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Pryor artist creates lion out of hay and draws crowds from all over the country



A Pryor woman created a lion out of hay, and she said people across the country travel to see it for themselves.

Country Road in Pryor has a quiet charm, but for the past three years, Lesa Ritchie has been creating art out of hay.

"I made a cow that was IsaBALE, and then I made my Airedale Terrier, and his name was George AireBALE," Lesa said. The year before was claraBALE.

"I got the tractor, picked up the hay bales and put them where she told me to put them, and then I stepped back and saw," said Kim Ritchie, Lesa's husband.

This year, Lesa wanted to take her art a step further.

"It's been a tough year, a few years for many people, including my family," Lesa said.

Lesa is a Christian and believes that the lion of Judah is a symbol of strength.

"He fights my battles; he gives me hope every day," Lesa said.

"This was put on her heart to give people hope and assurance that the Lord is in control," Kim said.

This country road is no longer so quiet. Families have come from all over Oklahoma and beyond to see the lion in person.

"She has received messages and comments from people all over the United States - we have had people say they would drive here from Montana," Kim said.

The time Lesa put into her art this year is clear.

"He's made of round bales and square bales. I have some good friends, Matthews, and they gave me all the corn stalks from their garden," Lesa said, "His tail is made of my Cherokee seed bank seeds."

This lion is a gem in Pryor now and a reminder that a little something good can inspire people in ways you were not even aware of.

DATA MASTER: Becca Thornton

Veterans Day Facts Everyone Should Know



That November date has a major significance. Find out the history of Veterans Day and more facts that'll help you appreciate the meaning of this holiday.

It began with a different name

Veterans Day wasn't always called that—and it has to do with how the holiday got started. Veterans Day can trace its origins back to November 11, 1919, the one-year anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I. President Woodrow Wilson declared that day “Armistice Day.” In 1926, Congress passed a resolution to make it an annual occurrence. It wasn't until 1938 that it actually became a federal holiday, and until 1954 that it got the name we know it by today. President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed it to Veterans Day so that it would honor all veterans, not just signify the end of a single war.

The day was swapped once

Because of its connection to the end of World War I, Veterans Day is November 11, no matter what day of the week that is. (Mostly, but we'll get to that later.) This differs from Memorial Day, Presidents' Day, and Thanksgiving, holidays that fall on a specific day of the week, not a specific date. But this wasn't always the case! In 1968, Congress passed the “Uniform Holidays Act,” which put Veterans Day on the fourth Monday in October. It took effect in 1971—but in 1975, President Gerald Ford signed a law returning it to November 11.

It's never on Sundays

Because many workers enjoy a day off for Veterans Day, the date of the observance can be tweaked if it falls on a weekend. Specifically, if November 11 is a Sunday, the federal holiday will generally be moved to the next day, Monday. If it's on a Saturday, the holiday might become Friday or just remain on the Saturday. Alternatively, if it's on a weekend, many companies will provide their employees with a “floating holiday” so that they can choose when to take the day off.

How it differs from Memorial Day

Many people mix up Memorial Day and Veterans Day, or at least think they're celebrating the same thing—but there's a significant difference. Memorial Day honors Americans who have died in the line of duty; Veterans Day commemorates all Americans who have served their country honorably.

Memorial Day is older (and simultaneously newer)

Memorial Day actually dates all the way back to the Civil War. This holiday began in the 1860s as people held observances to honor those who died in the Civil War and adorn their graves with flowers. While Veterans Day was started to commemorate the end of World War I, about half a century later, it actually became a federally recognized holiday before Memorial Day did! Veterans Day (then called Armistice Day) became a federal holiday in 1938—Memorial Day didn't until 1971.

Veterans don't necessarily fight in wars

Another common misconception about Veterans Day (and veterans in general) is that all veterans have gone to war. Many members of the American military serve during peacetime, too, often with acts of service like disaster relief right here at home.

Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve



A working ranch, museum and wildlife preserve, the Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve is an educational and entertainment hub situated in the breathtaking Osage Hills of northeast Oklahoma.

This 3,700-acre property in Bartlesville was built in 1925 for Frank Phillips, founder of Phillips Petroleum Company. Phillips retained the essence of the West before the turn of the century, stocking the preserve with diverse varieties of animals.

Today's bison herd on the property dates back to 1926, when 90 of the animals were imported from South Dakota. American bison continue to roam the property alongside North European fallow deer, water buffalo, llamas, pigmy goats and more.

Tour the 50,000 square foot museum, featuring the cultural heritage and lifestyles of early Western residents. See artifacts like pottery, baskets and more from about 40 American Indian tribes, including pieces that trace back to prehistoric civilizations.

View paintings from a broad range of artists spanning decades, including works by Thomas Moran, John Clymer, impressive murals from W.R. Leigh and much more. Sculpture abounds both in the museum and on the main grounds.

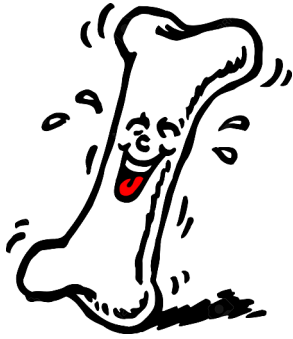
Alongside Western and Native American art and artifacts stands an expansive collection of Colt firearms. Pieces on display include the rare Paterson revolvers, prototypes used to develop new models in the Colt factory, and Army and Navy pistols used in the Civil War.

Peek inside Frank Phillips' opulent lodge, which once impressed and entertained friends and business associates. The eight-bedroom lodge overlooking Clyde Lake displays hundreds of mounted heads and horns from wildlife that once roamed the ranch. Many of the same native and exotic species still roam freely on the property today.

Visit the petting barn and mountain man camp during seasonal hours and hike property trails year-round. Woolaroc is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a North American Reciprocal Museum.

DATA MASTER: Karen Deffenbaugh

What's a Funny Bone?



Have you ever hit the inside of your elbow in just the right spot and felt a tingling or prickly kind of dull pain? That's your funny bone! It doesn't really hurt as much as it feels weird. The "funny bone" got its nickname because of that funny feeling you get after you hit it.

But your funny bone isn't actually a bone at all. Running down the inside part of your elbow is a nerve called the ulnar nerve. The ulnar nerve lets your brain know about feelings in your fourth and fifth fingers. It's also one of the nerves that controls some movement of your hand.

You get that funny feeling when the ulnar nerve is bumped against the humerus (say: HYOO-muh-rus), the long bone that starts at your elbow and goes up to your shoulder. Tapping your funny bone doesn't do any damage to your elbow, arm, or ulnar nerve. But it sure feels strange!

People sometimes mention the funny bone when they talk about their sense of humor. Maybe you've heard someone say that something "really tickled my funny bone." We'll leave you with a joke and hope that it tickles yours:

What's a bone in your body that you can never break?
Your funny bone!

DATA MASTER: Becca Thornton



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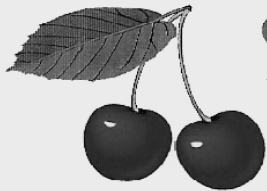
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If You See a Dryer Sheet in Your Mailbox, This Is What It Means



Your mail carrier left that dryer sheet

It might sound crazy. But the reason they left a dryer sheet in your mailbox is pretty simple: to deter wasps and yellow jackets!

If you've ever had the displeasure of experiencing a sting from one of these guys, you know it can really ruin your day. But, apparently scented dryer sheets can be used as a preventative measure to help keep the stingers away.

According to Reddit user u/istrx13, it's well-known in the postal world that dryer sheets help keep nasty pests from opening up shop in cozy places like mailboxes.

Being stung by a wasp hiding in a mailbox sounds like the worst possible situation!

The dryer sheet in your mailbox is used mostly used for preventative measures, though, so if you see a nest forming, do your postal worker a favor and get rid of the wasps ASAP.

Why does this work?

Wasps typically dislike very aromatic things like eucalyptus, citronella, and even cloves. Because dryer sheets are meant to thoroughly freshen up our clothes, it makes sense that their scents would be incredibly strong. It's probably why wasps dislike them so much!

Just remember to switch out the dryer sheet every so often so the scent stays fresh and strong. Your postal worker will thank you!

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

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The Taxi Driver

A passenger in a taxi tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed and lost control of the cab. He nearly hit a bus, then drover over the curb and stopped just inches from a telephone pole.

For a few moments everything was silent in the cab, then the taxi driver said, "You scared the daylights out of me."

