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VOLUME 18 ~ ISSUE 1

JANUARY2024

DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY











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There is no charge for a Private Party Classified ad (up to 5 free per month). Your FREE classifieds may be submitted 4 ways:

- n Mail it to us at PO BOX 619, Floral City FL 34436
- 2) Email It to us at Office@peddlers-post.com
- Submit it on our website at https://peddlers-post.com/classifieds
- Message us at Facebook.com/PeddlersPostCommunityPaper

All classified ads MUST be legible and include:

- 1) Your Name (does not have to go in ad)
- **2** Telephone Number
- 🐒 County (we need to know what paper)
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 - Ads will not be published without this information. There is no limit on wording but PUENSE BE RESONABLE. Ads may be edited for length if necessary.

All Classified ads need to be submitted by the and of business on the 19th of the month to make it in the following edition. ****

Aggregate: Free classified ads are limited to 5 ads per household per month. Items may be re-run until they are sold and must be re-submitted each month.

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5 New Year's resolutions to benefit the brain

Resolutions made at the start of a new year often focus on personal improvement. Giving up poor habits like smoking or drinking too much alcohol and losing weight through diet and exercise are some popular resolutions.

Health and wellness certainly dominates the resolution landscape. Improvement-minded individuals interested in gaining long-term benefits from their resolutions this year may want to consider ways to improve brain health and function. Here are five ideas to consider.

- 1. Get moving: Exercise does the body good and even positively affects the brain. The American Academy of Neurology has found aerobic exercise may play a significant role in reversing and preventing cognitive decline. Researchers have found that even a little exercise each day can result in improved brain function in less than six months. Andrew E. Budson, M.D., a professor of neurology at Boston University, also says aerobic exercise releases growth factors in the brain, which can help grow new brain cells.
- 2. Start a new hobby. When doing the same activities over and over, you eventually learn how to do those activities better. But doctors can't confirm this is actually helping the brain in a meaningful way. Rather, there is evidence that doing new things can be beneficial to the brain. So learning a new hobby, taking a class, or even learning to play a musical instrument can push the brain to improve from a cognitive standpoint, indicates The Healthy, a Reader's Digest brand.
- 3. Make more time for fun. Repeated stress can have detrimental effects on the body and mind. Harvard Health says stress has been linked to cognitive problems and a higher risk for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Taking time to relax and enjoy oneself can tame stress, and in turn, alleviate issues affecting memory and cognition.
- 4. Practice mindfulness more often. Mindfulness is an exercise in paying attention to one's surroundings, senses and more. Too often people are multi-tasking and never fully devoting their attention to one thing. Mindfulness gives the brain a break and brings a person into the present. 5. Eat a better diet. The benefit of eating healthy foods extends beyond the waistline. Many of the foods that are good for the heart are important for preventing cognitive decline and dementias. A 2015 systemic review found strong evidence for a protective effect of the Mediterranean diet, according to researchers at Deakin University School of Medicine in Australia.

By making brain health a priority when coming up with New Year's resolutions this year, individuals can benefit for years to come.







Open Weekdays 8AM-5PM & Saturday 8AM-2PM 8328 E. Orange Ave. Floral City, FL 34436



Submitted by: Sharon Rothlein of Citrus County

THE TEENAGE GRANDDAUGHTER COMES DOWNSTAIRS FOR HER DATE WITH THIS SEE-THROUGH BLOUSE ON AND NO BRA. HER GRANDMOTHER JUST HAS A FIT, TELLING HER NOT TO DARE GO OUT LIKE THAT. THE TEENAGER TELLS HER "LOOSEN UP GRAMS. THESE ARE MODERN TIMES. YOU GOTTA LET YOUR ROSEBUDS SHOW!" AND OUT SHE GOES.

THE NEXT DAY THE TEENAGER COMES
DOWNSTAIRS, AND THE GRANDMOTHER IS
SITTING THERE WITH NO TOP ON. THE
TEENAGER WANTS TO DIE.
SHE EXPLAINS TO HER GRANDMOTHER
THAT SHE HAS FRIENDS COMING OVER AND
THAT IT IS JUST NOT APPROPRIATE.
"LOOSEN UP, SWEETIE. IF YOU CAN SHOW
OFF YOUR ROSEBUDS, THEN I CAN DISPLAY

MY HANGING BASKETS."

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to New Year's celebrations.

Each number corresponds to a letter.

(Hint: 17 = N)

A 1 9 13 23 24 13 5 17 4

Clue: Bubbly drink

B. 23 26 25 17 26 5 9 16

Clue: Twelve a.m.

C. 12 4 22 7 20 3 16 26 7 17

Clue: Plan to change

D. 24 13 12 16 2

Clue: Fun event



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Help keep Citrus county native. Join us at the next Citrus County Native Plant Society meeting on January 2nd. The location is the Crystal Oaks Civic Center at 4958 W. Crystal Oaks Dr., Lecanto, FL. Monthly meetings are the first Tuesday and begin at 6:15pm with "Barb's Bits" for a gardening program. This is followed by the meeting which includes a native plant giveaway, speaker and information about native plants. There are also refreshments. All meetings free to attend.

The Citrus County Genealogical Society will meet on January 9 at 10:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, 3474 W Southern St., Lecanto. The speaker will be Diana Crisman Smith who will be talking about "What's Black and White and Read Online: Using Newspapers in Genealogy. She will be talking about why using newspapers is helpful and important in genealogy, what are the best sources for them and how to use them. Guest are welcome. For info contact Mary Ann Machonkin at himary@tampabay.rr.com

11th

FREE Beginner Belly Dance Classes. Beginning on 1-11-24 from 3 to 4 pm. Homosassa Public Library on Grandmarch Ave. Class will be for 8 weeks. All ages welcome. Instructor: Nancy LaViolette. Contact info: 352-397-7410. Leave msg or text.

Hernando United Methodist Church located at 2125 E Norvell Bryant Hwy, Hernando is holding a Fish Fry January 12th Friday 4:30-6:30 Fish dinner complete with dessert \$15.00 By HUMC men

PURSE SALE!! New and gently used purses, backpacks, totes, wallets and luggage at great prices - some top brand names 1-4pm at the Post - \$5 lunch - Chili Dog, Chips and Dessert. VFW POST 7122 located at 8191 S. Florida Ave, Floral City

"When The Conflict Comes Home." presented by Vitas Health Care from 10-11:30am at the YMCA Of The Suncoast located at 4127 W. Norvell Bryant Hwy Lecanto, FL. 34461. This educational event for veterans and their families will help them discover outlets which promote positive communication, stress reduction techniques, and strengthen relationships. Resources for veterans and their families to access additional community engagement and support will be provided. YMCA phone # is 352 500-9622.

THE "AMAZZING" STEEL DRUMS- In concert at Countryside Presbyterian Church, 7768 SW Highway 200 on January 14, 2024 at 3:00. The group plays as a full steel pan orchestra on instruments made from 55 gal. drums.

Starts the 31st
Citrus County Department of Health is offering a free 8-week workshop to help you take control of your Diabetes! Program goals include preventing complications, learning mindful choices for proper nutrition, strengthening support systems and enhancing and maintaining your quality of life. The next series will be held at Coastal Region Library at 8619 W Crystal St, Crystal River, FL. Classes are held consecutive Wednesdays from 1/31/24 - 3/20/24 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. To register call Kathryn 352-513-6083.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church - Community of Catholic Women - Annual Elite Repeat Clothing and Jewelry Sale... The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church's Community of Catholic Women will conduct the annual Elite Repeat Annual Clothing and Jewelry Sale on: Friday, February 2nd, Saturday, February 3rd and Sunday, February 4th from 9am -- 1pm each day. This fabulous event will be held in the parish hall located at 1401 West Country Club Blvd., Citrus Springs. Please join us and do some shopping. Bring a friend.

West Citrus Ladies of the Elks ANNUAL FASHION SHOW- "A Walk In Fashion"! Fashions & Accessories presented by: Janet of Sarasota Saturday, February 3, 2024. Doors open to shop @ 10:30 AM, West Citrus Elks #2693 located at 7890 W Grover Cleveland Blvd, Homosassa. Guests will have a chance to shop for clothes, everything from casual to dressy, accessories including jewelry and purses, enjoy lunch, see a fashion show and win a raffle basket or a door prize maybe even win the Money Tree to pay for all those fashions . The event starts at 10:30 a.m. to give people plenty of time to shop at Janet's 'pop-up' boutique. Guests will have lunch (served @ 12:00), before watching the fashion show -- followed by more shopping. Admission tickets are \$30, which includes lunch. To purchase a ticket, call at Edie Thompson @ 513 378-9382. Proceeds from the Show go to help the local charities that the Ladies of the Elks support. In 2003 the LOE donated over \$9000 to local charities here in Citrus County.

Do you have concerns about falling? Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER of BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls, including making changes to reduce fall risks and home and exercises to increase strength and balance. Next series will be held at Coastal Region Library at 8619 W Crystal St, Crystal River, FL on consecutive Mondays from 9:30am to 11:30am from 2/5/24-3/25/24. To register call Kathryn at 352-513-6083

The Citrus County Genealogical Society will meet February 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, 3474 W Southern St, Lecanto. Peggy Jude will present "Think you know the census - Think Again." Discover the untapped potential of the U.S. Federal Census in your genealogical research. This presentation delves into the art of effectively utilizing census records, uncovering the secrets hidden in plain sight. Are you struggling to locate ancestors in the census or wondering if you've missed crucial details? Guests are welcome to attend. For information call Mary Ann Machonkin 352-382-5515.

To have your free community event or event where the proceeds go to a local not for profit mentioned on the Community Board there is no cost. All submissions need to be received no later than the 18th of the month to ensure they will be published in the next edition. We do have to keep the mention to a 4-6 line maximum (approx-imately 90 words) to ensure we have room to list everyone's events. If your event mention does not meet these size requirements, then it will be edited. If your event is to support your private business and you are charging a fee, then please see page 4 for our advertising rates.

