

VOLUME 203 JULY 2025

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AUG. 26, 2025**

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WINSTON**

JACKSON

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Cell: (334)237-3663

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Pd. Pol. Adv. By Winston T. Jackson Campaign, 3980 Will Logan Rd. , Ozark, AL 36360

Someone just called, sneezed then hung up. I’m getting sick of these cold calls.

NABBING A SUSPECT

**I notified the police
this afternoon that
someone has stolen my
favorite coffee cup.
They told me to stop
by the station to look
at some mugshots.**

SORRY, WE'RE CLOSED.

Jack punched Alex because he found out Alex was messing around with Janice, even though Jack and Janice have broken up. Anyway, Alex’s tooth went into the chili, so we can’t open until we find it. Cause we can’t throw away all that chili. Sorry again, the management.

Received a text from the wife saying she was breaking up with me. Imagine how relieved I was when a couple of minutes later she texted "sorry wrong number!"

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Leah Harlow

Leadership That Delivers!

AUG 26 RE-ELECT

love ★ where ★ you ★ live

LEAH HARLOW

FOR OZARK CITY COUNCIL PLACE 1

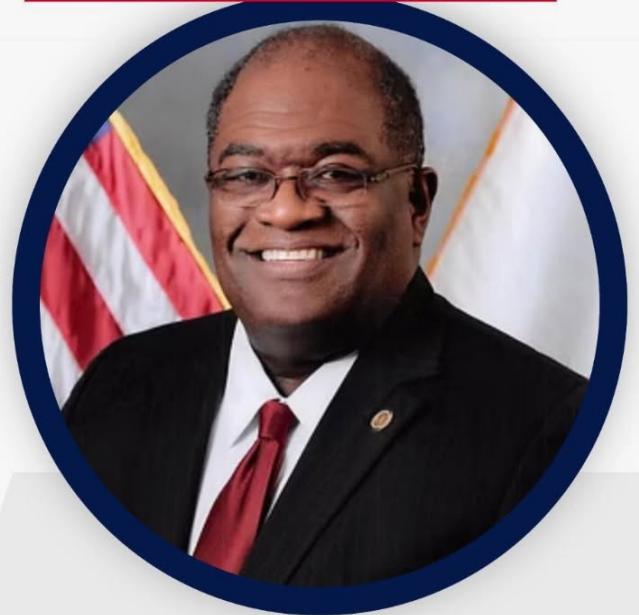
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2025

VOTE

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FROM THE BADGE TO THE BALLOT

ELECT

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— Wendell Johnson

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**I WENT TO A GIRLS BIRTHDAY PARTY
TODAY AND I BOUGHT HER
AN A.M. RADIO.
SHE SAID "THAT WAS SO STUPID, I
DON'T EVEN GET UP THAT EARLY."**

**Big Shots are just
Little Shots that
Kept Shooting.**



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Happy 4th Of July



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Contributors:

Wallace Kennedy, Jr.

Hayes Wise, "Wise Words"

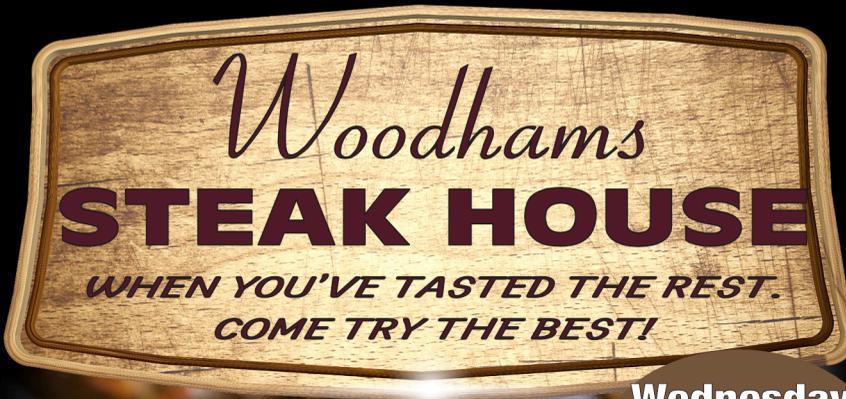
Tric Parrish, "Aunt T's Kitchen"

Dee Gilbert,

"Claybank Master Gardeners"



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Thinking of having my ashes stored in a glass urn.
Remains to be seen.

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Gladys, why do you have to get rid of a fly with a sledgehammer?

