- Speak to product quality, especially when you have a very good experience with an item. Many retailers request feedback via email shortly after consumers have made a purchase. Take advantage of this opportunity to offer positive feedback.

- Companies gather personal information from customers so they can follow up in many cases. Great customer service helps prevent bad reviews and defines companies' brands. If you are asked for a phone number or email address, provide it. Doing so helps companies improve their products or services.

- Happy customers can reach out to friends and family members to share their experiences with certain companies. Posting your own review on social media also can drum up business for a company you respect.

- Customers should weigh their words heavily and think before posting a review. The marketing and consulting resource The Chat Shop says 31% of customers are interested in grocery store reviews, 60% are likely to read restaurant reviews and 70% rely on technology product reviews. Make an effort to discuss issues with a company before leaving a negative review. You may be pleasantly surprised with the outcome. There's no need to hesitate when leaving positive reviews. Simply explain why you were pleased.

Reviews can make or break a company. Both business owners and customers have a role to play in making online reviews a valuable way to learn about a company.



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Deck the halls with popcorn trees

'Tis the season of decking halls and trimming trees, and we've got a delicious way to do both – in the kitchen. There's no chance of breaking heirloom ornaments when you're decorating miniature festive popcorn trees from the Popcorn Board. Roll up your sleeves, gather the kids and pull out your prettiest decorating sugars and sprinkles. Then turn marshmallows and popcorn into a scenic winter wonderland to display or eat.

Long ago, Christmas trees were trimmed with edibles such as apples, nuts or dates. With festive popcorn trees your entire tree is edible! There's no right or wrong way to decorate a tree but if you're unsatisfied with the results, eat it and start again. It's the ultimate eco-friendly way to trim a tree.

And if you're looking to trim fat and calories during this hectic season, pop up a bowl of plain popcorn to nibble on

when hunger strikes. At 30 calories a cup, wholesome, whole grain popcorn is naturally low in fat and calories and the fiber can help fill you between meals. Leave the padding to jolly old St. Nick.

Festive Popcorn Trees

Makes: 10 trees

Ingredients:

10 cups air-popped popcorn

1 10-ounce bag miniature marshmallows

2 tablespoons butter

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Decorating sugar (green, blue)*

1 tube of white frosting (with decorating tip)

Assorted small colorful candies, such as sprinkles and miniature silver drag-ees

Directions:

Place popcorn in large bowl. Place marshmallows and butter in medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Stir

until marshmallows are melted and mixture is smooth. Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla extract. Pour mixture over popcorn in bowl. Toss well to coat popcorn evenly.

Line a baking sheet with foil. Spray hands with nonstick cooking spray, then scoop up about 1 cup of popcorn mixture. Shape mixture into a cone shape, keeping the base flat. This forms the tree. Sprinkle tree with decorating sugar. Continue to make the rest of the trees. Pipe frosting on trees to make a garland, then decorate them with colorful candies.

Serving suggestion: Place each tree on a sugar cookie and decorate your serving tray with shredded coconut to resemble snow.

Notes: *It's important that this recipe starts with unflavored white popcorn for best color and flavor. Make your own colored sugar by adding food coloring to sugar, stirring in a bowl or shaking vigorously in a sealed container. Add more food coloring for more intense tones.

For more simple and tasty popcorn recipes, visit popcorn.org.



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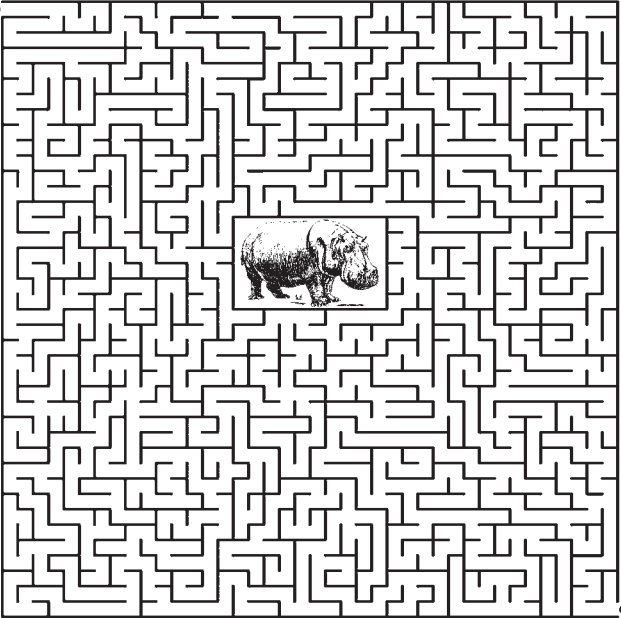
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Mega Maze

