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Steven Burdick  
Bobby Callison  
Karen Deffenbaugh  
Nikki Hamilton  
Eric Peachey  
Doug Stone  
Breanna McDowell  
Stephanie Baker  
Heather Conn  
Jennifer Dove

**Public Relations**

Debbie Gray  
Alanna Victor  
Samantha Peterson

**Assembled at Midco Inc.  
Little Green Shop &  
Community Links in Chelsea**

**Community Links**

P.O. Box 85  
Chelsea, OK. 74016  
1100 Walnut in Chelsea  
Phone 918-789-2862  
Fax: 918-789-5296  
[links@links.community-options.net](mailto:links@links.community-options.net)

## Earth Day vs. Arbor Day: The Difference and Why They Both Matter



Earth Day vs. Arbor Day. Why do we even need these two holidays? Well, for one, these aren't just holidays that were invented to sell greeting cards. In fact, part of their goal is to reduce the number of greeting cards that are made and to recycle all the old ones.

We have both of these holidays because they started in very different ways for causes that were important in their time, almost a century apart. Today, their causes are as crucial as ever, and they have both come to emphasize the end goal of improving our planet. Here's some more information that will help you see the forest for the trees and be able to tell the two holidays apart.

### History of Arbor Day vs. Earth Day Arbor Day

Arbor Day was started back in 1872 by a member of Nebraska's State Board of Agriculture. Julius Sterling Morton pro-

posed the day of tree planting as a way to repopulate his home state with trees. By 1888, we were recognizing the importance of trees nationwide and Arbor Day became a widely celebrated holiday.

### Earth Day

Earth Day was founded much later in 1970 when Wisconsin Sen. Gaylord Nelson began an organization of volunteers to raise awareness of environmental issues and pollution. Nelson believed he could force environmental protection onto the national political agenda if he could combine the energy of the anti-war movement with a public awareness of the ongoing air and water pollution.

### How We Celebrate Arbor Day vs. Earth Day

Because tree planting can't happen at the same time of year nationwide, Arbor Day is celebrated either the

last Friday of April, or whenever the climate allows. Hawaii for example, doesn't celebrate until November when their rainy season starts.

### Arbor Day

Activities involve planting new trees, tending to endangered trees and plants, and cultivating spaces for continued and future tree growth. Search here to find events in your state.

### Earth Day

Earth Day is every April 22nd in the United States in honor of Senator Nelson's environmental teach-in first held on that day. Initiatives include planting trees and local trash cleanups.

### What You Can Do for Arbor Day vs. Earth Day

#### Arbor Day

While Arbor Day is thought to be just a day to plant trees, it is really about environmental stewardship and leaving a better Earth for future generations than the one we currently have. You can do something as simple as learning your state tree, or if you're feeling ambitious, you can share a picnic with friends and bake a dish using spices and other ingredients produced entirely by trees.

#### Earth Day

Earth Day has become known for widespread, impassioned calls to action. But even if you're not the call-your-senator-and-join-a-protest-at-the-capitol type, there are lots of simple ways for you to make a difference. Walking to school or work is healthy and cuts down on air pollution. Recycling, using your own grocery bags, and carrying a reusable water bottle or coffee cup are all good practices that help to cut down on waste and pollution. And, just like for Arbor Day, you can plant a tree or two.

So now you know the difference between Earth Day and Arbor Day. While each holiday began under different circumstances, they have always been simpatico at their core. Take some time on those days to become more aware of your surroundings and find a way that you can positively impact the world around you.



# NYC Landlord Waives April Rent For Hundreds Of Tenants Due To Coronavirus



A landlord in Brooklyn, NY, announced on Monday that he will waive April's rent for all of his residential and commercial tenants.

Mario Salerno, who has 18 apartment buildings with hundreds of tenants, said he did not want renters to stress about their payment during the Coronavirus pandemic.

"I'm really not concerned about the rent right now, I'm concerned about peoples' health. Not only are we up against an epidemic, these poor people have no jobs and they're worried about getting sick. I didn't think it was much on a person like me, who god was good to, to help them all out," he told GreenPointers.com.

Salerno, 59, posted a letter at the entrance of his apartment buildings with the announcement that April's rent will be waived for all tenants:

"Due to the recent pandemic of coronavirus COVID-19 affecting all of us, please note I am waiving rent for the month of April 2020," the letter states.

"They're all very appreciative. I told them 'make sure you help your neighbor,'" Salerno said.

Salerno said that he hopes everyone in NYC will work together where they can to get past the pandemic.

"If everyone could stay home, take care each other; whoever is fortunate to work, please try to help the person who can't put food on the table," he said.

# The Weeknd, Drake and J. Cole Make Boy's Last Moments On Earth A Bit More Joyful

An 11-year-old boy lost his battle with cancer last week. But his family made sure he wouldn't go without meeting his favorite artists. Elijah got to meet The Weeknd, Drake and J. Cole via Facetime.

"Elijah, transitioned to heaven Friday, not without first knowing how loved he was," Elijah's cousin wrote on Twitter. "So grateful for these superhumans! My family will hold onto this forever."



**Michael Watson II**

@ForeverShowtime



After a 3-year battle with cancer, my 11 y.o. cousin, Elijah, transitioned to heaven Friday.. Not w/o first knowing how loved he was.

Elijah got to meet 3 of his fav's — @TheWeeknd, @JColeNC, & @Drake. So grateful for these superhumans! My family will hold onto this forever. ❤️



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# Patriot's Day in the United States



Patriot's Day (or Patriots' Day) commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord, which were fought near Boston in 1775. Patriot's Day is annually held on the third Monday of April. It should not be confused with Patriot Day, held on September 11 to mark the anniversary of terrorist attacks in the USA in 2001.

## Is Patriot's Day a Public Holiday?

Patriot's Day is a public holiday in Maine and Massachusetts, where it is a day off for the general population, and schools and most businesses are closed.

## What Do People Do?

For some people in the states of Massachusetts and Maine, the third Monday of April is a welcome day off work or school. In the area around Lexington and Concord, re-enactments of the battles in 1775 and the events leading up to them are held. A particular highlight is the opportunity to ring the bell that warned the local troops that British soldiers were approaching. Lectures, concerts and road races are also organized.

In the state of Wisconsin, April 19 is a special observance day for schools. On this date, schools are required to educate students about the events and people centered on Patriots' Day. It is recommended that the observances are held on the actual date, although they are generally moved to Friday, April 18, if April 19 is a Saturday and to Monday, April 20, if April 19 falls on a Sunday.

## Boston Marathon

The city of Boston, Massachusetts celebrates Patriot's Day every year by organizing the Boston Marathon, a competitive marathon. One of the most viewed live events in the New England region, the marathon is also the world's oldest annual marathon, having started in 1897.

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## Public Life

Patriots' Day is a state holiday in Massachusetts and Maine, where state, county, and municipal offices are closed. However, Patriots' Day is not a federal public holiday and federal offices are open. Many schools are closed for the spring break. Stores and other businesses and organizations may be open or closed according to local custom. Most public transit services run to reduced schedules, but may not operate in rural areas. There may be some local disruption to traffic around the re-enactments and sports events, particularly in Boston.

If Patriots' Day and Tax Day fall on the same date, the deadline for filing an income tax return is extended for the residents of some states. Patriots' Day is not a public holiday in other parts of the United States.

## Background

Prior to 1775, the area that is now the eastern part of the United States mainly consisted of British colonies controlled by the United Kingdom. The American Revolutionary War, also known as the American War of Independence, was a major step in the independence of the United States. The first battles in this war were fought in the areas of Lexington and Concord, near Boston, Massachusetts, on April 19, 1775. For this reason, the third Monday in April is symbolic for the emerging independence of the new country.

Paul Revere is among the patriots who are remembered on Patriot's Day. The American silversmith is known for spreading the word of the Boston Tea Party to New York and Philadelphia, and for warning the Lexington Minutemen about the British invasion in 1775. The story of his "midnight" ride to Lexington to discuss action plans against the British has been poeticized.

An act to amend the Tennessee code regarding Patriot's Day took effect in 2008. The state's code now officially includes the holiday and mentions that its governor proclaims April 19 of each year as Patriot's Day. This day is still not a public holiday in Tennessee. Patriots' Day is also known as Patriot's Day and Patriots Day. However, it should not be confused with Patriot Day, held on September 11 to mark the anniversary of terrorist attacks in the United States on that date in 2001.

# Teen Pilot Is Flying Medical Supplies To Rural Hospitals In Need



TJ Kim, who just turned 16, doesn't yet have his driver's license, but he can fly.

So, he's been flying across Virginia delivering medical supplies to rural hospitals in need.

Like high school students across the country, Kim was disheartened when school and activities were shut down to slow the spread of the Coronavirus.

Kim, a sophomore at Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, brainstormed with his family in McLean, Virginia, about ways to keep active, and to serve the community while he had the time.

They settled on Operation SOS -- Supplies Over Skies.

Each week, he flies gloves, masks, gowns and other equipment to small hospitals. When he made his first delivery to a hospital in Luray, he was taken aback by the reception.

"They kind of conveyed to me that they were really forgotten about. Everyone was wanting to send donations to big city hospitals," he told the Associated Press. "Every hospital is hurting for supplies, but it's the rural hospitals that really feel forgotten."

Kim's father, Thomas, has helped round up supplies -- the hardest part of the operation, according to his son.

On his most recent flight, Kim carried 3,000 gloves, 1,000 head covers, 500 shoe covers, 50 non-surgical masks, 20 pairs of protective eyewear and 10 concentrated bottles of hand sanitizer to help supply a hospital in Woodstock.

His goal is to make deliveries to all seven rural hospitals in Virginia defined as critical access hospitals.

## **This Mother Cat Has Taken In An Abandoned Baby Possum**

A mother cat has become the foster mom for a baby possum that was found all alone on a family's deck.



The family believes the newborn possum must have accidentally fallen off its mother. Luckily, their black cat just had a litter of kittens.



So, the mother cat took the possum in as one of her own.

She just doesn't understand why this odd-looking kitten insists on hanging on her all the time.



## **This Teacher Is Walking 5 Miles A Day To Deliver Free School Meals To Kids Who Need It Most**



An assistant headteacher in Lincolnshire, England, is ensuring his students still have access to free school meals by walking more than five miles every day to deliver them by hand.

