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LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY
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VOLUME 26, NO. 5, MAY 2026

FREE
PUBLICATION

BINGO BUGLE®

North America's Bingo & Casino Newspaper

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$10,900 richer! Ashley G. hit the Pick 8 Jackpot at **Morongo Casino Resort & Spa**, celebrating an exciting big win. Congratulations on a fantastic jackpot!

WINNER IN THE HOUSE!

Celebration time for Lydia S., who walked away with $2,398 in bingo winnings at **40 Martyrs**. Nothing beats a great night of bingo and a big win! Way to go, Lydia!

WINNING STREAK!

Cynthia A. scored two bingo wins in one night at **St. Bernard Catholic School**! Doors open at 4:00 p.m. every Friday—start your weekend with bingo!

BIG $2,398 PAYDAY!

Double the fun! Nikki A. and Ebbie A. took home $2,398 at **St. Joseph High School**! Come celebrate Mother's Day at St. Joseph High School where they will have 20 drawings and plenty of chances to win!

Los Angeles, Orange County, San Bernardino and Riverside Edition

BINGO BUGLE

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Vegas' Top Ten Values for May

1. **Steak Dinner** • *Ellis Island Casino* • 24 hours • **$9.99**
2. **$1 Blackjack** • *Downtown Grand* • Daily • **$1.20**
3. **Cheeseburger & Fries** • *Station Casinos* • Daily • **$5.99**
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7. **Prime Rib** • *Ellis Island Casino & Brewery* • Daily • **$17.50**
8. **The Magic of Jen Kramer** • *Westgate* • Fri-Sun • **$56.80 for 2**
9. **Souvenir Photo** • *Binion's* • Daily • **Free**
10. **Beer** • *Stage Door Casino and Lounge* • Daily • **$2.00**

List courtesy of Anthony Curtis' Las Vegas Advisor, a monthly newsletter devoted to helping you get the most for your money in Las Vegas. An annual subscription costs $50 U.S./$60 Canadian/$70 foreign; sample issue $5, Las Vegas Advisor, 3665 Procyon Street, Las Vegas, NV 89103. 800-244-2224. Website: www.lasvegasadvisor.com.

The 2026 Mustang 5.0 Fever Sweepstakes

1 Grand prize: 2026 Ford Mustang GT with up to $5,000 worth of Ford Racing Parts ($60,000)

To enter: On a 3x5 card, print your name, address, phone number, e-mail address (if any). **Only one entry per person.**

Mail to:

2026 Mustang 5.0 Fever Sweepstakes

PO Box 490

3800 Greenfield Road

Dearborn, MI 48121

Deadline: Postmarked by 12/18/26 and received by 12/31/26.

Open to legal residents of the **48 contiguous states** who are licensed drivers 18 or over. Start date 1/16/26. Drawing 1/6/27. Entries also online at www.mustang50fever.com and at racing events.

SoFi Race To Your Goals $50K Home Equity Sweepstakes

1 Grand prize: $50,000 cash

To enter: On a plain 3x5 paper or card, print your full name, state, e-mail address, and age. Mail in a hand ad- dressed envelope. **Only two entries per person.**

Mail to:

Realtime Media

Attn: Race To Your Goals $50K Home Equity Sweepstakes Entry (12022)

2460 General Armistead Ave, STE 209

West Norriton, PA 19403

Deadline: Postmarked by 6/30/26 and must be received by 7/7/26.

Open to legal U.S. residents 18 or over. Start date 12/28/25. Drawing 7/8/26. Entries also online at sofi.com with activities.

Fun Fact

Photoperiodism is a physiological reaction of plants and animals to darkness and light. Plants are classified according to photoperiods: "short-day" plants, "long-day" plants and "day-neutral" plants. Along with temperature variations, in animals photoperiod provokes changes in the color of fur and feathers, migration, hibernation, reproduction and body develop- ment.

Source: wikipedia.org

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BINGO BUGLE

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LUCKY LOTTO NUMBERS

50 - 7 - 35 - 11 - 24 *8*

* "I purchased a roll of reflective tape to mark our basement stairs. It reflects the light from the open doorway at the top of the stairs, and I can turn the downstairs lights off before heading up. I had some leftover, so I put a strip on my dog's collar. When I let him out at night, I can shine a flashlight and spot him instantly, since the tape is more visible in the night." — ***V.R. in Pennsylvania***

* Tongs lost their clip? Use the rubber band from a bunch of broccoli to hold the ends together in storage.

* "I am an avid craft sewer. One trick I have used that was passed down from my mother is to save the bar soap when it gets to a sliver. Then I use it to trace patterns on cloth. I like it better than chalk. It makes a clear mark that 'sticks.' But it will wash right out when you are done." — ***I.W. in Kansas***

* Use an old vegetable peeler in the shop to sharpen pencils.

* "Diaper rash hurts. The best medicine, in my opinion, is a little diaper-free time for baby. But there are times when it's not practical to let the little one go about pants-free. When you just can't air-dry an angry baby bottom, you can help dry the skin up with a couple minutes of warm air from a hair dryer." — ***P.M.***

* Wrap the metal end of your paintbrush with masking tape before painting. Then you can peel it off and there's no stuck-on paint.

* Store plastic wrap in the refrigerator or even freezer to keep it from sticking to itself.

Send your tips to: Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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What to Watch Where to Watch It

Sunny Nights (Season 1) — Hulu
Ghost Elephants (Documentary) — Disney+
The Plastic Detox (Documentary) — Netflix
Imperfect Women (Limited Series) — Apple TV
Beauty in Black (Season 2, Part 2) — Netflix
Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man (R) — Netflix
Jury Duty Presents: Company Retreat (Limited Series) — Prime Video
Deadloch (Season 2) — Prime Video
Wicked: For Good (PG) — Peacock
The Comeback (Season 3) — HBO Max

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

Test Your Knowledge

1. MUSIC: Who composed the opera *The Magic Flute*?
2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel *Wuthering Heights*?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which sport uses a shuttlecock?
4. MATH: What is the next prime number after 11?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where is Pearl Harbor located?
6. INVENTIONS: Who is credited with inventing the World Wide Web?
7. SCIENCE: What is the name for plants that live for two years?
8. MOVIES: What is Jack-Jack's real name in *The Incredibles*?
9. ACRONYMS: What does VPN stand for?
10. ASTRONOMY: Which moon is the largest in our solar system?

ANSWERS
1. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.
2. Emily Bronte.
3. Badminton.
4. 13.
5. Oahu, Hawaii.
6. Tim Berners-Lee.
7. Biennials.
8. John Jackson Parr.
9. Virtual Private Network.
10. Ganymede of Jupiter.

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Veterans Post

Thefts of Taxpayer Money

Note to thieves: Don't get stopped on a traffic violation while you're carrying stolen goods and electronics in your car. One pathetic criminal was stopped while transporting electronics that were bought by an in-house thief at the VA who was in charge of buying goods with government credit cards.

The VA thief had handed over part of his $200,000 stash of stolen electronics to have them sold by his thief partner. Found in the traffic stop were phones, a gun with a magazine, stolen credit cards and a pile of cash. At the VA thief's home additional electronic items were found.

Unfortunately, these thieves will only serve a year in prison, but they do have to pay back nearly $200,000.

The VA's Office of Inspector General (along with the IRS and the SBA) was in on the investigation of a thief who stole $1 million in CARES Act funds — and bought himself a 9-hole golf course. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security money was to help small businesses stay afloat through the Covid pandemic, a loan to be used for payroll, rent, mortgage and other business expenses.

The thief owned four companies at the time and applied for economic injury money on all of them because he wasn't able to get a standard bank loan for the golf course purchase. When applying for the money, he neglected to mention that one of the companies was being sold to someone else at the time.

He could have gotten up to 20 years in prison and a fine of $250,000. Instead, he was sentenced to only 15 months in prison and a year of supervised release — after fraudulently obtaining over a million dollars of taxpayer money.

Perhaps taxpayers will get the money back: The golf course is currently for sale.

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Easy Sausage Apps

Dear Annie,
My hubby loves sausage. Do you have any recipes for an easy appetizer I can make with sausage? Thanks.
Deborah from Dallas, Texas

Dear Deborah,
Here are two fairly easy sausage recipes. "Sausage Balls" and "Pinwheels" are two of my favorite recipes. Enjoy. ***—Annie***

SAUSAGE BALLS

3 cups buttermilk baking mix
1 pound pork sausage
4 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
½ teaspoon dried rosemary
½ teaspoon dried parsley flakes

Combine all the ingredients in mixer bowl. Beat at a low speed until well mixed, scraping the bowl frequently. Shape into 1-inch balls. Place on an ungreased 10-by-15-inch baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes or until brown. Remove from the pan immediately; drain.

PINWHEELS

1 8-ounce can crescent rolls
2 tablespoons melted butter
¼ cup Parmesan cheese
1-2 teaspoons oregano
8 brown and serve sausage links

Separate dough into four rectangles. Press perforations to seal. Brush each piece with butter. Combine the cheese and oregano and sprinkle over the dough. Cut crosswise and form into squares. Roll up the sausage in the dough. Cut each roll into four pieces. Secure with a toothpick. Bake at 475 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes.

Bingo Land

News from the Real World & Cyberspace

We recently asked Google's Large Language Model (also knowns as AI) for ways to increase participation in charity bingo, and here, edited, were some of the suggestions, culled from a wide variety of sources. Players should feel free to share tips they find relevant with their hall managers, and if anyone has more to add to this list, please feel free to email your suggestions to *Bingo Bugle*'s national editor at tara@bingobugle.com.

1. Adopt Electronic Equipment. Explore the idea of adding electronic bingo handhelds that allow players to manage multiple cards simultaneously, increasing game speed and engagement.

