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“The Little Green Paper”

January 05, 2019

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Happy New Year



On the 1 st January of every year, many countries around the world celebrate the beginning of a new year. But there is nothing new about New Year's. In fact, festivals and celebrations marking the beginning of the calendar have been around for thousands of years. While some festivities were simply a chance to drink and be merry, many other New Year celebrations were linked to agricultural or astronomical events. In Egypt, for instance, the year began with the annual flooding of the Nile, which coincided with the rising of the star Sirius. The Phoenicians and Persians began their new year with the spring equinox, and the Greeks celebrated it on the winter solstice. The first day of the Chinese New Year, meanwhile, occurred with the second new moon after the winter solstice.

The Celebration of Akitu in Babylon

The earliest recorded New Year's fes-

tivity dates back some 4,000 years to ancient Babylon, and was deeply intertwined with religion and mythology. For the Babylonians of ancient Mesopotamia, the first new moon following the vernal equinox—the day in late March with an equal amount of sunlight and darkness—heralded the start of a new year and represented the rebirth of the natural world. They marked the occasion with a massive religious festival called Akitu (derived from the Sumerian word for barley, which was cut in the spring) that involved a different ritual on each of its 11 days. During the Akitu, statues of the gods were paraded through the city streets, and rites were enacted to symbolize their victory over the forces of chaos. Through these rituals the Babylonians believed the world was symbolically cleansed and recreated by the gods in preparation for the new year and the return of spring.

In addition to the new year, Atiku cele-

brated the mythical victory of the Babylonian sky god Marduk over the evil sea goddess Tiamat and served an important political purpose: it was during this time that a new king was crowned or that the current ruler's divine mandate was renewed. One fascinating aspect of the Akitu involved a kind of ritual humiliation endured by the Babylonian king. This peculiar tradition saw the king brought before a statue of the god Marduk, stripped of his royal regalia, slapped and dragged by his ears in the hope of making him cry. If royal tears were shed, it was seen as a sign that Marduk was satisfied and had symbolically extended the king's rule.

Ancient Roman Celebration of Janus

The Roman New Year also originally corresponded with the vernal equinox. The early Roman calendar consisted of 10 months and 304 days, with each new year beginning at the vernal equinox. According to tradition, the calendar was created by Romulus, the founder of Rome, in the eighth century B.C. However, over the centuries, the calendar fell out of sync with the sun, and in 46 B.C. the emperor Julius Caesar decided to solve the problem by consulting with the most prominent astronomers and mathematicians of his time. He introduced the Julian calendar, a solar-based calendar which closely resembles the more modern Gregorian calendar that most countries around the world use today.

As part of his reform, Caesar instituted January 1 as the first day of the year, partly to honour the month's namesake: Janus, the Roman god of change and beginnings, whose two faces allowed him to look back into the past and forward into the future. This idea became tied to the concept of transition from one year to the next.

Romans would celebrate January 1st by offering sacrifices to Janus in the hope of gaining good fortune for the New Year, decorating their homes with laurel branches and attending raucous parties. This day was seen as setting the stage for the next twelve months, and it was common for friends and neighbours to make a positive start to the year by exchanging well wishes and gifts of figs and honey with one another.

Middle Ages: January 1st Abolished

In medieval Europe, however, the celebrations accompanying the New Year were considered pagan and unchristian-like, and in 567 AD the Council of Tours abolished January 1st as the beginning of the year, replacing it with days carrying more religious significance, such as December 25th or March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation, also called "Lady Day".

The date of January 1st was also given Christian significance and became known as the Feast of the Circumcision, considered to be the eighth day of Christ's life

counting from December 25th and following the Jewish tradition of circumcision eight days after birth on which the child is formally given his or her name. However, the date of December 25th for the birth of Jesus is debatable.

Gregorian Calendar: January 1st Restored

In 1582, after reform of the Gregorian calendar, Pope Gregory XIII re-established January 1st as New Year's Day. Although most Catholic countries adopted the Gregorian calendar almost immediately, it was only gradually adopted among Protestant countries. The British, for example, did not adopt the reformed calendar until 1752. Until then, the British Empire, and their American colonies, still celebrated the New Year in March.

DATA MASTER: Nikkie Hamilton



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A 15 Year Blessing From A Homeless Person

This is a story that happened 15 years ago but it has always stayed with me since then.

On the way back from work every evening, more often than not there would be a homeless man standing at the exit of the freeway. He looked to be in his late 40's but was probably a lot younger. He had shoulder length straight black hair a short beard, and he was of average stature.

His eyes were what struck me the most about him, they were brown and they had a sparkle. Like an inside light that was beaming out of his eyes. His eyes, I thought, represented the man in general. People say they can tell a lot from a person's eyes. It was certainly true in his case. He always waved at every car, he was always happy and smiling and sometimes almost dancing.



Every day after work I would remember to gather any spare change, and put it aside to give to him if I saw him. A feeling of joy would come over me every time I saw him, as I came off the ramp. He had that effect.

I'd quickly roll down my window and give him the coins. Occasionally the red light would be on for a minute and we would ask each other about our day. His answer would always be the same, "I'm blessed!"

I knew what his answer was going to be every time, yet I would still ask. It amazed me that even in his situation of being homeless he was so positive, and his answer would remind me of how blessed I was. A single mother of four amazing kids, with a place to call home and with a job to provide for my kids.

Then one day I was called into my boss's office and was told that I was being laid off due to the economy. A feeling of worry engulfed me, and for the rest of that day all I could think of was "how am I going to provide for my kids, how am I going to pay rent, what am I going to do?"

Needless to say that on my way home that day I was very sad and upset. I didn't remember to look for my spare change and keep it ready like I usually did. I wasn't feeling the joy as I got off the ramp where the homeless man would be. Yet there he was as always, as I turned the ramp. He set his eyes on me, while still smiling and waving at others.

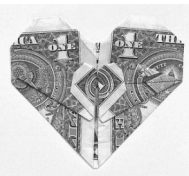
light to turn, he strolled over to my car. He had a big smile he looked me straight in the eyes and said "today I will give you a dollar". He then reached into his pocket and pulled out a dollar bill. I was blown away. I burst into tears. I wanted to jump out of my car and hug him!

You see that day he gave me more than a dollar bill, he taught me a valuable lesson. No matter what material things are taken from you, no one can take away your choice to be joyful. My ride home was smooth sailing, I had lost my job, had no savings, but I knew I was blessed!

Every time I'm faced with challenges, I think of the homeless man's valuable lesson and remember that I am blessed.

DATA MASTER: Ivory Pinton

I'd hoped to catch the green light, but I missed it. While I was waiting for the red



A Cab Ride I'll Never Forget

Twenty years ago, I drove a cab for a living. One night I took a fare at 2:30 AM, when I arrived to collect, the building was dark except for a single light in a ground floor window. Under these circumstances, many drivers would just honk once.

But I had seen too many impoverished people who depended on taxis as their only means of transportation. Unless a situation smelled of danger, I always went to the door. This passenger might be someone who needs my assistance, I reasoned to myself.

So I walked to the door and knocked. 'Just a minute', answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor.

After a long pause, the door opened.

A small woman in her 80's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940s movie.



By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets.

There were no clocks on the walls, no knick-knacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman.

She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb.

She kept thanking me for my kindness. "It's nothing", I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother treated."

"Oh, you're such a good man," she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address, and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?"

"It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly.

"Oh, I don't mind," she said "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice."

I looked in the rear-view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued. "The doctor says I don't have very long." I quietly reached over and shut off the meter.

"What route would you like me to take?" I asked.

For the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator.

We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl.

Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing.

As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."

We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her.

I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair.

"How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse. "Nothing," I said.

"You have to make a living," she answered. "Oh, there are other passengers," I responded.

Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly. Our hug ended with her remark, "You gave an old woman a little moment of joy." After a slight pause, she added, "Thank you."

I squeezed her hand, and then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life.

I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away? On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life.

We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware, beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

A Circle of Kindness Started by a 10 Year Old Girl

I was shopping at my local supermarket., as I normally have for years. One particular day, I had done about 2 weeks worth of shopping and was headed toward the register to pay for my groceries. After the cashier had scanned my items and I had bagged them up, she stated that the total was \$150.



I reached into my back right pocket to grab the money to pay and noticed that there was no money in there. I started to get nervous. I knew my pocket book was in the car and I was sure I had put the money in my back right pocket. I look at cashier with wet eyes and a confused look not knowing what to do. There were people behind me on the line. She told me to speak with the courtesy counter. I laughed and said, "Really? It's cash, no one would hand that in!"

