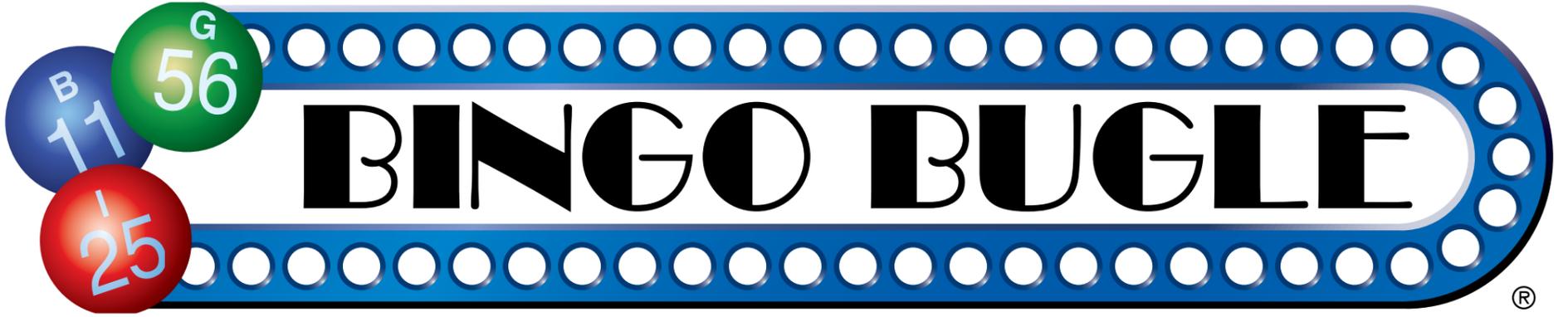


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Circulation 35,000

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PUBLICATION



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BOB ON BINGO

By Bob Whittmore

I Hate to Report This

I recently saw something so UN-Bingolike, that I could not believe it—and yet, it happened in small-town America, in the old school cafeteria where I first saw my grandmother play Bingo in 1957. Since my return—for health reasons—back to rural America, I have renewed old friendships with a lot of people from my childhood. I can't wait for Friday and Sunday nights when I can go back to the old school and play. But, recently, I saw something that I have never seen before at a Bingo game.

It's the kind of thing you would expect to see in a big-city hall or in Vegas or Atlantic City, but it happened in a town of 11,000 in Indiana. And, I still can't believe it. If you remember, some months ago the hall got a brand-new electrical tote board and all new equipment, including the machine that stirs the balls and pushes them up a tube, one at a time, for the caller.

The incident I am going to tell you about was the result of a relatively new caller not being fully versed on how the equipment operated. It was near the end of the evening in the final minutes of the COVER-ALL for the big prize of the evening. Up front I could hear a rumble starting. Soon, people were yelling at the caller. It got worse. Suddenly about a dozen people stormed the caller's desk. It looked like a small-scale riot!

It seems some of the players who sat at the front began to notice that only half a dozen or so balls were in the hopper—but the tote board showed that fifteen or so numbers had not been called yet. WHERE WERE THE MISSING BALLS? People were demanding a refund. They wanted a "recount." Not liking conflict, and especially not liking to see it happen in my old grade school, I got up and left.

The following weekend I talked to the manager of the games and he told me what happened. The relatively new caller didn't realize the importance of totally turning the equipment off after each game. Her failure to do this, meant the air pressure within the device was preventing some of the balls from falling back into the hopper. So, in that final game, instead of having all 75 numbered balls, there may have been as few as 60 in play.

The problem was NOT the equipment. No cheating was going on. The caller was NOT trying to rig the game. IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CHEAT AT BINGO. Anyone who can get that angry just because someone made an honest mistake should not be playing Bingo, anyway. I still can't believe how usually quiet people suddenly turned into screamers.

See you next month when we will focus in on DAUBERS. Meanwhile, e-mail me at: bingo@earthlink.net.

FLASHBOARD NUMBERS

B:	01	04	07	11	12
I:	18	20	22	24	29
N:	31	32	35	38	40
G:	50	51	55	56	59
O:	63	64	67	72	74



by Annie E. Ennis

Dressing Up Poultry

Dear Ask Annie,

Have you ever made poultry stuffing with cornbread? I would really like to try making it myself. I hope you can help me.
—Carole from North Carolina

Dear Carol,

Here's one of my favorite cornbread dressing recipes. But first you have to make the cornbread. Here are the two recipes. One for cornbread, one for cornbread dressing. Hope you like them. —Annie

CORN BREAD

1 ½ cups white or yellow self-rising corn meal
½ cup self-rising white flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
4 teaspoons sugar
2 eggs
2 tablespoons bacon grease
1 cup buttermilk

Mix all ingredients except the buttermilk. Add enough buttermilk to form a pouring consistency, like a cake batter. Pour into a hot greased iron skillet or baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees until done, about 20 minutes. Serves 4-6

CORNBREAD DRESSING

1 pan cornbread, crumbled
½ as much bread, crumbled
2 tablespoons chicken bouillon
½ small onion, chopped
1 stick celery chopped
sage, to taste
2 eggs, slightly beaten
¼ stick margarine or butter
paprika

Mix cornbread and bread together using a fork. Combine chicken base, onion, salt and celery, and stir into bread mixture. Sprinkle lightly with sage. Stir in eggs. Add mixture to a greased baking pan and spread evenly. Dot with margarine or butter and sprinkle with paprika. Bake 15-20 minutes in a 350-degree oven. Serves 5.

Your comments and questions about cooking and entertaining will be addressed in this monthly column. Write to "Ask Annie" c/o Annie Ennis, 17050 SE 91st Culvert Court, The Villages, FL 32162. So, Ask Annie. Don't forget you can E-mail me at aennis@thevillages.net. And let's get cooking.



Gaming News

More States Bet on Gambling

Kentucky was on deck at press time to start sports betting in September, with retail locations scheduled to open on September 7 and mobile betting launching on September 28. Kentucky will become the 35th state, plus Washington, D.C., where sports betting is legal and live; in three other states (Maine, Vermont, and Florida), sports betting is legal, but not yet live. And it looks like Rhode Island will become the seventh state with legal online slots and table games when they go live on April 1. Bally's, which holds a monopoly on casino gambling in its home state with Bally's Twin River Lincoln and Bally's Tiverton, will be the sole igaming operator with third-party partner StakeLogic.

Bullet Train Inches Along

The high-speed train planned to connect Las Vegas and southern California has surmounted an environmental-impact challenge and can now move forward again. The Federal Railroad Administration determined that the train would not impact a 50-mile corridor between Victor Valley and its southern terminus in Cucamonga, thus freeing developer Brightline West from conducting a formal environmental-impact study and producing a statement. The company has now accumulated all the required permits and rights of way and has announced ground-breaking on the line for later this year. The plan is to complete the \$12 billion 218-mile track and start service by early 2028 in time for the summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Aussie Rugby Goes Big

The Australian National Rugby League (NRL) will open its 2024 season with a double-header at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas, Nevada in late February and/or early March 2024. The games are intended to "showcase rugby, the league, and Australia to the U.S. market," as well as to "increase broadcast exposure and wagering turnover," by being on a "stage the sport has never been on before." The four teams will be the Sydney Roosters, South Sydney Rabbitohs, Manly Sea Eagles, and Brisbane Broncos; the Rabbitohs are co-owned by actor Russell Crowe. The games will be part of an "entertainment blitz" that will include other Aussie sporting events and entertainers.

G2E Takes on Smoking

"For many reasons, the gaming industry is miles behind other businesses when it comes to the smoking issue." So writes author John L. Smith (*No Limit, Of Rats and Men, Quicksilver, and On the Boulevard*) in a commentary posted recently on CDCGamingReports.com. John is commenting on the recent announcement that there will be a panel discussion at the upcoming G2E in Las Vegas this month, which is, as he notes, something of an anomaly for the biggest gambling-industry conference and trade show of the year. More of the post is available online through lasvegasadvisor.com.

Big Win at the Wynn

A slot player from Florida was firing up a Panda Magic machine at the Wynn in late August when they hit the progressive jackpot for \$1,614,758. Panda Magic is an Aristocrat Gaming machine and the photo of the jackpot screen shows a \$750 bet off of almost \$32,000 in machine credits and the glorious three panda mugs lined up vertically on the bonus line. Obviously, a slot whale who got very lucky.



The Angel of Rome: And Other Stories by Jess Walter

Reading can be a transcendent experience. Constant readers like me are occasionally transported magically into another time, place or world by the sheer eloquence and elegant beauty of an author's choice of words and phrasing. It doesn't happen frequently but when it occurs you want to metaphorically shout it from the rooftops or at least tell everyone you know "you must read this!" Jess Walter is one of those rare authors who achieve this distinction. His recent book of short stories *The Angel of Rome* (Harper Perennial) is now published in paperback. It is a marvelous gem filled with humor, poignancy, heart and wisdom chiefly written in first person narration by relatable, well depicted characters.

Each protagonist examines a particular time in their lives grappling with their role and purpose hoping to understand its significance. These 12 stories confidently illustrate and honor the seven ages of man from early childhood to old age, infirmity, and death with grace and integrity. All have appeared in various publications but are collected here for the first time. The lengths vary from the few pages of *Cross the Woods* to the novella length title work *The Angel of Rome*. Some will make you laugh out loud while others evoke tears as you may recognize personal life experiences fictionally reflected.

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DEAR READERS: My recent column about a neighbor's dog who kept leaving "deposits" in the yard got quite a response from all of you! This is clearly an issue from coast to coast. Here are a few of the responses I received.

DEAR PAWS: Many years ago, my grandmother recommended a solution to dog poop left in the yard by other people's pooches. She told me, "Just put a drop of bacon grease on top of it, and the problem will take care of itself." Think about it. — John C., Dubuque, Iowa

DEAR PAWS: The neighbor's dog Tawny regularly digs underneath the privacy fence between our properties when I'm at work, runs around, chews up all of MY dog's toys, and leaves deposits all over the place. Once a week, I go around the yard with a shovel, pick up each pile of poo, and fling it back over the fence. Neighbor hasn't said a word, yet. — Bill V., Orlando, Florida

DEAR PAWS: The building next to my house is a multi-unit rental property. Occasionally a new renter will let their dog poop in my front yard and not pick it up. Well, the manager of the property is a real witch with a capital B, who has no problem confronting the tenants. I bring her fresh-baked cookies and have a chat. The problem gets solved real quick. — Gladys K., Lowell, Massachusetts

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

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6.	\$1 Blackjack • <i>Downtown Grand</i> • Daily • \$1.20
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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.



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Thank you for reading The Bingo Bugle!



By Samantha Weaver

★ During a period in his artistic career, Pablo Picasso primarily used shades of blue in his paintings, reflecting his melancholic state at the time.

★ It's not just humans who use "baby talk" with their offspring: Mother bottlenose dolphins have been observed altering their whistle pitch and range when communicating with their calves.