The passenger apologized and said, "I didn't realize that a tap on the shoulder could frighten someone so much."

"Well, today is my first day on the job," said the taxi driver, "I used to drive a hearse."



Fear Of The Dead

One dark night, a young woman was walking home from work. Her path took her through the cemetery, as she approached the cemetery gates, she began to shake with fear.

Suddenly, she saw a man walking along the road. The woman stopped him and asked him to escort her home. He agreed and as they passed through the cemetery, the woman clung to him and trembled.

"Why are you trembling?" asked the man

"It is terrible," replied the woman "I am very afraid of the dead."

The man was surprised and asked with a smile, "Why be afraid of us?"



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Slap Slap Slap

A woman was walking down the street at midnight, when she heard a slap, slap, slap sound behind her.

She looked around but there was no one there.

She went on walking only to again hear the slap, slap, slap. Again, she looked around to find no one there.

She was frightened and ran to the bus stop. The slap, slap, slap followed close on her heels.

As she sat on the bus, everything was silent.

When she reached her stop and got off the bus, she heard the slap, slap, slap sound again.

She looked around but, there was still no one there. The woman was now terribly frightened.

All the way home: slap, slap, slap. Up the stairs: slap, slap, slap.

As she stood at the door of her apartment, fumbling for her keys, she saw a man in a black cloak coming up the stairs.

The man looked at her strangely and said: "In my opinion, the heel came off your sandals."

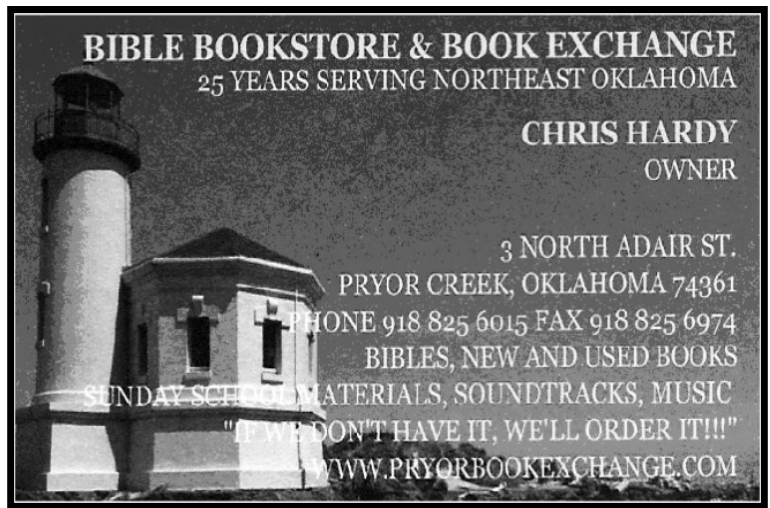


DATA MASTER: Steven Burdick

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Every Fall, A Smiley Face Emerges From This Oregon Forest

Every fall a hillside along Oregon's highway 18 greets passersby with a giant smiley face formed by trees.



The trees were planted by Hampton Lumber in 2011.

It consists of douglas fir and larch trees.



Larch trees are conifers with needles that yellow and drop in autumn.

Douglas fir makes up the eyes and mouth.



The smiley face is about 300 feet wide in diameter and will return every fall for the next 30-50 years, until the trees are harvested for lumber.

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

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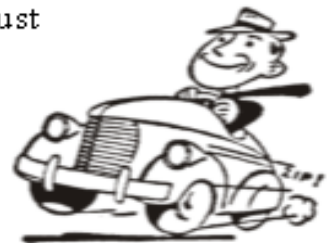
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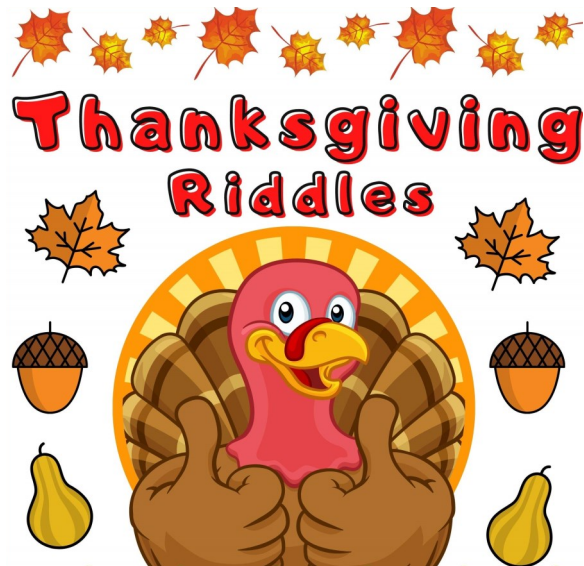
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Thanksgiving Riddles



1. The annual tradition each and every Thanksgiving Day is watching the great team sport the Lions and Cowboys play. What is it?

Answer: A football

2. It has ears but it cannot hear and it has flakes but it has no hair. What is it?

Answer: Corn.

3. What smells the best every Thanksgiving dinner?

Answer: Your nose!

4. Why didn't the Pilgrims tell each other their secrets in the cornfield?

Answer: Because the corn had ears.

5. Most people eat me, and that is no surprise. I taste great as chips and also as fries. What am I?

Answer: A potato.

6. It's something I spy with my little eye. I'm an orange squash that is baked in a pie. What am I?

Answer: A pumpkin.

7. Why is it that the turkey didn't finish its dessert?

Answer: Because it was already stuffed.

8. What is Dracula's all-time favorite holiday?

Answer: Fangsgiving.

9. This key has legs, but can't open a door. What is it?

Answer: turKEY!

10. Which of the Thanksgiving beverages is considered to be sad?

Answer: Apple sigh-der.

11. Where did the Pilgrims stand when they landed?

Answer: On their feet!

12. If you like sweet side dishes, then I will make you a happy fellow as I have sweet potatoes as well as sugar and marshmallow. What am I?

Answer: Candied yams.

13. There's lots of this at Thanksgiving but you don't want it to be wasted because its meat's really juicy, just so long as it has been basted. What is it?

Answer: Turkey

14. What is the most favorite sport of pumpkins and gourds?

Answer: Squash

15. Why did the turkey decide to cross the road?

Answer: To prove that he wasn't a chicken!

16. Why did the pilgrim cross the road?

Answer: Because he was actually chasing the turkey!

17. What is brown, big, and red all over?

Answer: A turkey with a scoop of cranberry sauce.

18. You see this festive event along the street on this very special day, from Felix to Mickey to Dora and Bugs Bunny, all of the people will make way. What is it?

Answer: The Thanksgiving Day Parade.

19. It's eaten at Thanksgiving as part of the main course. It gets added to your plate in the form of a sauce. What is it?

Answer: Cranberry

20. If you want to picture fall, then my image would be best. I am a horn that is filled with all the season's harvest. What am I?

Answer: Cornucopia.

Little-known facts about the 'Harry Potter' series

Harry Potter

Whether you're a hardcore fan or a Muggle who's only seen the movies, there's no denying that "Harry Potter" is a cultural phenomenon.

Keep reading to learn 20 surprising facts about controversial author J.K. Rowling's magical series, from how she named her characters to how technology brought the films to life.

1. Rowling and Harry Potter share a birthday.

The author, who turned 56 this year, and the wizard were both born on July 31.



2. Rowling gave her characters names that reflect their roles in the series.

Fans can all agree that Rowling's world-building is superb — and the whimsical names she gave her characters are no exception. On Pottermore, she revealed that, early in the creative process, she came up with names for 40 Hogwarts students in Harry's year — every member of the Golden Trio included.

For example, Harry's name references his leadership qualities and Ron's pertains to his role as a sidekick.

"Harry" is the middle-English version of "Henry," a name popular among English kings through the centuries. For "Ronald," Rowling seemingly looked to the Old Norse "Rögnvaldr," a title for a ruler's adviser.

In contrast, Hermione's name, taken from Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" (and Greek mythology, more broadly) has less to do with her own traits than with her Muggle parents' desire to pick a clever moniker.



3. You never know when inspiration will strike — and Rowling jotted down the Hogwarts house names on an airplane vomit bag.

Many people, celebs included, strongly identify with a specific Hogwarts house.

You might be surprised to learn, then, that Rowling first wrote down the words Gryffindor, Slytherin, Ravenclaw, and Hufflepuff on the back of an airplane vomit bag. She revealed this tidbit on Twitter in 2017.



