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Volume 19, Issue 16

*"The Little Green Paper"*

August 20, 2018

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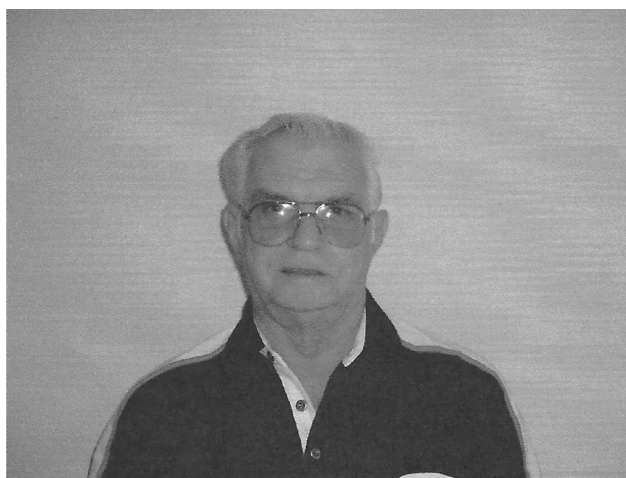
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**Assembled at Midco Inc. Vinita  
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## We miss Pat



After working at another agency for several years, Pat Fitzgerald along with Connie Patrick and Grace Peterson founded Community Options, Inc in July 1999. Pat had extensive knowledge of the DDS programs and was very well known and respected by Case Managers and other state employees. He had been the director of a vocational program that was at the time known as the best in the state.

As CEO, Pat maintained an open-door policy. He encouraged clients and staff to come to visit him at any time. There was never anyone in his office too important that he would not stop and pay attention when a client came to talk to him. And come they did! All loved and respected Pat and would seek him out for help or just to talk.

Sometimes Pat would get taken advantage of. Like the time JV came into his office and asked for \$20 to buy something extra. They discussed this

for a while with Pat resisting the request. By the time JV left about an hour later, he had the authorization to spend \$200. After he left, Pat looked at me and said: "What just happened here?" We just laughed.

Another individual liked knives. Since it is against DDS policy for them to have knives, he would bring them to Pat for safe keeping. Every now and then he would walk into the office and Pat would ask him how many knives he had. He would pull two or three out of his pocket and lay them on the desk. We never could figure out how he got them.

Whatever the issue, individuals seemed to be happier and more relaxed after talking to Pat. Pat's love of working with persons who are mentally and physically challenged was paralleled by his passion for baseball and for the Chicago Cubs! Every year the phrase was "Wait until next year!" He was a

happy man when they won the World Series in 2016!

Pat's ability to solve problems is greatly missed. He was always able to find a solution or to convince Case Management that he was right!

Grace Peterson

I met Pat when I started working at Home of Hope. Pat was the Program Coordinator at Home of Hope. He was very friendly to me. I love to scribble on phone books. Pat knew this interest of mine. He used to give me a phone book to play with, anytime that we met. I really love and miss him.

Justin Hamilton

I started working for Community Links in 2003. I got to know Pat through Justin, my brother. Pat was a big teddy bear. He was focused on clients first. Business was secondary to him.

Nikki Hamilton

I met Pat when I joined Home of Hope in 1973. Pat was a lovely person. He loved to talk to clients. Pat made sure clients are taken care of, always. If he could not solve their problems, he would find somebody to do it. I really enjoyed talking to him. He used to help clients with their job search activities. In the early 70s, he helped to locate my first job which was at Home of Hope. In the 80's Pat helped me to get a job at McDonald's. Pat always check on clients at job sites to make sure they are doing well. He used to get involved and advised them how to improve themselves at work.

Steve Burdick

I met Pat at Community Links office. He was a grandfather figure. He was just an all-around nice man.

John Taylor

I met Pat at Shangrala in the 1980's. We continued our relationship when I joined the Community Options. He was my boss at the Community Options.

Dennis Peterson

We both worked at Home of Hope. We built a solid friendship. We used to talk about a lot of stuff. We both loved Baseball and played it together. His favorite team was Cubs, and we used to tease each other about our favorite teams.

Bruce

I got to know Pat in 2005 when I joined Community Links. I liked to go to his office and talk about sto-

ries that I was working on. Pat and I had an excellent relationship. The best thing I liked about Pat was that he was polite.

Doug William Stone

Pat was one of the most kind-hearted people I know. He and Grace taught me everything I know about the Developmental Disabilities Services. He also showed me that we at Community Options are not just a business, We are a Family.

Lisa White

I knew Pat for 2 or 3 years. He was kind and loving.

Alyssa

He was her babysitter. She knew him all her life. Pat was like a dad to her. He was always around willing to help and take care of her.

Grace Taylor

I knew Pat through the company.

Cody

Pat was kind to me. He was like a friend to me.

Jennifer

Pat and I worked on the second shift at Home of Hope in 1988. We worked with lots of clients there. We tried to locate jobs for our clients. He used to listen to clients problems and try to fix them.

Debbie Gray

I knew Pat from work at Community Options. I knew him for 14 years. Pat was a pretty fair guy. He was a problem solver.

Felicia

I am Pat's daughter. He was a great father and a terrific friend.

Carrie

I worked with Pat for several years since 2001. He was a lovely guy and enjoyable to work for.

Jennifer

I met him when I started working at Community Options. I knew Pat for about 7 years. We were pretty close. He was a fantastic man.

Misty

I knew Pat for 11 years. I enjoyed talking to him. He always put our clients first and business the second.

Phyllis

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton



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## EPA's Betrayal of Oklahoma Scenic Rivers and Lake Tenkiller



The Environmental Protection Agency under former Administrator Scott Pruitt betrayed Oklahoma's Illinois River and Tenkiller Lake twice in two years. Only recently we learned that in 2017 EPA allowed Arkansas to evade critical water quality studies needed to protect the Illinois River. In a letter to EPA, STIR has called the EPA's actions "lamentable" and "likely illegal". We have asked for documentation supporting the decision that gives Arkansas cover to evade Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies of pollution from farms and cities. As we have explained before, a TMDL is much like a pollution diet, setting out how much polluters must reduce their degradation of the Illinois.

You can read the STIR's letter in next page

The under the radar action by EPA comes on the heels of EPA's failure to perform TMDLs for the Illinois River and Tenkiller. Instead, EPA's nearly \$5-million expenditure produced a computer model that Arkansas and Oklahoma can use if they want. EPA dumped the TMDL studies into the laps of the states which have failed to meet their duty to do TMDLs for decades.

Despite STIR's urging, Oklahoma will not do a TMDL study of the Illinois River. Instead, Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment Michael Teague is negotiating another agreement with Arkansas to meet

our water quality standards adopted in 2003 (.037 ppm total phosphorus). Today, Arkansas is violating Oklahoma's phosphorus limit by over 90-percent. The good news is that phosphorus is declining in the Illinois River watershed.

You can read the letter STIR below.

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh  
**SITR Finalized Letter to EPA**



STIR

Save the Illinois River Inc.  
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74464-1949  
[www.illinoisriver.org](http://www.illinoisriver.org) [info@illinoisriver.org](mailto:info@illinoisriver.org)

July 17, 2018

David Garcia, P.E.  
Acting Director  
Water Division  
U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Mr. Garcia,

Save the Illinois River, Inc. (STIR) finds EPA's unusual decision to approve the 2016 Arkansas 303(d) list of Impaired waters lamentable and likely illegal. We ask you to reevaluate your action (EPA Region 6 letter to Ms. Becky Keogh, ADEQ, July 19, 2017). We request an explanation of how this action can be approved under 40CFR 130.7 since no change in total phosphorus has been demonstrated for Osage Creek, Spring Creek and the Illinois River and no other pollution control requirements exist.

EPA's decision to allow these tributaries of the Illi-

nois River to be reclassified as 4(b) instead of category 5 may mislead Arkansas to evade development of TMDLs for these streams and the Illinois River. However, because the Illinois River is impaired at the Arkansas-Oklahoma State line, then it would seem logical that, regardless of the status in Arkansas, TMDL(s) would still be required.

Very simply Mr. Garcia, how can EPA Region 6 justify reclassification of these streams after years of insisting they be listed by Arkansas as impaired by phosphorus? In our view, nothing has physically changed in these waters. Proposed water quality management plans and well-intended bistate agreements to improved water quality alone don't justify reclassification to 4(b). We would hope that EPA would be more diligent in what it requires for such a dramatic change in the Arkansas 303(d) list.

Please provide STIR with the water quality monitoring and assessment data you used to approve the removal of Osage Creek and Spring Creek from the Category 5 designation of the 2016 Arkansas 303(d) list.

EPA's decision to approve the 2016 Arkansas 303(d) list was a surprise to Oklahoma and to Illinois River stakeholders and prevented an immediate objection. STIR has objected to previous attempts by Arkansas to declassify Illinois River tributaries and river segments by not listing them as impaired for phosphorus. We are grateful that EPA, in those previous instances, agreed that the changes were not justified and EPA added these waters bodies to the Arkansas 303(d) list. STIR requests that, in the future, we be notified when EPA considers changes proposed by Arkansas for any waterbodies within the Illinois River watershed in the Arkansas.

Save the Illinois River, Inc., (STIR) is a 501(c)(3) not for profit citizen's coalition chartered by the State of Oklahoma in 1984 to preserve and protect the Illinois River, its tributaries and Lake Tenkiller.

Thank you,

Denise Deason-Toyne  
President

CC: David Ross, Assistant Administrator for Water, EPA Headquarters Deborah Nagle, P.E., Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology, EPA Headquarters

Ann Idsal, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 6  
Scott Thompson, Director, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

Michael J. Teague, Secretary of Energy & Environment State of Oklahoma

Data Master: Eric Peachey

## Poultry Farms on a Rampage in Oklahoma's Green Country



People along the Highway 412 corridor in northeastern Oklahoma are alarmed by the influx of new poultry farms. These new farms have been approved by the Oklahoma Agriculture Department without notice to adjoining land owners. The new farms are not in the Illinois River watershed. Currently regulations do not provide for hearings that would give adjoining landowners due process. What's driving the expansion of poultry farms is a large new chicken processing plant at Gentry, Arkansas. Simmons Poultry Company is building the plant and no doubt loaning construction money to contract growers.

Data shows that the Department of Agriculture has approved 11 applications for new or expanding Simmons Co. poultry farms in Delaware County. These farms will have 76 large poultry houses with a capacity of nearly four-million chickens. You can read more in Tulsa World. The article is titled "Northeast Oklahoma neighbors Organizing to call for limits on poultry industry: Oklahoma residents address issues of poultry farm expansions."

The Spring Creek Coalition and newly formed groups are opposing the farms. They are attempting to get the attention of the Oklahoma Legislators who can change the state poultry feeding act. Check out Spring Creek Guardians on Facebook and the Spring Creek Coalition.