I said I would be right back and ran to my truck to get out more money to pay my bill, money that was to be used to pay another bill. I ran back inside and handed money to the cashier. She again prompted me to ask the courtesy desk, "You never know..." she said. I laugh and said "okay".

I decided that there was no harm in checking so I walked up to a woman behind the counter and said "I have to ask, did anyone turn in cash by any chance?". She asked "How much?". My face then lit up. "\$200 in the form of one hundred dollar bills." I replied. She said, "Actually, yes, someone did!". I was so surprised! "Who? I want to thank them." She points to a young girl about 10 years old and says, "She did."

I walked over to the mom and hugged her. She said, "It wasn't me, it was my daughter". I said "I know, I wanted thank you both, although she found it ... it's because of you that I got this back." I was so happy, I was almost in tears.

The next day at work, a person in another department offered me tickets to the circus. He handed me 5 tickets. Almost instantly that young girl's face popped in my head. After work I went back to the supermarket and stopped at the courtesy counter and asked if they had any idea who that woman was? She smiled and said, "Yes, actually I do. She is a friend of mine". Oh good, I was so happy. I asked her to do me a favor and pass along these 5 tickets to her and say thank you from me.

She told me that the family of the little girl who found my money don't have very much so they would really appreciate this. She also said that they have 3 children, so five

was the perfect number of tickets! "Wow," I thought.

At first, I had felt a little weird bringing those tickets to the store but I am SO glad I did!

Lesson: Never think twice about doing something nice for someone.

DATA MASTER: Eric Peachey

A Schoolbag Full Of Love Makes A Difference

I must share a heart warming experience I enjoyed this week, both as a parent and a human being.

My daughter, Emma (in 7th grade), started back to school last week. There is a young boy in her class (call him Jake) who is quite overweight. As you might expect he is the butt of many jokes and is treated very badly by other kids (and even by the teachers). Jake gives the impression that he's not a nice guy, mostly because of the fact that he's constantly picked on.

For several nights this week Emma came home from school upset about the fact that Jake gets picked on so much. She also mentioned that he had no school supplies as his family could not afford them. He was constantly asking to borrow paper, which just gives kids even more reason to pick on him.

One night Emma was extremely upset about this situation, not only because Jake was picked on but that he also had no supplies. We sat together that evening and discussed the situation in great detail. We devised a plan for Emma to engage Jake in a conversation and for her to ask Jake what he needed for supplies.

The next day Emma spent some time with Jake and really came to realize that this young man had a heart of gold, but rarely was able to show it because he was always on the defensive. Emma asked Jake if he needed supplies and if he could make a list for her for she would bring in extra supplies that she had at home for him. He put together a small list, 3 ring binders, paper, pens, pencils and a pencil sharpener. Emma told him she would help and he was most appreciative.

That evening Emma and I made a pilgrimage to the store where we bought everything on his list and then some! Emma mentioned that he needed a new pencil box for the one he had got destroyed when one of his pens exploded - so we added that to the list. When we got home, we put all the supplies into a brand new grey back pack - because Jake did not have a back pack either.



The next day, I brought the bag to the school principal and explained the situation. I asked the principal to give the bag to Jake discreetly so that he did not have to feel embarrassed.

Later that day I picked Emma after school and she was all smiles. The principal had called

Jake down to his office and gave him the bag. Jake read the little note that Emma had put inside hoping that he had everything that he needed and to enjoy the supplies. As Jake walked into the classroom - he winked at Emma and later thanked her very much for all the stuff. He loved it all!

Emma said that it was so cute to see him take out his new pencil box and to start arranging his pencils and pens. He seemed very happy.

This was a great experience for my daughter but I can't tell you the joy it brought to me to see a young kid acting upon something that was truly bothersome to her. Blossoming kindness and the willingness to take action are wonderful things to see.

I encourage all the youth of this world to keep your hearts open and never be afraid to show random acts of kindness to those in need. No matter what your friends say. Act upon what's in your heart, you never know it may create a ripple effect for others to do the same!

As for Jake ... I saw him walking home yesterday with his new back pack. It was a good feeling to know we had made a difference in his life!

DATA MASTER: Doug W Stone

A Shoe Seller Walks in the Shoes of Kindness

Today, I felt terrible. My head was full of problems and confusion. I decided to take a walk even though I didn't know where I would go. The most extraordinary thing happened when I was out on this walk.

I saw an old man sitting on a chair. He was a seller of second-hand shoes. I thought he looked at least 70 years old. He seemed so tired and nobody was buying his shoes. I wanted to give him something but I had not brought anything with me.

Then, a little girl came toward him. I heard the child say, "Grandfather, may I polish your shoes?" That old man took pity on her, smiled and he gave her a shoe to polish.



The girl said, "I polish the shoe because I need money to buy my brother a new school uniform."

I heard this and tears came to my eyes. The old man answered, "Oh, little girl. Just stop doing this. Come with me and I will buy you a uniform." Then they walked to a market (I followed behind) and he bought her a uniform.

The girl was so happy. She said, "Thank you so much for doing this. May God bless you." Then she left, leaving the old man smiling.

He walked away from the market, but I stopped him. I whispered in his ear, "You are a hero! Thank you for your kindness!" As I walked away, I glanced back and I could see him still smiling.

I was blown away by the kindness I had just seen. Someone who had so little themselves, was able to show such incredible generosity! Amazing! My own sadness had completely disappeared, chased away by the light of this kind act.

I began realizing that I have a lot to be thankful for. I hope, some day, I can show my appreciation of what I have by following the example of the old man who only had a little, but shared it so beautifully with someone who had nothing.

DATA MASTER: Breanna McDowell

Happy New Year

Happiness depends upon your outlook on life. - Find the good in all situations

Attitude is just as important as ability.- Keep your attitude positive

Passion find yours this year! - Do what you love and you will never work

Positive thoughts make everything easier.- Stay focused and stay positive

You are unique, with special gifts, use them. - Never forget you have talent

New beginnings with a new year.

Enthusiasm a true secret of success.

Wishes may they turn into goals.

Years go by to quickly, enjoy them.- Wisdom from your elders, listen

Energy may you have lots of it. - Take care of yourself

Appreciation of life, don't take it for granted. - Live each day

Relax take the time to relax in this coming year.- Keep a balance in your life

DATA MASTER: Doug W Stone

Rescuing Dash-9, An Orphaned Dog

I don't know how others will respond to my first story, but I do know that it was something I was compelled to do, regardless if the recipient was "only a dog".

I work for the railroad, which can be a very dangerous place. It is also usually located in the poorest of neighborhoods. Unfortunately, we often see homeless, hungry animals hanging around looking for scraps of food. Often, they are large, scary-looking dogs who end up at the pound.

For the last few weeks there has been a rather large, red dog who has been hanging around with an obvious leg injury. He was scared and would not come near any of us.



Each day I came to work I would talk to him, toss him a bite to eat and go about my business. After about two weeks of this, this wonderful creature saw me arrive at work one evening and bolted straight for me!! I must admit I was a bit frightened at first, now knowing what his intentions were, but I was soon to find out. He came straight up to me, lunged at me and began showing me his love and affection in the only way he knew how.....wonderful and powerful kisses (okay, licks...LOL).

All I had with me at the time were some cans of cat food in the back of my truck, but I felt it was better than nothing, so I opened them up and filled his tummy. I also offered him some clean water, which from the looks of him I was pretty sure he hadn't had in a while. Amazingly enough, this little act changed this dog in a way I could only imagine. He followed me around the yard for the rest of the night, which was kind of scary, as it can be a dangerous place, as I said. When I got up on the engine to work, he stayed on the ground looking up at me and howling like he had lost his best friend. I finally had to go back down and take him to safety across the tracks. I made him a cardboard bed and, believe it or not, he layed there like he knew what I had done for him. And yes, he waited my entire shift for me to return.

Now, for my dilemma. I knew this guy needed a home and medical treatment. However, I have 5 cats, two dogs and a 3 yr old grandson. Not knowing this dog, personally, how could I risk the safety of my family at home for a stray? I knew I could not, but it was breaking my heart to leave him there. Call it my "mom" instincts but I knew this guy really would make a good companion for someone, I just wasn't sure it would be me.