Sendusyour events via our website at office @peddlers-posteomor you can submit your event or linear littips://peddlers-posteom/community-boards/Assubmit



Citrus Sertoma-meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the Inverness Moose Lodge 2112 on 221 S Haid Terrace, Lecanto. Dinner at 5:30 - Meeting at 6:30pm Visitors and New Members are welcome.

LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE Every Monday Starting January 3rd, 2022 6PM till 9PM WHISPERING PINES PARK 1700 Forest Dr. Inverness

Cost \$5.00 p/p Western Wear Optional-NEW CLASS STARTING OCT 3, 2022

Springs Masonic Lodge No. 378 Meets the 3rd Tueday of each month at 7:30 pm at Springs Masonic Lodge located at 5030 S. Memorial

Dr., Homosassa, Fl. All Masons are welcome to join us for dinner at 6:30 pm. Snowbirds are always welcome.

The 1st & 3rd Tues of each month The Citrus Library Coping Connection offers Online demintia support groups hosted by Certified Dementia Practitioner Debbie Selsavage. The meeting is conducted through on-line, real-time video communication. The connection hub will be located at the Central Ridge Library at 425 W. Roosevelt Blvd in Beverly Hills. Participants will need to arrive at the Central Ridge Library by 12:50 p.m. on the day of the meeting which is from 1 pm to 3 pm. The program is free and available to anyone. For more information, call 352-746-6622 or 352-422-3663.

Celebrate Recovery at Hills Church, 2 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL. Every Monday Night at 6:00 For more information please call 410-353-7857 ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS COMMUNITY SUPPORT The Floral City Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group meets on the third Friday of every month in the Floral City Methodist Church on Marvin St. Meeting starts at 10:30am. There is no charge and all caregivers are welcome to attend with no pressure to speak. For more info. contact Helen Ciampi 352-341-2867 or Marcia Beasley at 352-726-7740 Hands on Woodturners meet on 3rd Wed. of each month at 7pm at Beverly Hills Lion Club 72 Civic Circle Beverly Hills Blvd Visitors are welcome, members are all levels of turnings A woodturner demonstration given by experienced craftsperson contact email: Howturners. com or call Denis Cap 352-489-4374

Com of call penis cap 552-489-4574

The New York Club meets every (3rd) Tues. of the month for lunch at The American Legion, 6585 W. GTL (Hwy.44 West). Doors open @ 11:30. Lunch price \$18 pp including tax & tip. Pick of 3 entrees, salad. rolls, ice tea, coffee and dessert. Dues are \$18 pp for the year Oct., 2023 thru May, 2024. Join us on our planned trips, enjoy our interesting speakers and have a great time dancing and singing at our special holiday parties! Call Marie @ 845-667-2900 OR EMAIL us @ NYClubCC@hotmail.com

The Homosassa River Garden Club invites the public to our membership meeting on Monday, November 20, 2023. Our Speaker is a Master

Gardener from University of Florida/Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences. We meet at First United Methodist Church on 8831 W Bradshaw, Homosassa on the 3rd Monday of each month. Please join us at 9:30 am for light refreshments and socializing. 10:00 am our speaker will give a presentation. At 11 am our Membership meeting begins. Open to the public. Please contact Ms. Lorry Davies for more information at 630-269-1096.

A GriefShare support group begins January 9th at the Hernando Church of the Nazarene, 2101 North Florida Ave. (Highway 41) Hernando on Mondays' from 10:00 to 12 noon this event will continue through April. All are Welcome. Call the church office at 352-726-6144 or Ruth Brincefield at 352-212-0570 for more information.

NEW BINGO GAMES at the Floral City Lions Club Community House located at. 8370 Orange Ave., Floral City. NEW payouts, NEW games, MORE games. Mondays from 12 to 2:30! Come join in the FUN! ... no bingo sept 11 but will resume on Sept 18th .. come out and have some fun .. Floral City Heritage Museum located at 8394 E Orange Ave. in Historic Downtown Floral city is open to the public Friday and Saturdays from 10 AM until 2 PM. Come taste a piece of "OLD FLORIDA" history and shop at our country store. Hope to see you there!
Citrus coin club meeting has moved to crystal river national guard armory 8551 w Venable st crystal river. Meetings are first Thursday

of the month at 7pm. All are welcome. Talk, shop, buy or sell coins.

The Woman's Club of Beverly Hills invites you to join them. Located at the Central Citrus Community Center, 2804 W. Marc Knighton Ct, Lecanto. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thurs. of the month at 1 pm with guest speakers and light refreshments. Our Lunch Bunch continues each month, different dates, times and locations. We hope you will be a part of our non-profit, community service organization. Need more information? all us at 203-915-7407. Ladies, hope to see you!

Crafters of Floral CityA casual and friendly group of knitters, crocheters, quilters, artists, jewelry makers and more dedicated to shar-

ing the love of a chosen craft and enjoying time together. Come join us on Tuesdays at 9:00am at the Floral City Baptist Church. 8545 Magnolia St. Floral City. \$2.00 WEEKLY For more information please call: 303 999 5022 or 352 228 9193

AMERICAN VETERANS (amvets) Post 89 meets the third Monday of each Month 6:30 pm at 1 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL. NATIONAL ORG est 1947. Membership open to veterans with DD214 honorable discharge and active duty military. Phone Commander Lou Ann Braglin 352-464-093. Do you or someone you know have Diabetes? Join our free monthly diabetes support group that is open to all! Led by Certified Diabetes Educators from the Citrus County Department of Health. Each Group focuses on a different topic with the opportunity to learn, share, get questions answered, and receive giveaways. There will also be small recipe tastings and guest speakers. The group meets the third Tuesday of every month from 9am to 10am at the IFAS Conference Room at 3650 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto. For more information, please email Kathryn.defranco@flhealth.gov.

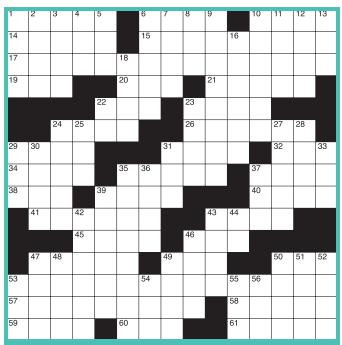
VFW POST 7122 located at 8191 S. Florida Ave, Floral City. MON 3pm Show Me card game *** TUES - 4-7PM - Taco Tuesday, 50/50 Raffle and other menu items *** WEDS - 4-7PM - Wings 'n Things and other menu items; 5-8PM Karaoke *** Every 1st& 3rd WEDS.MOVED IN JAN. TO 2ND AND 4TH WEDS. (JAN 10 and 24th) - 2-4PM - Craft Day at the Post - Focus on Valentine's Crafts *** Every 2nd THURS- 8-12PM - Garage Sale -JAN Sale - all glassware - 50% off! *** FRI. - 1-3 PM - Bingo; 4-7PM - Fish/Shrimp Dinners and other menu items; 5-8PM Karaoke; Red Shirt Friday (Remember Everyone Deployed) - Please wear a red shirt for discounted drinks on Fridays Come have fun and play games at the American Legion Post 58 located at 10730 S US Highway 41, Dunnellon every Thursday. Queen of

Hearts Raffle is 4:00-5:30. Prize is \$1733 and increases weekly. Winner paid by check. Tickets \$2.00 BINGO begins at 6:00. Winners paid in cash. Refreshments available. 10730 S US Highway 41, Dunnellon

Do you or someone you know have diabetes? Join our free monthly diabetes supporty group that is open to all! Each group focuses on a different topic with guest speakers, recipe tastings, and small giveaways. Group meets the 3rd tuesday of every month from 9am to 10am at 3650 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL For more information call Kathryn 352-513-6083

The Floral City American Legion(Hubert Suber) Post 225 is located at 6535 S Withlapopka Dr, Floral City, FL 34436. We meet the 3rd

(third) Thursday each month at 1:00 PM. All veterans are welcome and invited to attend. For further info call: Commander Fred Daniels @ 352-422-2449.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Become less intense
- 6. Variety of pear
- 10. Religion native to China
- 14. Type of tooth
- 15. Fitted out
- 17. Make every effort
- 19. Autonomic nervous system
- 20. Complete
- 21. Alternate name
- 22. River in France and Belgium 13. Antidiuretic hormone
- 23. Miami's mascot is one
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Most cognizant of reality
- 29. Broad volcanic crater
- 31. Canadian surname
- 32. Satisfaction
- 34. Traitorous Greek mythological prince
- 35. Collide
- 37. Immune response
- 38. Feline
- 39. High opinion of one's own appearance
- 40. Thin strip to align parts
- 41. Containers
- 43. Convicted American spy
- 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. I.M.__, architect
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal
- 58. Dutch and German surname
- 59. Square measures
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Degrade someone

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Siberian river
- 2. Blessing

- 3. Substitutes (abbr.)
- 4. Principle underlying the universe
- 5. Work unit
- 6. Yellow edible fruits
- 7. Gemstone
- 8. A place ships dock (abbr.)
- 9. Evergreen tropical tree 10. Reality TV star Richards
- 11. Nonflowering aquatic plant
- 12. Stakes
- 16. Make warm again
- 18. Light beams
- 22. Lethal dose
- 23. Terrorist group
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. Naturally occurring solid
- 27. German surname meaning "man from Saxony"
- 28. Popular cuisine
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Type of horse
- 31. __ Diego
- 33. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 35. Most shrewd
- 36. It may be for shopping
- 37. Midway between south and S.W.
- 39. A stock of foods
- 42. The bindings of books
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Megabyte
- 46. Sammy __, songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Clare Booth __, American writer
- 49. Sun or solar disk
- 50. Popular type of bread
- 51. Transfers of money (abbr.)
- 52. Association of engineering professionals
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. City
- 55. Niger-Congo branch of languages
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

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CF Hardware

How to safely wipe out an old computer

The idea of losing all personal data on a computer, phone or tablet may send a person into a panic. How many times has a drive failed or a computer crashed and a person has worried that all of their essential files were lost forever? But there are times when it could be essential to clear data from a hard drive. That includes before selling the device, discarding it or giving it away.