DATA MASTER: Steve Burdick

# Save the Illinois River, Inc.: Lake Frances Whitewater Park



Here is some big news involving a Walton Family project on the old Lake Frances property South of Siloam Springs. This is a major project that our good friend Ed Fite has been working on for years.

It is an economic boon to our area and could have an impact on how Arkansas view the Illinois River, i.e. more respect and admiration for a clean river. The project is patterned after one in the East where water is pumped to an elevated storage and released for kayakers to float down a water course.

## The Lake Frances Whitewater Park

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is seeking public comment on construction of the Lake Frances Whitewater Park on the Illinois River in Adair County. The location is the former City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas water supply lake. The site was once a privately owned resort with a lake and lodge.

The Walton Family is funding the project through the Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA).



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The cost of the project is unknown but is believed to be several million dollars.

The applicant is Ed Fite, vice president of scenic river operations for the GRDA. The agent is Clint Porter of Blackbird Environmental LLC, Norman, OK.

Here is a link to the public notice:

<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?SavetheIllinoisRiver/fd9147a49a/0b051d5304/3ee3365a74/ver=2018-07-24-110612-813>

DATA MASTER: Tino Hensley

## Black Bartelmy's Ghost A Nova Scotia Ghost Story



Black Bartelmy was an evil, surly buccaneer who murdered his wife and children and went to sea with a band of pirates as nasty as he. He roamed the Atlantic coast, murdering and pillaging and laying waste to the countryside as he passed. By the time he approached Cape Forchu in Nova Scotia, Black Bartelmy had a ship loaded with treasure; five hundred chests had he full of gold and jewels and goblets and mighty swords.

A thick Fundy fog lay over the bay as the ship approached, and the treacherous Fundy tide soon took hold of the evil man's ship. The crashing, churning waters of the Roaring Bull, that dangerous ledge of rocks near Cape Forchu, took the pirates ship and smashed its hull.

But Captain Bartelmy spotted land to the starboard side of the ship. He and his trusted mate Ben the

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 Marie White Agent

Hook had the crew load up the escape boat with every treasure chest they could fit. Then the bold pirate had his first mate murder the other buccaneers so they would not have to share the treasure with them. Ben the Hook crouched just out of sight in the rocking escape boat and slit each man's throat with his hook as the seaman bent to place his burden in the hold. Then Ben threw each body over the side of the ship into the churning waters below so that the next pirate would not sense a trap when he came forward with his treasure.

When the treasure was loaded into the boat, Bartelmy and Ben the Hook rowed into the calmer waters of the cape. They searched for a place to bury their treasure. Finding a large cave, they piled each chest inside and then covered the entrance with rocks. As Ben the hook rolled the last boulder into place, Bartelmy thrust a sword deep into his chest, twisting it with an evil laugh, and watched as his mate fell dead at his feet.

Knowing that he had to leave this remote spot or starve, the evil pirate captain walked along the edge of the water, searching for a town or a harbor where he might row the escape boat. But Black Bartelmy soon found himself mired in quicksand with no one to save him. Only the gulls heard his dying curses ringing over the cape as he sank down and down into the mire and was engulfed.

One stormy night soon after the pirate's death, the keeper of the local lighthouse saw a flare going up in the direction of the Roaring Bull. Thinking it is a ship in trouble; the keeper called together a lifeboat crew and launched their boat into the icy waters, heading for the Roaring Bull. But as they approach the vessel in distress, they saw an ancient galleon with tattered sails. Its decks were piled high with treasure chests spilling over with gold. Astride the deck is a solitary man in black. The evil pirate grinned wickedly down at them, gesturing grandly with his cutlass. As the

breakers overwhelmed their boat, the last thing the keeper and the rescuers heard was the sound of Black Bartelmy's ghost, laughing.

They say that the ghost of Black Bartelmy continues to haunt the Cape and the Roaring Bull to this day, and that any rescue crew summoned to save a vessel off the Roaring Bull should take every precaution, because the distressed vessel might not really be there.

DATA MASTER: Steven Burdick

## "Whatif," A Light in the Attic By Shel Silversteins

### WHAT IF

Last night, while I lay thinking here,  
 Some Whatifs crawled inside my ear  
 And pranced and partied all night long  
 And sang their same old Whatif song:  
 Whatif I'm dumb in school?  
 Whatif they've closed the swimming pool?  
 Whatif I get beat up?  
 Whatif there's poison in my cup?  
 Whatif I start to cry?  
 Whatif I get sick and die?  
 Whatif I flunk that test?  
 Whatif green hair grows on my chest?  
 Whatif nobody likes me?  
 Whatif a bolt of lightning strikes me?  
 Whatif I don't grow taller?  
 Whatif my head starts getting smaller?  
 Whatif the fish won't bite?  
 Whatif the wind tears up my kite?  
 Whatif they start a war?  
 Whatif my parents get divorced?  
 Whatif the bus is late?  
 Whatif my teeth don't grow in straight?  
 Whatif I tear my pants?  
 Whatif I never learn to dance?



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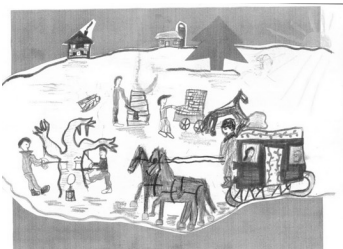


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Everything seems swell, and then  
 The nighttime Whatifs strike again!

As someone whose anxious tendencies have only increased with age, this one hits just as hard now as it did then. Who hasn't had a nighttime (or daytime... or lunchtime... or any time) visit from the Whatifs? The questions range from the silly ("Whatif green hair grows on my chest?") to the devastating ("Whatif nobody likes me?") but the message was what mattered — being a kid doesn't mean you can't have legitimate worries and fears, and if you do, you're not alone.

## A Gift from Saint Nicholas A New York Christmas Story



Claas Schlaschenschlinger was a wealthy cobbler living on New Street in New Amsterdam. He was a contented bachelor who could afford eight - eight mind you! - pairs of breeches and he had a little side business selling geese. He cut quite a figure in New Amsterdam society, and was happy being single, until he met the fair Anitje! She was as pretty as a picture, and Claas fell head over heels for her. He was not her only suitor, by any means. The local burgomaster was also courting the fair Anitje. But the burgomaster was a stingy, hard man, and in the end, Anitje gave her heart and hand to Claas.

At first, Claas and Anitje were very happy and prosperous, raising geese and children. But the burgomaster was a vengeful sort of fellow, who began a

series of "improvements" to the local neighborhood, charging highly for each one, until all their money was gone. The arrival of a blacksmith who repaired shoes with hob nails, so that the shoes lasted a year or more, left Claas, Anitje and their six children as poor as church mice.

Christmas Eve found the Schlaschenschlinger family down to their last, cold meal of bread and cheese. Claas was wondering what he had left to sell, in order to feed his family. Then he remembered a fine pipe that he had found in one of his stockings on a long ago Christmas morning in Holland. It was a fine pipe, too good for a mere cobbler. Claas knew even then that such a gift could only be from Saint Nicholas himself.

Claas leapt up and went to dig through an old chest until he found the pipe. As he unearthed it from under a pile of clothes, a draft of cold air came from the open front door. Claas scolded his children for playing with the door and went to close it, but found the doorway filled by the merry, round figure of a stranger.

"Thank you, thank you, I will come in out of the cold," said the man, stomping in the door and taking a seat by the poor excuse for a fire that blazed in the hearth.

The family gathered around the white bearded old fellow as he tried to warm himself. He scolded them roundly for not keeping the fire hot, and when Claas admitted that they had nothing left to burn, the old man broke his fine rosewood cane in two and threw it on the fire. The cane blazed up merrily, heating the whole room, and singeing the hair of the cat, which leapt away with a yowl of indignation, making everyone laugh. It was hard to be sober around this merry old man, who made sly jokes, told riddles, and sang songs.

After sitting for half an hour with the family, the old man began rubbing his stomach and gazing wistfully at the cupboard.

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"Might there be a bite to eat for an old man on this Christmas Eve?" he asked Anitje.

She blushed in shame and admitted there was nothing left in their cupboard.

"Nothing?" said he, "Then what about that fine goose right there?"

Anitje gasped, for suddenly the smell of a tenderly roasted goose filled the room. She ran to the cupboard, and there was a huge goose on a platter! She also found pies and cakes and bread and many other good things to eat and drink. The little boys and girls shouted in delight, and the whole family feasted merrily, with the little white bearded old man seated at the head of the table. As they ate, Claas showed the old man the pipe he meant to sell.

"Why that pipe is a lucky pipe," said the old man, examining it closely. "Smoked by John Calvin himself, if I am not mistaken. You should keep this pipe all your days and hand it down to your children."

Finally, the church bells tolled midnight, and the little old man cried: "Midnight! I must be off!" Claas and Anitje begged him to stay and spend Christmas with them, but, he just smile merrily at them and strode over to the chimney. "A Merry Christmas to you all, and a Happy New Year!" he cried. And then he disappeared. Ever afterwards, Anitje and her daughters claimed they saw him go straight up the chimney, while Claas and the boys thought he kicked up the ashes and disappeared out the door.

The next morning, when Anitje was sweeping the fireplace, she found a huge bag full of silver, bearing the words "A Gift from Saint Nicholas". Outside the house, there arose a clamor of voices. When Claas and Anitje went to investigate, they discovered their wooden house was now made of brick!

At first, the townsfolk thought they were in league with a wizard, but when Claas told them the story and showed them the new possessions and riches left to them by the old man, they made him the town alderman.

The transformed "Dutch House" remained a landmark for many years following the death of Claas and Anitje, until the British tore it down to make way for improvements in the neighborhood.

DATA MASTER: Alyssa Hollingsworth

## After Twenty Years By O. Henry



The policeman on the beat moved up the avenue impressively. The impressiveness was habitual and not for show, for spectators were few. The time was barely 10 o'clock at night, but chilly gusts of wind with a taste of rain in them had well nigh depeopled the streets.

Trying doors as he went, twirling his club with many intricate and artful movements, turning now and then to cast his watchful eye adown the pacific thoroughfare, the officer, with his stalwart form and slight swagger, made a fine picture of a guardian of the peace. The vicinity was one that kept early hours. Now and then you might see the lights of a



cigar store or of an all-night lunch counter; but the majority of the doors belonged to business places that had long since been closed.

When about midway of a certain block the policeman suddenly slowed his walk. In the doorway of a darkened hardware store a man leaned, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth. As the policeman walked up to him the man spoke up quickly.

"It's all right, officer," he said, reassuringly. "I'm just waiting for a friend. It's an appointment made twenty years ago. Sounds a little funny to you, doesn't it? Well, I'll explain if you'd like to make certain it's all straight. About that long ago there used to be a restaurant where this store stands--'Big Joe' Brady's restaurant."

"Until five years ago," said the policeman. "It was torn down then."