★ Hawaii had no mosquitoes until the 19th century, when they were accidentally introduced by trading ships.

★ The world record for nonstop video gaming — 138 hours and 34 seconds — was set by Carrie Swidecki in 2015, when she beat her own previous world record.

★ Hamburger University, established by McDonald's to train restaurant managers and owner-operators, has a lower acceptance rate than Harvard University and awards its graduates a Hamburgerology degree.

★ A Eulachon's flesh is so oily that this fatty fish will burn like a candle when dried.

★ From the "too much of a good thing" files: A 41-year-old man from the Netherlands referred to only as "Jonathan" was banned from donating sperm after fathering over 550 children.

★ Cheetos were invented by USDA military scientists during World War II as a result of their being tasked with finding a way to utilize surplus cornmeal.

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Getting Full Value from a Full House

By Jonathan Little

Early in an eight-handed \$3,500 buy-in tournament with 100/200 blinds with 15,000 effective stacks, the player first to act raised to 500 out of his 10,000 stack and it folded around to you on the button with KcKd.

While three-bet would induce the initial raiser to fold out all of their junk, which you want to keep in the pot as three-betting and getting money in against your opponent's reasonable hands is usually best. Calling only has merit if you expect your opponent to fold far too often against your three-bet. One major benefit of calling with premium hands like A-A and K-K is that it strengthens your calling range, allowing you to call with a slightly wider range of speculative hands such as K-9 suited and 10-8 suited.

You decide to call this time and everyone else folds. The flop comes AcAhKs, giving you a full house. Your opponent checks.

Considering your opponent's range after they check, they either have an ace that will pay you off no matter what, an unlikely

king that you can get value from on the turn and river, a weak underpair (Q-Q, 8-8, 4-4) that will likely call a flop bet but then fold to bets on the turn or river, or nothing.

Since you are not concerned with getting outdrawn and you would love for your opponent to bluff the turn and/or river with their junk, checking makes the most sense. However, if you get the vibe that your opponent is slow playing a premium hand like an ace, bet and get money in the pot immediately.

You check behind. The turn is the 6h and your opponent bets 700 into the 1,500 pot.

Many players make the mistake of raising even though it does not make strategic sense. The ideal play is to keep your opponent in the pot with their flush draws and pairs that will fold to a raise. If your opponent has an ace, they will usually get all in by the river, so you should not be concerned with them. Calling keeps your opponent in the pot and gives them a chance to play for the rest of their chips on the river if they feel inclined.

You call and the river is the 4c. Your opponent bets 2,000 into the 2,900 pot.

Some players make the mistake of calling in this spot because they fear being beaten by an unlikely full house. While you do lose to pocket A-A, A-K, A-6s, and A-4s, there are substantially more hands in your opponent's range that you beat with your full house. The time has come to put your opponent all in and make them play for the rest of their chips.

You go all in and your opponent quickly calls with As10d, awarding you with a full double up.

Jonathan Little is a professional poker player and author with over \$7,000,000 in live tournament earnings. He writes a weekly educational blog and hosts a podcast at ©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

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FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

DMO
APTANC
♥TWESA
♥IDEC
GENEAM
AWC
♥SEUM
PETOM
♥OEW
♥EDDLAW
NOGWI
♥ETME

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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By Terry and Kim Kovel

Q: I have a cream-colored vase with a young woman and pink flowers painted on it. It's about 18-inches tall, has a slender neck with curved handles and gold trim. On the bottom it has "Belleek" printed along with a mark that looks like a painter's palette. There's a circle with intersecting letters, but they're too hard to read. Can you give me any information about this vase?

A: The mark you describe was used by the Ceramic Art Company of Trenton, New Jersey, from 1894 to 1906. The intersecting script letters are "CAC" for Ceramic Art Company. Creamy white pottery has been made in Belleek, Ireland, since 1863. American pottery companies made china like Irish Belleek but warmer in color. After 1929, Belleek Pottery Limited was the only porcelain company that could use Belleek with a capital "B" on its marks. The Ceramic Art Company was founded by Walter Scott Lenox. After 1906, the Lenox name was added to the Ceramic Art Company mark. Vases similar to yours have recently sold for \$750.

TIP: Keep your dolls out of sunlight. It will bleach the hair and may damage the "skin."

Sign up for our free weekly email, *Kovels Comments*. 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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No Bras & Card Swapping

Men will never understand how joyful it makes us feel to unsnap that bra, whip it through our shirt sleeve, and fling it across the room. — Anonymous

Ahh-h-h. I can see and smell summer's end and I say good riddance. Leaves are turning and swirling in the cooler temps; fire pits are burning, and I'm a much happier gal than during the muggy days just past. Summer officially ended September 22 and Fall officially began the next day. So, welcome to October, known to the Anglo-Saxons as Winterfylleth, meaning winter and full moon.

And speaking of full moon, but not exactly, October 13th is No Bra Day. Women can throw their bras into their closets and breathe deeply for one day without guilt. They can let their ladies hang out, saggy or not, and be braggy about it. This day is celebrated annually to encourage breast cancer awareness since October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Going braless on this day is a statement that women, and men for that matter, need to pay attention to their bodies, check for lumps, and schedule mammograms. I speak from experience as my aunt had a double mastectomy then so did my daughter, age 41, after her first mammogram. Now, some women carry this

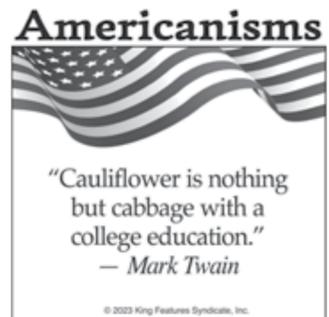


HOLLYWOOD — *Beetlejuice* 2, directed once again by Tim Burton, started shooting in May with Michael Keaton, Catherine O'Hara, Winona Ryder, Jenna Ortega, Justin Theroux and Willem Dafoe, but their film set was recently robbed. It was no easy task — the thieves stole a 150-pound statue created by Delia Deetz (O'Hara) and a lamppost topped with a pumpkin from their set in Corinth, Vermont.

Back in February 2022, thieves swiped \$500,000 worth of props and equipment from the sets of Netflix's *Lupin* and *The Crown*, based in Paris and Northern England respectively. Over 350 items were stolen from vehicles for *The Crown* specifically. Where were their security people? ***

America's Got Talent judge Sofia Vergara (51) and *True Blood* star Joe Manganiello (46) have ended their marriage after seven years. Friends speculate some of the reasons for their divorce were because Manganiello has been practicing sobriety for 17 years, while Vergara still continued to be a social drinker. He wanted to start a family, but Vergara already has a 32-year-old son from her first marriage. Then, there was that lawsuit with ex-boyfriend Nick Loeb over their two fertilized embryos produced through in-vitro fertilization. But, after a long, drawn-out eggs-hausting trial, things came out sunny-side up for Vergara.

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farther and shed their shirts along with their bras, but I wouldn't suggest that. The woman we can thank for inventing these torture devices is Mary Phelps Jacob who in 1914 received the first patent for what looks like the bra we know today. Thanks, Mary, for making me miserable on many a hot day.

Moving on, my church recently hosted a Mother, Daughter, & Friends Banquet. Its theme was Aloha Hawaii and the venue was decorated with potted plants, inflatable flamingoes, and everyone got a lei, flowered garland, to wear. After dinner, we played bingo. As designated caller, I located some tips for making bingo fun at parties like ours. First, make your own cards. Google for free bingo templates online and print out bingo cards with vocabulary you choose. In previous years at our banquet, I used family-related words. Second, use food as markers. M & M's, Cheez-Its, Smarties, popcorn, and grapes work well. I told our church ladies they could throw their markers at me if they didn't get to yell bingo but be aware that I might throw them right back at them. LOL, no one took me up on it. Last, up the suspense with surprise swapping of bingo cards. Get the game started and after a minute or two have a timer go off. At this point, everyone must switch cards with a neighbor. Oh, the anguish of someone who is set and must trade cards; and the glee of whoever gets that card. Groans, moans, and laughter will fill the place whenever the timer signals a switch off. Until next month, may Lady Luck blow you kisses as you dance out the door with dollars. Win big. Thursday, October 12, is Take Your Parents to Lunch Day. They fed you for many years, so return the favor. Saturday, October 21, is Sweetest Day. Robert and I were married on Sweetest Day forty-six years ago so don't forget to celebrate with your sweetie as we plan to do. Contact me via e-mail: nlpvzw6172@gmail.com.

GETTIN' LUCKY IN THE *Neighborhood*

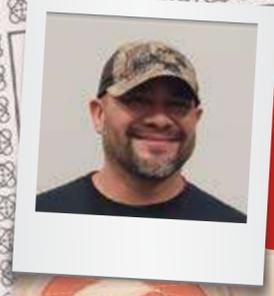
CONGRATULATIONS **B I N G O** WINNERS



NIKKI
\$75,663
CHARLIE'S
DOUBLE PROGRESSIVE



ALBERT
\$8,674
ACEBALL



CARLOS
\$6,510
ACEBALL



GISELA
\$2,932
ACEBALL PLUS BOUNTY BALL

LUCKY LOCAL
\$10,000
CHARLIE'S DOUBLE PROGRESSIVE

LUCKY LOCAL
\$6,530
BIGGER BINGO COVERALL

LUCKY LOCAL
\$5,000
BONUS X

LUCKY LOCAL
\$5,000
BONUS X

VGK BINGO KNIGHTS WITH CHANCE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 • 7PM SESSION AT DECATUR
MEET CHANCE AND VEGAS VIVAS 6PM-7PM
FOUR (4) \$1,000 COVERALL, FREE ELECTRONIC RAINBOWS,
PRIZE DRAWINGS AND MORE!

**SURVIVING FRIDAY THE 13TH
WITH 24 HOUR BINGO**
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 • 7AM PRIZE DRAWINGS
PLAY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN FREE SLOT PLAY AND MORE!

VGK BINGO BLUE PACK
VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS GAME DAYS
2023-2024 SEASON
WEAR YOUR VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS APPAREL ON
GAME DAYS TO RECEIVE A FREE ELECTRONIC BLUE PACK.

**BIGGER BINGO COVERALL
MULTI-LOCATION JACKPOT**



WIN UP TO 100% OF THE PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT IN
55 NUMBERS OR LESS FROM \$10,000 AND GROWING
SCAN QR CODE FOR THE UPDATED PROGRESSIVE AMOUNT

50+ PERKS
EVERY THURSDAY
FREE BINGO BLUE PACK FOR GUESTS 50 & ABOVE
20% OFF SOURDOUGH CAFE
FREE SWIPE AND WIN PRIZE

\$2,689,252*
PAID OUT IN BINGO JACKPOTS

*Total from January 1, 2023–August 29, 2023. See the bingo room for details.

ARIZONA CHARLIE'S
CASINOS

4575 Boulder Highway • ArizonaCharlies.com • 740 S. Decatur Boulevard

COFFEE BREAK!

