

Contract Bridge

A Crucial Guess

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K Q 8
♥ A 7 6
♦ Q 10 7
♣ 10 9 6 3

WEST

♠ J 7 5
♥ K 10 5
♦ A K 9 2
♣ Q 8 4

EAST

♠ 6 4 3
♥ 4
♦ J 8 6 4 3
♣ A 7 5 2

SOUTH

♠ A 10 9 2
♥ Q J 9 8 3 2
♦ 5
♣ K J

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

It goes without saying that point count is enormously helpful in the bidding, but it is also true that point count can be very helpful in the play. Take this deal where South gets to four hearts after West opens a weak notrump, showing 12 to 14 points. West leads the king of diamonds and shifts to a low spade.

Declarer plays low from dummy, overtaking the eight with the nine in order to lead the queen of hearts. When West

covers with the king, South wins with dummy's ace and returns a heart to the jack, learning in the process that West has a trump trick coming.

Declarer must now try to limit himself to one club loser. To accomplish this, he enters dummy with a spade, leads a club toward the K-J and then has to decide what to play after East follows low.

If East has the queen, South should play the jack; if East has the ace, South should play the king. It is a crucial guess, and to solve the problem, declarer turns his attention to the point count.

He knows from the opening lead that West had the A-K of diamonds (seven points). He can tell from the play at trick two that West also has the jack of spades (one point), since East would have covered dummy's eight with the jack if he had it. West has also turned up with the king of hearts (three points), bringing his point count in those three suits to 11.

It follows that West cannot have the ace of clubs, which would give him 15 points. South therefore goes up with the king of clubs and so makes the contract.

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by Steve Becker



• OK, I'll say it: I love tradition, but sometimes I want to mix it up for Thanksgiving dinner. I keep the main dishes the same as they always are, but I add my drama in the details. For instance, mix your choice of herbs into a stick of softened butter. Using a plastic baggie with the corner cut off or a decorating bag, pipe the herbed butter onto a butter dish. Refrigerate and enjoy the oohs and ahs. — **JoAnn**

• "For easier cooking, when making large holiday meals, simply choose two side dishes that can be oven cooked in the same amount of time at an average temperature. I like one or two that can be cooked in the microwave as well." — **E. U. in Texas**

• "For a delightful twist on cranberry jelly, slice and sprinkle with orange zest. Dress up your mashed potatoes with a sprinkling of chopped fresh chives." — **via email**

• The night before serving your large sit-down dinner, put all the serving pieces on the table, and all the dinnerware in the dining room. You don't want to have one person trying to get plates and spoons when you are

getting dinner on the table. — **JoAnn**

• "You know what works really well to keep hot casseroles hot when waiting for other sides to finish? A cooler. Line it with a towel and set your casseroles inside. Then, when they are on the table, stick the cooler back in the kitchen. You can throw the casserole dishes back in dirty after you pack away leftovers. Add some warm soapy water and they can even wait until the next day to get cleaned." — **M.B. in Georgia**

• Don't throw away that damaged garden hose. Here are three great uses: 1. Use as a weather strip along the bottom of your garage door. 2. Use sections to protect the blades on your ice skates. 3. Use as a safety edge on your saws in the shop. Cut to fit and slip it over the blade.

• "If a small screw keeps coming loose on something, remove it, paint it with clear nail polish and rescrew quickly. This often does the trick. Makes it more grippy." — **I.W. in Minnesota**

• "To keep calendar entries straight, you can use a different color highlighter for types of events or for each family member — blue for appointments, or green for kids' activities. A family calendar will help keep everyone in the loop." — **A reader**

• "Those little soft cardboard sleeves that light bulbs come in are really great for mailing

Now Here's A Tip cont Pg. 16

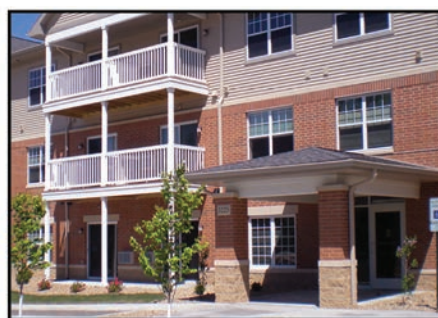
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KOVELS®

Antiques & Collecting

By Terry and Kim Kovel

Modern Furniture

Furniture functions stay more or less the same, but styles change according to advances in technology and the whims of fashion. Even if you're not familiar with the history of furniture, you can tell that a plain Pilgrim trestle table, an ornately carved Victorian sofa and a Bauhaus tubular steel chair belong to different eras.