"Every society gets the kind of criminal it deserves. What is equally true is that every community gets the the kind of law enforcement it insists on."
~ Robert Kennedy

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"The problem I have with haters is that they see my glory, but they don't know my story."

- Maya Angelou

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I'm such a bad swimmer. Heck, I almost drowned on a pool table.

J.C. It's not about the fly...it's about the flies that are watching.

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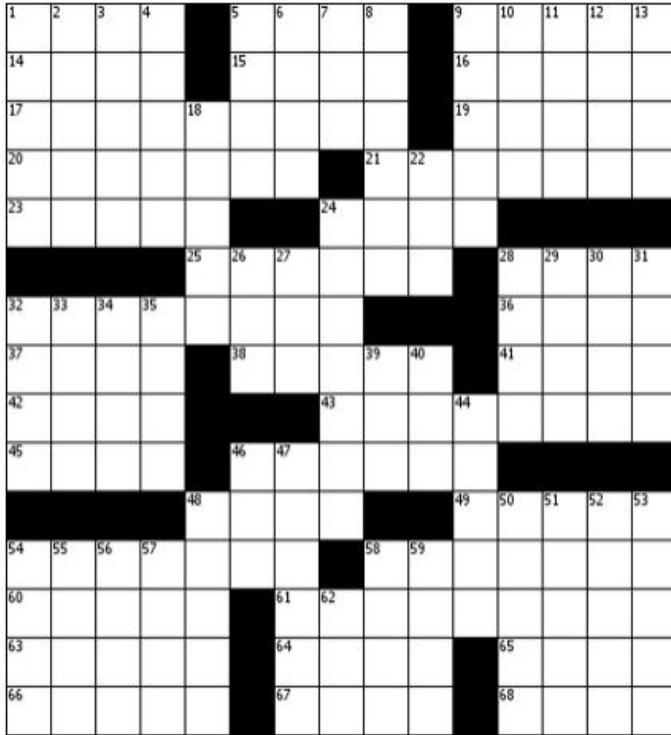
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Across

1. Toe trauma
5. Not spicy
9. Boundary
14. Queue
15. Length times width
16. Cherish
17. Unrest
19. TV Host ____ O'Brien
20. Prickly plants
21. Country near Greenland
23. Welcome
24. Society gals
25. Artists' stands
28. Radiate
32. ____ medicine
36. Breezy
37. Spool
38. Chirp
41. Crisp cookie
42. Of the mouth
43. Literary exposition
45. Alaskan port
46. Wagner works
48. Ran, as colors
49. Peaceful protest (hyph.)
54. Pittsburgh player
58. Small bomb
60. Singer ____ Ronstadt
61. Cranky
63. Chile's mountains
64. Cleansing bar
65. Implored
66. Didn't exist
67. Skirt edges
68. Koppel and Turner

Down

1. Street talk
2. Golfer ____ Woods
3. Come together
4. Actress ____ Davis
5. Better half
6. Eye part
7. Author ____ Tolstoy
8. Frontiersman ____ Boone
9. Shoe fasteners
10. Revered person
11. " ____ Lisa"
12. Persia, today
13. Minister to
18. Modify
22. NBC's rival
24. Removed
26. Picnic intruder
27. Lumberjack's tool
28. Sunrise location
29. Skirt length
30. Retirement acct's.
31. Category
32. Press
33. Roman tyrant
34. Squad
35. She, in Paris
39. Go wrong
40. Hot drink
44. Resource
46. Madrid cheer
47. Expire
48. Explosion
50. Not appropriate
51. Dinette piece
52. Loafed
53. Necessities
54. Cabbage dish
55. Singer ____ Turner
56. Odds and ____
57. Genesis locale
58. Metric weight
59. Tears apart
62. Shad delicacy

SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

Getting the Silent Treatment

My girlfriend isn't talking to me because apparently I ruined her birthday. Not sure how I did that.

.. I didn't even know it was her birthday!

It's All In the Surname

Many Irish surnames have the prefix of 'O' or 'Mac'. The surname 'Mac' means "son of" while 'O' means "descendant of".

The best inheritance parents can give their children is a few minutes of their time each day.

"Do Not Touch!" Must be the scariest thing to read in braille.

Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing about. --- Ben Franklin

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A lawyer and an engineer were fishing in the Caribbean, The lawyer said. "I'm here because my house burned down and everything I owned was destroyed by the fire. The insurance company paid for everything." "That's quite a coincidence," said the engineer. "I'm here because my house and all my belongings were destroyed by an earthquake . And my insurance company also paid for everything." The lawyer looked somewhat confused, "How do you start an earthquake?" he asked.

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AUNT T'S KITCHEN

PINA COLADA LUSH

Ingredients

- 20 golden Oreo cookies
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter melted
- 8 oz cream cheese room temperature (I used Philadelphia)
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 8 oz crushed pineapple drained (can also use 1/3 cup drained crushed pineapple)
- 8 oz whipped topping
- 3.4 oz instant coconut pudding mix
- 1 cup milk I used skim
- 1/2 cup toasted coconut
- cherries for garnish



Instructions

1. Crush 20 golden Oreos and mix them with three tablespoons of melted unsalted butter. Press into the bottom of an 8 by 8 glass baking dish.
2. In a large bowl, mix together 8 ounces room temperature cream cheese, 4 oz whipped topping, the powdered sugar and the pineapple until fully combined. Evenly distribute over the Oreo crust.
3. Mix together the milk and the coconut instant pudding (you can even use the same bowl as from the cream cheese mixture without cleaning it). Let it sit for a few minutes before evenly spreading over the cream cheese layer.
4. Top with the remaining 4 oz of whipped topping and then top with the toasted coconut. Refrigerate for a few hours before serving.

BANANA SPLIT

Ingredients

For the Crust:

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted

For the Cream Cheese Layer:

- 12 ounces cream cheese at room temperature
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 8 ounces Cool Whip

For the Fruit & Toppings:

- 3 to 4 bananas sliced
- 20 ounce canned crushed pineapple, drained well
- 16 ounces strawberries hulled and sliced
- 8 ounces Cool Whip
- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
- Chocolate syrup
- Maraschino cherries



Instructions

1. Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish; set aside.
2. In a medium bowl, mix the graham cracker crumbs and melted butter with a fork, stirring until all of the

ICE BOX CAKES

crumbs are evenly moistened. Dump the crumbs into the prepared pan and press into an even layer. Refrigerate while you prepare the next layer.

3. In a medium bowl, mix together the cream cheese and sugar on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Using a rubber spatula, fold in the Cool Whip until thoroughly combined. Spread the cream cheese mixture on top of the graham cracker crust.
4. Arrange the banana slices in a single layer on top of the cream cheese filling, top with an even layer of the crushed pineapple, and then an even layer of the sliced strawberries.
5. Cover with the Cool Whip, smoothing the top. Sprinkle with the chopped walnuts, then drizzle with chocolate syrup and top with maraschino cherries. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours, or overnight. Leftovers can be stored, covered.

ORANGE CREAMSICLE

Servings: 16

Ingredients

Crust

- 30 vanilla sandwich cookies, finely crushed
- 6 tablespoons salted sweet cream butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons fresh orange zest,

Cheesecake Filling

- 16 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon fresh orange zest,

Orange Jello Layer

- 1/3 cup mandarin orange juice, drained from the 14 ounce can of mandarin oranges
- 6 ounces orange-flavored gelatin
- 2 teaspoons orange extract
- 3.4 ounces instant vanilla pudding
- 1 1/4 cups cold milk
- 5 drops orange food coloring, optional
- 1 tablespoon fresh orange zest

Topping

- 12 ounces whipped topping, thawed
- 14 ounces mandarin oranges, drained (reserve 1/3 cup for the orange jello layer)

Instructions

Crust

1. Using a medium-size mixing bowl, combine the finely crushed cookie crumbs, melted butter, and orange zest.
2. Generously spray a 9x13 baking dish with nonstick spray.
3. Evenly spread and press the cookie crumb mixture in the bottom of the baking dish. Chill in the refrigerator while making the cheesecake layer.



AUNT T'S KITCHEN

Cheesecake Layer

- Using a medium-sized mixing bowl and a handheld mixer on medium-high speed, beat the cream cheese and vanilla extract for 1 minute or until smooth.
- Add the powdered sugar and continue mixing until well incorporated.
- Fold in the orange zest.
- Remove the crust from the refrigerator and evenly spread the cheesecake mixture. Return the baking dish to the refrigerator while preparing the orange jello layer.