Zane Powles, who works at Western Primary School in Grimsby, hauls huge bags filled with school meals for 100 students each day, *The Independent* reports.

Powles also uses his daily lunch run to check on the welfare of the children he visits. He puts the packed lunch on the doorstep, knocks on the door and then waits on the pavement or in the garden until they are picked up.

"I am doing this so that the children and their parents don't have to come out to collect their meals. Otherwise they would be passing other people in the street and it makes sure they get at least one good meal a day," he said.

Other staff are delivering food by car to those who live further away from the school.

"It's a big team effort for sure. I look like I'm doing the donkey work, but it really isn't just me, the other teachers also drive to deliver meals to children who live further away, we call the families up every week to make sure they're doing okay, we prepare and pack the lunches together every single day," Powles said.

# Matthew McConaughey Plays Virtual Bingo With Residents At Senior Living Facility



Matthew McConaughey, his wife Camila, and his mom hosted virtual bingo for residents at a senior living facility in Texas.

In September, the residents at The Enclave at Round Rock Senior Living in Round Rock posted a video on social media asking McConaughey to join them for bingo. Now, he was finally able to answer the call.

McConaughey called letters to dozens of seniors playing the virtual game. When a "Bingo" was called, the winner got to ask McConaughey a question as their prize.

Molly Davis Nedley, the sales director at The Enclave at Round Rock Senior Living, said the staff can't interact with residents as they normally would so they've been doing everything possible to uplift them virtually.

"This was a wish come true! The residents absolutely loved seeing Matthew and his family and enjoyed hearing him talk about what he's doing to get through this crisis," she said. "It gave them hope and was the boost that they needed to get through this lonely, challenging time."

## MY PASSION OF MUSIC!

I was a kid in the 4th grade and I been inspired by people playing the flute. So when I started 4th grade, there was a program in my school where you could learn an instrument and play in the band. I signed up as soon as possible because the places where being taken away fast so I really wanted to play the flute. After a week or 2 a paper was sent to my mail box saying that I made it. I was extremely happy! After I rented my first flute I would practice everyday for hours and hours. As time passed on, I started to become more well known for my music and what I do. Today, I am going to 6th grade and I will be playing my flute in many concerts and it hopefully will be fun. So if you have a hobby that you like doing, turn that hobby into a talent and show the world what you do!

## NIGHT TO SHINE

On February 9, 2018, I was a volunteer at NFL star Tim Tebow's Night to Shine, a prom for developmentally disabled individuals. It was the most amazing, humbling experience I have ever been a part of.

These beautiful spirits believe they can do anything and who are we to tell them they can't? They sing. They dance. They tell jokes. They laugh with their friends. THEY LOVE. They, with all their challenges, SHINE!

That night they were all stars. They walked the red carpet. They were prom queens and kings with crowns and tiaras. Mobile, immobile, verbal, non-verbal, blind, deaf, they showed up and were fearless. And they stole my heart. I challenge you all, whether your life is touched by disability or not to learn more about the Tim Tebow Night to Shine and join me as a volunteer next year. You won't regret it.



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## Funny Things Kids Say

Yesterday in the park I saw a toddler screaming “BAD DOG” at a goose and I can’t stop thinking about it.

Almost 2yr old for sale. Been crying for 10 mins cuz he cant get in the oven with the cornbread. Entertaining all offers.

Daughter didn’t want “sunscream” so I put her outside and yelled “SUN.... GET HER” and now she’s flipping out.

I bought my son a book about bats and halfway through it he shouted out, “WHAT?? BATS ARE REAL?!?!” All this time he thought they were made up for Halloween like ghosts and witches.

Overheard conversation between 2nd grade boys:  
“Do you think you’ll ever fall in love?”  
“I don’t know. I think if she likes pancakes, then probably.”

Madison’s eaten  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a chicken and cheese quesadilla. The last  $\frac{1}{4}$  she realizes it has chicken and cheese and isn’t a pancake. She flies into a fit of crying and screaming that I lied and broke her little baby heart. I literally never said it was a pancake but go off.

We asked my three year old cousin how much he weighs and he said, “uhhh, like fifty squirrels”

Lifeguard at the lake: “EVERYONE PLEASE EXIT THE WATER, WE’RE LOOKING FOR A 5 YEAR OLD BOY IN BLUE SHORTS NAMED TITUS”  
Little boy standing next to me in blue shorts: “hey, my names Titus too”

My son keeps grabbing fists of air and screaming ‘mine’. My daughter is crying says Tj is stealing my air....they are in my bedroom, on a Saturday morning....

I told my nephew I’m not allowed to eat popsicles (bcuz my sis doesn’t want him eating junk and he copies me) So he pulls me into the bathroom, slams the door, and whispers:  
“ssshhhh I got us both popsicles but we need to eat them in here so my mom doesn’t find out”

I was lifeguarding and a little boy threw his ball out of the water and his mom goes “maybe if you ask the pretty lifeguard she will grab the ball for you!” This kid looked me dead in the eye and goes “....where’s the pretty one?” KIDS ARE RUTHLESS LMAO

## CANCER AT 22?

My name is Zahra\* and I am a warrior! I am sharing my story in the hope that if you or a loved one has been recently diagnosed with cancer, it will take you beyond the and help you through the difficult days ahead.

Exactly 4 months after my wedding, I started having killing headaches. I was in great shape otherwise, so I was not particularly concerned when the emergency room doctor told me he needed further scans. The medical consensus was that I had probably too much stress due to being distant from my spouse (visa issues!) and being newly-wed so...! However, my internist ordered a battery of tests. Even though everything else was ruled out, he was as shocked as I when the CT scan showed evidence of a metastatic disease.

Life turned surreal as the medical tests began to determine what kind of cancer I had. It then became affirmed that I had a brain tumour!

The days passed in slow motion as I waited to find out whether I was a candidate for surgery and then for the date of the surgery to arrive. When the details of the surgery were explained to me, they literally took my breath away and brought tears to my eyes. Although there was no evidence of cancer outside the tumour, the doctors recommended chemotherapy following the surgery. Again, I was absolutely terrified but I felt I had no choice. Three long months of chemo passed; it was pretty terrible, but not nearly as bad as I had imagined.

The diagnosis and treatments wreaked havoc on my world. Perhaps because I was accustomed to being strong, self-reliant, in control and, of course, a little pushy. Suddenly, I was not in control; instead of giving help and support, I was accepting it. That too - from my parents who literally looked 40 years older in those 4 months! Without much warning, I was too tired and weak to walk around; instead of running miles, I was in bed too exhausted to even lift a book. The next thing I knew, I had changed from a healthy, newly-was, 22 year old into a cancer patient, a frail, fatigued and, once chemo began, somewhat bald, old lady.

During this period, life revolved around cancer. No matter what your state of health, the diagnosis of cancer is overwhelming for the patient and for everyone close. Anxiety, sadness and depression are common for most cancer patients, and I was no exception. However, one fine morning, I finally thought to myself - no matter what, I have to win!

Over five years, with chemo, radiation, immunotherapy

and 13 surgeries - from a brain tumour to leukaemia, the battle still goes on! I suppose it is natural to take stock of the past when the future is so seriously threatened. Strange as it may sound, I feel like one very lucky woman: I am blessed with parents and friends to care for me; one special one who has grown from a friend by chance to a sister by choice! I had access to skilled and compassionate medical help from Tanzania to India! Not forgetting my teachers who try understand my situation and help me pursue my goals!

Indeed life is uncertain and fragile for all of us.

In our society, it is easy to go through life rushing to get things done. Cancer is a reminder to live each day fully; to seize the opportunity to express love and appreciation to those we care about, to take the time to stop and notice little things that can make life so enjoyable, to help others and to remember to be thankful for whatever good fortune we have.

Love you my mama, papa and bro! Oh and did you think I forgot you Afsheen?  
Thank you for all that you do! I am sorry for the days that I am low and tend to vent out on you! I only vent out on you because you are my source of strength.

\*Names changed for privacy.

For all of you reading this - we are gateways to our emotions! Grief, anger, regret, sorrow and even pain! Nothing is strong enough to break you - except yourself! So love, live and laugh!



## A STORY TO TELL

So recently I got goosebumps. It was Friday, November 17. I was so pumped since it was the end of the week and we had planned to go out and eat for dinner. I went school like it was a normal day, but little did I know there was a shock waiting for me at school.

There's this boy in my band, Spanish and math class. His name was Nathan. I never really liked him since he was a slowpoke. He didn't have any friends at all. He always sat alone at the lunch table with his phone listening to music. People just walked past him without caring. And in class whenever he was asked a question, he would take a long time to answer it. The whole class would get annoyed and whenever he got an answer wrong, the whole class would laugh. I didn't know why but I didn't care enough to know.

On Nov. 17, I walked into band class and was ready to play my flute. Mr. Kohler began the class. We played music for a little while then he asked us to tune our instruments. I saw Nathan, he was just walking around like usual looking for something. There is nothing surprising about that, he does that in every class. He doesn't just sit the whole class period, he walks around looking for Kleenex or a new reed for his instrument. He plays clarinet by the way.

So then Mr. Kohler asked a question to the class: "who in here can tell what note it is just by hearing the pitch?"

Nobody raised their hand except for Nathan. The moment I saw him, I laughed but not out loud. I thought he couldn't do anything properly. How could he possibly guess the note when the pitch is played?

Mr. Kohler even laughed a little and then told Nathan, "come here buddy." Nathan came and stood in front of the class. Mr. Kohler had a tuner and he played a pitch and asked Nathan to guess the pitch.

Nathan said, "E flat."

Mr. Kohler said, "ok good." And played another pitch. "F sharp." Nathan said. The whole class went pin drop silence.

Mr. Kohler challenged Nathan by playing 2 pitches at the same time.

"C and B flat" Nathan said.

Mr. Kohler played 3 pitches. "G, A flat, E sharp." Nathan said.

"Good job, go back to your seat." Mr. Kohler said.