The man in the doorway struck a match and lit his cigar. The light showed a pale, square-jawed face with keen eyes, and a little white scar near his right eyebrow. His scarfpin was a large diamond, oddly set.

"Twenty years ago to-night," said the man, "I dined here at 'Big Joe' Brady's with Jimmy Wells, my best chum, and the finest chap in the world. He and I were raised here in New York, just like two brothers, together. I was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty. The next morning I was to start for the West to make my fortune. You couldn't have dragged Jimmy out of New York; he thought it was the only place on earth. Well, we agreed that night that we would meet here again exactly twenty years from that date and time, no matter what our conditions might be or from what distance we might have to come. We figured that in twenty years each of us ought to have our destiny worked out and our fortunes made, whatever they were going to be."

"It sounds pretty interesting," said the policeman. "Rather a long time between meets, though, it seems to me. Haven't you heard from your friend since you left?"

"Well, yes, for a time we corresponded," said the other. "But after a year or two we lost track of each other. You see, the West is a pretty big proposition, and I kept hustling around over it pretty lively. But I know Jimmy will meet me here if he's alive, for he always was the truest, stanchest old chap in the world. He'll never forget. I came a thousand miles to stand in this door to-night, and it's worth it if my old partner turns

up."

The waiting man pulled out a handsome watch, the lids of it set with small diamonds.

"Three minutes to ten," he announced. "It was exactly ten o'clock when we parted here at the restaurant door."

"Did pretty well out West, didn't you?" asked the policeman.

"You bet! I hope Jimmy has done half as well. He was a kind of plodder, though, good fellow as he was. I've had to compete with some of the sharpest wits going to get my pile. A man gets in a groove in New York. It takes the West to put a razor-edge on him."

The policeman twirled his club and took a step or two.

"I'll be on my way. Hope your friend comes around all right. Going to call time on him sharp?"

"I should say not!" said the other. "I'll give him half an hour at least. If Jimmy is alive on earth he'll be here by that time. So long, officer."

"Good-night, sir," said the policeman, passing on along his beat, trying doors as he went.

There was now a fine, cold drizzle falling, and the wind had risen from its uncertain puffs into a steady blow. The few foot passengers astir in that quarter hurried dismally and silently along with coat collars turned high and pocketed hands. And in the door of the hardware store the man who had come a thousand miles to fill an appointment, uncertain almost to absurdity, with the friend of his youth, smoked his cigar and waited.

About twenty minutes he waited, and then a tall man in a long overcoat, with collar turned up to his ears, hurried across from the opposite side of the street. He went directly to the waiting man.

"Is that you, Bob?" he asked, doubtfully.

"Is that you, Jimmy Wells?" cried the man in the door.

"Bless my heart!" exclaimed the new arrival, grasping both the other's hands with his own. "It's Bob, sure as fate. I was certain I'd find you here if you were still in existence. Well, well, well! --twenty years is a long time. The old gone, Bob; I wish it had lasted, so we

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could have had another dinner there. How has the West treated you, old man?"

"Bully; it has given me everything I asked it for. You've changed lots, Jimmy. I never thought you were so tall by two or three inches."

"Oh, I grew a bit after I was twenty."

"Doing well in New York, Jimmy?"

"Moderately. I have a position in one of the city departments. Come on, Bob; we'll go around to a place I know of, and have a good long talk about old times."

The two men started up the street, arm in arm. The man from the West, his egotism enlarged by success, was beginning to outline the history of his career. The other, submerged in his overcoat, listened with interest.

At the corner stood a drug store, brilliant with electric lights. When they came into this glare each of them turned simultaneously to gaze upon the other's face.

The man from the West stopped suddenly and released his arm.

"You're not Jimmy Wells," he snapped. "Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man's nose from a Roman to a pug."

"It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one, said the tall man. "You've been under arrest for ten minutes, 'Silky' Bob. Chicago thinks you may have dropped over our way and wires us she wants to have a chat with you. Going quietly, are you? That's sensible. Now, before we go on to the station here's a note I was asked to hand you. You may read it here at the window. It's from Patrolman Wells."

The man from the West unfolded the little piece of

paper handed him. His hand was steady when he began to read, but it trembled a little by the time he had finished. The note was rather short.

"Bob: I was at the appointed place on time. When you struck the match to light your cigar I saw it was the face of the man wanted in Chicago. Somehow I couldn't do it myself, so I went around and got a plain clothes man to do the job.

JIMMY."

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

## Some Corny Jokes

- 1) What do you call it when Batman skips church?  
Christian Bale
- 2) What do you call a group of unorganized cats?  
A cat-astrophe
- 3) What disease do you get when you decorate for Christmas?  
Tinselitus
- 4) Why don't they play poker in the jungle?  
Too many Cheetahs
- 5) How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh?  
Ten-tickles
- 6) Why didn't the toilet paper cross the road?  
It got stuck in a crack
- 7) Why did the stadium get hot after the game?  
All of the fans left
- 8) What do you call the children of the Corn's father?  
"pop" corn
- 9) Why did the bicycle fall over?  
Because it was two tired
- 10) What did the duck say to the bartender?  
Put it on my bill
- 11) What do you call bees that produce milk?  
Boo-Bees



# New KIDS COUNT Data Book ranks Oklahoma near the worst in the nation for child well-being



A new report shows the youngest generation of Oklahomans face far-reaching challenges. The state ranks near the bottom in the nation for most measures of child well-being, according to the 2018 KIDS COUNT® Data Book released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Overall, the report ranks Oklahoma 44th out of all 50 states for child well-being. Even in areas where Oklahoma has seen the most improvement recently, we're not keeping up with the progress in other states. We have a high percentage of kids scoring below proficient in reading and math, a high rate of teen births, hundreds of thousands of kids living in poverty, and tens of thousands without health insurance. The 2018 Data Book shows that while Oklahoma has improved on some measures of child well-being, we still have a lot of work to do.

The annual KIDS COUNT Data Book uses 16 indicators to rank each state across four domains — health, education, economic well-being, and family and community — as an assessment of child well-being. Oklahoma ranks:

36th in economic well-being. The economic security of Oklahoma kids has improved significantly in recent years as the state and national economy emerged from recession. Compared to 2010, 19 percent fewer children were in families facing burdensome housing costs in 2016. The state also made progress in reducing child poverty and increasing full-time employment among parents. However, the percentage of teens ages 16-19 not attending school and not working (9 percent) has remained stagnant and ranks as one of the highest percentages in the nation.

46th in education. Oklahoma's ranking for education was lowest among all areas covered in the report. While Oklahoma had seen progress in improving 4th grade reading proficiency, that progress was reversed

in 2017 when 71 percent of 4th graders scored below proficient, 44th worst in the nation. Oklahoma students ranked even lower (45th) for 8th grade math proficiency, with 76 percent scoring below proficient. 44th in the family and community domain. Teen birth rates are at an all-time low nationwide and in Oklahoma, where they have dropped 34 percent since 2010. Despite this improvement, Oklahoma's 2016 rate of 33 births per 1,000 females age 15 to 19 was tied with Mississippi for 2nd highest in the nation. Oklahoma also ranked among the highest for children in families where the head of household lacks a high school diploma (141,000 children, or 15 percent of all kids in the state).

40th in health. Oklahoma was a national leader for one measure of child health in the Data Book — the state has the lowest percentage of children ages 12-17 who abused alcohol in the past year (4 percent). Oklahoma also improved in reducing the number of low birth-weight babies by 7 percent since 2010 and now ranks 19th in the U.S. on this measure. However, the state continues to struggle with a relatively high child uninsured rate (7 percent, 5th highest in the U.S.) and a high rate of child and teen deaths (35 deaths per 1,000, 7th highest in the U.S.).

For too long, Oklahoma has under-invested in children and put too many barriers in the way of young families who are struggling to get by. The commitments made this year to fund education and teacher pay will make a difference, but we also took some steps in the wrong direction. For example, the push to deny health care to very low-income parents who don't meet strict work and reporting requirement threatens health care access for both these parents and their children. We must do better to become a state where all children have what they need to thrive.

DATA MASTER: Doug William Stone



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# Why Americans Struggle to be Happy

**A new cross-cultural study finds that we should pursue stronger social ties, not happiness.**

**(This article was published in the Greater Good Magazine a publication of the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California, Berkeley.)**

Americans want to be happy. The pursuit of happiness is even an unalienable right for Americans, according to the Declaration of Independence.

But some recent studies have found a paradox: The pursuit of happiness tends to make individual Americans unhappy. Did the Founding Fathers set us up for failure?

A new study sheds some light on this peculiar American contradiction, suggesting that the relationship between pursuing happiness and decreased well-being, far from being universal, may actually be a product of our individualistic culture.

Brett Ford, of the University of California, Berkeley, teamed up with researchers from around the world to look at the pursuit of happiness in four culturally-distinct locations: the United States, Germany, Russia, and East Asia. College undergraduates living in each location answered questionnaires measuring their psychological and physical well-being, their motivation to pursue happiness, and the extent to which they viewed happiness in social terms—meaning that for them happiness was linked to social engagement and helping others.

Ford and colleagues then analyzed the data to find out how these factors interacted with one another in different cultural settings. The results, published in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology*, showed that the pursuit of happiness actually led to less subjective well-being for Americans, a finding that replicates pri-

or studies. But for Germans, there was no impact of the pursuit of happiness on well-being—while for the Russian and East Asian students, the pursuit of happiness actually correlated with more happiness, not less.

“Although the intense motivation to pursue happiness has been very robustly linked to worse well-being in the US,” says Ford, “the reverse pattern found in other cultures tells us that the link between the motivation to pursue happiness and well-being is culturally influenced.”

The impact of culture on the pursuit of happiness seems to be related to the way different cultures view happiness, she says. In Russia and East Asia, study participants were shown to strongly equate happiness with social relationships—something Ford says is in line with their more “collectivist,” or group-oriented, cultures. In Germany and the United States this wasn’t the case, probably a result of their more “individualistic” orientation.

This suggests that in collectivist cultures, people seek social solutions for becoming happier, says Ford. Since social ties and social connection are well-known predictors of subjective well-being, this may explain why they tend to actually feel happier.

“The fact that the socially-engaged pursuit of happiness is stronger in Russia and East Asia than it is in the US and Germany at least partially explains why those cultures are more likely to have greater well-being when they really want to pursue happiness,” she

says.

This may also explain why study participants who defined happiness as social engagement tended to have more well-being, whatever their culture. Pursuing social relationships is a surefire way to make someone happier, says Ford, and lots of prior research supports this connection.

Still, it's difficult to accept that the motivation to pursue happiness does not translate into greater well-being for Americans—even for those who view happiness in social ways. Ford speculates that being embedded in a culture that's centered on the self—and holding a culturally incongruent definition of happiness—might lead to a sense of not belonging or of frustration.

