

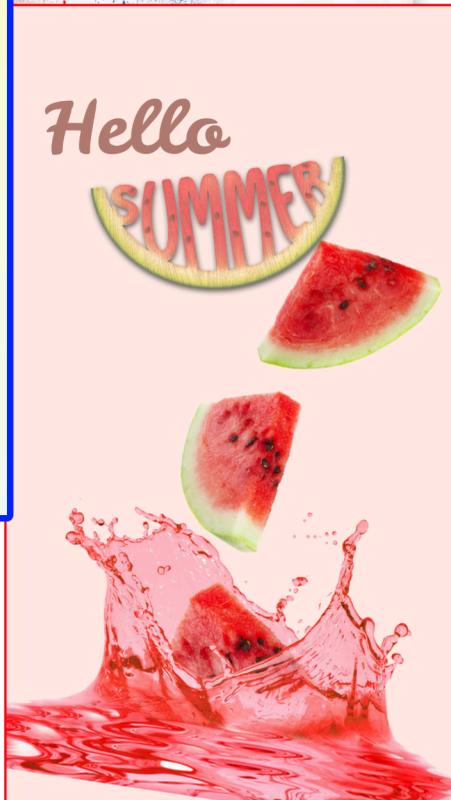
• FUNNY • INSPIRING • ENTERTAINING •

LAUGHS & TREATS

VOLUME 191
JULY 2024

RED OAK

Printing &
Publishing Services



Find These Hidden June Icons

This month Laughs & Lifts is giving away \$50
To one of our readers.

Playing and entering is easy and fun!
Search the ads in this edition
looking for the Hidden objects pictured below:



FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS:

NO PHONE ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN

We have hidden the 8 July icons pictured above in 8 ads.
Find all 8 icons for July and Enter for a chance to win **\$50 CASH!**
Mail or Email the names of the 8 business' in which you found the Icons
along with your N,A, & #

T0: Parrish Publishing PO Box 681 Ozark, AL 36361
Email to Roger@laughsandlifts.com with subject or attn: line: **ICONS**
No phone calls please.

Drawing will be held on the 15th of the month.
TO FIND OUT IF YOU HAVE WON, READ THE NEXT EDITION OF LAUGHS AND LIFTS.
THE WINNER WILL BE NAMED AND POSTED THERE. THE WINNER WILL HAVE UNTIL THE
15TH OF THE MONTH TO CALL AND CLAIM THEIR PRIZE! PRIZE MUST BE PICKED UP IN
PERSON BY THE WINNER BY THE LAST WEEK DAY OF THE MONTH!

CALL BEFORE COMING TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE

Have fun & thank you for supporting
the advertisers in Laughs & Lifts.



You know you're watching something totally made up and fake when you watch wrestling.

Kinda like you watching CNN and MSNBC!

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

**MISCHELLE ANDREWS
OF NEWTON**

**WHO FOUND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS IN THE
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There is nothing to be learned from the second kick of a mule.-- Mark Twain .



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A Phobia Of Marriage

Therapist: "I think you have a phobia of marriage. Do you know what the symptoms are?"

Me: "Can't say I do."

Therapist: "That's one of them!"

How do I look?

A wife comes downstairs before a dinner date with her husband.

"Do I look fat in this dress?" the wife asks.

"Do I look dumb in this shirt?" the husband replies.

**"Thine face is not worth
sunburning."**

— William Shakespeare,
Henry V



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Tell Her Instead

A magician comes up to our table and does a card trick.

Impressed, I asked him how he did it.

He says "I can tell you, but I'd then have to kidnap you and take you away."

I said, "Can you tell my mother-in-law?"

When I was little, I didn't care what I wore. I just went along with what my parents chose.

When I look in old photo albums, I realize that they didn't care either.

Satan's strategy
is simple,
make sin look
normal, and make
righteousness
look weird.

Be Aware!

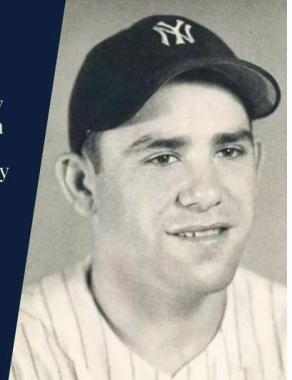
You get strong by going uphill.

- Alan Stein Jr.

He that does good for good's sake seeks neither praise nor reward, but he is sure of both in the end.

— " —
"I don't know (if they were men or women fans running naked across the field). They had bags over their heads."

— " —
Yogi Berra



The Tickets??

A young couple got married and went away on their honeymoon. After two weeks they came back and finally put away all of the presents they received from friends and family.

Since this was a new home, the process took some time.

A week later, they received in the mail two tickets for a popular show where tickets were impossible to get. They were very excited and warmed by the gesture of the person who sent this. Inside the envelope, however, was only a small piece of paper with a single line, "From...guess who?"

The pair had much fun trying to identify the donor, but failed in the effort. They went to the theater, and had a wonderful time. On their return home late at night, still trying to guess the identity of the unknown host, they found the house

stripped of every article of value. And on the bare table in the dining room was a piece of paper on which was written in the same hand as the enclosure with the tickets:

"Now you know!"