Orange Jello Layer

- Using a heat-safe 1-cup measuring cup, heat the reserved mandarin orange juice in the microwave for 30 seconds.
- Using a small heat-safe mixing bowl, add the orange-flavored gelatin and the orange extract. Pour the hot mandarin orange juice over the gelatin and stir until the gelatin is dissolved.
- Using a medium mixing bowl, whisk together the instant vanilla pudding and the cold milk until the pudding is thickened.
- Whisk in the gelatin. Whisk until completely combined. If you wish to add the orange food coloring, whisk it in.
- Fold in the orange zest.
- Remove the baking pan from the refrigerator and evenly spread the gelatin pudding mixture on top of the cheesecake layer. Cover and return the baking dish to the refrigerator and chill for at least 4 hours to overnight.
- Just before serving, evenly spread the whipped topping. Evenly divide and space the mandarin orange slices. Slice into 2-inch x 2-inch squares.

Notes

- To crush the vanilla cookies, either in the large bowl of a food processor, pulse the vanilla sandwich cookies until small even crumbs form, or you can crush them by placing them into a Ziploc and crushing them with a rolling pin.
- Make sure that your crust is completely cool before going on to your second layer. It's important that the crust is cooled so that the following layers set properly on top of it.
- Make sure your cream cheese is room temperature; otherwise, you will end up with lumps in your mixture.
- You can omit the orange food coloring if you want a more muted orange color.
- Chilling overnight will allow all the flavors to mingle and blend together even more!, in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

BUTTERFINGER

12 servings

Ingredients

- 40 Oreo cookies
- ½ cup (1 stick) salted butter, melted and cooled
- 8 ounce block, cream cheese, softened to room temperature

ICE BOX CAKES

- ½ cup powdered sugar
- ½ cup creamy peanut butter
- 10.2 ounce bag mini Butterfingers, divided use (or 5 regular size bars)
- 16 ounces whipped topping, divided use (Cool Whip)
- 3 cups cold milk
- 2 (3.4 ounce) boxes instant chocolate pudding



Instructions

- Crumble the Oreo cookies in a food processor or crush in a plastic ziploc bag with a rolling pin.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine the crushed Oreos and cooled melted butter.
- Spread the Oreo mixture into a 9x13 baking dish, pressing the crust base down with your hands or the back of a spatula. Place in the refrigerator to chill and firm up while preparing the other layers.
- Unwrap and crush the mini Butterfingers in a ziploc bag, set aside.
- In a large mixing bowl, beat the softened cream cheese, powdered sugar and peanut butter until smooth with an electric mixer. Stir in ¾ of the crushed Butterfingers and one cup of the whipped topping.
- Spread the cream cheese mixture evenly across the top of the chilled Oreo crust. Return the dish in the refrigerator while you prepare the next layer.
- In a medium bowl, whisk together the chocolate pudding packets with the cold milk until smooth.
- Spread the pudding layer across the top of the cream cheese layer.
- Next, spread the remaining whipped topping over the top of the pudding layer.
- Garnish the top of the lush cake with remaining crushed Butterfingers.
- Chill in the refrigerator for at least 1-2 hours, or overnight, before serving. Slice and serve, enjoy!

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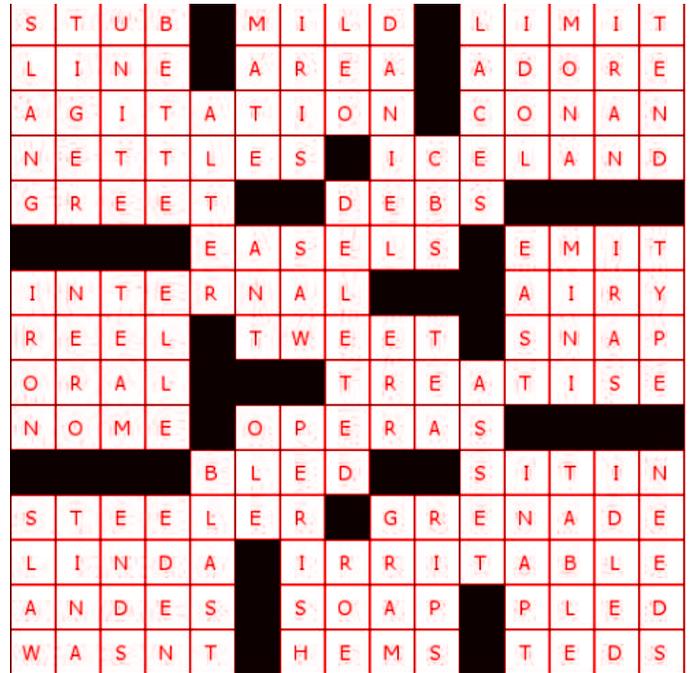
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You and ewe are pronounced the same
but share no letters in common.
Eye and I is another such pair.
Oh and eau is yet another.

