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TIDBITS® WONDERS WHAT DID THEY DO

BEFORE THEY WERE FAMOUS

by Kathy Wolfe

Do you remember your first job? This week, *Tidbits* recalls the early occupations of some celebrities before they hit the big time.

• Meghan Markle's life has covered a wide range of occupations. During her younger years she worked at a frozen yogurt shop and a donut shop before moving on to a nanny job, waitressing, and teaching bookbinding. Her calligraphy skills led to the opportunities as a professional calligrapher, hand-writing elegant wedding invitations, including those of singer Robin Thicke. After college, she landed an internship as a junior press officer at the American embassy in Buenos Aires. Markle broke into acting with a small role as a nurse on "General Hospital," followed by a stretch as a "briefcase girl" on the game show "Deal or No Deal." Her breakthrough role was on the hit series "Suits," a legal drama where she remained for seven seasons as Rachel Zane. A relationship with Prince Harry led to her next job, that of princess of the United Kingdom, the Duchess of Sussex, and her retirement from acting.

• Before co-founding the band No Doubt at age 17 with her brother in 1986, Gwen Stefani was a

Continued on page 2

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Fun & Interesting Fact



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You Bet! Most people picture turkeys waddling around the farm, but wild turkeys are surprisingly good flyers! They can reach speeds of up to 55 miles per hour in short bursts, usually flying low to the ground. When nighttime rolls around, they often head for the treetops, roosting on branches to stay safe from predators. Who knew Thanksgiving's guest of honor had such an impressive set of wings?

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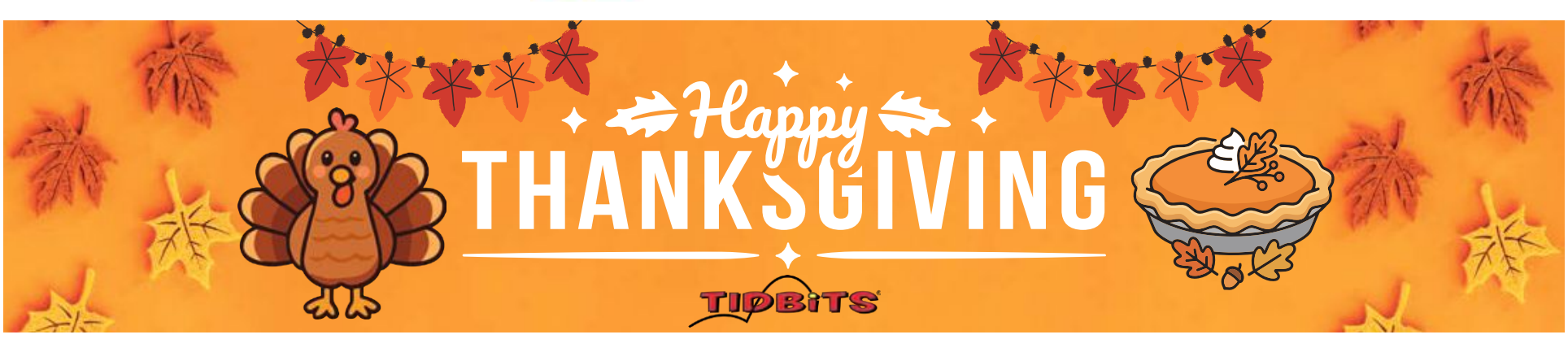
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Before They Were Famous (continued)

lifeguard and swim instructor at the local pool, before moving on to the Dairy Queen, followed by a stint as a department store makeup artist.



Paula Abdul. By Toglenn, Wikimedia Commons

• When her parents couldn't afford ballet lessons, Paula Abdul earned the money by cleaning up classrooms after school. Her experience as a cheerleader in high school led to her first career as a cheerleader for the Los Angeles Lakers at age 18. She went on to become the Laker Girls' head choreographer, and was discovered by the Jacksons there, which led to her choreography of Janet Jackson's music videos. Her debut album in 1988 sold 7 million copies and quickly hit #1 on the Billboard charts. Abdul was one of "American Idol's" original judges and has appeared as a judge on several other talent competitions. She has sold more than 60 million records worldwide.



Steve Martin. By Davidwbaker, Wikimedia Commons

• Disneyland seems to be a good place for a first job. Steve Martin worked there from 1955 to 1958, first as a guidebook seller at the park's entrance, followed by selling souvenirs in Frontierland, and ending up learning skills as a magician during his stint in Fantasyland's Magic Shop. Actress Michelle Pfeiffer was Alice in Wonderland in Main Street's Electrical Parade, while "Growing Pains" actress Joanna Kerns was in the Parade as the Blue Fairy from "Pinocchio." Kevin Costner met his future wife while working on the Jungle Cruise ride and she was working as Snow White. Robin Williams also worked on the Jungle Cruise, as well as performing mime on Main Street. When the park opened in 1955, Ronald Reagan was out of work and was hired as a greeter to welcome guests on opening day.



Jennifer Lopez. By dvsross, Wikimedia Commons

• Jennifer Lopez started out as a secretary in a law firm while studying business at New York's Baruch College, but dropped out to study dancing. She first appeared in Janet Jackson's 1993 music video "That's the Way Love Goes."

• Some stars were outstanding in their field before fame – a cornfield, that is, where supermodel Cindy Crawford worked for ten hours a day in her small Illinois hometown. Graduating as the valedictorian of her class, Crawford earned a scholarship to study chemical engineering at the prestigious Northwestern University, but after one quarter, she dropped out to pursue modeling. Matthew McConaughey was also a farm worker, shoveling chicken manure for a year in Australia, saving for college. After working as an attorney's assistant, he signed up to study law at Texas' Southern Methodist University but made the switch to film soon after. Pop star Taylor Swift was down on the farm at her family's Pine Ridge Farm in Pennsylvania, where they grew Christmas trees. Her job was to pick praying mantis pods off trees. Swift wrote "Christmas Tree Farm" just in time for a holiday release in December 2019.



George Clooney. By Michael Vlasaty, Wikimedia Commons

• George Clooney was also in the fields as a youth, picking tobacco for $3.30 an hour at his grandparents' Kentucky tobacco farm. He tried out for the Cincinnati Reds in 1977 but was rejected. Clooney then enrolled in Northern Kentucky University to study broadcast journalism but dropped out and headed to Hollywood to pursue acting. He worked a number of jobs to make ends meet, including acting as a chauffeur for his famous aunt, singer Rosemary Clooney, working as a shoe salesman, and selling insurance door-to-door. His big break came in 1994 when he was cast as Dr. Doug Ross in the medical drama series "ER," which firmly cemented his status as a leading actor.

• Some celebrities were required to wear a costume before they found success. Singer Katy Perry wore a cow costume when working an early restaurant waitressing job. As part of the job at the Tropical Smoothies Café in Florida, employees wore fruit costumes to promote the store. "Transformers" star Megan Fox wore the banana costume because it was the only one in her size. Brad Pitt donned a chicken costume to draw customers to the grand opening of the El Pollo Loco restaurant in Los Angeles. Another side job of Pitt's was moving appliances and refrigerators. Actor Hugh Jackman of Wolverine fame worked as Coco the Clown at children's birthday parties for $50 per party.

• The clown gig wasn't Hugh Jackman's only pre-success job. In 1987, Jackman also worked as a teaching assistant at Britain's prestigious Uppingham School, a boarding schooling founded in 1584. He wasn't the only one who worked in education back in the day. Gordon Sumner, better known as the musician Sting, was an English teacher for two years at St. Paul's First School in Cramlington, Northumberland, England. Novelist Stephen King was also an English teacher, working at the Hampden Academy in Hampden, Maine, until the success of his novel Carrie allowed him to resign to write full-time. Gene Simmons, the co-founder of the band KISS taught sixth-graders at New York's Upper West Side P.S. 75. Singer Sheryl Crow was a music teacher at an elementary school in Fenton, Missouri, and J.K. Rowling of Harry Potter fame worked in Portugal as a teacher of English as a second language. Sylvester Stallone was 18 years old when he was hired as a gym teacher and dorm bouncer at a Swiss boarding school. Before that, he worked at his family's beauty salon, then as a theater usher while seeking acting roles.

VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Money We'll Never See Again

What's going on up in New England? Did the thieves and scammers move up there thinking the VAOIG and DOJ wouldn't find them?

First we have a former VA medical staffer who was nailed for wire fraud. This thief applied for paycheck protection loans, claiming to own certain businesses. After being approved for loans, there was an additional claim that all the money went for payroll and a request for loan forgiveness, which was approved.

Then we have the pair of scammers who paid and received kickbacks for spinal implants and then attempted to obstruct a federal investigation into the fraud. Their physician consulting program was at the heart of the scheme, and it ended with two company higher-ups and five physicians being nailed for accepting sham consulting fees.

But it's the veteran who made so many false statements that is most disturbing. This veteran repeatedly claimed to the VA -- and received disability money year after year -- that he was unable to walk or stand and had to use a wheelchair due to an accident while he was in the Army.

Information surfaced, however, that helped to uncover the fraud, including photos and video of him walking, shopping and posting online about hunting.

Then, when he was about to be arrested for the fraud, he tried to fake his own death, bringing out all types of rescue people and agencies when he disappeared near the Canadian border. They determined that he wasn't really dead, despite how it looked.