4. Even Stephen King was freaked out by Dolores Umbridge.

Forget Voldemort — one-time Defense Against the Dark Arts professor Dolores Umbridge has been deemed one of fiction's creepiest villains by none other than famed horror writer Stephen King.

"The gently smiling Dolores Umbridge, with her girlish voice, toadlike face, and clutching, stubby fingers, is the greatest make-believe villain to come along since Hannibal Lecter," King wrote in his 2009 review of "Order of the Phoenix" for Entertainment Weekly.



How To Reuse Pumpkins After Halloween

When the ghosts and ghouls have gone home and the Halloween decor is packed into storage, we're faced with a question:

What to do with our pumpkins?

The answer depends on how you chose to decorate with it. If you carved it into a Jack-o'-lantern and left it to sit on the stoop for a few days, that's not good eatin'. It's been exposed to bugs, dirt, candle wax, and bacteria — yuck. But that doesn't mean its life has ended!

And if you set it out in a festive fall display and it's still whole, you can still carve it up and add it to your fall feast. Here are some ways you can use your leftover pumpkins this Halloween!

How to Reuse Carved Pumpkins

While we don't want to eat a pumpkin that's been sitting outside, you can preserve the seeds and stringy parts during the carving process and work a little magic in the kitchen with them!

If you've already discarded those innards, don't worry — you can still give your carved Jack-o'-lantern a second life.

Roast Pumpkin Seeds

To roast pumpkin seeds, separate them from the stringy guts and rinse well. Lay them out in a flat sheet to dry. Toss them with a little butter or olive oil, sprinkle with salt, and roast at 300 degrees until golden brown — about 45 minutes. You can also use those pumpkin seeds to make a tasty pumpkin seed pesto, or as a crunchy topper for guacamole or hummus.

Make Pumpkin Stock

Homemade pumpkin stock makes a rich base for pumpkin soup, fall chowders, or pumpkin risotto. You can make a simple stock with the pumpkin strings after you carve your Jack-o'-Lantern!

Put all those insides in a big stock pot with any other veggies you have on hand, like onion, carrots, celery, garlic, fennel, and mushrooms. Add a bay leaf or two, cover with water, and simmer for about an hour, stirring a few times. Then strain out the veggies, and you're done! You can use the stock right away, or freeze it to use later in tasty fall recipes.

Feed the Critters

Local wildlife isn't as discerning as we are, so they can still nosh on that pumpkin goodness.

Cut off the top half of the carved pumpkin and turn it into a festive bird feeder. Fill it with birdseed and hang it from a tree in your yard to enjoy the sights and sounds of fall birds as they migrate south.

Another option is to cut your pumpkin into small pieces for the foraging animals, like squirrels and deer who are fattening up for winter. Or donate it to a local farmer as a treat for their goats and pigs!

Add it to Compost

A simple way to keep your pumpkin out of the landfill is to repurpose it in your own garden. You can chop your pumpkin into small bits and add it to the compost heap for a dose of nitrogen as it decomposes. Balance it out with something carbon-rich to keep your heap healthy, like leaves, newspaper, or wood ash.

Remove the seeds first, as they can germinate and start to grow within your compost pile. Plus, the seeds make great snacking!

How to Reuse Whole Pumpkins

Common Jack-o'-lantern pumpkins have been bred for size and color rather than for taste. So if you have one of these giants, stick to baked goods. The addition of fat and sugar will enhance the pumpkin flavor and make it richer.

If you have a smaller pumpkin like the sugar pie or Jarrahdale varieties, you have lots of options, from sweet to savory!

Whip Up a Batch of Pumpkin Puree

Fresh pumpkin puree can be used in place of canned in just about any recipe. After splitting and roasting the halves of your pumpkin, scoop out the flesh and blend in a food processor. You can use it within a week, or freeze it for up to three months.

When using your pumpkin puree, don't confuse puree with pumpkin pie filling. Puree is simply cooked and blended pumpkin, while pumpkin pie filling has been sweetened and seasoned for use in pies. You can use puree in place of pie filling, but you'll have to add sugar and spices first!

Bake Pumpkin Bread

Moist pumpkin bread is a great use for fresh pumpkin. Instead of starting with a puree, this version by Alton Brown calls for shredded fresh pumpkin. You can also use the same recipe to make pumpkin muffins for an easy grab-and-go snack.

Make Pumpkin Soup

A creamy pureed pumpkin soup is just the thing for a chilly fall day. This recipe by Epicurious has lots of tasty Indian seasonings and rich coconut milk for a curry-style pumpkin soup. While it calls for pumpkin puree, you can easily substitute fresh pumpkin.

Eat Your Casserole Dish

How about a tasty fall casserole of mushrooms, ground beef, and rice — served right inside your scooped out pumpkin?

Bake a Pumpkin Pie

You can't talk fresh pumpkin without talking about pumpkin pie! With evaporated milk, eggs, and lots of fall spices, a rich pumpkin pie is the perfect fall treat for these leftovers.

If that's too simple for you, spruce up your pie with a drizzle of caramel or a crunchy streusel topping.

Blend a Pumpkin Smoothie

If you want the pumpkin pie flavor without all the baking, you can blend up a quick pumpkin smoothie.

Sweetened with banana and spiced with nutmeg, ginger, allspice, and cinnamon, this tasty smoothie recipe is a lighter, healthier version of pumpkin pie that you can drink.

Save them for Thanksgiving

Uncarved pumpkins can last up to 12 weeks before they start to rot. So if your pumpkins are still whole and firm, hang on to them to add to the Thanksgiving dinner table for festive decor.

If they're still going strong after Thanksgiving, give them a coat of red and green paint and keep them around for Christmas!



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Claremore Skilled Nursing & Therapy

The Employee Of The Month



Rachel Dewitt was born on a July 15th in Claremore. She is an Evening Charge Nurse. This September she will celebrate her 20th Anniversary with this Facility. In August she will start RN School. She has been married for 30 years and has 2 fur babies. Her hobbies are reading, cross-stitch, candle making, soap making and is now learning to knit. We all know how much she loves Christmas but did not know she has to have her M&Ms separated by color before she can eat them. Says she loves the residents the most and how much love that they show the staff.

If you would like to join, "Rachel Dewitt" as a Certified Nurse Aide, please apply in person. Now taking applications for Certified Nurse Aides both days and nights. Must pass a background check. New pay scale for CNA's.

"They may forget your name, but they will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou

Claremore Skilled Nursing & Therapy
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Claremore, Ok. 74017
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- Bridges
- Partials
- Dentures
- Implant Retained Dentures

A Teacher Told Her Students to Draw What They Were Thankful for— This Was One Student’s Moving Response



As this teacher learned, some of the most moving lessons are taught by students.

When Mrs. Klein told her first graders to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful, she thought how little these children, who lived in a deteriorating neighborhood, actually had to be thankful for. She knew that most of the class would draw pictures of turkeys or of bountifully laden Thanksgiving tables. That was what they believed was expected of them.

What took Mrs. Klein aback was Douglas’s picture. Douglas was so forlorn and likely to be found close in her shadow as they went outside for recess. Douglas’s drawing was simply this:

A hand, obviously, but whose hand? The class was captivated by his image. “I think it must be the hand of God that brings us food,” said one student.

“A farmer,” said another, “because they grow the turkeys.”

“It looks more like a policeman, and they protect us.” “I think,” said Lavinia, who was always so serious, “that it is supposed to be all the hands that help us, but Douglas could only draw one of them.”

Mrs. Klein had almost forgotten Douglas in her pleasure at finding the class so responsive. When she had the others at work on another project, she bent over his desk and asked whose hand it was.

Douglas mumbled, “It’s yours, Teacher.”

Then Mrs. Klein recalled that she had taken Douglas by the hand from time to time; she often did that with the children. But that it should have meant so much to Douglas ...

Perhaps, she reflected, this was her Thanksgiving, and everybody’s Thanksgiving—not the material things given unto us, but the small ways that we give something to others.

DATA MASTER: Steven Burdick

The Empty Chair. Living by Faith Not by Sight.

Mandy Marie asked her pastor, James Lettinger, to come and pray with her father Bob. When the minister arrived, he found Bob lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows. And there was an empty chair sitting beside his bed. The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit. "I guess you were expecting me Bob," he said.

"No. I was not expecting you," said Bob. "Who are you?". "I'm the new minister at your church," he replied. "When I saw the empty chair, I figured you knew I was going to show up."

"Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, Pastor James shut the door.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head. I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day about four years ago my best friend said to me, 'Bob, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus.'