For those who still have a typical go-it-alone American attitude, strongly desiring happiness may create a high standard—like, I must always be happy—that's hard to meet. This leads to disappointment, which directly interferes with being happy.

“Part of the reason that wanting to be happy backfires in the US is that people get down on themselves,” says Ford. “Also, wanting happiness can make you self-focused and disengaged, and then you're kind of lonely, and that interferes with feeling happy, too.”

Yet, pursuing happiness is not necessarily doomed to failure, she says. Instead, it depends on whether you belong to a culture that supports social relationships as a pathway to happiness, and many do.

But, if you're from a culture that doesn't see happiness as socially-determined, you can try to focus less intensely on your desire to be happy and just concentrate on building social relationships—hang out with friends and family, seek out social opportunities when possible, and develop practices like compassion and gratitude, which can make you feel more connected to others.

That way, you can avoid the pitfall of pursuing happiness and beat a more direct path to well-being.

“We don't have to discourage people from wanting happiness; we just need to give them better tools,” says Ford.

DATA MASTER: Alyssa Hollingsworth

## Cheesy Salsa Mac



"Cheesy skillet pasta with ground beef. Use hot salsa for a nice kick."

### Ingredients

1 pound ground beef (80% lean)  
2 cups fresh salsa  
1 teaspoon taco seasoning mix  
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper  
1 1/2 cups hot water

1 1/2 cups elbow macaroni

1 cup milk

1 (8 ounce) package processed cheese food (such as Velveeta(R)), cut into cubes

4 ounces shredded sharp Cheddar cheese

### Directions

Heat a large, deep skillet over medium-high heat. Cook and stir beef in the hot skillet until browned and crumbly, 5 to 7 minutes; drain and discard grease.

Return skillet to heat. Stir salsa, taco seasoning mix, and black pepper into the beef; simmer the mixture until hot, about 5 minutes.

Stir water, macaroni, and milk into the beef mixture; bring to a boil, reduce heat to medium-low, place a cover on the skillet, and simmer the mixture until the pasta is tender, about 10 minutes.

Stir cheese food and Cheddar cheese into the pasta mixture; cook until the cheese melts completely, 5 to 7 minutes.

DATA MASTER: Tino Hensley





# Getting to know the Lutherans

**Muddy Waters for a Clearer Vision**—A man whose house and belongings had been washed away by the flood waters commented that the flood had given him a better vision of life. “All the things that I thought were so important and rushed to do each day suddenly came to a halt,” he stated. “The flood waters made me look at what was most important in life.”

Tragedies and difficulties have a way of doing that to us. They stop us in our tracks and make us evaluate what is important in life. That certainly happens when the power of death takes a loved one or threatens us personally.

Thankfully God provides us with rescue. Jesus not only suffered and died for us; He also rose from the dead and has conquered death. He assures us that all who believe in Him shall also conquer death and live eternally in His presence. Death is powerful but the life that God gives us in Christ is far more powerful. Faith in Christ Jesus is indeed the most important item of life.

You are invited to the Lutheran churches in northeast Oklahoma to find out more about the real and eternal life that is found in Christ Jesus.

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

<p><b>Messiah Lutheran Church</b> 460 N. Wilson, Vinita, OK. Sunday School and Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. 918-256-3223 Email: messiahvinita@aol.com</p>	<p><b>St. Paul Lutheran Church</b> Washington and Pine, Fairland, OK. Sunday School and Bible Class 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. 918-676-3059 Email: stpaulluthch@aol.com</p>
<p><b>Bethlehem Lutheran Church</b> 6911 West 380 Road, Adair, OK 74330 Worship 9:00 a.m. 918-785-2994 Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> 706 Rockwood Drive, Grove, OK. Worship 9:30 a.m. 918-786-4585 Website: <a href="http://www.lutheransonline.com/lo/Groveok">www.lutheransonline.com/lo/Groveok</a></p>
<p><b>Mt. Olive Lutheran Church</b> 2337 North Main, Miami, OK 74354 Worship 2:00 p.m. (918) 542-4681 Sunday School and Bible Class 3:00 p.m. Email: mtolive@cablone.net</p>	<p><b>Redeemer Lutheran Church</b> 220 N. Seminole, Claremore, OK. Sunday School and Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. 918-341-1429 Email: rluther@sbcglobal.net – Website <a href="http://www.rlccok.org">www.rlccok.org</a></p>
<p><i>Guests are always welcome. See you Sunday at worship.</i></p>	<p><b>St. John Lutheran Church</b> 607 SE 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Pryor, OK. Sunday School and Bible Class 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. 918-825-1926 Email: stjohncpyor@sbcglobal.net - Website: <a href="http://www.stjohncpyor.org">www.stjohncpyor.org</a></p>



# THE FOX THAT WANTED NINE GOLDEN TAILS



## Highlights of previous chapters

This Japanese fox learned from her mother that if he lived for one thousand years without a dog chasing him a dragon will give him nine golden tails. He decided to get those tails. After enduring many hardships and sleeping in swamps, he found a wonderful and safe place to live in the forest. While living in this safe place, he forgot his enemies and got fat, saucy, and lazy. One day, late in the afternoon he heard a sound. He stood trembling. "The dogs!" he groaned. He darted like an arrow through the forest. Nio Kuro, a prince, had come for hunting. He released his leopards to start chasing the fox. Finally, the fox reached a place where the dragon lived. When leopards got too close to the fox, the dragon went between the fox and the leopards. Since the fox had lived for one hundred years without any dog chasing him, the dragon offered to turn him into a beautiful woman. The fox to get out of this situation accepted the offer. When the prince sees her, he falls in love instantly. He takes her to his castle as his bride. The castle was a very safe place to live, and the prince provided her with a very comfortable life. However, after awhile remembering the life in the forest caused her to become impatient, bored, and disagreeable. One day, the prince asks her if there is anything that he can get or do to make her kind and sweet again. The princess tells him to take her back to the forest where he found her. And, that is what the prince does. In the forest, the princess asked the dragon to change her back to fox, and he did. The fox told himself "Now I'll wait until the thousand years are up. Nothing will satisfy me except to be a fox with nine golden tails." The fox was now five hundred years old. Years were not kind to fox. He became gray and withered. When he asked the dragon to change him to a wizard the dragon said "I thought you wanted to be a fox with nine golden tails. Why have you disturbed me?" The fox answers "A fox with nine golden tails is a nice thing to talk about, but a wise man is better than a dead fox, even if it had twenty golden tails, so make me a wizard, Great One, and then will I trouble you no more." As he became a wise man, he became greedy and used this opportunity to collect wealth instead of helping others with his wisdom. "A wise man is greater than princes or kings," he boasted. "Someday I will rule the land, and all men shall pay tribute to me." And he grew richer and richer every day. But still, he was not happy. He was never satisfied. He became so mean and miserly that at last, the good king decided to stop the wizard. So, the king ordered to arrest the wizard. The king told the wizard that he will keep him in prison until he learns to be good and happy as well as wise. The wizard's wealth was sold and distributed among the poor. There was feasting and rejoicing everywhere, for every one had grown to hate and fear him.

By Nikki Hamilton and Steven Burdick

## CHAPTER IV

THE next moment he was surprised to see an ugly old woman coming toward him. She was dressed in a purple satin gown with gold birds embroidered upon it, her bony fingers sparkled with rings, a long chain of pearls was around her neck, and he knew by the crown on her head that it was the Queen-Mother herself.

"I have heard that you were very wise," she said, peering at him. "If that is true, why don't you get out of this dark hole?"

"Ah, I could," he moaned, shaking his head sadly, "but my charms are all in the cave. I have there a key that will unlock any door, a mantle that will make the wearer invisible to mortal eyes, a root that will cure any disease, a piece of money that the one who carries it will never have an empty pocket, and there, too, is the famous pearl that will make the woman who wears it seem the most beautiful woman in the world." The old

woman crept closer to him.

"What did you say about a pearl?" she whispered breathlessly.

"Ah, it is a pearl fit for a Queen," he said, pursing up his lips. "It is big as the egg of a swan, shaped like a perfect pear and white as a dragon's tooth. The woman who wears it hung around her neck all men will adore. She will always be young, always the loveliest lady that was ever seen." The eyes of the Queen glittered greedily.

"Where is that pearl, wizard?" she asked, grasping his arm so tightly that her claw-like fingers dug into his flesh. But the wizard only smiled.

"The wise man tells not all he knows," he answered. She caught him by the shoulders and shook him fiercely.

"Speak! Speak!" she commanded. "Tell me where you keep this priceless pearl or I will have your



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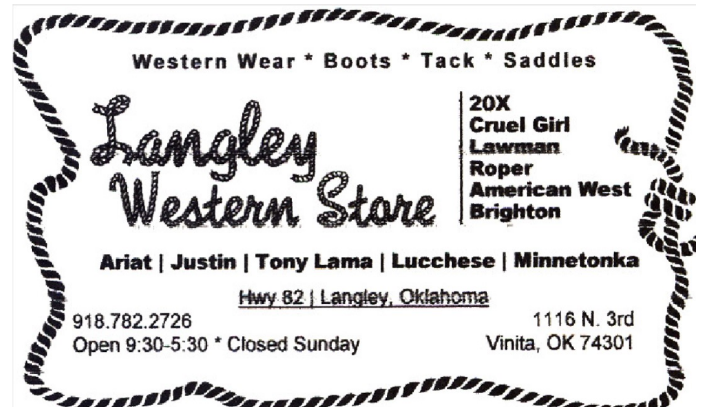
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tongue torn out by the roots.”

“That would be a pity,” he said calmly. “Then the pearl would never be found, and no woman would have the glory of being the most beautiful woman in the world.” The old woman screwed up her wrinkled face and tapped her foot impatiently on the stone floor. Then she said with a cunning leer:

“If that pearl were mine—so great is the power of beauty—I would rule the land in place of my step-son the King. Then would you be my chief counsellor and next to me in authority, which surely would be better than spending all your years in a dark dungeon where no one will ever hear of your wisdom. You could live in my palace and have many servants to wait upon you, and if I were the most beautiful woman, you could become the richest man in the kingdom. It would be a sad thing for the pearl to crumble away and never be worn by a woman, and also for the great Cave Man to die a wretched death—perhaps of hunger—in this dirty hole.”

“If I were only free I could bring you the pearl,” the wizard answered. “No one save me can ever get it, for it is watched by a dragon with eyes that are always open and teeth that are sharp and cruel.” The Queen looked at the door she had just unlocked.

“I have the key,” she said thoughtfully, “but there is not only the jailer without, but many guards that you must pass.”

“You have much gold,” he suggested, “and yet that pearl is worth more to a woman than all the gold and

jewels of the earth. It will bring her everything her heart desires.” She shook her head.

“I cannot buy all the guards,” she told him. “Some of them are old and faithful servants of the King. You must find some other way.”