Two Mongooses

A zookeeper is ordering new animals. As he fills out the forms, he types "two mongeese". That doesn't look quite right, so he tries two mongoose, and then two mongooses.

Giving up, he types, "One mongoose, and while you're at it, send another one."

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Eddie Logan, Guide

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Gladys,
I can always tell,
just by looking, if
someone is lying.

I can also tell
when they are
standing.

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- Jonathan Swift

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BROTHERLY ADVICE

Charlie was playing with his little brother Mickey when the little boy asked whether he could fly like Superman.
 "Sure you can, Mickey," Charlie said. "Just flap your arms really hard."
 So Mickey climbed up on the windowsill, started flapping like mad, jumped, then smashed into the ground just a few inches below.
 Horrified, their mother came screaming into the room and said, "What happened?"
 "Charlie said, "I was just teaching Mickey not to believe everything he's told."

An ex-Marine Aviator wanted to show off his new twin engine plane to his friend. His friend was riding along as he put it through its paces. Suddenly, they were caught in a violent thunderstorm, with lightning crashing all around them. Next, they lost the radio and most of the instruments. As they were being tossed around in the sky, the Marine said, "Uh-oh!" Fearing the worst, his friend asked, "What's wrong now?"
 He replied, "I got the hiccups. Do something to scare me."

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Interested in joining our Farmers' Market? Call the Ozark Area Chamber of Commerce 334-774-9321 or email us at director@ozarkalchamber.com

EXTRA HOT FUDGE

I walked into Dairy King the other day and asked Dennis for a hot fudge sundae with extra hot fudge. Dennis replied, "Roger, the hot fudge only comes in one temperature."

**"To limit God's revelation to a cold list of dos and don'ts is as tragic as looking at a Colorado road map and saying that you'd seen the Rockies."
 - Max Lucado**

Find the differences in the two pictures.

Solution on page 24





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**War is when the government tells you who the bad guy is,
revolution is when you decide that for yourself. ~ Ben Franklin**

THE GOODNIGHT KISS

At the end of their date, a young man takes the girl back to her home. He decides to try for that first kiss. With an air of confidence, he leans with his hand against the wall and, smiling, he says to her, "Darling, how 'bout a good night kiss?"

Embarrassed, she replies, "Oh, I couldn't do that. My parents will see us!" "Oh come on! Who's gonna see us at this hour?" "No, please. I would just die of embarrassment if someone saw us." "Oh come on, there's

nobody around, they're all sleeping!" "No way. It's just too risky!" "Oh please, please, I like you so much!!" "No. I like you too, but I just can't!" "Oh yes you can. Please?" "NO, no. I just can't." "Pleeeeeease?..." Out of the blue, the porch light goes on, and the girl's sister shows up in her pajamas, hair disheveled. In a sleepy voice the sister says: "Dad says to go ahead and give him a kiss. Or I can do it. Or if need be, he'll come down himself and do it. But for crying out loud tell him to take his hand off the intercom button!"

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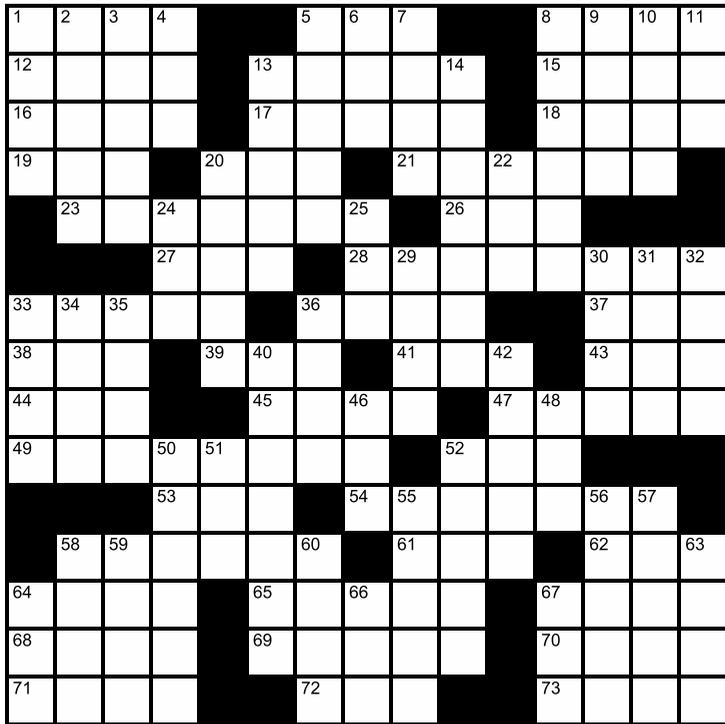


