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VOLUME 20 ~ ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2026

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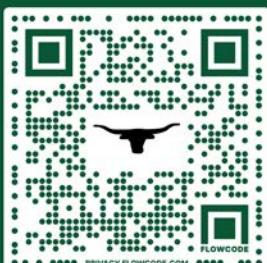
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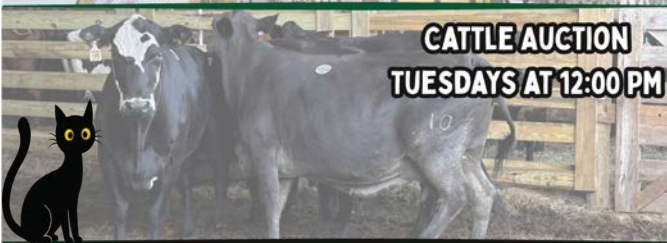
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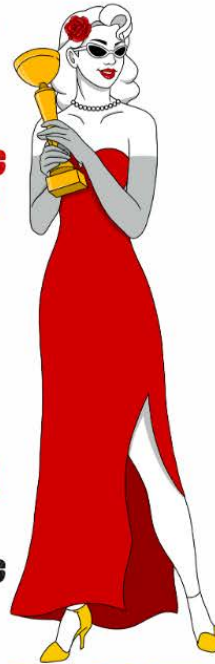
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Acts 26:8 "WHY SHOULD IT BE THOUGHT INCREDIBLE BY YOU THAT GOD RAISES THE DEAD?"

October in Florida When Fall Shows Up Late and Leaves Its Coat in the Car

I have been a Florida native now long enough that the palmetto bugs treat me like kin and the humidity has learned my first name. That does not mean I have forgotten what October used to feel like north of the state line. In Georgia, October arrived with a little dignity. The air got a snap in it. You could wear a flannel shirt without looking like a man who had lost a bet. Leaves turned colors that made a fellow want to write a poem or at least buy a new pair of boots. Down here, October shows up in flip-flops and asks if anybody has seen the air-conditioning remote. Then it sits on the porch like it owns the place.

I used to think fall was the season. In Florida it is more of a rumor. The calendar says autumn. The thermometer says July with a hangover. You walk outside at eight in the morning and the air slaps you the way a wet towel slaps a locker-room floor. By noon you are bargaining with the shade. By three you have given up and are standing in front of the refrigerator like it is a shrine. I have seen grown men put on a light jacket in October just to feel patriotic, then take it off before they reached the mailbox.

The trees do not help. A palm tree does not turn gold. It just stands there looking tropical and slightly smug, like it knows it will still be green when the rest of the country is raking. Live oaks drop a few acorns and call it a day. If you want foliage, you drive to the garden center and buy a bag of decorative gourds. I did that last year. The gourds lasted three days before they started looking like they had been left in a hot car. Which, technically, they had.

Football still saves us. That part of October travels well. You can sit in a folding chair in ninety-degree heat and yell at a television set with the same conviction you used to have in cooler climates. The difference is you yell while sweating through a shirt that was dry at kickoff. I have learned that a Florida October Saturday requires two things: a good defense and a ceiling fan that has not given up. The rest is commentary.

Tourists start drifting back about now. They come for the weather that the rest of us have been complaining about since May. They wear new shorts and ask where the fall colors are. I tell them the colors are in the sunset and in the rash, you get if you sit too long on a vinyl car seat. They nod politely and go buy a pumpkin-spice something that melts before they finish it. I do not blame them. Hope is a stubborn plant. It will grow in sand if you water it enough.

Halloween in Florida is its own comedy. Children go trick-or-treating in costumes that include a cape and a pair of sandals. Parents stand on the sidewalk holding a flashlight in one hand and a bottle of water in the other. Nobody wants to be the house that runs out of candy and has to explain that the heat made the chocolate surrender. I keep a bowl of the hard stuff on the porch and a garden hose nearby in case anybody overheats while arguing about whether a pirate and a mermaid constitute a couple's costume.

Hurricanes have usually wandered off by October, though they like to leave a calling card of rain that falls sideways and then stops as if it never happened. The grass grows an inch overnight. The mosquitoes hold a convention. You mow the yard and two days later it looks like you never left the house. I have accepted this the way a man accepts that his hairline and his patience are both receding.

What I like best about October here is the light. It slants a little differently in the late afternoon. The heat is still there, but it has lost some of its meanness. You can sit outside after supper and hear the night start up without feeling like you are being steamed in a bag. That is when Florida October almost tells the truth. It is not New England. It is not the mountains. It is a long, warm exhale after a summer that refused to leave the party.

I miss the first real cold snap, the way you miss a friend who moved away and only writes at Christmas. But I have learned to take my seasons where I find them. Down here, October is the month you finally believe the year might turn after all. You just have to look a little harder, sweat a little more, and keep a clean shirt in the car. That is close enough to fall for a man who now calls Florida home.

Keep your sweet tea, your shade close, and your expectations of autumn modest. October in Florida will not bring you a sweater weather parade. It will bring you a long golden hour, a football Saturday that cooks you from the inside out, and the quiet satisfaction of knowing you outlasted another summer that thought it would never leave. That is plenty. That is Florida. That is enough.

Until the first honest cool night,

Leland

Leland Shipp is the beloved "Voice of Southern Charm" at The Peddler's Post, where his monthly articles inspire unity, humor, and community pride across Citrus & Hernando counties. His warm, relatable voice and insightful commentary have made him a cherished fixture in local journalism, championing the values that make his region truly special. Believe it or not, he is also an accomplished author of psychological thrillers and horror.