'Here is what I suggest. Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky because he promised, 'I'll be with you always.' Then just speak to him and listen in the same way you're doing with me right now.'

So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though. If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the funny farm."

James was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old guy to continue on the journey. Then he prayed with Bob, anointed him with oil, and returned to the church.

Two nights later the daughter called to tell the pastor that her daddy had died that afternoon.

"Did he die in peace?" he asked.

"Yes, when I left the house about two o'clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later I found him dead. But there was something strange about his death. Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?"

Pastor James wiped a tear from his eye and said, "I wish we all could go like that."

We live by faith, not by sight.

-- 2 Corinthians 5:7 ---

DATA MASTER: Becca Thornton



Out & About with Links

Halloween Fun!!!





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NEWS RELEASE

HOLIDAYS FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

It's that time of year and the holidays are right around the corner. Most of us will soon begin to feel a spirit of thankfulness and good will towards others. This season as you make plans for your holiday gatherings, please remember there are many local seniors and nursing home residents who have simply been forgotten about. Unfortunately, even with visitation now being permitted at facilities, the majority of nursing home residents will never have a personal visitor; many will go without receiving a call, a letter, a gift, or a card.

For more than a year of the pandemic, long-term care facilities were put on lock downs and outside visitors, as well as any items they wanted to provide, were refused entry. This was hard for loved ones and it was shattering for the residents. The feeling of loneliness can be a silent struggle for older people. Regardless of the causes of senior isolation, no one should ever be isolated from the outside world, the consequences can be devastating.

If you know of someone in a nursing home, having a visit from you is worth more than any gift you could purchase. However, if you do want to provide a physical gift, some suggestions for residents might include, house shoes, slipper socks, large print books, lap blankets, puzzles, pictures, sweat suits, robes, gowns or pajamas, night lights, large calendars, clocks or stuffed animals. Residents may also enjoy a prepaid shopping card to the local discount store, or an invitation to a meal at a restaurant or the visitor's home. Be sure to call the nursing home to see if there is a schedule for visitors. While the holiday season is often the loneliest time for them, just giving a little bit of your time, could be the greatest Christmas gift they will receive.

If you have a concern about your loved one residing in a long term care facility, speak to an area Ombudsman.

Contact Ombudsman Supervisor, Shelly Ferris, 1-800-482-4594, ext. 226,
sferris@grandgateway.org or
Lahona Young 1-800-482-4594, ext. 220 lyoung@grandgateway.org.

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 #506 in Miami Heavenly Winds Worship Center meet every 6pm Thursday 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 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)

Sep 17, 2021 - Nov 7, 2021

The Asylum - Uncover the disturbing secrets held within The Asylum in Nowata, a terrifying haunted attraction that will leave you frightened for days. 2021 Dates: September 17-18, 24-25: Opens at 7pm. October 2-3, 9-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31: Opens at 7pm. November 5-6: Opens at 7pm. 304 W Cherokee Ave. Nowata, OK 74048. Phone: 918-559-5049.

Sep 21, 2021 - Nov 6, 2021 Pumpkin Festival at Shepherd's Cross - Celebrate fall with pumpkins, hayrides and harvest educational activities at Shepherd's Cross,

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,

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

Hardship level: Moderate

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

an authentic working farm in Claremore. Come out and select a pumpkin from truckloads available in all shapes and sizes at the Pumpkin Festival at Shepherd's Cross. Hours, Tuesday-Saturday: 9:00 am - 6:30 pm. Closed Sundays and Mondays with the exception of Monday, October 25. Shepherd's Cross, 16792 E 450 Rd. Claremore, OK 74017. Phone: 918-342-5911.

Oct 15, 2021 - Dec 31, 2021 The Woolaroc Retrospective Exhibit & Sale - If you love art or just have a great appreciation for wildlife and nature, you won't want to miss out on this exciting exhibit on display at Bartlesville's Woolaroc Museum this fall. Bringing together nine acclaimed landscape and wildlife artists from across the country, "The Woolaroc Retrospective Exhibit." Hours: Opening weekend is October 18-20. Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve, 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Rd. Bartlesville, OK 74006. Phone: 918-336-0307.

Nov 6, 2021 at 10:00am. Indian Women's Pocahontas Club hosts "Hats off to Will" Will Rogers Birthday Tribute and Wreath Laying Ceremony Trolley Ride and History Tour—Open to the public. The wreath laying ceremony will begin at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum Rotunda with the procession down to the tomb of Will Rogers. The club members will begin their ceremony dressed in their Cherokee tear dresses and shawls around the bronze statue of Will Rogers to recite their club collect and place a basket of fall foliage at the foot of the statue.

Nov 12, 2021 Coleman Theatre presents: Bob Wills' Texas Playboys: Experience the sounds of 1930s country music during a special concert at historic Coleman Theatre. Bob Wills' Texas Playboys was formed by Bob Wills in 1933 and the band continues today under the leadership of Jason Roberts, a Western swing legend and two-time Grammy winner. Today's band is an all-star group that carries on the Bob Wills tradition. Don't miss all the Western nostalgia at this performance in Miami. Hours: Starts at 7pm. 103 N Main St. Miami, OK 74354. Phone: 918-540-2425.

Nov 13, 2021 Bartlesville's Got Talent: Grab a seat and watch as young and old entertainers perform amazing routines and songs at the Bartlesville's Got Talent show held in the Community Hall. Cast your votes for your favorite act following this exciting evening packed with performances by local talent. Hours: Saturday: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. 300 SE Adams Blvd. Bartlesville, OK 74003. Phone: 918-766-6675.

Nov 13, 2021 Rain: Tribute To The Beatles in Concert at Hard Rock Live: "Rain - A Tribute to the Beatles" is a mind-blowing performance that takes you back in time with the legendary foursome delivering a note-for-note theatrical event that is considered by critics to be the next best thing to seeing the Beatles in concert. Don't miss out on a nostalgic evening of hits from the Beatles' 1969 hit

album "Abbey Road." Hours: Starts at 8pm. Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. 777 W Cherokee St. Catoosa, OK 74015. Phone: 918-266-4352.

Nov 13, 2021 Dan + Shay in Concert at BOK Center: Country music duo Dan+Shay are taking Tulsa's BOK Center by storm during their latest national tour. Fans can expect to hear the duo's growing catalog of hits from their most recent album "Dan+Shay," which held strong at #5 on Billboard's Top Country Albums chart through 2019, earning over two billion on-demand streams globally to date. The record-breaking project produced three back-to-back chart-topping singles - "Tequila," "Speechless" and most recently, the Gold-certified "All To Myself." Hours Starts at 7pm. BOK Center, 200 S Denver Ave. Tulsa, OK 74103. Phone: 918-894-4445.

Nov 13, 2021 Northeast Oklahoma Holiday Market and Expo: Get in the holiday spirit and tick a few marks off that list with a visit to the Miami Civic Center to knock out some winter shopping. Browse vendor booths at the Northeast Oklahoma Holiday Market and Expo offering scented goods, scarves, pillows, blankets, hair bows, jewelry, clothing and more. Hours Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. 129 5th Ave NW. Miami, OK 74354. Phone: 918-542-4435.

Nov 18, 2021 Lights On!: Main Street Jenks becomes a winter wonderland as the community gathers to kick off the holiday shopping season during the annual Lights On! event. Enjoy caroling, visits with Santa Claus and the official seasonal lighting ceremony during this special celebration. After the tree lighting, stick around for live entertainment, food trucks, deals from downtown Jenks merchants and much more. Hours: Thursday: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Downtown Jenks, Jenks, OK 74037. Phone: 918-299-5005.

Nov 19, 2021 - Jan 3, 2022 Winterfest: Downtown Tulsa is transformed into a festive wonderland during Winterfest, an annual holiday tradition. Bring friends and family together for holiday festivities and share the joyful spirit of the season. Experience the thrill of outdoor ice skating, see Oklahoma's tallest outdoor Christmas tree, take a ride in a horse-drawn carriage, listen to live entertainment and browse beautiful holiday light displays. Downtown. Tulsa, OK 74103. Phone: 918-894-4520.

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

DATA MASTER: Nikki Hamilton

Why Do People Say “Bless You” After Someone Sneezes?



You'll never look at "bless you" the same way again.

Could you imagine someone sneezing and then just sitting in silence watching them as they compose themselves?

We're cringing at the awkwardness just thinking about it. But aside from just making both you and the sneezer feel uncomfortable, saying “bless you” in response to a sneeze was just one of those little etiquette rules that have been ingrained in us since childhood.