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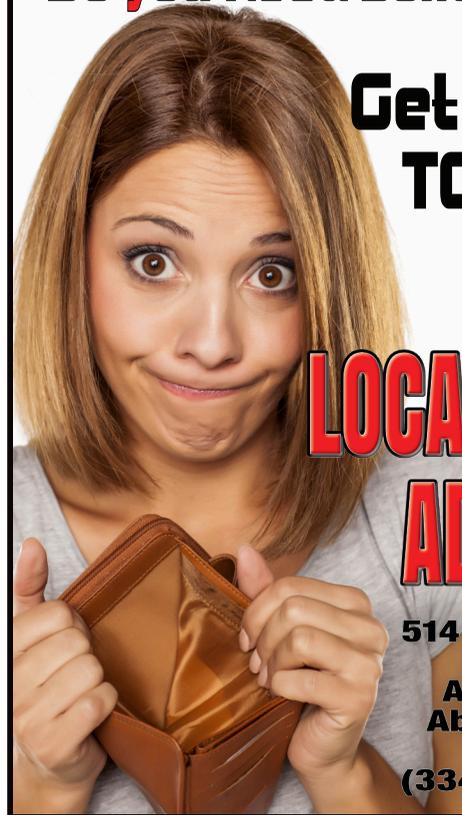
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- 64 ___ Master's Voice
- 66 Sis's sib
- 67 Fortune

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AUNT T'S KITCHEN

CORN

Honey Butter Skillet Corn

Servings 6 side dishes

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter I use salted
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 bag (16 oz) frozen corn
- 2 ounces cream cheese cut into chunks
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper



Directions

1. In a skillet pan, over medium-high heat, melt the butter and honey. Once melted add the frozen corn and cook for 5-8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until cooked through.
2. Add cream cheese, salt, and pepper. Stir together and let it cook, about 3-5 minutes, while stirring occasionally.
3. Serve immediately. Leftovers keep well, covered in a container, and stored in the fridge.

Anytime Canned Corn Salad

Servings: 4

Ingredients

3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar

- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 pinch salt and ground black pepper
- 1 (15.25 ounce) can sweet crisp corn, drained
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1/3 cup chopped sweet onion
- 1 small tomato, chopped



Directions

1. Whisk together the apple cider vinegar, sugar, olive oil, water, salt, and pepper in a large bowl. Add the corn, green and red bell peppers, onion, and tomato, and lightly toss. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Easy Corn Pudding

Servings: 6

1; 2-quart casserole

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter, cut into pieces
- 1 (15.25 ounce) can whole kernel corn
- 1 (15 ounce) can creamed corn
- 1 (8.5 ounce) package cornbread mix
- 1 (8 ounce) container sour cream (Optional)

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Put butter into a 2-quart casserole dish and place into the oven to melt while preheating.

When butter melts, remove the casserole dish from the oven. Mix both types of corn, cornbread mix, and sour cream into melted butter until well combined.

Bake in the preheated oven for about 30 minutes.



Grandma's Corn Pudding

Servings: 8

Yield: 1 (2-quart) casserole

Ingredients

- 5 large eggs
- 1/3 cup butter, melted and slightly cooled
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup milk



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AUNT T'S KITCHEN

- ¼ cup cornstarch
- 1 (15.25 ounce) can whole kernel corn, drained
- 2 (14.75 ounce) cans cream-style corn

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Grease a 2-quart casserole dish.
2. Whisk eggs lightly in a large bowl. Add milk, melted butter, sugar, and cornstarch; whisk until well combined. Stir in drained corn and cream-style corn until fully blended. Pour mixture into the prepared casserole dish.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, about 1 hour.

Spicy Corn & Bean Salsa

Servings: 32

Yield: 4 cups

Ingredients

- 1 (15 ounce) can black-eyed peas
- 1 (15 ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15 ounce) can whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes, drained
- ½ cup chopped onion
- ½ cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1 (4 ounce) can diced jalapeno peppers
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 cup Italian-style salad dressing



Directions

1. Combine peas, beans, corn, tomatoes, onion, bell pepper, jalapeños, and garlic salt in a bowl. Stir in salad dressing and mix until well combined. Cover and refrigerate until flavors have blended, 8 hours to overnight.
2. Serve with Tortilla Chips

Microwave Corn on the Cob

Servings: 1

Ingredients

1 ear fresh corn

Directions

Remove husk and silk from ear of corn. Wet a paper towel, then wring it out so it's still moist. Wrap the moist towel around the ear of corn and place it on a microwave-safe plate. Cook in the microwave until kernels are tender but still crisp when poked with a knife, 3 to 5 minutes. Carefully remove and discard paper towel before serving.



Recipe Tip

If cooking two ears at a time, wrap each ear in its own moist paper towel and increase the cook time by 1 to 2 minutes.

CORN

Corn & Zucchini Fritters

Servings: 24

Yield: 24 fritters

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup sugar, or to taste
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon salt
- freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 cup milk
- ¼ cup butter, melted and slightly cooled
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 2 cups grated zucchini
- 1 ½ cups fresh corn, kernels cut from cob
- 1 cup finely shredded Cheddar cheese (Optional)
- 1 quart oil for frying, or as needed



Directions

1. Whisk flour, sugar, baking powder, cumin, salt, and pepper together in a large bowl.
2. Whisk milk, melted butter, and eggs, together in a small bowl; pour into flour mixture and whisk to combine. Stir in zucchini, corn, and Cheddar until well combined.
3. Heat oil in a deep fryer or large saucepan to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Working in batches, drop tablespoonfuls of batter into hot oil. Fry until crisp and brown, about 4 minutes per batch, turning halfway through with tongs. Drain on a paper towel-lined plate.
4. Serve hot with ranch dressing.