NordVPN says someone can access sensitive information many think is gone forever after deletion, but actually could still be stored in the hard drive. Short of removing the hard drive, which would necessitate a new owner putting in a new hard drive, devices will have to be wiped clean to ensure sensitive information is not vulnerable. Devices can be wiped completely when they are changing hands. Consumer Reports says this is done by performing a "factory reset." This technically wipes the drive clean of personal data. Before initiating a factory reset, it's important to back up any important data onto the cloud or an external hard drive. Depending on the operating system, hard drive type and device, the instructions for wiping a hard drive will vary. It's best to do a search online or ask a technology expert about the most expeditious way to restore factory settings. Even still, there are some issues when wiping a drive that may prove problematic.

If a person recently purchased a computer, it likely has a solid-state drive. SSDs are faster and more stable than older, mechanical hard drives and use flash memory. That means securely deleting files is very hard. This is why Wirecutter suggests encrypting the

drive, which uses a mathematical process to mix up the data using a key that only the device owner has. Without the key, files on the drive will look like gibberish if someone successfully recovers them. Encrypting an SSD computer is recommended even if one has no intention of selling or trading it later. Chromebooks usually use SSD but Google enables encryption by default. Chromebook users can skip this step when resetting. Again, encryption varies based on the OS, so it's best to study the right way to do so. Files do not automatically erase just because they are thrown in the trash. Before selling or donating a device, a hard drive wipe or encryption is recommended.





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Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

2	1		10
	6	4	10
9	3		20
11	10	19	•

8	8	6
4	9	0
L	ı	7

noitulol

THIS DAY IN... 5 HISTORY

- 1911: KAPPA ALPHA PSI, THE WORLD'S THIRD-OLDEST AND LARGEST BLACK FRATERNITY, IS FOUNDED.
- 1944: THE DAILY MAIL BECOMES THE FIRST MAJOR LONDON NEWS-PAPER TO BE PUBLISHED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.
- 1972: U.S. PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON ANNOUNCES THE SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM.

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

TOH UPSO

Anos toH : YowenA



to keep food just below boiling when cooking or heating it



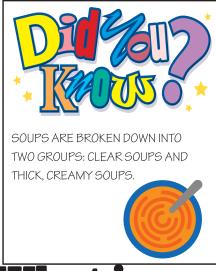
ENGLISH: Soup

SPANISH: Sopa

ITALIAN: Minestra

FRENCH: Soupe

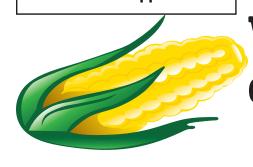
GERMAN: Suppe





What is corn's favorite day of the year?







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A teacher gave a balloon to every student, who had to inflate it, write their name on it and throw it in the hallway. The teacher then mixed all the balloons. The students were then given 5 minutes to find their own balloon. Despite a hectic search, no one found their baloon.

At that point, the teacher told the students to take the first balloon that they found and hand it to the person whose name was written on it. Within 5 minutes, everyone had their own balloon. The teacher said to the students: " these balloons are like happiness. We will never find it if everyone is looking for their own, but if we care about other people's happiness, we'll find ours too.'

-Unknown





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RECENTLY GOT FIRED FROM MY JOB DELIVERING PAMPLETS ON "THE ART OF SILENT FARTING". EVERYTHING WAS GOING GREAT UNTIL I LET ONE RIP.





THE COLUMN AND SET OF THE COLUMN AND SET OF





WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF RISKY? ATTEMPTING TO DO A ONE CHEEK SNEAK WHEN YOU ALREADY HAD DIARRHEA EARLIER THE SAME DAY.

JANUARY DAYS PAST

Jan. 1st. 1877 Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India.

Jan. 2nd. 1960 in Washington, D.C. Senator John F. Kennedy announced his intention to seek the Democratic presidential nomination.

Jan. 3rd. 1959 Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state. With a land mass almost one-fifth the size of the lower 48 states together.

Jan. 4th. 1790 President George Washington delivered the first State Of The Union Address. Jan. 5th. 1972 president Richard M. Nixon signs a \$5.5B over 6 years to build and test a space shuttle.



Jan. 6th. 1975 the television game show "Wheel of Fortune" premieres.

Jan. 7th. 1610 Astronomer Galileo Galilei discovers four of Jupiter's moons.

Jan. 8th. 1964 Present Lyndon Johnson declared War on Poverty during his State of the Union message before Congress.

Jan. 9th. 1951 The United Nations opens its headquarters in New York City.

Jan. 10th. 1863 The world's first underground passenger railway system opens in London, England.

Jan. 11th. 1973 American League Baseball adopts the "Designated Hitter" rule.

Jan. 12th. 1966 Batman debuts on tv, and in 1971 the television comedy "All In The Family " premieres.

<u>Jan. 13th. 1943 Ge</u>rmany's Adolf Hitler declares "Total War" against the Allies.



Jan. 14th. 1784 the United States of America ratifies a treaty with England ending the Revolutionary war.

Jan. 15th. 1967 Green Bay beats Kansas City in the first NFL Super Bowl in Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Jan. 16th. 1991 Operation Desert Storm begins to oust Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces

from Kuwait.

Jan. 17th. 1873 Andrew Hallikie receives a patent for a cable car system in San Francisco, which began service in 1873.

Jan. 18th. 1778 Captain James Cook discovers the Hawaiian Islands.

Jan. 19th. 1883 The first electrical lighting system using overhead wires was constructed by Thomas Edison.





Jan. 20th. 1964 The Beatles released "Meet the Beatles", their first album to the U.S. sparking a new "England invasion".

Jan. 21st. 1915 The first Kiwanis club is formed in Detroit.

Jan. 22nd. 1901 Queen Victoria of England passes away, after reigning for 64 years.

Jan. 23rd. 1556 The deadliest earthquake In history strikes Shansi, China, killing 830,000 people.

Jan. 24th. 1935 Beer was first packaged and sold in cans.

Jan. 25th. 1924 The first Winter Olympic Games begin in Chamonix, France.

Jan. 26th. 1875 The Dental Drill was patented. Now open your mouth and say "AHHH".

Jan. 27th. 1945 The Russians liberate Auschwitz in WWII.



Jan. 28th. 1986 U.S. space shuttle Challenger explodes 72 seconds after liftoff. Killing all seven crew members.

Jan. 29th. 1900 Baseball's American League is founded.

Jan. 30th. 1649 King Charles I of England was beheaded for treason by order of Parliament under the direction of Oliver Cromwell.

Jan. 31st. 1865 U.S. House of Representatives approves a constitutional amendment abolishing slavery.







Michele (Spring) Visit me at Frank & Co Hair Salon! 2780 N Florida Ave. Hernando, Florida 321-607-2470

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A man enters a barber shop for a shave. While the barber is foaming him up, he mentions the problems he has getting a close shave around the cheeks.

"I have just the thing," says the barber taking a small wooden ball from a nearby drawer. "Just place this between your cheek and gum."

The client places the ball in his mouth and the barber proceeds with the closest shave the man has ever experienced.

After a few strokes the client asks in garbled speech.

"And what if I swallow it?"

"No problem," says the barber. "Just bring it back tomorrow like everyone else does."



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Chase away chills (and sniffles) with soup

Soup is a staple anytime the weather is chilly or when a person feels like they are coming down with a cold. The warm, therapeutic effects of a delicious bowl of soup are hard to dismiss, and may sometimes work as well as the best medicines available.

While zucchini may be known as a summer vegetable, this popular squash is at home in a tasty soup any time of year. Top with giant, cheesy croutons for a filling and scrumptious crowd-pleaser.

This recipe for "Zucchini Soup with Cheddar Rusks" from "The Culinary Institute of America Book of Soups" (Lebhar-Friedman Books) by The Culinary Institute of America makes for a warming winter meal.

Zucchini Soup with Cheddar Rusks-Makes 8 servings

- bacon strips, minced
- onions, diced (about 2 1/2 cups)
- 4 4 garlic cloves, minced (about 2 teaspoons)
- medium zucchini, diced (7 to 8 cups)
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 4 plum tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped,
- (about 1 cup)
- 1/2 cup tomato puree
- tablespoons tarragon or cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh basil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, or to taste
- cheddar rusks (see below)

Cook the bacon in a soup pot over medium heat until the fat is released and the bacon bits are crisp, 6 to 8 minutes. Add the onions and garlic. Cook, stirring frequently, until the onions are a light golden brown, 8 to 10 minutes.

Add the zucchini, cover the pot and cook until the zucchini starts to become translucent, about 5 minutes.

Add the broth, tomatoes, tomato puree, and vinegar. Bring the soup to a simmer and cook until the vegetables are very tender and the soup has developed a good flavor, 15 to 20 minutes. Add the basil to the soup, and season with salt and pepper. Serve in heated bowls, garnished with cheddar rusks.

Cheddar Rusks-Makes 8

8 slices French or Italian bread (1/2-inch thick)

cup grated cheddar cheese

Toast the bread until golden brown on both sides. Preheat the broiler. Scatter the cheese evenly over the toasted bread and broil until the cheese bubbles and begins to brown.









211 S. Apopka Ave. Inverness, FL 34452

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General Interest

Announcements

Regal Railways Presents Christmas Train Show& Sale

Saturday January 20, 2024

Adults \$6.00 children under 12 free Hours 9-2

Vendors on hand selling model trains of all gauges and accessories. Food Trucks on the grounds for Lunch.

Hernando County Fairgrounds

6436 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34601 For information or want to be a vendor contact Joe 727-244-1341

What's a Saturday afternoon without a Prarie home Companion, Garrison Keillor and those powder milk biscuits? Have 100 cassette tapes, going on CD's. full Shows and best of music. Bring a disc and join the party. Pick a little yourself? 352-472-6872

Free Offers

DEAD OR ALIVE FREE Removal of stoves, refrigerators, microwaves, washers & dryers, freezers. Call to schedule free pickup 352-410-9273.