This flame rocking chair, which sold for \$240 at a Leland Little auction, is unmistakably modern. It was made by contemporary artist Erin Stesch and was auctioned to support an organization that preserves modern residential architecture.

The modern furniture era is generally believed to have begun in the 1940s with the end of World War II and the societal changes and technological developments it brought. Customers wanted inexpensive, functional furniture for smaller living spaces. Companies had new materials to work with and new manufacturing methods. Designers created pieces that were both streamlined and organic, adding visual interest to comfort and practicality.

Q: A relative gave me a ceramic vase several years ago, and I'd like to know more about it. It has raised and glossy owls and leaves. The bottom has an oval mark that reads "Amphora" in the middle and "Made in Czecho-Slovakia" in a border around that. Can you tell me anything about it?

A: The vase was made by Riessner, Stellmacher & Kessel Amphora. They were one of the best-known pottery makers in Teplitz, Bohemia,



Kovels.com

Stylized shapes, light wood, bold blocks of color and unusual construction are characteristics of modern furniture. This flame rocking chair shows all four.

which is now in the Czech Republic. The mark you describe was used by the company from 1918 to 1939. The vase is earthenware with enameled owls, leaves and geometric decorations. A vase like yours recently sold for \$425.

TIP: Grease stains on tablecloths or bed linens may come out if rubbed with shampoo made for oily hair.

CURRENT PRICES

Moser glass vase, amethyst, etched gilt band with Amazon warriors, flared paneled form, bulbous bottom, circular stepped foot, marked Moser Karlsbad, 10 inches, \$310.

Lamp, electric, desk, brown metal, hemispheric shade, hanging from C-curved arm, round weighted base, Kurt Versen, 21 x 14 inches, \$875.

Quilt, Amish, pieced, diamond in a square pattern, center diamond made up of small pieced squares, red, blue, green, purple, blue ground, red squares in corners, green on reverse, Lancaster County, Penn., 92 x 92 inches, \$1,845.

Advertising sign, Illinois U.S. 66, single-sided tin, embossed, black letters & border, white ground, marked National Colortype Co., 16 x 16 1/4 inches, \$2,240.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit www.Kovels.com

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Americanisms



"Wisdom is never on the menu, you have to own the restaurant."
—Carrie Latet

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Plant Talk

by Ken Resch



The Ornament

For more than sixty Christmases I have carried on a tradition dating back to 1909 and my Grandmother's first Christmas as a young married woman. That year she hung a gold ball on the tree shared with my Grandfather and for every year after that, only my Grandmother could hang The Ornament upon the tree until. . .

"Here it is, now you hang it right where we can see it." So were the words of my Grandmother as she carefully unwrapped the gold ball. I hung the ornament on the tree, and she continued the story of this simple piece. "That's the only ornament I have from the first Christmas your Grandpa and I spent together after we were married in 1909. This other one, the little red bell, was from your Aunt Vivian's first Christmas in 1910. Hang it right near the gold one." Every year I went through the same routine with Grandma and I never tired of her telling me the stories. I felt duty-bound to follow set traditions, and putting up my grandparents' Christmas tree was the most sacred duty I had as a young boy.

For my family, as I grew up in the 1950s, the holiday season did not—could not—begin before the Friday after Thanksgiving. On that day we children rushed to our Sears and Roebuck store in Chicago and anxiously waited for Toyland to open. During that weekend my parents, grandparents, and I would climb into the Chevy and go out to Amling's Flowerland to see the displays. On the way home, we stopped to buy our trees, a process that often tested my father's patience to the extreme. Grandma was a choosy shopper, and the tree had to be exactly right. Once purchased, the trees were tied to the top of the car, and we headed home. Dad later cut a bit off the bottom of the trees