Skillet Mexican Street Corn

Servings: 4 servings

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 4 cups frozen corn
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup sour cream
- juice of 1 lime
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon chili powder
- ½ cup cotija cheese
- ¼ cup cilantro or green onions

Instructions

1. Melt butter in a skillet over medium- high heat. Stir in frozen corn. Cook just until corn is heated through, stirring often.
2. Stir in mayonnaise, sour cream, lime juice, cumin and chili powder.
3. Add half of cotija cheese, stirring until melted.
4. Sprinkle the top with remaining cheese and garnish with a dash of chili powder and cilantro or green onions.



Lord, we are grateful for the food before us, the friends and family beside us, and the love between us. Amen.

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A local laboratory employed a licensed boat captain man its research vessel. Reportedly, the captain couldn't swim. A newcomer, learning of this approached him about it. "Is it true? The newcomer asked incredulously. "You. A boat captain, can't swim?" "No I can't," the captain replied. "Can pilots fly?"

LET'S ASK THE SALESMAN

My husband and I couldn't decide which jacket to buy our granddaughter, so we asked the young salesman. "If you were buying a jacket for your girlfriend," I said, "which would you get?" "A bulletproof one," he said. "I'm married."

A DUCK, A BUCK, AND A SKUNK

Three animals were having a drink in a cafe, when the owner asked for the money. "I'm not paying," said the duck. "I've only got one bill and I'm not breaking it." "I've spent my last buck," said the deer. "Then the duck'll have to pay," said the skunk. "Getting here cost me my last scent."

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- Martin Luther

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5 Year Recipients (L-R) Peyton Wentland, Pamela Stewart,
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"You need to come in and fill out the exemption forms," they said.

"I've already done that," she replied. "I did it last year."

"You have to do it every year," she was told.

"Why?" came the response. "Do you think I'm going to get younger?"

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 - Groucho Marx

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WACKIE WORDS

ANSWER ON PAGE 21

TRO BLE TRO BLE TRO BLE	MOV 4 IE	rough rough rough
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STEP 9ET2 9ET2	OR OR 0	PEPPERMINT
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I just switched my “20 year Mortgage” to a “Student Loan”

The Joy Of The Lord Is My Strength

By Wallace Kennedy, Jr

Nehemiah 8:10 And Nehemiah continued, “Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don’t be dejected and sad, for the JOY of the Lord is your strength!” (NLT)

Spiritual JOY is a deep cheerfulness, delightfulness, a place where we feel safe, protected and gladness of heart. It is happiness and a calm spirit. It comes to us as the direct result of knowing Christ Jesus, along with all that he has done for us, and will do, not just in this life, but eternally.

True JOY is a limitless, life-defining, transformative reservoir waiting to be tapped into. It requires the utmost surrender and, like love, is a choice to be made.

The enemy of our soul wants to rob us of our JOY, he knows we draw strength from the “JOY” of the Lord. Dear friend, don’t allow the true enemies of JOY such as resentment, disappointment, or unwillingness to forgive rob you of a joy-filled life. Bring these enemies to the foot of the cross and, like David, ask the Lord to restore to you the JOY of your salvation (Psalm 51:12).

JOY is one of the fruit that comes with a Spirit filled life: Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, JOY, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness,



temperance: against such there is no law.

At the very root, JOY is a supernatural gift from God granting a person peace that his or her life is right with God. While every person will experience happiness in the world at some time and at some level, only those who are right with God can truly experience real JOY.

Jesus tells us that only by remaining in Him will we find joy: John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my JOY might remain in you, and that your JOY might be full.

Psalm 16:11 says, “You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with JOY in your presence.” Therefore, the JOY of the Lord is constant, unchanging, and readily available to all who seek it.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, by Your Spirit fill me with Your JOY. Lord, I'm struggling to maintain JOY in this season. Please be with me and guide me towards You as I desire cheerfulness, delightfulness, calmness, gladness, and protection.

Dear Jesus, you said, “Come, follow me.” May you make clear Your path for me as I look for JOY in this season of my life.

Happy Independence Day (4th of July) “Freedom is not free” it costs a blood sacrifice!

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I was reading here and it says that cows give more milk if you talk to them.

That's interesting. I guess it just goes in one ear and out the udder.





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Wise people are not always silent, but they know when to be.

WACKIE WORDS ANSWERS

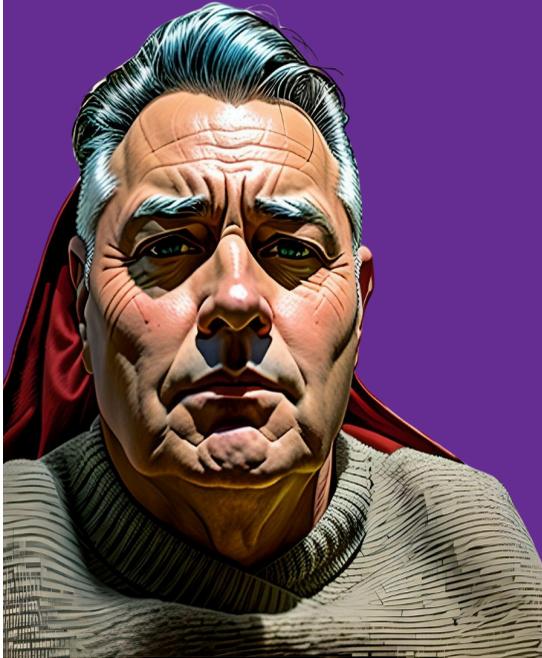
1. KEEPING YOU OUT OF TROUBLE
2. FOREIGN MOVIE
3. A LITTLE ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES
4. TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE
5. DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK
6. START OF SOMETHING BIG
7. ONE STEP FORWARD, TWO STEPS BACK
8. DOUBLE OR NOTHING
9. PEPPERMINT TWIST
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Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.
~ Dale Carnegie

"A Woman's Prayer"
Dear Lord,
I pray for Wisdom to understand my man;
Love to forgive him: and
Patience for his moods.
Because Lord, if I pray for strength,
I'll beat him to death!
Amen!