2. Introduce Thematic Nights. Move beyond standard bingo with themes like Designer Purse Bingo, 1980s Retro, or Beach Party to attract specific demographics.

3. Leverage Secondary Income Sources. Offer high-quality food and drink at reasonable prices. Include side activities like raffles, pull-tabs, or bonus games between main rounds.

4. Corporate Sponsorships. Partner with local businesses for in-kind donations of prizes or refreshments in exchange for advertising space at the event.

5. Dynamic Ticket Pricing: Offer early-bird discounts or VIP group packages to secure attendance and cover upfront costs early.

6. Ensure Legal and Operational Stability.
--Avoid costly fines or shutdowns by adhering to regional gaming laws.
-- Keep meticulous daily records of gross receipts and payouts, as required by state gaming commissions.
--Protect your event with the proper insurance to cover financial risks related to accidents or property damage.

7. Community Promotion. Consistent and varied marketing is essential for recurring attendance. Use all free social media, and the Bingo Bugle print and online, to promote your event. The Bingo Bugle is the only coast to coast newspaper dedicated to the promotion of charity bingo and all other kinds of gambling games. Create a dedicated event hashtag and post behind-the-scenes content to build momentum. Ask board members and sponsors to share event details on their personal networks to reach new audiences. Post flyers in high-traffic local spots like coffee shops, community centers and senior centers,

Fun Fact

The comet **3I/ATLAS** is traveling through our solar system at a staggering 130,000 miles per hour, which is the highest velocity ever recorded for a solar system visitor. The gravitational "slingshot" effect (from stars and nebulae the comet passes) gives it added momentum, increasing its speed. No one knows where it has come from.

Sources: science.nasa.gov www.scientificamerican.com

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top 10 movies

1. **Scream 7**
(R) Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox
2. **GOAT**
(PG) Caleb McLaughlin, Gabrielle Union
3. **Wuthering Heights**
(R) Margot Robbie, Jacob Elordi
4. **Twenty One Pilots: More Than We Ever Imagined**
(NR) Josh Dun, Tyler Joseph
5. **EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert**
(PG-13) Elvis Presley
6. **Crime 101**
(R) Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo
7. **I Can Only Imagine 2**
(PG) Arielle Kebbel, Milo Ventimiglia
8. **Send Help**
(R) Rachel McAdams, Dylan O'Brien
9. **How to Make a Killing**
(R) Glen Powell, Margaret Qualley
10. **Zootopia 2**
(PG) Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **S** equals **O**

H ZQ RSSCNE SU JVPEWHUK VRN RHJVSLW ST STTHBHZD CHUKDW ENBLNNJ. H KPNJJ H'Q ZU NEHBV ZEEHBV.

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Couch Theater by Demi Taveras

PICKS OF THE MONTH

Scarpetta (TV-MA) — AMC Theaters spokesperson Nicole Kidman is back in a leading role for television with this new mystery series. She plays Dr. Kay Scarpetta, a forensic pathologist who signs on to be a chief medical examiner again after the job had previously left her in shambles. Working alongside detective Pete Marino (Bobby Cannavale), Scarpetta starts investigating a murder case with similar ties to her very first case as an examiner and begins to wonder if both cases are connected. Jamie Lee Curtis plays Scarpetta's older sister, Dorothy, while Ariana DeBose plays Dorothy's daughter. Look out for the following eight episodes to drop every Wednesday. (Amazon Prime Video)

Nuremberg (PG-13) — This historical drama is led by the unlikely but talented duo of Russell Crowe and Rami Malek. The film follows U.S. Army psychiatrist Douglas Kelley (Malek), who is assigned to inspect and ensure the mental health of high-ranking Nazi prisoners as they await the Nuremberg trials. Hermann Goring (Crowe) intrigues Dr. Kelley the most; not only is Goring the highest-ranking military officer of all time, but he is also a charming narcissist who is ready to lay out an intellectual trap so that he can escape the hangman's noose. Other talented actors in the cast included LEO Woodall, Colin Hanks, and Michael Shannon. Out now to stream. (Netflix)

The Madison (TV-MA) — This six-episode neo-Western series hails from none other than *Yellowstone* creator Taylor Sheridan. Starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Kurt Russell, the series follows the Clyburns — a family that is originally from New York City but relocates to southwest Montana after tragedy strikes. Set against a beautiful landscape of the Madison River valley, the show mostly focuses on Stacy Clyburn's (Pfeiffer) grief as the matriarch of the family. The family's success truly hinges on whether Stacy is able take her sorrow and turn it into something worthwhile. (Paramount+)

Write in to Couch Theater by emailing TheCouchTheater@gmail.com or writing to KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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Doors Open 3:30pm • Buy-in 5:00pm
Warm-ups 6:30pm • Early Birds Follow
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I :	18	19	21	25	28
N:	33	35	39	40	44
G:	48	50	54	55	56
O:	61	63	68	72	74

Gaming News

U.S. Gaming Revenue Sets Record

The U.S. commercial (non-tribal) gaming industry hit a record high for gross gaming revenue (GGR) in calendar-year 2025, generating $78.7 billion, a 9.2% increase over 2024's total, according to the American Gaming Association's Commercial Gaming Revenue Tracker. Casino games earned $50.9 billion, up 2.3%, sports betting won a hair under $17 billion on a total handle of $167 billion (a hold of 11%), and igaming hit $10.7 billion, a 22.8% increase year over year. All 38 commercial gaming markets recorded annual revenue increases in 2025. All told, casinos, sports books, and online gambling paid $18.1 billion in taxes. Tribal casinos, meanwhile, generated their own record in GGR, $43.9 billion, for fiscal year 2024 (reported in July 2025), marking a 4.6% increase over the previous fiscal year. This revenue, derived from 532 gaming operations in 29 states, was the fourth consecutive year of record-breaking performance. Gambling in the U.S. is a $125 billion or so industry.

Las Vegas Bets on Canada

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority board of directors will consider a contract worth up to $6 million over five years to fund targeted marketing in Canada. The move comes after one of the worst years for Canadian visitation in the city's modern history. The importance of Canadian visitors to Las Vegas cannot be overstated. In 2025, the destination had nearly 1.2 million visitors from Canada, which accounts for 25% of all international visitors to the Las Vegas destination. Canada has been one of the top two countries sending international visitors to Las Vegas since 2000. The LVCVA estimated that while the total number of visitors to Vegas between January and November 2025 dropped 7.4% year over year, visitors from Canada fell by around 24%. The drop in Canadian visitors is not primarily due to pricing. It is a political one. In a Longwoods International tracking study from August 2025, 63% of Canadian travelers said they were less likely to visit the United States, citing politics as a reason. Among those who said U.S. policy affects their travel choices, 80% noted that tariffs were key deterrents, and 71% said they were put off by political statements by American leaders. President Trump's tariffs on Canadian goods and his repeated suggestion that Canada could become the 51st U.S. state triggered a widespread sentiment shift. As a result, many Canadians redirected their travel dollars toward destinations within Canada, Mexico, Europe, and the Caribbean.

Zero Bond Opens in Vegas

When Zero Bond opened in New York in 2020, "it quickly became the city's definitive power room," writes *Forbes* in a story about the Las Vegas branch of the venue which opened in March. "No photographers. A members-only door. An eclectic room where the city's most influential voices in entertainment, finance, and tech feel comfortable enough to actually talk to each other." The founder of Zero Bond told *Forbes*, "The place feels as intimate and design-driven as Zero Bond in New York, while embracing the scale and energy that only Vegas can offer. Vegas is often about spectacle, but the most meaningful moments happen in private." At the invite-only 20-person event opener at the Wynn, the glitterati were out in force: Kevin Costner, Gwyneth Paltrow, Orlando Bloom, Ryan Phillippe, Grace Van Patten, Jackson White, Corey Gamble, Jeffrey Beacher, Ashley Benson, Brandon Davis, and Crayton Carrozza.

Costner, 71, raised paparazzi eyebrows by staying close to Brooks Nader, 29, model (think *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue) and actress. In case you're interested, Zero Bond charges $1,000-$5,000 in initiation fees (based on age and tier), $2,750 to $4,400+ annually for standard membership, and $50,000 initiation fee and $7,500 annually for a Founding Membership that allows access to both the New York and Las Vegas clubs.

Flash Back Pop, Rock & Soul Trivia by Mick Harper

QUESTIONS
1. Name the artist who wrote and released "Jump into the Fire."
2. Who wrote and released "Games People Play"?
3. Name Aerosmith's first song to reach the charts.
4. Which singer wrote and released "I Go Crazy"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "All the leaves have gone green and the clouds are so low, You can touch them and so, Come out to the meadow."

ANSWERS
1. Harry Nilsson, in 1972. The song has been used in several films, including *Goodfellas* (1990) and *A Bigger Splash* (2015).
2. Joe South, in 1968. Even though the only place the song topped the charts was in South Africa, it won both the Grammy Award for Song of the Year (1970) and the Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Song (1970).
3. "Dream On," in 1973.
4. Paul Davis, in 1977. The song went to No. 7 on the Hot 100 chart and has been covered by several others, including Lee Greenwood and Barry Manilow.
5. "Jean," by Oliver in 1969. The song was used in the film *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* starring Maggie Smith as a teacher at a school in Scotland. The film was nominated for Best Original Song.