Wanted to Buy

BUYING Comic book collections. Looking to purchase Pre-1970's or 70's and older collections Call or Text 813-359-7281

Wanted: golf clubs. Hobbyist will buy old wooden shafted golf clubs and other old golf items. Call Frank, 352-683-4807. Landline

CASH For Cars and Trucks, running or not, Free Towing. 352-259-2020.

Springfield Armory

Rifle Wanted: I want to buy a Springfield Armory Model AA9625 Socom 16 rifle, OD Green, in excellent condition.3524410645

"Wanted" Vintage and Antique Ambrotypes, Daguerreotypes and other Antiques!! Call or Text 813-359-7281

Buying U. S. Dimes, Quarters, Half Dollars and Dollars dated 1964 and before. 352-795-3842. leave message & number.

ATV any year or make. Fair condition. Please call 352-489-1639 ask for Ralph.

Up to \$500 CASH for Cars or Trucks, Free Towing, Dead or Alive. Steve 352-771-6191.



Wanted Vintage Antique Porcelain Signs & Thermometers Gas Oil Soda Cigar Tobacco Automotive Call or Text Jon 813-359-7281



"Wanted" Civil War & World War 1 & 2 Swords, Knives, Helmets etc. Antique Slot Machines & Vintage Coin Op Rides & Railroad Items. Boulle Clocks & Gas Oil Globes. Vintage Carnival Items and Indian Statues. Please call or text 813-359-7281 Jon.

Marlin Rifle Wanted: I want to purchase a 1895 Marlin 45/70 CB "Cowboy" model lever action rifle. Pre -safety, JM stamped octagon barrel, in very good to excellent condition, 3524410645

Wanted: Cars and Trucks, Dead or Alive. No title required. Cash paid at pick up. Smitty's Auto in Homosassa. Family owned salvage yard. 352-628-9118 / 352-422-0227.

Records Wanted: 45rpm,78rpm and Albums; 1940's to early 1970's. Rock n Roll, Doo-Wop, Blues, Jazz, Rocka-billy,etc. No pop, big band or Classical. Give me a call. BOB 3525564185

HELP WANTED

ELECTRICIAN WANTED, looking for good, reliable, reasonable electrician. Hernando, citrus county. Call 516-656-9653

Sent from my iPhone

PAINTER WANTED, must be reliable, reasonable and good. Hernando, citrus county

Call 516-656-9653

Misc. for Sale

Antiques & Collectibles

LICENSE PLATES LARGE SELECTION, GOOD CONDITION . PRICES NEGOTIA-BLE. PHONE 352 2709183

MINNESOTA TWINS 1991 World Series MLB Gen. Merch. Sweatshirt XL NEW with all Certification Tags. never worn or touched. 100% Perfect! \$50.00. 352-270-8218. Bev. Hills.

Hummingbird collection, approx 175 figurines and two large cabinets. Call 352-422-5731 for info / pictures.

Appliances

GETTING NEW AP-PLIANCES? DON'T Page 20 - Peddler's Post

let the retail delivery guys take your appliances away for free! Call us instead. Whirlpool/Kenmore: washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, upright freezers, dishwashers, above the stove microwaves. Along with some other brands. We pick up. Call 352-410-9273.

Clothing

Men's Bar Habour medium weight !00% leather (soft) jacket Size LG (44-46) New W/O tags Retail \$99.00 sacrafice \$25.00. 352-270-8218. Bev. Hills. Great Gift Idea!

Tampa Bay Rays MLB Jersey Size LG. .Included is tri-color sun visor. Only \$30.00 for both. Also have Boston Red Sox jersey ,lg.. \$25.00. All mint cond. 352-270-8218. Bev. Hills

Furniture

Glass Lamps Matching pair. Look like crystal. They would look good in any décor. \$20.00 for both. Call Ruth 352-382-1000 (Picture available)

Lazy Boy Sofa- Chair on each end. \$475 352-307-5474

Hobbies

1905 vintage sewing machine with cabinet. Good condition appraised at \$500 will sell \$200 obo727/424-6852

Stained Glass Classes, Tues. & Wed. 10-12:30 at Touch of Glass by Susan, Floral City. Supplies/Tools. 352-726-1765.

Hunting & Fishing Trading Post we buy and sell guns and ammo, sporting goods, and valuables. Long Trading Post Hwy 41 Hernando 352-341-1735 2820 N. Florida Ave.

Lawn & Garden

Milwaukee 18 voltweed eater \$200. 352-257-7084

T2400 craftsman riding mower 46in cut excellent condition \$600 352-503-2489. LT2000 craftsman riding mower 42in cut runs cuts great \$550 352-503-2489

Cristmas Cactus- Different colors. \$10 and up. 352-307-5474

Medical & Health

LARGE EXERCISE MACHINE BOWFLEX POWER PRO - good for the work out home (chest and shoulder exercise/ back and arm exercise and legs exercise) Include: owner manual fitness guide plus assembly manual. \$38.00 O.B.O. phone: 352 270 9183

Drive Mobility Scooter Elec, Like New, Portable \$650. 585-690-0449

Pets & Supplies

Bird cages for sale: One cage at 17.5 inches by 13 inch by 23 inches. Two cages at 22 " by 11" by 16". \$30 each or best offer. Good condition. One flight cage: 55" by 17.5" by 30" on wheels is \$125 which includes toys, or best offer. All cages Ideal for parakeets or smaller birds. One box of assorted bird toys \$10. 352-219-0398

For sale one Bird cage 17x13x23" two 22x11x16 \$30 each

obo one flight cage on wheels 55x17.5x30 \$100 352-219-0398

Tools & Machinery

air compressor...80 gallon tank \$175.00 bob citrus county 352-726-6460

lindig ft30 soil shredder...portable \$17,000 bob citrus county 352-726-6460

reed rd40b... portable 985 hours extra screen \$35,000 bob citrus county 352-726-6460

Full size table Saw. \$200 OBO-352-257-7084

Tractors & heavy Equipment

2015- John Deer Tractor 1025R- 4 wheel drive- 180 hrs. 60" Cutting Deck. Front Loader H.D. Forklift- trench digger- spreader- xtra weights- automatic on-off cutting deck + extras and update. John- 727-393-4332

Miscellaneous

12 table settings of Lyngby Scandinavian porcelain dinner ware. Coffee pot, sugar bowl, and other table pieces incl. Will consider splitting into two, 6 piece settings, but only one will have the ancillary pieces. Text 352-270-5004 if interested. \$500.00 for 12 piece set, \$350 for split set.

ONE ARM BANDIT MACHINE / RENO CASSINO NEVADA Model # B4936DFIW 5/94 International game technologie Size: H:53" W:17" L22".Machine light-up only\$ 85.00 O.B.O Phone 352 270 9183

Horse Figurine Vintage White Porcelain Horses Figurine. 9.8" Made in West Germany #3232. Excellent condition. Asking \$95.00. Listed on

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eBay for \$395.00. Call Ruth 352-382-1000. (Picture available)

Immitation Tiger Rug. Could use as a wall hanging or as a throw over the back of your sofa. Asking \$50 Call Ruth 352-382-1000 (Picture available)

LARGE PRIVATE BOOK COLLEC-TION. Soft cover, hard cover, some old great condition. VHS TAPES AND DVD"S, LP plus old records 78. FROM STATE SALE. SALE ALL OR PART. LOW PRICE. NEGOTIABLE Phone 352 270 9183

Burn Barrels, \$20 ea. Hernando. 352-302-2210.

Wall Art This is not a picture. It is gold in color and shaped like a Bonsi Tree. It is from Syroco, a company that did house parties back in the 70's.. Very light weight. 33' high, 48' wide. \$20.00 Call Ruth 352-382-1000 (Picture available)

Oreintal Vase Filled with composition and flowers. Quite heavy. Will not blow away in a storm if you use it for an entrance way or could be gorgeous as room décor. 24" tall, 40"to top of the flowers. \$75.00 Call Ruth 352-382-1000 (Picture available)

2 plastic barrels \$20 . 352-257-7084

Queen size air bed with pump good condition only used once \$20 727/424-6852 Cambridge Gel Fireplace 46 in high 4ft wide w/case gel fluel, \$50.00 make offer. 352-423-1004

HAMMOCKS: Two brand new in bags nylon heavy duty double Hammocks,never opened or used. \$20.00 each or both for \$35.00. 352-270-8218. Bey. Hills.

Guns and Ammo

Taurus revolver stainless 6 shot 2 in. bbl. 327 Fed Mag. comes with soft case & some ammo and no issues. Good CCW. \$415.00 I can text photos. 352-949-5781

16 gauge #4 shot box of 25 \$15; S&W .32 long box of 50 \$30; .22TCM9R 3 boxes of 50 \$45 each 352-341-1831 lv msg

PLEASE NOTE: Peddler's Post is not affiliated with the purchase or sale of any firearms and/or ammunition listed in this publication for sale. Anyone posting an ad here is taking full responsibility to transact following state law.

two pistols: Hi-Point model C, 9mm and a .45 cal, \$200 cash each, FI Dr Lic, Inverness 352-341-1831 lv msg Trading Post we buy and sell guns and amm0, sporting goods, gold, and valuables. Long Trading Post Hwy 41 Hernando 352-341-1735 2820 N. Florida Ave

FIREARMS WANT-ED. Local licensed dealer looking for collections. Honest and fair cash offers. Veteran owner will come to you. 727-383-2162.

Automotive

Cars

1991 VW Cabriolet, Convertible Auto Florida Title, Great Condition \$7500.585-690-0449

1937 Ford, 4 door convertible. Florida title, all original. Will run. New gas tank, Many new parts. \$10,000. 352 200 0724 or 352

796 4278. Wanted: Cars and

Trucks, Dead or Alive.
No title required.
Cash paid at pick
up. Smitty's Auto in
Homosassa. Family
owned salvage yard.
352-628-9118 / 352422-0227.

Up to \$500 CASH for Cars or Trucks, Free Towing, Dead or Alive. Steve 352-771-6191.

CASH For Cars and

Trucks, running or not, Free Towing. 352-259-2020.