Check out his work at: www.lelandshipp.com



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**October
3rd**

Hernando County Veteran Services and Vetfest will host the annual Vetoerfest event from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will be held at Anderson Snow Park, located at 1440 Anderson Snow Road, Spring Hill, FL. Vetoerfest will feature a family fun zone, food trucks, local vendors, live entertainment, and more. Attendees can also connect with local organizations and learn about programs and services available to veterans, first responders, and their families. For questions or more information, please contact Hernando County Veteran Services at (352) 754-4033.

2nd & 3rd

Citrus Springs Library is having a book sale on Friday October 2nd from 9am-3pm and Saturday October 3rd from 9am-2pm. It will be at the library at 1826 Country Club Blvd, Citrus Springs. Phone number 352-489-2313.

9th & 10th

United Methodist Women's Club will hold their annual Fall Bazaar in October this year on 10/9 & 10/10 from 9A-3P in the First United Methodist Church of Homosassa Fellowship Hall located at 8831 W. Bradshaw St. Homosassa FL 34448. Bargains galore and something for everyone in an air conditioned, very large room (our fellowship hall). All proceeds go to local charities.

10th

Sons of the American Revolution, Withlacoochee Chapter meets Oct 10th at Chinsegut Hill Conference Ctr, 22495 Chinsegut Hill Rd, Brooksville 10:30am-noon. If you think you may have a Revolutionary Era ancestor or bloodline relative in the SAR or DAR, please join us to get to know us and explore how we can help you apply for membership. We have extensive programs in support of educating students, supporting veterans, scouting, JROTC, and more. If interested, contact dhitchcock@withsar.org. Also visit withsar.org and gwtent.org.

11th

KINGDOM OF THE SUN CONCERT BAND Ocala's favorite community band will be in performance at Countryside Presbyterian Church, 7768 SW Highway 200, Ocala on Sunday, October 11, 2026 at 3:00 PM. Enjoy an afternoon of tunes from pop and rock legends Elvis, Neil Diamond, Elton John, the Beatles, plus Broadway Marches and more. Admission is free and open to the public. A voluntary love offering will be taken. Call 352-237-4633 for further information.

11th

COOTER CARNIVAL from 1 - 5 PM located at Liberty Park, Inverness FL

Back by popular demand, the Cooter Carnival returns on October 11th! Join us for a day of family-friendly carnival fun! Featuring free face painting, food trucks, and tons of carnival games provided by local Citrus County businesses, this event embodies Inverness's motto of "Small Town Done Right." Carnival Games, Food Vendors Face Painting, Free Family Fun, & more!

16th

Genealogy Society of Hernando County will meet Oct 16th at the LDS Family History Center, 21043 Yontz Rd., Brooksville at 10 a.m. Our speaker will be Steve Burke on "Document and Image Editing". For additional research, the LDS Family History Center research lab and resources, at the same Yontz Rd address as above, are available every Wednesday evening, 6-8:00 p.m.; 2nd Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon; 3rd Friday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon. Or, by appointment anytime, leave a message with John Ellis, (813) 716-7804. The LDS requests 'no shorts please'.

16th & 17th

High Point 55+ Community Yard Sale October 16th and 17th, 9am to 3 pm Over 50+ homes participating. Follow the signs. 9am until 3 pm daily Location: High Point 55+ Community 7464 Eastern Circle Dr. Brooksville

30th

Harvest Night is October 30! Bring the whole family for a night of FREE fun at Calvary! Enjoy inflatables, carnival games, candy, prizes, food, an interactive hayride, and so much more. Admission is free, with food and snacks available for purchase at a low cost. Location is: 2728 E. Harley St, Inverness, FL.

The ongoing Community Events were moved online. You can find all the ongoing events in Citrus and Hernando County on our website at: <https://peddlers-post.com/community-calendar/>

The online Community Calendar is available for all local events found in Citrus & Hernando Counties.

Submit your event at <https://peddlers-post.com/submit-your-community-events/>.

To have a mention of your event published in the paper your event must be FREE to the public or the proceeds of your event must go to a local Not-for-Profit or Church and they must be emailed to office@peddlers-post.com for consideration. Space is available on a First Come First Served basis.

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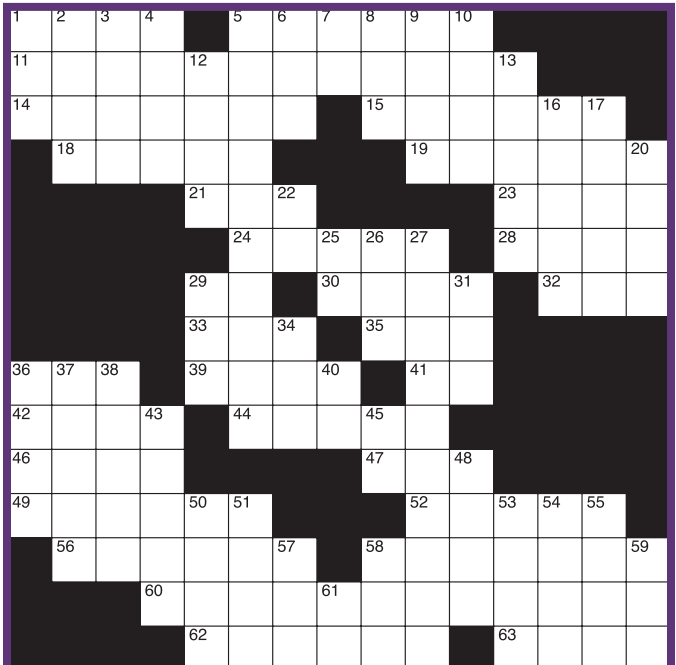
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- Commercial
- A minute amount (Scottish)
- Mass of fish eggs
- Baseball stat
- Licensed accountant
- Japanese classical theater
- Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- Blood group
- Assist in wrongdoing
- Language of Cameroon
- Grayish-white
- A woolen cap of Scottish origin
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- Strong social customs
- Calm and dependable
- Congressman
- Force
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- A main branch of Islam