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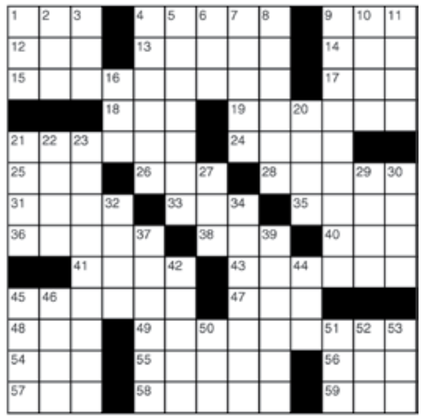
BINGO BUGLE CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Actress Farrow
4 Carries
9 "Blue Bloods" network
12 Fireplace residue
13 WWII sub
14 "2001" computer
15 William and Kate's daughter
17 Lawyers' org.
18 Cato's 502
19 Noah's landfall
21 Summaries
24 Garr of "Tootsie"
25 Berliner's cry
26 Hog haven
28 Quartet doubled
31 Ella's style
33 Congeal
35 iPhone voice
36 King of Judea
38 Dazzle
40 Right angle
41 "I've Got — in Kalamazoo"
43 Sneaky sort
45 Secret matters
47 Request
48 Perched
49 Fraud
54 Candle count
55 Violin piece
56 Bird (Pref.)
57 Standard
58 Wimp
59 Poke

DOWN
1 Buddy
2 Somewhat (Suff.)
3 "Caught ya!"
4 Dutch exports
5 Woodwind players
6 Youngster
7 Really annoy
8 Sound system
9 Donor's beneficiaries
10 Rum cake
11 Venetian-blind part
16 Vitamin stat
20 Story lines
21 Impetuous
22 Caesar's "Behold!"
23 Role
27 Evergreen tree
29 Perry's creator
30 Cash drawer
32 Forum wear
34 In the direction of
37 Does the mambo
39 "Blade" actor Snipes
42 Christine of "Chicago Hope"
44 Alias abbr.
45 Now, in a memo
46 Sitar music
50 Ger. neighbor
51 Mahal preceder
52 Gardner of film
53 Pen tip

HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS

SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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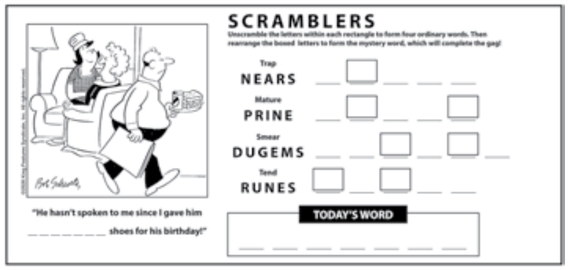
SCRAMBLERS



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NIHYS

VEGAL

TRIBET

GRETER

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____"

MAGIC MAZE

MAGIC MAZE ● RAIN OR SHINE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: CRANIAL COMPUTER

Bahrain, Drain, Drivetrain, Ingrain, Monkeyshine, Moonshine, Outshine, Refrain, Restrain, Rise and shine, Shoeshine, Spit-shine, Sprain, Sunshine, Terrain

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXB is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FHT ZFK ACSF DA'L PHHK AH IZWLS DF HWG IWGLWDA HU CZIIDFSLL ZFK OWLA XS CZIIJ.

— PWDRRZWVS ZIHRRDFZDG

COFFEE BREAK ANSWERS NOW ON ASTROLOGY PAGE

Cheap Meals Start in the Pantry

When grocery prices rise, and we begin to search for savings, many people assume the solution must be found at the store. New sales. New substitutions. New strategies. But the truth is far less difficult and far more comforting.

Cheap meals don't start at the grocery store. They start at home, with what you already have.

Most households are sitting on the framework of dozens of meals without realizing it. Rice, beans, pasta, canned tomatoes, frozen vegetables, onions. These aren't odds and ends. They're infrastructure, and they're probably in your pantry.

The pantry is where inexpensive cooking becomes possible.

Before planning the week's meals, open the pantry and freezer and take inventory with curiosity. Ask one simple question: What meals are already halfway made?

When you cook from the pantry first, the grocery store becomes a supporting character instead of the star of the show. You stop shopping for meals and start shopping to finish meals. That shift alone can dramatically reduce your grocery bill.

Pantry-based meals rely on shelf stable ingredients that stretch easily, welcome substitutions and adapt to whatever you have on hand.

A well-used pantry reduces waste, one of the most expensive habits in any kitchen. Food thrown away is money thrown away, and pantry cooking gives forgotten ingredients and small leftovers a second chance.

This isn't about deprivation. It's about competence.

This meal-prep-friendly curried chickpea salad is a good example of what pantry competence looks like. Made primarily from shelf-stable ingredients, it can stand on its own or shift roles depending on the meal. Spoon it over greens, tuck it into a pita or wrap, pile it onto toast or serve it alongside a sandwich or bowl of rice. It's flexible and adapts to whatever the day requires.

CURRIED CHICKPEA SALAD
Yield: 4 servings
Total Time: 30 minutes

1/2 cup mayonnaise or Greek yogurt
1 tablespoon curry powder
1 teaspoon cumin
1/2 teaspoon turmeric powder
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon red wine vinegar
1/2 teaspoon granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 cup celery, minced
1/4 cup red onion, minced
1/4 cup green onion, thinly sliced
2 (15-ounce) cans low or no sodium garbanzo beans (chickpeas), drained
1/2 cup fresh cilantro or parsley, chopped and loosely packed
1/4 teaspoon salt, optional

In a medium bowl, whisk together the mayonnaise or Greek yogurt, curry, cumin, turmeric, lemon juice, vinegar, sugar and black pepper until smooth. Taste and adjust as needed. Set aside.

Mince the celery and onion, thinly slice the green onions, and roughly chop the cilantro or parsley.

Drain and rinse the chickpeas well. For a creamier, more scoopable salad, lightly mash about a quarter of the chickpeas with a fork. Leave the rest whole for texture.

Add the chickpeas, celery, both onions and herbs to the bowl with the dressing. Stir gently until everything is evenly coated.

Taste and add salt if needed. Chill for 20-30 minutes to let the flavors settle or serve right away if you're hangry.

Why add black pepper? Turmeric's active compound, curcumin, is hard for the body to absorb on its own. Black pepper boosts absorption by up to 2,000%, making this a smart pairing, not just a flavorful one.

Once you know how to turn pantry staples into real meals, you gain flexibility. You're less vulnerable to price swings, less tempted by takeout on tired nights and more confident you can feed yourself well even when things get tight. Cheap meals come from building skills, learned in the pantry.

***

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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Whip up Honey-Glazed Salmon for a Fast, Nutritious Supper

Shopping for salmon at your local fish market or grocery store can be a real-life geography lesson for your kids, so be sure to take them along. Alaska, Maine, Chile, Norway — the places of origin read like a world atlas as you check out the signs and labels. Spin a globe when you get home and discover together where your dinner was swimming.

Besides sharpening geography skills, this good-for-you fish that is rich in heart-healthy omega 3 fatty acids, vitamins and minerals is also super easy to prepare. All this makes a family hungry!

Here's our favorite recipe, made with a sweet honey glaze that young sous chefs can stir up. Top with chopped nuts or herbs from your garden and roast in a hot oven while the table is being set, napkins are getting slipped into rings, and beverages are being poured.

HONEY-GLAZED ROASTED SALMON FILLETS
Serves 4

— 4 salmon fillets, about 6 ounces each
— 1/4 cup olive oil
— 2 tablespoons honey
-- Salt, to taste
— 4 tablespoons chopped pecans, or 1 tablespoon coarsely chopped fresh rosemary and 1 tablespoon coarsely chopped fresh thyme
— 2 lemons, cut into wedges or thin slices

Preheat oven to 425 F. Line a baking sheet with foil and spray with cooking spray. Place salmon fillets skin-side down on the prepared sheet. Sprinkle with salt.

Pour olive oil and honey into a small bowl and stir to combine well. Spoon the mixture generously over the fillets. Press the nuts on top, or sprinkle with herbs.

Bake in the oven until completely cooked through, about 10-15 minutes, or until fish flakes readily with the tip of a fork. Use a spatula to transfer fish to dinner plates.

Serve hot over salad greens that have been tossed with a light vinaigrette and topped with thin lemon slices, or set a lemon wedge to the side.

Extra "Peachy" Idea: As spring approaches, serve with fresh grilled peaches for a tasty, sweet, modern side.

To prepare, cut 2 almost-ripe peaches in half. Let kids remove the pits and brush the cut sides with the honey and olive oil mixture before coating the salmon.

Spray a grill pan with cooking spray and place the halves cut-side down on medium heat on your stove for 5-7 minutes, or until grill marks appear. Flip over to rounded side for an additional minute. Set on dinner plates with salmon and salad.

***

Donna Erickson creates relationships and community through food and fun. Find more to nourish and delight you at www.donnaerickson.com.

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Surrounded by Los Angeles Dodgers' legends, Morongo Tribal Chairman Charles Martin addressed fans at the recent ribbon cutting for ONT Field in Ontario, CA. Morongo is the presenting sponsor of the Ontario Tower Buzzers, the new Minor League affiliate of the Dodgers.

The Morongo Bird Singers perform at the new Morongo Field at the Epicenter, home of the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes, the Minor League affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels.

Morongo Casino Resort & Spa Named Presenting Sponsor of the New Ontario Tower Buzzers and Rancho Cucamonga Quakes Field Sponsor

(April 6, 2026) – The Morongo Casino Resort Spa, the Ontario Tower Buzzers and the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes have announced a new partnership by which Morongo is now the presenting sponsor of the Tower Buzzers and the official field naming sponsor at the Quakes' Epicenter Stadium.

Under the multi-year agreement, Morongo is now the "presenting sponsor of the Ontario Tower Buzzers," the new Minor League affiliate of the 2025 World Series Champion Los Angeles Dodgers. Additionally, the home of the Quakes has been renamed the "Morongo Field at the Epicenter" strengthening Morongo's connection to sports fans across the Inland Empire.