Trucks

91 f350... 7.3 diesel 5 speed \$4,000 bob citrus county 352-726-6460

f350...\$4,000bob citrus county 352-726-6460

Vans

2003 Ford Windstar Van-Handicapped equipped. Good condition. Everything in good working order such as ac, heat, etc. Only 65,000 miles. Blue color. Located in Inverness, Fl. Just past the courthouse. Please, call Kevin at 352-613-1687 leave a message.

Parts & Accessories

DIA Plat Toolbox for full size pick-up. \$100 OBO. 352-257-7084

Upgraded suspension system for a 1198 Toyota Tacoma SR5. Offer also includes 'pro Comp" stainless brake hoses. Brand New. \$80 fixed 352-419-7316

Auto/Wheels: Western brand turbine aluminum mag wheels for sale. 1970's Vintage wheels, 4-Wheels available, 14" X 4-1/2 bolt pattern. Very good condition. \$150.00 for all. Pho-

tos available upon request.

Box of various new and used spare parts from Austin Healey 3000 and MGA. New and used itemschrome bumper overiders-window seals & mechanisms, BSF and BSW nuts and bolts. come and view \$50 fixed 352-419-7316

Auto/Wheels: Western brand turbine aluminum mag wheels for sale. 1970's Vintage wheels, 4-Wheels available, 14" X 4-1/2 bolt pattern. Very good condition. \$150.00 for all. Photos available upon request. 35244 10645

Motorcycles & ATVs

Vintage CUSHMAN three wheel, all original paint, runs and drives good. \$2500 OBO. Call 727-796-4147. Can be seen in Hernando on Pioneer Ter.

I must sell my lovely 2010 Triumph T100 Bonneville. Fitted with Norton style reverse cone mega exhaust pipes, O.G pipes also included. 4300 miles. Come and view. \$4500. 352-419-7316

ATV side by side EFI 200,EX Trailmaster, 50 miles, new winch, seats two. \$7500 OBO Call 727-796-4147. Can be seen in Hernando on Pioneer Ter.

Recreational Vehicles

For sale 2003 Pace arrow motorhome 37 ft two slides washer and dryer Dumbledore refrigerator generator less than 2,000 miles on brand new tires must sell wife passed away asking 35,000 or best offer contact Bill or Eric at 1 352-496-7479 if you have any questions about this we will be happy to answer them when you call us thank you

Golf Carts

Club Car golf cart battery charger for a 2014 model and newer \$180. 203-525-1520

Boats

Boats for Sale

Monark 20 foot pontoon boat2001,2008 60 hp Mercury 4 stroke,with trailer, \$11,000. 352 860 1915

2018 Lexington Pontoon Boat 22' new condition. 90 HP Suzuki, 4 stroke, low hours with tailor. \$21,500- 585-690-0449

Coleman 17 foot canoe,good condition, \$250.00- 352 860 1915

2 10FT Kayaks. \$175 each. One 12 ft clear



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Claim/Representation Letters

Private Elderly Companion Care

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bottom kayaks \$300 352-257-7084

Real Estate

Cemetery Lots

Two side by side cemetery plots for sale by owner. Located at Fountains Memorial Park in Homosassa, FI. This is a prime location only one hundred feet from entrance. \$2,500.00 for both. Phone number is 352-423-4345.

Commercial Property-For Sale



200-Great investment, 1+- ACRE, Office Bld., 2 Houses, 1 Duplex, 1 Mobile Home, corner parcel, Central Water, Sewer Available, 'Top of the Hill' great exposure-\$500,000.00- Call A.W. 'Skip' Craven 352-464-1515 Broker/Owner, Craven Realty, Inc. (Photo Attached)

Homes For Sale



Looking to downsize? Maybe looking for a great place to spend the winter or weekends? Don't just move anywhere, move near the lake. This adorable cottage has a view of the Lake in Hernando. Totally redone, it shines!! New roof, new siding and new HVAC. Large front glassed in porch. There is also a large concrete pad for you to park all the toys, big enough for your camper or motor home, and there is even a power there. Priced Right \$199,900,00 Call RE-ALTOR Michele Rose 352-212-5097 Craven Realty, Inc.

REDUCED! Floral City, Tarawood 55+ Community, HOA, 10458 S Drew Bryant Circle, furnished 3/2/2 w/3984 total sq ft, eat-in kitchen, electric fireplace, laundry room, Florida Room, public water & sewer, clubhouse, community pool, close to Floral Park & Withlacoochee State Trail, \$259,000, Inverness Horizon



Waterfront, Waterfront, Waterfront!!!!! NEW ROOF IN 2022! The view from this waterfront home is

wonderful! There are two bedrooms, two baths, living room, kitchen, room off kitchen for laundry and mudroom. 2 bonus rooms, screen room over looking lake which does need to be re screened, workshop, well in shed, room for water system, newer windows and doors, new roof over and deck boards on dock. Bring your water toys. RE-DUCED \$299,900.00 Call REALTOR Stacey Barnes 352-422-2200 Craven Realty. Inc. #826820

2 Cabins on almost one acre fully furnished in Levy County near Inglis, Fla.\$65,000- 352-220-4158



Waterfront- Amazing views of the lake in Hernando from the new dock, beautifully landscaped yard and vinvl windowed all season porch. This lovely double wide mobile doesn't look or feel like a manufactured home with stucco outside, drvwall inside, tounge in groove ceiling, garage and double pane windows. New appliances in this huge remodeled kitchen. Master bedroom was extended and a large walk in closet added. Very well insulated

with average electric bills of approx. \$171 a month. There is even a shop with AC. Reduced to \$269,900. For Showing & Information call REALTOR Michele Rose 352-212-5097, Craven Realty, Inc.

Concrete block cottage setting on six(6) lots, wooded. \$169,000. Located at 2071 W.Dyer Lane, Lecanto FI 34461 Contact Kevin Nanertz at 352-770-3614 for more information.

Inverness, Fl. 3418S. Florida Ave, #26: Fort. Cooper Mobile 55+Community, well preserved, furnished. 1800sq. ft.roof covers 14X60 2/2mobile, 2 large front and back porches, carport, shed. Lot rent \$365./month, incl water/sewer/trash. \$51,000. TEXT for photos. 352-422-0217



Lakefront Beauty-Reduced Too!! Talk about a view! Relax outside in the screened in porch or out on the deck 2 BR 2 Bath Split plan with both a living room and family room both with a waterfront view. Master bedroom has attached office and large roomy bath with both a tub and shower. Dock on the

lake for all your fishing needs and a fenced yard for your favorite pet. Call to schedule your viewing today before it is too late. Priced Right-Now ONIy \$450,000.00. Over 2100 Sq. Ft. of Liv Area. Call REALTOR Michele Rose to view-352-212-5097. Craven Realty, Inc.

Vacant Land

Numerous Vacant land parcels 1+- Acre available- Call REAL-TOR Michele Rose, Craven Realty, Inc. 352-212-5097.



Lakefront Home Site (Site Built Only)-Hernando Pool-'Willola Heights Area' Fenced on 3 sides-Seawall-Beautiful building lot-Survey on file-Buyer/Buyers Agent to confirm Lot meets all building requirements, septic set backs, etc., Paved on County Road-Nice Homes Only area-Come take a Look Today!! Not many left. \$125,000.00 Call Craven Realty, Inc. 352-726-1515 #826853

Services

General

The Floral City Lions Club rents out the Community House(kitchen included) located at 8370 E. Orange Ave, Floral City at prices you can not beat.\$100 for 501c and \$175 plus tax for private rental. Schedule with us for your next event. For more details call 352-302-6506

Handyman

Lawn Services, Handyman, Remove & replace doors & windows, drywall repair, junk removal, garage clean out, pressure washing. Call Dave Ellis 352-302-1921

Handyman Services, all types of work, flooring installation & repairs, pressure washing, lawn-care, painting & more . 352-628-0913.

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Signs a computer may need some extra attention or require replacement

Working professionals know that few things can be as frustrating as a malfunctioning computer. A computer that's not working properly can interrupt work flow, lead to lost man hours and make it hard to get much done.

Whether it's a spinning color wheel or some other familiar indicator that a computer is not working at peak capacity, there are some telltale signs that a device needs some extra attention.

- Frequent (often frustrating) glitches: Glitches are a common indicator that something is wrong with a computer. Glitch es may make a computer freeze or crash. The latter occurs when the computer screen suddenly goes blank and the device reboots without prompting. In such instances, work may be lost and it may take a manual restart after the reboot to successfully open and use programs again.
- Error messages: Frequent error messages are another indicator that a computer requires some extra attention.
 These messages may appear suddenly, even when using applications that have been running for some time.
- Noise: When working smoothly, computers do not make much noise. However, when parts in the device have begun to malfunction, users may hear noises. One of the more common noises is a loud system fan. When this occurs, users can hear the fan produce a noise that makes it sound as though it's overexerting itself.
- ~ Sluggishness: Much like their human users, computers can exhibit signs of sluggishness when they feel a little over whelmed. If a computer is sluggish, chances are its hard drive is overwhelmed and running out of room. Moving large files and folders to an external hard drive and then deleting them from the computer's hard drive can help a computer perform without the sluggishness.

Some of these problems can be addressed without replacing the computer. For example, a noisy fan may just need to be replaced. And installing some extra memory can improve performance when a computer is working slowly. However, persistent glitches and frequent error messages may indicate it's time to replace a computer. Professionals are urged to speak with their counterparts in IT to remedy any computer issues that are interrupting workflow and making it hard to get work done on time.



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CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to computers.

Each number corresponds to a letter.