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Alum

5 Spell-off

8 Pit

12 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"

13 Approves

14 Satan's forte

15 Leading man?

16 Landlocked Mideast territory

18 Disney's Ariel, for one

20 Van Gogh venue

21 CBS logo

22 Mimic

23 Wedding VIP

26 "I'm No Angel" actress

30 '60s chic

31 Green shade

32 Cattle call

33 "The Great Gatsby" setting

36 Self-reproach

38 Stop — dime

39 "— voyage!"

40 Skater Ohno

43 Within earshot

47 Oater setting

49 Author Bellow

50 Within (Pref.)

51 "Shoo!"

52 Exile isle

53 Beheld

54 Sugary suffix

55 Marvel super-heroes

DOWN

1 Glitz partner

2 Carousel, for one

3 Winged

4 Darkened

5 "Let's Dance" singer

6 Scratched (out)

7 Curved letter

8 Semitic language

9 Cameo shape

10 Queue

11 BPOE members

17 Carton sealer

19 Nay undoer

22 Motorist's org.

23 Upscale auto

24 Shad product

25 Egos' counterparts

26 Jo's sister

27 Brit. record label

28 Fa follower

29 Youngster

31 Links org.

34 Ratted out

35 Sufficient, old-style

36 Deity

37 Gender-neutral

39 Montana city

40 Dazzles

41 Freshener scent

42 Shoppe description

43 Unrepaired

44 Lip soother

45 Garage job

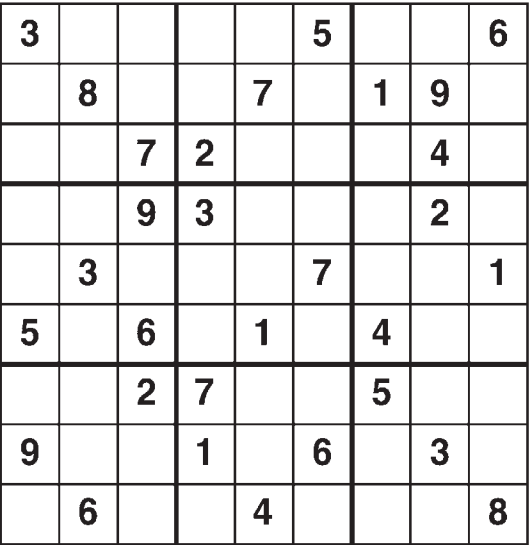
46 Panache

48 Conceit

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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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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!

Heed

GRADER

Blend

LEMING

Pad

BATTLE

Corrected

TREES

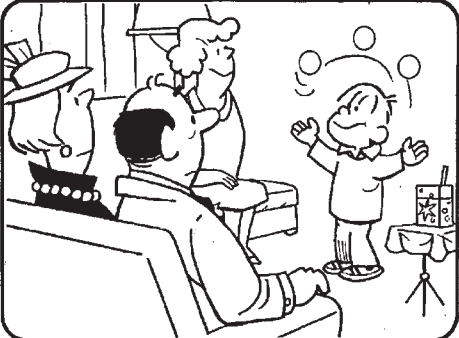
TODAY'S WORD



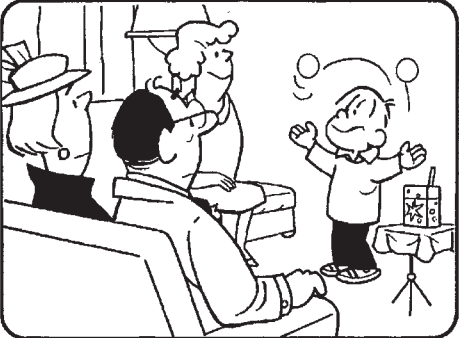
"First, could you lend me a dime for the _____?"

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Table is moved; 2. Ball is missing; 3. Glasses are added; 4. Pants are different; 5. Hair is added; 6. Necktie is removed.