The innovative collaboration marks a fresh advancement in the Morongo Casino's ongoing investment in entertainment and recreation in the Inland Empire.

"Baseball is America's pastime because of its power to bring people together," said Morongo Tribal Chairman Charles Martin. "We are thrilled to join with the Ontario Tower Buzzers and the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes to celebrate this tradition while creating new opportunities for families across the Inland Empire to enjoy the excitement of the game."

"At Morongo Casino Resort Spa, our brand is built on delivering exceptional guest experiences centered on entertainment, excitement, and memorable moments," said Mike Bean, Chief Executive Officer of Morongo Casino Resort & Spa. "Partnering with the Ontario Tower Buzzers and the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes reflects that same commitment as our three organizations work to create energy, community pride, and unforgettable experiences for fans."

"This partnership is a great example of what makes Minor League Baseball so special — bringing together strong community partners, great organizations, and unforgettable fan experiences," said Diamond Baseball Holdings West Region Vice President Ben Taylor. "Morongo's commitment to entertainment and community aligns perfectly with our vision for both the Ontario Tower Buzzers and the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes. We're excited to see this collaboration elevate the experience for fans across the Inland Empire."

The partnership debuted during a pair of special events celebrating the start of the 2026 season.

On April 2, Morongo joined the Ontario Tower Buzzers for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the beautiful new ONT Field, which was followed by the ball club's first-ever season opener before a sold-out crowd as the team took flight on its inaugural season.

On April 3, fans enjoyed Morongo Diamond Nights where the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes unveiled Morongo Field at the Epicenter during a special game-day celebration.

The Ontario Tower Buzzers brand reflects the city's proud aviation heritage and its close connection to Ontario International Airport. The team's name and their mascot, Maverick, evoke the adrenaline and daring of aviation's most thrilling flybys while celebrating the airport control tower that has guided thousands of flights into Ontario. Inspired by that spirit of precision and innovation, the team's name captures the city's can-do attitude.

Launched in 1993, the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes have been one of Minor League Baseball's most beloved franchises, building a loyal fan base and a reputation for family-friendly entertainment at the Epicenter. As the Minor League affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels, the club has earned three California League championships (1994, 2015 and 2018) while creating lasting memories for local baseball fans. The newly named Morongo Field at the Epicenter marks an exciting new chapter for the ballpark and the community that has supported Quakes baseball for decades.

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Velda S. was the lucky bingo winner who won $2,000 at **St. Joseph High School**!

Carmen D. celebrated a bingo win at **40 Martyrs**, adding her name to the list of lucky players!

Another happy winner! Maria S. enjoyed a winning moment at **Montebello Armenian Center**!

Barbara O. won $250 at **Santa Ana Elks.** Congratulations!

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Momisms

Do you remember all those little things our mothers used to say? Some were words of wisdom. Some were educational. Many were warnings or threats. And some of them you just didn't understand until you grew up and started using them on your own kids. This month we celebrate Mother's Day and ponder all the memorable things our moms said to us when we were little. These little phrases are popularly and affectionately known as Momisms.

The following should generate a few memories for most of us:

Classic Momisms

--What in tarnation is going on?
--Don't make me pull this car over!
--I'm not interested in who started it!
--If you keep making that face, it will freeze that way.
--When you have your own house, then you can make the rules.
--If Sally's mom let her jump off the Empire State Building, would you?
--Don't make me come over there.
--I brought you into this world, and I can take you right back out!
--You will ALWAYS be my baby.
--Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
--Yes, I *AM* the boss of you.
--No dessert until you clean off your plate.
--Be nice to everyone you meet. You never know when you might run into them again.
--Close the door. Were you born in a barn?
--You're going to put an eye out with that!
--Money doesn't grow on trees.
--If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all.

To all the moms out there with their kernels of wisdom, witty warnings, and proclamations of love: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! —Elle

Casino Q&A

Top Ten Casino Mistakes

Here are ten of the most common mistakes players make in a casino. See how many you make. Then follow the simple steps on how to avoid them. The fewer mistakes you make in a casino the more fun and excitement you'll get out of your casino-going experience.

#1. Going into a casino with the idea of making money. Steve Wynn, business magnate, said, "The only way to make money in a casino is to own one." Think of the casino as a place to get away and have some fun, with winning just a bonus.

#2. Taking a checkbook and credit cards to the casino. Play only with the money you bring to a casino. Take just one credit card and use it for out-of-pocket expenses only: meals, shows, shopping, trip expenses, etc. Keep away from the ubiquitous casino ATMs. Playing with plastic will come back to haunt you when the bank statements start coming in.

#3. Playing with money you don't have. If you run out of money, stop playing. Go home or do something different until it's time to leave.

#4. Forgetting you're playing with real money. Casinos encourage you to play with tokens, credits, tickets, etc. When you do, you forget you're playing with real money and you tend to play faster and make bigger bets and foolish bets.

#5. Having little or no knowledge of the game you're playing. Learn all you can about your favorite game. The more you know about it, the better playing experience you're going to have. So, check with your local bookstore, library, Amazon.com, or casino gift shop for a how-to book on your favorite game.

#6. Continuing to play when losing. The instant you feel you're on a losing streak, set a firm quit point. When you reach it, quit! Don't keep thinking the next spin of the reels or throw of the dice is going to do it. Odds are, it won't. When you're in a hole, stop digging!

#7. Playing off all winnings. Set aside some of each slot machine win—no matter how small. Hit the cash-out button and put the ticket in your pocket. Decide later what to do with it.

#8. Not joining the casino's players club. The points you earn for playing makes you eligible for cash-back awards, free or discounted rooms, free meals and show tickets, and other freemiums.

#9. Playing more than one slot machine at a time. By playing multiple slots you bet more and lose faster. You also become a target for casino ticket snatchers who look for slot players playing more than one machine.

#10. Not knowing when to quit. Deciding when to quit playing is the most difficult decision to make in a casino. As long as you have money and are having fun, keep playing. But stop when your luck runs out or when tired, upset, bored, or sleepy. When playing stops being fun, stop playing.

Joy G. was a happy bingo winner of $1,199 at **Santa Ana Elks**!

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Lucky Lotto News

$1.8 Billion Powerball Winner

An Arkansas lottery player officially claimed more than $1.8 billion in winnings after winning the Christmas Eve 2025 Powerball drawing. The individual recently stepped forward as the winner of the Dec. 24 Powerball drawing, the second-largest jackpot in both Powerball and U.S. lottery history, according to the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery. It marked the largest jackpot in 2025 too, the Associated Press noted. The winner matched all five white balls and the red Powerball with the numbers 4, 25, 31, 52, 59 and red Powerball 19. They opted to take the one-time $834.9 million pre-tax cash option. Sharon Strong, executive director of ASL, said the winner "took the time to seek legal counsel and financial advice" as recommended by lottery officials before officially claiming their prize.

Wishing Well Walk Brings Win

The day after a chance walk put her in the path of a wishing well, a mom ended up getting exactly what she hoped for. Rebecca Hulatt, 43, recently took home a £250,000 prize (approximately $340,000) from the U.K.'s National Lottery Instant Win Game. Hulatt, who works as a nurse, told lottery officials that just before her big win, she was taking a walk in the Peak District with her 19-year-old son Brandon—something that only happened because his car happened to break down. "Before Brandon met up with his friends, we went for a walk and came across a little wishing well tucked away on the trail," she said. "We both threw in 50p. He wished for a new car, I wished to come into some money." After a long shift at the hospital the very next day, the nurse explained that she "decided to unwind by playing a National Lottery Instant Win Game and suddenly saw I'd won." Hulatt's first big purchase with her lottery funds was a new Audi A1 for Brandon, who was struggling to get by with his old vehicle. "To think that both our wishes came true at the same time is just unbelievable," Hulatt added. "The Peak District already held special memories for us, but now it feels like the most magical place in the world." A longtime racing fan, Hulatt told lottery officials that she's looking forward to spending more time at the tracks alongside her son. She's also placed an offer on a larger home with more green space. "Having a garden of my own feels like such a dream. I can't wait to stretch my green fingers again and just spend time outdoors at home," she added.

Nap Mishap Jackpot

A napping mishap led to a jackpot for one nursing student. The Bedford, Ohio woman told lottery officials that she had just wrapped up a long day of work on Valentine's Day when she decided it was time for a nap. However, her period of rest was cut short when she fell out of bed and woke up. She decided not to go back to sleep and instead chose to go out to a local Walmart, where she used the dollar she won through a previous scratch-off ticket to buy a Rolling Cash 5 ticket. She purchased her ticket just nine minutes before the nightly drawing. After returning home, she checked it with the winning numbers and saw she had matched all five, which meant she won the game's $130,000 jackpot. She said her win felt "meant to be" because of the perfect timing of her night. She told Ohio Lottery officials that she plans to use her prize to pay off some of her debt, purchase a new car and contribute to her savings. Additionally, she said the prize money will allow her to work less as she finishes her nursing degree. The nursing student's total prize money, after taxes amounting to 26.75%, was $95,225.

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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A1	O1	R1	C3	H4	P3	M3		RACK 1
O1	O1	R1	F4	T1	T1	X8	3rd Letter Triple	RACK 2
A1	I1	I1	H4	H4	B3	C3	Double Word Score	RACK 3
A1	A1	A1	I1	L1	R1	M3		RACK 4
E1	O1	U1	R1	N1	N1	T1		RACK 5

PAR SCORE 275-285
BEST SCORE 349

FIVE RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

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1751 S. Elk Lane Santa Ana, CA 92705

Epic Royal Streak

The hope of all video poker players is to hit a royal flush. Sometimes it takes weeks, even months or years before you hit one; other times, you might just get lucky and hit one or two right quick. Think that's impossible? Read on because I'm going to share with you a remarkable streak of royal flushes that happened to me. (I'm doing this not to gloat or boast about my good fortune but rather to show you it can happen even with long odds.)