(Hint: 1 = E)

A. 20 11 5 11

Clue: Information

B. 14 1 14 15 4 13

Clue: Storage capacity

C. 16 10 12 1 22

Clue: Containers for storing information

D. 22 1 4 17 1 4

Clue: Provides service to another computer

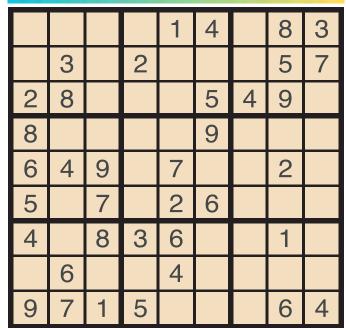




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Level: Beginner

Martin Luther King, Jr. and other notable civil rights activists

Each January, millions of individuals across the United States and even beyond the nation's borders pause to reflect on the contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr. Born in Atlanta on January 15, 1929, King's life was tragically cut short in 1968, when he was assassinated in Memphis.

Though King's life was short, his impact was enormous. Ordained a pastor at the tender age of 19 in 1948, King became an influential civil rights leader who was named president of the Montgomery Improvement Association in 1955 and chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957. King was a noted writer and orator, and his "Letter From Birmingham Jail," written in 1963 in response to criticisms of efforts to combat segregation in Alabama, and "I Have a Dream" speech delivered during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom continue to inspire millions more than half a century later.

In 1964, King received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway, capping off a year that began with his being named Time magazine's "Man of the Year" in January. King was shot and killed on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis less than four years after he received the Nobel Prize, but his impact continues to be felt and inspire generations of individuals. As the nation celebrates the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr. this January, individuals also can take time to consider the contributions of other influential advocates for civil rights.

- ~ Bayard Rustin: The subject of the critically acclaimed 2023 biopic "Rustin," Bayard Rustin was a contemporary of Martin Luther King, Jr. who played an integral role in the March on Washington. Rustin was a homosexual and fought for others even while forced to keep parts of his own life in the shadows, as homosexuality was criminalized for much of his life. Rustin maintained a commit ment to advocacy throughout his life, as evidenced by his public advocacy for gay rights in the 1980s.
- ~ Fannie Lou Hamer: Born into poverty in Mississippi in 1919, Fannie Lou Hamer became an outspoken advocate for civil rights in the

1960s. A survivor of police brutality after she and fellow activists were taken into police custody after entering a Mississippi cafe where they were refused service in 1963, Hamer also played an influential role in the women's rights movement and encouraged and inspired many African Americans in her home state to become registered voters.

John Lewis: The late John Lewis served in the United States House of Representatives from 1987 until his death in 2020. Lewis was born into extreme poverty in Alabama in 1940 but became a widely respected and influential advocate for civil rights. Inspired after hearing a radio address by King in 1955, Lewis ultimately participated in many of the more notable civil rights demonstrations in the 1960s, including the Nashville sit-ins, the Freedom Rides and the March on Washington.









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Please submit your answers online at https://peddlers-post.com/monthly-contest or mail in your answers on a seperate piece of paper to PO BOX 619, Floral Clity, FL. 34436 for your chance to win a Peddler's Post T-Shirt.

* Up to 3 winners each month ** The first three players to submit all the correct answers wins! *** Must be willing to meet at a location within our distribution area**** Must be willing to allow us to hand deliver/ meet you somewhere for delivery of your T-shirt; We are wanting to take a picture of you with it to be published in the following month's paper, on our social media platforms, and on our website****



WINNER

Meet our December Peddler's Post T-shirt winner Mike Scofield! Mike is a O.G born in Tampa, Florida who currently resides in Bushnell and runs a small locksmith business (you can find him on page 14 or 15 each month). Prior to becoming a local locksmith for Central Florida, he worked for American Airlines for 25 years as a freight service clerk. He has some great stories from those times, if you run into him ask him how he got the nickname "Mad Mike Scofield" (said in my best "Mean Gene Okerlund voice).

Mike can be found enjoying his free time going to local restaurants like The Diner or Dillon's Cinnamon Sticks Restaurant & Bakery, taking a walk on the Withlacoochee State Trail, and attending local events and parades.

When we asked Mike what he likes about the Peddler's Post he stated, "THE WHOLE THING, the stories, the puzzles and all the local events."

We met up at Tony's Auto Clinic II because that is the first place that Mike picked up the Peddler's Post just before becoming an advertiser himself. Tony and Mike are great guys, and we are happy to call them both not only advertisers but also our friends! Making clients into friends has been one of the many blessings that had come with operating the Peddler's Post. Thanks for playing Mike, we hope you enjoy your new t-shirt and thank you for being a valuable part of the Peddler's Post! We appreciate you!



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The link between sleep and mental health

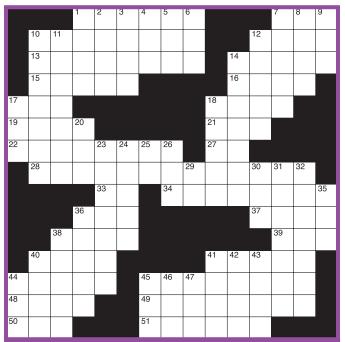
Sufficient sleep is often an unsung hero of overall health. When people gets enough sleep, their bodies are in better position to fend off illness and the rest ensures they have enough energy to tackle whatever challenges they confront.

The American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the Sleep Research Society jointly recommend that adults get at least seven hours of sleep per night. A good night's sleep is often discussed in terms of how it can affect physical health, but adequate rest also can have a profound impact on mental health. Sleep and mental health are intertwined, and the link between the two may be even more significant than was once believed.

- ~ Sleep and depression: The Sleep Foundation notes that sleeping issues have historically been seen as a byproduct of depression.
 Indeed, the National Center for Biotechnology Information indicates that roughly three in four individuals with depression exhibit
 symptoms of insomnia. However, the Sleep Foundation reports that growing evidence now indicates poor sleep may induce depression.
- Sleep and anxiety disorders: Data from the National Institutes of Health indicates that one in five adults are affected by an anxiety disorder. The Mayo Clinic reports that feelings of nervousness and fear are hallmarks of anxiety disorders, and such feelings can make it hard to fall asleep. However, a 2013 study published in the journal Neuroscience found that poor sleep can activate anxiety. In addition, the Sleep Foundation reports that chronic insomnia may be a predisposing trait among individuals who eventually develop anxiety disorders.
- Sleep and bipolar disorder: A 2015 study published in the journal Sleep Medicine Clinics found a strong association between sleep
 disturbances and symptom worsening in bipolar disorder. The study highlighted evidence that suggests sleeping problems worsen
 - or induce the manic and depressive episodes that are a hallmark of bipolar disorder. Researchers believe that successful treatment for insomnia, which would produce fewer sleep disturbances, can reduce the impact of bipolar disorder.
- Sleep and ADHD: The Sleep Foundation notes that sleeping problems are common in people with ADHD. Difficulty sleeping is commonly and correctly seen as a side effect of ADHD. However, the Sleep Foundation indicates sleep problems also may aggravate issues affecting attention and behavior that characterize ADHD.

The link between sleep and mental health is noteworthy. Sleep issues were once believed to be a byproduct of mental health issues. Though that remains true, there's growing evidence that sleeping problems also can exacerbate or even trigger mental health problems. More information is available at sleepfoundation.org.





CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Winged nut
- 7. __ Humbug!
- 10. One who sets apart
- 12. Circle above a saint's head
- 13. Unpleasantly loud and harsh
- 14. Expressed pleasure
- 15. Feminine given name
- 16. Company of badgers
- 17. Popular Dodge pickup truck
- 18. Witty sayings
- 19. Leader
- 21. Autonomic nervous system
- 22. Premolar
- 27. Atomic #28
- 28. Holiday decorative item
- 33. Exclamation of surprise
- 34. Rusk or cracker
- 36. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 37. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- 39. Marxist economics theory (abbr.)
- 40. Ceases to exist
- 41. Male Arabic name
- 44. Series of ridges on an organ wall
- 45. Places where bees are kept
- 48. One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- 49. Church office
- 50. Single lens reflex
- 51. Pieces of fibrous tissue

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Classify
- 2. Dismounted
- 3. Produced
- 4. Consumed
- 5. Director Howard
- 6. The products of human creativity
- 7. Thai monetary units
- 8. Away from wind
- 9. Builder's trough
- 10. Relating to Islam
- 11. It can sometimes ache
- 12. Small quantities (Scot.)
- 14. Poisonous plant
- 17. Laugh at
- 18. Vogul
- 20. C. European river
- 23. Type of cat
- 24. Exclamation of disgust
- 25. Stephen King novel
- 26. Without armies
- 29. Expression of sympathy
- 30. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 31. Previously
- 32. Illegal drug
- 35. Kiloelectronvolt
- 36. Large, flightless birds
- 38. For smoking
- 40. Binary
- 41. Competition
- 42. Mark resembling an arrow
- 43. Containers
- 44. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 45. Commercials
- 46. I.M.__, architect
- 47, 007's creator

I'm not adding this year to my age, I didn't use it.







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3 ways people can boost their mental health every day

Mental health issues have garnered considerable attention in recent years, but the scope of the global mental health crisis may be even greater than people realize. A recent study co-led by researchers at Harvard Medical School and the University of Queensland that was published in The Lancet Psychiatry in fall 2023 concluded that one out of every two people in the world will develop a mental health disorder at some point in their lifetime. That makes mental health disorders a more common problem than cancer, heart disease and other physical ailments that tend to garner more attention than mental health issues.

Anyone experiencing mental health issues is urged to speak with a medical professional who specializes in such areas. Mental health issues may not manifest with symptoms like broken bones that common sense suggests require the assistance of a licensed medical professional, but that does not mean issues affecting the mind or a person's outlook do not require the help of someone trained to deal with them. Much like people can heal from a broken bone after seeing a medical professional, individuals confronting mental health issues have much to gain from working with a mental health specialist.

A 2021 study from the United Kingdom-based Mental Health Foundation published in the American Journal of Health Promotion found 29 strategies people can employ to protect their mental health. The study considered mental health research and the views of mental health experts, but also input from the general public regarding ways they confront mental health issues. It's important that anyone dealing with mental health issues not conflate these strategies with treatment. Though they can help protect mental health, they should be seen as a supplement to treatment overseen by a licensed mental health professional. A rundown of the 29 strategies can be found at mentalhealth.org.uk, but the following are three recommendations that anyone can apply in their daily lives.