But why do we say “bless you” when someone sneezes? We have some answers for you.

Why do people say bless you?

There are many theories about the origins of the phrase “bless you,” but most theories circle back to the idea of superstition. Google states that superstition is the “excessively credulous belief in and reverence for supernatural beings.”

What do ghosts and demons have to do with achoos, you may ask? Well, for starters, one of the most popular ideas dates back to the time of the bubonic plague. Since one of the main symptoms of this illness was sneezing, Pope Gregory I believed that saying “God bless you” as a tiny prayer after someone sneezed would shield them from death.

Another theory comes from an ancient belief that sneezing may actually free the spirit from the body. Unless, of course, God blessed you and prevented this from happening. Some even believed that the spirits that left the body were only evil, so if they were expelled from the body, the evil spirits would be free to roam with everyone else. And trust us, you did not want to be walking around with evil spirits.

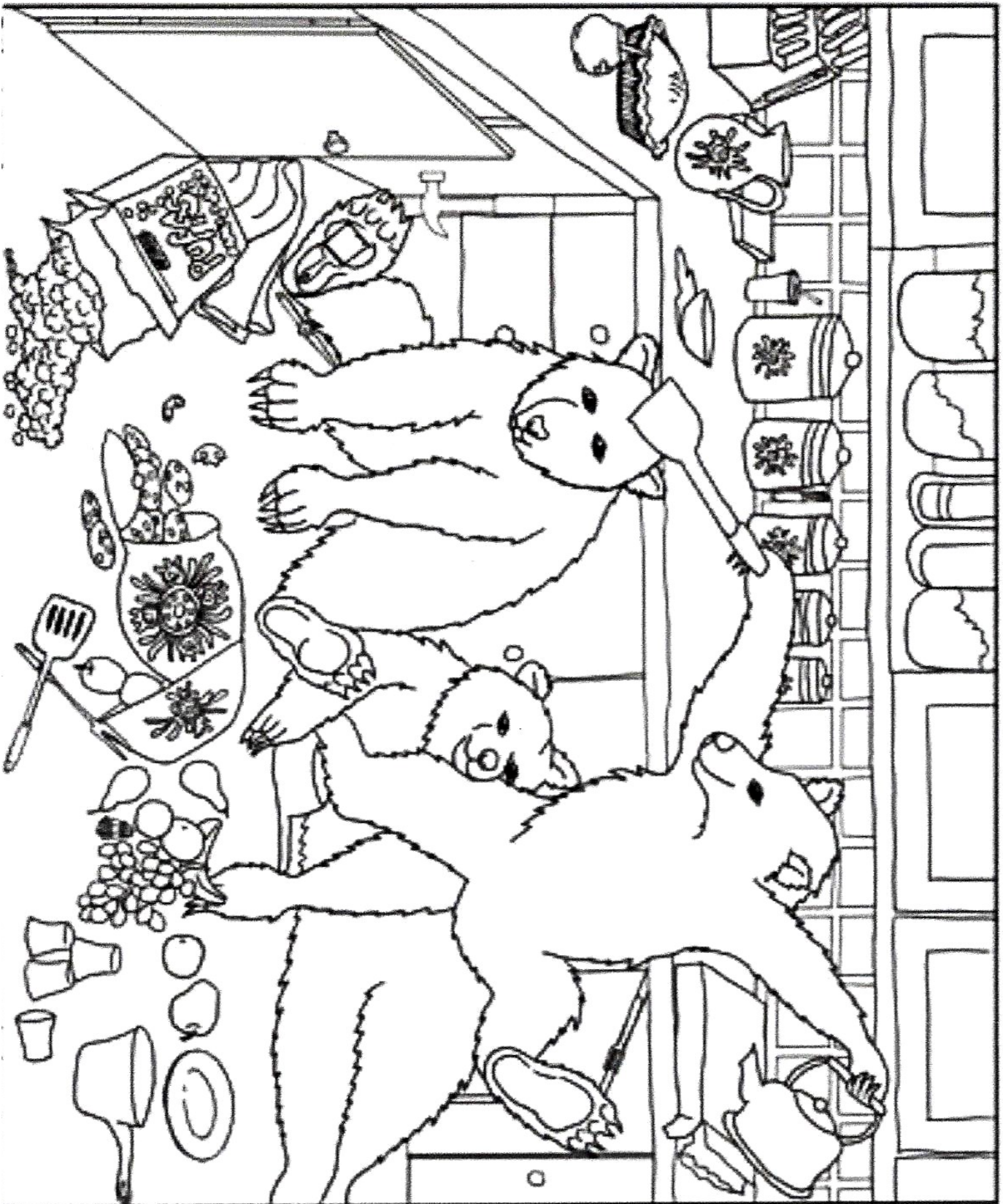
This is just one of those interesting facts you can share around the dinner table or at parties if you are so inclined.

What does gesundheit mean?

In addition to saying “bless you,” you may hear the word “gesundheit” being thrown around. “Gesundheit” is actually the German word for “health.” The word was formed as a combination of the word “gesund” meaning “healthy” and “-heit” meaning “-hood.” After a sneeze, offering that person good health was believed to hold off any illness that may come. Since many immigrants to America came from Germany, plus American soldiers fought two World Wars in Germany, it makes sense why this word has been seamlessly woven into the American vocabulary.

So, while all of this “bless you” business is based around superstition and ancient beliefs, what’s the harm in wishing someone good health? May all your sneezes keep the evil spirits at bay, fight off any serious illness, and leave you with the beautiful satisfaction that a good sneeze offers.

Find the pictures on the right hidden among the bad bears.







Getting to know the Lutherans

From His Rich Supply

“I have learned in whatever situation to be content” – Phil.4:11b

Paul had his share of problems – a “thorn” in the flesh, persecution, risk to his life. He learned by the grace of God, in whatever state he was, to be content. We are no different. Beyond any adversity or misfortune, Paul urges us to look instead to the many blessings that God gives to us from “his rich supply.”

God’s eye is on each of us, reaching out with his helping hand. He supplies what we need for the well-being of our life – food, clothing and shelter for the body; knowledge and truth for the hungry mind. The greatest blessing is his love for us in Jesus Christ, who, through his sacrificial death on a cross, we have the forgiveness of sins. By his resurrection over death and the grave, we have the gift of eternal life.

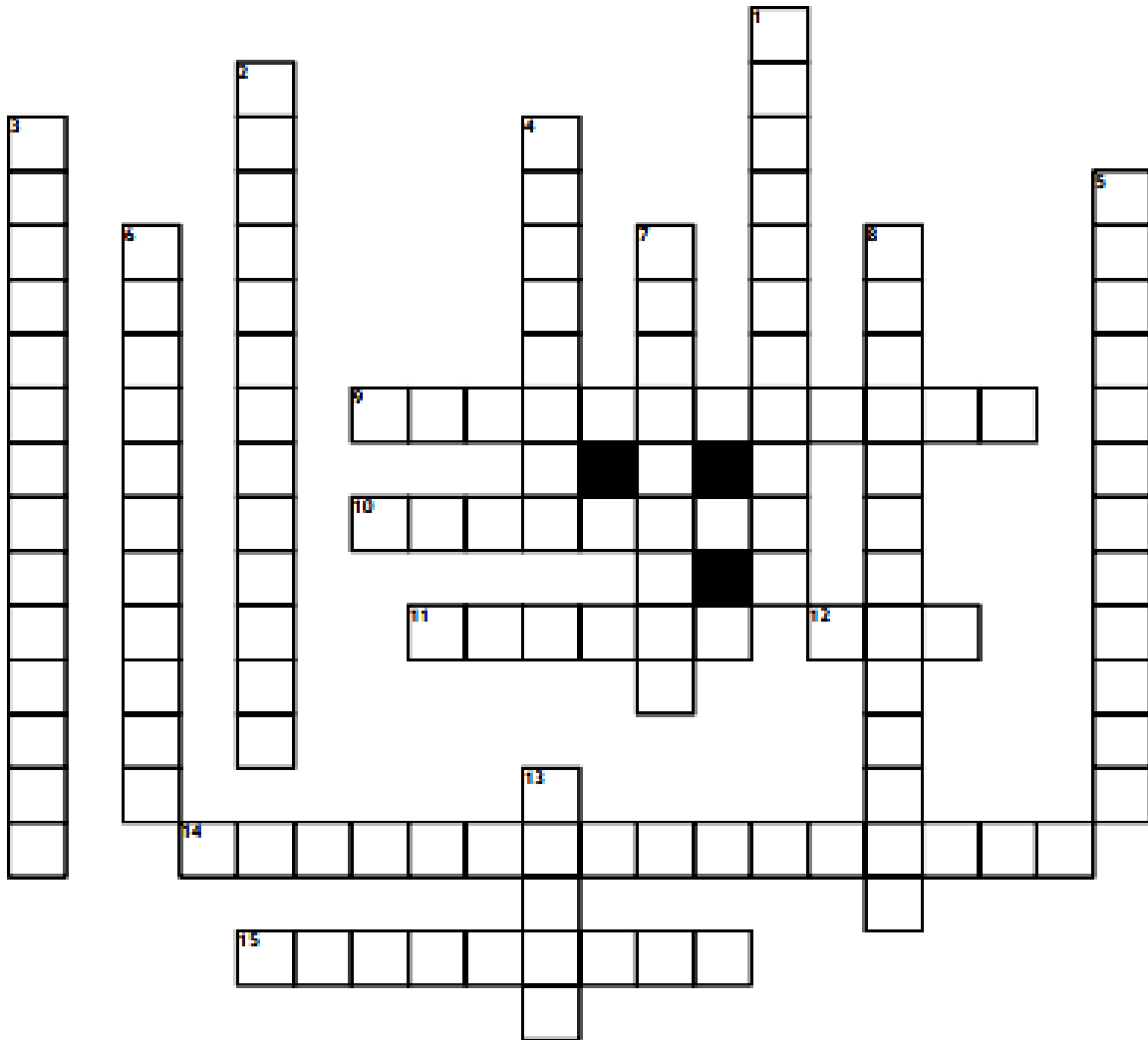
All this and more are truly blessings from our gracious God who is always near to us. He is fully aware of what happens in the life of his children, supplying them with every good and perfect gift. It is only right and proper to be thankful for what we have received “from his rich supply.” How long would your list be?