Never do anything you wouldn't want to explain to the paramedics.

You Must Admire His Honesty

His girlfriend's father was interviewing Young Charles "So," said the father, "you want to be my son-in-law, do you?"

"No, not particularly," said Charles tactlessly, "but if I want to marry your daughter I haven't much choice, have I?"

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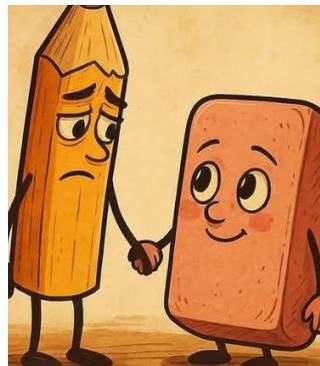


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"Hey, how are you?" the eraser asked the pencil kindly.
"I'm not your friend," the pencil snapped. "I hate you."
Surprised and hurt, the eraser asked, "Why?"



"Because you erase everything I write."
"I only remove the mistakes," the eraser replied gently.

"That doesn't make it right," said the pencil.

"But that's what I'm here for. It's my purpose."

"Then your job is meaningless," grumbled the pencil. "Writing is more important than erasing."

"To erase the wrong is just as important as writing the right," the eraser said.

The pencil paused, then quietly said, "But I see you getting smaller each day..."

"That's because I give a little bit of myself every time I help correct a mistake."

"I feel smaller too," the pencil admitted.

"We can't do good for others unless we're willing to sacrifice something," the eraser smiled.

Then she looked at him and softly asked, "Do you still hate me?"

The pencil smiled back:

"How could I hate someone who gives so much of themselves?"

Each day we wake up with one day less.

If you can't be the pencil that creates joy for others, be the eraser that wipes away their pain, planting hope and reminding them:

The future can still be better than the past.

Be grateful. Always.

SPOT SEVEN DIFFERENCES



Dale Medical Center held our Annual Employee Awards Banquet May 15, 2025.

We had some very special characters to help us celebrate Luke Taylor, who was selected by his peers as our Firestarter Employee of the Year for 2024, and our Dale Medical Center employees were recognized for their years of employment with Dale Medical Center. What a fun night and great food!



Luke Taylor,
Firestarter Employee of the Year for 2024



30 Years:
Ginny Sexton, Sandra Peters, Vernon Johnson



25 Years:
Debra King, Michael Stinson



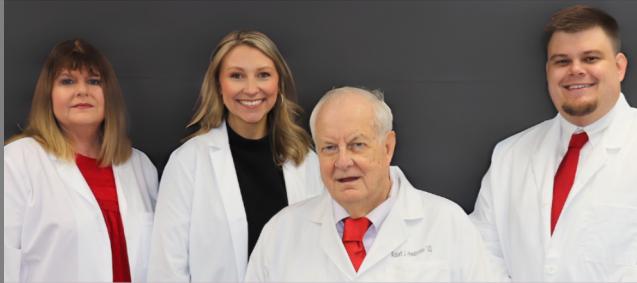
15 Years:
Luke Taylor



10 Years:
Libbie Brownfield,
Judy Sanders,
Mary Reagan Fullbright.



5 Years Recipients in Attendance:
(Front - L-R) Sheila Baxley, Sarah Szpek, Sheryl Jernigan, Alicia Lambert
(Back - L-R) Wendell McCray, Christian Isler, Jackie Quincey, Amber Farmer, Jay Watson.



Sheryl Jernigan, CRNP Kate Benefield, CRNP Robert Kreutzmann, MD Vinson Johnson, CRNP

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MENTAL HOSPITAL

Jim and Edna were both patients in a mental hospital. One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Jim suddenly jumped into the deep end. He sank to the bottom of the pool and stayed there. Edna promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled Jim out. When the hospital director became aware of Edna's heroic act she immediately ordered that Edna be discharged from the hospital because she now considered Edna to be mentally stable.

The director went to Edna and said, "I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that you're being discharged because you responded so rationally to a crisis by jumping in the pool to save the life of another patient. Your action displays sound mindedness. The bad news is that Jim, the patient you saved, hung himself in the bathroom with his bathrobe belt right after you saved him. I am so sorry, but he's dead."