CLUES DOWN

- Make a mistake
- American DJ Rick
- Fictional Asimov planet
- Coughed out
- Singing to one's lover
- Scotland's longest river
- One of the six noble gases
- Body art
- Two-toed sloth
- Electronic counter-countermeasures
- A foolish person
- Of the wind
- Mansion
- Sound
- English river
- Business symbol
- Exclamation of surprise
- Pouch
- Individually
- Satisfaction
- The bill in a restaurant
- Japanese delicacy
- Port in southern Japan
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- Center
- "The Mount Rushmore State"
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- Indicates position
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Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Dip into this at your Halloween party

Halloween is a wildly popular holiday, and that popularity extends to adults as well as kids. Halloween parties dot many a social schedule come late October, and parties mean food. While it's customary to indulge in a few candied treats on Halloween, adults may want something with a little nutritional value as well. This "Halloween Dip With Carrots and Canapes" from Lines+Angles can make the perfect homemade party offering this Halloween.

Halloween Dip With Carrots and Canapes (Makes 4 servings)

For the dip:

- 3 large avocados, halved, pitted, peeled and diced
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 dash Tabasco® sauce
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 small handful cilantro, finely chopped

To serve:

- 6 large carrots
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 handful stuffed olives, sliced
- 1 handful seedless red grapes, sliced
- 5 slivered almonds

1. For the dip: Mash together avocado, garlic, lime juice, Tabasco®, sour cream, salt, and pepper in a serving bowl until smooth.
2. Stir in chopped cilantro. Cover and chill until ready to serve.
3. To serve: Peel and cut two carrots into thick coins. Top with sour cream and then olive and grape slices.
4. Cut the remaining carrots into finger shapes. Use a paring knife to shave down their ends into nail beds. Make a thin incision at the end of the nail beds and slide a slivered almond into them to mimic fingernails.
5. Serve finger carrots in the prepared avocado dip with the carrot coins on the side.



Why did the team of witches
lose the softball game?
Their bats kept
flying away.

Kids Page

Brought to you by Hank

MAZE FUN

Help this vampire find his way back home before sunrise!