He was finally grabbed by marshals, a year later, halfway across the country and was arrested on a federal warrant. Capturing him took the combined efforts of the VAOIG, Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the National Guard drug task force, the Coast Guard, the Fraud Enforcement Division of the DOJ and more.

While he'll surely see prison time for the fraud, all that disability money he took from the VA over the years is gone. It's nearly a quarter of a million dollars the taxpayers will never get back.

TIDBITS

NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

Before he was elected governor of California in 2003, Arnold Schwarzenegger served in the Austrian Army in 1965. His bodybuilding resulted in the title of Mr. Universe in 1967. When he moved to the U.S. in 1968 at age 21, he spoke very little English. He and his best friend, Italian bodybuilder Franco Columbu, had an extremely successful bricklaying business, as Arnold worked on the side with a mail-order business selling workout equipment. He invested his profits in real estate and was soon a millionaire. He has starred in 69 movies and authored four books. Arnold took no salary during his two terms as governor.

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Eat, Sip & Savor Clark County

The Blind Onion Pizza and Pub Vancouver

2900-B E. MILL PLAIN BOULEVARD, VANCOUVER

Pizza night is always a hit with the family, and The Blind Onion Pizza & Pub gives everyone a reason to gather around the table! Known for its generously topped specialty pizzas, flavorful crust, and delicious combinations, this local favorite has something for just about every appetite. From classic pepperoni to creative specialty pies, there's plenty to share, making it a great choice for families who can't agree on just one topping!

The casual, neighborhood atmosphere makes it easy to bring the kids, catch up with friends, and enjoy a relaxed meal without any fuss. Whether you're celebrating a birthday, meeting up with visiting relatives, or simply looking for a fun family dinner, The Blind Onion serves up a satisfying slice of local flavor.



2110 MAIN STREET, VANCOUVER

When it comes to family fun, Hungry Sasquatch serves up pizza with a supersized side of entertainment! Famous for its enormous 22-inch pizzas, this downtown Vancouver favorite offers big slices, creative toppings, and plenty of personality. The oversized pies are perfect for sharing, and the menu has a little something for traditional pizza lovers and adventurous eaters alike.

But the fun doesn't stop when the pizza arrives! Hungry Sasquatch is also known for its pinball machines and arcade-style entertainment, giving families something extra to enjoy during their visit. It's a fun destination for parents and kids, especially those who enjoy a little friendly competition along with their dinner. Come hungry and bring your game face!

Juliano's Pizzeria

15606 SE MILL PLAIN BOULEVARD, VANCOUVER

Sometimes the best family memories are made over a big pizza and a table full of hungry people! Juliano's Pizzeria is a longtime Vancouver-area favorite known for its hearty specialty pizzas, fresh ingredients, and generous toppings. From traditional favorites to signature combinations, there's plenty to choose from, making it easy to please different tastes around the table.

The relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere makes Juliano's a comfortable place to bring the kids for a casual dinner or gather everyone together for a weekend pizza night. No need to dress up or make a big production out of dinner — just good pizza, good company, and a chance to enjoy some time together.

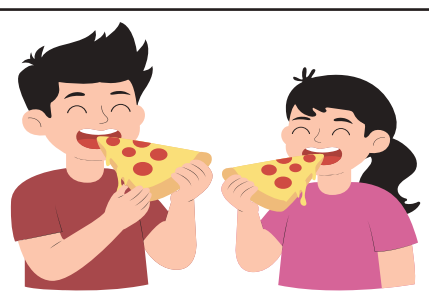


109 S. 65TH AVENUE, RIDGEFIELD

A little pizza, a little playtime, and a whole lot of family fun! Papa Pete's Pizza in Ridgefield is a great stop for families looking to enjoy a casual meal together. Known for its thin, crispy, cornmeal-bottom crust and homemade dough and sauce, this neighborhood pizzeria serves up traditional favorites and specialty pizzas that are perfect for sharing.

What makes this spot especially appealing to families is its game room, giving younger guests something fun to do while enjoying a night out. It's a nice change of pace from the usual dinner routine and a great place to celebrate a birthday, treat the kids, or simply make an ordinary evening a little more entertaining.

Info/photos from both websites respectively.



Pizza, Please!

Four Great Family Pizza Destinations in Clark County



After a busy day of holiday shopping, seasonal festivities, and checking things off your Christmas list, sometimes the best plan is to skip the kitchen and head out for pizza! These four Clark County favorites offer a fun, family-friendly place to refuel, relax, and enjoy a meal together. Whether you're craving oversized slices, specialty pizzas, or a little arcade entertainment, they're just the ticket for an easygoing family stop during the holiday hustle and bustle!

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11/16	International Day for Tolerance
11/17	National Entrepreneurs Day
11/18	Mickey Mouse Day
11/19	World Pancreatic Cancer Day
11/20	World Children's Day
11/21	World Television Day



* On Nov. 16, 1960, iconic American actor Clark Gable, who was often referred to as the "King of Hollywood," died at a Los Angeles hospital from a massive heart attack at the age of 59, not long after completing "The Misfits" with Marilyn Monroe. He was buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California, beside his third wife, actress Carole Lombard, and her mother.

* On Nov. 17, 1970, Douglas Engelbart received a patent for the first computer mouse, which was officially named "X-Y position indicator for a display system" and earned its nickname "mouse" due to the cord extending from its back like a tail.

* On Nov. 18, 1865, Mark Twain published his breakout story "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" under the title "Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog" in the New York Saturday Press. Inspired by a tall tale Twain overheard while drinking at a hotel, the story became an overnight sensation and was republished in multiple U.S. outlets.

* On Nov. 19, 1861, the first petroleum shipment (1,329 barrels) from the U.S. to Europe left Philadelphia for London on the brigantine Elizabeth Watts in response to Europe's widespread need for cheap lamp illuminants like kerosene.

* On Nov. 20, 1911, Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin attended the funeral of Paul and Laura Lafargue (daughter of Karl Marx). The socialist Lafargues died in a suicide pact, believing their political usefulness had come to an end.

* On Nov. 21, 1934, the New York Yankees acquired 19-year-old outfielder Joe DiMaggio's contract from the San Francisco Seals in a deal reported as $25,000 and five players.

* On Nov. 22, 2014, 12-year-old Tamir Rice was shot and killed by police officers in Cleveland, Ohio. The boy had been playing with an airsoft plastic pellet gun and was reported to the police by an observer, who noted that he was a minor and likely holding a toy, but a dispatcher noted only a suspect with a gun. One of several African Americans killed by American law enforcement at the time whose deaths garnered national attention, Tamir became a martyr of the Black Lives Matter movement.



Beverly D'Angelo	11/15/51
Maggie Gyllenhall	11/16/77
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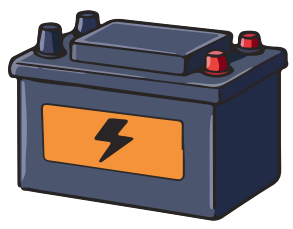
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November Car Fun Fact

Your Car's Battery Hates the Cold!

Did you know that a car battery can lose about 35% of its strength at 32°F? When temperatures drop to 0°F, it can lose nearly 60% of its power—just when your engine needs extra energy to start! That's why a battery that worked perfectly in October might leave you stranded on a chilly November morning.

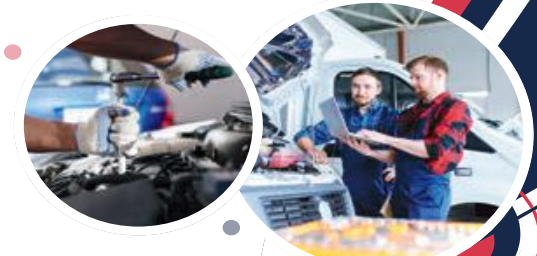
Tidbits Tip: Before winter settles in, have your battery tested and check that its connections are clean and secure. A little prevention can save you from a cold-weather surprise!

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Taste Test Apples and Make a Refreshing Waldorf Salad

Minnesotans don't think of themselves as particularly boastful. But one exception is when fall is in the air, and it comes to answering the humorous question, "How do you like them apples?"

We love them, and we take pride in the fact that the popular Honeycrisp was developed in our state years ago. Another addition to our romance with apple varieties is the First Kiss apple. A child of the Honeycrisp family, it was developed by the University of Minnesota and was promoted as the "first kiss of autumn" at the Minnesota State Fair in 2018.

Eager to grab a taste, I stood in a long line at the apple booth to buy one. It was worth the wait. I took a bite and thought, "Whoa ... this is an exceptional apple!"

Would friends and family agree? A First Kiss taste test with other favorite varieties would answer this question. So, I put together this entertaining apple-tasting game.

First, I purchased six varieties of apples, both to compare with First Kiss and to match apple names with tastes. Cut into bite-sized chunks, I set the apples on separate plates that were numbered 1-7. (I kept track on my hidden answer key.) For reference, I listed the names of the seven apples in alphabetical order on a sheet for all to see.

To play, the "testers" wrote numbers 1-7 on an index card. They tasted samples on each plate and wrote what they thought was its correct name next to the corresponding number on the card. For extra fun, I asked them to star their favorite.

This was a tough assignment! Even though the participants have been chomping on apples for years, comparing apples to apples revealed subtle differences -- a challenge indeed! Not surprisingly, First Kiss was a hit.

You might want to do a similar "apple taste test" game using your family favorites and regional varieties to discover the apple of your eye. Then get inspired and cut up additional apples for this refreshing Waldorf salad, a tasty side to a fall meal. Mix crisp apple chunks with crunchy, healthy ingredients and toss with a homemade dressing that features a sweet hint of honey.