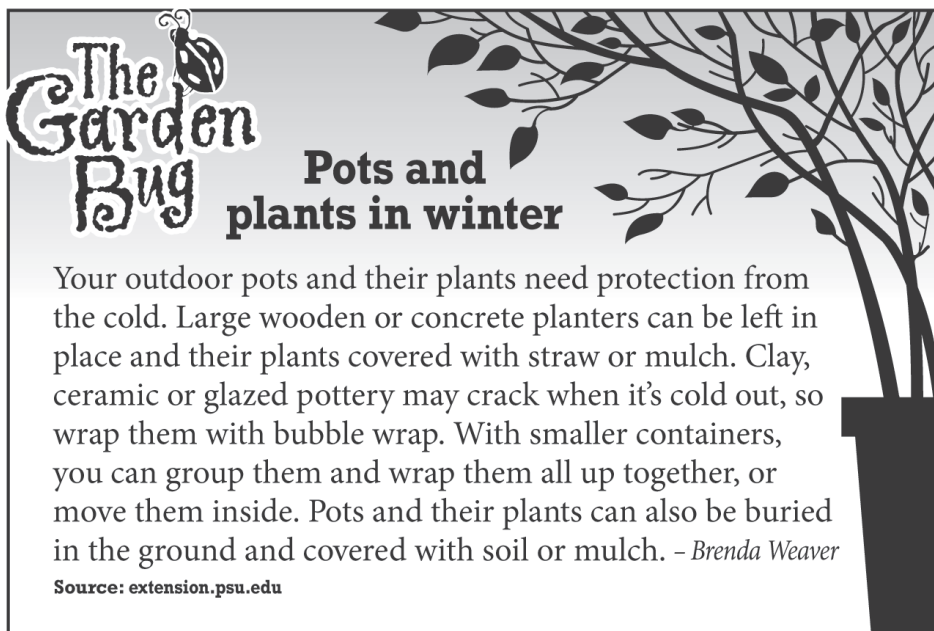
and placed each one in a bucket of water. The next weekend we decorated for the holidays.

The traditions my parents established were like beacons in my life as they guided me toward the right understanding of family and the over-arching meaning of the December madness that prevailed. Our tree stood proudly in the front room bay window. As my father grew older and I got taller, the task of hanging the lights was turned over to me. Holiday music played from the stereo and the multicolored lights cast a warm glow in the room as we hung ornaments. Every so often Mom would relate a bit about some of the older ornaments as we hung them on the tree. I still have a few from their first Christmas in 1935 as well as from our first Christmas in 1969.

Finished with our tree on Friday, I went upstairs to Grandma's on Saturday. I had the wonderful luxury of my grandparents living in the flat above—an intention of my parents when they bought their only house in 1955. Up at Grandma's, I was in charge, and it felt great! Grandma unwrapped all the ornaments and I hung them wherever I pleased—all but the two originals that Grandma made sure hung in a prominent spot. Little did I realize how much more was going on as we decorated the tree. The small bits of conversation, the reassuring "Oh, that looks nice there!" and the twinkling glances from Grandma, all were a part of my sense of belonging. I now often wonder if Grandma thought back to her early Christmases as she watched me put up the lights, hang the ornaments, and ever so carefully place the tinsel.

Christine and I missed the past two Christmases, and we now wait excitedly for our first Christmas in our home in Missouri. We purchased a nine-foot tree last year and it will dominate its high-ceiling space. It has been an unsettling two years for us, and I missed not being able to hang the Ornament. Traditions matter and this year I have seen corporate greed sweep in and finally obliterate

Plant Talk cont. Pg. 17



The Garden Bug

Pots and plants in winter

Your outdoor pots and their plants need protection from the cold. Large wooden or concrete planters can be left in place and their plants covered with straw or mulch. Clay, ceramic or glazed pottery may crack when it's cold out, so wrap them with bubble wrap. With smaller containers, you can group them and wrap them all up together, or move them inside. Pots and their plants can also be buried in the ground and covered with soil or mulch. - Brenda Weaver

Source: extension.psu.edu

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Due to COVID-19, these meals will be served in to-go boxes and will be available for pick-up at:

The Dubuque Area Labor Harvest Building
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Sunday, December 17, 2023

Dinners will be available from Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the **front door** if you **don't have** a vehicle, and at our **side door** on Dorgan Place if you **have** a vehicle. Signs will be posted.

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—Wendell Phillips



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ESFi offers Twelve Holiday Safety Tips to keep your home protected from household electrical fires during the season of decoration.

1. Keep decorations at least 3 feet away from heat sources — especially those with an open flame, like fireplaces and candles. And remember to blow out your candles when you leave the room or go to sleep.

2. The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you are decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture, out of windows, or across walkways and sidewalks.

3. If you have a natural Christmas tree water it to keep it fresh and safe. Real trees can dry up and turn into kindling in no time at all. Get rid of the tree after Christmas. Dried-out trees are a fire hazard and should not be left in the home or garage.

4. Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you're sleeping. Most deadly fires happen while people are asleep.

5. Be mindful of how you are using electrical outlets. If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home. Extension cords are a common cause of home fires.

6. Only use electronics in dry areas. As tempting as it is, you just can't decorate your aquarium with icicle lights.

7. Remember that phones and tablets should stay on your nightstand. We all love falling asleep to the muffled crooning of Bing Crosby and Michael Bubl , but overheated electronics under pillows and

blankets are dangerous.

8. Need a perfect gift idea? How about a smoke alarm? Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas, and on every level, including the basement. And remember to test your own to make sure they're working.

9. If you're using a space heater, switch it off before leaving the room. It only takes seconds for a fire to start if a space heater tips over or comes in contact with something combustible, like a blanket or curtains.

10. Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out. Talk to your aunt about that life-sized Elvis-dressed-as-Santa statue — it's falling apart, it's creepy, it's got to go.

11. Keep batteries stored safely in their packaging and out of reach of anything that might try to eat them, like small children and pets. Eating a battery can be deadly.

12. The best gift for your family is to upgrade to arc-fault circuit interrupter breakers or outlets. It is estimated that half of the electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs. All upgrades should be completed by a qualified electrician.

Visit esfi.org for a ton of information on keeping your home and workplace safe. The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) is the premier nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety at home and in the workplace.

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Now Here's A Tip from Pg. 13
photos. If you fold them flat, you can slip your pics inside, and it goes right in the envelope. They'll be nice and protected."
— *D.L. in Georgia*

• "If your curling broom is losing its spring, try trimming the bristles a little bit. This worked for me."
— *R.D. in Canada* (Tipsters: Curling is an ice sport.)

• Defog your mirror with shaving cream. Smear it over the entire surface and then wipe away with a clean towel. Keep

cleaning until clear. It works for at least two weeks — NO FOG!

• Looking for a way to replace eggs in a recipe? Here are some substitutes: powdered egg substitute (Ener-G brand, for example), 2 tablespoons of arrowroot powder or cornstarch; 1 banana, mashed; a tablespoon of milled flaxseed with 3 tablespoons of water.

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

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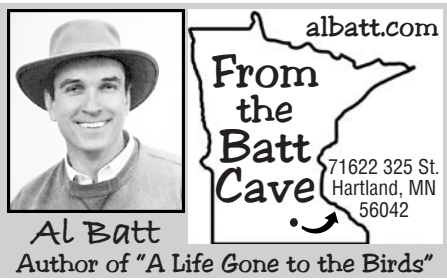
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6323



I walked 10,000 steps and now I'm stranded 10,000 steps from home

The "normal" ship has sailed and it didn't have many passengers.

I wasn't on board. Our habits keep us from boarding that ship. We have the bad habit of having bad habits. Bad habits keep us standing on the dock and are hard to give up because nobody likes a quitter.

It's the Minnesota way to conquer bad habits by replacing them with good habits. I tend to my good behaviors. That's why I walked in our first snow on October 28. It was too early as the first snow always is, but it required no shoveling. That was good. Why did I need to walk in the white stuff? First, you can't write about snow without calling it the white stuff. I believe that's a state law. I walked in the falling snow because I don't like treadmills. A treadmill is an ancient torture device first found in the dungeons of the Middle Ages. Walking on a treadmill is the modern-day equivalent of another torture device—a job. Let me tell you the story of a poor boy born without a single digital device or treadmill to his name. That poor boy was me.

Hi, my name is Al and I am a Fitbitaholic. That's right, I wear a Fitbit, a fitness tracker. Don't judge, lest ye be judged. Do I scurry because I have a squirrel's brain? Possibly. I also walk to tally another day and because I have no cows to fetch. I walk to keep from going on a strict diet where I'd eat meals the size of a playing card and I walk to support my weightlifting efforts, in which I attempt to lift the largest container of ice cream available.

Everything is nearly copacetic. I have other good behaviors. For breakfast, I have a bowl of oatmeal (in a favorite bowl) with blueberries floating in it and a dollop of honey. I mail something each day, a

letter or card carrying a positive message. That small act gives me great pleasure. I prefer writing them with one of the four ink pens my wife gave me separately at monumental anniversaries. The truth is, I employ only three of those pens as the price of refills for one has exceeded my pain point.

I didn't have a Fitbit until I'd reached the point where when I dropped something to the floor, I waited until I dropped a second thing before picking it up.