“You speak of ways as if they were easy to find,” he grumbled, and his heart again felt heavy in his breast. “They should be—for a wise man,” she tauntingly replied. “Surely you must have left your wits in the cave too. But I must be off. The King gives a banquet to-night in honor of his bride, who is called the Fairest Creature of the Flowery Kingdom. And she likes that better than the name of Queen.”

“Stay,” cried the wizard quickly. “The way is found. Know you the weed with the purple flower that has crimson dots on its petals—a weed with glossy, pointed leaves that grows by every wayside and sends out a strange perfume after the sun goes down?” The Queen nodded. “Well, squeeze the juice from the stem of this weed. A few drops of that in the wine to-night and all the castle will fall into sleep so deep that though I rode away on a prancing steed no one would hear me. See that my keepers drink of that wine. Then open my door, unloose my chains and leave the rest to me.” The old woman cackled in her thin, shrill voice. Suddenly she stopped and looked at him suspiciously.

“But you will return?” she questioned. “You will bring that precious pearl to me? If you stayed away you would be searched for in every corner of the land. You could not escape my vengeance. No matter how clever


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you were, the officers of the King would one day find you—even as they found you this time—and when you were caught your head would be brought back to court. Remember my words, Cave Man, if you play me false.”

“Only let me get out, and if I do not return you are welcome to the head of the wisest man in the kingdom,” he told her. “But you must give me seven days—three to go, three to come back, and one day to persuade the dragon to give me the pearl, for he is a jealous monster and ugly when he is roused. It will not be an easy matter to get him to give me his treasure, and no one can steal it from him.

“After the sun has set on the seventh day I will stand before you. Wearing my magic mantle, I will slip by the soldiers and the guards like a puff of wind, and no one will see me pass, no one hear my footsteps. And because this time I will have all my charms with me, no man can harm me. And I will bring you the greatest gift that was ever given to a woman.”

Still chuckling to herself, the old woman unlocked the door of the little cell and slipped away. When she had gone the wizard laughed until his chains rattled. Then he lay down on the hard floor and fell into a peaceful sleep.

That night the banquet in the King’s palace was a merry affair, and when the rejoicing was at its height the Queen-Mother came in and said:

“Let us send wine to all the servants and to the jailers and even to the guards without, that they may all drink to the health of the lovely Queen.”

“Good! Good!” cried the King, as he raised his cup on high. “Every one in the whole city shall have food and drink to-night. Let it be given freely to all.”

But the eyes of many were already so heavy that they forgot to cheer his words, and soon one by one they fell over as they sat eating and rolled upon the floor. At last even the King was overcome, and went fast asleep in his great carved chair with his crown awry. And all of the servants, having had much wine, lay at their posts like dead men.

When all was still the Queen-Mother ran to the prison, and taking the keys from the waist of the sleeping jailer, unlocked the wizard’s cell. He was expecting her, and he cried impatiently:

“You were long in coming. The people everywhere will soon be astir, and they will capture me and bring me again to the King if they meet me on my way to the cave.” (For he did not want her to know that he was going straight to the haunted forest.) While he talked she had unfastened his chains with trembling hands.

“Go! Go!” she entreated. “There is not a moment to be lost. Even now the fireflies are putting out their lights and waiting for the dawn. See, here is gold to pay for your journey and food to last you for a week. Hurry back to me with the wonderful pearl, and when I am the most beautiful woman in the land you shall be the greatest man.”

“When I return you shall be in truth the fairest woman men ever looked upon,” he promised solemnly. Then he wrapped his cloak about him and bowed himself from her presence.

When he was out of sight of the old lady he laughed to himself, and ran like a shadow through the sleeping town. On and on he went, over the Fertile Plain of Sweet Flags and through the long fields of waving rice, never once stopping to get his breath until he stood on the bank of the river. There he found a boat fastened to the shore, and soon he was rowing up the stream with all his might.

But not yet was he safe. Because so many people throughout the country knew the Cave Man and hated him, he was in constant fear of being seen. In the daytime he hid in the tall rushes on the river bank and slept, and all the night he plied his oars with feverish zeal, until his hands were blistered and his back about to break. Once a party of fishermen came so close to the reedy shore where he lay trembling that he could hear every word they said. And what he heard did not make him any more comfortable.

“The King has offered a great price for the head of the

Cave Man,” said one, “and men are hunting all over the island for him. Even if he were a needle they would find him. On the night of the great banquet he cast a spell on the court and caused every one to fall asleep. Then he opened his prison door and ran away. Now the King will know no peace until he is dead. And whoever brings his head to the city will be a rich man for life.”

“I wish I could be the lucky one,” said another. “I’ve been looking in every boat to-day for him.” It seemed to the frightened Cave Man they must hear his heart beating, so near he was, and perhaps they would had they not been so busy talking. When at last they went away he did not dare to move for a long time, and that night he rowed harder and faster than ever.

When the morning of the sixth day dawned he cried aloud for joy, for in the dim light he saw the familiar shadows of Napatantutu. When he had come nearer, even within the shade of the great trees and the overhanging vines, he leaped out of the boat, and as soon as his feet had touched the ground, started toward the home of the dragon. He had thrown away his cloak, his food, his gold, for he no longer had need of them. Once more he was to be free.

In the wood all was silent and lone. Not even a bird was stirring as he sped over the cool, wet grass. The daylight had not yet crept through the thick leaves, and once he stumbled over a dead log and rolled headlong into a muddy hole. The only light he saw came from a frog who had filled himself with fireflies, and they now shone through his round stomach like a shaded lamp as he slept under a sheltering bush.

The darkness was just stealing away when he came to the big hollow tree and knocked twice.

“Alas, Most Powerful One, I am here again,” he cried, as the dragon writhed slowly out. “It is quite as bad to be a wise man as a pretty woman—one is stupid, the other useless. A fox is a far finer creature than either of them, so make me a fox again, O mightiest of living things, and this time will I be content for the thousand years to pass.”

“Will you never be satisfied?” snorted the dragon.

“You are not willing to be what nature made you and you don’t like anything I do for you. Still, as you have not yet been chased by a dog, I must grant your wish. But the next time you get into trouble you needn’t come to me—remember that!” And a moment later a gray fox ran past the hollow tree and with mighty leaps and bounds went crashing through the thicket.

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

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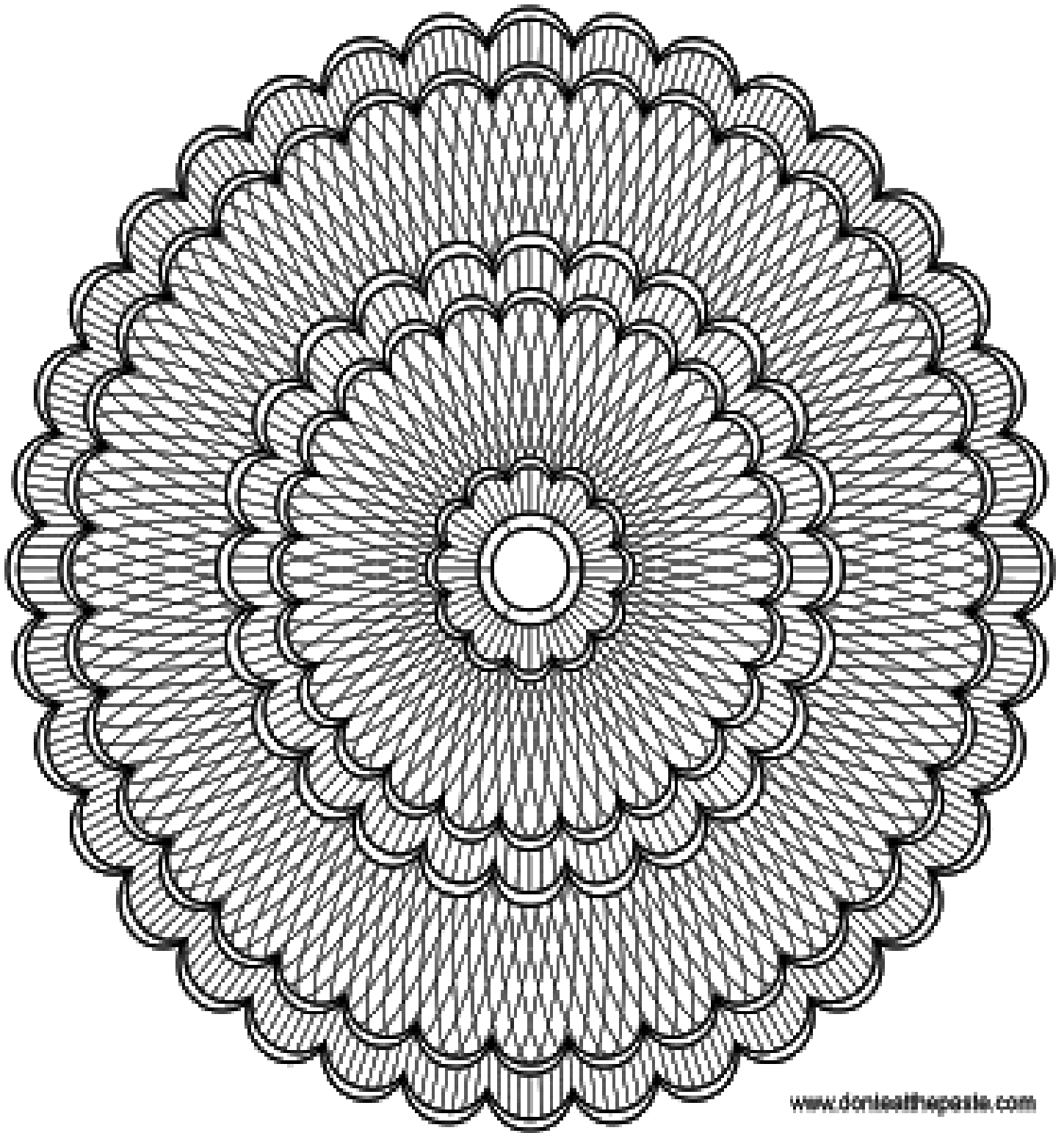
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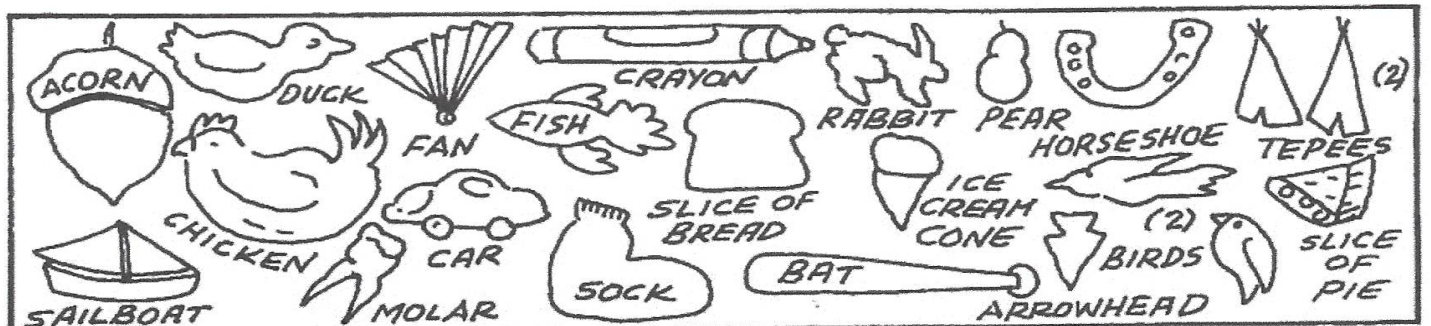
Solutions are printed in page 35.