<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><u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u> <u>706 Rockwood Drive, Grove, OK.</u> <u>Worship 9:30 a.m.https://lutheransonline.com/lo/Groveok</u> <u>Groveok 918-786-4585</u> <u>Website: www.lutheransonline.com/lo/Groveok</u></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.rlcck.org</p>
<p>St. John Lutheran Church 607 South East 9th st. Pryor, OK 74361 Sunday School and Bible Class 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am (918) 825-1926 Email: stjohncpyor@yahoo.com</p>	

*Guests are always welcome.
See you Sunday at worship.*

Crossword Puzzle

Thanksgiving traditions



Across

9. Other desserts made with banana's, whipped cream' cherries and nuts
10. what do we bake that has apples in it
11. What is the main course of meat ?
12. meat that come from pig

14. Having people over for the holiday gettogether

15. What do you make with Bologna, ham olives and cream cheese?

Down

1. What is the dessert of the season?
2. what do you put bananas and cookies in
3. What is gelled

4. what is the sport that is watched on Thanksgiving?

5. what is the the drink that we all love on a cold night?

6. What do we put up

7. baking with pecans

8. What do we do after the holiday is over and put up for the next holiday

13. Desserts

Word Search Puzzle

Severe Weather

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

Cloudy Skies

Dust Storms

alerts

Warnings

Warm

Breezy

Windy

Fire

Rainy

Humid

Hot

Cold

Avalanche

Snow flakes

Stormy Nights

Sunny Days

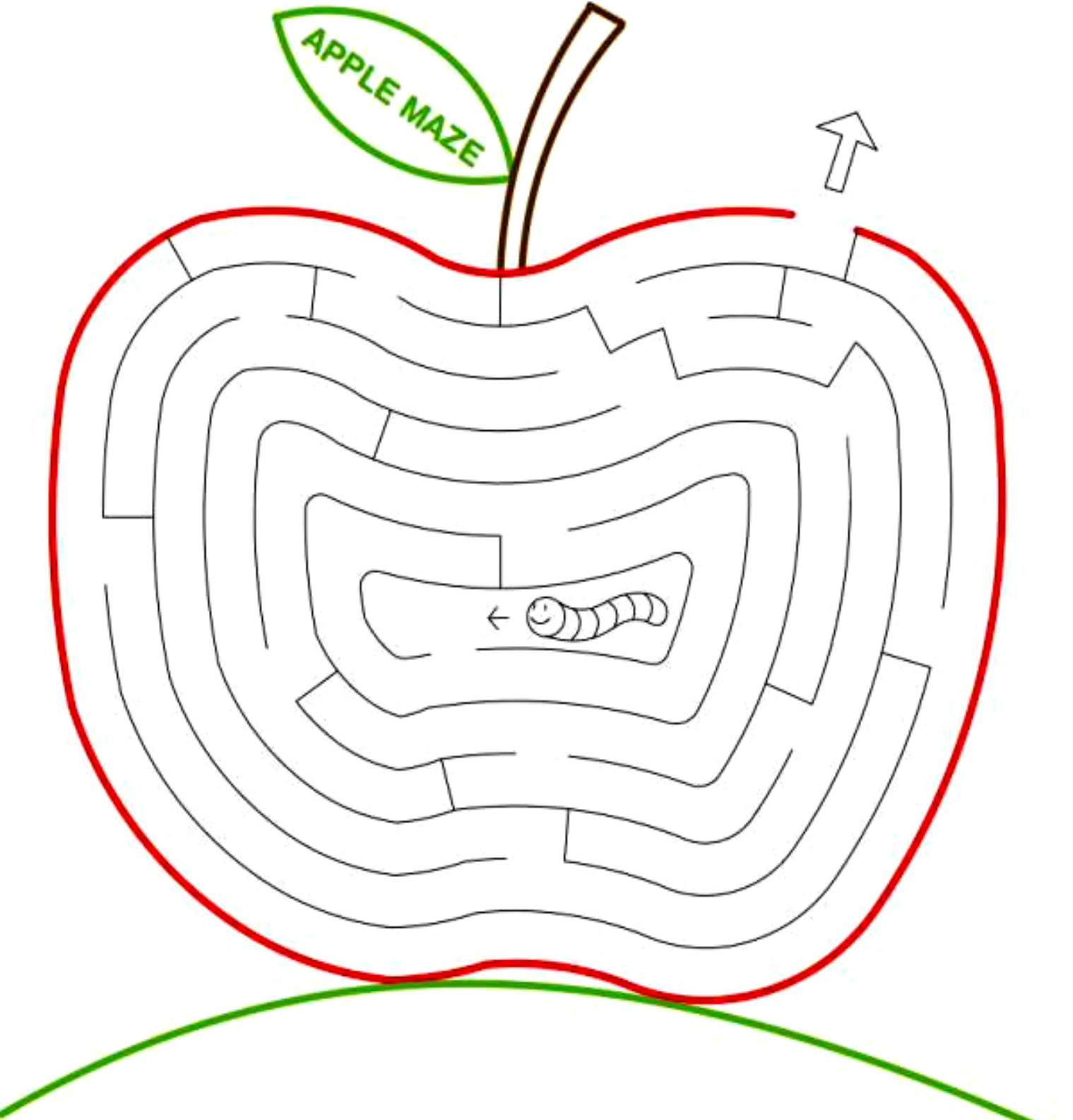