By the end of the next day, several of my co-workers

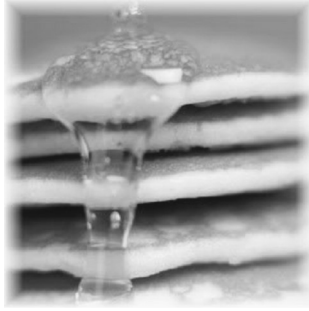
came to me and were flabbergasted that I had "made friends" with this dog. Not only that, but he was also beginning to trust the guys I worked with and was showing to be very loving and playful. They were amazed. And even more amazing, there were more than one of them who were willing to take this wonderful dog we had labeled as "Dash-9" (it's a type of locomotive) into their hearts and homes.

I am happy to say that "Dash" is now being treated for his injured leg and being lovingly nurtured and nursed back to health. And I know that he will "pay it forward" by being a devoted and loving pet in his new home.

DATA MASTER: Steve Burdick

Pay-It-Forward Chain Reaction at a Restaurant

My four grown children were all home visiting this weekend so we decided to go out for brunch. The centre of attention was my toddler granddaughter. She had never had pancakes before so we were excited about her trying them.



We always try to make our family meals special so this time we decided to order every kind of pancake they had and asked that they be served on one big family-style platter!

We each took turns digging in and also feeding it to the baby, who loved them. There was a lovely environment at the table and lots of smiles. As I was looking around the table, enjoying this wonderful scene, a gentleman at a nearby table caught my eye.

He was eating his breakfast alone quietly, in the corner. He frequently looked over and smiled as my granddaughter continued to entertain us all. Suddenly, I had a great idea.

I dug out a smile card from the reserve that I always carry with me and snuck up to the waitress. I explained to her that I wanted to pay that man's bill anonymously and that instead of the bill could she please give him the smile card.

Our leisurely breakfast was still going on after the gentleman had left. The waitress came over and told us that he had passed the smile card on and paid for another table before he left. How great!

Not only that though, the waitress then came back later and told us that the second table had now paid for someone else and passed the smile card on too!

I couldn't believe it when the waitress came back and told us that the third table had done the same thing.

What was really amazing though, was that by the time we left, half the room had ended up paying for a different table! Isn't that great?

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

New Year Poem Results

Many of us are dreamers, in 2019 become doers.
Make your thoughts actions and become pursuers.
Don't make resolutions without an action plan.
The secret to success is right in your hands.

Thomas Edison discovered more than 1000 ways, to not
invent a bulb of light,
But eventually, through perspiration, he found the solu-
tion to get it just right.
If he had stopped at nine hundred ninety-nine,
You'd be reading in the dark, and might miss a line.

Take the first step, do something outrageous,
The act of doing, will become quite contagious.
Accomplishments will come closer each day,
Don't just wish, but act and pray!

Don't let pride ever cause you to stumble,
Baby steps are still progress and keep us humble.
It's better to move slowly then to turn or hide,
Keep your eyes focused, let God be your guide.

At the end of the year, you'll discover you've been mov-
ing,
Much closer to the goals, you have always been pursuing.
It won't all happen on January one,
But with faith, hope, and action, you will get the job done.

DATA MASTER: Steven Burdick

Some Inspiring Stories

Cop gives boots to homeless woman.

While patrolling the streets of San Francisco last month, Officer Jackie Selinger happened upon a homeless woman holding a sign saying that she was desperate for a new pair of shoes, ABC7 reported. Selinger could've continued walking, but instead decided to take the woman to a shoe store in San Francisco's Union Square to buy her a pair of \$69 all-weather boots, using money from her own pocket.

Beyonce makes our hearts our sing.

Beyonce proved once again that she is deserving of our eternal adoration when she fulfilled a 12-year-old's final wish. When Taylon Davis learned that she had an inoperable tumor, she asked for just one thing — to be able to dance with Beyonce. While sitting in a VIP section at the “Halo” singer's recent Las Vegas show, Taylon sang “Love on Top” with Bey, who then serenaded her with “Survivor.”

Senator spends day with homeless man to learn what life on the streets is really like.

Senator Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) wanted to get a better sense of the struggles homeless people in his state face and knew he wouldn't be able to do it from his cushy office, the New Haven Independent reported. So Murphy spent his day off on Dec. 30 with “Nick,” a homeless man who recently lost everything. The two went to a local shelter, hunted for jobs and attended support-group meetings. Murphy walked away feeling disappointed in the lack of government funds being spent on housing — and a determination to do something about it.

Terminally ill dad fulfills sweet dream.

Chris Rosati, 42, received the debilitating death sentence of ALS, but that didn't keep him from fulfilling his sweet dream, CBS reported. The father of two petitioned Krispy Kreme to loan him a truck so he could spend a day with his family and friends, doling out free donuts at schools, parks, children's hospitals and cancer wards.

Internet pitches in to send Olympian's parents to Sochi.

Sugar Todd's parents sacrificed nearly everything to make sure their daughter could fulfill her speedskating dreams. The 24-year-old got the exhilarating news that she would be competing at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, but her parents simply couldn't afford to make the trip. That's when the Internet stepped in and raised \$5,000 (in less than 24 hours!) so that Diana and Mike Todd can be there to witness their daughter's mo-

ment of glory.

Restaurant owner sells business to help gravely ill employee.

When Michael De Beyer, owner of Kaiserhof Restaurant in Montgomery, Texas, learned that one of his young employees had a brain tumor — and no health insurance — he decided to go to extreme lengths to help her out, KHOU reported. Beyer is selling the German restaurant he's owned for 17 years and donating the money to Brit-tany Mathis so that she can get the proper care she needs.

Man completes year of celibacy to help sex trafficking victims!

After Pete Lynagh, 33, made a friendly bet with his roommate to not have sex for a year, he decided to get serious about the challenge, The Age reported. The DJ and boxing instructor committed the 365 days, which he completed on New Year's Day, to raising awareness and funds for sex trafficking victims in Cambodia. By year's end, Lynagh raised over \$22,000 for Free to Shine, a nonprofit that gives scholarships to at-risk girls.

DATA MASTER: Breanna McDowell

The Friendship Between This British Schoolboy And Syrian Refugee

Jack Stanley and Rani Assad are students at Harrop Fold School in Salford, England and subjects of the U.K. documentary series, “Educating Greater Manchester,” which debuted on Aug. 31.

During the first episode of the show, 11-year-old Rani — whose family fled Syria as refugees when he was just 4 years old — explained that he’s faced bullying in school. But his classmate, Jack, recognized that he was having a hard time and took him under his wing.

The story of Jack and Rani’s sweet friendship spread beyond “Greater Manchester Viewers” as clips of their interviews have reached people across social media over the past week.

Touched by their lovely story, Twitter users were quick to declare #FriendshipGoals and noted that many adults could learn from Jack’s openness toward others and Rani’s kind heart.

“If ever there was a positive message to show how all the world can live together, Rani & Jack just nailed it,” tweeted Paul Benbow.

Rani’s dad Khaled told Manchester Evening News after the show premiered that Jack is “a good guy” who has done “nice things” for his son. “Some children do wrong things but Jack helped my son,” he said.

Jack’s mother Steph told the outlet that she’s incredibly proud of her son. “That’s just Jack through and through. He will take anybody under their wing if he thinks his assistance will help them,” she said. “If he sees anybody in any bother, he will go out of his way to make them feel welcome.”

DATA MASTER: Ivory Tipton





Getting to know the

THE ONE WHO HELPS

The fifth chapter of John’s Gospel tells of Jesus’ encounter with a man whose paralysis kept him waiting beside a pool called Bethesda in Jerusalem for 38 years. When this amazing pool’s waters stirred the first to dip in its waters would be miraculously cured, but this man had never been able to be the first into the pool. He could not do it on his own and had no one to help him be the first. On the day that Jesus came by, He spoke with the man. showed Him mercy, and told him to walk – healed him.

This episode from John’s Gospel can serve to remind us that no matter how hard we try, what is most important for us – our eternal salvation – cannot be accomplished by ourselves or even with the help of others. Only our all-merciful Jesus through His perfect life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection has made it possible for us “pick up our mat”, walk His way, and spend eternity with Him.

The Lutheran church near you is a place to hear again and again of this gracious, all-sufficient Savior. Come!

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

<p>Messiah Lutheran Church 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>St. Paul Lutheran Church 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>Bethlehem Lutheran Church 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>Immanuel Lutheran Church 706 Rockwood Drive, Grove, OK. Worship 9:30 a.m. 918-786-4585 Website: www.lutheransonline.com/lo/Groveok</p>
<p>Mt. Olive Lutheran Church 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>Redeemer Lutheran Church 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 www.rlcckok.org</p>
<p><i>Guests are always welcome. See you Sunday at worship.</i></p>	<p>St. John Lutheran Church 607 SE 9th 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: www.stjohncpyor.org</p>

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.