HALLOWEEN SPELLS

P _ _ _ _	M _ _ _ _
C _ _ _ _	G _ _ _ _
W _ _ _ _	B _ _ _

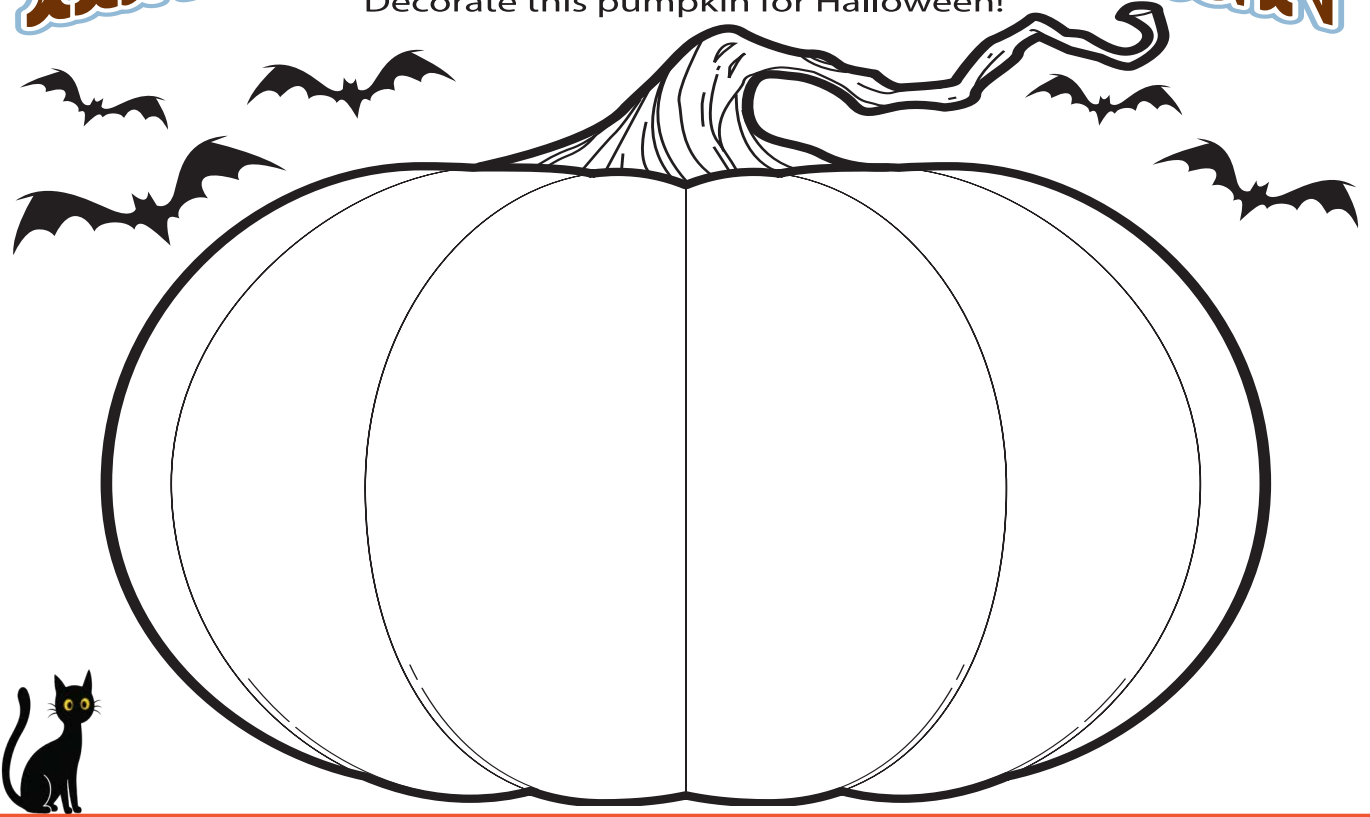
HALLOWEEN

I Spy

How many do YOU spy?

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Decorate this pumpkin for Halloween!



Turn your home into a haunted house for Halloween

People celebrate Halloween with the same zeal as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Decorating for Halloween has evolved over the years, and many homeowners now go to great lengths to turn their humble abodes into horrific haunts. Achieving a haunted house vibe is easier than one might think with some creative ideas.

Dim the lights: Turning down the lights immediately increases the spooky factor for Halloween. The mind may jump to its own conclusions about what is nestled in a shadowy corner or just around the bend. Turning off lights and relying on flickering candles or battery-operated lanterns will also hide any imperfections in your decor.

Direct light upwards: Outdoors, position low-angle spotlights or floodlights pointing up at walls or trees to cast long, harsh shadows that seem scary.

Board up the windows: Tape lightweight painted cardboard strips across windows to mimic the look of an abandoned home. Scary shapes cut from cardboard or black paper can be taped inside of windows and backlit by dim lights to create an eerie atmosphere.

Utilize fog machines: If available, a fog machine near an entrance or in a hallway can provide a dense, disorienting haze. Again, it will reduce visibility, which can make a haunted house seem more frightening.

Tactile scares: Hang loose, dark pieces of string, tattered scrap fabric or faux spider webs from ceilings so that they will lightly brush against passers-by in dark areas. A hidden fan can be positioned to blow a sudden, chilly draft across a doorway to mimic a passing spirit.

Haunted portraits: Inexpensive thrift store frames can dress up eerie vintage photos or lenticular shifting images purchased online. For a real fright, have someone pose behind a frame and actually move or reach out as visitors go by.

Creepy dolls: Gather tattered, old plastic dolls and hang or display them clustered together. Or paint them all white and splatter them with red paint to look like blood.

Obscured paths: Create blind corners and obscured paths so visitors cannot anticipate what is waiting ahead. Use dark sheets or black painter's canvas taped securely to the ceiling. Position "actors" along the way to achieve jump scares.

Scary sounds: Place Bluetooth speakers throughout the haunted house to play a loop of screams, squeaky hinge noises or footsteps to keep guests off-kilter.

A haunted house is expected for Halloween thrills, and it's easy to create a spooky atmosphere with a little effort.



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

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	3						8	7
	9			5				
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			9					
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Level: Intermediate



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OCTOBER DAYS PAST

- October 1st 1868 "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott is published in America by Roberts Brothers of Boston
- October 2nd 1889 In Colorado, Nicholas Creede strikes it rich in silver during the last great silver boom of the American Old West
- October 3rd 1789 Washington proclaims the first national Thanksgiving Day on November 26
- October 4th 1535 The Coverdale Bible, the first complete Bible to be published in English, is printed in Antwerp with translations by William Tyndale and Miles Coverdale
- October 5th 1914 World War I's first aerial combat results in a kill
- October 6th 1866 First train robbery in US: Reno Brothers take \$13,000
- October 7th 1982 Musical "Cats" opens at Winter Garden Theatre on Broadway, and runs for nearly 18 years
- October 8th 1860 Telegraph line between Los Angeles and San Francisco opens
- October 9th 1855 American inventor Isaac Singer patents the sewing machine motor
- October 10th 1889 Barnard College is founded in New York City after Columbia University refuses to admit women
- October 11th 1929 JCPenney opens store #1252 in Milford, Delaware, becoming a nationwide company with stores in all 48 US states
- October 12th 1773 America's first asylum opens for 'Persons of Insane and Disordered Minds' in Virginia
- October 13th 1966 Jimi Hendrix Experience rock trio debuts with American guitarist Jimi Hendrix, British bassist Noel Redding and British drummer Mitch Mitchell in Evreux, Normandy, France
- October 14th 1865 Cheyennes & Arapahos sign "peace treaty" then chased out Colorado
- October 15th 1881 "American Angler," the first American fishing magazine, is published
- October 16th 1848 First US homeopathic medical college opens in Pennsylvania
- October 17th 1871 US President Ulysses S. Grant suspends habeas corpus in parts of South Carolina during prosecutions against Ku Klux Klan
- October 18th 1867 US takes formal possession of Alaska from Russia, after paying \$7.2 million in the Alaska Purchase
- October 19th 1926 Canadian inventor John C. Garand is granted US patent for improvements to his semi-automatic rifle
- October 20th 1786 Harvard University organizes the first astronomical expedition in the US
- October 21st 1967 Tens of thousands of anti-Vietnam War protesters march on the Pentagon, besieging the military headquarters for two days
- October 22nd 1879 Thomas Edison perfects the carbonized cotton filament light bulb
- October 23rd 1941 Walt Disney's animated film "Dumbo" is released
- October 24th 79 Mt. Vesuvius erupts, burying the cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Oplontis, and Stabiae and killing thousands
- October 25th 1955 Tappan sells the first microwave oven
- October 26th 1774 Minutemen organized in US colonies
- October 27th 1938 DuPont announces its new synthetic polyamide fiber is called "nylon"
- October 28th 1886 The Statue of Liberty is dedicated by President Grover Cleveland and is celebrated with the first confetti (ticker tape) parade in New York City
- October 29th 1390 First trial for witchcraft in Paris
- October 30th 1894 Daniel Cooper patents the time clock
- October 31st 2010 Post-apocalyptic zombie TV series "The Walking Dead," starring Andrew Lincoln, Jon Bernthal, and Lauren Cohan, premieres on AMC