BINGO BUGLE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 They may be proper subjects
6 Distorted
12 Circus tent
13 Utica's county
14 Mistreat
15 Cat in 9 Lives commercials
16 Antelope's playmate
17 Rowing team
19 Biblical verb suffix
20 Take heed of
22 Profit
24 Air safety org.
27 History chapters
29 Inauguration recitation
32 "The Gold Bug" author
35 Policy expert
36 Stead
37 Gender
38 Item for 17-Across
40 Genesis creator
42 Billboards
44 Camel feature
46 — podrida
50 Second of two
52 Acre's acres?
54 Hateful
55 Original

DOWN

1 Cleo's river
2 Lecher's look
3 One-eighty
4 Ph. bk. data
5 Ghostly
6 One or more
7 Famous
8 Always, in verse
9 Bugs
10 Tend texts
11 T, in Morse code
12 Auction action mo.
18 True-to-lifestyle
21 "— the ram-parts ..."
23 Plenty of time?
24 Not many
25 Commotion
26 Doubter
28 Dormant
30 Pirouette pivot
31 Whammy
33 Alias abbr.
34 Summertime mo.
39 Watery discharge
41 Heart line
42 Oodles
43 Arp's art
45 — Major
47 Den
48 Tax
49 Hearty brew
51 Excessively
53 Bando of baseball

HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gap.

Leud
MERIDA
Moum
MANTLE
Quiet
TODEMS
Falter
CUHRL

TODAY'S WORD

"Honey, I found out what keeps my budget from working. Your _____."

JUMBLE

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

WRITL
SCALS
RIHROD
DURGET

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app.

This is going to take some getting used to.

I think it will be fine.

WHEN THEY TOLD THEM THEY'D BE DRIVING CLOCKWISE, THE DRIVERS SAID

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

Print your answer here: ○○○○ ○○○○

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: F equals N

XG QAM XFJRZBRS H NXPP
SRDXLBFXJ HNR PXFLAPF, OCHB
OAMPS BCHB DIAUXSR QAM OXBC?
SXRBIHQ GXURI.

COFFEE BREAK ANSWERS NOW ON ASTROLOGY PAGE

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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 1. Unveiling | U | Ledger entry | I |
| 2. Close at hand | B | Almost | L |
| 3. Bed covering | T | Ben Franklin's pen | L |
| 4. Strain to see | N | Spray water on | R |
| 5. Infuriate | R | Put behind bars | C |
| 6. Seashore finding | L | Mantelpiece | F |
| 7. TV host Povich | U | Take to the altar | R |
| 8. Boxer Sonny | O | Eavesdrop | E |
| 9. Concord fruit | P | Report card entry | D |
| 10. Speeding voucher | T | Fence style | P |

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	÷		+		15
-		+		-	
			x		16
x		x		x	
			x		12
12		4		12	

1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

DIFFICULTY: ★★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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: F equals N

XG QAM XFJRZBRS H NXPP
SRDXLBFXJ HNR PXFLAPF, OCHB
OAMPS BCHB DIAUXSR QAM OXBC?
SXRBIHQ GXURI.

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POUR GIRL GALLERY
Fluid Art for Everyday People

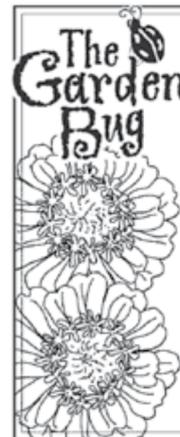
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Zinnias

Zinnias can be planted in late summer. They like hot weather, and will germinate easily. Plant your zinnia seeds 9" to 12" apart in well-drained soil located in full sun; after they sprout and grow taller, pinch off the new growth after the 2nd or 3rd true leaf set, as this promotes more branching and flowering. Watering at the base of the plants helps prevent diseases such as "leaf spot" from flourishing. The "Peter Pan" variety of zinnias is one of the fastest to start blooming, often in only six weeks from seed. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.lsuagcenter.com

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦
♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

			O			
	C	A	W			
	A	I	C	E	D	
	T	N	A			
M	E	N	A	G	E	W
E	A			M	O	D
T	E	M	P	O	U	L
				W	A	S
				E		

Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Y	E	H	F	D
L	I	T	N	F
N	L	A	I	U
A	S	P	L	O
V	I	C	M	B

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

3 letters = 1 point
4 letters = 2 points
5 letters = 3 points
6 letters = 4 points
7 letters = 5 points
8 letters = 10 points
9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

151+ = Champ
101-150 = Expert
61-100 = Pro
31-60 = Gamer
21-30 = Rookie
11-20 = Amateur
0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST SEVEN LAND FORMATIONS in the grid of letters.



\$650,000

Must Go!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

BLOCK 1 • 11AM \$155,000 Must Go!

Game 1	\$1,000
Game 2	\$2,000
Game 3	\$3,000
Game 4	\$4,000
Game 5	\$5,000
Game 6	\$6,000
Game 7	\$7,000
Game 8	\$8,000
Game 9	\$9,000
Game 10	\$10,000
Jackpot 1	\$10,000
Jackpot 2	\$10,000
Jackpot 3	\$10,000
Jackpot 4	\$10,000
Jackpot 5	\$10,000
\$50,000 Jackpot	\$50,000

BLOCK 2 • 2:30PM \$185,000 Must Go!

Game 1	\$1,000
Game 2	\$2,000
Game 3	\$3,000
Game 4	\$4,000
Game 5	\$5,000
Game 6	\$6,000
Game 7	\$7,000
Game 8	\$8,000
Game 9	\$9,000
Game 10	\$10,000
Jackpot 1	\$10,000
Jackpot 2	\$10,000
Jackpot 3	\$15,000
Jackpot 4	\$20,000
Jackpot 5	\$25,000
\$50,000 Jackpot	\$50,000

BLOCK 3 • 6:30PM \$325,000 Must Go!

Game 1	\$1,000
Game 2	\$2,000
Game 3	\$3,000
Game 4	\$4,000
Game 5	\$5,000
Game 6	\$6,000
Game 7	\$7,000
Game 8	\$8,000
Game 9	\$9,000
Game 10	\$10,000
Game 11	\$11,000
Game 12	\$12,000
Game 13	\$13,000
Game 14	\$14,000
Game 15	\$15,000
Jackpot 1	\$15,000
Jackpot 2	\$20,000
Jackpot 3	\$20,000
Jackpot 4	\$25,000
Jackpot 5	\$25,000
\$50,000 Jackpot	\$50,000

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The Color Purple

Hi Guy,

Here's a funny story for you. One of my Bingo playing friends showed up at Bingo with purple hands. I'm talking super dark purple, like he'd been soaking them in a vat of wine or something. Of course, I asked him why his hands were purple, and he said that his wife got this idea to make her own dauber ink and refill her empties. She came up with some kind of recipe then made him help her fill the old bottles. Well, according to him, the purple ink she'd made got all over everything—their clothes, the rug, the counter, even the curtains—and now it won't wash off! He even lifted his shirt to show us his purple belly! It was hilarious!
—Kent, Illinois, via e-mail

Dear Kent,

What a hoot! And not just the part about the purple mess, but also that someone would go to the trouble to try and refill daubers with homemade ink. Maybe this lady thought she was saving money by re-using the plastic bottles, but in the end may have spent more on the supplies to make the ink, not to mention the cost of replacing the various household items! (Maybe they should consider just dying the entire stained rug in the same purple?)

Do me a favor and send a follow-up e-mail and let me know how long it takes for your friend's purple hands and belly to go back to normal. —Guy

Dear Guy,

I found a cool old Bingo set in the attic of a camp I bought this summer. It looks to be from the 1930s or '40s, has lots of cards and a metal Bingo cage with wooden balls, and the markers for the cards are also wood. It smells kind of musty and the cage is a bit rusty, but otherwise it's pretty neat and in good shape. Do you think it's worth anything?
—J.J.D., New York, via e-mail

Dear J.J.D.,

Whenever I come across some old doodad and wonder if it might be worth a few bucks, I go straight to Google and check it out. When I searched vintage bingo sets with cage there were a handful of listings, ranging from \$70 to \$300 for a very unusual set on Etsy. It was actually a lot of fun looking through the various cages, wooden bingo balls, sliding-window Bingo cards, many from the 1930s through the 1960s. There may be a modest market for the set, but it might be more fun to just clean it up and keep it for parties and events. —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 at tara@bingobugle.com.



Dental Anxiety

For many people, the idea of going to the dentist stirs up anxiety; however, it's so important to combat those thoughts to keep your smile strong and healthy. To help, here are four tips so you can remain calm while your teeth receive care:

Talk to your dentist—Be open about your anxieties and stress before the appointment so the dentist can ease your mind. If you want to know what's happening during the appointment, they can explain the procedure. If you would rather not know, your dentist can tell you when to close your eyes or distract yourself. Work on a signal with your dentist—for instance, if you raise your hand during your appointment, it could mean you need a break, or something hurts. Don't be afraid to communicate what you need.

Use tools to distract yourself—If the tools or sounds of the dental machines cause you anxiety, find ways to busy yourself. Bring headphones to listen to your favorite music or podcast while in the dentist's chair. Objects such as stress balls or fidget spinners are also a great way to keep busy.

Practice mindfulness—To keep your mind off your dentist's appointment, you can practice mindfulness both before and during. Focus on breathing while you're in the waiting room or in the dentist's chair with slow, deep breaths. Relax all the muscles you can, one at a time. Start from your feet all the way up to your neck and shoulders while you're reclined for your appointment.

Bring a friend—Do not feel embarrassed or shy to ask for support! If you have a trusted friend or family member who makes you feel safe, see if they can help you in facing your fear of the dentist.

While these tips may not get rid of dental anxiety completely, they are a great place to start so any patient can conquer any dentist appointment.

Learn More
For more information on your oral health, visit Delta Dental of Washington's blog at www.deltadentalwa.com.

© NAFSI



Go Figure!

answers

7	÷	1	+	8	15
-		+		-	
5	-	1	×	4	16
×		×		×	
6	-	2	×	3	12
12		4		12	

Boggle BrainBusters

Answers:

HILL CLIFF BLUFF
PLAIN VALLEY
ISLAND MOUNTAIN

Even Exchange

answers

1. Debut, Debit	6. Shell, Shelf
2. Nearby, Neary	7. Maury, Marry
3. Quilt, Quill	8. Liston, Listen
4. Squint, Squire	9. Grape, Grade
5. Enrage, Encage	10. Ticket, Picket



Lucky Lotto News

Pooled Money Heartwarming Win
This past June three women who work together as sanitation laborers in India pooled their money to buy the equivalent of a \$3 lottery ticket for themselves and eight other co-workers because they could not afford the cost individually. In August, they won. The jackpot was \$1.2 million, or more than \$700,000 after taxes—an enormous sum for workers who spend their days collecting household waste and building public toilets. The winners each make just a few dollars a day. The jackpot will help them pay off crippling debts. Lottery drawings are famous feel-good stories because they make people rich overnight, but these winners may be among the most deserving in history. Most were in debt after taking out loans for medical treatment, their children's education, dowries or other essential expenses that they could not afford on a wage of roughly \$3 a day. News of the winning ticket was reported by the BBC and other news outlets. In India, the story has reverberated far beyond Kerala as one of hope in the face of immense challenges.