WALDORF SALAD

Serves 4-6
-- 2 cups crisp apples in chunks, unpeeled
-- 1 cup diced celery
-- 1/2 cup halved red grapes
-- 1/2 cup toasted walnut pieces
-- 1/4 cup raisins
Dressing:
-- 1 tablespoon honey
-- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
-- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise

Lightly toss apples, celery, grapes, walnuts and raisins in a bowl. Whisk together dressing ingredients until smooth. Toss with salad ingredients. Serve chilled.



***

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



Singer Michael Bolton was once a babysitter to another celebrity … none other than Paula Abdul.

CONVERSE



Chuck Taylor All-Stars. By Brooke Fishwick, Wikimedia Commons

If you're one of those folks who regularly wears "Chucks," one of the most recognizable shoes in the world, this week's facts about the history of the Converse company will be interesting to you!

• Marquis Converse was the 47-year-old manager of a Boston shoe manufacturing company in 1908 when he quit to establish his own business, the Converse Rubber Shoe Company in Malden, Massachusetts. His first products were galoshes, duck-hunting boots, and winterized rubber-soled shoes and boots. They added car tires to the line shortly afterward. Within two years, Converse's factory was producing 4,000 pairs of shoes a day.

• In 1916, Converse focused on something ne, footwear for basketball players, introducing the Converse All-Star basketball shoe, to instant success. Chuck Taylor was a player for a semi-pro basketball team, the Akron Firestones, in 1918 when he received a promotional pair of Converse shoes as a gift. When those shoes were worn out, Taylor approached Converse complaining of sore feet, offering some suggestions. The company gave him a job as a salesman and promoter of Converse All-Star shoes, and Taylor began traveling the country, leading basketball clinics and meeting with customers to endorse Converse. Converse restyled their shoes based on Taylor's ideas to improve flexibility and support and added a star-shaped logo on the ankle patch. In 1932, Taylor's signature was added to the patch on the high-tops, and that model was officially named the Chuck Taylor All-Star.

• During World War II, Converse made the change to manufacturing footwear for the military, developing specialized boots for American pilots. Taylor became a fitness consultant for the U.S. military, creating and conducting physical fitness programs for soldiers. Post-war, Converse shifted back to focusing on athletic footwear.

• The NBA was formed in 1949, with most players wearing Converse shoes on the court. In 1962, Wilt Chamberlain was wearing All-Stars when he became the first to score 100 points in an NBA game. During the 1960s, Converse accounted for nearly 80% of the basketball shoe market. Chucks were made in college team colors in 1971, and teams matched their shoes to their uniforms for the first time. All-Stars were also the official shoe of the Olympics from 1936 to 1968.

• During the 1950s, Converse became the "cool" sneakers for teenagers, an image bolstered by a magazine photo shoot featuring actor James Dean wearing All-Stars. Skateboarders adopted All-Stars as their favorites along with hippies and rock musicians.

• In the 1970s, the competition became fierce as other companies like Nike, Adidas, Reebok, and Puma introduced their own model of athletic shoes. Converse introduced clothing, accessories, and more colors to combat the rivalry. But it was no longer the official shoe of the NBA.

• The onset of the Great Depression forced Converse into bankruptcy for the first time in 1929, followed by several changes in ownership. Another bankruptcy followed in 1991. When the company filed for bankruptcy in 2001, the last manufacturing plants in the U.S. were closed and production was moved overseas. Nike acquired Converse in 2003 for $309 million and began a massive overhaul of the company. Current revenues are estimated at about $1.7 billion annually.

• Throughout all of the financial woes of Converse, Chuck Taylor continued his work for the company until his retirement in 1968, one year before his death at age 68.

• Chuck Taylor All-Stars have been seen in upwards of 650 movies, including "Back to the Future," "Grease," and "Stand by Me," and were the shoe of choice of "Dennis the Menace" for the 1960s sitcom.



Laugh a bit with TIDBITS

Joe: I had 180 people under me at my first job and I was only 14 years old.

Sam: Wow! What was the job?

Joe: I mowed the town cemetery.



A LITTLE HOMETOWN HOLIDAY MAGIC

TWO FESTIVE WAYS TO CELEBRATE DECEMBER IN CLARK COUNTY

Make room on the calendar for twinkling lights, holiday treats and small-town cheer! These two community celebrations bring theseason to life with family activities, local shopping and plenty of reasons to bundle up and head downtown.

CAMAS HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2026 | 5–8 P.M.

Downtown Camas gets its holiday sparkle during Hometown Holidays, a festive evening hosted by Camas Parks & Recreation. The community tree is lit at 5 p.m., setting the scene for an evening of seasonal music, school and community performances, holiday shopping, art displays and food vendors. And yes—snow is part of the fun, with a little downtown snowfall helping make the night feel extra magical.
Families can enjoy photos with Santa (bring your camera!), kids' crafts and activities, free hot cocoa and plenty of chances to wander through decorated shops and restaurants. Whether you're checking off a few gifts or simply soaking up the atmosphere, this community favorite is an easy way to kick off the holiday weekend.
WHERE: Historic Downtown Camas, centered around NE 4th Avenue, Camas, WA

RIDGEFIELD HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026 | MARKETPLACE: 9 A.M.–2 P.M. | TREE LIGHTING: 4:30 P.M.

Historic downtown Ridgefield rolls out the holiday welcome with its Hometown Celebration. Browse more than 60 local food and gift vendors along Main Avenue and Overlook Park, then take a stroll through the Circle of Trees, where local businesses and organizations decorate evergreens for a festive community display. Live performances by local school bands and choirs add to the hometown atmosphere.
Bring the kids for crafts and activities, and stop by for complimentary visits with Santa. As daylight fades, gather at Overlook Park for the tree-lighting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. with holiday performances, hot chocolate and cookies while supplies last. It's a full day of simple seasonal fun—and a great way to support local makers and downtown businesses.
WHERE: Historic Downtown Ridgefield, Main Avenue and Overlook Park (113–131 S. Main Ave., Ridgefield, WA).



Activities in Clark County

TIDBITS

Have an upcoming event to advertise? Let us know and we will get it posted here on our Activities Page!

Email joan@clarkbits.org

*For ongoing activities, or larger ad format, please call 360-605-3502.

Nov 21/22 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Gift Wrap Swap

Kindred Vancouver
2213 Main St Vancouver, WA



Nov 21/22 10:00AM to 7:00PM 10:00AM to 6:00PM

Sandy Claus' Christmas Bazaar

Clark County Event Center
17402 Northeast Delfel Road Ridgefield, WA



Nov 21/22 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Christmastime at the Farm

Pomeroy Living History Farm
20902 NE Lucia Falls Road, Yacolt, WA





Nov 27 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Vancouver Community Tree Lighting 2026

Esther Short Park
301 W 8th St., Vancouver, WA



Nov 27 *Runs thru Dec. 18th 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Christmas Ships Parade 2026

Various Clark County locations-
Go to visitvancouverwa.com for all dates

Nov 27-29 Fri. 3:00pm-8:00pm Sat/Sun 9:00am-4:00pm

Vancouver Holiday Market

Hilton Vancouver
301 West 6th Street, Vancouver, WA



Nov 27-28 Fri. 2-7pm Sat. 9am-2pm *Also on 12/4-5th

Battle Ground Holiday Market

Battle Ground Farmers Market
15 NE Grace Avenue, Battle Ground, WA



Dec 4 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Hometown Holidays

Hosted by City of Camas Parks & Rec
Downtown Camas



Dec 4-6 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Ornament Swap

Kindred
2213 Main St, Vancouver, WA





Dec 5 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Ridgefield Hometown Celebration

Overlook Park
113-131 S Main Ave, Ridgefield, WA



Dec 12 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

9th Annual Frosty's Bazaar

Vancouver Pointe Senior Community
4555 NE 66th Ave., Vancouver, WA

KOVELS Antique Trader

By Terry and Kim Kovel

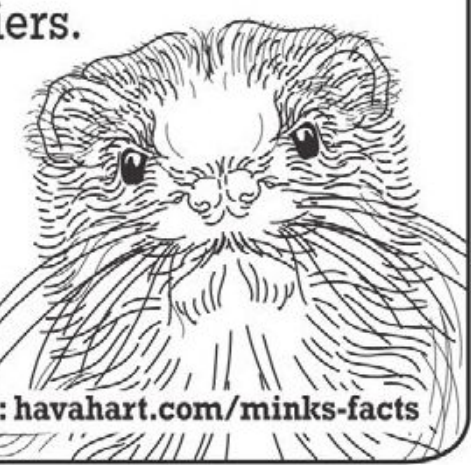
Bohemian Glass



There are numerous ways to decorate glassware, and 19th-century Bohemian glass artists excelled in all of them. They often used multiple types of decoration on the same piece. For example, a small glass beaker or tumbler that sold for $75 at an auction by Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates fits multiple layers, cut panels, colorful enamel, and gilding into its 3 3/4-inch frame. It is attributed to Harrach, a glasswork founded in the 18th century and still operating today as Harrachov in what is now the Czech Republic. Harrach experienced its golden age, when it won medals at world exhibitions and made glass for royal courts, in the mid-1800s, about the time this beaker was made. It is an exquisite example of Bohemian glassmaking. Opaque white, bright red, and clear glass are layered together. Cut panels ensure the color of each layer is visible. Raised opaque white panels embellished with enamel flowers alternate with panels cut to clear glass in a classic strawberry diamond pattern. Since there is no such thing as too much decoration in 19th-century glass, the red ground is covered with gilt scrolling leaves. For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit www.Kovels.com

Fun Fact

The American Mink is one of only two living mink species in the world. American Minks have been hunted in the wild (and later bred in farms) for centuries, due to the high demand for their soft, luxurious pelts. Tamed American Minks proved to be better rat-catchers than terriers.