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Did you know?

According to UT MD Anderson, **alcohol increases a person's risk for seven types of cancer, including breast cancer.**

An advisory report from the U.S. Surgeon General indicated that drinking alcohol increases breast cancer risk more than any other cancer in women. In fact, more than 16 percent of the 270,000 breast cancer cases in women in 2019 were linked to alcohol consumption. Alcohol contains ethanol, which the body breaks down into a cancer-causing substance known as acetaldehyde. Acetaldehyde causes DNA damage, which also can occur due to oxidative stress caused by alcohol. Alcohol also can alter levels of estrogen and other hormones associated with breast cancer. While millions of women consume alcohol without ever developing breast cancer, those at elevated risk for the disease may want to avoid it. Even women considered at average risk for breast cancer should limit their consumption if they choose to drink.

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DO ZOMBIES EAT POPCORN WITH THEIR FINGERS?

NO, THEY LIKE TO EAT THE FINGERS SEPARATELY.



JAMES 4:7 "SUBMIT YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD. RESIST THE DEVIL, AND HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU."

WORD SEARCH

FRIGHT NIGHT

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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

WORDS

BATS
BLACK CAT
CANDY
COBWEB

COSTUME

GHOST
GHOUL
HAUNTED
JACK-O'-LANTERN
MONSTER

MOON

OCTOBER
PUMPKIN
SCARY
SKELETON
SPIDER

SPOOKY

TRICK OR TREAT
VAMPIRE
WEREWOLF
WITCH
ZOMBIE



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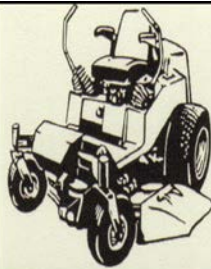


WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B.



Answers:
1. Extra lollipop 2. Bowl handle is different 3. Missing candy corns
4. Apple in back



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WENT OUT OF
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BE SCARED,
BUT NOW WE JUST
CALL THAT READING
THE NEWS



Did you know?



Energy bills vary significantly depending on where a home is located, but data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) and Statistics Canada indicates that energy prices are hitting consumers hard across various locales.

As winter approaches, consumers may be increasingly concerned, as the EIA notes that energy rates tend to rise in summer and winter, when people are more likely to rely on heating and cooling to keep their homes comfortable. Sealing windows might help cut those costs, as the U.S. Department of Energy notes that heat gain and heat loss through inefficient windows may be responsible for as much as 30 percent of heating- and cooling-related energy consumption. By checking windows for leaks and fixing leaks before winter, consumers might save themselves a considerable amount of money.

According to the EIA, between March 2025 and March 2026, energy bills increased in 44 of 50 states in America. Statistics Canada notes energy prices rose by 19.2 percent between April 2025 and April 2026.

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BLESSED

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Help us amplify Florida's climate story. Register here: <https://whova.com/portal/registration/Glvi-m64Gy8e0XMwXZE@/>

Learn more: floridaclimateweek.org

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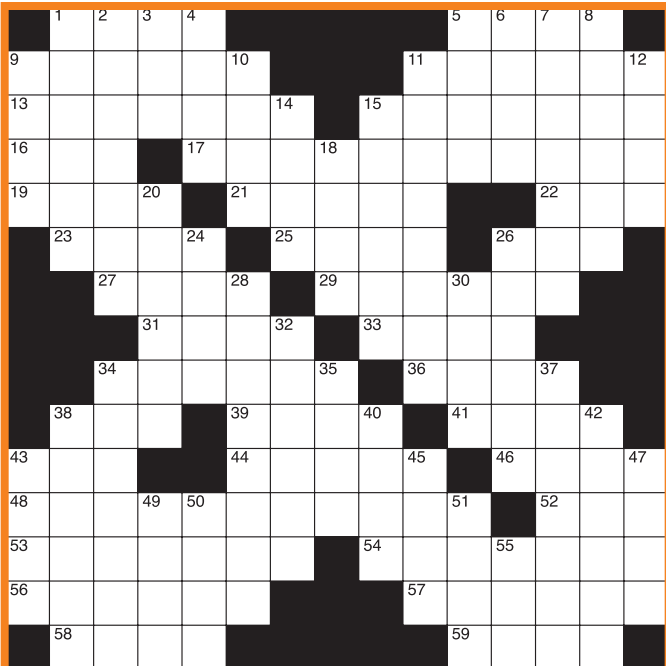
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**SMALL BUSINESS
& REAL ESTATE
CLASSIFIED ADS
SEE PAGE 4**