- 1. Spend more time in nature. The calming effects of nature have been noted for centuries, if not longer. The American Psychological Association notes that spending time in nature benefits both physical and psychological well-being in humans. Perhaps that's one reason why participants in the MHF study reported walks in nature was their preferred way to cope with stress stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The Japanese practice of forest bathing has been noted for its positive effects on mental health, but even those without ready access to wooded areas should know that simply spending more time outdoors each day can positively affect mental health.
- 2. Avoid using drugs or alcohol as a coping mechanism. The MHF notes that any relief offered by drugs and alcohol is temporary and can even exacerbate existing mental health issues. The American Addiction Centers reports that coping mechanisms are compulsions or habits formed over time that serve to hep people manage particular situations or issues, including stress. However, the

AAC also notes that not all coping mechanisms are beneficial and some, including drug and alcohol use, are maladaptive and destructive. After a particularly stressful day, or during times when people are experiencing anxiety and/or depression, avoid looking at drugs or alcohol as means to coping.

3. Get enough sleep. The MHF notes that adults need between seven and nine hours of sleep per night. Some may see seven hours or more per night as a luxury, but it's important that such an outlook changes. The Columbia University Depart ment of Psychiatry notes that there is now robust evidence to support a link between sleep and mental health. Insufficient or even poor sleep has been found to increase negative emotional responses to stressors. Perhaps even more note worthy is that poor or insufficient sleep decreases positive emotions. So it's vital to recognize the important role that adequate, good-quality sleep has on mental health.

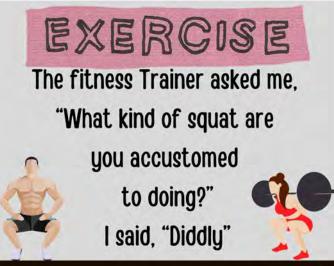
These are just a handful of approaches individuals can take to boost their mental health each day.



WHEN DOES A JOKE TURN INTO A DAD JOKE? WHEN IT BECOMES APPARENT.



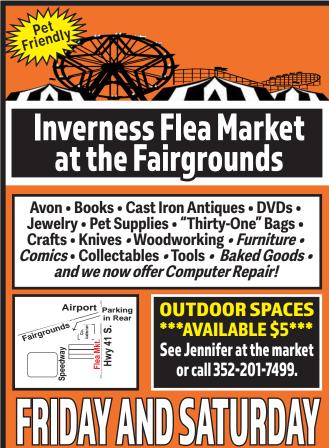












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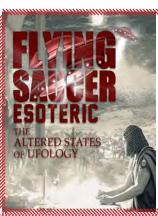




Paranormal researcher Maxim Furek is a Hernando resident, Vietnam Veteran, and active Citrus Writers of Florida member. His rich background includes aspects of psychology, addictions, music journalism, and the supernatural. He has a master's degree in communications from Bloomsburg University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Aquinas College. He has published six books and advocates for literacy in schools and the community.

The author was featured on Exploring the Bizarre, with the legendary Timothy Green Beckley, and on Art Bell's Midnight in the Desert. He will discuss his new book, Flying Saucer Esoteric: The Altered States of Ufology, at the 2024 Orlando UFO Conference. For guest presentations, interested organizations can contact the author at jungle@epix.net or through his website:





The Philadelphia Experiment and the Florida Connection

By Maxim Furek

The Philadelphia Experiment is an urban myth that, after many twists and turns, reached a dubious conclusion, here, in the Sunshine State. Although unknown to most researchers, Frederick G. Tracy and Dr. Morris Jessup may have held the key to unlocking the secret of this eighty-year-old mystery.

As the legend goes, The Philadelphia Experiment was a World War II experiment, that accidentally teleported the USS Eldridge, a destroyer escort, over 200 miles from Philadelphia to Norfolk, Virginia. Utilizing an innovative technology known as "cloaking," Tesla coils were attached around the ship and then charged with high voltages of electricity, attempting to render the ship and its crew invisible to the enemy. But, during the "return trip," the crew suffered horrible physiological effects, some partially embedded in the steel deck yet still alive. The survivors were declared insane and sent away to military hospitals. Their families were told that they were lost at sea.

USS Antietam

Frederick G. Tracy, LTCM Ret., served in the United States Navy from 1944--1954. Like many sailors serving on the East Coast, Tracy heard ominous rumors about the Philadelphia Experiment and a degaussing operation that went haywire.

Degaussing Technique

During World War II, magnetic mines wreaked havoc on Allied shipping crossing the Atlantic. The degaussing technique was a secret procedure that neutralized the magnetic field of a ship's hull using electricity generated through massive cables. The method rendered the vessel invisible to radar and less vulnerable to enemy mines and torpedoes.

Tracy was involved in a degaussing operation conducted at a top-secret Annapolis, Maryland, installation, while serving aboard the USS Antietam an aircraft carrier.

Wrapped with three-inch diameter cables spaced 15 feet apart, the Antietam was bombarded with considerable electricity charges for three days, time enough to penetrate the eight-inch-thick steel hull. But, like the USS Eldridge, the intended degaussing procedure had harmful effects. Tracy's exposure rendered his lung capillaries virtually useless. He suffered from bilateral bulla emphysema, requiring him to carry about a supply of liquid oxygen. At 60, he had shock-white hair and glassy, reddened eyes.

Tracy claimed he had proof that the Philadelphia Experiment occurred, citing an official 1945 document. Due to widespread rumors and low morale, the Secretary of the Navy, Admiral James Forrestal, issued a directive admitting to the allegations. Forrestal's memo was read to them during the final days of World War II and acknowledged that the USS Eldridge's degaussing operation had gone wrong. The crew were sworn to secrecy and repeatedly warned that it would be an act of treason to reveal the directive's contents.

Despite eyewitness accounts from Tracy and others, the U.S. Navy maintains that no such experiment was ever conducted. Furthermore, authorities deny that the physics the experiment is claimed to be based on is nonexistent. After contacting the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C., Richard A. von Doenhoff responded to this writer:

"As far as the Department of the Navy can determine, the fictitious story of the destroyer (USS Eldridge) from the Delaware
River off the League Island Navy Yard to Hampton Roads back in 1943 began as a practical joke among staff members of the Naval
Research Laboratory here in Washington. The humorous commentary on a theoretical paper on electromagnetism got out of hand
and soon achieved the status of fact and legend."

Dead Men Don't Tell Tales

Still, others believe that something happened in 1943 and that astronomer Dr. Morris K. Jessup played a vital role. His book, The Case for the UFO, attracted the attention of the U.S. Navy, determined to find out what the scientist knew about World War II experiments.

On April 19, 1959, Jessup contacted oceanographer Dr. J. Manson Valentine. Claiming to have made a breakthrough regarding the Philadelphia Experiment, Jessup arranged to meet with him the next day. According to Valentine:

"He was convinced that the Navy, in seeking to create a magnetic cloud for camouflage purposes in October 1943, had uncovered a potential that could temporarily, and if strong enough, perhaps permanently, rearrange the molecular structure of people and materials so that they would pass into another dimension with further implications of predictable and as yet uncontrolled teleportation."

Jessup never revealed his breakthrough discovery. A Florida park attendant discovered his body on April 20, 1959. Jessup's 1958 Chevy Station Wagon was parked in Miami's Matheson Hammock Park. The car's engine was still running, and a hosepipe attached to the exhaust had been fed through the driver's side window.

Although Jessup's death was considered an apparent suicide, some believed he had been murdered for what he knew about UFOs, anti-gravity propulsion, and the Philadelphia Experiment. After 80 years, The Philadelphia Experiment remains one of the most obscure wartime mysteries. Fred Tracy and Dr. Morris Jessup may have provided some answers, but took their secrets to the grave.

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Aguy walks into a bar on New Year's Eve and orders a glass of champagne.
"Happy New Year!" he shouts.
"Calm down." the bartender reprimands him.
"It's still hours away."
"Sorry," the guy apologizes. "My doctor told mel sometimes suffer from premature congratulations."



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Nachos make the ideal game day snack

Big games dot the college and professional football landscapes each year beginning in late summer and ending in mid-winter. But no games are bigger than those that take place once the calendar turns to a new year. That's when the postseason begins in both college and professional football.

Game watches with fellow fans, family and friends are a great way to make playoff football even more enjoyable. With so many big games on the horizon, football fans would be wise to ready their culinary arsenal. Whether you're hosting at home or going to a game watch at a fellow fan's house, keep in mind that food and football are a great match. Certain dishes have long since staked their claim on the game watch dinner and snacking tables, and nachos certainly need no introduction to football fans. As this year's playoffs kick off, football fans can try this recipe for "Loaded Beef Nachos" courtesy of AllRecipes.com.

Loaded Beef Nachos (Serves 4)

Taco Seasoning:

teaspoons paprika
teaspoons garlic powder
teaspoons ground cumin
teaspoons onion powder
teaspoon chili powder
teaspoon oregano leaves

11/2 teaspoons salt

Nachos:

tablespoons vegetable oil
pound ground beef
cup diced onion

1 cup diced green bell pepper

1 10-ounce can diced tomatoes with green chiles (such as RO-TEL")

1 15-ounce can Mexican-style corn (optional)

1 16-ounce can refried beans

1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese, or as needed

4 ounces tortilla chips, or as needed

Toppings (optional):

1/2 cup sour cream (optional)
1/2 cup salsa (optional)

1/4 cup sliced black olives (optional)
1/4 cup sliced jalapenos (optional)

1/4 cup green onion

For taco seasoning: Stir paprika, garlic powder, cumin, onion powder, chili powder, oregano, and salt together in a small bowl; set aside.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat; cook and stir ground beef in the hot skillet until browned and crumbly, 5 to 7 minutes. Stir in onion and green pepper; cook and stir with oil and juices from browned meat until much of the liquid has evaporated, about 2 minutes more.

Stir 1/2 can diced tomatoes with chilies and Mexican-style corn into skillet. Season beef mixture to taste with prepared taco seasoning mix.