Electronic format of the solution is available for download at:

<http://links.qitg.net>



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## Up-coming Events

TOPS #570 We meet 9am to 11am Monday morning at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Miami 2337 N. Main St. "Taking off pounds sensibly!"

TOPS #567 meet every Thursday at 10am 433 N Mississippi in Nowata.

TOPS #506 in Miami Heavenly Winds Worship Center meet every 6pm Monday evening. For more info call Susan Walls at 918-540-0570

Every 4th Saturday of the month Veteran's Support Group: Veterans for Veterans. Have you served in the military? Are you struggling with readjustment? Anxious about the future? Struggling to connect with friends and family? Struggling with school? WE CAN HELP! Free veterans support group at 10am every 4th Saturday of the month. The Landing 502 West Corner Fairland, Ok. For more information call Larry Boyd (918) 541-7592 or Cindy (918) 676-3228.

Food Truck Wednesdays —Every Wednesday, grab some tasty eats and gather on the grounds of Guthrie Green. During Food Truck Wednesdays, lunchtime transforms into a community-wide affair, with roaming food trucks posting up at this Tulsa park. While you dine on delicious food, be sure to enjoy the live music and fresh air. Guthrie Green 111 E Brady St Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone: 918-574-2421

Chelsea Dance and Jam Session—Every Friday Night 6:00 pm—9:00 pm—Bring a dish for potluck at 6:30 pm. Musicians are welcome. Civic Center 618 Pine street Chelsea, OK 74016

Big Cabin Senior Exercise Program—Fitness program for seniors held at the Big Cabin Baptist Church gym three times a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Aug 22, 2018 All Settlers' Day Reunion—A tradition that has been around longer than the rodeo and parade, the All Settler's Day Reunion is an afternoon of friendship, music and food. Visit the All Settler's Day Reunion in Vinita for the opportunity to sit down and catch up with old friends, neighbors and classmates. This fun

celebration is held in conjunction with the annual Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo and Parade. Festivities include a parade, live music and prize drawings. 915 E Apperson Rd Vinita, OK 74301 Phone: 918-256-7133

Aug 10, 2018 - Sep 22, 2018 Cherokee Homecoming Art Show—Come to the Cherokee Homecoming Art Show at the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah for arts and crafts, live entertainment and more. Marvel at amazing artwork by citizens of the Cherokee Nation, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees and Eastern Band of the Cherokees at this show featuring first-class examples of traditional and contemporary art. The judged artwork categories in the past have included pottery, basketry and painting. Food trucks will be onsite, so you'll definitely want to bring your appetite. Whether you're a connoisseur of Cherokee art, or you're just looking for a fun day of culture, food and fun, you won't want to miss the Cherokee Homecoming Art Show in Tahlequah. Cherokee Heritage Center 21192 S Keeler Dr Tahlequah, OK 74465 Phone: 918-456-6007 Toll Free: 888-999-6007 Fax: 918-456-6165

Aug 18, 2018 - Aug 25, 2018 Ottawa County Free Fair—Join thousands of festival-goers at this year's Ottawa County Free Fair in Miami. This free county fair will feature nightly livestock shows, commercial exhibits, food vendors and a wide variety of grandstand events in the main arena. Bring the kids for the nightly carnival and enjoy rides that twist, turn and spin. Take a break from the excitement of the carnival and head inside to browse through numerous vendor booths in the Ottawa County Fairgrounds exhibit hall. Plenty of arts and crafts will be displayed and available for purchase. Come to Miami's Ottawa County Free Fair to take a spin on the popular Ferris wheel, or hit the food booths for corn dogs, turkey legs and more. The fair's midway will be filled with food vendors, so stop by and feast on delicious fair

food. Don't miss the fair's annual rodeo and horse show. Miami Fairgrounds 1129 E St SW Miami, OK 74354 Phone: 918-542-1688 Fax: 918-542-8463

Aug 19, 2018 - Aug 25, 2018 Just Between Friends—If you have a growing family or are planning for one, the Just Between Friends sale, held at the Tulsa Expo Square, is specially designed for you. Just Between Friends is one of the country's leading children's and maternity consignment events. This show brings together a wide variety of consignors so you can find the best deals on clothing, toys and supplies for kids, home decorations and much more. An enthusiastic community has sprung up around this sale as well, lending advice and support to parents and families as well as great bargains. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-814-9326

Aug 22, 2018 - Aug 25, 2018 Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo Parade—This must-see parade kicks off the Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo, the premier rodeo event in the southwest. Hundreds of spectators will line the streets as over 100 parade entries march down Route 66. Bring the family to Vinita and enjoy the festivities surrounding the Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo. American Legion Rodeo Grounds North Park Vinita, OK 74301 Phone: 918-256-7133

Aug 23, 2018 Chase Rice in Concert—Head to Tulsa for a night of country as upcoming sensation Chase Rice takes the stage at Cain's Ballroom.

Although many fans might know him from the song "Cruise" co-written with and made popular by the band Florida Georgia Line, Chase Rice has risen into a songwriter of his own accord. As a young boy, Rice cut his teeth on the 1990s country pop crafted by the likes of Garth Brooks and began writing songs in earnest after an injury sidelined his University of North Carolina football career. Since 2011, Rice has kept the good times rolling with the release of three records and an EP filled with pop tinged country gems such as "Pbj's & Pbr's," "Country Boy's Kryptonite," "Carolina Can," "Whisper," "Ride", "Eyes on You" and "Ready Set Roll." Cain's Ballroom

423 N Main St Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone: 918-584-2306

Aug 24, 2018 - Aug 26, 2018 Tulsa Ballet II presents: On Your Radar—Come discover the next big names in the world of dance at the Tulsa Ballet II Mini-Series in Tulsa. Presented by Tulsa Ballet II, the second company of the Tulsa Ballet, the "On Your Radar" production will include a double bill program featuring world premiere choreography inspired by Tulsa Ballet dancers. Come see the world premiere of "Peter and the Wolf" by Tulsa Ballet resident choreographer Ma Cong and a stirring performance of "OMENS" by Jennifer Archibald of the Arch Dance Company. 1212 E 45th Pl Tulsa, OK 74105 Phone: 918-749-6030

Aug 25, 2018 Tulsa Maker Faire—Over 150 "makers" and inventors fill Central Park Hall of the Tulsa Expo Square with amazing projects and ideas. Makers include artists, engineers, scientists and anyone else who has something they've made or a concept they have come up with and want to display. Many projects combine creativity and resourcefulness to create products that are useful and appealing.

The day includes demonstrations from makers and fun, interactive shows that put their passions to the test. Come see what people are creating to make the world a better place and arrive early to have enough time to see all of the exhibits and shows. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-779-6025

Aug 25, 2018 India Fest—The India Association of Greater Tulsa is hosting a day of fun and Indian culture at India Fest in the pavilion of Tulsa Expo Square. You'll be able to taste food from different regions of India, watch traditional dancing, listen to Indian music and see cultural art. There will also be a children's activity area as well as an opportunity to get a henna tattoo and shop vendor booths selling beautiful jewelry and other goods. Come get lost in the vast culture of one of the world's biggest countries at India Fest in Tulsa. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-809-4849

Aug 25, 2018 River Rumba & Regatta—Enjoy a weekend of fun on the water in Muskogee at the River Rumba & Regatta. Try your hand at building a cardboard boat with family and friends, complete with decorations and flair, or come out just to witness the handmade boats float down the river. On Friday night, enjoy the parade of boats and a harbor party, then on Saturday morning head out to the regatta. Watch as the boats race while the construction of each boat is tested. The River Rumba & Regatta is a great time for the whole family. Three Forks Harbor Muskogee, OK 74402 Phone: 918-684-6302

**Do You have an event that you would like to share ?**

**Community Links of Chelsea  
1100 Walnut/PO Box 85  
Chelsea, OK. 74016  
Ph: 918-789-2862  
Fax: 918-789-5296**

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

## **MESSY ROOM** by Shel Silverstein

Whoever room this is should be ashamed!  
His underwear is hanging on the lamp.  
His raincoat is there in the overstuffed chair,  
And the chair is becoming quite mucky and damp.  
His workbook is wedged in the window,  
His sweater's been thrown on the floor.  
His scarf and one ski are beneath the TV,  
And his pants have been carelessly hung on the door.  
His books are all jammed in the closet,  
His vest has been left in the hall.  
A lizard named Ed is asleep in his bed,  
And his smelly old sock has been stuck to the wall.  
Whoever room this is should be ashamed!  
Donald or Robert or Willie or—  
Huh? You say it's mine? Oh dear,  
I knew it looked familiar!

DATA MASTER: Alyssa Hollingsworth

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# LINKS Word Search

## To Kill A Mockingbird



You will find solution at <http://links.qitg.net>  
 You may also find the solution in page 36

H	b	W	h	P	H	Y	S	I	C	S	r
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PHYSICS  
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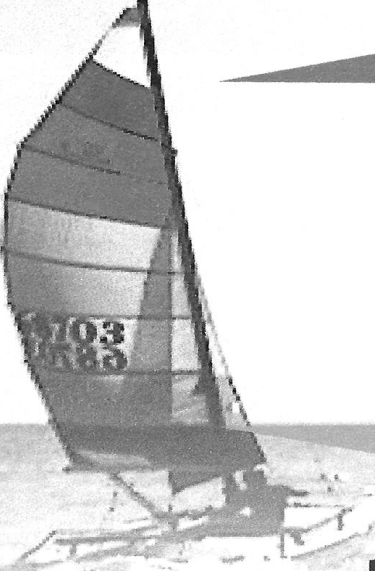
THEORY  
 HOWARD  
 CALTECH

LEONARD  
 PASADENA  
 SCIENCE

WOLOWITZ  
 AMY  
 SPACE

BAZINGA  
 BIG  
 RAJESH

STUART  
 BANG  
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## Some Short Poems By Rumi

I am not from the East or the West.  
I am not Christian or Jew or Muslim.  
I am not Hindu, Buddhist, Sufi, or Zen.  
I do not belong to any established religion or any  
cultural system.  
I am neither the body nor the soul, for I belong to  
Divine Sould of my Lord, my Beloved.