ADS SUBMITTED OVER 20 WORDS WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL BE REWORDED TO FIT REQUIREMENTS



CLUES ACROSS

1. Difficult
5. Coarsely ground corn
9. A group of similar things ordered one after another
11. Loved Romeo
13. Something to solve
15. Pelvic areas
16. Informal debt instrument
17. Ineffective
19. A device attached to a workbench
21. Related on the mother's side
22. "Fresh Prince of _ _ Air"
23. Astronomer Sagan
25. C. Utah city
26. Turkey
27. Informal terms for money
29. Awakens
31. Those who favored Prohibition
33. Blabbed
34. Looked through
36. Rhode Island rebellion
38. A type of "cast"
39. One's duty
41. Where golfers begin
43. Make a mistake
44. Semitic Sun god
46. Ancient Greek City
48. Removed someone's head
52. A place to stay
53. Unwise
54. Most unnatural
56. "Dennis" is a notable one
57. Ointments
58. Examination
59. Leaked fluid

CLUES DOWN

1. Brave
2. A state of excitement
3. Jest at
4. Sandwich store
5. Chapter of the Koran
6. Dismounted from a horse
7. Small vehicle
8. Irrked
9. A disreputable man
10. Monetary unit of Samoa
11. A list of woes
12. Weight unit
14. Alone, single
15. Broadway legend Bernadette
18. Monetary unit of Serbia
20. Worn by exposure to the weather
24. A body of traditions
26. Students seek one
28. Hydrophilic amino acid
30. Nasal mucus
32. Branch of U.S. Congress
34. Swinish
35. Russian assembly
37. Grant an exemption to
38. Set up in advance
40. Satisfy
42. Felt
43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
45. Witnesses
47. Strong insects
49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland
51. Cheerless
55. Unhealthy

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Pizza made perfect right at home

Pizza is among the most popular foods in many areas across the globe. Indeed, few people have likely had a slice of pizza and not wanted to have another at some in the near or distant future.

Versatility of ingredients has undoubtedly contributed to the popularity of pizza. People can now enjoy pizza with a wide range of toppings. Homemade pizza has also become a staple in many households, and this Lines+Angles recipe for "Pizza With Peppers, Tomatoes, Onions, and Prosciutto" features an array of tasty toppings.

Pizza With Peppers, Tomatoes, Onions, and Prosciutto (Makes 4 servings)

For the crust:

- 1/2 teaspoon Instant Or Active Dry Yeast
- 3/4 cups warm water
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 5 tablespoons good-quality olive oil, plus extra for the bowl and as needed

For the pizza toppings:

- 2 tablespoons good-quality olive oil
- 2 red bell peppers, rinsed, seeded, and cut into thin strips
- 2 1/2 cups cherry tomatoes, rinsed, trimmed, and halved
- 1 red onion, peeled and sliced into wedges
- Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 1/3 cups fresh mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced or crumbled
- 12 slices Prosciutto, thinly sliced
- Fresh basil, rinsed and chopped, to taste
- 3 sprigs fresh oregano, rinsed and leaves chopped
- Salt, to taste
- Freshly cracked black pepper, to taste

For the crust:

1. Sprinkle yeast over warm water. Let stand for 5 minutes.
2. In the bowl of a standing mixer, combine flour and salt. With the mixer running on low speed (with paddle attachment), drizzle in olive oil until incorporated with flour. Pour in yeast mixture and mix until the dough comes together in a sticky ball.
3. Coat a separate mixing bowl lightly with olive oil. Form the dough into a smooth ball, place the dough in the bowl and toss to coat dough in olive oil. Cover the bowl tightly with plastic wrap and set aside to rise for at least 1 to 2 hours.
4. Preheat oven to 450 F. Lightly oil a pizza pan.
5. Knead the dough for several minutes and reshape into a ball. Roll out the dough with a rolling pin or stretch it out, until very thin. Carefully transfer the dough to the prepared pizza pan. Drizzle a little olive oil over the dough and spread it to the edges. Season the crust lightly with salt.

For the pizza toppings:

1. Prepare the vegetables. Sprinkle the prepared dough with Parmesan cheese. Arrange half of the mozzarella evenly over the top of the crust. Arrange the peppers, cherry tomatoes, onions, and prosciutto over the top of the mozzarella. Sprinkle with the remaining mozzarella, basil, and oregano. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
2. Bake for 15 to 17 minutes in the lower half of the oven, until the crust is golden brown and toppings are bubbly. Remove from oven and cut into slices and serve immediately.



**1 CORINTHIANS 3:19 FOR THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD IS FOOLISHNESS WITH GOD.
FOR IT IS WRITTEN, HE CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR OWN CRAFTINESS.**



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P B I W C Y O T R E E H N L R H I R L C
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- ACQUISITION
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- MARGIN
- MODEL
- NICHE
- OVERHEAD
- PAYROLL
- PIVOT
- PROPRIETORSHIP
- RETENTION
- REVENUE
- SCALABILITY
- VENDOR

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

James 3:16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.