Nov 16, 2018 to Jan 13, 2019 Snowflake Winter Festival Ice Skating—Lace up your ice skates and head to Snowflake Winter Festival Ice Skating in downtown Tahlequah. The Snowflake Ice Rink is a professional-sized ice rink offering everything you need to experience all the joys of gliding and sliding on the ice.

Bring your bundled up family and leave with lasting memories and hearts filled with holiday cheer. Downtown Tahlequah, OK 74464 Phone: 918-456-0651

Jan 11, 2019 - Jan 13, 2019 Big Om Yoga Retreat—Relax and reach a sense of inner peace at Sequoyah State Park's Big Om Yoga Retreat. During this calming yoga retreat, immerse yourself in nature and disconnect from your normal routine. Share a hostel-style bunkhouse with 15 other retreat goers and bond over a fun weekend of yoga, workshops and hangouts with fellow yomies (yoga+homies). By the end of this adventurous and playful weekend, feel refreshed and recharged. Sequoyah State Park & Lodge 17131 Park 10₁₅ Hulbert, OK 74441 Phone: 918-605-8221

SUDOKU PUZZLES

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1-9, without repeating any.

You asked and we listened. The top puzzle is easy and the bottom one is moderately hard.

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

Hardship level: Moderate

			6		8	3	7	
	7		2		1		6	8
2								
					9		2	5
		7	5		4	6		
1	2		8					<small>Adjust table row</small>
								4
3	4		1		5		9	
	5	6	4		3			

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton
Solutions are printed in page 35.

Jan 11, 2019 Crayons Improv Comedy Show— Get ready to laugh at this family-friendly, improvised comedy show. Crayons Improv uses audience suggestions, participation and drawings to create unique and hilarious scenes in a G-rated show that is suitable for the whole family. Get to know Crayons' whacky and memorable characters as the troupe performs their own brand of short-form comedy, featuring old-time favorite improv games along with brand new ones. Come to the Heritage United Methodist Church in Broken Arrow and see a fun, light-hearted comedy troupe that has been tickling funny bones across the country since 2007. Heritage United Methodist Church 5300 E Kenosha St Broken Arrow, OK 74014 Phone: 918-557-5616

Jan 12, 2019 Celebrity Cheer & Dance Regionals— Support competing teams of cheerleaders as they perform challenging routines sure to entertain the crowd and judges alike. During the Celebrity Cheer & Dance Regionals, all-star, school and recreational cheer teams will take to the mat to perform impressive, high-flying stunts. Dance teams, too, will show off their well-choreographed routines for all to see, displaying their perfect rhythm and striking talents. Cheer the cheerleaders and dancers on to victory as they set out to win cash prizes and more at Tulsa Expo Square. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-289-0211

Jan 12, 2019 The Oklahoma Wedding Show—Bring your significant other and trusted group of family and friends to the Oklahoma Wedding Show at Tulsa Expo Square. Held in Central Park Hall, the Oklahoma Wedding Show features all things wedding from top local and national wedding vendors showcasing the latest in fashion, cuisine, photography, entertainment and everything else a bride and groom needs for the special day. Guests can speak one-on-one with talented, sought-after vendors. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-744-6205 Fax: 918-748-5772

Jan 12, 2019 Josh Abbott Band in Concert - Get ready to honky tonk, when the Josh Abbott Band takes over Bob Wills' home stage, bringing their unique version of Red Dirt and Texas country music to Cain's Ballroom. This hard working band has built a loyal following from relentless touring, tight musicianship, Abbott's unique voice and hook-heavy songwriting. Enjoy a night of live music inside this historic Tulsa venue as the Josh Abbott Band delivers some of their top hits to the sea of assembled fans. Cain's Ballroom 423 N Main St Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone: 918-584-2306

Jan 14, 2019 - Jan 19, 2019 Chili Bowl Nationals—The Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals at Tulsa Expo Square's River Spirit Expo is an annual competition for Midget Sprint Car racing. Held each year for nearly 30 years, these races attract over 300 talented drivers from around the world. Five qualifying nights lead up to the championship competition on Saturday. See cars race around the quarter-mile clay oval track and slide jobs that will keep

you on the edge of your seat. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74112 Phone: 918-838-3777 Fax: 918-836-5517

Jan 17, 2019 ORU Golden Eagles vs South Dakota Coyotes—The ORU Golden Eagles men's basketball team strives for success on the court. Watch the team work together toward shutting down their opponents while aiming for the basket. See the Golden Eagles shoot hoops and dribble circles around the South Dakota Coyotes during a competitive match on their home turf at Tulsa Mabee Center. Witness the Golden Eagles come out victorious while wearing their signature Vegas gold, navy blue and white team colors. Tulsa Mabee Center 7777 S Lewis Ave Tulsa, OK 74171 Phone: 918-495-6000

Jan 17, 2019 - Jan 19, 2019 Western Hills Winter Bluegrass Festival—Come out and enjoy gospel and traditional bluegrass music during the Western Hills Winter Bluegrass Festival. Held over three days in January, this bluegrass festival is a fast-moving display of musical talent with a handful of bands showcasing their skills on the fiddle, banjo and guitar. The Western Hills Winter Bluegrass Festival, held on the grounds of the beautiful Lodge at Sequoyah State Park, will feature top bands from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Colorado and Missouri. A special all-gospel show will be performed on Thursday. The Lodge at Sequoyah State Park 17131 Park 10 Wagoner, OK 74467 Phone: 405-273-8578, 405-535-9179 Fax: 405-275-6222

Jan 17, 2019 - Jan 19, 2019 World of Wrestling Flo Tulsa Nationals—Watch young wrestlers compete in World of Wrestling's Flo Tulsa Nationals, held at Tulsa Expo Square. Youth, high school and college wrestlers will compete for titles inside this Tulsa venue. Support these wrestlers and see who comes out on top and earns top awards. Tulsa Expo Square 4145 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 Phone: 918-366-4411

Jan 18, 2019 Eric Johnson in Concert—Catch Grammy Award winner Eric Johnson live in concert as he rocks the crowd at Cain's Ballroom. Reserve your front row seat to see this hit songwriter, legendary guitar player, pianist and singer demonstrate his highly acclaimed talents in this historic Tulsa venue. Eric Johnson will run through his wide range of original instrumental tracks, moving the audience members to their feet with his rhythmic guitar anthems, from "Cliffs of Dover" to "Fatdaddy." Band members will even add vocals to some of Eric Johnson's inventive creations. Cain's Ballroom 423 N Main St Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone: 918-584-2306

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: Steven Burdick

The Little New Year

By Ellen Robena Field



One cold morning Maurice awoke from his dreams and sat up in bed and listened. He thought he heard a knock at his window; but though the moon was shining brightly, Jack Frost had been so busily at work that Maurice could not see through the thickly painted panes. So he crept sleepily out of bed, and opened the window, and whispered: "Who is there?"

"I am," replied a tinkling voice. "I am the little New Year, ho! ho! And I've promised to bring a blessing to everyone. But I am such a little fellow I need somebody to help me distribute them. Won't you please come out and help?"

"Oh, it's so cold!" said Maurice; "I'd rather go back to my warm bed;" and he shivered as Jack Frost, who was passing, tickled him under the chin with one of the frosty paint brushes.

"Never mind the cold," urged the New Year; "please help me."

So Maurice hurried into his clothes, and was soon out in the yard. There he found a rosy-cheeked boy a little smaller than himself, pulling a large cart which seemed to be loaded with good things. On one side of this cart was painted the word "Love," and on the other "Kindness." As soon as the New Year saw Maurice he said, "Now please take hold and help me pull;" and down the driveway and up the hill they traveled until they came to an old shanty.

"Here is where I make my first call," said the New Year. Maurice looked wonderingly at him. "Why, nobody lives here but an old colored man who works for us; and he hasn't any children!" "He needs my help," said the New Year; "for grown people like to be thought of just as much as children do. You shovel out a path to his door, while I unload some of my blessings; and the little hands went busily at work, piling up warm clothing, wood, and a new year's dinner, the

New Year singing as he worked:—

"Oh, I am the little New Year; ho! Ho!

Here I come tripping it over the snow,

Shaking my bells with a merry din;
So open your door and let me in."