Source: havahart.com/minks-facts

TIDBITS OF CLARK COUNTY, WA



1. Which group wrote and released "Hard to Say I'm Sorry"?
2. "All Aboard!" was released by which artist?
3. Which artist wrote and released "Another Day in Paradise"?
4. "Take It to the Limit" was a hit for which group?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Every time you kiss me, I'm still not certain that you love me, Every time you hold me, I'm still not certain that you care."

Answers

1. Chicago, in 1982. The song received a Grammy nomination for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal and was then used in the film "Summer Lovers."
2. John Denver, in 1997. It was released two months before his death in a plane crash.
3. Phil Collins, in 1989. The subject of the song was homelessness, and while music critics didn't like it, others did, and it won a Grammy for Record of the Year as well as nominations for Song of the Year and Best Pop Vocal Performance.
4. The Eagles, in 1975.
5. "Suspicion," by Elvis Presley, in 1962. It wasn't until Terry Stafford released a cover in 1964 that the song became a huge hit. Presley did, however, get a hit from the b-side of "Suspicion," called "Kiss Me Quick."

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Puzzles and Games



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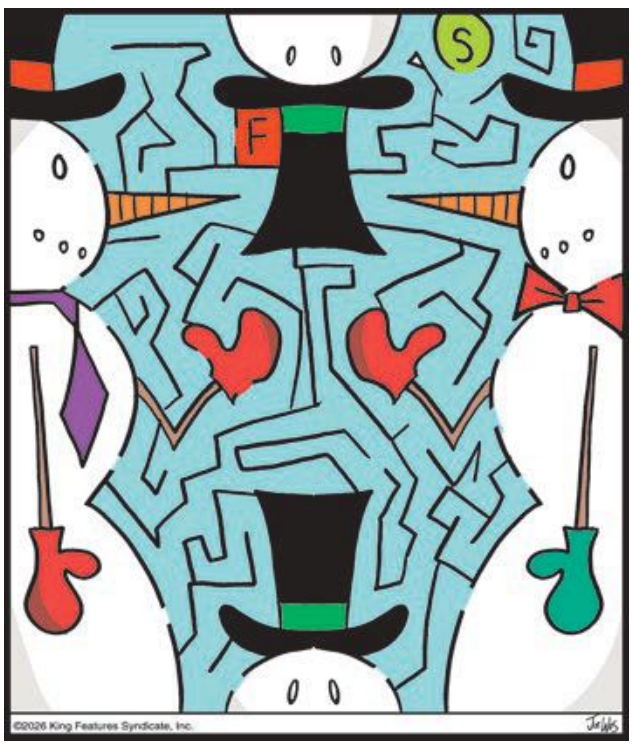
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102 W. Fourth Plain Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98660
360.677.FOLD (3653)

Stop by and see why our customers LOVE doing laundry here!

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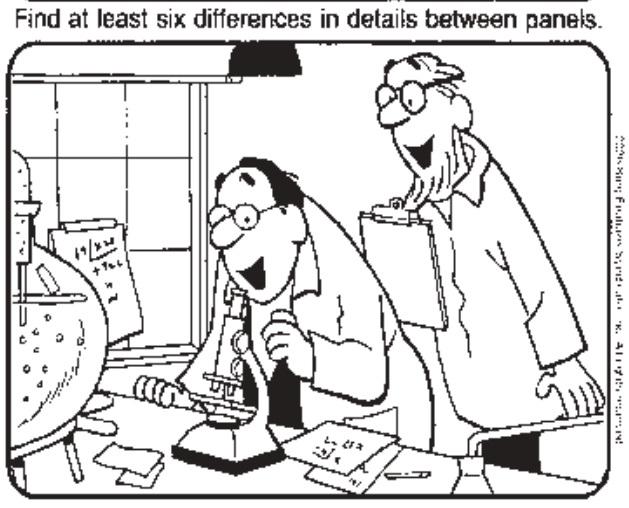


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pencil is missing. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Pocket is missing. 4. Arm is longer. 5. Light is not as long. 6. Fingers are not showing on clipboard.

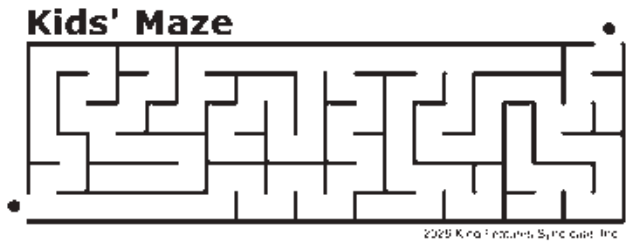
CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: U equals P

ZPM BUUKA VXGSAF DABE RVXIA EAEZAQI VBPK JQXE CXQDVAQC IGXDKBCN: DVA CAR FXQS VPMVKBCNAQI.

Kids' Maze



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TIDBITS WORD POWER

Unscramble this word:

OASPTLENT

A singer who was a car salesman, ice truck driver, and pizzeria worker before recording "Tennessee Whiskey"

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* Gaetano Donizetti composed one of opera's most famous insanity scenes, in "Lucia di Lammermoor," then later went mad himself due to syphilis and spent the last years of his life in an asylum.

* Young crows learn from their elders which humans should be avoided.

* After Isaac Newton died in 1727, he left behind notes, manuscripts and correspondence totaling more than 50 million words -- enough to create about 150 novel-length books.

* "Game of Thrones" holds the questionable honor of being the most pirated television show ever made.

* Kansas has the fourth highest number of tornadoes out of the 50 states.

* At age 15, Oscar-winning actress Gillian Anderson was nearly fired from the nursing home where she worked ... for shaving her head.

* One acre of growing Christmas trees provides the daily oxygen requirement for 18 people.

* Loud music in bars motivates patrons to drink more alcohol in less time.

* Most of the Indian Ocean tsunami victims in 2004 were identified through DNA extracted from their molars. Since teeth are one of the hardest and most indestructible substances in the human body, they're likely to survive trauma.

* Most human trafficking in the United States occurs in New York, California and Florida.

* Several state prison systems impose financial sanctions on people who attempt suicide or harm themselves.

* Incan people in the Andes Mountains believed that cocaine was a gift from the gods.

***

Thought for the Day: "If a strategy meets a goal, it's working. If a strategy meets a target, it's a success." -- Michael Porter

Super Crossword

EN-EM-Y LINES

ACROSS

1 Petty complainers
9 Before lunch or supper
16 Wrangler or Commander
20 Former Cairo-based carrier
21 External part of the 99-Across
22 Declare
23 Sending junk email to everyone on earth?
25 Dressed up in
26 Falafel bread
27 Tille for Helen Mirren
28 Cain's eldest son
30 Tell untruths
31 Stair units
33 Mother who's an absolute angel?
38 Patient care gp.
40 Crooner Burl
41 Enrolls in
42 Cartoon character Oyl glanced through a book quickly?
48 High-stick pool shot
50 30-day months
51 West of classic films
52 Horse relative
53 Eau, across the Pyrenees
57 Reality TV's Jenner
58 Lenient
59 Famous illusionist doing some tailoring?
63 Sowed again
66 Hairless
67 Prefix related to birds
68 Thu.-Sat. connector
69 I, in German
70 Not flipping the light-varying switch in time?
73 Vietnamese New Year
74 Actor DeLuise
75 Lofty trains
76 Oodles
77 Mexican miss
79 Metalworker who forges music award trophies?
82 Outfielder Roush
83 On the job
84 Writer — St. Vincent Millay
85 Scarf down
86 Biotech-created food
87 Cry after being saved
89 Rx amounts
92 Criminal who swindles people via harmful computer programs?
95 "Master of None" star Aziz
98 Cabernet or merlot
99 Hearing organ
100 Clogged a motor with sticky stuff?
105 Sadness
110 Angsty rock subgenre
111 "The king," in Cannes
112 See 119-Down
114 Option list
115 Kid's "cootie"
117 Materials colliding loudly?
122 Region
123 Ex-Bengal Boomer
124 Milan natives, e.g.
125 Part of P.O.
126 In that direction
127 1975-2014 "Saturday Night Live" announcer