Stir together the remaining 1/2 can diced tomatoes with chilies and refried beans in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on high until heated through, stirring every 30 seconds, 1 to 3 minutes.

To assemble nachos: Lay half of tortilla chips in a single layer on a microwave-safe plate, then drop teaspoons of refried beans onto chips, followed by meat mixture and shredded cheese. Repeat with remaining chips, beans, meat, and cheese to make a second layer. Microwave on high until cheese is melted and nachos are warm, 2 to 3 minutes. Top with sour cream, salsa, olives, jalapenos, and green onion as desired.



As midnight approaches, a woman begins soaking a few sponges.

When the clock hits midnight, she begins squeezing the water out of the sponges. Her husband looks at her curiously and asks, "Honey, what are you doing?" She replies, "Oh, you know, I'm wringing in the New Year!"



Running Or Not 352-259-2020

How to host a fun playoff watch party

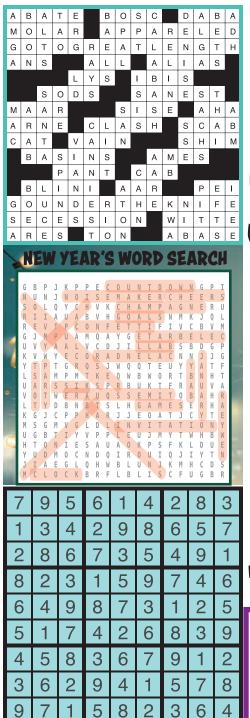
January is among the colder months of the year, but for football fans things are just starting to heat up when the calendar turns to a new year. In addition to featuring the College Football Playoff semifinals (January 1) and championship game (January 8), January also ushers in the National Football League playoffs, which begins with wild card weekend on January 13. That schedule can warm the hearts of football fans no matter how cold it may be outside.

With so many great games on the horizon, now is the time for football fanatics to brush up on their hosting skills. A game watch party is a great way to enjoy the action with fellow fans, friends and family, and the following are some ways hosts can take those football festivities up a notch.



- ~ Provide ample room and seating. When hosting a party for the big game, pick a room in the house with enough room and seating to accommodate all of your guests. Folding chairs can be brought in to the viewing area to ensure everyone has a seat, but the right viewing area is one where additional seats won't make everyone feel as though they are sitting on top of one another. A basement or open concept living room makes for an ideal viewing area.
- ~ Set up more than one viewing area. Football certainly has its share of fanatical fans, but it also has plenty of casual fans who may attend a watch party to socialize more than see the action. Multiple viewing areas can accommodate various types of fans and solve any space and seating issues that arise. A separate kids-only viewing area also can accommodate young fans.
- ~ Stock up on finger foods. When planning a watch party menu, keep in mind that most people will be eating in the viewing area instead of at a dinner table. Finger foods are ideal in such situations. Hosts who want to cook for the crowd can prepare small dishes like meatball or chicken sliders, chicken wings and frozen pizzas cut into bite-size pieces. And don't forget portable snacks like pretzels, chips, diced vegetables with hummus, and nachos.
- ~ Take your tech for a test run. Food and accommodations might garner the bulk of hosts' attention in the days leading up to the big game, but don't forget to take your tech for a test run. Many homes have abandoned traditional cable television in favor of streaming services, so if your home is among the legions of cord cutters, confirm in the days ahead that your streaming app is working and that you have the latest version of the app installed on all devices that will be used to show the game. Check speakers as well to ensure everyone can hear the broadcast clearly regardless of where they're sitting.

Playoff season is set to heat up on the gridiron. Game watches make for a great way to enjoy the game with fellow fans.



NEW YEAR-A NEW CHAPTER, NEW VERSE, OR JUST THE SAME OLD STORY? ULTIMATELY WE WRITE IT, THE CHOICE IS OURS.

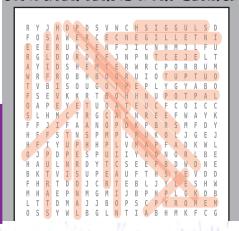
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COMPUTER TERMS WORD SEARCH





THIS MONTH I AM SHARING A STORY ABOUT AN EXPERIENCE MY FAMILY RECENTLY HAD. WHILE THIS IS NOT A HAPPY STORY TO START THE NEW YEAR IT IS A VERY IMPORTANT STORY ABOUT RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP, HARD CHOICES, TOUGH LOVE, FOREVER HOMES AND FREEDOM.

We have some sad news to share with you all. Gracie May is no longer with us. She crossed over rainbow bridge last Thursday (December 14th, 2023). While I could leave it at that and distract from the questions that I know will come as to what happened, I felt it was best to share her story, our story, with you. I (Amy) have always had Pitbull mix rescues. Shelters and local rescues are often full of Pit-Mixes, no matter where you live. I have always made it my mission to adopt rather than shop for my Furr babies and I have always had great results finding family companions who live their entire lives enjoying this world with me. This is my intention for every pet I bring into my home.

A little backstory. Matt and I adopted Gus in May of 2021 just before buying the Peddler's Post. He was lonely and we thought it was best to get him a playmate to grow up with. Gracie May was being shared on the Citrus County



Animal shelters page and I had seen her be adopted out and returned to the shelter not once but twice. I thought with my previous experience with Pitts that we would be a great home for her, and we decided to adopt her in April of 2022. Immediately we noticed some behavioral problems with her being very destructive when left alone. We also noticed some issues when it was time to get a nail trim or a checkup at the vet. She would lose her mind. We assumed this was related to her previous life and committed to working through these issues with her. We started her on some anxiety medication to help in stressful situations.

Other than these two BIG stressors everything else was great at first and she appeared to be quite a social dog. We went to and worked community events together; she enjoyed meeting new people and even other animals. She walked nicely on a leash; she and Gus were the best of friends for the most part; we took them everywhere with us and loved trying new restaurants with the pups in tow. We live a very scheduled life. A walk away from the house every morning. A walk around noon within the yard, play time after dinner and bed at 7:30.

The first time Gracie had an outburst where I did not recognize her was at the Manatee festival earlier this year. Out of the blue she noticed another dog walking with their owner, and she went crazy trying to get at him. We left immediately and I was able to calm her down quite easily after we got out of sight. When it didn't happen again for a long time, we brushed it off as she just did not like that other dog's vibe.

She had an eye for squirrels and cats since the beginning, however I was always able to redirect her with positive reinforcement. Late this summer we started to notice some misdirected aggression from Gracie towards Gus when she was unable to get at the cats and squirrels we came across on the path. We worked with her to know her triggers and used positive reinforcement to gain her interest until the stressors moved along. We felt like we made progress until we started noticing this misdirected anger show up with fence line aggression toward Gus.

October, we attended the annual event for the Boys and Girls Club in Hernando. Last year both Gus and Gracie were big hits and enjoyed the event and meeting all the people in the community. When we got invited to take the dogs back this year we agreed. I knew 15 minutes in that it was a bad decision, but by that time it was too late. This year Gracie was not okay at the event, and I spent most of the evening with her in the truck waiting in the AC.

The last few months with Gracie have been very hard. Our daily walks are often cut short because Gracie not only lunges out at other animals but also has started to really bark and become aggressive with people. We invested in her a dog treadmill, as we had been advised that a tired dog is a good dog. Gracie really seemed to enjoy her treadmill. She was eager to please me and seemed to enjoy our additional one on one time together. However, the more time I spent working with her, the more aggressive she became towards Gus. It was becoming more and more evident that she wanted him out of the way.

While she would always listen to me, she was doing it very begrudgingly. Last week She attempted to bite me when I would not allow her to chase a cat on the walk path. Matt and I had started asking ourselves how we would feel if she ever hurt one of us or someone else. Not because we thought it could happen but with her aggressive behavior becoming worse and worse, we were coming into the knowing that it was just a matter of time.

Thursday, I went grocery shopping, and the pups were near me when putting the food away. Food was never an issue with Gus and Gracie, they ate next to each other from the first night and every other night since. In a matter of seconds Gracie was on top of Gus and rushed him 30 feet while biting him again and again, before I was able to grab hold of her collar and let Gus escape. I got the door open and let Gus inside the house and with Gracie lunging at me managed to get myself inside. They had tangled up before but never like this. I had Gus inside bleeding and Gracie lunging at the door trying to get inside to reengage the situation. Gus was absolutely terrified, and I was as well. I called Matt to come home and reached out to their vet. An hour later when the vet called back and before Matt got home Gracie was still very much engaged in wanting to get into the house to fight. I had never seen her this out of control. The vet was very aware of the progression of Gracie's aggressive tendencies and shared that she was really scared for our family. She recommended that it may be best at this time to go ahead and put Gracie down.

When Matt got home Gracie was still very engaged in getting back to the fight. It was like she had something inside her snap. Matt and I looked at the situation in front of us in depth and made the tough decision that it would be best for everyone to follow the recommendations of the vet. Do we feel good about the decision, no, we are sad. Are we at peace with the decision, yes, we are. When we took on Gracie May we took full responsibility for her. Knowing what she was capable of, there was no option to rehome her or place her back in the shelter system that already failed her twice prior. We deserved safety but equally important Gracie May deserved peace.

We went back and forth with how we were going to share this information with you all. We figured we would have some people support us and likely receive some heat. The reality of the matter is I have shared her story with you all since we adopted her, and it was no time to start being quiet.

I must admit I failed Gracie because I did not know who she was. When we adopted her, we were told that she was a Black Mouth Curr pit mix. Turns out Gracie May was a part of the designer backyard breed called the Pit-Pei. She was bred to behave the way she was behaving. She needed to be at the top of the pack and should never have been surrendered to a shelter system that could not support her high demand needs. The Pit-Pei needs a very strong disciplined background from an early age and needs to be the only animal in the home. This is the hard part about getting a dog from the shelter or a rescue, sometimes you never really know what you are getting no matter how prepared you think you are.

I am humbled by the fact that I could not love the crazy out of my Gracie May. I find solace in the fact that I loved her with all I had and made sure she would never be homeless again in a world that didn't understand her. Rest in Peace Gracie May.



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