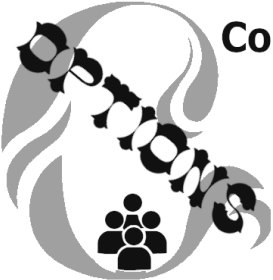
At that moment I got goosebumps. How did he do that? I said to myself. He guessed all the pitches correctly. That day I realized that I shouldn't judge people based on little things I see. I need to see the great

things people can do.

From that day on I had a different opinion on Nathan. I forgot about all the things he was bad at and focused on the things he was good at. Whenever I saw him, I just said to myself, “that’s the guy that impressed me. That’s the guy who is musically talented.”

## LUCKY FIN FOR THE WIN!

Hello my name is Ashley and I'm 23 years old. I was born missing the lower part of my right arm. I grew up in a day and age where I never saw anyone like me. You didn't see people with missing limbs working in your local grocery store, on TV, on billboards, or even being confident just walking around. I never had a role model growing up. I always thought that I was alone. That I was the only one on this whole planet who was missing an arm. I always questioned a higher power wondering "why me?" ... "Why me out of all these other people?". But now I think I've figured it out. After growing up competing on horseback, dancing, and as an adult performing and scuba diving I know my purpose now. I am now an ambassador for an Organization called Lucky Fin Project. The NPO brings awareness to limb differences using Nemo from Finding Nemo as a mascot because of his Lucky Fin. With the power of social media and awareness I can be that role model that I so desperately needed as a child. Growing up having a role model is important. I was put on this earth to make a difference.



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## His Biggest Fight Wasn't In The Ring

“It isn't the mountains ahead to climb that wear you out; it's the pebble in your shoe.”

—Muhammad Ali



Muhammad Ali was raised Cassius Clay in a small home in Louisville, Kentucky. From those humble beginnings neither he nor any observer at that time could have fathomed the path he would carve through life. He was a Golden Gloves champion at age 17, an Olympic gold medalist at age 18, and an undefeated heavyweight champion at age 22.

His fighting career began when, spurred by the theft of his prized new bicycle, he was out to get the person responsible. Ali was venting his anger at the local gym, when the perceptive policeman Joe Martin admonished, “You better learn to box first.” And box he did. Within a week he had his first match and first win. This feisty, 89-pound young man was ready to take on the world. And before his career in the ring ended, the world would know his name as the man crowned heavyweight champion three times—the greatest.

Outside of athletics, too, Ali never shirked at standing up for what he believed in. A prominent civil rights activist beginning in the 1960s, he took his conviction for draft evasion as a conscientious objector all the way to the Supreme Court, which overturned his conviction in 1971. He used his words as well as his fists, recording two spoken-word albums and an R&B song and earning two Grammy nominations; writing two autobiographies; and acting in several films and a Broadway musical.

Ultimately, his greatest fight was not in the ring. After beating the world's toughest human opponents, it was Parkinson's disease that would prove to be his final foe. In true Ali style, he met this challenge head on. Instead of shrinking from this difficulty, he stepped onto the world stage once more as a champion. His tireless work raising money to fight this debilitating disease inspired thousands and endeared him to a new generation of admirers around the world even beyond his death in 2016. As he was in the ring, he remains in our eyes—the greatest.

# All – American. Native American. Excellence

“They just keep coming. But that's what keeps me going.”  
—Jim Thorpe



When it comes to all-around excellence in athletic endeavors, Jim Thorpe stands tall. In 1999 the Associated Press placed him third on its list of top athletes of the century, behind only Babe Ruth and Michael Jordan.

Thorpe excelled not in one sport, but in many. He made a name for himself in track and field, professional basketball and football, as well as Major League Baseball, persevering despite racism and personal difficulty.

Though sports came easy for Thorpe, life did not. James Francis Thorpe was born a twin, but lost his brother to pneumonia when he was 9 years old. His mother died of childbirth complications just two years later. His father passed away after a hunting accident when Thorpe was 16 and attending the Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

Thorpe was raised in the Sac and Fox nation in Oklahoma. Despite the hardships of his youth, he lived up to his native name, Wa-Tho-Huk, translated as "Bright Path."

His brilliant athletic career began at the Carlisle School. Though football was his favorite sport—earning him All-American honors in 1911 and 1912—he did not stop there. He competed in baseball, lacrosse, track and field, and even ballroom dancing, winning the 1912 intercollegiate ballroom dancing championship.

Indeed, 1912 was a big year for Thorpe. He became famous overnight with his outstanding performance at the Stockholm Olympics, where he won the gold medal for both the decathlon and pentathlon. Reportedly, as King Gustav of Sweden awarded Thorpe his medals, he said “You, sir, are the greatest athlete in the world.”

Alas, in 1913, Thorpe’s medals were stripped from him when the committee discovered he had played minor league baseball prior to competing in the Olympics, therefore violating the amateur regulations. After vigorous opposition to this ruling, in 1983 Thorpe’s medals, and his name, were reinstated in the record books.

Thorpe went on to play Major League Baseball, professional football, and basketball, where he led an all-American Indian team. He played for various MLB teams and finished his career with a .252 batting average, 91 runs scored and 82 runs batted in. Likewise Thorpe played for six different NFL teams. He even coached one of his teams, the Canton Bulldogs, while still a player. Thorpe’s talent did not go unnoticed—he was selected to the first All-NFL team in 1923.

The sheer excellence with which Thorpe performed every sport he ever competed in is an inspiration to many. Undoubtedly, Jim Thorpe is one of the greatest athletes this world has ever seen.



# Sent 19 Poor Kids to College

“Somebody has to train these kids. Somebody has to teach them, and if not me, who? If not now, when? We must do it. It's got to be done.”

—Oral Lee Brown



One morning on her way to work, Oral Lee Brown stopped by a local grocery store to make her usual purchase of some peanuts and a soda. On this particular day, however, a little girl approached Brown, asking for a quarter. Because all she had was a \$5 bill, Brown invited the little girl to go with her to the store to get some change. Inside the store, Brown told the little girl she could pick out anything she wanted.

Instead of choosing candy or gum, which would have been the first choice for most kids, the little girl immediately ran for a loaf of bread. Brown asked the girl if she went to school. She quietly responded, “Sometimes,” as she shyly thanked Brown and quickly disappeared around the corner.

That night, Brown couldn't sleep. She knew she had to find the little girl. She went to the school the girl would most likely attend, but she never found her. Instead, she found many other children, in less than ideal conditions. In an almost impulsive decision, Brown decided to “adopt” a class of 23 East Oakland, California, first-graders. She told them, “Stay in school, and I'll send you to college.”

To achieve this goal, Brown, a realtor, began saving money, putting aside \$10,000 per year from her \$45,000 salary.

Starting that day, Brown did more than simply make a promise to the children; she became an active part of their lives. She became a benefactor, mentor and second mother to those 23 first-graders, beginning with regular visits, Saturday tutorials and parent meetings. She tracked each child's attendance and grades, bought them Christmas gifts and purchased supplies.

Brown took the students on recruiting trips to colleges and attended nine different high school graduations. Nineteen of the students in that first class enrolled in college, and three others went into trade schools. Those students all graduated from college in 2003 and 2004.

Brown is now on her sixth class of “adopted” students. All told, more than 125 young people have benefited from her generosity. Some of these students—now in college—report that if it hadn't been for Brown, they

would never have been given an opportunity for this kind of education.

In response, Brown says, “Somebody has to train these kids. Somebody has to teach them, and if not me, who? If not now, when? We must do it. It's got to be done.”

Today, Brown has established the Oral Lee Brown Foundation, with the ultimate goal of opening a boarding school for 450 kids and planting the seeds for them to receive an Ivy League education. With her life's ambition found in the work of supporting others to achieve undreamed-of goals, Brown embodies the value of helping others—and truly shows how to pass those values on.

## Orange Snow Falls Across Europe



In early 2018, parts of Europe got a picturesque, if peculiar sight: orange snow falling across the eastern part of the continent. While alarming, the orange snow wasn't actually the result of some kind of chemical or other potential source of harm, but was caused by a low-pressure area moving over North Africa and into Eastern Europe, causing orange sand to mix with water droplets, causing the strange-looking snow.



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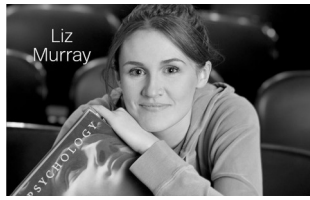
our website can be accessed at:  
<https://community-options.net>



# From Homeless to Harvard

“This fork in the road happens over a hundred times a day. It's the choices you make that will determine the shape of your life.”

—Liz Murray



Liz Murray grew up in the Bronx, New York City, with drug-addicted parents who sometimes sold household items in order to get their fix. As a child, Murray hated school because when she did go, she was teased as an oddball—after all, she had no one at home to make sure she showered or got up on time.

As Murray grew older, her parents lost their apartment. Her mother, who suffered from AIDS, became increasingly ill and was hospitalized, while her father struggled from shelter to shelter. Rather than submit to the dehumanization and sadness that had characterized her brief experience in foster care, Murray chose to fend for herself. She slept on friends' couches or floors at odd hours, camped outside or rode the subway all night.

When Murray was 16, her mother died. Murray felt that event as "a slap in the face" that caused her to question where her life was going. With an eighth-grade education, Murray decided that, as she said, "Life rewards action. I was going to go out there and... have action in my life every day instead of this stagnant behavior that I had been partaking in for so long."

After Murray was admitted to an alternative high school, the Humanities Preparatory Academy, she took a double course load and completed high school in only two years. The school took its top 10 students, including Murray, on a trip to Boston, where the group walked through Harvard Yard.

"It's not as though I had some sort of epiphany at the moment... It was more that I got jealous of how these students had so much opportunity, and I felt that I'd had very little. And so then I thought, 'Well, what's the difference between me and anyone here?' And I filled in all the gaps."

Her grades earned Murray a scholarship from the New York Times. She applied and was admitted to Harvard, and graduated in 2009, after taking a sabbatical to care for her father, who also passed away due to AIDS.

Along the way, Murray began to tell her story through writing and public speaking. Her tale was adapted by Lifetime Television in the 2003 film "Homeless to Harvard: the Liz Murray Story." She is also an avid writer

whose best-selling memoir, "Breaking Night," was published in 2010. Now a member of the Washington Speakers' Bureau, Murray has found she has "a knack for" sharing her insights with audiences across the country, and she has founded a company, Manifest Living, which works to empower adults to create extraordinary things in their lives.