My streak began when I hit two royal flushes on two consecutive trips playing 9/6 Jacks or Better. This was certainly exciting but it's nothing compared to what happened next.

My wife and I went to Las Vegas for a two-week vacation and during this time I hit three more royal flushes and she hit two. When we returned home, I proceeded to hit six more royal flushes over the course of one month. Final tally was 11 royal flushes over a period of about two months.

Several of the royal flushes were memorable. In one session, I was dealt a royal. (The odds of this happening are 1 in 649,740). On three consecutive playing sessions, I was dealt only one four-card royal flush over roughly six hours of play. Each time I hit the draw button I got the card I needed for a royal flush. In one stretch, I hit four royal flushes in each of four consecutive trips to the same casino. (I wound up with seven royals in eight consecutive playing sessions.)

It certainly takes a bit of luck to get a royal streak like mine but it's also important that you know the right playing strategies. For example, in one of my hands I was dealt a high pair along with a four-card royal flush. Many players would hold the paying high pair rather than hold the four cards to the royal. That's a costly mistake; in the long run, you'll earn more money by holding the four cards to the royal (yes, most times you won't draw the card you need for the royal but it only has to happen once to more than make up for the losses). Needless to say, I made the correct play, held the four cards to the royal and got the card I needed on the draw for a royal flush.

In another hand, I was dealt a three-card straight flush that contained one gap along with two cards to the royal flush. Most players when confronted with this hand would hold the three cards to the straight flush; however, that is another mistake. The correct play is to hold the two suited high cards (i.e., two cards to the royal) over the three cards to the straight flush with gaps. (This is what I did and, fortunately, got the three cards I needed on the draw for a royal flush.)

Do you get my point about the importance of knowing the playing strategy? If I didn't play the above two hands correctly, I would have missed out on two potential royal flushes during my streak.

Sometimes, even using perfect playing strategy, you can go hand after hand without getting a royal flush. I know this can be frustrating. However, if you continue to practice the playing strategies at home on your computer so that you can play every hand perfectly in a casino, take along a strategy card when you do play just in case, and have enough bankroll to weather those inevitable royal flush droughts, you'll still be in the game when the royals finally come. Just don't abandon the ship—stay the course by playing only games that return over 99.5% with perfect playing strategy, have enough playing bankroll, and take advantage of casino promotions to increase your cashback and bounce back, and in the long run you'll do just fine.

THE MIDDLETONS

By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers

Jamie C. won $2,300 at **St. John Bosco High School**!
Congratulations on the big win!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE LUCKY WINNERS FROM **MORONGO CASINO!**

Miguel R. won the Hotball Jackpot of $3,300!

Antonia O. won the Double Action, taking home $4,200!

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Thank Heavens for Volunteers

Hi Guy,

I am new to Bingo and have found it interesting watching the runners, caller and other workers who keep the games going. Some seem to work very hard and seem to have a lot of player-friends at the games. Others seem to mostly hang around and don't seem very interested in anything except how quickly they can get out at the end of the night.

You would think that the people in charge would do something about the "workers" who mostly just stand around. And my advice to these workers would be to get a little more involved in the games and not be so focused on watching each second on the clock tick by.

—Vince G., New York

Summertime & Short Stories

by Stanislas M Yassukovich

In Summertime & Short Stories, Stanislas M. Yassukovich invites readers into a world of privilege, longing and moral reckoning. The title novella unfolds among Long Island's old-money elite, where a respected general practitioner embarks on an affair with a patient — a transgression that entangles both in layers of professional guilt and unresolved family ties.

The accompanying stories traverse elegant international settings and intimate emotional terrain. A brass rubbing hobbyist discovers a gravestone bearing his own name. A pleasure-seeking gentleman seeks redemption through charity. An introvert is swept into an insider trading scandal by his domineering girlfriend. Elsewhere, a painter's canvas mysteriously fades, a polo-playing playboy confronts loss, sisters clash over love, and a father weighs the measure of his bond with his son.

By turns ironic, reflective and quietly provocative, this collection explores desire, consequence and the fragile façades that shape human lives.

Purchase at https://amzn.to/46LyAGi.

© NAPSI

Hi Vince,

My guess is that the Bingo games you are talking about are charity games. You have to remember that the workers there are volunteers—people donating their time to help organizations run Bingo and raise money to support charitable causes. They could just as easily be out shopping, having a drink with friends at a tavern or sitting home watching TV. But they choose instead to give their time to work at Bingo. If they weren't willing to do so, many Bingo games would cease to exist.

Just like workers with paid jobs, volunteers are going to approach their "jobs" in different ways. Some will jump into the center of the action and be Super Volunteers while others will stay at the edges and wait for someone to give them a task to do. That's just human nature. What's most important is that these folks are there so that we can enjoy playing Bingo time and time again. ***—Guy***

Hey guys! (And gals!) Write to: Guy's Turn c/o The Bingo Bugle, P.O. Box 527, Vashon, WA 98070, or e-mail Guy through his editor at tara@bingobugle.com.

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE RATING
3 letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31 - 60 = Gamer
7 letters = 6 points	21 - 30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11 - 20 = Amateur
9+ letters = 15 points	0 - 10 = Try again

A	N	S	B	A
O	E	K	D	Y
C	O	P	A	I
F	N	G	N	L
L	U	D	T	E

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST EIGHT BODIES OF WATER in the grid of letters.

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

BOGGLE is a trademark of Hasbro, Inc.

DEAR PAWS: My 6-month-old toy poodle, "Jenks," is incredibly cute, but he has a sharp, loud bark for such a little guy — and he barks almost nonstop when we're home. I know anxiety is an issue with many small breeds, and I'm wondering how I can best address this. — ***John, via email***

DEAR JOHN: It's worth looking into. Contact Jenks' veterinarian to discuss the issue, as I'm sure you'll get a number of different suggestions ranging from behavior training to antianxiety medication.

Jenks is still pretty young. How much time does he spend alone at home? If you have to be out for eight hours or more, you may want to have someone — a friend or a pet sitter — come in to check on him, take him out to pee and play a little bit.

You also should establish a routine that he can count on, one that includes plenty of time spent with him either playing or training. Both of these are times when he's getting your full attention and positive reinforcement, as well as a way to work off some of that puppy energy that's also behind the barking.

As your puppy matures into an adult, he may mellow out somewhat. But in the meantime, it's up to you to provide structure and training to reinforce the behavior you want in Jenks. If these efforts don't seem to improve the constant barking, talk with your vet about addressing his anxiety with medication.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.

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QUESTIONS

1. Name the German tennis player who won the 1991 Wimbledon men's singles championship and won an Olympic gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Games playing doubles with Boris Becker.
2. What Canadian TV sports drama series debuted in 2025 and followed the romance between hockey players Shane Hollander (Hudson Williams) and Ilya Rozanov (Connor Storrie)?
3. In the early 1900s, golf innovator Arthur F. Knight patented a center-shafted, mallet-headed putter named after what city in New York's Mohawk Valley?
4. Running back Carnell Williams, 2005 NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, was nicknamed after what brand of luxury car?
5. The "Deep South's Oldest Rivalry" is the nickname of the college football series between what two teams?
6. In 1950, the Fort Wayne Pistons and Minneapolis Lakers played the lowest-scoring game in NBA history with how many combined points?
7. What facility, first opened in London in the 1840s, used pig lard, salt and copper sulfate to create the world's first indoor artificial ice rink for skating?

ANSWERS

1. Michael Stich.
2. *Heated Rivalry*.
3. Schenectady.
4. Cadillac.
5. The Auburn University Tigers and the University of Georgia Bulldogs.
6. 37 (the Pistons beat the Lakers 19-18).
7. The Glaciarium.

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BROOM-HILDA

By Russell Myers

Savvy Senior

by Jim Miller

Medicare Can Help Smokers Kick the Habit

Dear Savvy Senior,

Does Medicare offer any coverage that helps beneficiaries quit smoking?

–New Beneficiary

Dear New,

If you're ready to quit smoking, Medicare can indeed help! Medicare Part B covers up to eight face-to-face counseling sessions per year to help you kick the habit, and if you have a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, certain smoking-cessation medications are covered as well. Here's a guide to help you get started.

It's Never Too Late

According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 8.3 percent of Americans age 65 and older still smoke. Many older smokers indicate that they would like to quit, but because of the nicotine, which is extremely addictive, it's very difficult to do.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable illness, responsible for an estimated one-fifth of deaths in the United States each year. But research shows that quitting, even after age 65, greatly reduces your risk of heart disease, stroke, cancer, osteoporosis and many other diseases. It also helps you breathe easier, smell, and taste better, and can save you money. An $8 pack-a-day smoker, for example, saves about $240 after one month without cigarettes, and nearly $2,880 after one year.

How to Quit

The first step you need to take is to set a "quit date," but give yourself a few weeks to get ready. During that time, you may want to start by reducing the number or the strength of cigarettes you smoke to begin weaning yourself.

Also check out over-the-counter nicotine replacement products – patches, gum and lozenges – to help curb your cravings (these are not covered by Medicare). And just prior to your quit day get rid of all cigarettes and ashtrays in your home, car, and place of work, and try to clean up and even spray air freshener. The smell of smoke can be a powerful trigger.

Get Help

Studies have shown that you have a much better chance of quitting if you have help. So, tell your friends, family, and coworkers of your plan to quit. Others knowing can be a helpful reminder and motivator.

Then get some counseling. Don't go it alone. Start by contacting your doctor about smoking cessation counseling covered by Medicare and find out about the prescription antismoking drugs (bupropion and varenicline) that can help reduce your nicotine craving.