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Make your home more secure

A home should be a place of comfort and security. But homes can be targeted by thieves who are eager to make off with people's hard-earned possessions.

Securing a home isn't about making it an impenetrable fortress; it involves layers of deterrence that compel burglars to move on to an easier opportunity. ADT says the average thief takes less than 12 minutes to burglarize a home, and most thieves can use screwdrivers, pliers, and hammers to enter a property. By addressing the vulnerabilities of a home and making some changes, homeowners can beef up security in no time.

- **Upgrade locks.** The majority of burglars enter a home through front or back doors. Strengthening these access points is one of the most effective upgrades homeowners can make. Most security experts suggest installing an ANSI Grade 1 or Grade 2 deadbolt with a minimum one-inch throw bolt, as standard spring-latch locks are easy to bypass. Also, a heavy-duty lock is ineffective if the surrounding door frame is weak. Replacing short screws on door plate strikes with 3-inch hardened steel screws that drive into the wall's underlying studs is much more secure.

- **Mind sliding doors.** Glass sliding patio doors let lots of light in and offer easy access to decks and yards. Yet, they are notoriously easy to force open, according to Boss Security Screens. This can be remedied by placing an adjustable security bar or a heavy wooden dowel in the interior track. Adding shatter-resistant security film to glass panes also beefs up security.

- **Stop blind spots.** Thieves prefer to work in the dark or out of sight of the street and neighbors. Strategic lighting and landscape management will remove blind spots. Homeowners can trim shrubs and bushes below window height and cut tree branches so that the home is not concealed. Motion-activated floodlights positioned eight to 10 feet off the ground can light up driveways and pathways. LED or solar-powered landscape lighting will brighten up dark perimeter corners.

- **Use home security technology.** Modern smart home devices can serve as deterrents to burglars. Exterior cameras and video doorbells will capture clear facial features and let thieves know they are being watched. Smart plugs or bulbs can be programmed to turn on and off at various times to simulate an active household. Also, wireless contact sensors installed on ground-floor windows and secondary entry doors will send instant smartphone alerts if an entry point opens.

- **Lock up.** One of the best ways to make a home more secure is to be mindful of locking up each time when leaving the house. It seems simple, but homeowners should always lock doors and windows, as well as the garage, even when stepping out for a short errand. Never leave an automatic garage door remote exposed in a car parked outside, either.

Making a home more secure takes a little effort, but it will be paid back with an added sense of security and comfort.

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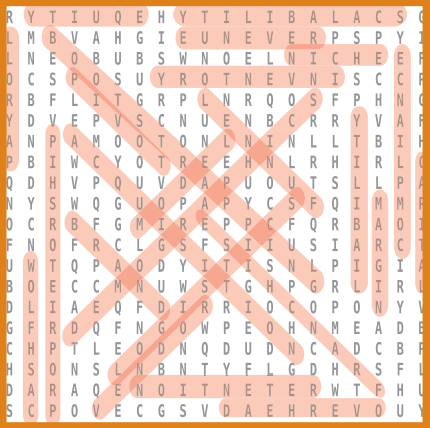
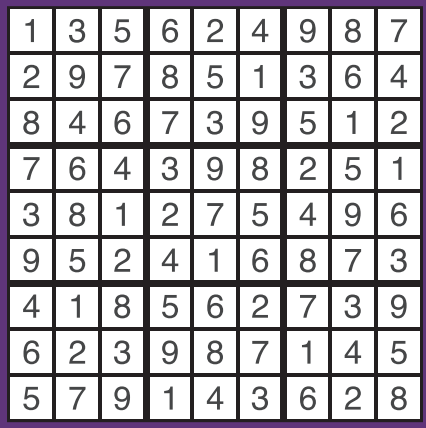
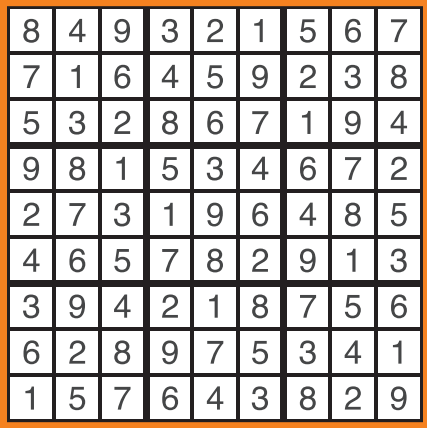
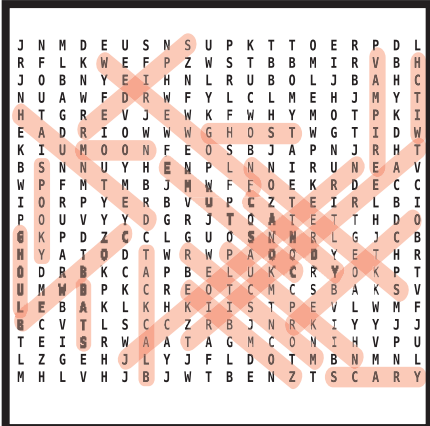
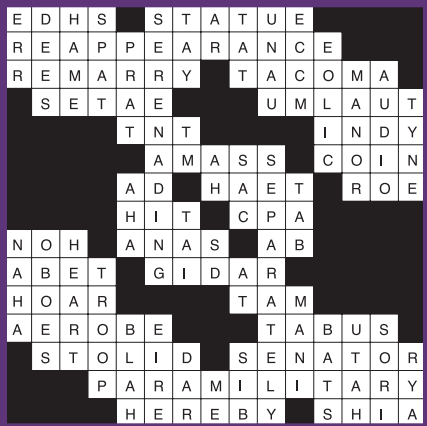
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James 3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.