In all she does, Murray embodies ambition—not only to achieve material goals and accomplishments, but more importantly, to transcend circumstances and achieve the very best of which one is capable.

## 13-Year-Old Wakes Up After Being Declared Brain Dead



After a dune buggy accident, 13-year-old Alabama native Trenton McKinley was pronounced brain dead. However, after being brain dead for days, just as his parents were preparing to donate his organs, the teen miraculously began moving his extremities. Even more impressive, following three brain surgeries, McKinley is talking, reading, and even walking again, just two months after his near-fatal accident.



# Army doctors grow new ear in soldier's arm in 'first of its kind' procedure

Plastic surgeons use the army private's own cartilage



Army Private Shamika Burrage almost died when she was ejected from her car during a crash in Texas. Afterwards, when she woke up in the hospital, her entire left ear was gone.

But the now-21-year-old is on the path to recovery. And due to a procedure hailed as the "first of its kind" in the Army, an ear was reconstructed and "grown" under the skin of her right forearm, according to the Army.

No prosthetics were needed. Instead, plastic surgeons used the soldier's own cartilage.

The ear was later attached to Pte Burrage's head by surgeons at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso. The Army said Pte Burrage recovered her hearing and that the operation was a success, according to a statement.

The total ear reconstruction involved doctors carving a new ear out of cartilage harvested from Pte Burrage's ribs, the statement said. The ear was then placed under her forearm skin to let it grow.

The procedure is one of the most complicated ear constructions in the US, according to an ABC News report, and allows for the formation of new blood vessels in the cartilage.

This means Pte Burrage will also have feeling in her new ear once rehabilitation is complete, the Army's statement said.

"The whole goal is by the time she's done with all this, it looks good, it's sensate, and in five years if somebody doesn't know her they won't notice," Lt Col Owen Johnson III, the chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the medical centre was quoted as saying in the statement.

"As a young active-duty Soldier, they deserve the best reconstruction they can get," he said.

Losing her ear was just one of many injuries Pte Burrage sustained in 2016 when the front tire of her car

blew out, causing the car to skid 200m before flipping multiple times.

Pte Burrage had been driving with her pregnant cousin from Mississippi to Fort Bliss, Texas, when the crash happened. While her cousin managed to escape with only minor wounds, Pte Burrage suffered head injuries as well as compression fractures in the spine.

"I was on the ground, I just looked up and (her cousin) was right there," she said in the statement. "Then I remember people walking up to us, asking if we were okay and then I blacked out."



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Zia Partovi at 918-244-0457 or 918-789-2862  
or email him at  
[links@links.community-options.net](mailto:links@links.community-options.net)



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# Scientists reverse damage of Alzheimer's disease in human brain cells

Dr Yadong Huang led the team who discovered how to erase the damage in human brain cells caused by Alzheimer's disease. Credit: Gladstone Institutes



Researchers at the Gladstone Institutes in California have discovered a potential treatment route for the primary genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, a gene called apoE4.

The team, which was led by Dr Yadong Huang, discovered how to erase the damage caused by apoE4 in human brain cells through changing it into an innocuous form.

Even one copy of the gene more than doubles the chances of a person developing the brain-wasting disease, while having two copies increases the risk 12-fold. Until now, scientists have been uncertain as to why apoE4 causes such severe damage to brain cells compared with the common version of the gene, apoE3.

Both versions of the gene create a protein of the same name, with only a small structural difference altering the function and thus effect of the apoE4 protein.

The team used a small molecule to change the apoE4 protein into a harmless apoE3 version, thus erasing the damage caused to brain cells. Results were published in *Nature Medicine*.

The study is particularly promising as its success was seen in human brain cells, differing from the majority of Alzheimer's research and drug trials which are conducted in mouse models. In the past, many treatments that have shown positive results in murine models have not made it past early clinical testing in humans.

"Drug development for Alzheimer's disease has been largely a disappointment over the past ten years," Huang said.

"Many drugs work beautifully in a mouse model, but so far they've all failed in clinical trials. One concern within the field has been how poorly these mouse models really mimic human disease."

Huang's team used pluripotent stem cell technology to examine the effect of apoE4 on human brain cells, something that has not been done previously. Neurons were created using skin cells donated by Alzheimer's patients with two copies of the apoE4 gene, as well as from healthy individuals with two copies of the apoE3 gene.

In their research, the team members found that the apoE4 protein cannot function properly in human neurons. It is instead broken down into fragments within the cells, causing tau proteins and amyloid peptides to accumulate and thus causing disease.

While apoE4 does not affect the production of amyloid beta – the main component of the amyloid plaques found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients – in mouse models, it does cause a notable increase of the protein's production in human cells.

"There's an important species difference in the effect of apoE4 on amyloid beta," first author of the study Dr Chengzhong Wang said.

"Increased amyloid beta production is not seen in mouse neurons and could potentially explain some of the discrepancies between mice and humans regarding drug efficacy. This will be very important information for future drug development."

The researchers then turned their attentions to how apoE4 causes cell damage.

"It's fundamentally important to address this question because it changes how you treat the problem," Huang said.

"If the damage is caused due to the loss of a protein's function, you would want to increase protein levels to supplement those functions. But if the accumulation of a protein leads to a toxic function, you want to lower production of the protein to block its detrimental effect."

To address the question, the team examined brain cells which do not produce either form of the apoE protein. They found the presence of apoE3 did not affect the functionality of the neurons; it was only when apoE4 was added that they became populated with pathologies related to Alzheimer's disease. As such the researchers demonstrated that the presence of apoE4, and not the absence of apoE3, causes the disease.

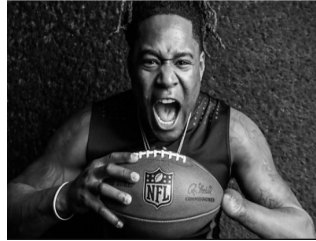
The final step saw the researchers attempting to repair the damage caused by apoE4. Huang and his team had previously developed a class of compounds called 'apoE4 structure correctors', which work through alter-

ing the structure of apoE4 proteins to resemble the harmless apoE3 protein. Following the application of a structure corrector, signs of Alzheimer's were shown to be eliminated from human apoE4 neurons and normal function was restored to cells.

The team is now working to improve the experimental compounds so they can be used in future trials.

## **NFL Draft 2018: Shaquem Griffin joins Seattle to become league's first one-handed player**

Shaquem Griffin has become the first one-handed player to be drafted by an NFL team after being selected by the Seattle Seahawks in the fifth round.



The linebacker had his left hand amputated when he was four, having been born with a condition that prevented the fingers from fully developing.

The 22-year-old joins his twin brother Shaquill, a cornerback, in Seattle.

Shaquem Griffin was in attendance in Dallas to hear his name called at the 2018 NFL Draft.

He starred at college level, winning his conference's defensive player of the year award in 2016 and playing in an unbeaten University of Central Florida team last season.

He gained attention at the NFL Combine in March when he ran the quickest 40-yard dash for a linebacker since 2003.

Griffin also bench-pressed 225lb 20 times, three more than his identical twin managed, having attached a prosthetic hand onto the bar. Current NFL defensive stars JJ Watt and Von Miller were among those to react in awe on social media.

He said before the draft: "I want to show the entire world, no matter [if you have] one hand, two hands, if you're a ball player, you just play ball."

University of Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield, who won the Heisman Trophy for best college player, was the first pick of the 2018 draft on Thursday.

The Cleveland Browns chose Mayfield, 23, to kick off a draft considered one of the deepest in recent history for quarterbacks as four of the top 10 players taken were QBs.

Cleveland also had the fourth pick in the draft and chose to take cornerback Denzel Ward of Ohio State.

Penn State running back Saquon Barkley went second overall to the New York Giants, and University of Southern California quarterback Sam Darnold was selected third by the New York Jets.



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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

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.

American Legion Post 178 in Grove, OK – Bingo every Saturday evening at 6pm. Family atmosphere. Contact Lee Cathy for any questions at: 901-487-9060

PRYOR DANCE—Every 1st. and 3rd. Thursday of the month. 6:15 pm—9 pm—Cost is \$5.00 per person, Double H Band will be playing. Cookies and Coffee will be serving. It's for seniors but all ages are welcome. Mayes County Nutrition Center 851 SE 9th Pryor (just east of 9th and Elliott intersection)

May 20, 2020 Snakes of Oklahoma—Join Cherokee National Treasure, Woody Hanson as he teaches us about the snakes who live in Oklahoma. He will bring some of his "Special Pets". Woody will also entertain us with his stories regarding snakes and snaking. Delaware County Library at Jay. May 20, Wednesday 1:00

Apr 1, 2020 - Apr 30, 2020 Azalea Festival - Held since 1968, Muskogee's Honor Heights Park boasts 40

# 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.

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

Hardship level: Moderate

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



acres of manicured gardens with over 30,000 azaleas in 625 varieties. Visit this stunning park throughout the month of April for one of the top events in the South. The annual festival celebrates the blooming of azaleas, tulips, dogwoods and wisteria as these buds begin to unfurl during the warmer temperatures of spring to the delight of visitors. Honor Heights Park Muskogee, OK 74401 Phone: 918-682-2401 Toll-Free: 866-381-6543 Office Fax: 918-682-2403

Apr 23, 2020 - Apr 25, 2020 Woolly Weekend at Shepherd's Cross - Woolly Weekend is a "sheep to shawl" festival held at Shepherd's Cross, an authentic working sheep farm, just north of Claremore on scenic Route 66. This year due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, the event will be held on line in a series of virtual classes. During this weekend, take a virtual fiber arts class from the comfort of your home. Class topics include drop spindle, needle felting or hand carding. Use your own materials or register for a class with a curbside pick-up take home kit. Class times are 11am, 1pm and 3pm each day of the Woolly Weekend event. Participants have the option to do a curbside pick up of a woolly lamb crafts, limited to one for each household member. There is no charge for this pre-bagged craft. Be sure to watch a live sheep shearing video on April 23 on Shepherd's Cross on Facebook page, where you can also find more updates and interactive content. Shepherd's Cross 16792 E 450 Rd Claremore, OK 74017 Phone: 918-342-5911 Phone: 918-231-6947 Office Fax: 918-342-5911