DOWN

1 Catches a quick breath
2 Hit one out of the park, say
3 Pontificate
4 Geog. chart of America
5 PC-game "City" dweller
6 Writer Blyton
7 Went berserk
8 Rho-tau link
9 Oom- — (tuba sound)
10 Regret
11 Tiny work unit
12 Some track specialists
13 Low-budget, in adspeak
14 "Tuesdays With Morrie" author Mitch
15 Bloodsucking worms
16 Mandible site
17 Develop
18 More creepy
19 Prettifies
24 Pro —
29 Female fowls
32 Kids' writer Silverstein
34 Silent drama
35 "Hail, Cato!"
36 Nourished
37 Top squad
39 Orig. texts
42 City west of Knoxville
43 Vinyl spinner at 33 1/3 rpm
44 Guy native to Galway, say
45 Shop gripper
46 "Have — myself clear?"
47 Upper limit, for short
48 Flavor enhancer, for short
49 Guilt-ridden
52 German car
54 Something in a holiday shopper's cart
55 Go back to one's career after leaving it
56 Rabble-rousing sort
58 "Allow me to think ..."
59 — Vader
60 It produced the Cutlass
61 In a tie
62 Spanish artist Joan
64 Grades K-6: Abbr.
65 TV host Carson
66 Kick (out)
71 Dart about
72 Early PC platform
78 Former Chicago mayor — Emanuel
80 Sir's partner
81 Pas' partners
82 Flightless bird
86 Actor Kinnear
87 Elton John's '70s label
88 Sprinkler site
90 Pitching great Hershiser
91 Extra wager
92 Compete
93 Small hotel
94 Apparently does
95 Deterrent to dating, perhaps
96 Tres or cinco
97 Messy camp treats
98 Central German city
101 Garbage
102 Mr. Simpson, to Marge
103 Hosp. ward
104 Card player's "I pass"
106 "— vincit amor"
107 1970s-'80s Renault
108 Ceaselessly
109 Actress Rene
113 Getz of jazz
116 Dojo surface
118 Suffix with Siam
119 With 112-Across, E-businesses
120 — -cone
121 Swiss peak

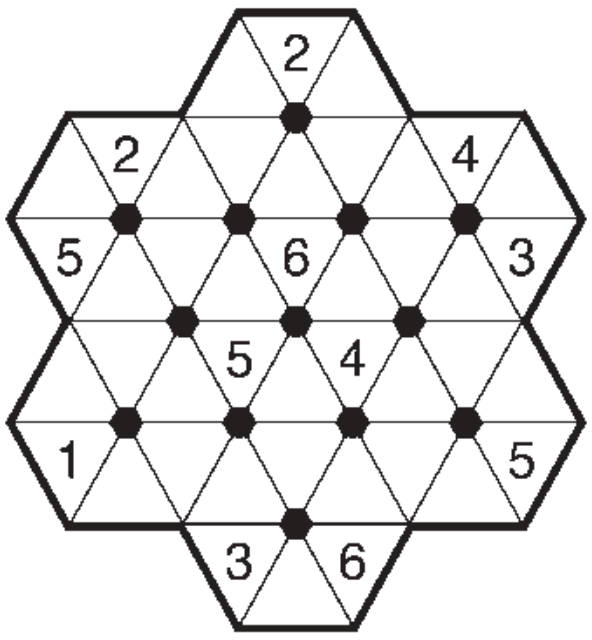
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Puzzles and Games

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

MAGIC MAZE

THE —: UK PUB NAMES

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: HONEY-MAKER'S HOME

Anchor	Fox	Plough	Swan
Bell	George	Royal Oak	Victoria
Bulls head	Greyhound	Ship	Wheatsheaf
Crown	King's Head	Star	

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

TRIVIA NEWSFRONT

1. What celebrity worked at Burger King and as a singer on a Disney cruise line before "Dreamgirls" fame?
2. This "Pretty Woman" scooped ice cream at Baskin-Robbins before stardom. Who is she?
3. He was a biochemical engineering student and a model before "That '70s Show." Who is he?
4. Bricklayer and mortuary cosmetologist were two former occupations of what "Ghost" star?
5. "I Go Back" singer was first a telemarketer and mail sorter. Name him.

STICKELERS [sic]

by Terry Stickels

Below are four squeezer puzzles. Can you find the correct word to be placed in the middle of each to create two new words, one front-end, one back-end? Here's an example of how it works:

ever G R E E N horn

1) **road _ _ _ _ book**
2) **bean _ _ _ _ game**
3) **nick _ _ _ _ less**
4) **push _ _ _ _ look**



"No golf today, Ted. Not until I cut the grass—Helen took my golf clubs as a _ _ _ _ _ _ _!"

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!

Shame **MERIC** _ _ _ _ _

Aside **GNATNET** _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Hurl **WORTH** _ _ _ _ _

Rent **EASEL** _ _ _ _ _

TODAY'S WORD

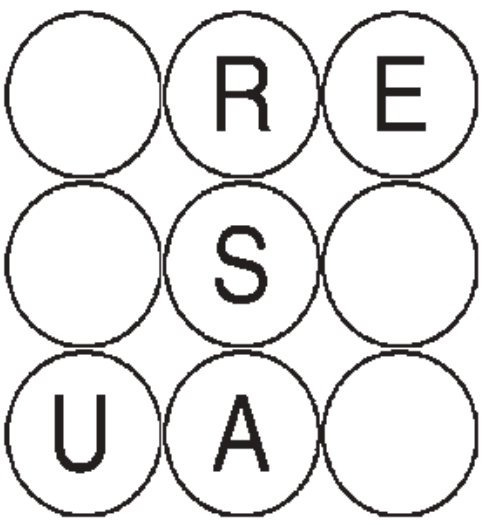
Even Exchange

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. Eiffel Tower locale	_ R _ _ _ _	Betrothed male	_ I _ _ _ _
2. Make happy	E	Chalkboard material	S
3. Fern leaf	_ _ _ _ D	Forward facing	_ _ _ _ T
4. Take out a loan	_ O _ _ _ _	Rabbit's den	_ U _ _ _ _
5. Dwelling	U	Jockey's conveyance	R
6. Penny pincher	_ _ S _ _	Gold digger	_ _ N _ _
7. Depart	_ _ _ V _	Rent	_ _ _ S _
8. Geraldo _____	_ _ _ _ _ A	Nile and Thames	_ _ _ _ _ S
9. Arthurian wizard	_ E _ _ _ _	Miami player	_ A _ _ _ _
10. Boxing match	F	Hours of darkness	N

WORD SPIRAL



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

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



Living in Clark County

THORNTONS' TREELAND – VANCOUVER

7617 NE 119th Street, Vancouver, WA 98662



If you're looking to turn Christmas tree shopping into a family adventure, Thorntons' Treeland is a great place to start! This longtime family destination offers thousands of evergreen trees, including Douglas, Noble and Grand firs. Visitors can choose to cut their own tree, have the staff cut one, or select a precut tree. There are plenty of activities to enjoy, too, including hayrides, a petting zoo, a tree maze, a s'mores area and a barn gift shop.

The farm's 2026 season includes special preseason weekends, with the main Christmas tree season following in November. With plenty of room to explore and holiday activities for the kids, it's a fun way to make tree shopping part of the Christmas celebration. Leashed dogs are welcome in designated areas.

Scan to learn more.

FARRELL FARMS – WASHOUGAL

3000 SE 362nd Avenue, Washougal, WA 98671

For a little old-fashioned Christmas charm, head out to Farrell Farms in Washougal. This family-operated farm offers several varieties of trees, including Noble, Nordmann, Turkish, Douglas and Grand firs. Whether you prefer to wander through the fields and choose your own tree or let the staff help, you'll find plenty of holiday greenery to choose from.

After finding the perfect tree, take a little time to enjoy the farm atmosphere. Visitors can warm up around the campfire, sip complimentary hot chocolate or cider, and enjoy a candy cane while their tree is prepared for the trip home. It's a wonderful opportunity to slow down, enjoy the season and make a family memory along the way.



Scan to learn more.



Christmas Tree Farms in Clark County

There's something special about picking out a real Christmas tree! From wandering through rows of evergreens to finding that just-right tree to take home, visiting a local Christmas tree farm is a holiday tradition worth keeping. Here are four Clark County-area farms to add to your Christmas season outing list.

THE TREE WISEMANS – RIDGEFIELD

26500 NE 53rd Avenue, Ridgefield, WA 98642



Scan to learn more.

Sometimes the best Christmas traditions are the simplest ones! The Tree Wisemans is a family-owned Christmas tree farm that began in 1980 and has grown into nearly 30 acres of evergreens. Visitors can stroll through the fields and choose from Noble, Douglas, Grand, Fraser and Nordmann firs. Trees are tagged with their prices, so you can find one that fits your home and budget before making your selection.

The farm is especially known for its Noble firs and handmade Christmas wreaths, lovingly created and decorated by members of the Wiseman family. You can bring the family, pick out a tree, enjoy the fresh country air and take home a little piece of a time-honored holiday tradition. It's a charming local stop for anyone who enjoys the experience of choosing a real Christmas tree.

KLOPMAN FARMS – WASHOUGAL

40910 SE 30th Street, Washougal, WA 98671

Looking for a Christmas tree outing with a little country flavor? Klopman Farms offers a festive experience on its beautiful 100-acre property in Washougal. Families can explore the fields for the perfect Noble, Douglas, Fraser or Grand fir, with both choose-and-cut and fresh-cut options available. Some trees reach an impressive 20 feet tall, making this a good stop for anyone looking for something a little bigger than the average living room tree!

Weekends bring tractor rides through the farm, and there's plenty of holiday cheer waiting when you return. Enjoy complimentary hot chocolate, coffee and candy canes, browse holiday decorations and gift items, and stop for a picture with the farm's eight-foot Santa and sleigh. The staff can also shake, bale and prepare your tree for the ride home.



Scan to learn more.

Toys & Games

MARIO



nintendo-club.fandom.com

"Hello, everyone! It's-a me, Mario, wa-hoo!" This week, *Tidbits* welcomes you to study up on the origins of everyone's favorite plumber, Mario.