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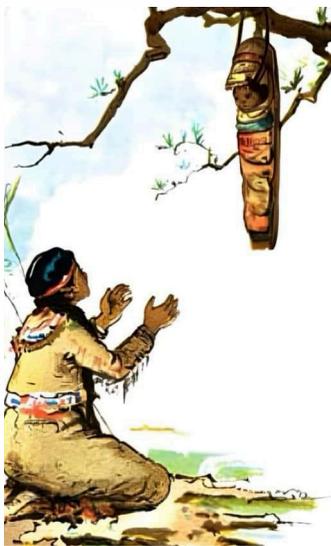


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Habit, if not resisted, soon becomes necessity. ~ St. Augustine



The Origin of America's Favorite Nursery Rhyme:

Davy Crockett's older sister, Effie Crockett was invited to help some mothers in the Muskogee Tribe. Once she arrived in camp, Effie laughed at what she saw. The Muskogee Tribe had a custom of cradling their papposes among the swaying branches of birch trees. This protected their babies from ground insects, the sun, and wild animals. After first finding it funny, she soon learned all the

great reasons for this practice and marveled at the beauty of it.

Effie watched the swaying and soothing motion of the topmost branches of the trees. She loved how each baby enjoyed nature, how they listened to the songbirds, observed every ladybug, and smiled at the colors of a butterfly, every little breeze was felt and enjoyed by these young ones; each babe seemed perfectly content. One of the Tribal mothers began to sing a song to the children in her native tongue. As the Muskogee mother

sang, Miss Effie observed a small tear running down the mother's cheek.

Lulu se pepe i le pito i luga o le laau,
A agi le matagi e luluina le moega pepe,
A gau le lala e pa'u ai le moega pepe,
Ma o le a sau i lalo pepe, moega pepe ma mea uma.
Effie translated the words and kept the tune. She shared it with everyone and it soon became a wildly popular nursery rhyme among the Colonies.

The English translation:

Rock-a-bye baby on the tree top,
When the wind blows the cradle will rock,
When the bough breaks the cradle will fall,
And down will come baby, cradle and all.

Why did the Muskogee mother cry?

A "bough" is simply a tree branch, and its breaking was used by the Muskogee mothers as an analogy of their little baby growing up.

Their little baby would soon outgrow his cradle. With each gently rocking wind, time was passing. One day, little baby would no longer need the protection of his mother. One day, the "branch" would break because her little baby had become too heavy. The "cradle" would fall to the earth – the child, no longer a baby, would dust himself off and grow into a man.

"Wise Words"

By: Hayes Wise

The Point Of No Return

The phrase "point of no return" originated as a technical term in air navigation to refer to the time and location during a flight at which the aircraft no longer has enough fuel to return to its originating airfield and is in danger of crashing and burning. It can also mean the instance in which an aircraft taxis down a runway, gaining a certain speed, and must become airborne or crash and burn on the runway. Going PNR spiritually can have devastating, eternal consequences.

The Bible says that Herod was "delighted at the opportunity" to see Jesus (Luke 23:8). It's doubtful that it was because Herod wanted to know God. What he essentially wanted was a magic trick. And not only did Jesus refuse to perform a miracle for Herod, but He also refused to speak a single word. Why? Jesus, being God, could see Herod's heart

and knew that Herod had gone beyond the point of no return spiritually. He would never believe in Jesus. Therefore, Jesus could see that it was futile to talk to Herod. That's what's meant by, "Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you" (Mat 7:6). They're past the point of no return.

That is basically what Jesus was doing with Herod, there was no point in talking to him. Herod didn't listen to John the Baptist, instead he had him beheaded. When Herod talked with Jesus, he could have poured out his heart to Jesus, confessed his sins, found forgiveness, and been saved. Instead, he rejected Christ, and Christ rejected Herod. Herod was now destined for eternal separation from God. All that call on the name of the Lord with sincerity, will be saved". (Rom 10:13-15). We are told that "Today is the day of your salvation". (2 Cor 6:2). I can't know a person's heart so I have to relate the gospel. Don't mess around and reach the point of no return like Herod.

When the wicked are in authority, sin flourishes; but the godly will live to see their downfall.
Proverbs 29:16

When I was little, I didn't care what I wore. I just went along with what my parents chose.

When I look in old photo albums, I realize that they didn't care either.

"It's not about what I can afford, it's about what I can't afford to miss because you never know when your life will end."
Family First!

A scammer called my grandma and said he had all passwords.

She got a pen and paper and said, Thank God for that. What are they?"