Apr 25, 2020 Flower Power Bike Ride - The Flower Power Bike Ride takes participants through beautiful Fort Gibson and the surrounding area. Kick off the cycling season with this challenging and fun ride in eastern Oklahoma. Flower Power begins and ends at Three Forks harbor making a loop. Cyclists have five different routes to choose from that range from 15 miles to an adventurous 100 miles. Air up your tires, grab your biking gear and hit the road for a fun day of biking. Enjoy a first-come, first-served cookout at the end of your ride at Three Forks Harbor Event Center. Saturday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Packet pick-up: 3-6pm, Friday Registration: 7-9am, Saturday. Three Forks Harbor 5201 Three Forks Rd Fort Gibson, OK 74434 Phone: 918-684-6302

Apr 25, 2020 Party in the Park - Get a taste of Oklahoma wines and beers along with food from local Muskogee restaurants at Party in the Park. Spend the afternoon and evening enjoying the beautiful sights of Honor Heights Park and relax with a bit of wine as you stroll the Papilion gardens with its thousands of beautiful tulips. Past wineries have included Deep Branch, Native Spirits, Nuyaka Creek, Pecan Creek, StableRidge, Summerside, Tidewater, Wakefield, Whispering Vines and Diamond-Head. Past breweries have included Choc Beer, Iron Monk Brewery and Muskogee Brewing Company. Saturday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Honor Heights Park Mus-

kogee, OK 74401 Phone: 918-680-1239

May 1, 2020 - May 3, 2020 Oklahoma 100 Mile Yard Sale Tour - Come out to the annual Oklahoma 100 Mile Yard Sale Tour across the state. From Cleveland, Hominy, Ralston and Pawnee to Cushing, Yale and Oilton, you're sure to find plenty of goods to take home. Sift through clothing, extra odds and ends and gently used furniture in Oklahoma cities like Mannford, Sapulpa, Terlton, Jennings and Hallett. Whichever city you choose to shop through, you're sure to come out with ample garage sale treasures at the Oklahoma 100 Mile Yard Sale Tour. Various Locations Cleveland, OK 74020 Phone: 918-358-2131, 918-519-6251

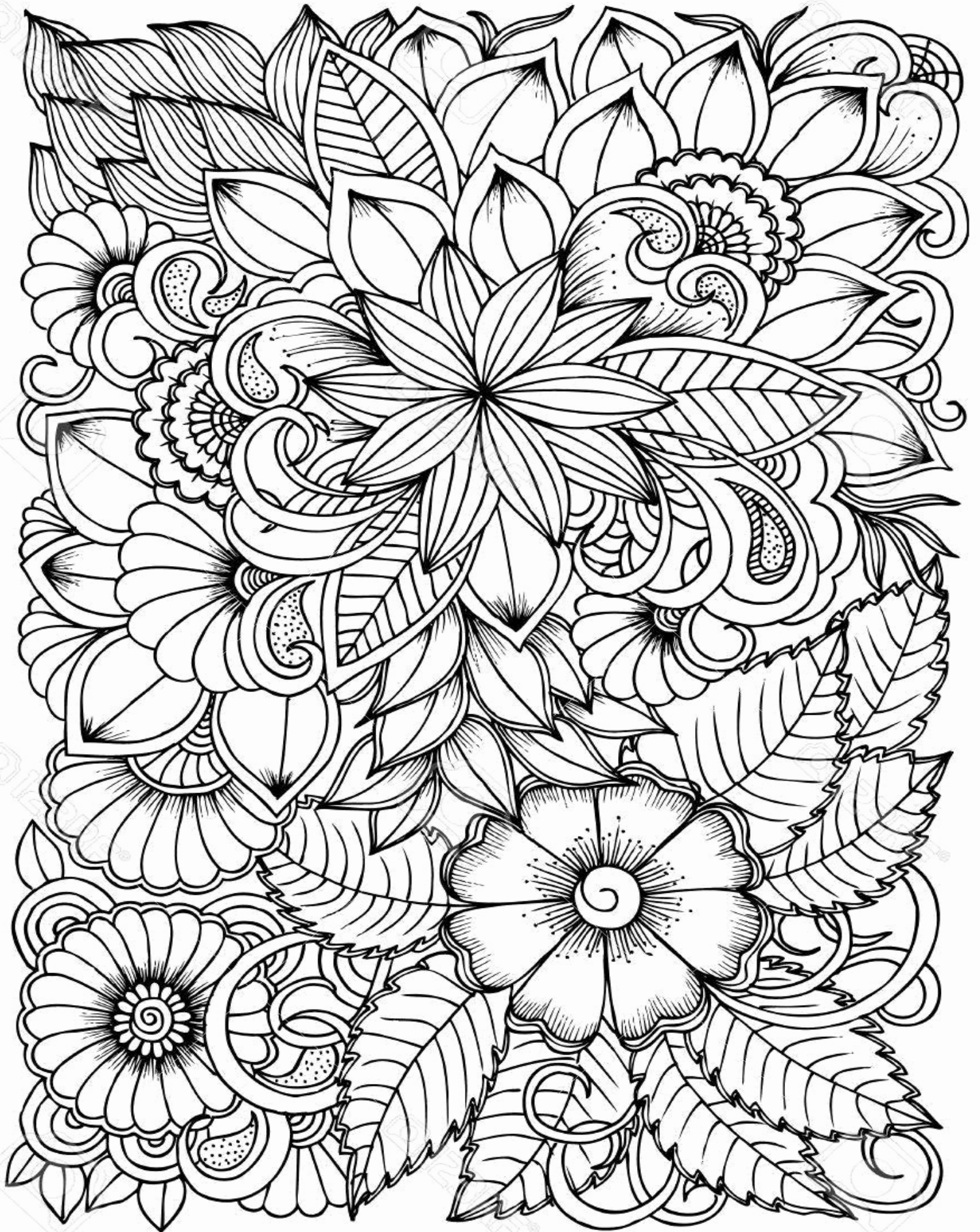
May 1, 2020 First Friday Art Crawl - Since 2007, the Tulsa Arts District has presented the community with rotating art displays as part of the monthly First Friday Art Crawl events. Every first Friday of the month, visitors can explore artwork inside galleries, studios and museums and catch a few live music performances or even an exciting fireworks display. As an added bonus, art crawlers can take advantage of free museum and gallery admission while shopping later than normal business hours would allow. Hit the district early for dinner, or stay a little later for a craft cocktail best enjoyed on an outdoor patio. Friday: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Various locations in Tulsa Arts District Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone: 918-527-8170, 918-492-7477

**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**

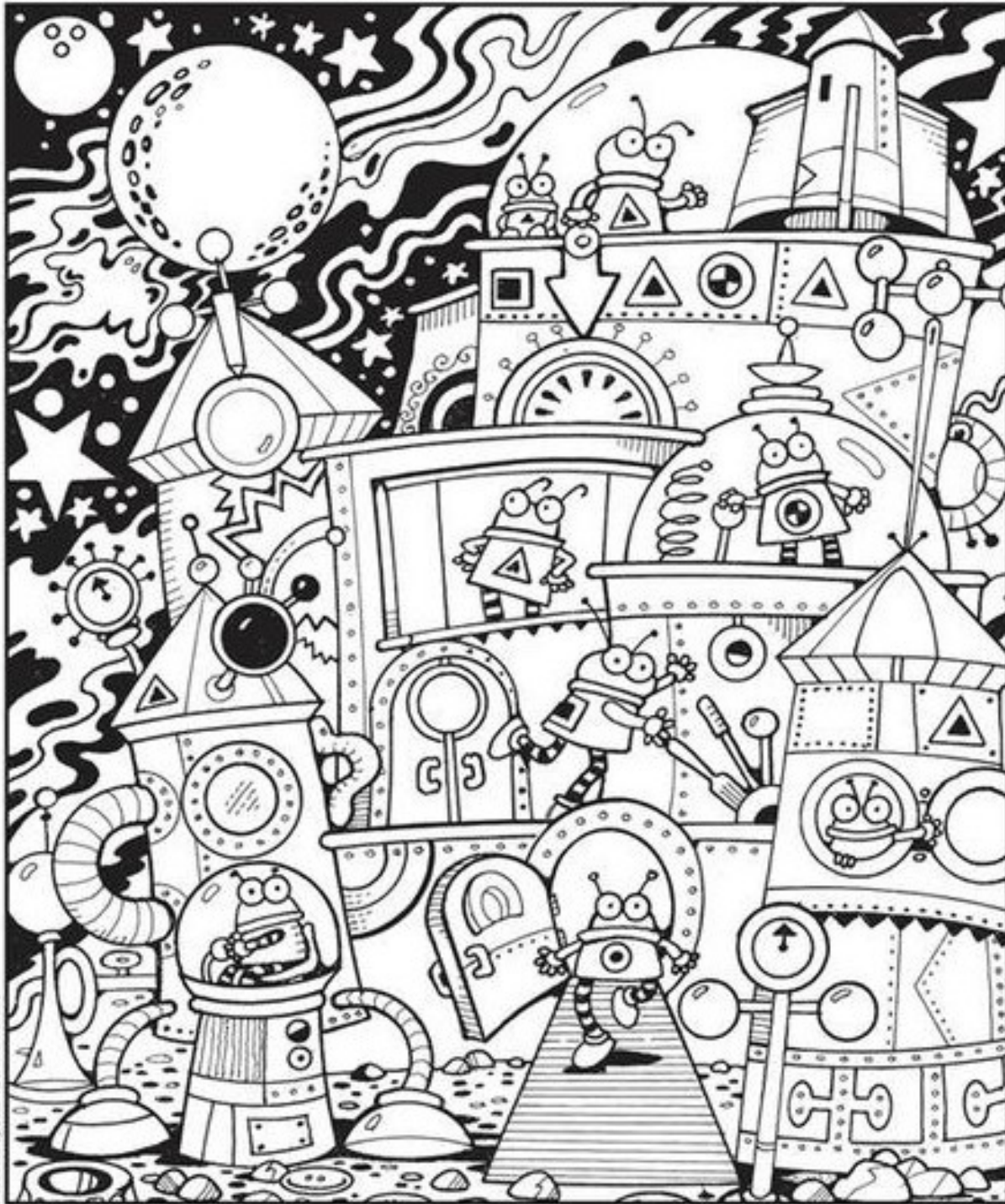
**Email: [links@links.community-options.net](mailto:links@links.community-options.net)**







# Hidden Pictures™



Illustrated by Susan Dabbsman 040998

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-  bowl
-  nail
-  key
-  paintbrush
-  lollipop
-  magnifying glass
-  ring
-  horseshoe
-  bugle
-  teacup
-  crown
-  trowel
-  tack
-  ghost
-  button
-  snake
-  slice of watermelon
-  fork
-  pennant
-  barbell
-  worm
-  bowling ball
-  needle
-  eyeglasses



# Getting to know the Lutherans

## The Vindication

“He is not here; he is risen, as he said” – Matthew 28:6 (RSV)

It’s a “pretty hard act to follow” when on Good Friday you die to forgive an entire world of their sins. But only God could outdo himself by raising his Son from the dead, victorious over death and the grave. There is nothing more earth-shattering than that.