Winning Ticket Almost Got Tossed
A Clear Lake, Iowa woman says she nearly threw away a \$100,000 winning lottery ticket. Pamela Litzel claimed the second top prize in the "\$100,000 Mega Crossword" scratch game. She bought her winning ticket at Randy's Neighborhood Market at 20 S. Fourth St. in Clear Lake. "I almost threw it away!" says Litzel, 70. "I didn't think it was a winner, and I thought, 'Well, I'm just going to check over these old tickets before I throw them.' And lo and behold!" Litzel, who works for a custom cabinetry company, says she's had her eye on retirement for a while and hopes after her big win, she finally can.

CryptoQuip

answer

If you ingested a bill depicting Abe Lincoln, what would that provide you with?
Dietary fiber.

SNOWFLAKES

solution



Massive Prize in Massachusetts
The Massachusetts State Lottery recently awarded its largest-ever prize for an instant "scratch and win" game to Simmons & Schiavo Lottery Trust 2023-28 of Woburn. Trustee Marco Schiavo claimed the \$25 million grand prize for the "Billion Dollar Extravaganza," a \$50 scratch-off game, on behalf of his client. It's not uncommon for big lottery winners to collect their prize money in the name of a trust in order to keep their identities secret. The Massachusetts Lottery requires winners to be photographed when they collect their winnings, so to avoid unwelcome publicity, some opt to create a trust and send a trustee to collect the payout in their place. Schiavo, the trustee in this case, said his client plans to use their winnings on real estate and other investments. They chose a one-time cash payment on their prize, receiving \$16,250,000 before taxes.

Another Mega Millions Win in FL
For the second week in a row, the Florida Lottery announced a winning Mega Millions ticket had been sold at a Jacksonville area Publix. A ticket worth an estimated \$36 million was sold at the Publix at 4495 Roosevelt Blvd. in Lakeshore. The lump sum cash prize would be \$17.4 million. It was the second winning Mega Millions ticket sold in Duval County in August. A player won the largest jackpot in Mega Millions history on Aug. 9 with a ticket purchased at a Publix in Neptune Beach. That prize totaled \$1.58 billion. A winner has not yet claimed the prize. Back-to-back jackpots have been won in the same state three times this year—before Florida's two wins, New York won at \$483 million (April 14) and \$20 million (April 18), while Massachusetts won at \$33 million (January 24) and \$31 million (January 31).

OCTOBER BINGO



COVERALL MADNESS!

REGULAR PAY WITH FOUR \$1,000 COVERALLS

OCT 1 • GVR @ 3PM OCT 8 • SANTA FE @ 3PM
 OCT 15 • BOULDER STATION @ 7PM OCT 22 • RED ROCK @ 3PM
 OCT 29 • PALACE STATION @ 3PM

EVERY SATURDAY
 11PM SESSION
 REGULAR PAY SESSION WITH
 A \$1,000 COVERALL AND
 \$500 SECOND CHANCE

ROCK SHOT BINGO
 BOOS & BREWS
 OCTOBER 28
 11PM SESSION
 STARTING AT \$25 BUY-IN



VGK DRAWING
 OCTOBER 21
 7PM SESSION
 EARN ENTRIES
 NOW-OCTOBER 20
 5 WINNERS WITH TOP PRIZE
 2 TICKETS TO A HOME GAME +\$500

ROCK SHOT BINGO
 COSTUMES & COCKTAILS
 OCTOBER 13 & 27
 11PM SESSION
 COSTUME CONTEST EACH DAY
 TOP PRIZE \$200 CASH



ROCK SHOT BINGO
 BOOS & BREWS
 OCTOBER 7
 9PM SESSION
 ENJOY MUSIC, DRINKS, DANCING
 AND WIN SOME CASH!

\$25,000 SUPER SESSION
 OCTOBER 15
 7PM SESSION
 \$45 MINIMUM BUY-IN



ROCK SHOT BINGO
 MONSTER MASH
 OCTOBER 21
 11PM SESSION
 FIRST PACK \$25
 EXTRA PACKS \$10 EACH
 WIN UP TO \$1,000

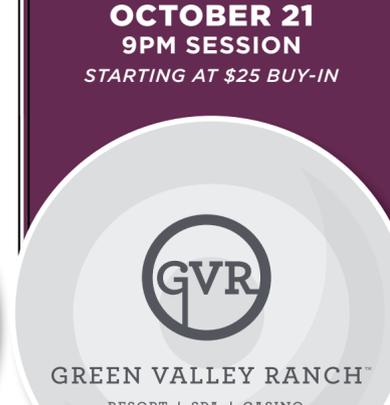
\$15,000 BIG GAME
 NOVEMBER 11 & 12
 4PM SESSION
 \$40 ENTRY FEE AND BUNDLES
 START AT \$35

ALL PAPER



VGK DRAWING
 OCTOBER 7
 7PM SESSION
 EARN ENTRIES
 NOW-OCTOBER 6
 5 WINNERS WITH TOP PRIZE
 2 TICKETS TO A HOME GAME +\$500

ROCK SHOT BINGO
 HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY
 OCTOBER 21
 9PM SESSION
 STARTING AT \$25 BUY-IN



VGK DRAWING
 OCTOBER 14
 7PM SESSION
 EARN ENTRIES
 NOW-OCTOBER 13
 5 WINNERS WITH TOP PRIZE
 2 TICKETS TO A HOME GAME +\$500

ROCK SHOT BINGO
 PRIDE ROCK SHOT
 GUEST HOST ROXY BROOKS
 OCTOBER 12
 9PM SESSION
 LET'S GET BATTY
 BEST COSTUME WILL RECEIVE \$250 CASH
 OCTOBER 26
 9PM SESSION
 ENJOY MUSIC, SPECIALTY DRINKS, WIN
 CASH AND SHOTS FOR THE WINNING TABLE



GO KNIGHTS GO!
 WEAR VGK GEAR ON HOME GAMES TO RECEIVE:
 MINIMUM BUY-IN REQUIRED SEE BINGO ROOM FOR DETAILS

STATIONS BINGO — FIVE FREE BLUES
 + WHEN THE KNIGHTS WIN A HOME GAME WE WILL INCREASE A CASHBALL SESSION AN ADDITIONAL \$2,500. STAYS UNTIL WE PAY

SUNSET ONLY — TWO FREE DUAL ACTION
 + WHEN THE KNIGHTS WIN A HOME GAME WE WILL INCREASE A CASHBALL SESSION AN ADDITIONAL \$500. STAYS UNTIL WE PAY

NYE

Visit your favorite
 Bingo Room
 for details

SEE BINGO ROOM FOR DETAILS AND RULES. MANAGEMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS.

STATIONCASINOSBINGO.COM



How Can Scams Go on This Long?

A grandson collected his grandmother's survivor benefits for 30 years after her death.

How, one wonders, can that happen? Is no one checking to be sure those who receive benefits are still living?

In this case the survivor benefits, based on the woman's marriage to a veteran, kept going to her bank account. And the grandson kept spending the money, \$1,100 per month for 30 years. He pleaded guilty, as he should have, but was only charged with one count of stealing government property in a plea deal. For that he could get 10 years.

Then there was the woman who kept a scam going for 48 years after her mother died. Apparently no one at the Department of Veterans Affairs did the math and calculated how old the woman was. The daughter just kept signing checks and sending handwritten letters asking for address changes and saying she was unable to find her mother's Social Security number. She'll be required to pay back over \$400,000, but there's no jail sentence in this case. The daughter is now 76 years old.

If you want to do the right thing, after the death of a veteran or someone receiving survivor benefits, call the VA. Just call 800-827-1000. You might be eligible to receive benefits yourself, depending on the relationship. Or, if you delay and benefits have been sent out already, you'll need to make arrangements to send the money back. In the case of a disabled veteran, you also might be asked to return any equipment issued by the VA, such as wheelchairs.

It's the same with Social Security. Call them at 800-772-1213 to stop the payments.

Do the right thing ... before the authorities come knocking at your door. One thing to keep in mind: Even if the amount of money you steal is less than \$100, you could still go to jail for a year.

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Gasoline Alley



By Jim Scancarelli

STICKELERS (sic) by Terry Stickels

What three letters fit in the blanks below (the same three letters for each word)?

U _ _ ITY
 FU _ _ E
 LEN _ _
 AR _ _ LERY
 REP _ _ ES

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Test Your Knowledge

- MOVIES: In which U.S. state does the movie *Field of Dreams* take place?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is sauerkraut?
- ACRONYMS: What phrase does the acronym GPS stand for?
- GEOGRAPHY: The country of Guyana lies on which continent?
- TELEVISION: What is the pub where characters in *The Office* gather after work?
- SCIENCE: How many karats are in pure gold?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented by autophobia?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: How big is a newborn kangaroo?
- AD SLOGANS: What product is advertised as "the snack that smiles back"?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote *The Canterbury Tales*?

ANSWERS

- Iowa.
- Pickled cabbage.
- Global positioning system.
- South America.
- Poor Richard's.
- 24.
- Fear of being alone.
- About 1 inch or less.
- Goldfish.
- Geoffrey Chaucer.

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Savvy Senior

by Jim Miller

Medicare and Preventive Health Services

Dear Savvy Senior,

How does Medicare cover preventive health screenings? I'm due to get a physical and a colonoscopy this year, but I want to find out what I'll have to pay for before I go in.

—Just Turned 65

Dear Just Turned,

You'll be happy to know that Medicare covers a wide array of preventive and screening services to help you stay healthy, but not all services are completely covered. Here's what you should know.

Free Preventive Benefits

Most of Medicare's preventive services are available to all beneficiaries (through Part B) completely free with no copays or deductibles, as long as you meet basic eligibility standards. Mammograms; colonoscopies; shots against flu, pneumonia, COVID-19 and hepatitis B; screenings for diabetes, depression, osteoporosis, HIV, various cancers and cardiovascular disease; and counseling to combat obesity, alcohol abuse, and smoking are just some of Medicare's lengthy list of covered services. But to get these services for free, you need to go to a doctor who accepts Medicare "on assignment," which means he or she has agreed to accept the Medicare approved rate as full payment.

Also, the tests are free only if they're used at specified intervals. For example, cardiovascular screening blood tests once every 5 years; or colonoscopy, once every 10 years, or every two years if you're at high risk.

Medicare also offers a free "Welcome to Medicare" exam with your doctor in your first year, along with annual "Wellness" visits thereafter. But don't confuse these

with full physical examinations. These are prevention-focused visits that provide only an overview of your health and medical risk factors and serve as a baseline for future care.