Lightning

Thunder

Floods

Tornado

Maze Puzzle

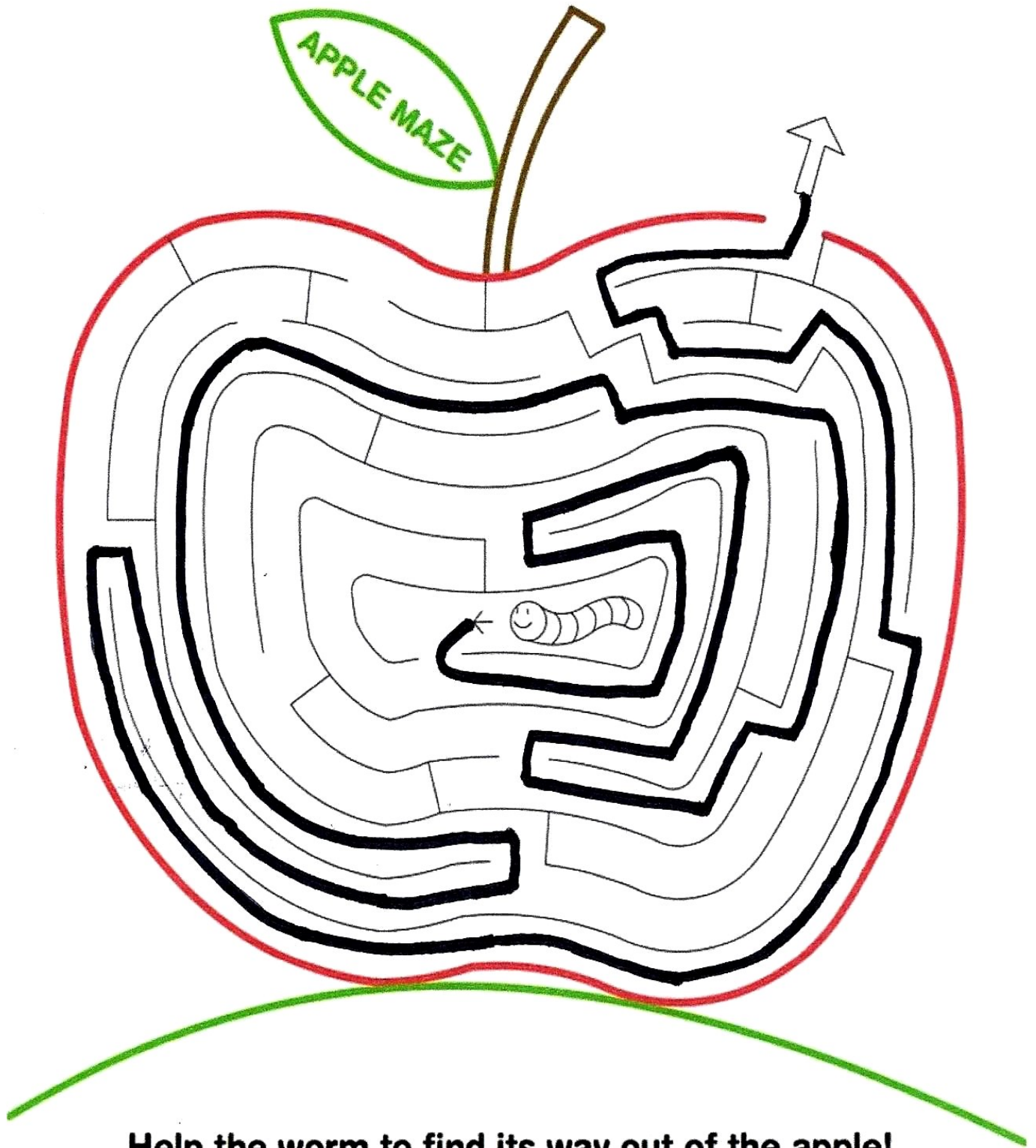


Help the worm to find its way out of the apple!

Remember When...



Maze Puzzle Solution



Help the worm to find its way out of the apple!

Apple Pie by Grandma Ople



Ingredients

1 recipe pastry for a 9 inch double crust pie
1/2 cup unsalted butter
3 tablespoons all purpose flour
1/4 cup water
1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
8 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and sliced

Directions

Step 1

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Melt the butter in a saucepan. Stir in flour to form a paste. Add water, white sugar and brown sugar, and bring to a boil. Reduce temperature and let simmer.

Step 2

Place the bottom crust in your pan. Fill with apples, mounded slightly. Cover with a lattice work crust. Gently pour the sugar and butter liquid over the crust. Pour slowly so that it does not run off.

Step 3

Bake 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Reduce the temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Continue baking 35 to 45 minutes, until apples are soft.

Prep: 30 minutes

Cook: 1 hour

Total: 1 hour 30 minutes

Servings: 8

Yield: 1 - 9 inch pie

DATA MASTER: Becca Thornton

31

compassionate about care.
PASSIONATE ABOUT LIFE.



Free Medicare Benefit

We believe that care during a terminal illness is more than just a diagnosis and treatment.

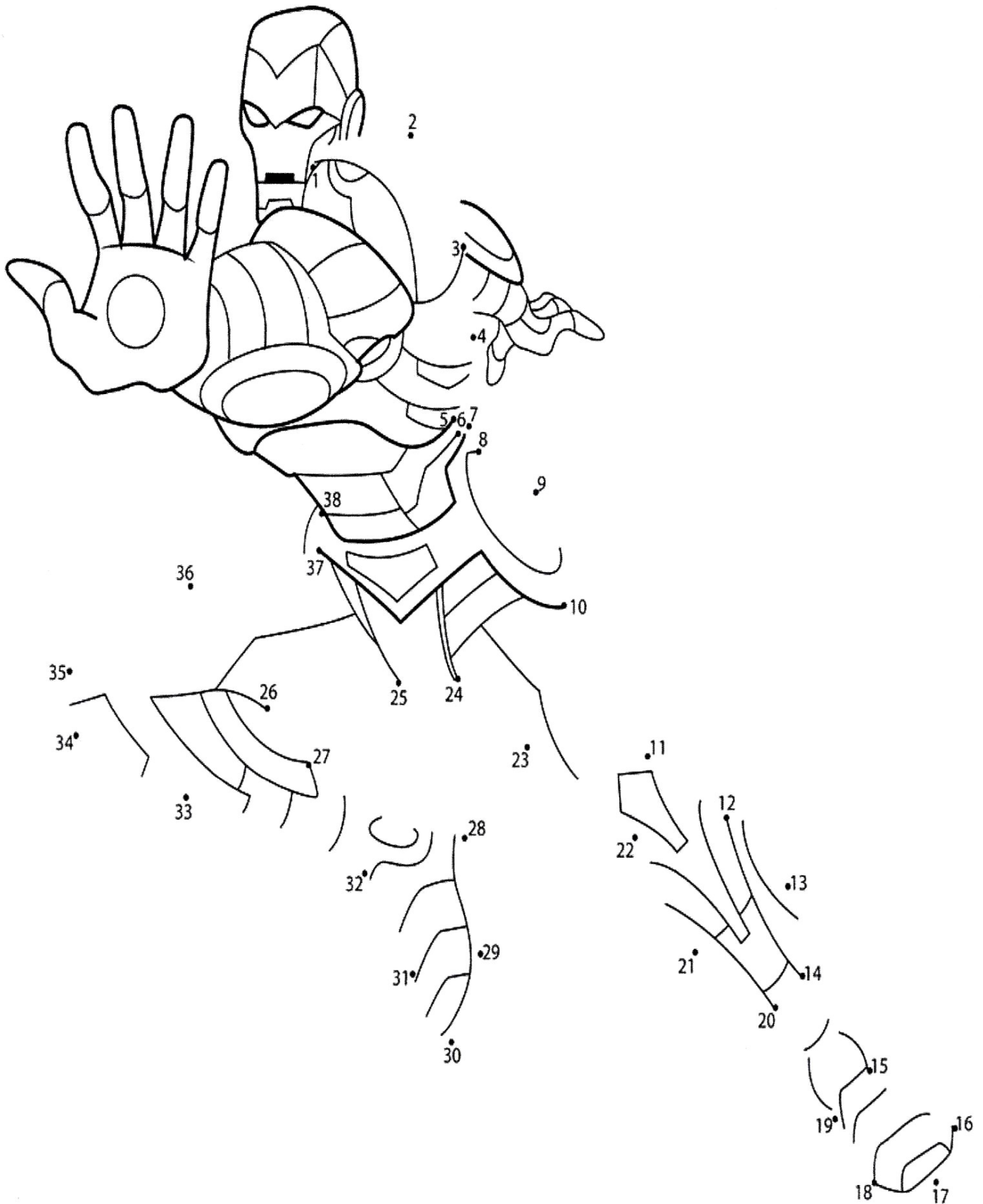
It's a daily exercise in making this moment, this day... the very best it can be.