My baseline goal is 10,000 steps per day, seven days a week. My neighbor Crandall tried going to a gym, but working out wasn't working out for him. He was enjoying a bowl of maple nut ice cream for lunch and planning on having another bowl for dessert when he first contemplated buying a Fitbit. He reasoned he could walk for free once he'd purchased a Fitbit as he already had shoes. He'd become his own personal trainer. He set his goal at 100,000 steps per day because he knew he'd never reach 10,000 steps, and with 100,000 steps, he had a reasonable excuse why he couldn't achieve an unachievable goal. Crandall attends a lot of athletic events and applauds everything, hoping the claps count as steps. His Fitbit works, but he's malfunctioning.

I can't lie to the Fitbit. It knows how many steps I've made. It's the dentist asking a patient if he's been flossing regularly. It's a rhetorical question. The dentist knows. Here's a public service announcement. Floss. It's not that painful unless you're doing it with barbed wire and not that hard unless you're doing it with your toes.

I don't have a smartwatch. Mine is the cheapest Fitbit. I think it's called the Forced March and carried a \$30 price tag, but I got it for \$29.99 because I knew a guy. My Fitbit proves I can lose a race with myself. I walk until there's nothing left of my shoes but sweat.

I remain hopeful because I've never seen a chalk outline showing a silhouette of a Fitbit on a deceased person's wrist.

I have a kind, caring and sensitive Fitbit, my third one. I've worn out two. I shouldn't be proud of that, but I'm afraid I am and hope to wear out many more.

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Plant Talk from Pg. 15
traditions they'd hammered on for several years. Witches and Santas were displayed together. Halloween lights glowed orange right by the red, green, blue, and white lights of Christmas. One holiday blurred into the next. It will not surprise me to see Valentine's Day displays before the end of the year.

The season must not be about buying and spending and

camping out for great deals; rather, it must always be about the personal relationships we have with each other. My grandmother's ornament will remind me of the joy I had just being in her presence. This season, as you hang ornaments with children or grandchildren, spouses, or friends, tell them stories of holidays past and pass on to others the warmth and love you've known.

The big thieves hang the little ones.

—Czech Proverb

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Memories Passed On (As told to my grandson Maury)

by Jerry Eberhardt (1924-2017)

The Best Of Jerry
originally published
November 2014

Currently, Maury, there's an ad for "Pella" windows frequently appearing on TV which makes me think of you! It shows a boy about your age fungo hitting. (You know what fungo hitting is.... Grandpa refers to this in Memory #4 which, coincidentally, appeared in an earlier issue of *The Golden View*). After hitting a couple balls it shows him hitting one that, accidentally, shatters the window of a house, understandably startling a woman occupant! This scene, suddenly also, triggered a special memory of my dad (your great-grandpa). Before telling you what happened, Maury, you should know that your great-grandpa was a carpenter.

One day, when Grandpa was about your age, maybe a bit younger, a bunch of us were playing softball in a neighbor's back yard. Everything was fine until one of my friends hit a ball that broke a window in a neighbor's house! It happened to be the home of an elderly woman who lived alone. I can still remember her coming outside, very irate, yelling at us and how disturbed she was! I'm



Jerry Eberhardt with grandson, Maury Cohn

not certain, but I think her name was Mrs. Miller. Anyway, about that time, I remember telling her not to worry, bragging that my dad knows how to fix broken windows! I told her I'd tell him and he'll "make you a new window!"

When I told my dad what I said to Mrs. Miller I really didn't appreciate his "noble reaction and great understanding" until I was much older. It was then I realized, Maury, that even though I wasn't the "guilty" kid, my dad had not only installed a new window in his first available spare time, but did so at no cost to Mrs. Miller. Also, he made good on the promise of a young son bragging about how "his dad can fix it!!"

Hope you enjoyed this, Maury. Much love, Grandpa.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: What is Dorothy's last name in "The Wizard of Oz"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. states share a border with Mexico?
- MOVIES: What are Indiana Jones and his father searching for in "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade"?
- TELEVISION: Which TV dramedy is set on Wisteria Lane?
- LANGUAGE: What is a common Latin phrase meaning "something for something"?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the fastest fish?

- INVENTIONS: Where was the first compass invented?
- SCIENCE: How long does it take for the sun's light to reach Earth?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is the smallest in land size?
- MEDICAL: What is a common name for aphthous stomatitis?