Cost Sharing Services

There are, however, a few Medicare preventive services that do require some out-of-pocket cost sharing. With these tests, you'll have to pay 20 percent of the cost of the service after you've met your \$226 Part B yearly deductible. The services that fall under this category include glaucoma tests, diabetes self-management trainings, barium enemas to detect colon cancer, and digital rectal exams to detect prostate cancer.

For a complete list of services along with their eligibility requirements, visit Medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services.

If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage (Part C) plan, your plan is also required to cover the same preventive services as original Medicare as long as you see in-network providers.

Hidden Costs

You also need to know that while most of the previously listed Medicare services are free, you can be charged for certain diagnostic services or additional tests or procedures related to the preventive service. For example, if your doctor finds and removes a polyp during your preventive care colonoscopy screening, you will pay 15 percent of the doctor's service fee. Or, if during your annual wellness visit, your doctor needs to investigate or treat a new or existing problem, you will probably be charged here too.

You may also have to pay a facility fee depending on where you receive the service. Certain hospitals, for example, will often charge separate facilities fees when you are receiving a preventive service. And you can also be charged for a doctor's visit if you meet with a physician before or after the service.

To eliminate billing surprises, talk to your doctor before any preventive service procedure to find out if you may be subject to a charge and what it would be.



It's Pumpkin Spice Season!

Have you been enjoying Pumpkin Spice Season? In my neck of the woods, Pumpkin Spice Season began in August, when our outdoor temperatures were in the triple-digits—which is not the ideal environment for a delicious pumpkin latte. But now that the temperatures are cooler, and the air is crisper, I can relax and enjoy some delightful Autumn goodies. Here are two of my favorite recipes featuring pumpkin spice. They're easy to make, which is a plus, and should carry you through the end of Pumpkin Spice Season.

PUMPKIN SPICE MUFFINS

- Ingredients:
- 1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1 teaspoon baking powder
 - ½ teaspoon baking soda
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon pumpkin spice blend
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 cup pumpkin puree
 - ½ cup vegetable oil
 - ½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions:

- Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C) and line a muffin tin with paper liners.
- In a bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and pumpkin spice.
- In another bowl, beat the eggs, then add the pumpkin puree, vegetable oil, and vanilla extract. Mix until well combined.
- Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients, stirring until just combined.
- Divide the batter evenly among the muffin cups.
- Bake for about 18-20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

PUMPKIN SPICE ENERGY BITES (NO-BAKE)

- Ingredients:
- 1 cup old-fashioned oats
 - ½ cup pumpkin puree
 - ¼ cup almond butter or peanut butter
 - ¼ cup honey or maple syrup
 - ½ teaspoon pumpkin spice blend
 - ½ cup chocolate chips (optional)

Instructions:

- In a bowl, mix together oats, pumpkin puree, almond butter, honey, and pumpkin spice until well combined.
- If desired, fold in chocolate chips.
- Chill the mixture in the refrigerator for about 30 minutes.
- Roll the mixture into bite-sized balls and store in the refrigerator.

Enjoy—and I wish you a happy, healthy and delicious Pumpkin Spice Season!



NOVEMBER 27-29

NOTE: (MON-WED)

\$50,000 COVERALL EACH DAY!

SECOND CHANCE \$5,000 & THIRD CHANCE \$2,500

19 REGULAR GAMES \$1,199 EACH DAY!

ENTRY FEE ONLY \$160

ADD A FOUR NIGHT STAY FOR \$140

SUNDAY-THURSDAY NO RESORT FEE

ADDITIONAL DATES: OCTOBER 9-11 • JANUARY 5-7 (NOTE: FRI, SAT, SUN) • FEBRUARY 5-7

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Better Odds with Strategy Cards

When I walk through the aisles of a casino, I'm amazed to find so few players using a strategy card when they play video poker. Why anyone would choose not to have the answers right in front of them when they're risking their hard-earned money is beyond me. I teach video poker, yet you will never see me playing without a strategy card, just in case a hand shows up that I am not 100% sure about how to play correctly. By double-checking my strategy card, I always make the correct decision. So please don't be embarrassed using a strategy card—all smart video poker players use them!

There are several good strategy cards for video poker that are marketed by various companies. The ones I particularly like are the strategy cards developed by Bob Dancer and Liam Daily.

There are many different kinds of video poker machines on a casino floor. They include the classic jacks-or-better, bonus poker games, deuces wild, joker wild and many more. In fact, nowadays most video poker machines have a menu of different games that you can choose to play. The issue is that the payoff for winning hands for a specific game is not always the same from

one machine to another in the same casino and also from one casino to another. Smart video poker players know the location of video poker machines that offer what is known as "full pay" games or those games that have the highest overall return in a casino and play them over lower paying games. Video poker strategy cards can help you locate these full pay machines. Here's how.

Let's suppose you want to play jacks-or-better video poker. On the Dancer/Daily Jacks-or-Better strategy card you will find four different common pay tables and the corresponding return percentage. The best or "full pay" pay table returns 99.54% while the least desirable pay table returns only 97.3%. Armed with your strategy card you can walk into any casino and scout around checking the pay tables you see on the video poker machine to the pay tables on the strategy card. This will help you locate the highest paying jacks-or-better machine in the casino. It's easy when you have your strategy card with you.

Once you are ready to play, you need to know how to play your hands. That's where the strategy card comes in real handy. The Dancer/Daily cards have four levels of strategy imprinted on them, from beginner to recreational, to basic to advanced. As the strategy level increases the complexity of the playing strategy also increases. I would strongly encourage a beginner to begin with the Level 1 Beginner strategy and once you master and feel comfortable using that strategy proceed to the next level. For most casual players, playing at Level 2 or 3 is quite sufficient.

Let's give an example of how the strategy card can help you make the right playing decision. Suppose you were dealt the following hand:

Q (c), Q (d), 9 (d), 5 (d), 2 (d)

Look closely at the hand. You are dealt a pair of queens, but you also have four cards to a flush (diamonds). So, do you hold the pair of queens and draw three new cards or hold the four of diamonds and draw one card hoping to get a paying five card flush?

The strategy card gives you the answer in a second. The card lists the hands with

the greatest to lowest expected value (or profitability). You simply find the pair of queens (listed as a HIGH PAIR) and the 4-card flush on the strategy card and the hand highest up in the table of hand rankings is the preferred play. In this example it's more profitable to hold the high pair over the 4-card flush. Within seconds you will be making the right play with the strategy card at your fingertips.

Video poker offers average players an opportunity to play a casino game where it's possible to get very high returns (close to, and sometimes slightly over, 100%). But you have to be able to choose your machine wisely and play accurately. By having a handy pocket strategy card with you at all times when you play it will help you easily achieve both objectives. Bob Dancer Strategy Cards are available online at bobdancer.com and can sometimes be found for a deal on eBay.



SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Preparing for Another Winter

Winter isn't even close, and already we're seeing an increase in illnesses.

They're calling it a trileptic, and it includes the regular flu, RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) and our enemy Covid.

The flu by itself always hits seniors hard. RSV does as well. There are vaccines for both, with the one for RSV being approved in May. Unfortunately, people with RSV can pass the virus to others in the first few days when they don't know they're ill, and then stay contagious for three to eight days.

And now we have a new variant of Covid, a subvariant of XBB, which was a variant of omicron, which they've labeled EG.5 — and nicknamed "Eris" on social media. It's becoming the dominant strain. While there is no specific booster for it, the new booster that is being made for last year's variant is said to have enough overlap to protect from the new EG.5 — when it's finished being manufactured. The estimate at this point is that it will be available in October.

That means we'll be offered three shots, at different times.

Some suggestions to get through the winter:

Check your stock of masks. If you need more, order them now, before others clear the available stock.

Check your supply of antibacterial hand soap and get more if you need to. Stock up on sanitizing wipes as well, for countertops and doorknobs.

Call your doctor and ask if you should have one, two or three of the available shots, and make appointments to get those.

And don't forget to plan for fun over the winter. New books, hobby supplies, games, new recipes, different senior workout videos on YouTube, online language classes, etc.

We can do this.

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COME PLAY BELLE'S 1ST HALLOWEEN BALL!

BELLE'S \$7,000 HALLOWEEN BALL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023

Sales open at 5:00pm: Sessions starts at 6:30pm

\$30 Pre-paid Reserve Seating Online at <https://virginriver.com>

A NOVEMBER TO REMEMBER 2023

ONLY AT THE VIRGIN RIVER BINGO IN MESQUITE



COME PLAY BINGO WITH US AND COLLECT TICKET ENTRIES EACH WEEK IN OCTOBER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THE REMAINING SEATS TO THE

SOUTH POINT HOTEL AND CASINO

\$2,000,000 BINGO EXTRAVAGANZA

Thursday & Friday, 11/2/23 & 11/3/23 "or" Monday & Tuesday, 11/6/23 & 11/7/23

4 WEEKS OF QUALIFICATION PERIODS - 4 DRAWINGS

First drawing for October is Saturday, 10/7/23, at 6pm in the Virgin River Bingo room and 1 additional drawing held each Saturday thereafter through 10/28/23.

JUST 1 HOUR NORTH OF VEGAS
ON I-15
IN MESQUITE, NEVADA

Virgin River
Hotel
Casino

MESQUITEGAMING.COM
877.438.2929



See bingo staff for promotions sessions, times, rules and details. Management reserves all rights. "Problem Gambling Helpline" 800-522-4700

NEW YEAR'S EVE BINGO SPECIALS

MORNING SPECIAL

SALES OPEN AT 9AM - SESSION STARTS AT 10:30AM

45 MINUTE INTERMISSION BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND HALF

\$60 BUY-IN INCLUDES:

One 9-on Pack • New Year's Dauber • Box Lunch
New Year's Party Favors • Early Bird New Year's Count Down

EVENING SPECIAL

SALES OPEN AT 7:30PM - SESSION STARTS AT 9:30PM

20 MINUTE INTERMISSION BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND HALF

\$60 BUY-IN INCLUDES:

One 9-on Pack • New Year's Dauber • New Year's Party Favors
Champagne Toast at Midnight

Both Specials will have:

22 - \$500 GAMES and 2 - \$1,000 GAMES

\$2,500 FINALE COVERALL and \$1,500 SECOND CHANCE

ADDITIONAL 6-ON PACKS \$20 EACH

(2 additional 6-on packs required for electronic play)

BUY 5 (\$75) - GET 5 FREE • BUY 10 (\$90) - GET 10 FREE • BUY 15 (\$120) - GET 15 FREE

FINALE COVERALL (3-ON STRIP) - \$2 EACH

THE "NEW YEAR'S" BALL (B-1) WILL BE AVAILABLE ONE TIME FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$2,024 AT BOTH SPECIALS.

Once the \$2,024 has been awarded, all remaining "New Year's" Ball winners will receive an additional \$1,000. Bingo on any other number ending in "1", receive an additional \$250.

Good on games 1 - 11 and 13 - 23. Must have last number called and be within the game pattern. All prizes are aggregate and available more than once in session.

Pre-paid reserve seating available starting October 1, 2023

Online at <https://virginriver.com>

In person reservations available in the Virgin River Bingo room (**CASH ONLY**)

Last day for online reservations is December 24, 2023.