You can also get free one-on-one telephone counseling and referrals to local smoking cessation programs through your state quit line at 800-QUIT-NOW or call the National Cancer Institute free smoking quit line at 877-44U-QUIT.

It's also important to identify and write down the times and situations you're most likely to smoke and make a list of things you can do to replace it or distract yourself. Some helpful suggestions when the smoking urge arises are to call a friend or one of the free quit lines, keep your mouth occupied with some sugar-free gum, sunflower seeds, carrots, fruit or hard candy, go for a walk, read a magazine, listen to music or take a hot bath.

The intense urge to smoke lasts about three to five minutes, so do what you can to wait it out. It's also wise to avoid drinking alcohol and steer clear of other smokers while you're trying to quit. Both can trigger powerful urges to smoke.

For more tips on managing your cravings, withdrawal symptoms and what to do if you relapse, visit 60plus.SmokeFree.gov. There are also a variety of helpful quit smoking apps you can download like EasyQuit, QuitNow and Quit Genius.

Don't Say I Do

Have you heard that to marry in May is to rue the day? Hmmm. I thought according to that old very sexist song lyric from years ago, the advice is to be happy for the rest of your life, make an ugly woman your wife; nothing said about marrying an ugly man or avoiding May nuptials to avoid a lifetime of misery. I think appearances aren't as important as personality and empathy, and that song lyric is repulsive in more ways than one. Anyway, it seems this May marriage taboo came from ancient Roman beliefs which became popular centuries later in Victorian England. The Romans celebrated a May festival that was dedicated to exorcising the dead's restless spirits. They considered it disrespectful and unlucky during this time to hold a joyful celebration like a wedding while their community was focused on mourning and appeasing spirits. As for the English, Queen Victoria outright forbade her children to marry in May because she along with most of British society believed May was the unluckiest month of the year. The funniest thing I read about this topic centered on medieval France. Young betrothed girls there flatly rejected May marriages because they believed it not suitable to marry during a period when asses are amorous. That can be interpreted in different ways, so I'll leave that up to you to decipher, LOL.

Ancient folklore also informs us that cats born this month will not be good rodent killers and will bring snakes into homes. But, if you must marry in May, specifically avoid May 3, 5, 7, 13, 15, and 20 as these days in particular portent bad luck of all kind.

Well, thank heavens, Mother's Day, May 10th, doesn't fall on one of these unlucky May dates this year. Anne Jarvis created this holiday in 1908 to honor mothers. In her later years though, she became disgusted by the commercialization surrounding it, and organized lawsuits, boycotts and protests against the very holiday she had originated. It's interesting that she was unmarried and childless but was inspired by her own mother who organized Mothers' Work Clubs to improve health and sanitation for women in the 1850s. The first celebration was in West Virginia and featured white carnations; her mother's favorite. In 1914 President Wilson officially made the second Sunday in May a national holiday. In succeeding years, Ms. Jarvis felt the holiday's intended sentiment of personal appreciation of our mothers had been corrupted by the rise of florists, greeting card companies, and candy makers. She filed lawsuits and was even arrested for protesting the Mother's Day holiday. However, despite her efforts to abolish it, Mother's Day remains a national reminder to thank those who gave us life.

Fun facts: More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year; 122 million in the US alone. In 2026, Americans are projected to spend over $34 billion on Mom including roughly $3.2 billion on flowers. So, don't forget to honor your mother this month and every month. Treat her to bingo, flowers, and loving hugs. And remember, that includes stepmothers, foster mothers, and all who assume motherhood roles. Until next month, may Lady Luck blow you kisses as you dance out the door with dollars.Contact: nlpvzw6172@gmail.com

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RANDY C.
BULLHEAD CITY, AZ
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SUPER SPIN BINGO

TOM M.
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$3,066
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MAY 1, 15, 22, 29

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SPECIAL PATIO AREA FOR SMOKER'S CONVENIENCE

What are the benefits of washing your hands? — ***W.L.A.***

ANSWER: Not getting sick is the main one. Regular handwashing reduces respiratory illnesses (colds, flu and pneumonia) by about 20%. Handwashing reduces foodborne gastrointestinal illnesses by about 30%.

You also reduce the likelihood of passing on germs to others. People are the most contagious right before symptoms start for most respiratory diseases. Health care professionals wash their hands (or use hand sanitizer) before and after every patient. It only takes 20 seconds for it to be effective.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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KOVELS Antiques & Collecting

By Terry and Kim Kovel

Q: II would like to know the price of some old wooden toys. I have a box of alphabet blocks and a box of Lincoln Logs.

A: Alphabet blocks with carved, molded or painted letters sell for about $15 to $30. Wooden blocks with lithographed paper designs sell for higher prices, especially if they are in their original boxes. Vintage Lincoln Logs sell for similar prices. Like most toys, they are worth more with the original packaging. If you have the packaging for your Lincoln Logs, it may help you determine how old they are.

Alphabet blocks and Lincoln Logs are not only classic construction toys; they both have connections to a famous family of architects. According to the Strong National Museum of Play in New York, which inducted alphabet blocks into its Toy Hall of Fame in 2003,

Frank Lloyd Wright claimed that playing with blocks as a child was what sparked his interest in architecture. His son John, also an architect, invented Lincoln Logs in 1916 and trademarked the name in 1923. He was inspired by the earthquake-resistant construction used in the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan, which his father had designed.

Initially, Lincoln Logs were made by John Lloyd Wright's company, the Red Square Toy Company. Playskool bought the company in 1943. The rights to Lincoln Logs went to Milton Bradley in 1968 and Hasbro in 1984. Some sets of plastic logs were made in the 1970s and 1980s, but, other than that, they are always wood.

Sign up for our free weekly email, ***Kovels Komments.*** Terry Kovel writes about the latest news, tips, questions and her views of the market. If you register on our website, kovels.com, there is no charge.

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BINGO ASTROLOGY FORECAST

by Alessandra

Lucky Predictions for May 2026

ARIES: *March 21 to April 19*
1st thru 6th…
Flying high the 3rd$!$
7th thru 12th…
Double win the 9th$$
13th thru 18th…
RED is winning 13th-14th!
19th thru 24th…
So HOT the 21st-22nd$!
25th thru 31st…
Pick it back up 30th-31st$

TAURUS: *April 20 to May 20*
1st thru 6th…
Great prospects 5th-6th$
7th thru 12th…
GREEN brings it the 11th!
13th thru 18th…
You call the shots 15th-16th$
19th thru 24th…
Game's yours 23rd-24th!
25th thru 31st…
I wouldn't

GEMINI: *May 21 to June 21*
1st thru 6th…
Hold off
7th thru 12th…
YELLOW cards shine 8th-9th$
13th thru 18th…
Piece of cake the 17th$!
19th thru 24th…
All about you 21st-22nd$$
25th thru 31st…
Easy win the 25th$$

CANCER: *June 22 to July 22*
1st thru 6th…
Stealth luck the 1st$$
7th thru 12th…
PURPLE performs the 11th$!
13th thru 18th…
Cash in *high* 15th-16th$$
19th thru 24th…
Worth trying 23rd-24th
25th thru 31st…
Grit prevails the 29th$!

LEO: *July 23 to Aug. 22*
1st thru 6th…
Stay on track the 3rd$
7th thru 12th…
Best forgotten
13th thru 18th…
RED conquers 13th-14th!
19th thru 24th…
Home advantage 21st!
25th thru 31st…
Lucky break 25th-26th$$

VIRGO: *Aug. 23 to Sept. 22*
1st thru 6th…
Tuned in the 5th-6th$
7th thru 12th…
Better days ahead
13th thru 18th…
Comes natural 15th-16th$!
19th thru 24th…
GREEN card victory 23rd-24th$
25th thru 31st…
Hand over fist $$ 28th-29th!

LIBRA: *Sept. 23 to Oct. 23*
1st thru 6th…
Fantastic win the 3rd!
7th thru 12th…
PURPLE perfection 8th-9th$
13th thru 18th…
Twice lucky 17th-18th$$
19th thru 24th…
RED's on target 21st!
25th thru 31st…
Payout assured the 26th$

SCORPIO: *Oct. 24 to Nov. 21*
1st thru 6th…
Hard card surprise 5th-6th!
7th thru 12th…
BLUE's da bomb, 12th$!$
13th thru 18th…
Better luck next time
19th thru 24th…
Multiple wins 19th-20th$$
25th thru 31st…
Focus quietly the 28th$

SAGITTARIUS: *Nov. 22 to Dec. 21*
1st thru 6th…
Very late the 4th$
7th thru 12th…
Good call 8th-9th!
13th thru 18th…
Sizzling wins the 14th$!
19th thru 24th…
On fire 21st-22nd$!$
25th thru 31st…
Celebrate in style 25th$

CAPRICORN: *Dec. 22 to Jan. 19*
1st thru 6th…
You magnetize $$ 1st-2nd
7th thru 12th…
Can't go wrong the 11th$
13th thru 18th…
Hit your mark 15th-16th!
19th thru 24th…
Big win & stop 23rd-24th!$!
25th thru 31st…
Real possibility 28th-29th$

AQUARIUS: *Jan. 20 to Feb. 18*
1st thru 6th…
Double your luck, 3rd$$
7th thru 12th…
Great set-up 8th-9th$
13th thru 18th…
Due to win 17th-18th!
19th thru 24th…
Fan that flame 21st-22nd$!
25th thru 31st…
Good times the 27th$$!

PISCES: *Feb. 19 to March 20*
1st thru 6th…
Exceptionally good 1st-2nd!
7th thru 12th…
Magical the 11th$$
13th thru 18th…
In the groove 15th-16th$!
19th thru 24th…
GREEN draws $ 19th-20th
25th thru 31st…
Pleasant surprises 28th-29th$

Color references: lucky objects, blotters, cards, machines, the clothing/jewels you wear, or a dominant color in the room.