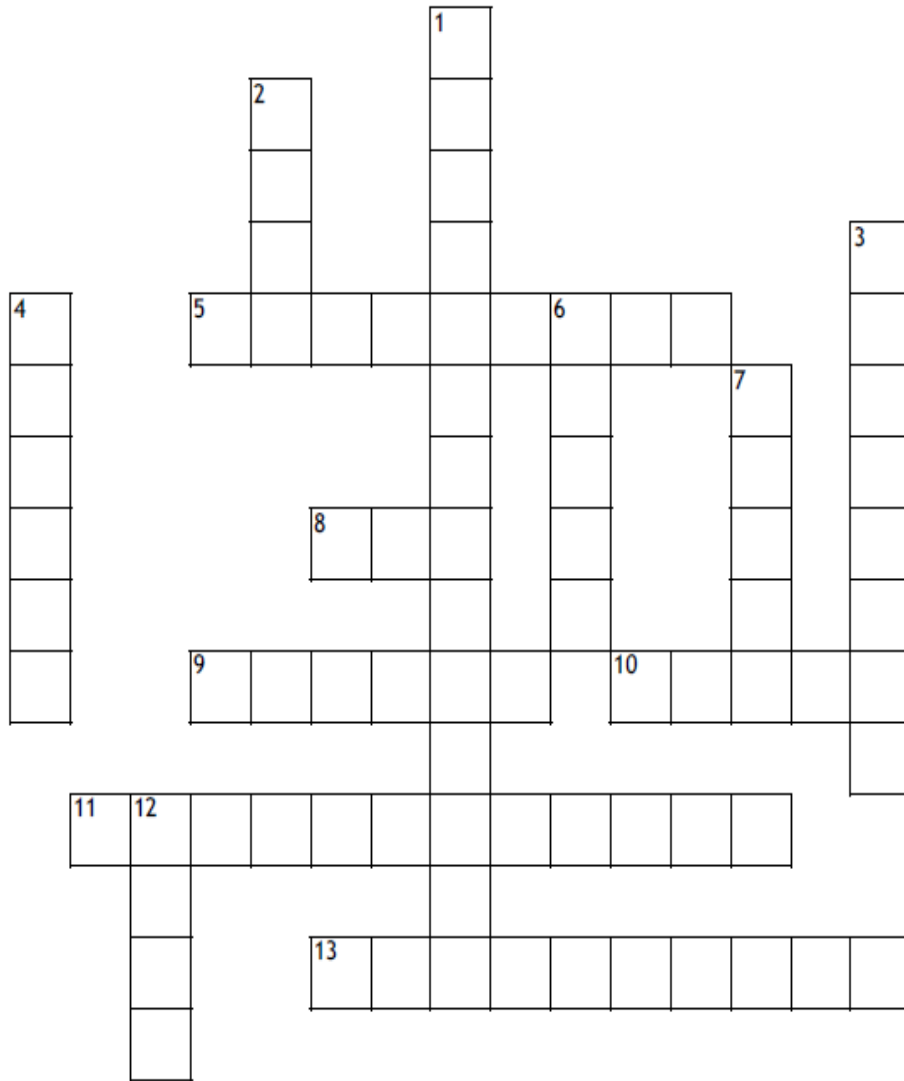
It is the very thing that Jesus said would happen, as the angels would announce – “Why do you seek the living among the dead. . . He is not here; he is risen, as he said.” And this is not a common, ordinary occurrence that someone should rise again under his own power.

The glorious and marvelous news from an empty tomb is this – “Jesus Christ is risen! – He is risen, indeed! – Alleluia!” God has accepted the total sacrifice of his Son for the forgiveness of our sins. No one has accomplished that feat but the Son of God.

And no one else has risen from the dead giving the promise of eternal life to all who believe in and follow Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Jesus shares his victory with us giving us hope and strength till our dying day. We thank God for his eternal love.

<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.rlcok.org">www.rlcok.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>

# Crossword Puzzle



## Across

- 5. \_\_\_ ant, another name for the army ant (9)
- 8. "Code of life" molecule
- 9. 1960s cartoon series about a feline (2)
- 10. Boston Patriots running back Jim
- 11. "Patriots Day" star (#1)
- 13. Advocate of stronger federal government

## Down

- 1. Patriots' Day event
- 2. "The Dick Van \_\_\_ Show" (1960s sitcom)
- 3. Falcons and Patriots, e.g.
- 4. Former Patriots QB Steve
- 6. Molecule components
- 7. Black Mass and Patriots Day actor, \_ Bacon (5)
- 12. "The \_\_\_ Ant Show"; 1960s cartoon series



# Word Search Puzzle

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

Platanaceae    Proteales    Eudicots    Angiosperms    Tracheophytes    Platanus occidentalis  
 Sycamore    Spruce    Morton Arboretum    Mark Wahlberg    Boston Marathon    Patriots Day  
 Liriodendron    Magnolia Tulip Tree    Red Leaf Japanese Maple Tree    American Beech Tree  
 Tulip Tree    Plant A Tree    Grant Wood    Global Warming    Trees    Earth Day    Arbor Day

Solution is on page 35

# CryptoQuote Puzzles

**Title:** Solving Small Problems First **Quote From:** Muhammad Ali

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	

P L P I X L L W M S Q A X L Z P X I Z W M Z J  
 L Q O K P S N L W Z L T M Z U E Q A Q A L  
 P L I L W M B M N N K M P X E Q A U I W Q M

**Title:** Struggle keeps you alive **Quote From:** Jim Thorpe

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	

O C W H N Z B O S W W R P U K L M Y I Z O  
 O C F O B X C F O S W W R B K W Y U L M Y

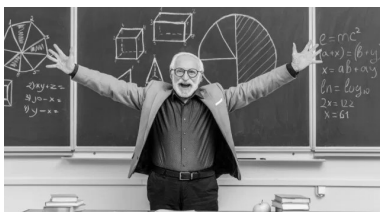
**Title:** Teaching Kids **Quote From:** Oral Lee Brown

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	

N G A T M G C H F W N Q G Q V W Z I Q F T N T  
 O Z C N N G A T M G C H F W N Q G Q T W P F  
 Q F T A W I C Z J I G Q A T Y F G Z J  
 I G Q I G Y Y F T I Y T A U N Q C G Z Q  
 Z Q N D G Q Q G M T C G I T

# 20 Most Ridiculous College Courses You Won't Believe Are Real

IF YOU EVER WANTED A B.A. IN YETI HUNTING, NOW'S YOUR CHANCE.



Approximately 20.4 million students headed off to college campuses in the United States last year, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. And of those 20.4 million, it's a good bet that, come course selection morning, about 20.3 million weighed just how fun a class in calculus or Renaissance poetry would actually be. Yes, it's no secret that some college courses can be rote and—dare we say—total snoozers. But the flip side is also true!

Digging through the curriculum guides of American universities will reveal a treasure trove of fun, exciting, downright ridiculous-sounding courses. In other words: If you've ever wanted to pick up a degree in Yeti Hunting, or Tree Climbing, or Lady Gaga (we're serious), or Zeitgeist Science Fiction Television Series (Westworld and Buffy the Vampire Slayer fans, take note), now's your chance. Schools around the country—from Cornell to Emerson to the University of South Carolina—offer up these crazy curriculum. Seriously: each and every one of these actually exists. Don't believe us? Read on, and see for yourself.

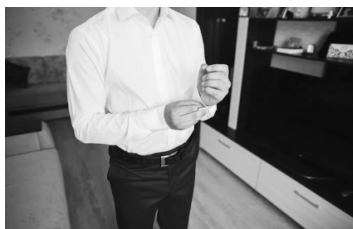
## Tree Climbing

Your favorite pastime as a child can now earn you college credit—and at an Ivy League school, no less. At Cornell University, students can take a one-credit class in Tree Climbing which will "teach you how to get up into the canopy of any tree, to move around, even to climb from one tree to another without touching the ground."



## Getting Dressed

At yet another Ivy League school, students can explore the art of getting ready in the morning, courtesy of a course called "Getting Dressed." This



freshman seminar at Princeton University, taught by scholar and author Jenna Weissman Joselit, examines how what we wear—and why we wear it—shapes who we are, and vice versa.

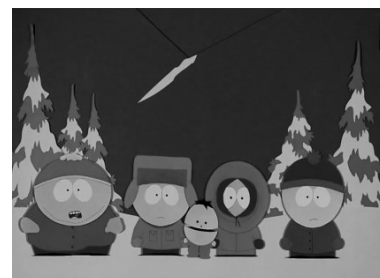
## Lady Gaga and the Sociology of Fame

Little Monsters will fall hard for the University of South Carolina's strange ode to Mother Monster herself, a course dubbed "Lady Gaga and the Sociology of Fame." After becoming enthralled with the singer and artist after seeing her on television, sociology professor Mathieu Deflem devised the course, explaining to The New York Times, "The central objective is to unravel some of the sociologically relevant dimensions of the fame of Lady Gaga."



## South Park and Contemporary Social Issues

While you may think of South Park as little more than a humorous, albeit vulgar, distraction from your day-to-day life, some scholars see it differently. According to two professors at McDaniel College in Maryland, the show is worth some serious study. "Often controversial itself, South Park uses humor to explore issues such as immigration, gay marriage, terrorism, and hundreds more," according to professors Dr. Josh Baron and Dr. Sara Raley, who co-teach the course.