• Mario's first appearance was in the 1981 video game Donkey Kong. He was created by Shigeru Miyamoto during the development of that game. Miyamoto, whose original career ambition was to be a manga artist, one who creates Japanese comics or graphic novels. He was 29 years old when he began his attempts to design a game using the 1930s cartoon characters Popeye, Bluto, and Olive Oyl. Licensing issues prohibited the use of the characters, leading Miyamoto to create a giant gorilla, Donkey Kong, who kidnaps The Lady (later known as Pauline), a "damsel in distress" who must be rescued by her love interest, the character who would become Mario. Miyamoto drew inspiration from the 1933 movie "King Kong" for his characters.

• In the early days of video games, characters couldn't jump, and because Mario's character had to escape a maze of platforms and ladders in a New York City construction site, Miyamoto perfected jumping capabilities for Mario, who was originally referred to as "Jumpman." When the game was released in Japan, he was known as "Ossan," the Japanese word for "middle-aged man." Miyamoto also called the character "Mr. Video," as he did not expect Mario to become popular on his own.

• Because Donkey Kong's setting is a construction site, Mario was originally a carpenter. When he was cast into the Mario Bros game, he became a plumber.

• Mario's permanent name was finally decided on, when Nintendo began renting a warehouse in Tukwila, Washington, for their American headquarters. The landlord's name was Mario Segale, who happened to stop by the property to collect rent on the day that employees were brainstorming names for Jumpman. And Mario was born!

• A brother, Luigi, was developed for Mario, a taller, slimmer, more timid version of Mario, a brother who can jump higher. Did you know that Luigi is Mario's fraternal twin? He made his debut in the 1983 arcade game Mario Bros. His name was inspired by a nearby pizza place called "Mario & Luigi's." To distinguish the two, Luigi was dressed in green in contrast to Mario's red. The Mushroom Kingdom became their home and rescuing Princess Peach from the villain Bowser became their mission.

• Charles Martinet began working for Nintendo as the voice of Mario in 1991 and continued until retiring in 2023.

• From the original Donkey Kong, Mario has branched out into scores of video games, along with hundreds of new supporting characters including Princess Daisy, Toad, Yoshi, Bullet Bill, Wario, Birdo, Goombas, Diddy Kong, and Koopalings. There are more than 190 distinct Mario games – Mario Kart, Mario Party, Mario Teaches Typing, Mario Golf, Mario Tennis, Super Smash Bros, to name a few -- but if remakes, compilations, ports, and cameo appearances are counted, the number climbs to over 300.

• There have been three major Super Mario movies and several television series, along with a few direct-to-video productions. Shigeru Miyamoto has participated in producing 92 games. In addition to his many Mario games, he also created Kirby's Dreamland, Starfox, and The Legend of Zelda. More than a billion of his games have been sold. Mario is the best-selling video game franchise of all time.

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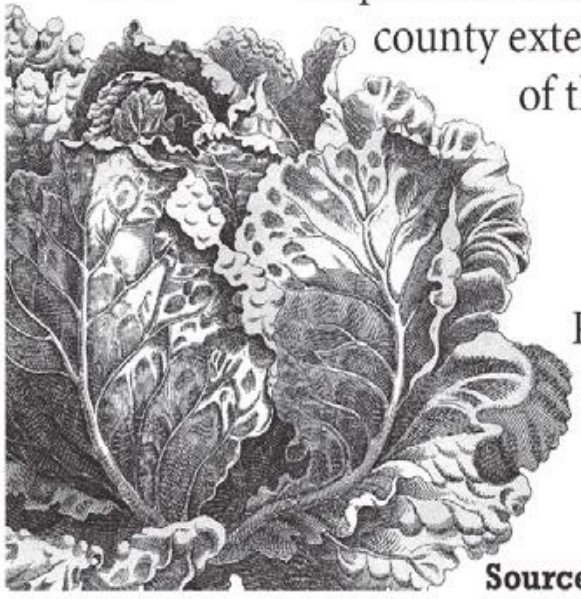

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TIDBITS QUOTE

"Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength."
-- Arnold Schwarzenegger

The Garden Bug

Cold weather veggies



For growing vegetables in the cooler months, it's important to consult local garden authorities or county extension agents for the average date of the first hard frost in your region. Understand the growing time for each of your vegetables: is it 30 days, 60 days, 90 or more? Plant your crops at the right time so they can reach maturity **before** that killing frost.

– *Brenda Weaver*

Source: humeseeds.com

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Be ready for emergencies

With winter (and likely power outages) here, I was encouraged by a younger neighbor, a man who hikes, camps and kayaks, to invest in one of those emergency meal kits. These are freeze-dried foods that come in a handy storage box and last for 25 years. The idea is that you pour hot water into an envelope of dried food and 10 minutes later you have a hot meal.

I checked all the information I could find and decided that no, it was not for me. Most of the meals have too much sodium, many of the meals have to be cooked and the cost of most of the kits is astronomical, in the neighborhood of $10-$12 per meal.

Instead, I've been building my own emergency food and supply stash. It's fairly easy to do.

*Buy a little more of what you already eat: tuna or cooked chicken in pouches, crackers, peanut butter, canned fruit and vegetables. Add in shelf-stable milk (or powdered), cereal and canned juices. Mark the top of each one with the date in big numbers so it's easily seen. Remember to have a manual can opener!

*Water: The rules say one gallon per person per day in an emergency. Store it in a cool, dark place.

*But it's not only food you'll need in an emergency. Batteries and flashlights are crucial, and so is a phone charger. Or look for hand-crank camping lights that will provide adequate lighting if the power goes out.

*Medications and vitamins.

*Pet food and supplies.

*Money (small bills) in case the ATM doesn't work.

For more information on putting together your own emergency kit, go online to www.ready.gov. Be sure to also see the No and Low Cost Preparedness section. Look as well at the Red Cross (www.redcross.org) and search for survival kits.

Why You Say It

"Chestnut"

The *Broken Sword* was once a smash hit in theaters of London. In the play, Pablo and Captain Xavier argue about things they both saw through the boughs of a tree. Pablo insists that the tree that obstructed their view was a chestnut. Xavier swears that it was not a chestnut, but a cork tree. Finally the exasperated Pablo smiles knowingly before exploding: "A chestnut; I guess I ought to know, for haven't I heard you tell this story twenty-seven time?"

Audiences roared so many times that lines from a now-forgotten play caused any musty joke or well-worn story to be called a *chestnut*.



Excerpts taken from the book written by Webb Garrison

TIDBITS Americanisms



"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."
—*Oprah Winfrey*

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SPORTSBITS

Sports Quiz

By Ryan A. Berenz

1. Name the "The Hunt for Red October" (1984) author who signed a letter of intent to purchase the Minnesota Vikings in 1998 but was forced to back out of the deal.

2. Which tennis great married Alexis Ohanian, entrepreneur and co-founder of the social media site Reddit, in 2017?

3. In comedian Adam Sandler's 1994 performance of "The Chanukah Song" on "Saturday Night Live," which Baseball Hall of Famer was erroneously identified as having converted to Judaism?

4. Name the European heavyweight champion from Italy who was knocked out in the sixth round by Larry Holmes in a 1980 fight at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

5. What bat-and-ball sport, played in Russia as early as the 14th century, led the Soviet Union to claim in the 20th century that it had invented baseball?

6. In 1970, Chrysler's Plymouth brand lured NASCAR driver Richard Petty back to its team with what model of car?

7. Name the thoroughbred who set the Guinness World Record for highest speed achieved by a racehorse at 43.71 mph recorded over two furlongs in 2008.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: Which of Shakespeare's plays is the longest?

2. FOOD & DRINK: What is kefir?

3. GEOGRAPHY: What does Australia mean in Latin?

4. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of California?