Edna replied, "He didn't hang himself. I put him there to dry. How soon can I go home?"

WACKIE WORDS

Solution on page 29

Wackie Wordies

	1	2	3	4
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CELEBRATE ADVERSITY!

By Wallace Kennedy, Jr.



Celebrating adversity doesn't sound like something to celebrate. Who wants difficulties, trials, or hardships, most would say not me, right?

In the Bible, adversity refers to difficulties, trials, or hardships, often used in the context of testing faith, discipline, and growth. The Bible also highlights God's sovereignty and comfort amidst adversity, emphasizing that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him.

It can be a test of faith and resilience, leading to spiritual growth and maturity.

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (NIV)

Every problem is an opportunity to trust God. We all experience difficulties, problems, and trials throughout life. Usually, we also look for ways to solve those problems. All of the various solutions basically ask one of these two questions: "What can I do to solve this?" Or, "What can God do to solve this?"

In other words, we either try to solve the problem on our

own, or we let God solve it. Obviously, it is much wiser to give your problems to God.

We can conclude this purpose for adversity: "God allows adversity to refine character, strengthen faith, and bring believers closer to Him. It can also be a means of discipline and correction, helping individuals to recognize and repent of sin".

Paul gives us comfort and encouragement in times of troubles: 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. (NIV)

Be encouraged my brothers and sisters, be strong in faith, trust in God's promises, and persevere through difficult times. 1 Peter 5:10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

I close now with this promise from God: Psalm 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

Be strong in the Lord, may the Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine on you, be gracious to you, turn His face toward you, and give you peace.

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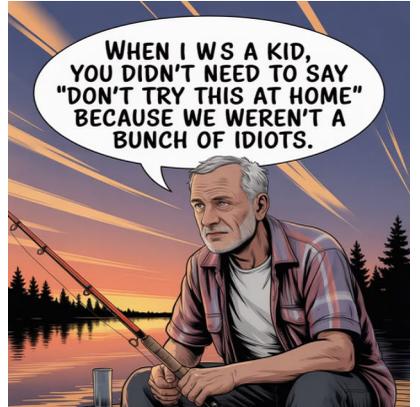
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My granddaughter asked me,
"Gramma, today I watched someone
do 50 push-ups - do you think you
could do that?"
I said, "Of course, sweetheart. Don't
want to brag, but I could probably
watch someone do 100 push-ups."

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A preacher was standing at the pulpit giving his Sunday sermon when a note was passed to him. The only word written on the sheet was IDIOT. Looking up at the congregation, the preacher smiled and said: I have heard of men who write a letter and forget to sign their names but this is the first time I have seen a man sign his name and forget to write the letter.

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GOD IN THE VALLEY

The song “God on the Mountain” by Bill & Gloria Gaither inspired this message. Listen. “Life is easy, when you're up on the mountain and you've got peace of mind, like you've never known. But things change when you're down in the valley. Don't lose faith, for you're never alone. For the God on the mountain, is still God in the valley”. One of the best known verses when things aren't easy tells us this; “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me”. (Psa 23:4). Praising God in difficult times can be a way to focus on His goodness and faithfulness, even when things seem uncertain or challenging. Praising God in difficult times doesn't come easy. It takes spiritual maturity and prayer to trust in God's plan (Jer 29:11). It involves acknowledging that God's ways are higher than human understanding (Isa



55:8-9) and that He ultimately works all things for the good of those who love Him. (Rom 8:28). A key Bible verse emphasizes praising God in all situations, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thess 5:16-18). Remember no matter what's happening God is always with you (Mat 28:20).

In this life you will have troubles. (John 16:33). You will be on top of the mountain and all will be well. You will be heading into a valley as unwanted things move into your life. You will be in the deepest part of the valley experiencing your “Job” moment. With faith and trust in God you will ease your way out of the valley. Then once again, like Job, all will be restored and you're back on the mountain. Remember this, “It is the LORD who goes before you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you” (Deut 31:8). God on the mountain, is still God in the valley.

If you have an opinion you better know why.

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The best thing to do behind a person back is to pat it.

People really need to stop wearing their wishbone where their backbone should be.

If a church wants a better pastor, they only have to pray for the one they have.

Conscience is what hurts when everything else feels good.

Having an education isn't impressive, using it is.