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Got up at 5 am, ran 4 miles, came back, made a vegetable smoothie for breakfast, did 2 loads of laundry, mopped and vacuumed floors, and that’s all I remember about my dream.

I would like to give a BIG SHOUT OUT to all my friends that are hard of hearing.

My wife called to tell me she saw a fox on the way to work.

I asked her how she knew it was on it’s way to work.

She hung up on me.

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Crows around the world have suddenly lost the ability to communicate.

Scientists are seeking the caws.

If anyone knows any great sausage, chain or golf websites, please send me a link.

I'm not saying I'm old, I'm just saying that my supper time and bed time are getting much close to each other.

EQUALITY IS ABOUT GIVING EVERYONE AN EQUAL CHANCE, NOT AN EQUAL RESULT.

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CLAYBANK MASTER GARDENERS

Greetings Gardeners!

One of the many advantages of being a Master Gardener is the access to experts in all the various fields of gardening. This past month we were treated to a presentation by Don Lassiter, a Wiregrass Master Gardener, covering many aspects of irrigation to make the most out of water applied to our gardens and crops. How to water on slopes to retain the most water, how to water for various soil types, how to add various types of emitters and their uses and also how to remove and plug up unneeded emitters. If you want to save on your water bill drip irrigation is way to go. The local big box stores are well supplied with clear descriptions of every part you can think of plus some you didn't know existed, or you can purchase them online. He provided a schedule for how much and how frequently you need to use drip irrigation according to the particular types of plants you are growing. For example, for flowers: every 1-2 days; for vegetables: 30 minutes to 1 hour every 1-2 days; for small trees and shrubs 4-6 hours every 2-3 days.

Do you want to take the Master Gardener class? The next Dale County class is being offered starting in

August, but you need to apply and pay before June 30th. Call the Dale County Extension office at (334) 774-2329 for more detail or visit <https://www.aces.edu/go/mqy> to apply online.

***Favorite tip for free fertilizer for flowering plants:** soak banana peels in water for a day or three, apply the water to your plants at the roots. Banana peels are rich in potassium and flowering plants need potassium to bloom. Then when the peels are finished, put them in the ground around your plants. They'll love you for it.

The *Claybank Master Gardeners* meet on the **2nd Wednesday of the month at 11 AM at Hoppergrass Restaurant in Ozark, 129 East Ave.,** across from the new Three Scoops and Sandwich ice cream shop. Our July meeting will be on Wednesday July 10th. Come join us, we love new faces. You can buy lunch if you wish, (the line opens at 10:30 AM) or just come and visit to see what Master Gardeners are all about. It's always a good idea to call the **Dale County Extension office at (334) 774-2329** to verify the time and date.

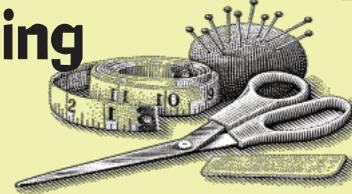


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The Final Exam

An eccentric philosophy professor gave a one question final exam after a semester dealing with a broad array of topics. The class was already seated and ready to go when the professor picked up his chair, plopped it on his desk and wrote on the board: "Using everything we have learned this semester, prove that this chair does not exist." Fingers flew, erasers erased, notebooks were filled in furious fashion. Some students wrote over 30 pages in one hour attempting to refute the existence of the chair. One member of the class however, was up and finished in less than a minute. Weeks later when the grades were posted, the rest of the group wondered how he could have gotten an "A" when he had barely written anything at all. His answer consisted of two words: "What chair?"

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I am writing to say what an excellent product you have! I've used it all of my married life, as my Mom always told me it was the best. Now that I am in my fifties I find it even better! In fact, about a month ago, I spilled some red wine on my new white blouse. My inconsiderate and uncaring husband started to belittle me about how clumsy I was, and generally started becoming a pain in the neck. Well, one thing led to another and somehow I ended up with his blood on my new white blouse! I grabbed my bottle of Tide with bleach alternative, and to my surprise and satisfaction, all of the stains came out! In fact, the stains came out so well the detectives who came by yesterday told me that the DNA tests on my blouse were negative.

Then my attorney called and said that I was no longer considered a suspect in the disappearance of my husband.

What a relief! Going through menopause is bad enough without being a murder suspect! I thank you, once again, for having a great product. Well, gotta go -- I have to write to the Hefty Bag people.

Your friend, Velma

Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught. - Anonymous

The agony and the ecstasy is a six-year-old boy trying to go to sleep, knowing he's going fishing in the morning.

- Frank P. Baron

"Grace means that all of your mistakes now serve a purpose instead of serving shame."

- Brene Brown

**Funny how people blame bad luck,
 other people, even the devil....
 when most often it is
 bad decisions they have made.**



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Sherlock Holmes

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| Clue | Murder |
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| Elementary | Solve |
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If you had to describe yourself in one word what would it be?
 Mine would be "Doesn't follow instructions"

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“Beach Houses” a short story submitted by Joshua Harding as a community service project for National Honor Society

BEACH HOUSES

On tropical, beautiful, sandy beaches, Two lead builders, Jack and Greg walked up to a nice empty spot, perfect for building beach houses. Jack boasted the whole time they walked of his grand design. “It’s going to have a nice front patio with a grill and...” Greg walked in silence, patiently listening. “...On the second floor, I’m gonna put a nice, beautiful balcony with a gorgeous view of the sunset over the ocean.” They walked up to the beach and saw their claim.