## How to Watch Television

You probably think you know how to watch TV pretty well by this point: put on comfy pants, plant yourself on the couch, and zone out. However, undergrads at Montclair State University can fine-tune this art with the school's How to Watch Television class, the aim of which is "for students to critically evaluate the role of television in their lives as well as in the life of the culture."



## Westworld/Our World

Can't get enough of HBO's science fiction hit *Westworld*? You're in good company. At Bennington College in Vermont, you can take a deep dive into the show with professor J. Vanessa Lyon, PhD. In the course, students explore everything from cyborgs to TV westerns, earning two credits along the way.



## The Art of Walking

Want some incentive to get moving? Sign up for *The Art of Walking* at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. While the course touches on the work of everyone from Heidegger to Kant, it's also, more specifically, just a really long walk, with participants walking up to 25 miles at a stretch.



## The Game of Thrones

*Game of Thrones* is more than just a great show: studying it is also a way to earn college credit at the University of Virginia. Fortunately, *Game of Thrones* purists will also get to explore the George R. R. Martin books on which the series is based, comparing and contrasting the worlds created in print and on screen.



## Cryptozoology

Do you believe the truth is out there? Are you certain you spotted a Bigfoot print? If that sounds like you, you might just love the *Cryptozoology* class at Oberlin Experimental College in Ohio. This one-credit class, devoted to the study of cryptids, from the chupacabra to the Loch Ness Monster, is undeniably weird, but sounds a whole lot more fun than your average college seminar.



## The Physics of Star Trek

If you're ever wondered whether or not the USS *Enterprise* would have actually been capable of flight, Santa Clara University might be the school for you. At this California university, students can study the physics that might enable their favorite intergalactic ships to fly.



## Elvish

While it's since been taken out of the course catalog, students at the University of Wisconsin—Madison once had the great privilege of taking a course in *Elvish*, the fictional language spoken by elves in J. R. R. Tolkien's seminal *Lord of the Rings* series.



## Makin' Whoopi: Goldberg's Canon

Whether you're a fan of *Ghost* or just can't get enough of *Sister Act*, professor Charles I. Nero's "*Makin' Whoopi: Goldberg's Canon*" class at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, has got you covered.



## History of Surfing

Surfing is: a great workout, a cool skill to show off to your friends, and, if you're a student at the University of California—Santa Barbara, an academic subject worthy of study. In addition to teaching the history of the medium, students in this course will also learn about the issues facing coastal communities, and how surfing has influenced cultures around the world.



## The American Vacation

If you are so good at vacationing you could practically go pro, the University of Iowa's course on the subject might just be for you. While most of us think of vacations as a way to have fun with friends and family, the course description cautions, "Vacations are more serious events than you might think."



## The Amazing World of Bubbles

Combines a little glycerin, some air, and a plastic wand, and what do you get? A class at Caltech, apparently. Exploring bubbles in their many forms, from those that pose danger to engines to those that aid in medical procedures, this course is nothing short of an ebullio-phobic's nightmare.



## Demystifying the Hipster

Is it the cold brew coursing through their veins, the circulation-stifling effects of a pair of skinny jeans, or just an over-inflated sense of self-worth that makes your average hipster tick? At Tufts Experimental College, students can take a deep dive into the mind of these modern-day bohemians by signing up for the aptly-titled "Demystifying the Hipster" course.



## California Here We Come: The O.C. & Self-Aware Culture of 21st Century America

While many of us were obsessed with Mischa Barton's beachy waves and the relationship drama between Summer and Seth, *The O.C.* hardly seemed worthy of academic study—until Duke University made the case otherwise, that is. For a period of time, the prestigious school allowed students to study the culture surrounding the hit show and the "California exceptionalism" it exemplified.



## Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse—Disasters, Catastrophes, and Human Behavior

If you've ever wanted to know if you would make it out alive in a zombie apocalypse, Michigan State University has the one course that can give you a definitive answer. Better yet, since the class is offered entirely online, you can study in the privacy of your own room, even further reducing your chances of becoming an undead being's next meal.



## Deconstructing TV's Buffy

For those who are still binge-watching *Buffy* in their free time, Boston's Emerson College has just the course for you. "Deconstructing TV's *Buffy*," a four-credit seminar, takes a deep dive into this supernatural Joss Whedon hit, allowing students to explore everything from the show's mythology to the countless ways the show's characters have been adapted into everything from comics to fan fiction.



## Maple Syrup: The Real Thing

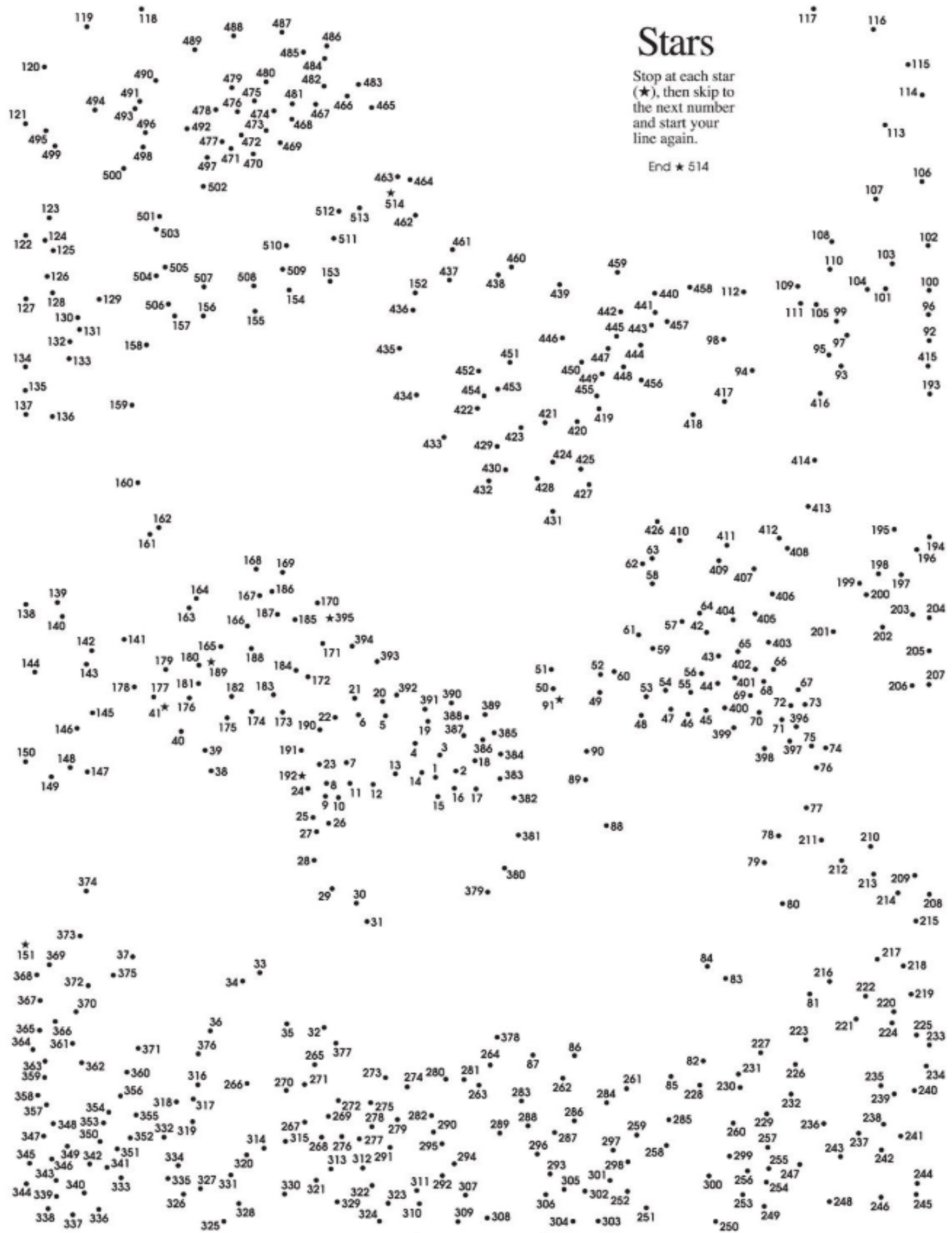
Have you been suffering the indignity of being offered fake maple syrup time and time again? Well, no longer, thanks to this unique course offered at Alfred University. While students do get to tap maple trees in the class, the course also explores everything from local maple sugaring operations to environmental science along the way.



To share your story with us contact:  
Zia Partovi at 918-244-0457 or 918-789-2862 or email him at [links@links.community-options.net](mailto:links@links.community-options.net)



# Dot To Dot Picture Puzzle (Connect dots to complete the picture)



## Stars

Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again.

End ★ 514



# 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

## 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

## CHOUTEAU PUBLIC LIBRARY

307 W Main Phone: 918-476-4445

### Hours:

Mon - Fri - 10AM to 5PM  
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

## 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

## NOWATA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

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

Hours: Mon-Fri 10<sub>am</sub> -5:30<sub>pm</sub>; Sat-Sun Closed

## PRYOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

505 E. Graham, Pryor 918-825-0777

### Hours:

Monday & Thursday: 1:00 PM-9:00 PM  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Saturday:9:00 AM-12:00 PM (Noon)

## 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

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**Advertising:** Links Newsletter, Bi-Monthly distributed by persons with developmental disabilities, Connecting Communities at an affordable rate.

**Office Supplies:** Self Inking Stamps, Paper products, Toner Cartridges, Printer Cartridges. If we don't have it in stock we will order for you. Most orders complete in 3 days

**Vinyl Creations:** Customized Hats, T-Shirts, Hoodies, Sweats and more. Stake Signs, Metal Signs, Banners, License Plate, Stickers. Ask for Sammy or Allie.

# He Couldn't Breathe While He Slept, So He Installed A Camera

A Twitter user named Luis said he couldn't breathe when he slept, so he installed a camera. This is what he captured.

"Killing me softly... with his paws..."