No refunds after December 24, 2023.

Call or go online today to book a room at the Virgin River or Casa Blanca
MesquiteGaming.com 877-438-2929

JUST 1 HOUR NORTH OF VEGAS
ON I-15
IN MESQUITE, NEVADA

Virgin River
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See bingo staff for promotions sessions, times, rules and details. Management reserves all rights. "Problem Gambling Helpline" 800-522-4700

Turn up the Volume with Live Music

Performances at Arizona Charlie's in October

LAS VEGAS – Sept. 25, 2023 – Jam out to new takes on the classics at Arizona Charlie's Decatur, located at 740 S. Decatur Blvd., and Arizona Charlie's Boulder, located at 4575 Boulder Hwy. In October, the properties will host live entertainment from a variety of thrilling tribute bands and more.

Performances, beginning at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays within Naughty Ladies' Saloon at Arizona Charlie's Decatur, will include:

- Friday, Oct. 6: Front Page, a five-piece, high energy top 40 band that covers tunes from the '70s to the present
- Saturday, Oct. 7: Good Vibrations, a Beach Boys tribute band
- Friday, Oct. 13: San Fernando Band, performing favorites from classic rock and R&B to the latest pop hits
- Saturday, Oct. 14: Souled Out, performing songs of the Soul Train era
- Friday, Oct. 20: Block Party, which performs a mix of classic rock, dance, Motown and throwback classics
- Saturday, Oct. 21: Creedenced, a tribute to Creedence Clear Water Revival and John Fogarty
- Friday, Oct. 27: Front Page
- Saturday, Oct. 28: The FAB Albumpalooza, bringing the ultimate Beatles music celebration

Palace Grand Lounge at Arizona Charlie's Boulder will also host performances beginning at 8 p.m. throughout the month, including:

- Friday, Oct. 6: In-A-Fect, a variety band that covers songs from Bruno Mars to yacht rock
- Saturday, Oct. 7: San Fernando, bringing a unique style built over their 20 years of all your favorites from classic rock, R&B to the latest pop hits
- Friday, Oct. 13 and Friday, Oct. 20: Front Page
- Friday, Oct. 27: San Fernando

Guests must be 21 years of age or older to attend. More information may be found at www.arizonachariesdecatur.com and www.arizonachariesboulder.com.

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About Arizona Charlie's Hotel & Casino

Arizona Charlie's Hotel & Casino has two locations in the Las Vegas Valley: 740 S. Decatur Blvd. and 4575 Boulder Hwy. Both offer expansive, award-winning bingo halls with daily sessions every odd hour and complimentary self-parking. Arizona Charlie's Boulder offers 300 rooms and suites, including an RV park, as well as an outdoor pool and hot tub and laundry facilities. Restaurants include PT's Express, Dunkin' and Sourdough Café. Arizona Charlie's Decatur offers 259 rooms and suites that come with an array of amenities. The casino has more than 700 slots, table games and a race and sportsbook. Restaurants include the newly-opened River Rock Pizza & Pasta, PT's Express, Dunkin' and Sourdough Café. More information about Arizona Charlie's can be found on the website at www.ArizonaCharlies.com.



Easy Breakfast Saves Time and Money

Fuel Your Busy Days With DIY Instant Oatmeal: Easy, Nutritious and Customizable

With the return of Fall and the school year comes a more regimented schedule. Mornings are hectic and anything that relieves stress is a good thing. And making mornings easier isn't just for families heading back to school! I can all use a little help to ensure an easy start to our days.

One way to reduce stress is to have an inexpensive, nutritious and delicious breakfast that cooks in only one minute. I'm happy to share my secret weapon to destress mornings: DIY instant oatmeal packets.

Yes, you can buy premade instant oatmeal packets inexpensively, but look! The average cost is about 50 cents a packet, and most people eat at least two. Making them yourself brings the cost down to 20 cents per packet or less. And you get to make them exactly how you like them. You can reduce the sugar and make flavor combinations the Quaker dude never thought of.

DIY INSTANT OATMEAL PACKETS

Yield: Approximately 18 packets
Time: 10 minutes

10 cups quick oats, divided

1 teaspoon salt

1 cup brown sugar, or more to taste

1 cup powdered milk, optional

2 tablespoons cinnamon

1 to 2 cups add-ins, optional (see below for ideas)

18 to 20 snack-size zip-top bags
Put 7 cups of the oats in a large bowl. Place the remaining 3 cups of oats in a food processor or blender. Blend until powdery, then pour into the bowl with the whole oats. Add the salt, brown sugar, powdered milk (see tip below) and cinnamon in the large bowl. Mix well until combined.

Measure 1/2 cup of the oatmeal mixture along with 1 to 2 tablespoons of add-ins into each snack-size zip-top baggie and seal. Store the baggies in your pantry, or in the freezer for the longest shelf life.

Tip: If you prefer making oatmeal with milk, you can skip the powdered milk altogether. For cost-saving options, try using a combination of half milk and half water. Personally, I find that making it with milk during cooking enhances the flavor compared to using water and powdered milk.

To use the packets: Pour the contents of a packet in a bowl and add the desired amount of water or milk. Start with 3/4 cup and adjust to the thickness you desire. Microwave on high for 1 minute, stir and serve.

Now here's the fun part. You can put whatever goodies you like into your oatmeal packets.

Some ideas: raisins, pumpkin pie spice, freeze dried strawberries, dried blueberries and slivered almonds, any variety of trail mix, mini chocolate chips and coconut, dried cranberries and pistachios, dried bananas and walnuts, dried apple and crystallized ginger, chopped pecans and maple syrup. The list goes on...

You can also use these packets for overnight oatmeal. Just place the contents of a packet in a bowl, add milk or milk substitute, and refrigerate overnight. Serve cold or heat in the microwave.

Bonus! The plastic baggies can be reused many times because they don't get dirty.

Start your days off right with these convenient and budget-friendly DIY instant oatmeal packets. With just a minute away from a wholesome meal, you'll have more time, money and peace of mind to tackle whatever the day brings. So, stock up on these delightful packets and savor the stress-free mornings ahead!

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](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com.

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Nevada Happenings

Durango Station Grand-Reopening

In Red Rock Resorts' second-quarter recent earnings call, it was announced that the \$780 million Durango Station, Station Casinos' newest locals joint in the southwest valley, will open on November 20. Just a few hours later in the evening, the 60-feet-high-by-55-feet-wide wide Durango sign was illuminated for the first time. The grand opening will take place on the Monday right after F1 race weekend, when all attention will be on the Strip, but just before the long Thanksgiving weekend. Situated on a 50-acre site in the fastest growing area in the valley with no casino competitors within a five-mile radius, Durango Station should do well for the locals' casino company that's moving in a decidedly upscale direction.

Frosé Restaurant Readies for Open

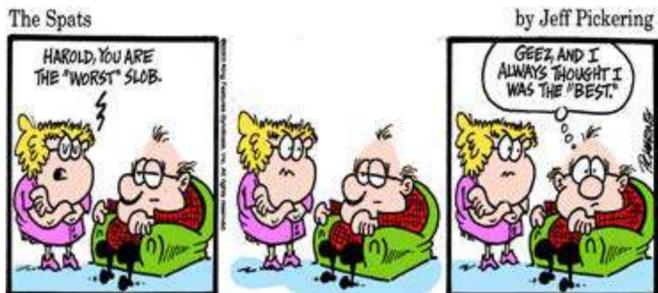
The Co-op Frosé & Eatery, a small but growing chain out of South Carolina that counts Peyton Manning as an investor, is getting ready to open at Resorts World; Heisman Trophy winner and former NFL quarterback Sam Bradford is an investor in the Las Vegas franchise. The Co-op at Resorts World, according to the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, will occupy 1,000-square-feet and serve up to "10 frosés at a time from a rotating seasonal menu of 50 flavors." The menu for the chain, which has five locations in South Carolina, two in Tennessee, and one in North Carolina, offers a dozen or so sandwiches and a couple of salads. Frosé is short for "frozen rosé," a kind of smoothie mix of rosé wine, lemon juice, sugar, and fruit (strawberry is the default), which apparently is all the rage with the younger generations.

Golf Attraction Breaking Ground

With Atomic Range Golf under construction next to the STRAT (expected to open by November) and Swingers Crazy Golf, an adult miniature-golf chain recently announcing a new 40,000-square-foot three-story venue that will open sometime next year at Mandalay Bay, a third mini-golf venue might start to sound like overkill, but this one has a strong hook. Namely, Tiger Woods. Popstroke was founded in 2018 by Woods and a former Wall Street executive. It's a family-oriented golf and dining experience that features two 18-hole putting courses designed by Woods himself. The courses, built with synthetic turf, incorporate the fairways, bunkers, and roughs of traditional golf courses, but can be played by anyone regardless of skill or experience. Popstroke currently has five locations in Florida, two in Arizona, and one in Texas and is expanding to 13 more locations, including Las Vegas. The two-story venue next to Town Square on the south Strip is slated to open in early 2024.

Ellis Island and F1

Ellis Island is located right next door to the Formula 1 paddock facility and at the end of Turn 4, where the race cars will come out of the savage U-turn just past the starting line. As such, it has some of the best sightlines of the race (Saturday, November 18th) on the entire circuit and the venerable little family-owned joint will be taking full advantage of them. The Ellises have announced that they'll build grandstands on the property; the renderings show them along the surface parking that fronts the motel. Access to those seats, along with food and soft drinks, will cost \$1,500 per person; with the entertainment tax and service and processing fees, the total price is \$1,701.18 for the day before, day of, and day after the race. The grandstand and a three-night room package will go for \$5,000, including food and drinks, alcohol extra.



Lucky Predictions for October 2023

ARIES: March 21 to April 19

1st thru 6th... No time like NOW (4th)!
7th thru 12th... Get in line the 9th\$\$!
13th thru 18th... Lucky abroad the 18th!
19th thru 24th... Even the score 22nd\$\$
25th thru 31st... Just in time the 30th!

TAURUS: April 20 to May 20

1st thru 6th... Excellent week\$\$!
7th thru 12th... Streak returns 10th-11th\$\$
13th thru 18th... Beg out
19th thru 24th... Mountains of \$\$ 20th!
25th thru 31st... Perfectly aligned 28th-29th!

GEMINI: May 21 to June 21

1st thru 6th... Cool 2b you the 4th\$\$
7th thru 12th... RED card luck 8th-9th
13th thru 18th... Not likely
19th thru 24th... \$\$ comes easy 22nd-23rd
25th thru 31st... Totally awesome 26th-27th!

CANCER: June 22 to July 22

1st thru 6th... You made it! (I) 5th-6th
7th thru 12th... Nobody stoppin' you 11th\$\$
13th thru 18th... Heck of a deal the 15th!
19th thru 24th... Way to GO the 24th!
25th thru 31st... Yeah, you got it 28th-29th!