I would shake the dust from my coat, and rise  
If I realized my own perfection.  
I would rush to the sky, empty and light;  
My head would be high as the ninth heaven.

Look again, and see how much I need you;  
Watch the long nights that I lie here awake.  
No, I am wrong: the distance between us  
Will not let me live to see you again.

You do bad deeds and hope to get back good  
Though bad deserves bad only in return.  
God is merciful and kind, but even so,  
If you plant barley, wheat won't grow.



# Library News

## CATOOSA PUBLIC LIBRARY

105 E. Oak (918) 266-1684

### Hours:

Monday thru Thursday: 9am to 7pm

Friday: 9am to 12pm & 1pm to 3pm

Saturday: 10am to 2pm

Closed Sunday

## LANGLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

325 W Osage Ave. (918) 782-4461

### Hours:

Mon.-. 1:00pm to 7:00pm

Tue.-Fri. 9:00am to 12:00pm

And 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Closed Sat. & Sun.

## MIAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY

200 N. Main (918) 541-2292

### Hours:

Sun. 1:00pm

Mon., Wed., Thurs., 9:00am to 8:00pm

Tues., Fri., Sat., 9:00am to 5:00pm

## CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY

618 Pine (918) 789-3364

### Hours:

Tuesday: 10:00am to 7:00pm

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 10:00am to 4:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am to Noon Closed Sunday & Monday

## NOWATA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

224 S. Pine (918)273-3363 Fax: (918)273-1818

Hours: Mon-Fri 10:30-7:30; Sat 9-2

## CHOUTEAU PUBLIC LIBRARY

PO BOX 353, 111 N McCracken Phone: 918-476-4445

### Hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri – 10AM to 5PM

Tues, Thur. – 10AM to 3PM

Closed Saturday & Sunday

## DELAWARE COUNTY LIBRARY

429 S. 9th St. Jay, Oklahoma (918) 253-8521

Web: [www.eodls.lib.ok.us/jay.html](http://www.eodls.lib.ok.us/jay.html)

### Hours:

Mon., Wed., & Fri. 9:00am to 6:00pm

Tues. & Thurs 9:00am to 8:00pm

Sat. 9:00am to 1:00pm

Closed Sundays and Holidays

## GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1140 NEO Loop (918) 786-2945

Toll free in the 918 area code: 1-888-291-8150

Fax: (918) 786-5233


### Hours:

Mon., Wed., & Fri.: 8:30am-5:00pm

Tues. & Thurs.: 8:30am-9:00pm

Sat. 8:00am-12:00pm

Closed Sunday



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**PRYOR PUBLIC LIBRARY**

505 E. Graham, Pryor 918-825-0777

**Hours:**

Monday & Thursday: 1:00 PM-9:00 PM  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:9:00AM-5:00PM

**SALINA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

420 E. Ferry St. (918) 434-8001

**Hours:** Tue. 12pm-7pm, Wed. 12pm-5pm,

Thurs. & Fri. 10am-5pm

Closed Saturday, Sunday & Monday

**TALALA AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

106 W Watova St. (918) 275-4540

**Hours:**

Monday - Friday 2pm to 5pm

Monday and Thursday evening 6pm to 9pm

Saturday 11am to 2pm

**VINITA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

215 W. Illinois (918) 256-2115

**Hours:**

Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. 11:00am to 6:00pm

Thurs. 11:00am to 7:00pm

Sat. 11:00am to 3:00pm

Closed Sunday

**WILL ROGERS LIBRARY**

1515 N. Florence, Claremore OK (918) 341-1564

**Hours:**

Mon & Tues. 9:30am to 8:00pm

Wed. & Thurs. 9:30am to 6:00pm

Fri. & Sat. 9:30am to 5:00pm

Closed Sunday



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Thank you for helping us to improve our contribution to our community by providing better articles and stories.

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**What are the differences in the above pair or the below pair**



# Find Six Hidden Words in the Picture

Puzzles-world.com



Illustration by Bam Gott



# This Month in History — August

## August 7

1945 - Japan Nuclear Bomb Comment, Japanese imperial headquarters stated a few new type bombs had been dropped, causing considerable damage. The US confirmed it was a single bomb which later is confirmed to have destroyed 60 percent of the City of Hiroshima including practically all living things, human and animal burned to death by the tremendous heat and pressure engendered by the blast.

1948 - Truman Government Accused of Un-American Activities, Representative, McDowell a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, claimed that the Truman government shipped 1,300 tons of uranium to the Soviet Union in 1945. McDowell thought that the Soviets had a spy ring sabotaging the United States government and that the uranium was going to be used for military purposes. He also accused Canada of shipping 500 pounds of uranium nitrate and 500 pounds of black uranium to Moscow. The Soviets claimed the radio-active material was for medical and research purposes.

1958 - U.S.A. Arthur Miller, The playwright Arthur Miller has been cleared of contempt of court by the Court of Appeals for refusing to provide the names of alleged Communist writers with whom he had attended meetings with in New York in 1947 to the House of Un-American Activities Committee.

1960 - Protests Over White Only Restaurants, In Oklahoma city more than 200 black protesters had a sit-in to protest the ban on blacks eating at white-only restaurants. The protesters marched from Calvary Baptist Church to the downtown area in 90 degree temperatures. Although the group maintained a policy of non-violence, the leader Mrs. Luper decided that if the sit-in failed the next step would be a boycott of Oklahoma city businesses.

1990 - Kuwait Operation Desert Shield, Following the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq troops President George Herbert Walker Bush orders the organization of Operation Desert Shield with American troops becoming part of an international coalition in the war against Iraq.

1998 - Africa US Embassies Bombed, The Islamic fundamentalist terrorist organization al-Qaeda (run by Osama bin Laden) is believed responsible for the

bombings today of two United States Embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania where at least 200 people have been killed and more than 5,000 injured. US President Bill Clinton is shocked and has made a statement "We will use all the means at our disposal to bring those responsible to justice."

2004 - U.S.A. Iraq Prisoners Abuse, Sgt. Joseph Darby agonized for a month before he reported that his fellow soldiers were abusing Iraqi prisoners. He turned in two CD's of photos that revealed inmates hooded and naked being led around on a leash like dogs. Darby found it hard to submit the photos, because the soldiers who committed the dishonorable acts were his friends.

2013 - Switzerland Segregation of Asylum Seekers, The first special center to house asylum seekers was opened in Bremgarten, Switzerland. Switzerland made a law to restrict the movements and public freedoms of asylum seekers in the country. The first such move was to house asylum seekers in special centers. Other measures included banning them from public places like swimming pools and libraries. Opponents say the measures are racist and discriminatory.

## August 8

1974 - U.S.A. Nixon Resigns, Richard Nixon Announces his resignation following the Watergate Scandal During a nationally televised broadcast.

2006 - Spain Hundreds of Morocco Migrants Arrested, A total of 383 migrants, mostly from Morocco, who hid in trucks and fairground rides were arrested in the Spanish enclave of Ceuta in North Africa on this day. The migrants were headed for the Spanish mainland when they were intercepted by authorities.

2007 - China Baijis Dolphin Possible Extinct, Scientists announced that a rare type of dolphin was likely to be extinct. The Yangtze river dolphin, called Baijis, did not show up on researchers' surveys of the river. The extinction of the Yangtze river dolphin would become the first extinction of the kind in nearly fifty years. It is thought one or two have been spotted since but that would be insufficient to stop the Baijis Dolphin from extinction.

## August 9

1945 - Atom Bomb Dropped On Nagasaki, The United States dropped its second atomic bomb killing more

than 70,000 people in Nagasaki, Japan. The first bomb had been dropped 3 days earlier on Hiroshima. Six days later on August 15th, Japan announced its surrender effectively ending World War II. Japan signed the Instrument of Surrender on September 2.

1974 - U.S.A. Gerald Ford, Gerald Ford becomes the 38th president of the United States after the Watergate Affair and President Richard Nixon resigns.

1978 - U.S.A. Inflation, Inflation rates rose by 1.1% in just one month as well as steeply rising fuel costs. Gas and heating oil had increased in price dramatically. Gas prices this year exceeded the July 1978 prices by 38.9% and heating fuel was 51.8% higher. Yearly Inflation Rate for 1978 in the USA was 7.62% Yearly Inflation Rate for 1978 in Great Britain was 8.3% To put this in perspective 1975 Inflation UK was 24.2% and 1979 in USA was 11.2%

2011 - Philadelphia Introduces Curfew, The US city of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania instituted a curfew after a series of violent flash-mobs occurred in the city. The measures put in place by Mayor Michael Nutter would carry penalties for minors and their parents who violate the curfew.

### **August 10**

1990 - Magellan Space Craft, The Magellan spacecraft begins its orbit of the planet Venus after a 15-month journey from Earth. The space craft spent the next four years mapping Venus, producing a detailed map of 99% of the planet.

2002 - Concerns Over Corporate Corruption, Stock market losses, corporate corruption, and a sagging economy have hit senior citizens hard and have become an election issue. After retiring a couple of years ago Michael Dalal, a lawyer and businessman, lost half of his savings and had to go back to work. Seniors accounted for 14% of the vote in 2000. The AARP (The Association of Retired People) is keeping an eye on pensions and corporate fraud prevention.

2003 - UK Heatwave First Time Over 100 Degrees Fahrenheit, The United Kingdom records its first ever temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. At Brogdale in Kent a temperature of 101.3F was recorded the highest ever recorded temperature in the country since records began in 1875. Throughout August the intense heat wave scorched Europe, claiming more than 35,000 lives.

2007 - Damage Spotted On Space Shuttle Endeavour While docking with the International Space Station

(ISS) damage has been spotted believed to have been caused during takeoff. The damage is 9 pieces of foam which have broken away. The damage is a major concern for NASA since the Columbia disaster in 2003 which was caused through a similar problem and not repaired prior to re-entry. Over the next 7 days astronauts will be sent out on space walks to first inspect the damage and send pictures back to NASA and then if needed to patch up the damage with filler of a metal shield to protect the area for re-entry. The Space shuttle has been sent to the International Space Station to replace one of the four gyroscopes which help control the orbiting outpost's orientation in space.

### **August 14**

1917 - Palestine Turks Attack Gaza, In Palestine Turks plundered and murdered some of the Jewish inhabitants. An Associated Press Official observed, "The attitude of the young Turks for the unfortunate non-Turkish races within their empire has been an open campaign of robbery, exploitation, and massacre." The town of Gaza had to be evacuated and the regional violence was the worst since World War I began.

1929 - Germany Graf Zeppelin, The Graf Zeppelin from Friedrichshafen Germany was prevented from taking off due to bad weather in Russia. It was supposed to travel to Tokyo on its second world cruise. It was possible that another course in Russia could be charted for it, but the weather remained uncertain.