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N B I F A E A G D B Z X V S E

Q R I O O L N R O H E D N P M

K I O G T G P R E C A R I Y W

U S Q H H P N H O S O P L J H

F E O O T O N R O H N I T C A

Y R X R V W R U G R E R S Q P

N N M N K J A N O H N O O F E

E K I L N R O H L L U B H H C

B Z Y X V L L I B N R O H S T

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A LARGE WASP

Alphorn	Dehorn	Hornlike	Shorn
Althorn	Foghorn	Hornpipe	Thorns
Bighorn	Hawthorn	Longhorn	Tinhorn
Bullhorn	Hornbill	Shoehorn	

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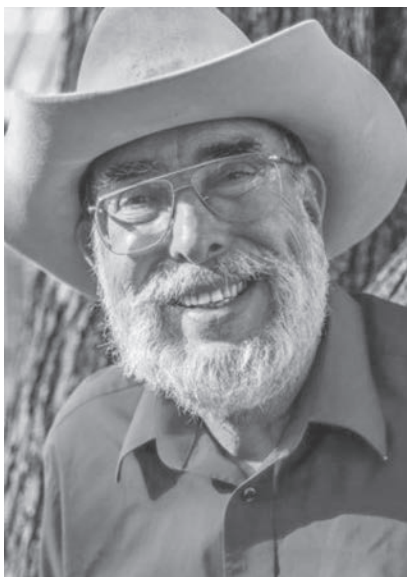
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Home Country

by Slim Randles

There is a nighttime sweetness and hope that hovers over us this time of year here at home. This is a time for summing up and looking ahead... and a time for dreams.

And at night... ah, that's the time, isn't it? Outside it's dark, December dark, and we're inside and warm and cocooned up. The cold makes our world shrink, especially at night.

But we have our dreams.

For Janice Thomas, our art teacher at the high school, it's that painting she's planning. She makes starts at it, from time to time, but she's wise enough to know she isn't good enough to paint it yet. She paints other things well,

but that one... it has to be perfect. It will be the painting of a lifetime, she knows.

Doc will drift off to sleep tonight thinking about that new fly rod. He has half a dozen, of course, that will take about any weight line, and let him catch anything from mouse to moose. But even the most expensive rod isn't what he dreams of. This year, for Christmas, he's giving himself a rod-builder's jig, and he will make his own rod from a Sage blank. That will be the one. It will have his own wrappings

Sharing snowmobile safety

Those who like to go snowmobiling are probably chomping at the bit, waiting for

enough snow to fall so they can take their sleds out. Whether you're new to the pastime or

heading out on the trails as a well-traveled winter wanderer, it's important to review some safety guidelines so that everyone can have a great time this season.

First, consider taking a snowmobile safety course. A lot of states require a snowmobile operator certificate and this course would be a necessity. It teaches you how to ride safely and responsibly. Although a lot of things might seem like common

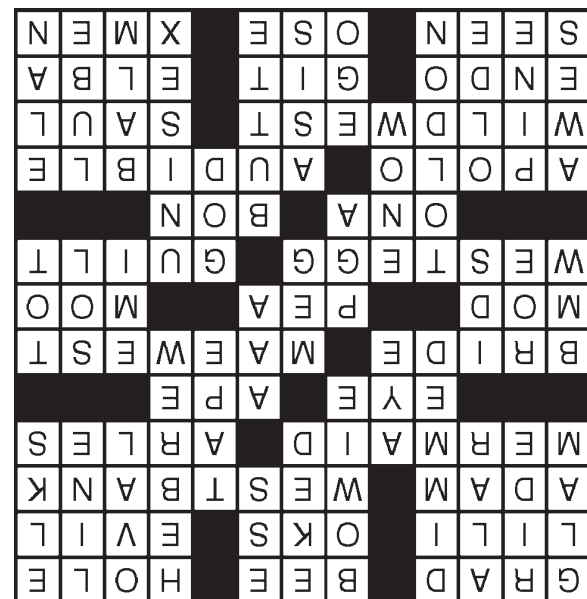
sense, common sense isn't
always as common as we
might like.

For the complete story,
make sure to check out
countryculture.co.