PREDICTORS
LUCKY CARD FOR MAY 2026

8	28	38	48	71
12	24	32	59	75
6	27	★	50	69
15	17	45	49	64
5	30	41	52	73

MOON PHASES & SPECIAL EVENTS — MAY 2026

1st	Full Moon
5th	Cinco de Mayo
6th	No Diet Day
9th	Last Quarter Moon
10th	Mother's Day
16th	New Moon
17th	National Walnut Day
20th	Pick Strawberries Day
23rd	First Quarter Moon
24th	National Escargot Day
25th	Memorial Day
31st	Full Moon

Star Luck Fortunes

by Frederick Woodruff
Explore more at ASTROINQUIRY.COM

Horoscopes for May 2026

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 20): At certain times, complications can lead to great opportunities and results. The trick this month is to separate fantasy (or projections) from reality. Impatience needs to be transformed into focus, momentum, and efficiency. The engine is running—point isomewhere smart.
Lucky Days: 6 - 18
Lucky Numbers: 34 - 44

TAURUS (APR 21-MAY 21): The new Moon in your sign on the 16th stimulates your mind and imagination. You're right on the edge of seeing the world around you in surprising new ways. All that's necessary to ensure success is working within a designated place and schedule. Discipline brings rewards.
Lucky Days: 2 - 29
Lucky Numbers: 3 - 5

(MAY 22-JUN 21): Venus has made herself at home in your sign this month, coloring everything you touch in a little extra enchantment. Combine this with the attractive power of the new Moon on the 16th to clarify what you want to experience most. Be specific and clear with your wish.
Lucky Days: 16 - 26
Lucky Numbers: 45 - 54

CANCER (JUN 22-JUL 22): Flow happens when you stop insisting life follow your script. It reveals its secrets step-by-step—but only if you're watchful. Let go of expectations, and you'll start noticing all the opportunities you've missed in the past. This new way of seeing—that's the magic.
Lucky Days: 13 - 23
Lucky Numbers: 19 - 57

LEO (JUL 23-AUG 23): Yogi Berra once said, "If there's one pitch you keep swinging at and keep missing, stop swinging at it." This is a month for reassessments. Prioritize how you spend your creative energy. You'll want to get rid of projects that are eating up your time without offering rewards or compensation.
Lucky Days: 1 - 5
Lucky Numbers: 49 - 59

VIRGO (AUG 24-SEP 23): The new Moon on the 16th finds you in step with a significant shift in your environment. You're more than ready to take on the new assignments and responsibilities that land in your lap! Be sure to show gratitude to those involved with the new opportunity.
Lucky Days: 8 - 17
Lucky Numbers: 9 - 34

LIBRA (SEP 24-OCT 23): There's a tendency this month for communication to become garbled. This could generate unnecessary friction close to home. Good thing you're naturally skilled at smoothing things over—lean into that, and don't let small provocations become bigger than they need to be.
Lucky Days: 6 - 11
Lucky Numbers: 1 - 11

SCORPIO (OCT 24-NOV 22): The new Moon opposite your sign on the 16th throws a spotlight on your close relationships. You can't avoid doing some pointed truth-telling now. Trust your instincts. Your sensitivity to the environment and everyone in it will guide you in the optimal direction for best results.
Lucky Days: 7 - 20
Lucky Numbers: 2 - 30

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23-DEC 21): Pay attention to the disruptive signals you are picking up in your environment. Now is the time to confront certain habits that are holding you back from your heart's desire. Be honest with yourself and others. This will attract the kind of guidance required to place you on the best path.
Lucky Days: 23 - 30
Lucky Numbers: 8 - 19

CAPRICORN (DEC 22-JAN 20): You've gotten your groove back this month, and the new Moon on the 16th is the perfect time to outline your goals for the rest of the year. You function best—and get solid results—when discipline and careful planning combine. Keeping to a schedule is the key.
Lucky Days: 4 - 5
Lucky Numbers: 56 - 57

AQUARIUS (JAN 21-FEB 19): Financial decisions carry unexpected weight this month, which means assessing choices and options carefully. Before you act on an impulse to buy, sell, or splurge—pause. Check the fine print. When you're standing on solid ground, the right move will make itself known.
Lucky Days: 2 - 14
Lucky Numbers: 9 - 30

PISCES (FEB 20-MAR 20): Something is shifting in how you ask for what you need. Yes, it's important to be emphatic. But your psychic senses are telling you to tread carefully. Pay attention to that guidance. Take the time you need to fashion or edit your request. There's no need to rush.
Lucky Days: 9 - 10
Lucky Numbers: 34 - 57

COFFEE BREAK ANSWERS

SCRAMBLER ANSWER: 1. Snare 2. Ripern 3. Smudge 4. Nurse
Today's Word: RUNNING

JUMBLES: SHINY GAVEL BITTER REGRET

Answer: The Alaskan fishing-boat captain was disoriented and needed to get his — "BERING STRAIT"

HOCUS FOCUS DIFFERENCES: 1. Hat is larger. 2. Bottom of lamp is not showing. 3. Ear is diffedrent. 4. Book cover is different. 5. Glasses are missing. 6. Ribbon is moved.

CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Now and then it's good to pause in our pursuit of happiness and just be happy. — Guillaume Apollinaire

BINGO CROSSWORD ANSWERS

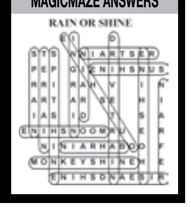
Solution time: 22 mins.

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

MAGICMAZE ANSWERS

RAIN OR SHINE



Los Angeles Program Listing

BINGO HALL	ADDRESS & PHONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
ARMENIAN CENTER IN MONTEBELLO	410 Washington Bl., Montebello	DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm	DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm	DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm				DO 12:00pm ST 2:00pm
HOUSE BINGO LAX	685 S. La Brea Ave., Inglewood	DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm		DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm	DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm	DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm	DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm	DO 3:00pm EB 6:30pm ST 7:00pm
ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL	9647 Beach St., Bellflower					DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm		
ST. DOMINIC SAVIO BINGO	13400 Bellflower Blvd. (562) 920-7796				DO 4:00pm WU: 6:00pm			
ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH	500 S. Central Ave., Glendale (818) 245-6832	DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm			DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm			
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	3848 Stewart Ave., Baldwin Park					DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm		
ST. JOHN BOSCO HIGH SCHOOL	13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower (562) 920-1734						DO 3:00pm ST 5:00pm	
SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL	5825 N. Woodruff Ave., Lakewood (562) 940-7197			ST 6:00pm				
VFW POST #3261 DIST. 4	1822 W. 162nd St., Gardena (310) 324-6161			DO 3:30pm EB 6:30pm				
Canoga Park YMAF BINGO	21433 Strathern Street, Canoga Park	DO: 10:30 AM WU: 12 Noon		DO: 10:30 AM WU: 12 Noon				

Orange County Program Listing

BINGO HALL	ADDRESS & PHONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
40 MARTYRS	5315 W. McFadden Ave., Santa Ana	DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm				DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm		
NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	2580 W. Orange, Anaheim (949) 672-8306				DO 4:00pm ST 6:00pm			
SANTA ANA ELKS	1751 S. Elk Lane, Santa Ana	DO 4:00pm EB 6:15pm ST 7:00pm						
SDA BINGO	1661 S Raymond Ave Suite 200, Anaheim (714) 872-7667							DO 3:00pm ST 5:00pm

San Bernardino/Riverside Program Listing

BINGO HALL	ADDRESS & PHONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
CASINO MORONGO	49500 Seminole Dr., Cabazon (951) 755-5500			DO 3:00pm 1st Game 6:00pm	DO 3:00pm 1st Game 6:00pm	DO 3:00pm 1st Game 6:00pm	DO 3:00pm 1st Game 6:00pm	DO 11:00am 1st Game 2:00pm

BINGO BUGLE

Legend
- EB =. EARLY BIRDS
- ST = STARTS
- WU = WARM UPS

ATTENTION PLAYERS
The Weekly Program listings list only those games advertised in the Bingo Bugle. Our advertisers will also be the only halls to carry Bingo Bugle Papers. Please support our advertisers! Thank you for reading!
(858) 215-1828 | info@bingo4fun.com | www.bingo4fun.com

Nevada Happenings

Cadence Crossing Opening
Boyd Gaming opened its new Cadence Crossing Casino in late March. It's located at 920 N. Boulder Highway, right next to the existing Jokers Wild, which will be torn down to make way for a hotel. The new casino has 450 slot machines (no table games), two restaurants, a center bar, and a lounge.

Art Museum Opens
The Southern Nevada Art Museum opened downtown in March 2026 at 1029 S. Main St., just north of E. Charleston next to the Arts Factory. The 10,000-square-foot exhibit space features more than 500 pieces from 88 artists dating as far back as the 1400s. According to the press release, the collection was assembled through a nonprofit organization and artwork personally acquired by the executive director/curator. Works include art by Picasso, Dalí, Goya, Rembrandt, Renoir, Ziggy, Michael Godard, Donovan Fitzgerald, Kat Taz, and many more, covering modern, abstract, cubism, and impressionism. Grand opening was set to take place this month. Admission is $10 and hours are Sun.-Thurs.10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri.-Saturday till 6.

Breeze Airways Connects Vegas
Utah-based low-cost-carrier Breeze Airways is now flying nonstop between Reid International and California Redwood Coast Humboldt County Airport (ACV), Santa Ana John Wayne Airport (SNA), Provo Municipal Airport (PVU), and Magic Valley Regional Airport (Joslin Field/TWF). Airfares start at $39 one way.