Old Joe, hearing some noise outside, came to the door, and when he saw all the nice gifts the tears ran down his cheeks for gladness; and as he carried them into the house, he whispered: "The dear Lord has been here to-night."

"Where am we going now?" asked Maurice, as they ran down the hill. "To take some flowers to a poor sick girl," answered the New Year.

Soon they came to a small white house, where the New Year stopped. "Why, Bessie, our sewing girl lives, here," said Maurice. "I didn't know she was sick." "See," said the New Year, "this window is open a little; let us throw this bunch of pinks into the room. They will please her when she wakes, and will make her happy for several days."

Then they hurried to other places, leaving some blessing behind them.

"What a wonderful cart you have," said Maurice; "though you have taken so much out, it never seems to get empty." "You are right, Maurice, there is never any end to love and kindness. As long as I find people to love and be kind to, my cart is full of blessings for them; and it will never grow empty until I can no longer find people to help. If you will go with me every day and help me scatter my blessings, you will see how happy you will be all the long year."

"A happy New Year!" called someone; and Maurice found himself in bed, and his sister standing in the doorway smiling at him. "Have you had a pleasant dream, dear?" she asked.

"Why, where is the little New Year?" said Maurice; "he was just here with me."

"Come into Mamma's room and see what he has brought you," answered his sister. There in a snowy

white cradle he found a tiny baby brother, the gift of the New Year. How happy Maurice was then! But he did not forget his dream. Old Joe and Bessie had their gifts, too, and Maurice tried so hard to be helpful that he made all his friends glad because the happy New Year had come.

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

The Top Twelve Funny, Fascinating, and Unusual World Wide Customs To Celebrate New Year

1. Baby New Year Tradition - The tradition of using a baby to signify the New Year was started around 600 BC by the ancient Greeks, who, at the start of a year would carry a baby around in a basket. The purpose of it was to honour Dionysus, the God of Fertility and symbolize his annual rebirth. This custom is still practised in parts of Greece.

2. Hogmanay - The New Year in Scotland is called Hogmanay. Some people in Scotland follow a ritual that appears quite strange but it actually has a great significance. One can find barrels of tar set on fire and gradually rolled down the streets in the villages of Scotland. This ritual symbolizes that the old year is burned up and New Year is going to begin.

3. Burning "Mr Old Year" - In Columbia, Cuba and Puerto Rico families stuff a life-size male doll with things and then they dress it up in old clothes donated from each family member.

At the stroke of midnight, this "Mr Old Year" is set on fire. This is done with the simple belief that a doll thus stuffed have bad memories or sadness associated with them, and that the burning of these will help one to do away with past unhappiness and usher in happiness in life with the coming year.

4. Eating Noodles - Late on the evening of December 31st, people from Japan might eat a bowl of buckwheat noodles called "toshikoshisoba" [year-crossing noodles] and listen for the sound of the Buddhist temple bells, which are rung 108 times at midnight. The sound of these bells is said to purify the listeners of the 108 sins or evil passions that 'plague every human being'.

5. Eating 12 Grapes - In Spain people eat 12 grapes as the clock strikes midnight (one each time the clock chimes) on New Year's Eve.

This peculiar ritual originated in the 20th century when freak weather conditions resulted in an unseasonable bumper harvest of grapes. Not able to decide what to do about so many grapes at Christmas time, the King of Spain and the grape growers came up with the idea of the New Year ritual.

6. Gifts in Shoes - In Greece children leave their shoes by the fireside on New Year's Day, which, incidentally, is also the Festival of Saint Basil in Greece, with the hope that Saint Basil, who was famous for his kindness, will come and fill their shoes with gifts.

7. Carrying a Suitcase - In Venezuela, Argentina, Bolivia, and Mexico, those with hopes of travelling in the New Year carry a suitcase around the house at midnight. Some people may even carry it around the block to ensure travelling at greater distances.

8. Burning Crackers - People in China believe that there are evil spirits that roam the earth. So on New Year they burn crackers to scare the evil spirits.

The doors and windows of many homes in China can be seen sealed with paper. This is to keep the evil demons out.

9. Foods - It was thought that one could affect the luck they would have throughout the coming year by what they did or ate on the first day of the year.

It is still held, for example, in some regions that special New Year foods are the harbingers of luck. For that reason, the Dutch believe that eating donuts on New Year's Day will bring good fortune. The hog, and its meat, is considered lucky because it symbolizes prosperity. Cabbage is another "good luck" vegetable that is consumed on New Year's Day by many. Cabbage leaves are also considered a sign of prosperity, being representative of

paper currency. In some regions, rice is a lucky food that is eaten on New Year's Day.

The ancient Persians gave New Year's gifts of eggs, which symbolized productiveness.

10. New Love - Apparently, in Mexico, wearing red underwear on New Year's Eve is said to bring new love in the upcoming year.

11. Wearing new slippers - In China, many people wear, in the new year, a new pair of slippers that were bought before the new year, because it suggests stepping on the people who gossip about you.

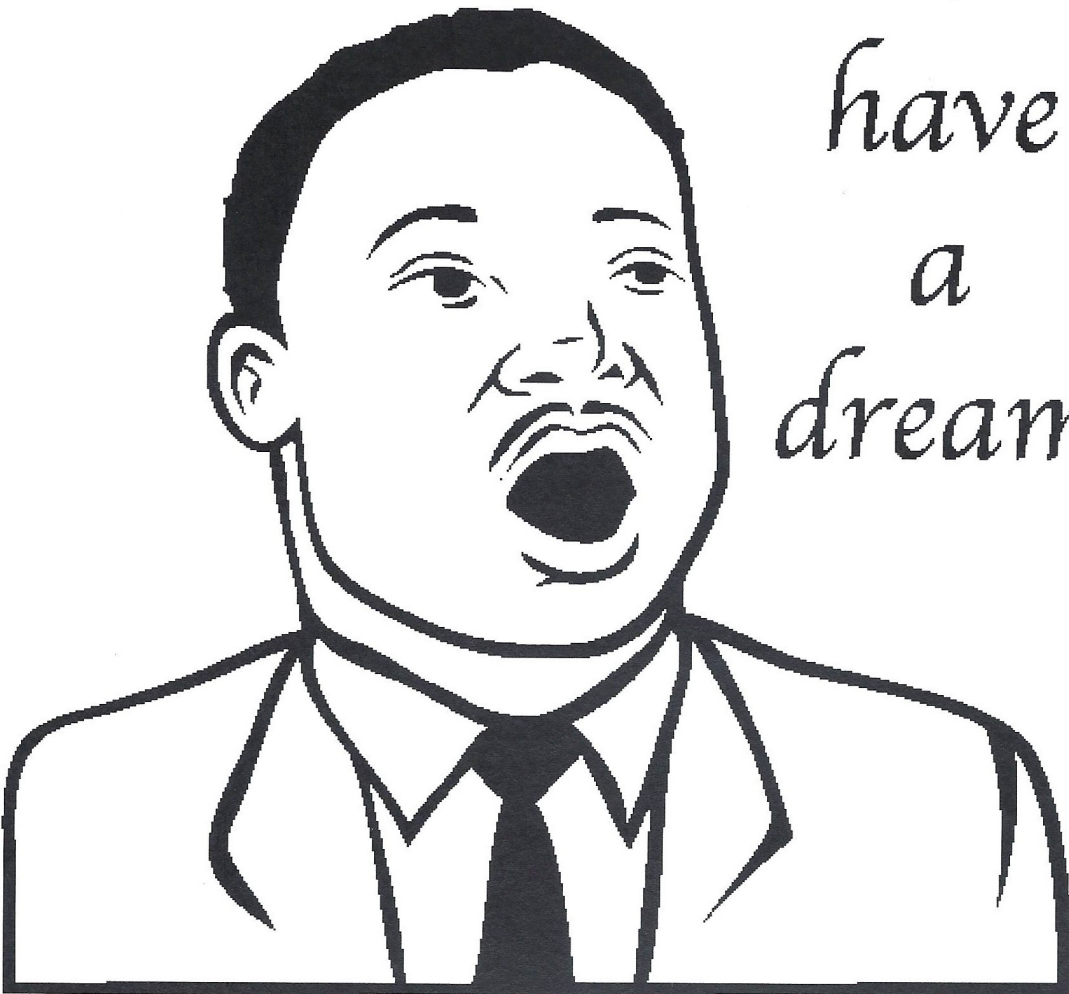
12. "Auld Lang Syne" - was written by Robert Burns in 1741 and literally means 'old long since,' or 'days gone by.' This song is traditionally sung in many countries at midnight on January 1st, signalling the beginning of the New Year.