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

Answer

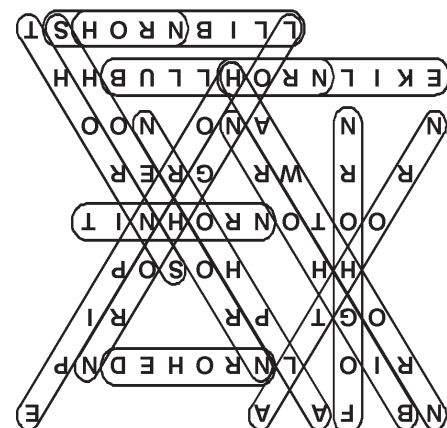
Weekly SUDOKU



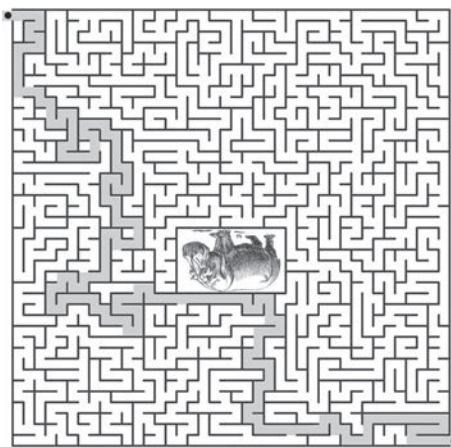
Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

— King Crossword —



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820 Nurseries
910 Plants
950 Real Estate For Sale
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1040 Services Offered
1075 Snowblowers
1080 Snowmobiles
1096 Sports
1109 Thrift
1140 Trailers
1147 Trains
1148 Travel
1165 Trees
1170 Truck Parts & Equipment
1180 Trucks
1187 Vacuum
1190 Vegetable
1200 Veterinary
1205 Wanted

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Announcements

Attachments

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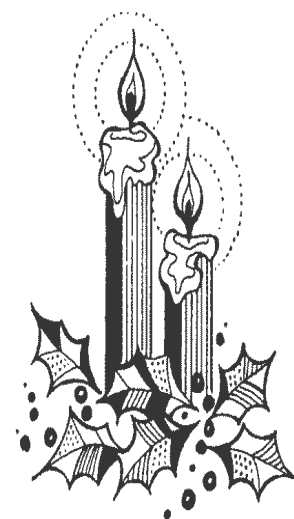
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These rich, crisp cookies are filled with a creamy chocolate-hazelnut spread (available at most super-markets) and folded into a pretty pinwheel shape.

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 6 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup prepared chocolate-hazelnut spread

1. On a sheet of waxed paper, stir flour, baking powder and salt. In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat sugar with butter until creamy. At low speed, beat in egg and vanilla until mixed. Gradually beat in flour mixture just until combined.

2. Divide dough in half; shape each half into a disk. Wrap each disk with plastic wrap and refrigerate about 1 hour or until firm enough to roll. (Or place dough in freezer 30 minutes.)

3. Preheat oven to 375 F. On floured surface with floured rolling pin, roll 1 disk of dough into 10-inch by

Good Housekeeping Chocolate-Hazelnut Pinwheels

7 1/2-inch rectangle. With pastry wheel or knife, cut rectangle lengthwise into 4 strips, then cut each strip crosswise into 3 squares. Place squares, 1 inch apart, on large ungreased cookie sheet. With knife, make 1 1/2-inch cut from each corner toward center (do not cut all the way to center). Spoon 1/2 teaspoon chocolate-hazelnut spread in center of each square. Fold every other tip in to center to form pinwheel. Repeat with remaining squares.

4. Bake cookies 8 to 10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Transfer cookies to wire racks to cool.

5. Repeat with remaining dough. Store cookies in tightly covered container up to 2 weeks. Makes 24 cookies.

• Each serving: About 95 calories, 4 g total fat (2 g saturated), 1 g protein, 0 g fiber, 17 mg cholesterol, 65 mg sodium.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit www.goodhousekeeping.com/food-recipes/.

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Mon. Dec. 20th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale

Mon. Dec. 27th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Organic Day Hosking Family & Sale barn crew would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday & Safe New Year!

Mon. Jan. 3rd – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat cow & Feeder Sale
Upcoming Sales:

Sat. Jan. 22nd – Sale held at our facility. 11:30 AM. New Year Production Sale – we will be accepting consignments for this sale up to 120 head. We want to stick to bred and Milking age as young heifers will not sell as well this time of year. We have several groups consigned already so if you have something let us know before it fills up.

Sat. March 26th – Sale held at our facility. 11:30 AM Our Spring Premier All Breed Dairy Sale. We are gearing up for great consignments for this sale Registered All Breeds Dairy Cattle showage calves – heifers and great young cows. Also our great selection of fresh young cows. This does fill too fast so we will cut off at 125. Call today to have someone come and visit as we will be making our rounds soon!

Sat. April 23rd – Sale held at our facility. Our Annual Spring Machinery Consignment Auction. Watch for future info.