LEO: July 23 to Aug. 22

1st thru 6th... On a roll 3rd-4th!
7th thru 12th... Super lucky 8th-9th\$\$
13th thru 18th... Fortune afar 17th-18th\$\$
19th thru 24th... Not yet
25th thru 31st... Time's right 26th & 30th!

VIRGO: Aug. 23 to Sept. 22

1st thru 6th... Great start the 1st!
7th thru 12th... \$\$ becomes you 10th-11th
13th thru 18th... Total goodness 15th-16th!\$\$
19th thru 24th... A distinct advantage 20th!
25th thru 31st... Smooth & easy 28th-29th!

LIBRA: Sept. 23 to Oct. 23

1st thru 6th... WIN comes naturally 3rd-4th!
7th thru 12th... Luck sticks on you 8th-9th\$\$
13th thru 18th... Very encouraging 18th!\$!
19th thru 24th... Friends bring luck 23rd\$\$
25th thru 31st... Patience 'til the 30th

SCORPIO: Oct. 24 to Nov. 21

1st thru 6th... Grand chances 5th-6th!
7th thru 12th... It's SO yours 10th-11th\$\$
13th thru 18th... Just made it 15th-16th!
19th thru 24th... Listen to your boss 20th\$\$
25th thru 31st... Step back

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 22 to Dec. 21

1st thru 6th... Observe & wait
7th thru 12th... Winning streak 8th-9th!
13th thru 18th... All about YOU 17th-18th!\$\$
19th thru 24th... Yours to call 23rd!\$!
25th thru 31st... Fired up 2 win 26th-27th!

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22 to Jan. 19

1st thru 6th... You've got game 1st-2nd\$\$
7th thru 12th... Jump in 2 win 10th-11th!\$!
13th thru 18th... Stay on top 15th-16th!\$\$
19th thru 24th... You know how it's done 20th!\$!
25th thru 31st... Lucky guesses 28th-29th!

AQUARIUS: Jan. 20 to Feb. 18

1st thru 6th... Worth tryin' 3rd-4th!\$!
7th thru 12th... Ante UP 13th-14th!\$\$
13th thru 18th... Best bets the 18th!\$!
19th thru 24th... Show up 2 win 23rd!
25th thru 31st... All good (except 28th-29th)

PISCES: Feb. 19 to March 20

1st thru 6th... Good on you 1st or 6th!\$\$
7th thru 12th... Party & win 15th-16th!\$!
13th thru 18th... Your tricks work 20th & 24th!
19th thru 24th... What a weekend 28th-29th!\$\$

Color associations refer to lucky objects, daubers, cards, machines, clothing/jewels you wear, or a dominant color in the room.

PREDICTORS LUCKY CARD FOR OCTOBER 2023

14	30	40	46	70
11	22	37	56	73
9	27	★	50	62
12	21	41	59	75
2	16	33	53	64

MOON PHASES & SPECIAL EVENTS OCTOBER 2023

1st	International Coffee Day
5th	Do Something Nice Day
6th	Last Quarter Moon ☾
9th	Columbus Day
12th	National Gumbo Day
14th	New Moon ☽
17th	Wear Something Gaudy Day
22nd	First Quarter Moon ☽
24th	National Bologna Day
27th	Black Cat Day
28th	Full Moon ☽
31st	Halloween



Horoscopes for October 2023

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 20): You're about to engage with an odyssey that will move you through the highs and lows of relating. Ride light in the saddle and keep an open mind as you work out the rough spots with those in your close circle. A maturation process is underway that will serve you well throughout the rest of the year.
Lucky Days: 3 - 21
Lucky Numbers: 29 - 44

TAURUS (APR 21-MAY 21): A good month to do heavy-duty sleuthing. Commit to getting to the bottom of whatever niggling problems you're stuck in. Consider restructuring how you budget your finances as well as your time. An opportunity is here to streamline all of the complexities in your life. But you must be willing to go where others fear to tread.
Lucky Days: 8 - 16
Lucky Numbers: 45 - 48

GEMINI (MAY 22-JUN 21): Two big themes this month. The first involves how you apply your imagination. While the other puts pressure on adopting a realistic approach to toward your goals. If you're toggling between these two poles, bring some outside feedback to help anchor you on the surest path forward. You'll get where you want to go, but assistance is necessary.
Lucky Days: 7 - 11
Lucky Numbers: 8 - 58

CANCER (JUN 22-JUL 22): The last place most people want to be on their best behavior is in their own home. We like to relax, hang out, and indulge in our most comforting habits. But this month requires that you tighten things up on the domestic front. Exert discipline to clean up what might be a messy situation with finances. This new feeling of stability will be an inspiration.
Lucky Days: 2 - 18
Lucky Numbers: 9 - 41

LEO (JUL 23-AUG 23): Are you pushing to widen your influence this month? Chances are you'll feel frustrated with a paltry response. The urge to gamble is pressing against a secret fear that you might be pushing too hard. See if you can find a middle spot between self-promotion and rethinking what you are trying to share with the world around you.
Lucky Days: 3 - 27
Lucky Numbers: 4 - 44

COFFEE BREAK ANSWERS

SCRAMBLER ANSWER: 1. Admire 2. Lament 3. Modest 4. Lunch
Today's Word: INCOME
JUMBLES: TWIRL CLASS HORRID TRUDGE
Answer: When they told them they'd be driving clockwise, the drivers said — ALL RIGHT
HOCUS FOCUS DIFFERENCES: 1. Glove is different. 2. Mask is missing. 3. Bat is shorter. 4. Post is missing. 5. Number is different. 6. Pitching slab is missing.
CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Nobility is defined by the demands it makes on us - by obligations, not by rights. — Jose Ortega y Gasset

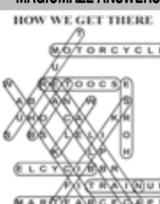
BINGO CROSSWORD ANSWERS



SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

MAGICMAZE ANSWERS



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BINGO LAND

NEWS FROM THE REAL WORLD & CYBERSPACE

Bingo is a Secret Casino Jackpot

Casinos in Las Vegas and elsewhere want to find new customers, and an old game that's getting new life—bingo—may hold the key.

The Plaza Hotel and Casino in Downtown Las Vegas is one gambling hall that's reinventing bingo for the selfie generation. The Plaza is an older Las Vegas casino that's been considerably revitalized in recent years. Bingo is a way to reach out to both older and younger audiences. Plaza CEO Jonathan Jossell explains.

"Bingo is a classic game that fits with the Plaza's vintage Vegas theme," Jossell says. "The traditional customer demographic for bingo is similar to that of downtown Las Vegas and the Plaza. However, in recent years, the game has been attracting a variety of new players, including many millennials, so the Plaza put a renewed emphasis on it."

The game itself is very friendly and not too hard to learn. The Plaza, says Jossell, has played off the game's social nature by creating a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. And, in keeping with its appeal to more tech-savvy and younger players, a recent renovation added not only 200 fixed base electronic bingo units but also charging stations and electrical outlets. After all, you can't post a status update if your battery has died, and what fun would the game be if you couldn't share your winning card?

Bingo, historically, was a big money-maker for charitable organizations, but it has lost ground to faster, more lucrative forms of gambling. And, although the Plaza and a host of locals' casinos offer bingo, the last casino to offer bingo on the Las Vegas Strip, the Riviera, closed in 2015. The game itself is not a huge money-maker for casinos. In the three-decades plus that the state has been tracking casino bingo numbers, the state's casinos as a whole lost money for ten of those years. That sort of record usually gets a game thrown out—after all, casinos are supposed to be the ones making the money from gambling, not customers—but bingo has held on—off the Strip, at least.

"A bingo room can take up significant space on a property and unlike the casino floor, a bingo room is not in use 24/7," Jossell says. "At the Plaza, we hold daily games in a dedicated room on our third floor adjacent to our conference space for 6 games daily. Our bimonthly Super Bingo tournaments take over our entire 19,000 sq. ft. ballroom. Many properties may not want to dedicate so much space to a game that is not available around the clock."

Bingo can (and historically, often has) been a money-loser for casinos, so does that mean players can win money consistently? Can bingo players succeed where video poker and blackjack advantage players have fought so hard?

The numbers say they can, maybe, but of course there is a catch. This catch makes bingo a secret jackpot for casinos. Casinos usually schedule games every two hours, giving some downtime during which customers will probably spend money doing other things. Jossell says that bingo players also stay in the hotel, dine in restaurants, and play other casino games, making them good overall customers. If you hit the slots while waiting for the next game to start, you'll almost certainly end up a net loser, but if you are patient enough to just relax, maybe you'll end up ahead—or at least the casino won't make too much money off you.

Despite the game's slim edge for casinos, the Plaza's bet on bingo has paid off. In addition to the players showing up for its daily games, six times a year the casino hosts three-day Super Bingo tournament events that draw up to 1,000 players. Jossell says that 85 percent of Super Bingo players come from outside Nevada, with Texas, Minnesota, California, Arizona, and Hawaii well represented.

So bingo has a double appeal: it's one of the few games that, historically, players have beaten the casino in. It's also a proven seat-filler. The fact that it doesn't have the same guaranteed profitability as slot machines has made many casinos shy away from it, but its popularity means it will be sticking around for a long time.

—David G. Schwartz for Forbes Magazine

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



WORD LADDERS

Can you go from BANKS to CARTS in 6 words?
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BANKS

CARTS

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1. Barbie (PG-13) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling
2. Oppenheimer (R) Cillian Murphy, Emily Blunt
3. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) Micah Abbey, Shamon Brown Jr.
4. Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) Jason Statham, Jing Wu
5. The Last Voyage of the Demeter (R) Corey Hawkins, Aisling Franciosi
6. Haunted Mansion (PG13) LaKeith Stanfield, Rosario Dawson
7. Talk to Me (R) Ari McCarthy, Hamish Phillips
8. Sound of Freedom (PG13) Jim Caviezel, Mira Sorvino
9. Mission: Impossible — Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) Tom Cruise, Hayley Atwell
10. Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG-13) Harrison Ford, Phoebe Waller-Briggs



Highest-Paid YouTubers

2023

1. Jimmy Donaldson (MrBeast)
2. Jeffree Star
3. Dude Perfect
4. Logan Paul
5. Tyler Blevins
6. Felix Kjellberg (PewDiePie)
7. Mark Edward Fischbach (Markiplier)
8. Rhett & Link (Good Mythical Morning)
9. Ryan Kaji (Ryan's World)
10. Lilly Singh

SOURCE: INQUIRER.NET

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MOST POISONOUS PLANTS

1. Castor Bean Plant
2. Deadly Nightshade
3. Rosary Pea
4. Suicide Tree
5. White Snakeroot
6. Oleander
7. Water Hemlock
8. Devil's Helmet
9. Hemlock
10. Jimson Weed

Source: Dengarden

Sticklers Answer

The letters "TIL" fit into each word:

- UTILITY
- FUTILE
- LENTIL
- ARTILLERY
- REPTILES

LUCKY LOTTO NUMBERS



29 - 4 - 23 - 53 - 11 *13*



QUESTIONS

1. What is "Big Yellow Taxi" about?
2. Name the group that released "Gimme Three Steps."
3. Who released "Secret Lovers"?
4. Where and when did the Stray Cats get their first and only No. 1 song?
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "You want to trust her, Then somebody hangs up when you answer the phone."