Auld Lang Syne Lyrics

Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
And here's a hand, my trusty friend
And gie's a hand o' thine
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne.

DATA MASTER: Eric Peachey





*I
have
a
dream*

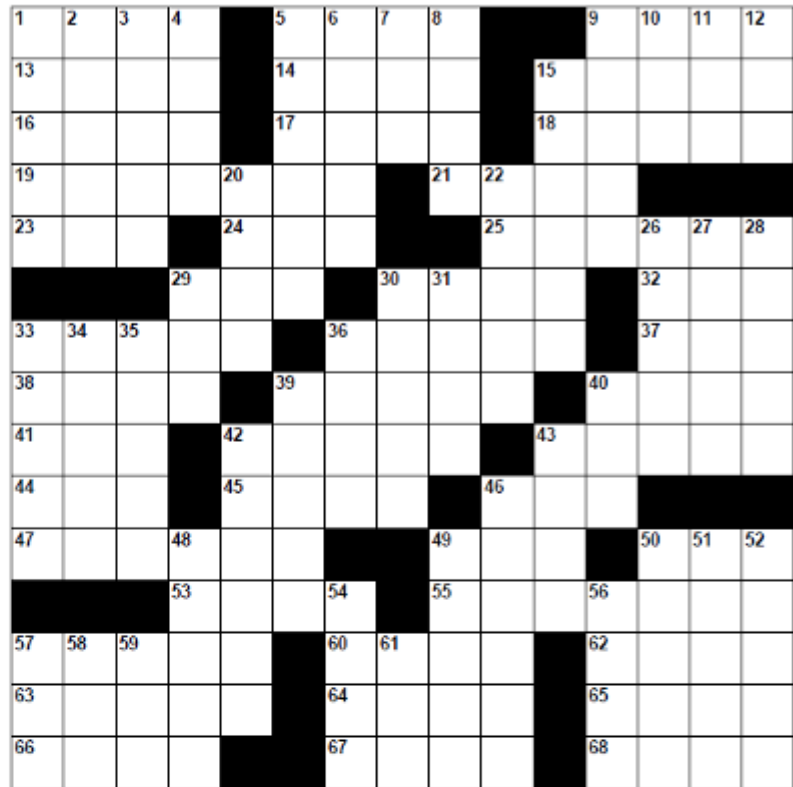


Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Two good friends
- 5 Clothed
- 9 Halo
- 13 Sailors "hey"
- 14 Air (prefix)
- 15 Name meaning "father of light"
- 16 Element
- 17 What a clock tells
- 18 Light emitting __
- 19 Moving to music
- 21 Has shoes on
- 23 Advertisements
- 24 Morse code "T"
- 25 Short for Oregon and Idaho potato brand
- 29 Fizzy drink
- 30 Giant
- 32 Dunk
- 33 Mythical monster
- 36 Clothes pressers
- 37 Evening before a holiday
- 38 Slimly
- 39 Groups of workers
- 40 France & Germany river
- 41 Gone by
- 42 Constellation
- 43 Authoritarian
- 44 Heat giver
- 45 Smooch
- 46 Covering for the head
- 47 Indian lodge
- 49 Steal
- 50 Pouch
- 53 Visionary
- 55 Anyone
- 57 Winter neckwear
- 60 Created
- 62 Seaweed substance
- 63 Stick together
- 64 Pottery ingredient
- 65 Stretched car
- 66 Alcoholic
- 67 Ventilates
- 68 Fewer

NEW YEAR'S EVE



By Evelyn Johnson - www.qets.com

DOWN

- 1 Bear
- 2 In the lead
- 3 Diving birds
- 4 In __ (together)
- 5 Short nap
- 6 "Gone With the Wind" actress
- 7 Extremity
- 8 Bucks wives
- 9 Remain
- 10 Spanish "one"
- 11 Scarlet
- 12 To be
- 15 Reverses
- 20 Teen hero
- 22 Brass instruments
- 26 Thoughts
- 27 Female lead singers
- 28 Impersonation
- 29 Wooden sheet
- 30 Sandwich cookies brand
- 31 Dress worn on formal occasions
- 33 Drink to
- 34 Scoundrel
- 35 Atmosphere layer
- 36 Bulb flower
- 39 Town news giver
- 40 Drunkard
- 42 Painter Georgia __
- 43 Infant
- 46 Sweethearts
- 48 Celebration
- 49 Radio detection and ranging
- 50 Golf term
- 51 John __ (U.S. President)
- 52 Gyroscopes
- 54 Young Men's Christian Association
- 56 Large social function where there is formal dancing
- 57 Resort hotel
- 58 California (abbr.)
- 59 Inquire
- 61 Boxer Muhammad

Word Search Puzzle

Happy New Year

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Years Eve.

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

APPETIZERS
BABIES
BALLOONS
BANNERS
BUFFET
CELEBRATE
CHAMPAGNE
CONFETTI
DANCE
DAY ONE

DECORATIONS
END OF DECEMBER
EVENTS
FAMILY
FATHER TIME
FEAST
FESTIVITIES
FIREWORKS
FIRST OF JANUARY
FRIENDS

HATS
HOLIDAY
HORNS
KISS
MIDNIGHT
MUSIC
NEW YEARS DAY
NEW YEARS EVE
NOISEMAKERS
OCCASION

PARADES
PARTY
PUNCH
RESOLUTIONS
SINGING
STREAMERS
THIRTY FIRST
TIARAS
WINE
YEAR IN REVIEW

CryptoQuote Puzzle

Topic: Dogs

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
				6																						

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **E** ___ **E** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **E** ___ ___ **E** ___
 12 18 12 25 8 15 6 23 6 7 1 8 21 18 17 6 4 22 6 1

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ' ___ ___ ___ ___ **E**
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___ **E** ___ **E** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ? ___ ___ ___
 22 6 24 6 21 2 11 14 12 14 21 25 8 15 20 15 21

___ ___ **E** ___ ___ ___ ___ **E** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **E**
 4 22 6 1 21 14 16 6 22 18 11 18 1 14 17 14 7 22 6

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **E** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ **E**
 2 21 18 17 16 2 22 18 2 22 6 14 12 8 15 21 21 22 6


___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ' .
 4 18 1 12 8 4

- Steve Bluestone

DATA MASTER: Ivory Tipton

Solution is on page 33

Logic Puzzle



		First Names				Merit Badges				Sports			
		Angelina	Elias	Joshua	Trenton	bird study	canoeing	cooking	geology	basketball	curling	football	hockey
Times	10:30am												
	3:30pm												
	4:30pm												
	6:30pm												
Sports	basketball												
	curling												
	football												
	hockey												
Merit Badges	bird study												
	canoeing												
	cooking												
	geology												

Logic Puzzles

Presented by Puzzle Baron

Puzzle ID: L143GB

For hints, solutions and more puzzles, go to www.Printable-Puzzles.com!

Times	First Names	Merit Badges	Sports
10:30am			
3:30pm			
4:30pm			
6:30pm			

1. Angelina arrived earlier than the curling star.
2. Of Trenton and Elias, one arrived at 10:30am and the other awarded the bird study merit badge.
3. The scoutmaster who awarded the canoeing merit badge is not Trenton.
4. Either the person who arrived at 4:30pm or the person who arrived at 6:30pm awarded the bird study merit badge.
5. The hockey star didn't award the cooking merit badge.
6. The person who arrived at 6:30pm is not Elias.
7. The football star awarded the geology merit badge.
8. The football star is Joshua.
9. The basketball star arrived earlier than Elias.

Quotes From Thinkers Around The World

Woman is the light of God.

Rumi

I belong to no religion. My religion is love. Every heart is my temple.

Rumi

I died a lot to live a little with you.

Yaghma Golrouee

You think of yourself
as a citizen of the universe.

You think you belong
to this world of dust and matter.

Out of this dust
you have created a personal image,
and have forgotten
about the essence of your true origin

Rumi

Lovers find secret places
inside this violent world
where they make transactions
with beauty.

Rumi

The Water said to the dirty one, "Come here."
The dirty one said, "I am too ashamed."
The water replied, "How will your shame be washed
away without me?"

Rumi

A wealth you cannot imagine
flows through you.
Do not consider what strangers say.
Be secluded in your secret heart-house,
that bowl of silence.