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Quick and personal holiday gifts

Great gifts don't have to break the bank. Giving a homemade treat or supplying your recipient with the fixings to make a scrumptious nosh will win hearts and be gentle on your checkbook. With little effort your gift can be one of the highlights of the season.

If you're heading out to a holiday party, bring both a snack and a gift basket filled with the raw ingredients and recipe. Your hostess can sample firsthand the gift you're giving her and helps lighten her load. Providing a guilt-free snack to graze on will be a welcome and healthful alternative to yet another fat laden treat. That's why popcorn is a great option.

Plain or buttered, sweetened or spiced, popcorn can be flavored or even combined with other foods like nuts, fruit or cheese to create a delicious and nutritious snack. As a whole grain food, popcorn is a carbohydrate that is not only low in calories, but also a good source of fiber. It's an ideal in-between meals snack because it satisfies but doesn't spoil your appetite.

For others on your list, whether you're down to the wire or just beginning holiday shopping, simple gift ideas are sure to please. You can give a decorative tin filled with your favorite popcorn recipe or a basket filled with the ingredients to make the popcorn treat. Add a favorite board game, DVD, movie rental passes or a subscription to an online DVD rental service for an extra

touch and voila! Who knew holiday shopping could be stress-free, inexpensive and thoughtful?

Spicy Italian Popcorn

10 cups hot, freshly popped popcorn
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/3 cup grated Parmesan and Romano cheese
1 teaspoon oregano
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
Drizzle olive oil over popcorn in large bowl. Add remaining ingredients; toss well. Yield: 10 servings.

Perfect Popcorn Popping Tips

- Warm a heavy pan with lid. Add 1/4 cup of vegetable oil to the pan, or just enough to cover the bottom.

- Drop in two or three kernels and cover. When the kernels pop, add the remaining popcorn. Pour just enough kernels to cover the bottom of the pan. Cover with lid.

- Shake the pan while the kernels heat and pop. Occasionally lift the lid slightly to allow steam to escape. When you hear the last few pops, remove the pan from the heat, take off the lid and empty the popped popcorn into a large bowl.

For more simple and tasty popcorn recipes, visit popcorn.org.



Holiday Gift GUIDE

Let it snow

If the weather outside is too frightful, give the kids a creative and edible project to while away the hours. No magic hat is needed to bring these popcorn snowmen to life! Children love the feeling of slippery, buttery hands, which helps prevent popcorn from sticking to their hands as they form popcorn balls. With a little imagination – and sprinkles and candies borrowed from the holiday baking cupboard – they can create a winter wonderland to display their masterpieces or simply gobble them up.

Popcorn Snowman

10 cups popped popcorn

1 (1-lb.) package large marshmallows

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine

1 teaspoon vanilla

Decorations: sprinkles, licorice, gum drops cinnamon candies, etc.

- Melt marshmallows and butter in a large saucepan. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Let stand for 5 minutes.

- Pour over popcorn and stir. Butter hands well and form into balls. Decorate as desired.

Yield: 10 balls, 5 Snowmen (2 balls each)

Don't let the kids have all the fun. While your little ones are busy building their snow village, grab a few cups of popcorn and try your hand at these Popcorn Biscotti. The recipe is simple, easy to make, and the results are delicious.

Popcorn Biscotti

3 eggs

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

2 cups flour, plus more for shaping

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon baking soda

1/8 teaspoon salt

3 cups popped popcorn

1/2 cup raisins, currants or chopped, dried apricots, optional

- Preheat oven to 300° F. Spray two baking sheets with cooking spray; set aside.

- Beat eggs and vanilla to-

gether in a large mixing bowl. Sift together flour, sugar, baking soda and salt. Stir flour mixture thoroughly into egg mixture. Stir in popcorn and raisins or other dried fruit. (Dough will be sticky.)

- Spread a little flour on a work surface. Turn dough out onto work surface and divide into 3 equal pieces. Sprinkle flour over dough as needed to prevent sticking and roll each piece of dough into a log about 8 inches long and 2 inches wide. Transfer logs to baking sheets, allowing space between for spreading.

- Bake 30 minutes and remove from oven (do not turn off oven.) Allow cookie logs to cool about 5 minutes and transfer to cutting surface. Cut logs diagonally into 1/2-inch slices. Place cookies back on baking sheets in a single layer. Return cookies to oven and bake 20 minutes, turning cookies over after 10 minutes. Cool cookies on racks and store in an air-tight container.

Yield: 3 dozen cookies

For more great popcorn recipes, visit popcorn.org.



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