WE HID 4 HEDGEHOGS IN THE SEPTEMBER PAPER
 THEY COULD BE FOUND ON PAGES 3, 18, 23, AND 29.
 WE HAD 11 PLAYERS IN TOTAL.
 KAREEM DORSEY, JACQUELINE VAN DYKE, AND SHAWN WOLFE (WE
 WERE UNABLE TO CONNECT WITH HIM) WERE OUR FIRST 3 WINNERS.
 WE ALSO WANT TO GIVE A HONORABLE MENTION TO THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS WHO
 ALSO HAD A KEEN EYE AND FOUND ALL OF THE HIDDEN HEDGEHOGS.
 BETTY AMM HERMAN-KIESTER, MARGARET L CLEVINGER, ROSEANN SABINA, AND VIKKI PIETRAS.



Did you know?

Millions of dogs enter shelters and rescues in the United States each year.

According to the ASPCA™, 2.8 million dogs entered shelters and rescues in 2025. While the ASPCA™ reports euthanasia rates for shelter dogs decreased by 7 percent between 2024 and 2025, 320,000 dogs were still euthanized in 2025. Dogs, and large dogs in particular, also are spending more time in shelters than they were as recently as five years ago. The extended time in shelters has led to issues concerning shelter capacity, as many facilities have limited space for new animals. Prospective dog owners are urged to consider adoption when looking for a dog, as adoption can help prevent euthanization and alleviate space issues at local shelters. Adoption also tends to be less expensive than purchasing a dog directly from a breeder.

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Purina Cat chow Complete (blue bag) ~ Clumping Litter ~ Pine Litter
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 Pee Pads ~ Odoban ~ Cat Toys ~ Straw Bedding

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Paw Warriors is a 501(c)(3) non-profit cat rescue and sanctuary in Spring Hill, FL. We could always use an extra set of hands. Cleaning, Maintenance, Socializing of the Kitty Cats. For more info about volunteering and donations follow our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/PAWwarriors

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Gus's Animal Gossip

FAQ about adopting a dog

The decision to bring a dog into a home requires careful consideration. Dogs make wonderful additions to a home, and adoption is a popular means to finding a dog. According to the ASPCA, approximately two million dogs were adopted in 2025 in the United States, and millions more are likely to be adopted in the years to come.

People thinking of adding a furry friend to their family may have some common questions about pet adoption. Answering those questions before bringing a dog home can help prospective pet owners make the best decision for themselves and the dog that might become the newest addition to their families.

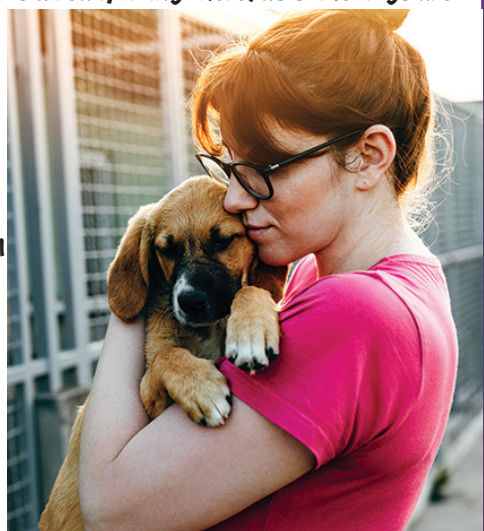
Are all dogs the same? While all dogs need a loving home and regular attention from their owners, different breeds have different temperaments and character traits. Dogs also have different energy levels and sociability. Some dogs may be high energy and enjoy the company of people and other animals, while others may prefer less active days spent exclusively with their families. Before adopting a shelter dog, it's important for prospective owners to consider which temperament will best suit their household. Compatibility is an important variable when choosing a dog, so people considering adoption should try to get a handle on a dog's temperament prior to initiating an adoption.

Will the dog adapt immediately? It can take awhile for a dog to adapt to a new home. Preparing the home in advance to ensure it is welcoming and dog-ready can increase the chances the dog will adapt more quickly. But even that is not a given. When picking a space for the dog, experts advise choosing a secure and quiet space, which can allow the dog to gradually acclimate to its new home in a calm setting.

Can I walk in and adopt a dog? While each facility is different, hopeful dog owners typically will be vetted by officials at a local shelter before they are allowed to adopt. It's the goal of shelter officials to place a dog in a safe, loving and caring home, so officials typically inquire about a prospective owner's home and home life during the vetting process. Some may even schedule a visit to a potential owner's home to check if there are other pets already living there, as some dogs are best suited to homes without other animals. Officials also may arrange a meet and greet between the dog and all residents of the home where the dog might end up. Compliance with the vetting process is important, and non-compliance may compromise the ability to adopt.

Are shelter dogs already trained? Some shelter dogs are trained and some are not. But even trained dogs may backslide upon entering a new environment. So prospective dog owners looking to adopt should be ready and willing to train the dog they ultimately adopt. Training requires consistency and commitment. Training also helps dogs feel secure, which is why it's so important that prospective dog parents be willing to do whatever is required to train or re-train a dog after adoption.

Adoption is a great way to find a dog. Prospective dog owners are urged to ask questions about the process of adoption and to get to know any dog they might adopt prior to bringing the animal home.



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