5. MOVIES: Which famous Los Angeles landmark is featured in "Rebel Without a Cause"?

6. ANATOMY: What is the common name for the patella?

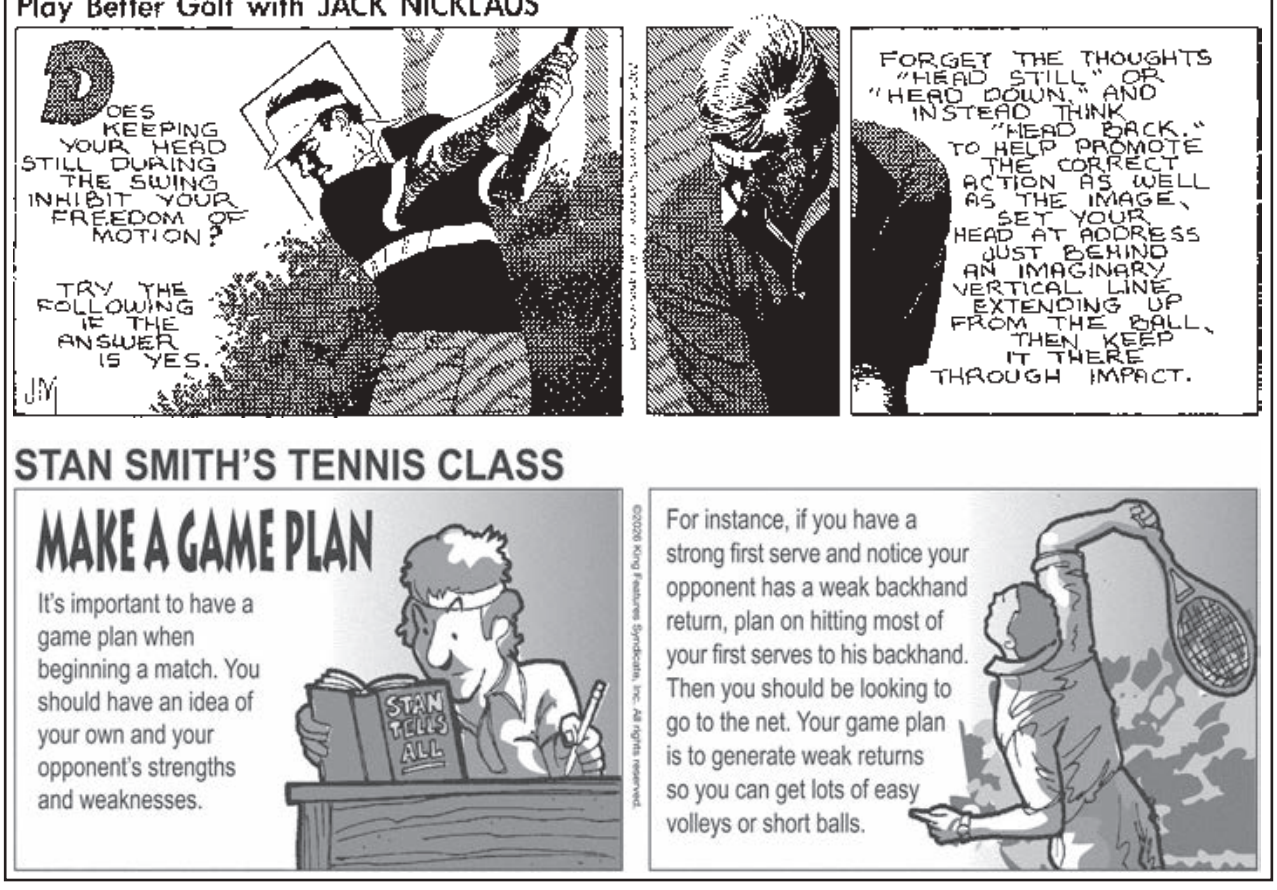
7. TELEVISION: What is Tina Fey's character's name in "30 Rock"?

8. MUSIC: How many Grammys does Beyonce have (as of 2025)?

9. COMICS: What is the name of Clark Kent's friend and photographer at the Daily Planet?

10. HISTORY: How many wives did Henry VIII of England have?

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Little Known Sports Facts

with a Thanksgiving connection

- The first Thanksgiving Day college football game was played in 1876 between Yale and Princeton. The tradition became so popular that Thanksgiving football was once considered a bigger sporting event than professional football!
- The Detroit Lions began their famous Thanksgiving Day football tradition in 1934. Team owner George A. Richards arranged the game to attract more fans and boost attendance. The Lions played the Chicago Bears that first year in front of a sellout crowd of 26,000.
- The Dallas Cowboys didn't begin hosting Thanksgiving games until 1966. General manager Tex Schramm wanted to give the team national exposure, and the idea worked. The Cowboys have since become nearly as synonymous with Thanksgiving football as turkey and pumpkin pie.
- The NFL's Thanksgiving history goes all the way back to its very first season. In 1920, the league's predecessor held Thanksgiving games, including a matchup between the Akron Pros and Canton Bulldogs. The Akron team won 7-0!
- In 1929, Chicago Cardinals player Ernie Nevers had an unbelievable Thanksgiving performance against the Chicago Bears. He scored all 40 points for his team, including six rushing touchdowns! That record-setting performance remains one of football's most remarkable individual scoring achievements.
- Before the NFL became the holiday's main attraction, the University of Michigan regularly played Thanksgiving games. The school held 19 Thanksgiving contests between 1885 and 1905, helping make holiday football popular across the country.

TIDBITS®

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UPCOMING WINTER SPORTING EVENTS

CLARK COLLEGE PENGUINS BASKETBALL – DECEMBER HOME GAMES







Basketball fans can cheer on the home team this December as the Clark College Penguins take to the court for two women's basketball matchups. Representing Clark College in the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC), the Penguins welcome Centralia and Treasure Valley to Vancouver for some exciting hometown competition. Whether you're a longtime basketball fan or just looking for an entertaining outing, these games are a great way to support local college athletes and enjoy some fast-paced basketball action.

K-9 SPORTS AGILITY TRIALS – DECEMBER 4–6, 2026

Think your dog is quick on its feet? Come watch some four-legged athletes show off their speed, smarts and athletic ability at the K-9 Sports Agility Trials! Dogs and their handlers work together to navigate an exciting obstacle course featuring jumps, tunnels and weave poles. Each team races against the clock, demonstrating accuracy, teamwork and plenty of enthusiasm. It's a fun opportunity to see talented dogs in action, and you might be surprised at just how athletic these furry competitors can be!







PAC COAST WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS – DECEMBER 28–29, 2026







Get ready for two days of exciting wrestling action as the Pac Coast Wrestling Championships return to Clark County! Hosted by the Evergreen High School Wrestling Program and Boosters, this popular tournament brings together talented high school boys' and girls' wrestling teams for some serious competition. Recognized as one of Southwest Washington's largest high school wrestling tournaments, Pac Coast attracts teams looking to test their skills against some of the region's best. Spectators can enjoy match after match, cheer on their favorite wrestlers and experience the excitement of tournament-style competition. It's a great opportunity to support local student-athletes and see the dedication and determination that go into this demanding sport.

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ARTIST of the week

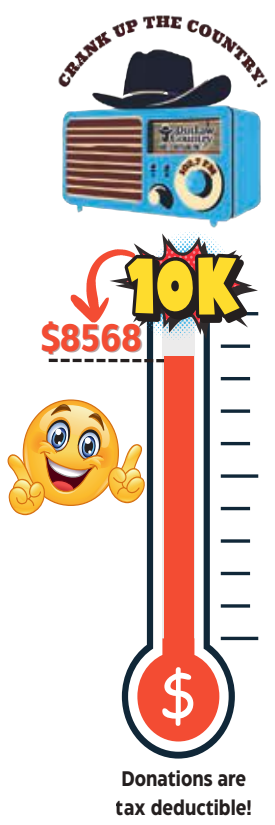
Rodney Crowell



Long before **Rodney Crowell** became a Grammy-winning country star, he was a Texas youngster learning the ropes in his father's honky-tonk band. Born August 7, 1950, near Houston, Crowell was just 11 when he began playing drums with his dad's group. By his teenage years, he was fronting his own band, proving that country music wasn't just a family tradition—it was in his blood. In 1972, he headed to Nashville, where he befriended talented songwriters and caught the attention of country star Emmylou Harris. She invited him to join her legendary Hot Band, giving him a chance to showcase his guitar playing, harmony singing, and songwriting skills.

Crowell soon became one of Nashville's most respected songwriters, penning songs recorded by Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Emmylou Harris, and Bob Seger. His own career took off with the 1988 album Diamonds & Dirt, which made country music history by producing five consecutive No. 1 singles. His hits included "After All This Time" and "I Couldn't Leave You If I Tried." His musical partnership with Emmylou Harris also brought renewed acclaim, including a Grammy-winning album, Old Yellow Moon, in 2013. Never one to rest on his laurels, Crowell has continued writing, recording, and collaborating with younger musicians, proving that great storytelling never goes out of style.

Fun Fact: Crowell's songwriting talents have reached far beyond country music! Bob Seger turned Crowell's "Shame on the Moon" into a major hit in 1982, helping introduce Crowell's writing to rock fans who may never have heard his own recordings. He was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2003.



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Paw's corner by Sam Mazzotta

Energetic Pup's Biting is Not Acceptable

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I have an Australian Shepherd, "Drogo," who is just under a year old. He's super smart, very energetic and responds very well to training. He's been well-behaved until recently, when he started jumping toward my boyfriend and play-biting at his hands. I've worked with Drogo for months to stop this behavior with visitors, and even paid for a professional trainer. He knows my boyfriend, so I don't understand why he suddenly started targeting one person. What can I do? -- Jeannie G. in Boulder, Colorado

DEAR JEANNIE: Give the trainer a call to let him know about this new behavior. My first thought is that Drogo, who's passing through his "teen" stage, is testing boundaries with your boyfriend -- and you.

This isn't unusual, especially with a super energetic, bright and observant dog. Drogo may be figuring out the hierarchy within your household, learning who's the boss and who's a member of the pack -- and how far he can push them. Play-biting is an instinctive form of play, but it isn't acceptable behavior. Reinforce Drogo's basic obedience training so that he responds to your commands. Your boyfriend should participate in obedience training as well, learning basic commands, so that Drogo responds to him in the way that you want him to.

The trainer should also have some supplemental advice to reinforce what you and Drogo learned from them.

Further, because Drogo is still energetic and probably a bit spazzy (like a typical teenager), make sure he gets more activity every day -- time outside running, longer walks on a leash and more one-on-one training time. Scatter some puzzle toys around the house to keep him occupied and to burn off even more energy.

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

Fun & Interesting NOVEMBER PET FACTS

***Dogs Can Get Seasonal Zoomies!**
Cooler fall weather can give some dogs a burst of energy, especially after spending more time indoors on rainy days. A few extra play sessions or sniff-filled walks can help burn off that November energy!

***Cats Have Whiskers on Their Legs, Too!**
Cats have special sensory hairs on the backs of their front legs that help them sense objects they touch. These whiskers are especially useful when exploring dark corners, narrow spaces, or favorite hiding spots!