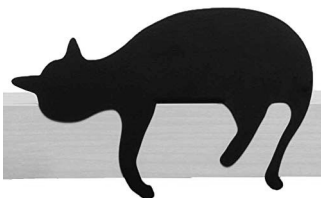


Luis's post has garnered more than 1 million likes.

Many comments have come from other cat owners who can relate.



"My cat used to do that to me!" replied one user. "I only found out because when I woke up from my recurring dream of suffocating, the fat cat was sprawled out on my face."



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# CryptoQuote Puzzles Solution

**Title:** Solving Small Problems **First Quote From:** Muhammad Ali

**“It isn't the mountains ahead to climb that wear you out; it's the pebble in your shoe.”**

**Title:** Struggle keeps you alive **Quote From:** Jim Thorpe

**“They just keep coming. But that's what keeps me going.”**

**Title:** Teaching Kids **Quote From:** Oral Lee Brown

**Somebody has to train these kids. Somebody has to teach them, and if not me, who? If not now, when? We must do it. It's got to be done.**

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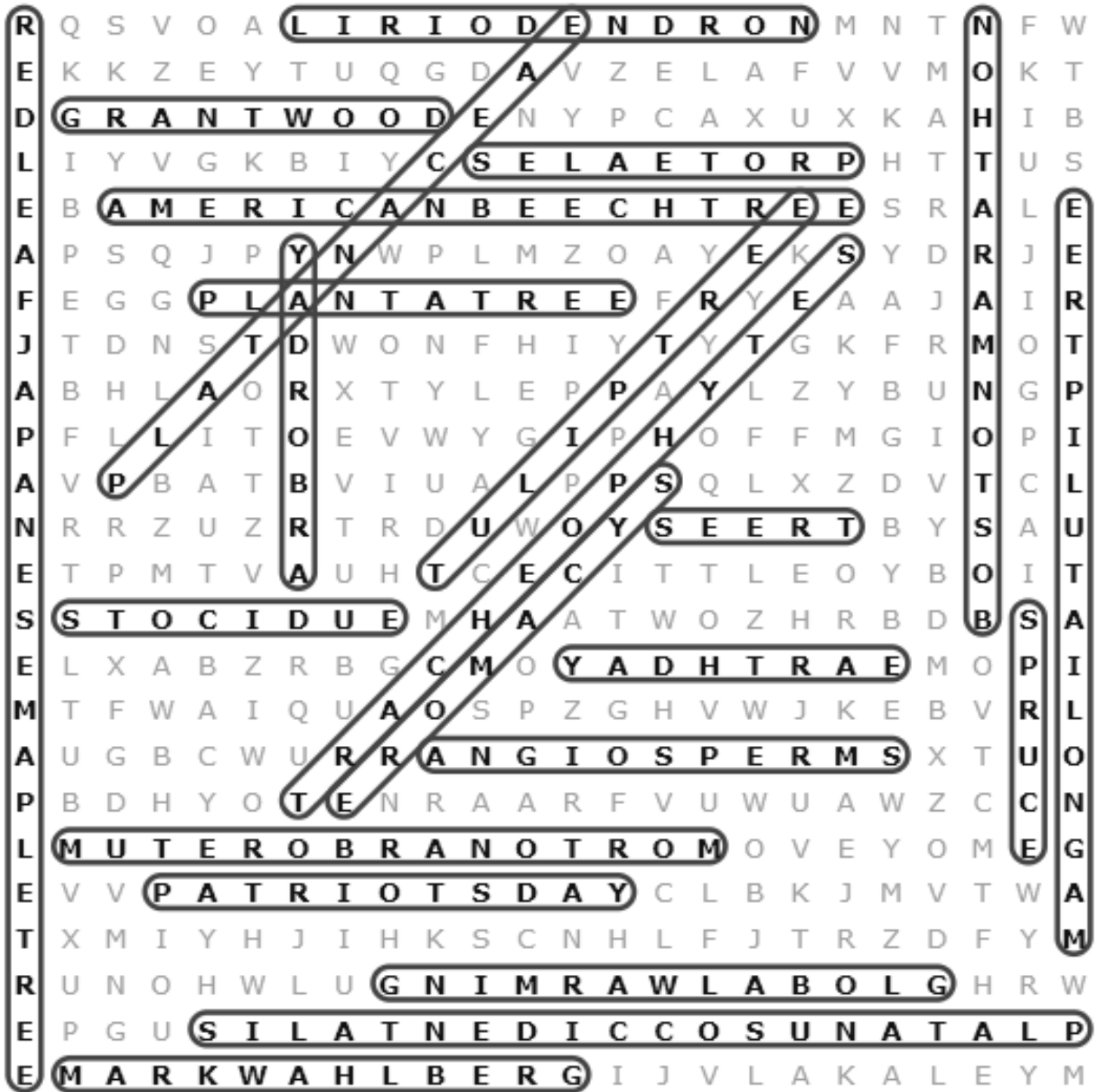


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*We will be glad to help you with your marketing needs.*

# Word Search Puzzle Solution



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 Lakeside State Bank

*"Big enough to serve you, small enough to know you."*



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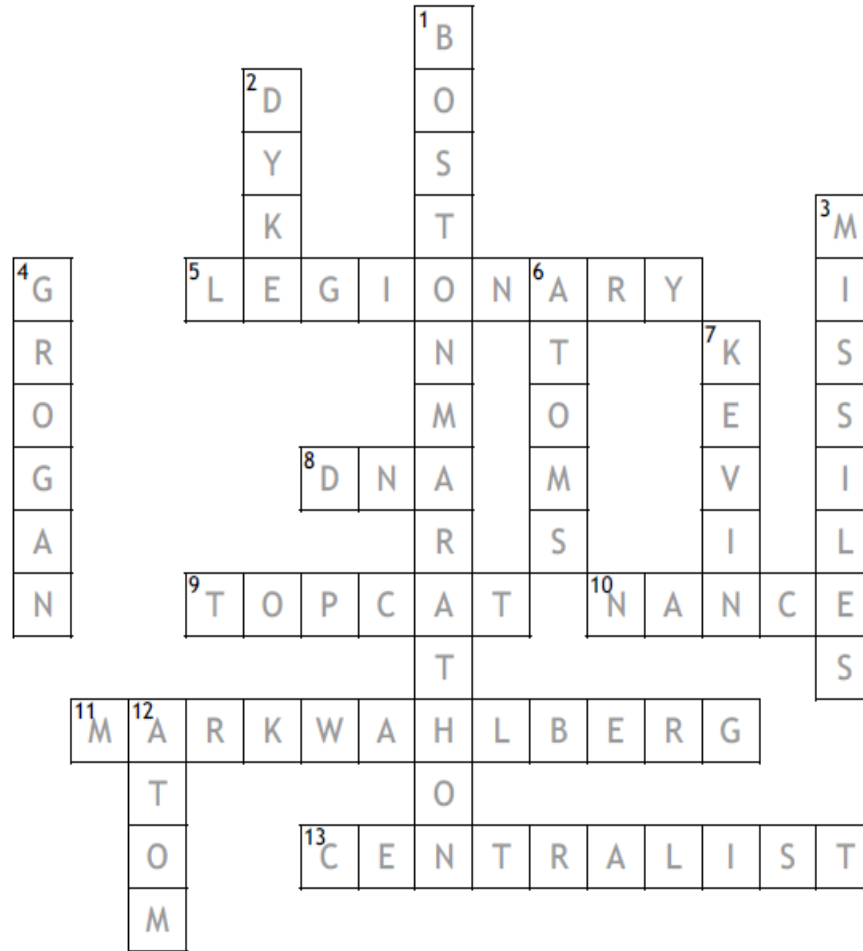
**Sudoku Puzzle Easy Solution**

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

**Sudoku Puzzle Moderate Solution**

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

# Crossword Puzzle Solution



## Across

- 5. \_\_\_ ant, another name for the army ant (9)
- 8. "Code of life" molecule
- 9. 1960s cartoon series about a feline (2)
- 10. Boston Patriots running back Jim
- 11. "Patriots Day" star (#1)
- 13. Advocate of stronger federal government

## Down

- 1. Patriots' Day event
- 2. "The Dick Van \_\_\_ Show" (1960s sitcom)
- 3. Falcons and Patriots, e.g.
- 4. Former Patriots QB Steve
- 6. Molecule components
- 7. Black Mass and Patriots Day actor, \_ Bacon (5)
- 12. "The \_\_\_ Ant Show"; 1960s cartoon series



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 our website can be accessed at:  
<https://community-options.net>

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Claremore Nursing Home  
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Claremore Veteran's Center  
Classy Cuts and Wigs  
Kum N Go (W Will Rogers)  
Kum N Go E Hwy 20  
Midco Clothes & More  
Stillwater Milling  
Emerald Care Center

**Commerce**

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Lil' Cafe

**Fairland**

Fairland Sr. Citizen's

**Grove**

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Drakes  
Grand Prosthetics & Artificial  
Limbs  
Grandwood  
Mr. M's Convenience Store  
Grove Sr. Citizens  
Harps Grocery  
Tom Cat Corner

**Jay**

Sinclair Station  
Delaware County Library  
Jay Senior Citizen's

**Ketchum**

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Woodshed

**Langley**

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Langley Drug  
Reasor's Grocery Store  
Langley Western Store

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Nowata Depot Café  
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Heartsworth House  
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Veterans Clinic  
Vinita Sr. Center  
Vinita DHS  
Vinita Post Office  
Wood Shed  
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Welch State Bank

**Winganon**

Winganon Bait Shop

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# High School Senior Offered More Than \$7 Million in Scholarships



Good grades can get you anywhere in life—just ask Shariyah Williams. The Memphis, Tennessee, high school senior made headlines this year when she was accepted to a staggering 149 colleges, who offered her a combined \$7.6 million in scholarship money. Maybe she'll enroll in one of the 20 Most Unbelievably Ridiculous College Courses.



We can mail current or past issues to you. The cost of shipping and handling is \$2.00 per issue. If you would like to receive every issue without delay you may pay \$24.00 shipping and handling cost for 6 months or \$48.00 shipping and handling cost for full year.

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Contents of this paper is compiled from available original sources.

# Mayday Mayhem Bunco Benefit



**May 1, 2020**

**10:00 AM**

**St. Frances of Rome Catholic Church**

**Gavin Hall - Langley, OK**

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