Cheap Shots
M Resort was recently advertising premium drinks, such as Flecha Azul Reposado tequila, Blanton's single-barrel bourbon, Remy Martin VSOP, Woodford Reserve bourbon, Glenlivet 12 single-malt scotch, and Tito's handmade vodka, for $5 each. The ad stated, "All day. Every day. All casino bars" (M Bar, Vue Bar, Knight Time Hockey Bar, and AMP'D). See the M website page for more information.

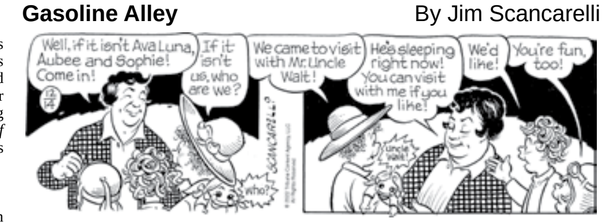
Vegas Matt Docuseries on YouTube
All In: Vegas Matt is a six-part docuseries that follows slot mega influencer Vegas Matt around as he lives the livestreamed dream. Matt signed on as an ambassador for FanDuel in 2024 and FanDuel is producing the series. The first episode, *The Rise of Vegas Matt*, goes into his background and is available for viewing on YouTube.

Guns N' Roses Play Allegiant
Guns N' Roses recently hit the road on a world tour, spanning Mexico, South America, and Europe before returning to tour the States. The U.S. dates throughout the summer will be the band's first in three years and they'll be making a stop for one night in Las Vegas at Allegiant Stadium on August 22. From there, it's on to New Zealand and Australia through the end of the year. At press time, rumors of additional Vegas dates were swirling.

Eastside Cannery Imploded
The Eastside Cannery, shuttered since the pandemic, was imploded in March. You can see a three-minute video of the event online—search YouTube for Eastside Cannery Implosion. The tower is dropped in the first 30 seconds, then it's two and a half minutes of dust and wind and rubble. It's always fun to watch a (vacant) building cave in.

ANIMAL CRACKERS
By Fred Wagner

Gasoline Alley
By Jim Scancarelli



SCRABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION

C3	A1	M3	P3	H4	O1	R1
F4	O1	X8	T1	R1	O1	T1
H4	I1	B3	A1	C3	H4	I1
M3	A1	L1	A1	R1	I1	A1
N1	E1	U1	T1	R1	O1	N1

RACK 1 = 66
RACK 2 = 83
RACK 3 = 84
RACK 4 = 59
RACK 5 = 57
TOTAL 349

PAR SCORE 275-285

Finding Friends

Dear Aunt Bingo:

My husband, Larry, passed away some years ago and my kids are all grown and scattered around the country living their busy lives. Because of this, when I reached retirement age, I decided to make a huge change and sell my house and move to Arizona—a place Larry and I had travelled to several times and had discussed maybe retiring to one day.

It was a really big step for me: The town where I lived was all of eight miles away from the town where I was born, and I had lots of friends and wonderful support in Michigan. But I also had spinal issues, back problems and achy joints that made six months out of the year really hard to manage. My doctor strongly recommended that I move to a warmer, dryer area for the sake of my health and wellbeing.

I discussed the idea with my kids, who were all for it, and my friends in Michigan, who hated the idea of seeing me leave but understood I'd be healthier if I did. Plus, as one friend said, if I didn't like it, there was nothing wrong with returning.

My kids helped me shop for housing. I chose one of the condo developments relatively close to Phoenix because I wanted to be near a city, but not too near. I was super nervous when moving day finally came, but within a week I was in my new home with all my stuff and pretty relieved and proud that I'd made such a big change.

Every day I would venture out to get familiar with the area and get more comfortable with my new home. Overall, I was happy with everything, except that I began to regret that I hadn't chosen one of the senior community settings, which had built in activities and places for meeting people and making new friends. I was getting a little lonely.

One day I picked up a small community newspaper at the food store, which I figured would have listings for things going on around town. One of the first ads I spotted was for Bingo right up the street from me. I hadn't played Bingo since forever and decided to go.

It turned out to be a small charity Bingo in an activity hall and there were a lot of players my age. I bought my Bingo paper and daubers and sat at an empty table. After several minutes, two ladies came to my table and asked if the seats were free and I said yes, and they sat down.

One of them asked me if I was new to the Bingo hall because she didn't recall seeing me there before. I said that I was new to Bingo and the area and explained that I'd just moved here. They were very kind and welcoming, and it turned out that one of them lived in the same condo development I did.

We chatted throughout Bingo and walked together back to the development afterward. I was very excited and happy when they invited me to join them for lunch the following day. And just like that, thanks to a quick trip to Bingo, I met two of my dearest new Arizona friends who are helping me settle into my new home.

So, I am writing today to share my experience and encourage people who want to meet new people and maybe make some new friends to take a look around the Bingo hall. It worked for me!

—Connie F., Arizona

Dear Connie:

Congratulations on your new life adventure!

As I'm writing this, it is cold and gray outside and there's a foot of fresh Northeast snow on the ground. Needless to say, it makes me want to pack my bags and grab the next flight to sunny Arizona!

Your letter makes an important point—along with chasing those cash jackpots, Bingo really is a great opportunity for getting out of the house, doing something social and possibly making a new friend or two along the way. I highly recommend it!

—Aunt Bingo

Share your views! Write to Aunt Bingo c/o the Bingo Bugle, P.O. Box 527, Vashon, WA 98070, or email her through her editor at tara@bingobugle.com.

New & Noteworthy

It's impossible to keep up with all the new podcasts that launch weekly in the USA, nevermind worldwide, but the Apple Podcast Charts are a great resource for highlighting the most promising in various categories. These are just a handful of the intriguing podcasts that have debuted so far in 2026.

The Secret World of Roald Dahl — Fans of children's literature and their movie adaptations know author Roald Dahl from his books *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda*, but did you also know he was injured as a fighter pilot in a crash during World War II? He soon after worked as an air attaché in Washington, D.C., where he spied for the British government. In this fascinating podcast, learn how the future author was "seducing congresswomen, mixing martinis for FDR and gathering secrets for Churchill" (iHeart Podcasts).

Pop Syllabus — In this new podcast from a former writer of *The Daily Show*, Christiana Mbakwe Medina, listeners are treated to a wonderful combination of "a messy news anchor and guerilla academic." Each week, she and a guest "unpack a buzzy topic and help us understand the moment while going through it." The podcast kicked off a deep dive into "Big Wellness" and how it's changed our world for better and worse. In episode 3, she explores the world of Disney adults with Robbie Whelan, the author of *House of Mouse*, and in episode 5 former *Bachelorette* Rachel Lindsay joins here in paying homage to Black women in reality television (popsyllabus.com).

Killer in the Code — In this latest edition to the true crime podcast genre, bestselling author Michael Connelly (*The Lincoln Lawyer*) and cold case consultant Alex Baber try to solve two of the biggest unsolved murder cases of all time: the Black Dahlia and the Zodiac Killer. Follow Baber on his investigative journey using cryptology, genealogy, AI and "long hours of basic gumshoe work" to identify a suspect that taunted and eluded detectives (killerinthecode.com).

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Boggle BrainBusters Answers:

SEA BAY LAKE
POND GULF OCEAN
INLET LAGOON

CryptoQuip answer

I am hooked on studying the history of official kingly decrees. I guess I'm an edict addict.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Are You Paying For Subscriptions You Don't Use?

Remember when you signed up on a trial basis for a subscription, app or streaming service, then decided you didn't like it and never used it? Are you still paying for that?

They say that many of us have nearly $20 per month in unused products, coming to hundreds per year, that we've forgotten about — but we're still paying for.

Now a good time to clean up our expenses. The way to get started on identifying services you aren't using is with your monthly checking and credit card statements. Ideally you're also saving at least a year of both, because some subscriptions and services only bill annually and won't show up on your monthly statements.

Go through those statements and be sure you can identify each and every item. The annual ones might be hard to spot, but it's worth finding them as most are on automatic renewal.

With some items such as a weekly newsletter, it might be going to a temporary email address you created and then forgot about.

Next to the deduction or expense on your credit card or bank statement should be a company name and phone number. Call them! Ask for the service or subscription to stop immediately, and ask for a partial refund. You might get some money back!

Another clue is to go back through your junk email. It's possible your subscription was waylaid and you never saw it.

For the future, it's not that you should never again sign up on a trial for a service or product, but that you need to beware of when it will expire and you'll start being charged. Make a note on your calendar to decide whether you want to keep going (and be charged) or contact them in advance to have it stopped.

Remember, it's your money!

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ARMENIAN CENTER BINGO

MONTEBELLO ARMENIAN CENTER

410 WASHINGTON BLVD • MONTEBELLO 90640

MONDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 4PM
GAMES START AT 6PM

$35 BUY-IN

- 3 PAPER PACKS (10 GAMES)
- 5 STRIPS (1 OF EACH)
- STRIPS PAY $600

TUESDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 4PM
GAMES START AT 6PM

$25 BUY-IN

- 3 PAPER PACKS
- PAY $400
- ALL STRIPS (NOT INCLUDED) $1,000
- PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT CURRENT $7,500

WEDNESDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 4PM
GAMES START AT 6PM

$35 BUY-IN

- 3 PAPER PACKS (10 GAMES)
- 5 STRIPS (1 OF EACH)
- STRIPS PAY $600

SUNDAY

DOORS OPEN AT 12PM
GAMES START AT 2PM

$30 BUY-IN

- 3 PAPER PACKS (16 GAMES) PAYS $300, $400 AND $500
- STRIPS PAY $500

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS: (626) 644-3429