Answers

- Gale.
- Four: California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.
- The Holy Grail.
- "Desperate Housewives."
- Quid pro quo.
- Saltilish.
- China.
- Eight minutes.
- Rhode Island.
- Canker sore.

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SPORTS COMMENT

by Gary Dolphin

From Where I Sit

Voice of the Iowa Hawkeyes

Congratulations to the Hawkeye football team, winning their third Big Ten West Division title following a 15-13 slugfest victory over Illinois Saturday at Kinnick stadium. A beat up, battered and bruised offense since week three, the Hawkeyes found some late energy when running back Kaleb Johnson broke through right guard, behind the block of Rusty Feth and bolted 30 yards for the go ahead touchdown with 4:40 remaining. The extra point try was blocked leaving Iowa with a two point lead. From there the Hawkeye defense took control, turning the Illini over on downs followed by another big run by Johnson of 12 yards for a first down that allowed Iowa to run out the clock for their ninth win of the season.

LeShon Williams and Johnson each rushed for over 50

yards. Quarterback Deacon Hill completed 19-29 passes for 167 yards and a touchdown throw to tight end Addison Ostrenga, his second score in two weeks.

Defensive end Joe Evans had a sack in the end zone in the first quarter resulting in a safety, Iowa's third two-pointer of the year. Evans now has a team best five and a half sacks.

The Hawkeyes have won nine games ten times in Coach Kirk Ferentz 25 years. The victory is Ferentz' 195th of his career, moving him past Michigan's Bo Schembechler for third place all time as a member of the Big Ten Conference.

Iowa's final regular season game is Black Friday at Nebraska in the annual Hero's game match-up. Kick-off is at 11:00 a.m. Nebraska lost an overtime game to Wisconsin Saturday night.



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Name the jockey who won the Kentucky Derby in consecutive years riding Gato Del Sol in 1982 and Sunny's Halo in 1983.
2. What auto race, founded in 1906, was initially contested over 276 miles through the mountains of Sicily near Palermo, Italy?
3. What 2023 film, directed by George Clooney and based on the book by Daniel James Brown, is the story of the University of Washington rowing team that won the gold medal at the 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics?
4. What New Orleans Saints offensive lineman threw New

York Jets safety Damien Robinson's helmet during an on-field altercation in November 2001?

5. What member of the Baltimore Orioles was suspended 10 days for a positive steroid test less than three weeks after recording his 3,000th career hit in 2005?

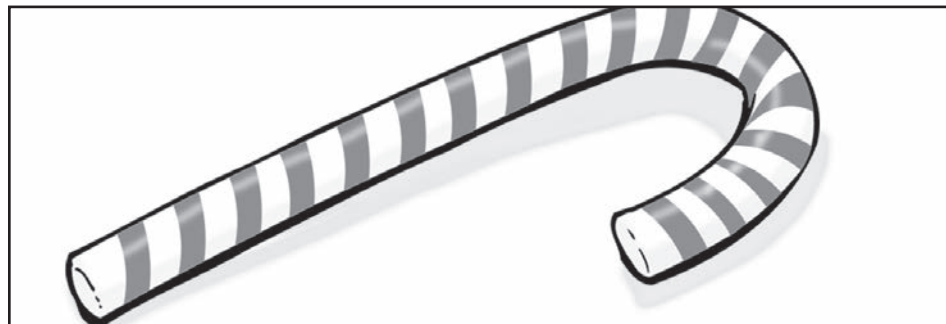
6. Name the Pro Football Hall of Fame defensive tackle for the Pittsburgh Steelers who appeared in a 1979 Coca-Cola commercial called "Hey Kid, Catch!"

7. What French Formula One driver was killed in a gruesome crash during a qualifying session at the 1973 United States Grand Prix?

Answers

1. Eddie Delahoussaye.
2. Targa Florio.
3. "The Boys in the Boat."
4. Kyle Turley.
5. Rafael Palmeiro.
6. "Mean" Joe Greene.
7. Francois Cevert.

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Candy canes began as straight white sticks of sugar candy. A choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral decided to have the ends bent to depict a shepherd's crook. It wasn't until the twentieth century that candy canes got their red stripes.

Happy Holidays!
 Our very best wishes to everyone during this special season. Thank you to all our friends and neighbors for being with us throughout the year.

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He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever.

—Chinese Proverb

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1. Who wrote and released "Desolation Row"? How long was the song?
2. Which group released "Our Day Will Come"?
3. "If I Fell," "Tell Me Why" and "Can't Buy Me Love" were released from which movie?
4. Who released "Come Softly To Me" and when?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "How can people be so heartless? How can people be so cruel?"