Rumi

Do you know what you are?
You are a manuscript of a divine letter.
You are a mirror reflecting a noble face.
This universe is not outside of you.
Look inside yourself;
everything that you want,
you are already that.

Rumi

The first lesson to learn is to resign oneself to the little difficulties in life, not to hit out at everything one comes up against. If one were able to manage this one would not need to cultivate great power; even one's presence would be healing.

Hazrat Inayat Khan

There are two aspects of individual harmony: the harmony between body and soul, and the harmony between individuals. All the tragedy in the world, in the individual and in the multitude, comes from lack of harmony. And harmony is the best given by producing harmony in one's own life.

Hazrat Inayat Khan

Listen, O drop, give yourself up without regret,
and in exchange gain the Ocean.

Listen, O drop, bestow upon yourself this honor,
and in the arms of the Sea be secure.

Who indeed should be so fortunate?

An Ocean wooing a drop!

In God's name, in God's name, sell and buy at once!

Give a drop, and take this Sea full of pearls.

Rumi

Forgive the person who has committed a wrong and
thus eliminate your anger.

Nizamuddin Auliya

To love. To be loved. To never forget your own insignificance. To never get used to the unspeakable violence and the vulgar disparity of life around you. To seek joy in the saddest places. To pursue beauty to its lair. To never simplify what is complicated or complicate what is simple. To respect strength, never power. Above all, to watch. To try and understand. To never look away. And never, never to forget.

Arundhati Roy

That's what careless words do. They make people love you a little less.

Arundhati Roy

If you're happy in a dream, does that count?

Arundhati Roy

Change is one thing. Acceptance is another.

Arundhati Roy

The soul is healed by being with children.

Fyodor Dostoevsky

Beauty is mysterious as well as terrible. God and devil are fighting there, and the battlefield is the heart of man.

Fyodor Dostoevsky

DATA MASTER: Breanna McDowell

This Month in History - Jan

1st

1892 Ellis Island Begins As Immigration gateway
1901 The Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed
1912 The Republic of China (Taiwan) created
1935 First Orange Bowl Game
1937 Federal Old Age Pensions Started
1942 United Nations Established
1947 Great Britain nationalises Coal mines
1947 Great Britain nationalises Railways
1962 The Beatles turned down by Decca Records
1966 Subway Strike Starts In New York
1973 UK Joins The EEC
1984 AT&T Broken Up
1991 Canada introduces the national sales tax
1998 European Central Bank Created

2nd

1929 Influenza Epidemic death toll over 200,000
1971 Ibrox Park stadium Disaster in Glasgow, Scotland
1974 New 55 MPH Speed Limit U.S Wide
2006 Sago Mine Disaster West Virginia

3rd

1926 Pontiac Introduced
1938 March of Dimes Foundation Created
1959 Alaska became the 49th state of the United States of America
1977 Apple Computer is incorporated

4th

1923 Rosewood Massacre By KKK
1954 Elvis Presley Records First Demo Record
1981 Truck driver Peter Sutcliffe admitted to being the "Yorkshire Ripper,"
2007 Nancy Pelosi is elected as the first female Speaker of the United States Congress
2010 The worlds tallest building Burj Khalifa 2,716ft high with 160 floors opens in Duba

5th

1914 Henry Ford introduces \$5.00 per day wages for all his Ford workers.
1933 Work is started on The Golden Gate Bridge across the San Francisco Bay.
2009 Europe Gas Supplies Affected By Russia - Ukraine Dispute

6th

1920 The Yankees bought Babe Ruth from the Boston Red Sox
1994 Skater Nancy Kerrigan was about to speak to reporters in Detroit, Michigan when she was suddenly attacked.

7th

1953 President Harry Truman announced the U.S. has developed a hydrogen bomb (H-Bomb)

8th

1941 Great Britain introduces Food Rationing using ration books
1945 West Germany Handover by Soviet Union
1961 Algeria Gains Independence From France
1964 President Lyndon Johnson Declares "War On Poverty"
2002 President George W. Bush signs into law the No Child Left Behind Act

9th

1958 Toyota and Datsun first appearances in the United States
1972 British miners first national strike for almost 50 years.
2007 Apple introduces the 4.5 inch X 2.4 inch Apple iPhone

10th

1944 GI Bill Signed Into Law
1946 The first General Assembly of the United Nations Meeting
1964 "Introducing the Beatles," the first Beatles Album is released in the US
1985 Sinclair C5 electric tricycle Goes On Sale in Britain

12th

2010 Haiti hit by massive magnitude 7.0 earthquake

13th

1957 P Wham-O Company Begins Making the Pluto Platter / Frisbee
1968 Johnny Cash performs live for the second time at Folsom Prison "Johnny Cash at At Folsom Prison Album"

14th

1934 Loch Ness Monster Spotted
1942 President Roosevelt signed the War Department's blanket Executive Order 9066
1952 "Today" Program Begins on NBC
1954 Marilyn Monroe marries Joe DeMaggio
1981 IRAN / U.S. Hostage Crisis Ends

DATA MASTER: Doug W Stone



Library News

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Saturday 11am to 2pm

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

Logic Puzzle Solution

10:30am	Trenton	Cooking	Basketball
3:30pm	Angelina	Canoeing	Hockey
4:30pm	Elias	Bird study	Curling
6:30pm	Joshua	Geology	Football

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

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CryptoQuote Puzzle Solution

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	20	17	12	6	13	24	22	18	5	16	10	11	1	8	3	9	7	2	21	15	23	4	26	25	19

D I D Y O U E V E R N O T I C E W H E N
 12 18 12 25 8 15 6 23 6 7 1 8 21 18 17 6 4 22 6 1
 Y O U B L O W I N A D O G ' S F A C E
 25 8 15 20 10 8 4 18 1 14 12 8 24 2 13 14 17 6
 H E G E T S M A D A T Y O U ? B U T
 22 6 24 6 21 2 11 14 12 14 21 25 8 15 20 15 21
 W H E N T A K E H I M I N A C A R H E
 4 22 6 1 21 14 16 6 22 18 11 18 1 14 17 14 7 22 6
 S T I C K S H I S H E A D D O U T T H E
 2 21 18 17 16 2 22 18 2 22 6 14 12 8 15 21 21 22 6
 W I N D O W .
 4 18 1 12 8 4

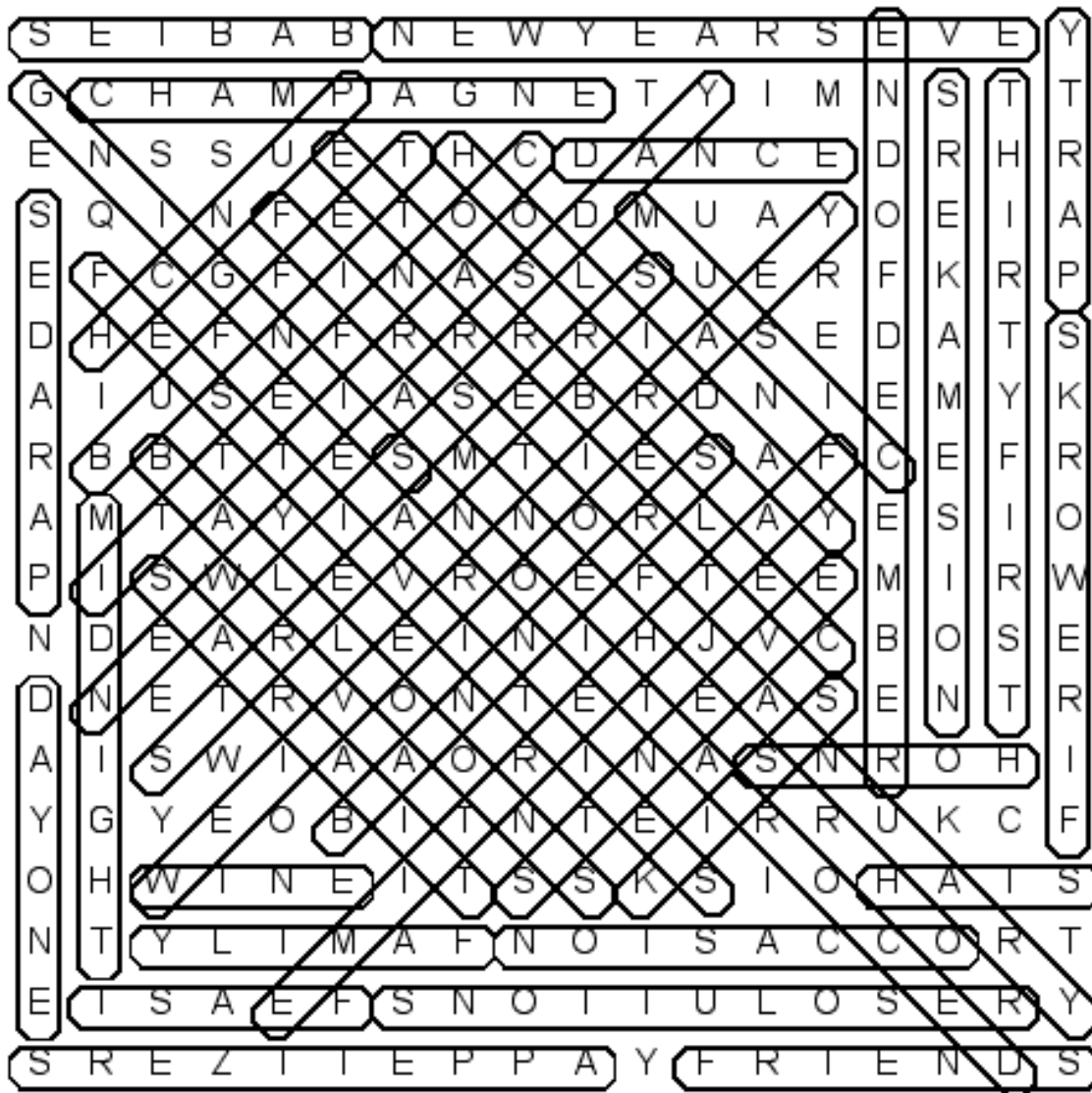
“Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog’s face he gets mad at you? But when take him in a car he sticks his head out the window.” - Steve