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, so is a lot. ~ Albert Einstein

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*Claybank Master Gardeners
July 2025*

Rain. Drought. Humidity. All inescapable in Southeast Alabama summers. If you drink enough water with electrolytes, it's survivable. After finding myself flat on the ground twice last summer, and wondering how I got there, I learned that this old body needs to hydrate well before and after going outdoors, and best to do yard duty early in the morning. Dehydration symptoms at other times caused mental confusion. A fellow Master Gardener recommended a sugar free, citrus flavored electrolyte powder containing sodium, potassium and magnesium to add to my water, which has been a life saver for me.



Rain barrels. We keep rain barrels, or heavy duty garbage cans, under the roof line of our house, each covered with metal or plastic screening to prevent mosquitos. A generous size of screen secured with bungee cords or tie-downs, allows you to dunk the watering can into the water without removing the screen. **Neem oil spray** kills any mosquito larvae that happens to get into the water. Watering your potted plants with rainwater helps them to thrive, growing hardier and healthier. City tap water contains chlorine and other added minerals which can build up and cause an imbalance of nutrients that make for less healthy

plants. Of course, a fresh good-quality soil mixed with some compost will make happier plants. (Note to self: change out last year's potting soil!) **Emily Witner**, Alabama Extension Home Grounds coordinator serving 5 southeast AL counties, gave us some valuable information on ways to raise flowers for cut-flower arrangements. If your area is endowed with poor-draining clay soil, plants are best grown in raised beds or containers. Interesting suggestions from our June Master Gardener meeting: old wash basins with drainage holes, or old claw-footed bathtubs, discarded ceramic toilets, wood framed boxes, or artfully arranged cement blocks. Let your imagination guide you! **Among the easiest to grow plants for cut-flower arrangements** are craspedia, gomphrena, zinnias, salvias, black-eyed susans, coneflowers, dinner-plate dahlias, to name a few. Planting the seeds every two weeks will keep them growing in succession. **Claybank Master Gardeners** meet monthly at Hoppergrass Restaurant, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, however, there will be no meeting in July. The next meeting will be August 13th, 2025 at 11AM. The buffet line for lunch is shorter if you come at 10:30. Please call the Extension Office at (334) 774-2329 to verify the time and place in case of unforeseen changes.

Dee Gilbert
Claybank Master Gardener

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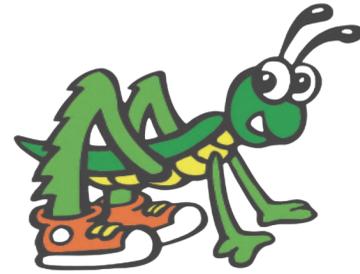


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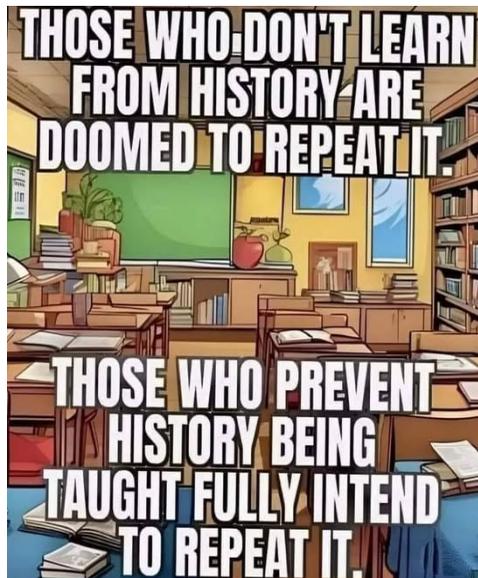


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WAILING WALL

A female CNN journalist heard about a very old Jewish man who had been going to the Western Wall to pray, twice a day, every day, for a long, long time. So she went to check it out. She went to the Western Wall and there he was, walking slowly up to the holy site.



She watched him pray and after about 45 minutes, when he turned to leave, using a cane and moving very slowly, she approached him for an interview. "Pardon me, sir, I'm Rebecca Smith from CNN. What's your name?" "Morris Feinberg," he replied. "Sir, how long have you been coming to the Western Wall and praying?" "For about 60 years." "60 years! That's amazing! What do you pray for?" "I pray for peace between the Christians, Jews and the Muslims. I pray for all the wars and all the hatred to stop. I pray for all our children to grow up safely as responsible adults, and to love their fellow man." "How do you feel after doing this for 60 years?" "Like I'm talking to a BRICK wall."