Answers

1. Bob Dylan wrote and released

the song in 1965. When asked, Dylan claimed the Desolation Row location was in Mexico, but others in the know said it was in Manhattan along Eighth Avenue. The song was over 11 minutes long.
 2. Ruby & the Romantics, in 1963. The songwriters weren't pleased, hoping instead to aim for easy listening. But the Ruby version topped the charts, and nobody could argue with that.
 3. "A Hard Day's Night," the first Beatles film, released in 1964. The film did well and received a nomination for Best Original Screenplay.
 4. The Fleetwoods, in 1959.
 5. "Easy To Be Hard," by Lynn Kelllogg, playing the character Sheila in the rock musical "Hair" in 1967. Two years later the song was covered by Three Dog Night, climbing to No. 4 on the Billboard chart.

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Radio
from the
20th Century

by Bill Zwack

Christmastime is a wonderful time of year, especially during the golden days of radio. I can think of many radio series that brought laughter and warmth into the family home.

Take, for example, the time Jack Benny played Santa Claus for the children of Phil Harris and Alice Faye. Of course the girls knew that Mr. Benny was the fake Santa and laughter ensued throughout the broadcast. Another time was when Ozzie and Harriet were so proud of the radio/phonograph they had for each other for Christmas. But despite that one gift to each other, they decided in the end, that something more personnel should be given to each other.

Probably the greatest radio broadcast of the time was *A Christmas Carol* performed by Lionel Barrymore. *A Christmas Carol* was brought to CBS by Lionel Barrymore on December 25, 1934, and each year the Charles Dickens' classic became a listening must for millions. Barrymore's portrayal of the miserly Scrooge was as flawless as anything radio has

ever produced. For his first performance he was supported by Beatrice Lillie, while Alexander Woollcott served as master of ceremonies. In 1936, with the death of Barrymore's wife, his brother John took the role. Orson Welles played Scrooge in 1938 when Lionel became ill. But the following year Barrymore was back, in Welles' own Mercury Theatre, for a full 60 minute production with Welles as narrator. On December 23, 1944, Barrymore did the story in 30 minutes as part of his regular *Mayor of the Town* series. Many listeners and critics considered *A Christmas Carol* the greatest Yule story ever done on the air. Until his death on November 15, 1954, Barrymore, with almost clockwork regularity, captured the essence of "the grasping, clutching, conniving, covetous old sinner, Ebenezer Scrooge."

Listen to AM 1370 KDTH's *Big Broadcast* on Sunday nights from 6 to midnight during the Christmas season and you will hear many Christmas radio favorites, especially *A Christmas Carol* with Lionel Barrymore.

December 1954

Down Memory Lane

Christmas 1955

Exerpts From The Pages Of "The Avalon" A Newsletter Of The Dubuque Packing Company

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Reflections in the Park from Pg. 1

One of the visitors to the park is Santa Claus who will be at the park every Monday night before Christmas from 5 to 8 p.m. to greet guests young and old!

Reflections in the Park, "A Hillcrest Lights Festival", presented by: DB&T and Heartland Financial USA; is a family tradition for so many in the Tristate community. "It is awesome to see the faces of the little ones especially," said Greg Birkett, Steering Committee Member and Volunteer for Reflections. "It puts everyone in the Holiday spirit and is an important fundraiser for Hillcrest Family Services."

Hillcrest is blessed with approximately 500 community volunteers put in over 3,500 hours making Reflections in the Park happen, from handling the promotions, refurbishing lights year-round, doing everything from set-up, to volunteering while the show is up and running, to taking down the displays when the show wraps up.

The dollars raised support the 30-plus programs of Hillcrest Family Services. Located at 2005 Asbury Road in Dubuque, Hillcrest is a nonprofit human services agency that served over 8,500 individuals across State of Iowa and beyond.

Tickets for Reflections in the Park are priced at \$12 per vehicle at the gate. Discounted \$10 tickets are available at all Dubuque Bank and Trust banking centers and at Hillcrest Family Services throughout the event. Tickets also make wonderful stocking stuffer gifts.

"We want to thank all of the sponsoring businesses for making this a reality for the tens of thousands of visitors each year. This year in addition to our principle sponsor, DB&T/Heartland, the Diamond Jo is a platinum sponsor," said John Bellini of Hillcrest Family Services.