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





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

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^{am} -5:30^{pm}; 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
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WILL ROGERS LIBRARY

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

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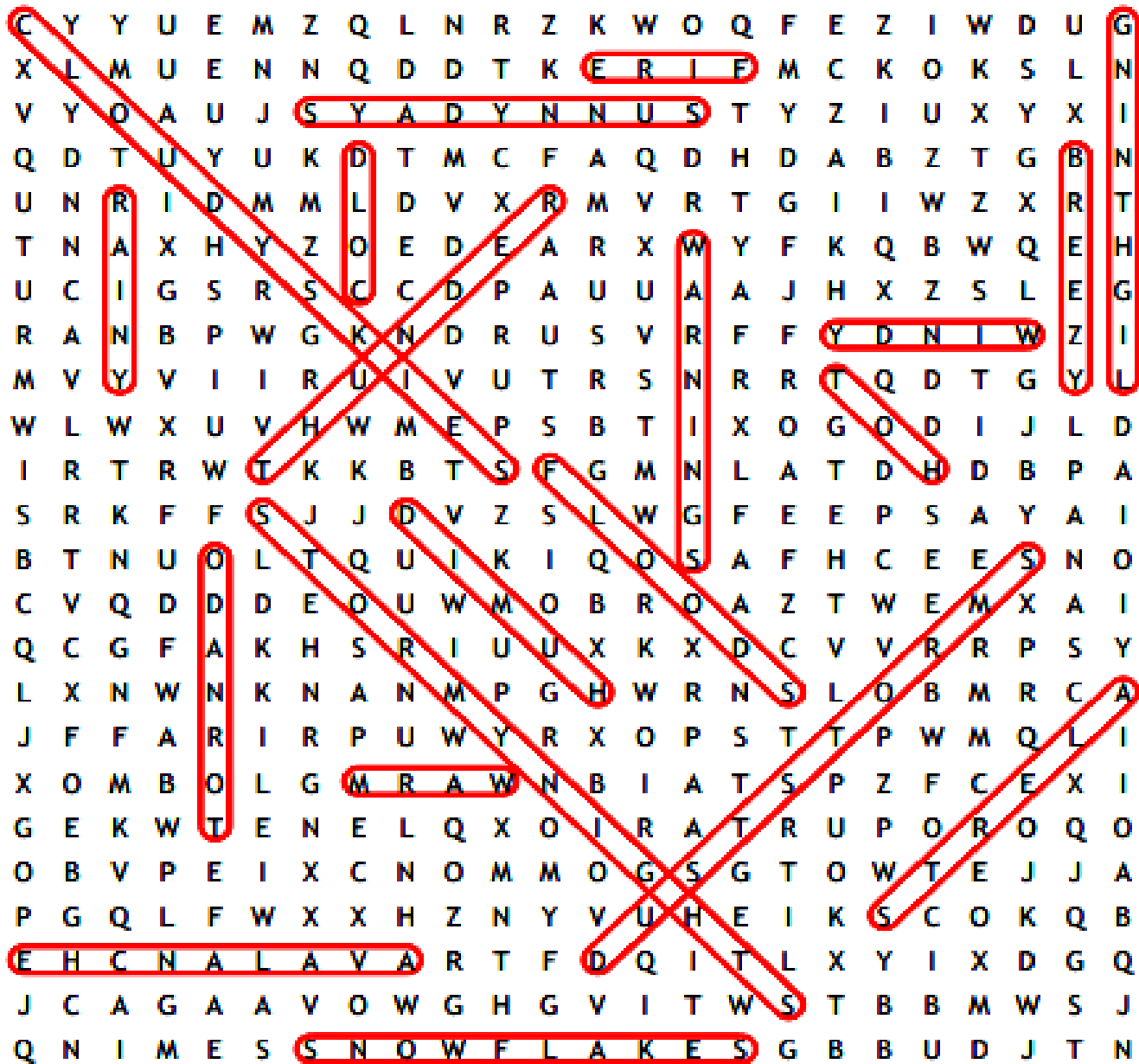
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Word Search Puzzle Solution

Severe Weather



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Windy

Fire

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Sudoku Puzzle Easy Solution

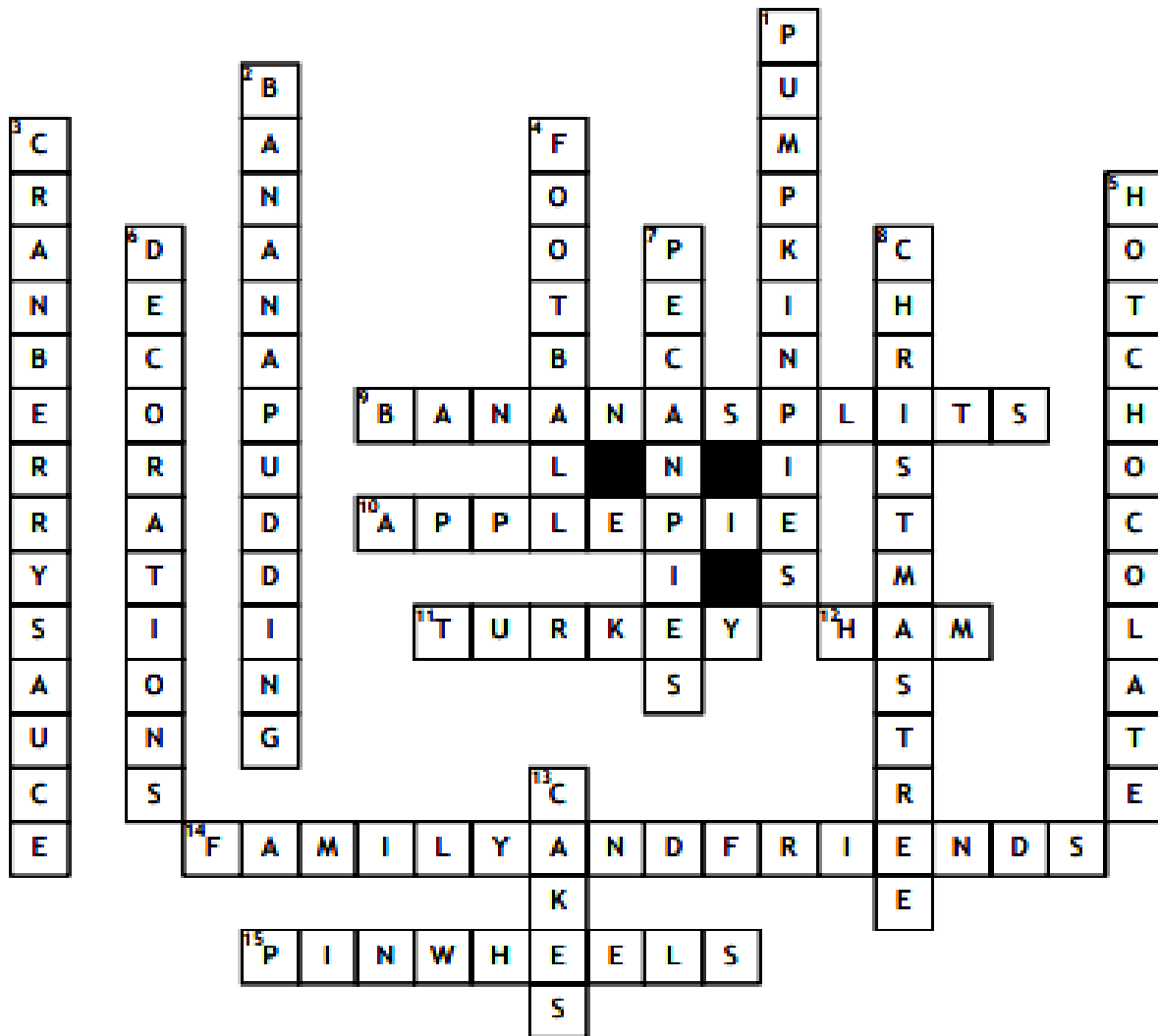
1	8	5	4	2	9	6	7	3
6	2	3	5	7	1	9	8	4
4	9	7	6	8	3	2	5	1
7	1	6	2	3	5	4	9	8
3	5	9	7	4	8	1	6	2
2	4	8	9	1	6	7	3	5
9	6	1	8	5	4	3	2	7
5	7	4	3	6	2	8	1	9
8	3	2	1	9	7	5	4	6

Sudoku Puzzle Moderate Solution

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

Crossword Puzzle Solution

Thanksgiving traditions



Across

9. Other desserts made with banana's, whipped cream, cherries and nuts
 10. what do we bake that has apples in it
 11. What is the main course of meat ?
 12. meat that come from pig

14. Having people over for the holiday gettogether

15. What do you make with Bologna, ham olives and cream cheese?

Down

1. What is the dessert of the season?
 2. what do you put bananas and cookies in
 3. What is gelled

4. what is the sport that is watched on Thanksgiving?

5. what is the the drink that we all love on a cold night?

6. What do we put up
 7. baking with pecans
 8. What do we do after the holiday is over and put up for the next holiday
 13. Desserts

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

To share your story with us contact:
Ashley Schwarz @ 918-290-8224
or 918-789-2862 or email her at
links@links.community-options.net

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Across From Harp's



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1100 Walnut

Chelsea, OK 74016

links@links.community-options.net

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