***Your Pet's Nose Is as Unique as a Fingerprint!**
A dog's nose has a distinctive pattern of ridges and creases, much like a human fingerprint. No two dogs are believed to have exactly the same nose-print pattern!

***Thanksgiving Foods Can Be Tricky for Pets!**
That holiday feast may smell irresistible, but rich gravy, fatty scraps, onions, garlic, and cooked turkey bones can be dangerous for dogs and cats. A small serving of plain, boneless, fully cooked turkey is a safer way to let your furry family member join the celebration.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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PNW Coast



HOLIDAYS AT THE BEACH

November 27-28, 2026

Downtown Long Beach, Washington, 98631
Activities take place throughout downtown.

Get into the holiday spirit with Holidays at the Beach, a festive coastal celebration in downtown Long Beach, Washington! Held the weekend after Thanksgiving, this family-friendly event brings Christmas cheer to the coast with sparkling holiday lights, seasonal activities, local shopping, and plenty of small-town charm. It's a wonderful excuse to enjoy the beach, browse local shops, and kick off the Christmas season with family and friends

Shop local and find something special at our Holiday Market, then bundle up and gather together as Santa arrives to help light the Christmas tree! Enjoy Christmas carols, festive activities, pictures with Santa, holiday shopping, and plenty of merry surprises along the way.

Come make memories, support our local businesses, and celebrate the magic of the season by the sea.

Shop local. Celebrate together. Make it a Holidays at the Beach tradition!

Scan to learn more.

Seabrook Jolly Days

November 27 - December 19, 2026

Seabrook, WA 98571
Events take place throughout town



The charming coastal town of Seabrook transforms into a Christmas wonderland during Jolly Days!

Jolly Days is Seabrook's annual holiday celebration, running from the Christmas tree lighting the day after Thanksgiving through mid-December. Families can enjoy Santa's Workshop with crafts and family activities, Jolly Trail shopping along Market Street, roaming carolers, appearances by Yule the Yeti, and several magical snowfall moments each event day. The season wraps up with the illuminated Jolly Days Holiday Parade led by Yule himself, followed by holiday music, cocoa, festive photos, and one last snowfall. Pair it with a hot tub soak and a night by the fireplace for the coziest weekend on the coast.

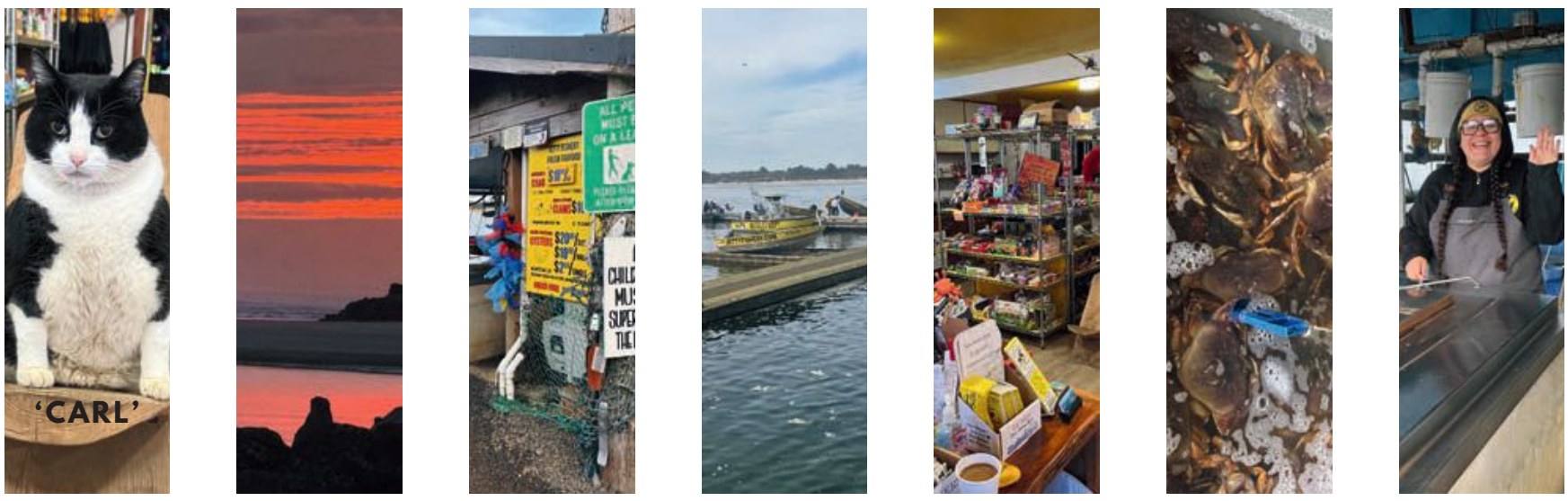
It's a delightful way to enjoy the season while exploring this picturesque beach town.

Event days 11:00 AM - evening

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HIGHLIGHTING HISTORY

'Tidbits' by The Clark County Historical Museum



The first settler in the Felida area, Christian Pouley (1826-1923), filed a Donation Land claim for 317 acres.

As a blacksmith hailing from Germany, Pouley arrived in the Pacific Northwest in the early 1850s, eventually establishing his claim on 317 acres of land that had been, and continues to be, the traditional territory of the Chinook, Cowlitz, and Klickitat communities.

During this era, when Vancouver and Oregon City were the primary settlements in the region, Pouley played a significant role in the early logging industry. He contributed to the nascent industry by rafting logs down the Columbia River from Cape Horn to Vancouver. His land later became part of the region's renowned prune-growing belt, transitioning from dense forest to fertile farmland.

Pouley, who reportedly aimed to live to the age of 100, reached the remarkable age of 97, passing away in 1923. He attributed his longevity to a strict daily regimen that included six cups of coffee, a hearty diet of beef, pork, and beans, the pure country air of Clark County, strong faith, and ample sleep.

As noted in The Sunday Oregonian on April 15, 1923, page 15, "Mr. Pouly's (sic) old donation claim is about 1 mile over the hills from the railroad depot of Felida, on the main line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. To the west is the famous Lake River..."

Photo Description: From the museum's collection, this image shows an exterior shot of Grant Anderson and Louis Anderson standing with other workers at Anderson's Prune Dryer in Felida.

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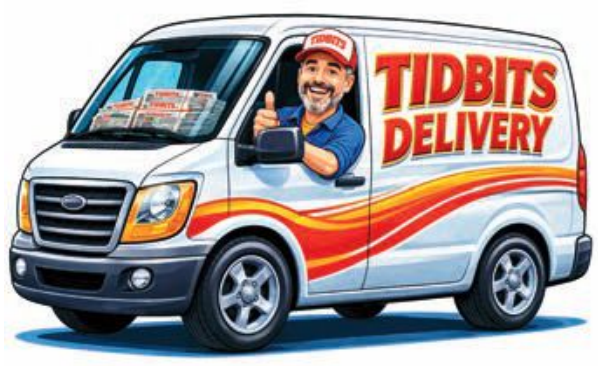
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



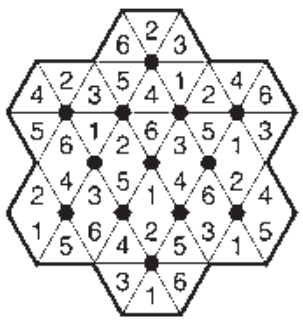
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ANSWERS

Trivia Answers
1. "Hamlet."
2. Fermented milk.
3. "Southern" (australis).
4. Sacramento.
5. Griffith Observatory.
6. Kneecap.
7. Liz Lemon.
8. 35.
9. Jimmy Olsen.
10. Six.

Sports Quiz Answers
1. Tom Clancy.
2. Serena Williams.
3. Rod Carew.
4. Lorenzo Zanon.
5. Lapta.
6. The Plymouth Road Runner Superbird.
7. Winning Brew.

SNOWFLAKES
solution

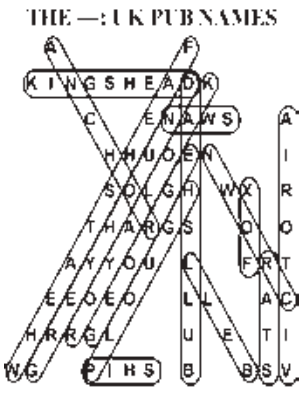


Word Spiral
Answer
UMBRELLAS

TRIVIA NEWSFRONT ANSWERS
1. Jennifer Hudson
2. Julia Roberts
3. Ashton Kutcher
4. Whoopi Goldberg
5. Kenny Chesney

WORD POWER
ANSWER
STAPLETON

THE —: UK PUB NAMES



Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

Even Exchange
answers

1 Fraise, Fraise
2 Etats State
3 Front Front
4 Borrow Borrow
5 House House
6 Miser, Miser
7 Leave Leave
8 Rivers Rivers
9 Merlin Merlin
10 Right Right

SCRAMBLERS
Solution
1. Crime; 2. Tangent
3. Throw; 4. Lease
Today's Word
HOSTAGE

CryptoQuip
answer
Big Apple hockey team whose members hail from northern Scotland: The New York Highlanders.

Stickelers Answer
1) road WORK book
2) bean BALL game
3) nick NAME less
4) push OVER look

Super Crossword
Answers

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

GRIN and BEAR IT®



"We've had a few minor problems ... misdemeanors, mostly."