“Where’re you gonna put your beach house, Jack?” Greg asked. Jack puffed his chest and beamingly pointed to a sandy patch off to the left. “Right there, with the perfect view. What about you?” Greg thought for a moment. “How about on that rock?” he said, pointing to a rock off to the right. “Are you sure?” Jack asked, “It’s a little small.” “Well, my design is simple,” Greg calmly reasoned, crossing his arms, “It’s got the essentials, and with that sturdy foundation, it’ll be reinforced against the hurricanes coming next season.” Jack scoffed. “Who worries about that here? There hasn’t been a hurricane here my whole life!” Greg sighed, “Your loss.”

Over the next month, Greg and Jack built their beach houses. Jack was quick in his work, able to afford any hired help he’d need to make building the giant, luxurious beach house a speedy process. Greg took his time making the walls as sturdy as possible, only asking help from his family or friends that were handy. Greg did everything to ensure his beach house was safe, secure, and built with love.

Due to their different methods yet different-sized houses, they finished around the same time. “It’s perfect!” Jack exclaimed, stepping back to admire his build. Jack’s beach house was ginormous, with fancy, ornate trim around a beach green wood paneling. There were three patios, one for a bar, one with a grill, and one with lounge chairs and a small swimming pool. Inside were lavish kitchens and a cozy tropical-themed living room. Upstairs were game rooms and bedrooms.

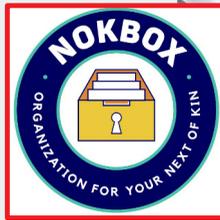
Greg’s indeed had only the bare essentials. One small kitchen, A quaint living room, and a little game room with a couple bedrooms upstairs. There were more tropical blues than greens in his design. Whilst a crowd gathered around and marveled at Jack’s finished work, only Greg and his family were admiring Greg’s work. “Now we have a place to stay for the summer,” his dad said, putting an appreciative hand on Greg’s shoulder. “Winner of ping pong gets the top bunk!” One of Greg’s little cousins said, running inside. Another joined her. The house was made with love alright.

Time passed, and later that summer, a hurricane tore through the beach. It was a monster of a storm, and even Greg was worried that his house wouldn’t make it. Well, when the storm passed, Jack returned to his home to find his entire beach house was reduced to broken lumber and crushed furniture. Debris was everywhere. Jack, to his dismay, looked over to the right to see Greg’s house still standing on the rock, missing only a couple of shingles.

**Remember to
build your life on
solid ground!**



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Don't slander everybody with whom you disconnect. Just move on. Assassinating their character does nothing to improve yours.

If God didn't send Jesus to condemn the world, I doubt he sent you.

Parents:
Spend less time removing the mountains in your child's life, and spend more time teaching them how to climb. You won't be always be there... the mountains will.

Do today what others won't do, so tomorrow you can do what others can't.



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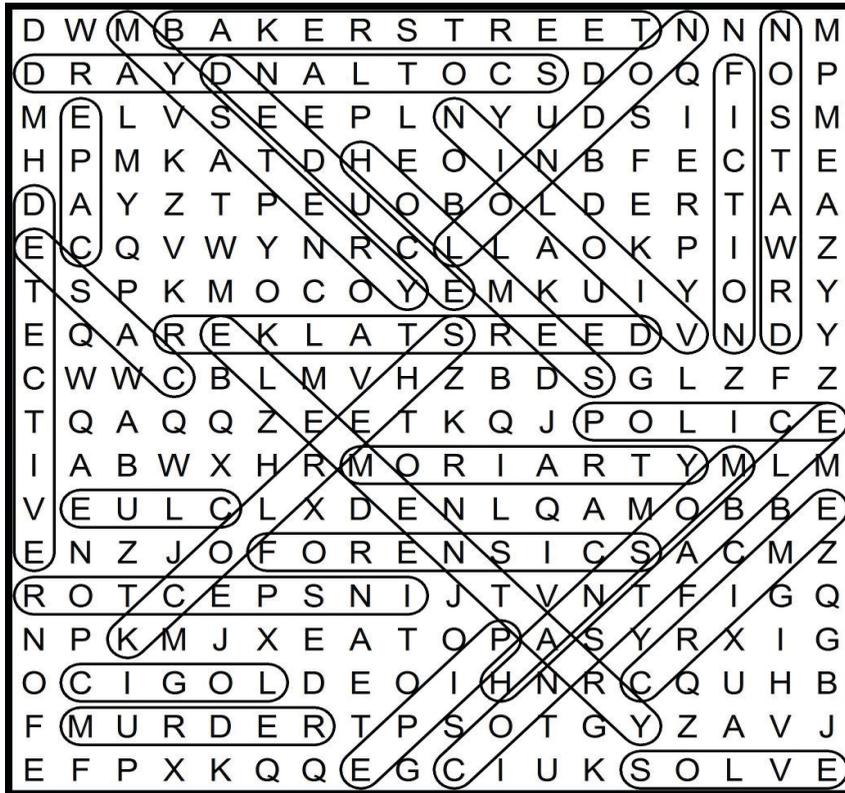


Did you know that cows kill more people than sharks?