ANSWERS

1. The song, written and released by Joni Mitchell in 1970, addresses environmental problems. It was written while on a Hawaiian vacation when she looked out the room window and expected to see tropical sights, and instead she saw a paved parking lot.
2. Lynyrd Skynyrd, in 1973. The song is about a guy asking for a head start in escaping out of a bar after he's caught dancing with another man's girlfriend.
3. Atlantic Starr, in 1985. The Barbara Weathers and David Lewis duet topped the Billboard chart in 1986. A cover version was done in 2008 by Alexander O'Neal and Mica Paris.
4. In Finland in 1980 with "Runaway Boys."
5. "When You're in Love With a Beautiful Woman," by Dr. Hook, in 1979. The group was called Dr. Hook & the Medicine Show until 1975. Their first hit was "Sylvia's Mother" in 1972.

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DEAR AUNT BINGO

by Bonnie Mitchell

Caller Puts the Kibosh on Bingo Novelty

Dear Aunt Bingo,

I would like your opinion on this matter. Recently I went to Bingo and I was very happy to finally win. It was no big amount but still “a win.” But my bubble was burst by being humiliated by the caller.

My brother had given me a Bingo calling device he hoped would bring me luck. You just press a button and it says “Bingo, Bingo” in a male voice. There have been times when I could not hear people call out “Bingo” and my device is not loud but able to be heard. I believe these novelties are made to be used and are not hurting anyone. I have used this in other halls, and everyone thinks it is a neat item.

However, the caller from this hall that I have been to many times announced to everyone that if I should win again, that

I would have to use my own voice. Many people stared at me as if I had committed a crime, and people were chattering about it (some good and some bad).

Please tell me what you think and, if possible, I would like the opinions of others as well.

—Crushed, Buffalo, New York

Dear Crushed,

I’ve seen and heard these little Bingo devices a couple of times, and thought they were rather cute. I personally would not use one because when I am close to a Bingo, my adrenaline is pumping so fast that I need to shout “Bingo” just to release some of the nervous energy. Plus, I don’t want to waste a single second reaching for a little machine and pressing a button. I want the world to know instantly that the jackpot is MINE!

That said, I do not have a clue why the caller would bar the use of the device. My guess is that he does not want to be listening for anything but a human voice calling Bingo. Perhaps he has come across these machines before, and someone hit the button by mistake during a game or kept showing it to other players and making it go “Bingo” “Bingo” “Bingo” over and over again, which was disruptive.

Whatever his reasoning, I’m sure his intention was not to embarrass you, but simply to let people know that the device was not welcome during his games.

Maybe any callers out there could write in and let us know if they have any insights on this issue. —Aunt Bingo

Send your questions, good news, general comments, or concerns to Aunt Bingo c/o the Bingo Bugle, P.O. Box 527, Vashon, WA 98070. You also may e-mail them tara@bingobugle.com. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.



* R.L. in Utah writes: “Do onions make you cry? Tip: Cut off root first. Cut off top second. Remove outer skin and discard the first outer layer of the onion. Slice/dice/rings. Works great.” How do you cut your onions, and what helps to keep your eyes from watering? Write to us with your onion tips!

* You may not think to do this often, but you should: Clean your laptop! Not just the screen or keys, but the exterior as well. Get a microfiber cloth, spritz the cloth (never the machine itself) with a bit of isopropyl alcohol and rub away dirt and grime.

* Special for S.P. in California. To remove ball point ink from leather, your best weapon is a cotton swab and some rubbing alcohol. Be sure to test first in an inconspicuous spot, as not all leathers are equal. Certain synthetic leathers that are dyed may experience color loss in a spot cleaning with alcohol. Work slowly and don’t rub too hard. Condition afterward to protect the leather.

* It’s important to include only approved materials when recycling curbside, but conserving space allows the trucks to fit more per load, which is another great way to help the environment. A reader in North Carolina had something to say about this! They sent a great tip about nesting steel cans inside one another to compact space. You should also cut cardboard to smaller sizes and break down boxes, as well as crush plastic bottles and replace the caps.

* Making a smoothie with banana in it? When you’re done with that peel, chop it up (you can use a rinsed-out blender bottle) and chuck the pieces in your garden to provide food to plants and beneficial bugs.

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

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I am a 74-year-old woman who loves to read the newspaper every morning. I have a problem that’s not serious, just annoying. My eyes tear up frequently while I read, causing me to wipe them. After I’m done reading, the problem stops. I see my ophthalmologist every year and have my vision glasses updated as needed. I am not yet a candidate for cataract surgery. Could you enlighten me about a probable cause for this irritating problem? —A.H.G.

ANSWER: By all means, ask your ophthalmologist at your next visit, but the most common cause I see for watery, tearing eyes are... dry eyes! This apparent paradox is caused by the fact that your eyes have three different fluids.

One of them, called meibum, is a long-lasting, oily material secreted by the meibomian glands, found around the edges of the eyelids near the eyelashes. This covers the eye and prevents fluid from evaporating quickly. Without this fluid, the lacrimal gland (near the temple above each eye) then has to make a lot of its watery secretions, which cause symptoms of tearing.

Most commonly, the meibomian glands get clogged up by secretions becoming dry. Gently cleansing the eyelash area with warm water and baby shampoo helps many people unclog these glands. Artificial tears lubricate the eye and will reduce the symptoms of watery eyes (and maybe some eye irritation, too, which you might not have mentioned).

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

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Halloween is Scary Fun!

I begin to get excited as soon as the giant spider climbs up and sits atop the coffee shack. Our little town loves Halloween and we decorate as if for Christmas. The real estate office next to the coffee shack puts up a huge net for the spider, while down the street, the hardware store boasts a whole line of pumpkins from the littlest two-inch one all the way up to a huge 30-incher. Witches are very popular this year, and there are several varieties on display. The giant giraffe advertising one store sports a witch’s hat, while the big pig across the street is jaunty as a clown.

Our favorite Bingo hall sponsored a Halloween special two days before the big event that was loads of fun. Several games were made up especially for the holiday, the first being a witch’s hat which consisted of the third B; the second I; the top N; the second G; then a line across the middle. That was fun but didn’t take long for someone to win.

The next special game was a broomstick, which was the N row, the bottom B the next to bottom I, the next to bottom G and the bottom O. That proved a little harder, but Kate won it and was proud to proclaim her Bingo.

The Jack O Lantern was a blackout, minus two, which also went pretty fast and all too soon the evening was nearly over. We had one more big surprise in the shape of a giant male witch—what are they called, Warlocks? He circulated the room, handing out fun-size candy bars to the participants. I am particularly fond of Snickers, although candy I do not need. I ate and enjoyed it anyway much to Kate’s disapproval because she is trying to get slimmer. Halloween is very hard on her, as she really loves candy.

The next day was Trick or Treat Night when all the little kids dress up and collect candy from the merchants. The streets are blocked off so the little are safe from cars and they have a grand time.

I volunteered to help keep the Social Center open for potty breaks and to give out candy. I love seeing all the little kids dressed up. This year we also sold baked potatoes as a fundraiser and they were sure good, what with all the toppings available—and certainly helped offset the effects of all that candy.

Toward the end of the evening, there was a disturbance outside our door that concerned me somewhat. When I went to see what it was, I discovered the Warlock from the Bingo Hall scaring a group of youngsters outside our door. He was snarling and growling and in general making a horrible racket. Kids screamed. I finally got close enough to mutter, “What on earth are you doing?”

“I’m just having a bit of Halloween fun,” he growled. “Stand back. I’m about to do my big number.”

Then he jumped up, made a kind of twist and came down on one arm, kicking his feet in the air and howling like a banshee. Kids fled to their mothers, except for one little boy who stood crying.

“What’s the matter?” I asked. “He’s just pretending. It’s not real. Don’t cry.”

He kept on bawling. Then I was struck with inspiration. I went back into the center and collected a double handful of candy bars and took them to him. As I dropped them into his pumpkin carrier, he stopped crying and flashed me a huge smile.

“Well,” I said. “Happy Halloween and all’s well that ends well.”



PICKS OF THE MONTH

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves (PG-13) — Chris Pine leads this fantasy-action film based on the role-playing board game Dungeons & Dragons. Pine plays a widower named Edgin, who’s also the leader of a band of thieves, including a barbarian (Michelle Rodriguez), a sorcerer (Justice Smith) and a con artist (Hugh Grant). Edgin is so desperate to bring his wife back from the dead by stealing a “Tablet of Reawakening” that he’s ultimately imprisoned and loses his daughter. After he escapes prison with the help of his barbarian bestie, the pair stop at nothing until they can find the tablet and get Edgin’s daughter back. (Amazon Prime Video)

You Are So Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah (PG-13) — It’s a Sandler family affair for this new comedy film! While Adam Sandler’s daughters, Sadie and Sunny, have made appearances throughout his many movies, Sunny takes center stage here in the lead role of Stacy Friedman. Stacy is a preteen girl who does everything with her best friend, Lydia, and they’re obsessed with planning their upcoming bat mitzvahs. However, when Lydia accidentally steals the boy Stacy’s been crushing on, Stacy reaches her first true test before her rite of passage, as her world feels like it’s come crashing down on her. Adam, Jackie and Sadie Sandler also star in this wholesome coming-of-age film, along with Idina Menzel and *Saturday Night Live*’s Sarah Sherman. (Netflix)

BS High (NR) — On Aug. 29, 2021, a high school football game between Bishop Sycamore High School and IMG Academy was televised on ESPN that ended with a final score of 58-0. After such a blowout occurred and certain conditions of the game were called into question, an investigation was launched into Bishop Sycamore, where the Ohio Department of Education ruled that the school actually didn’t exist! The team operated under the guise of representing a “school” without a real campus, teachers or trainers, incurring thousands of dollars in debt from housing the players in hotels. How Bishop Sycamore had even begun to pull this stunt off gets explored in this documentary film premiering Aug. 23. (Max)

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

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The BRRR is back! Winter predicted for 2023-2024

Winter weather is making a comeback. After a warm winter anomaly last year, traditional cool temperatures and snowy weather conditions will return to the contiguous United States. Here’s the Farmers’ Almanac winter forecast.



Source: www.farmersalmanac.com
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WORD LADDER

**BANKS, TANKS, TASKS
CASKS, CASTS, CARTS**



HALLOWEEN SPECIALS

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In addition to regular game prize payout. All Sessions.

SUPER SESSION

NOVEMBER 1-2-3-4-5-6-7

NOVEMBER 4
DOORS OPEN: 10AM
GAMES START: 1PM

NOVEMBER 1-7
DOORS OPEN: 6PM
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Wish Ball BINGO ON B-10 **\$1,000**

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