DATA MASTER: Ivory Tipton

Word Search Puzzle Solution

Happy New Year

This is the solution to the puzzle located [here](#).



- | | | | |
|------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| APPETIZERS | DECORATIONS | HATS | PARADES |
| BABIES | END OF DECEMBER | HOLIDAY | PARTY |
| BALLOONS | EVENTS | HORNS | PUNCH |
| BANNERS | FAMILY | KISS | RESOLUTIONS |
| BUFFET | FATHER TIME | MIDNIGHT | SINGING |
| CELEBRATE | FEAST | MUSIC | STREAMERS |
| CHAMPAGNE | FESTIVITIES | NEW YEARS DAY | THIRTY FIRST |
| CONFETTI | FIREWORKS | NEW YEARS EVE | TIARAS |
| DANCE | FIRST OF JANUARY | NOISEMAKERS | WINE |
| DAY ONE | FRIENDS | OCCASION | YEAR IN REVIEW |

The hidden message is: TIMES SQUARE IN NEW YORK CITY

Sudoku Puzzle Easy Solution

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

Sudoku Puzzle Moderate Solution

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

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

Crossword Puzzle Solution

1	P	2	A	3	L	4	S		5	C	6	L	7	A	8	D		9	A	10	U	11	R	12	A
13	A	H	O	Y					14	A	E	R	O					15	A	B	N	E	R		
16	N	E	O	N					17	T	I	M	E					18	D	I	O	D	E		
19	D	A	N	C	20	I	N	G						21	S	22	H	O	D						
23	A	D	S		24	D	A	H						25	O	R	E		26	I	27	D	28	A	
				29	P	O	P			30	O	31	G	R	E				32	D	I	P			
33	T	34	R	35	O	L	L			36	I	R	O	N	S				37	E	V	E			
38	O	O	Z	Y					39	C	R	E	W	S				40	S	A	A	R			
41	A	G	O						42	O	R	I	O	N				43	B	O	S	S	Y		
44	S	U	N						45	K	I	S	S					46	H	A	T				
47	T	E	E	48	P	E	E							49	R	O	B			50	B	51	A	52	G
				53	A	E	R	54	Y					55	A	N	Y	56	B	O	D	Y			
57	S	58	C	59	A	R	F			60	M	61	A	D	E				62	A	G	A	R		
63	P	A	S	T	E					64	C	L	A	Y					65	L	I	M	O		
66	A	L	K	Y						67	A	I	R	S					68	L	E	S	S		

DATA MASTER: Eric Peachey

Some Riddles

1. Everything is legitimate in matters pertaining to ardent affection and armed conflict between nations. What is the proverb?
2. Under no circumstances compute the number of your barnyard fowl previous to their incubation. What is the proverb?
3. An excess of individuals skilled in the preparation of edibles impairs the quality of this soup. What is the proverb?
4. Exercise your visual faculties prior to executing a jump? What is the proverb?
5. A feathered Biped in the terminal part of the arm equals in value a pair of feathered bipeds in densely branched shrubbery. What is the proverb?
6. A rotating fragment of mineral collects no byrophytic plants. What is the proverb?
7. A timorous heart at no time succeeds in acquiring the beautiful damsel. What is the proverb?
8. A recently purchased implement for brushing away floor dirt invariably effaces the dirt most efficiently. What is the proverb?
9. A large truck is crossing a bridge 1 mile long. The bridge can only hold 14000 lbs, which is the exact weight of the truck. The truck makes it half way across the bridge and stops. A bird lands on the truck. Does the bridge collapse? Give a reason.
10. As a whole, I am both safe and secure. Behead me, and I become a place of meeting. Behead me again, and I am the partner of ready. Restore me, and I become the domain of beasts. What am I?
11. Lighter than what I am made of, More of me is hidden than is seen. What am I?
12. Where is there is no south, west, nor east, and weather not fit for man or beast

Answers

1. All's fair in love and war!
2. Do not count your chickens before they hatch.
3. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
4. Look before you leap.
5. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
6. A rollin stone gathers no moss.
7. Faint heart ne'er won fair lady.
8. A new broom sweeps clean.
9. No it does not collapse. Because it has driven a half mile - you would subtract the gas used from the total weight of the truck.
10. Stable.
11. An iceberg.
12. The South Pole

DATA MASTER: Breanna McDowell

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Wood Manor Nursing Center

Commerce

Eastwood Manor

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Fairland Family Restaurant
Fairland Sr. Citizen's
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The Landing

Foyil

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Grandwood
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Grove Sr. Citizens
Harps Grocery
MidCo Clothes & More
Rancho Viejo
Tom Cat Corner

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Miami Library
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Nowata

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ter
Ranch Supply
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Oologah

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

Pryor

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

Spavinaw

Spavinaw Community Center
T-General Store

Vinita

Burrough Manor
Carter's IGA
El Cabrito Mexican Restau-
rant
Grand Lake Mental Health
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McSpadden Fast Lube
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Sam's Tire
V & V Drug
Vinita DHS
Vinita Post Office
Vinita Public Library
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5th issue: 25th of previous month

20th issue: 10th of the same month

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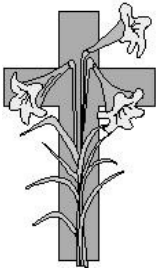
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Contents of this newspaper is compiled from available original sources.



JEWELS FROM THE WORD

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS Christmas has sure changed around our house. When our children were at home, our whole Christmas revolved around school and church plays.

"Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's house we go. The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh in the white and drifting snow." No, we didn't travel very far to grandma's house, because our grandmas lived in the same town.

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the ones I used to know." Well, no white Christmas here. I looked it up on weather.com and the historic possibility of snow for Christmas in our area of Oklahoma is 5-10%.

"I'll be home for Christmas, you can count on me." Yes, we seldom traveled far from home, and we never traveled at Christmastime. Our time was committed to church and our families were here. Some people we knew traveled to Colorado to ski, but not us.

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa la la la la la la la." "

Lavon Hightower Lewis To read more devotional, go to:
<http://jewelsfromtheword.com/> Email me at llewis2138@sbcglobal.net

Most years the Christmas decorations went up two or three days before Christmas and came down New Year's Day.

"Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King." We always had a good-sized adult choir for the Christmas cantata and most years we had a children's choir too. We practiced every week from the middle of October until about the second week of December. Each year as I stood among the choir hearing the sweet voices raised to heaven, my heart swelled with love for Jesus Christ my Lord who willingly came to earth as a baby to live and die for me. Now Christmas choir practice is a distant memory.

"For is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11 NKJV

And yes, "It's the most wonderful time of the year. There'll be much mistletoeing and hearts will be glowing, when loved ones are near. It's the most wonderful time of the year."

Traditions change, seasons change, but Christ must remain as the center of our Christmas

DATA MASTER: Eric Peachey



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