I'm surprised cows kill any sharks at all!



Word Search Solution



“I will think about the shining-greatness of Your power and about Your great works.”
Psalm 145.5

"I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear."

- Rosa Parks

I made a playlist for hiking. it has music from The Peanuts, The Cranberries, and Eminem. I call it my trail mix.

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We are limited by the fears we don't face! Fear Not.

As Mr. Aging was browsing through an old newspaper, he read aloud to his wife a news item about men losing their memory cells faster than women do.

"It must be true," she said. "That's the second time you've read that article to me."

Honesty Policy

Boss (to the new employee): We are very keen on cleanliness. Did you wipe your feet on the mat as you came in?

New employee: Yes, sir.

Boss: We are also keen on truthfulness. There is no mat.

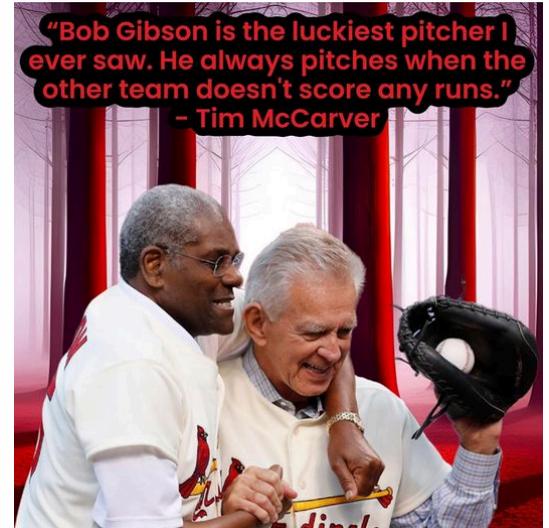
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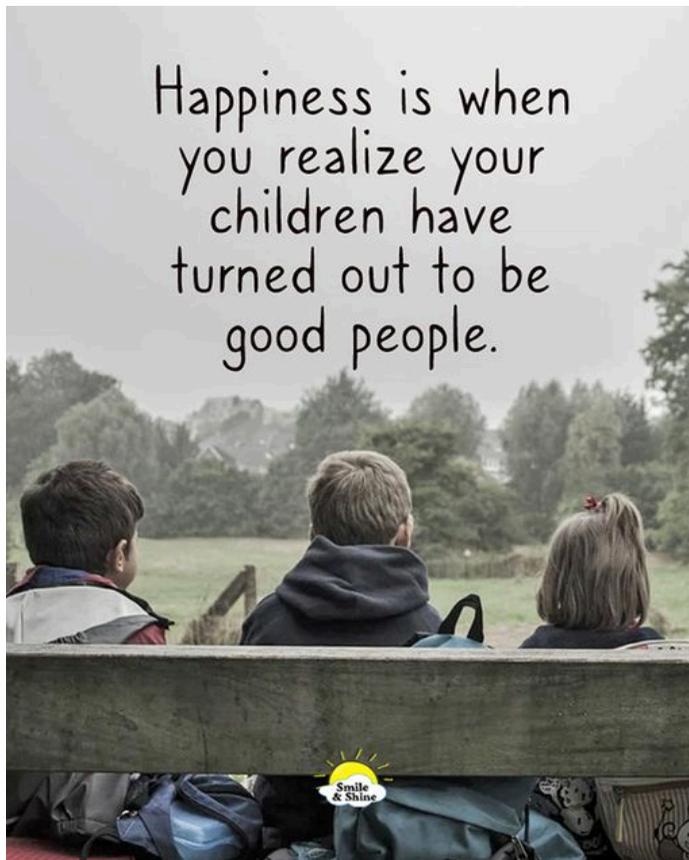
1. For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
2. For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others.
3. To lose weight, let go of stress, hatred, anger, discontentment, and the need to control others.
4. To improve your

ears, listen to the Word of God.

5. For poise, walk with knowledge and self-esteem.
6. To strengthen your arms, hug at least 3 people a day; touch someone with your love.
7. To strengthen your heart, forgive yourself and others.



I'm hitting the woods just great -- but having a terrible time getting out of them! ~Unknown Golfer



This iz a stikkep!

A man, wanting to rob a downtown Bank of America, walked into the Branch and wrote "This iz a stikkup. Put all your munny in this bag."

While standing in line, waiting to give his note to the teller, he began to worry that someone had seen him write the note and might call the police before he reached the teller's window.

So he left the Bank of America and crossed the street to the Wells Fargo Bank. After waiting a few minutes in line, he handed his note to the Wells Fargo teller.

She read it and, surmising from his spelling errors that he wasn't the brightest light in the harbor, told him that she could not accept his stickup note because it was written on a Bank of America deposit slip and that he would either have to fill out a Wells Fargo deposit slip or go back to Bank of America. Looking somewhat defeated, the man said, "OK" and left. He was arrested a few minutes later, as he was waiting in line back at Bank of America.



Worried about severe weather?

Let's Talk.

Wind and rain, tornado to hurricane, we are prepared for severe weather. We harden our system to help prevent outages. We keep vegetation trimmed to minimize debris. And we train – all year – to respond as quickly and safely as possible when a storm strikes.

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