1935 - Social Security Bill Signed, Following the huge unemployment and suffering during the Depression President Roosevelt signed the social security bill providing unemployment compensation and pensions for the elderly.

1945 - Truman Announces Japanese Surrender, President Truman announces Japan has accepted terms for unconditional surrender following the second nuclear bomb on Nagasaki on the August 9th just a few days before, The agreement to the terms of the Potsdam Terms had been agreed on the 10th August but not made public till this date.

1969 - Northern Ireland Britain To Deploy Troops, Following a number of days of violence in Londonderry, Belfast and other cities in Northern Ireland, the British Home Secretary James Callaghan announces troops will be deployed in Northern Ireland as a "limited operation" to restore law and order.

1999 - U.S.A. Gun Buy Back Project, In the District of Columbia, the government had implemented a program to buy guns for \$100.00 each. A victim of its own success, some municipal governments ran out of money and had to bribe people with running shoes and sewing machines instead of cash. The gun control program barely diminished the 220-250 million fire arms in circulation. DATA MASTER: Tino Hensley

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### Sudoku Puzzle Easy Solution

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

### Sudoku Puzzle Moderate Solution

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

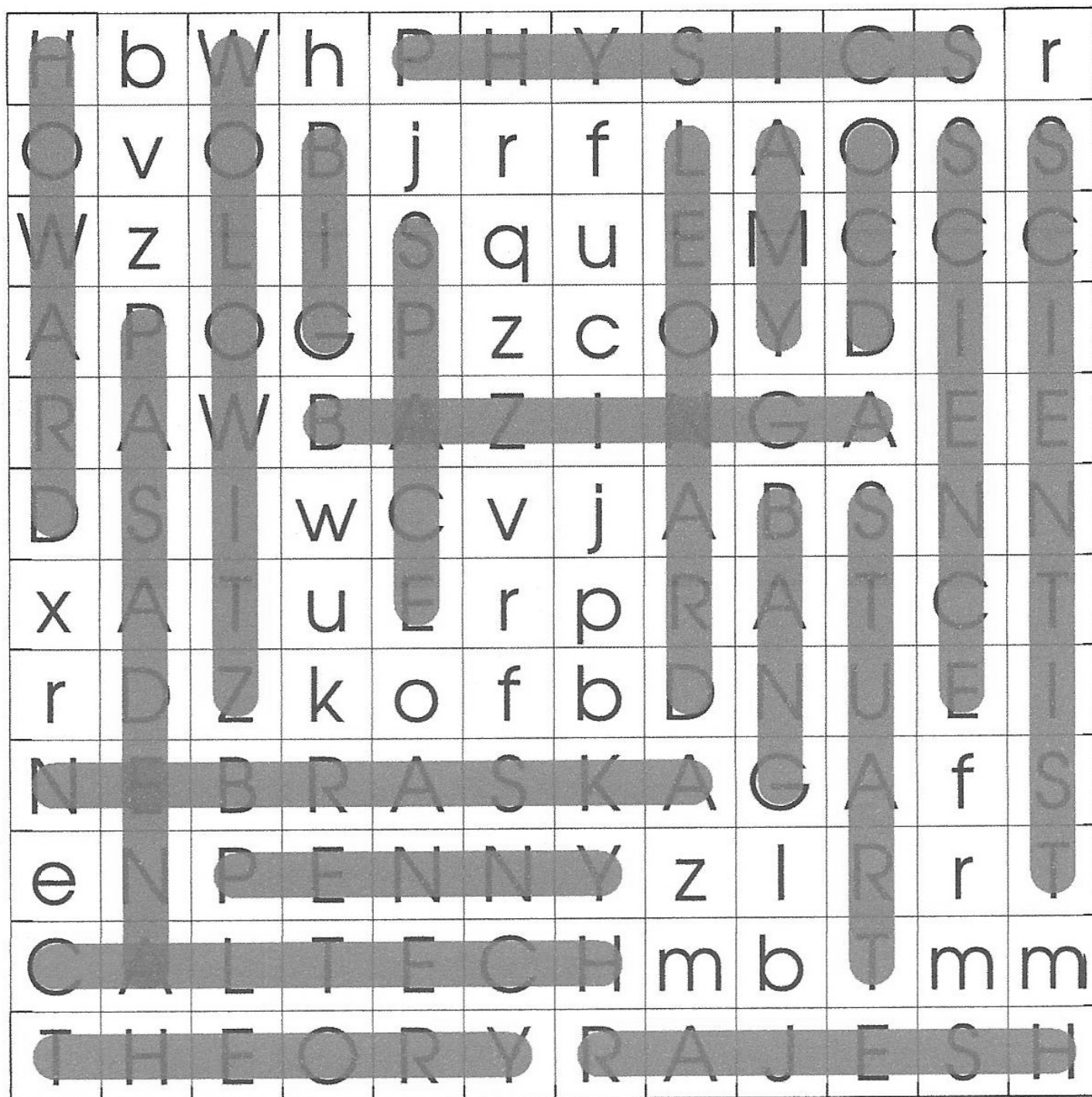
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# Word Search Puzzle Answer



PHYSICS  
NEBRASKA  
OCD  
PENNY

THEORY  
HOWARD  
CALTECH

LEONARD  
PASADENA  
SCIENCE

WOLOWITZ  
AMY  
SPACE

BAZINGA  
BIG  
RAJESH

STUART  
BANG  
SCIENTIST

# Some Short Poems

Poetry is a method of expression that uses specific words, their meaning or interpretation and rhythm to deliver exciting and imaginative ideas as well as evoke emotional actions and reactions. Poetry has the potential to provide you with insightful advice as well as encourage you, strengthen your resolve, motivate you to succeed, and even give you direction and clarity when your hope is shaken.

Some of these famous short poems you have heard before, but others may be new. Either way, we hope you love them!

"Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,"

Emily Dickinson

## The Lesson

I keep on dying again.  
Veins collapse, opening like the  
Small fists of sleeping  
Children.

Memory of old tombs,  
Rotting flesh and worms do  
Not convince me against  
The challenge.  
The years  
And cold defeat live deep in  
Lines along my face.  
They dull my eyes, yet  
I keep on dying,  
Because I love to live.

Maya Angelou

## Life Through My Eyes

Life through my bloodshot eyes  
would scare a square 2 death  
poverty, murder, violence  
and never a moment 2 rest  
Fun and games are few  
but treasured like gold 2 me  
cuz I realize that I must return  
2 my spot in poverty  
But mock my words when I say  
my heart will not exist  
unless my destiny comes through  
and puts an end 2 all of this


Tupac Shakur

## Happiness Carl Sandburg

I ASKED the professors who teach the  
meaning of life to tell  
me what is happiness.

And I went to famous executives who boss the work of  
thousands of men.  
They all shook their heads and gave me a smile as though  
I was trying to fool with them  
And then one Sunday afternoon I wandered out along  
the Desplaines river  
And I saw a crowd of Hungarians under the trees with  
their women and children  
and a keg of beer and an  
accordion.

Data Master: Eric Peachey



"I am glad a friend told me about..."

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Brook Field Nursing Home  
Claremore DHS  
Claremore Nursing Home  
Claremore Senior Citizen's  
Claremore Veteran's Center  
Fried Pie LLC  
Midco Clothes & More  
Muns Music Store

Stillwater Milling  
Warehouse Market  
Wood Manor Nursing Center

**Commerce**

Eastwood Manor

**Fairland**

Fairland Family Restaurant  
Fairland Sr. Citizen's  
Kristy's Hair/Nail  
The Landing

**Foyil**

Okie Mart

**Grove**

Eagles Landing  
Dixie Finance  
Drakes  
Grand Prosthetics & Artificial  
Limbs  
Grandwood  
Grove Eye Center  
Grove Sr. Citizens  
Harps Grocery  
MidCo Clothes & More  
Rancho Viejo  
Tom Cat Corner

**Jay**

Delaware County Library  
Jay Senior Citizen's  
Savannah Park Apartments

**Ketchum**

Blue Moon Bait & Tackle  
Buddy's Foods

**Langley**

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Betty's Beauty Shop  
Langley Drug  
Reasor's Grocery Store  
The Dam Stop

**Miami**

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Miami DHS  
Miami Library  
Miami Senior Citizen  
Windridge  
Wal-Mart Supercenter  
Lil Café (Commerce)

**Nowata**

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D&L's  
Wash & Dry  
Homeland  
Katie's Donuts  
Nowata Depot Café  
Nowata Senior Citizens Cen-  
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Ranch Supply  
Regent Bank  
Reid's Discount Pharmacy

**Oologah**

Pump - N - Petes #15  
Tacora Mart (Conoco)

**Pryor**

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Mayes Co. Nutritional Center  
Pryor DHS  
Pryor Library  
Shady Rest Nursing Home  
Sinclair's  
The Book Exchange



Thank  
YOU so  
much!

We here at the Community Links would like to thank our readers for their support of our Little Green Paper. We strive to improve contents of the paper to your liking and hoping that you will enjoy every issues of this paper.

Steven Burdick

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**Deadlines for ad submission:**  
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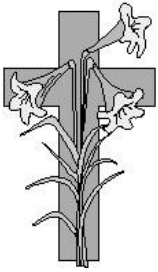
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# JEWELS FROM THE WORD

## COMING UP BULL CREEK

The home where I grew up was across the alley from Bull Creek. Bull Creek was very shallow and lazy creek, but no boats ever floated our section of the creek. Never one time in my life did I

see a boat on Bull Creek. Even if someone had tried to float a boat on the creek, they wouldn't have been able to float under the low bridge on Tahlequah Street.

That's what made the saying so strange, "When our ship comes in."

I often wondered when I was a child what it really meant when someone said, "When our ship comes in." Oh, I knew it meant that they expected the ship to bring their fortune, to bring them money, but how or why, I didn't know.

Then in history classes I learned about the early settlers of America and how they depended on ships from England to bring them supplies, so I figured it out. That's what it meant when they said, "When our ship comes in." The early-day settlers had to carefully watch what they used and use things from nature in their new home in America to make do until the next ship came from England with supplies from home.

Mama would even make a joke about it. Our ship couldn't make it up Bull Creek. The absurdity of that idea of an ocean vessel trying to come up Bull Creek would make us all laugh.

Mama taught us all to work hard. We all had to work in the garden out behind our house. That garden was the biggest one on the block, and yielded the best green beans, corn, tomatoes, beets. Mama canned them all in Mason jars to feed us kids during the winter.

She taught us to give to the church, to give to others who were in need, and help out our neighbors and friends when they needed a hand. Mama also taught us to believe in God to supply our needs and not some make-believe ship coming in.

King David said, "I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread." Psalm 37:25.

DATA MASTER: Tino Hensley

**Lavon Hightower Lewis** To read more devotional, go to:

<http://jewelsfromtheword.com/>

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