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Women don't want to tell their age and men don't want to act their age.



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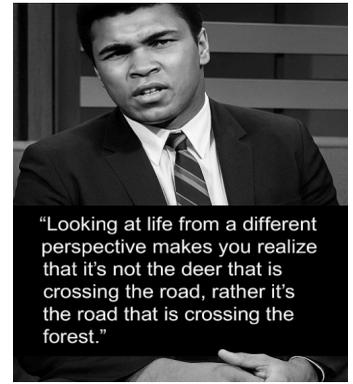
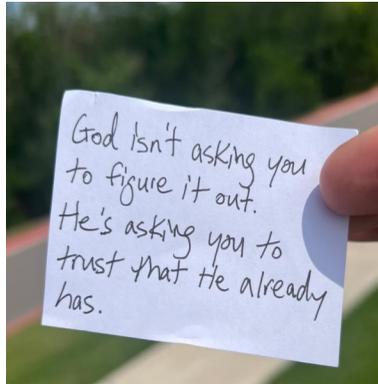
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WACKIE WORDS SOLUTION

	1	2	3	4
A	All Kidding Aside	Deer in the Headlights	Once Over Easy	Relative Humidity
B	Headless Horseman	Frankenstein	Count Dracula	Trick or Treat
C	Wake Up	When Push Comes to Shove	Empty Space	More Power to You
D	Rolling in the Aisles	Get Crackin'	Grace Period	Born To Be Wild



Everybody is a genius but if you judge a fish by it's ability to climb a tree, it will live it's whole life believing that it is stupid.

Albert Einstein

Thinking about the rest of my work week, I kind of wish Dolly sang 10-2 instead!
~ A. Anderson

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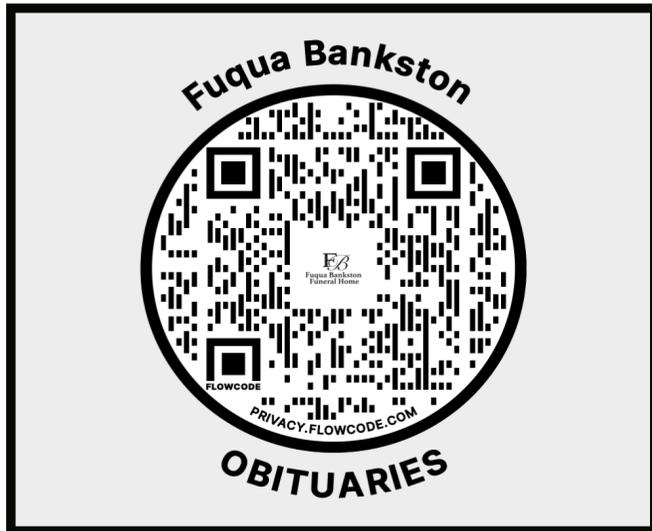
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"What is your sin, my son?" the priest asks. "Well," the man says, "I used some terrible language this week, and I feel awful about it." "When did you use this awful language?" the priest inquires.

"I was out golfing," the man explains. "I hit an absolutely perfect drive—looked like it was going to clear 250 yards—but then, out of nowhere, it smacked right into a phone line hanging over the fairway and dropped straight to the ground, barely making it 100 yards."

"Ah," the priest nods knowingly. "Is that when you swore?"

"No, Father," the man replies.

"Then what happened?"

"Well, right after that, a squirrel darted out from the bushes, grabbed my ball in its mouth, and took off running."

The priest leans in. "And that is when you swore?"

"No, not yet," says the man. "Because just as the squirrel was making its escape, an eagle swooped down, snatched it up in its talons, and soared into the sky with my ball still in the squirrel's mouth!"

The priest, now intrigued, asks, "Surely, that's when you swore?"

"Nope," the man says. "Because as the eagle was flying over the green, the squirrel

squirmed, dropped my ball, and it fell perfectly toward the hole."

The priest's eyes widen. "And then you swore?"

"Not quite," the man continues. "The ball hit a tree, bounced through some bushes, ricocheted off a rock, rolled through the sand trap, and stopped just six inches from the cup."

The priest lets out a deep sigh, shaking his head. "You missed the putt, didn't you?"



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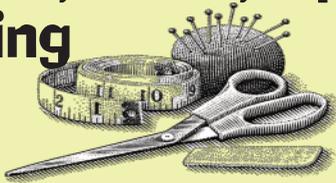
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