Additional details about Reflections can be obtained by calling Hillcrest at 563.583-7357.



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—Dutch Proverb

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Old school pencil sharpener!

The "Climax No. 2" pencil sharpener is a classic and iconic manual pencil sharpener that has been used for many years in schools and offices. It is known for its simple and reliable design. The "No. 2" in its name typically refers to the standard size of pencils that it can sharpen, which includes regular No. 2 pencils, commonly used for writing and drawing.

This type of pencil sharpener typically has a hand-crank mechanism that you turn to sharpen the pencil. As you turn the crank, the blade inside the sharpener shaves away the wood and exposes the graphite core of the pencil, giving it a sharp point. The shavings are collected in a receptacle attached to the sharpener.

This Climax No. 2 pencil sharpener has patent dates dating back to 1900 and 1904. Being one of the earlier forms of mechanical pencil sharpeners, even though this one shows its



age it still is a very collectible item for people that appreciate some of the older and early versions of mechanical pencil sharpeners. We found this item in the clean out of a storage unit, put it on eBay for a buy it now for \$60 and sold it within just a couple of days. Fully restored and returned to its original condition this sharpener has been known to sell for upwards of \$200.

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Strange BUT TRUE

by Lucie Winborne

- That straight-line rise of bubbles in your holiday champagne glass is due to the soap-like compounds called surfactants that not only give the beverage its signature bubble chain, but also contribute to its unique flavor.

- If the human eye was a digital camera, it would have 576 megapixels.

- In 1994, a 75-pound bag of cocaine fell out of a plane and landed in the middle of a Florida crime watch meeting.

- Karl Josef Silberbauer, the SS officer who arrested Anne Frank and those in hiding with her during WWII, later bought a copy of Anne's published diary to see if he was mentioned in it.

- Alcohol kills one person every 10 seconds worldwide.

- Sand from the Sahara Desert, which contains phosphorus, is blown by the wind all the way to the Amazon rainforest, where it replaces the phosphorus annually washed away by rains and floods.

- While in prison in 1924, Adolf Hitler wrote to a Mercedes dealership in Munich to beg for a car loan for a limousine he admired, until his royalties for "Mein Kampf" came in.

- Chimpanzees can develop their own fashion trends.

- Christmas ham, originally a pagan tradition, was endorsed by the Catholic Church as a test of truthful conversion from Judaism.

- Actor Al Pacino was the first "face" on Facebook.

- Death penalty trials are 20 times more expensive than those seeking a sentence of life imprisonment without parole.

- Doritos originated from the leftover tortillas at Disneyland.

- English phrases such as "long time no see," "no go" and "no can do" come from literal translations of Chinese phrases.

- In Japanese mythology, Namazu is a giant catfish that causes earthquakes.

- To visit every child in the world, Santa Claus would need to travel at 3,000 times the speed of sound. But who says he couldn't? Not us! He's Santa!

- Need a morning pick-me-up? A cup of java is most effective if consumed between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

- Six hundred Americans die each year from falling out of bed.

- A 99-year-old man divorced his 96-year-old wife after 77 years of wedlock when he discovered she'd had an affair in the 1940s.

...

Thought for the Day: "Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence." — **Ted Key**

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Supper Is on With a Wild Rice Chicken Casserole

Here's our tasty, family-friendly version of a "Minnesota Hotdish." If the term "hotdish" is new to you, think "casserole" because it's really the same thing — a baked main-dish combo of vegetables, meat, and rice or potatoes, all mixed together with a cream sauce or canned soup.

This satisfying recipe melds tradition and taste in every bite with the nutty flavor of wild rice and the crunch of the water chestnuts. While our family hasn't entered this favorite in one of our Minnesota "hotdish competitions," I can assure you that it's still a winner with family and friends.

When you have Thanksgiving leftovers in your refrigerator, you can substitute the chicken for turkey, and a generous dollop of cranberry relish or sauce on the side makes a colorful, tasty accompaniment.

For scheduling convenience, the prep work can be done ahead, if you wish. Assemble the recipe with your kids in a casserole baking dish, cover and then refrigerate overnight. It will be ready to pop in the oven the next day for dinner. While it bakes, slice up hearty crusty bread, then toss salad greens with fresh orange slices and a vinaigrette. Now you're all set for a delicious, warm-you-up, cozy fall meal.



PHOTO CREDIT: Donna Erickson

WILD RICE CHICKEN CASSEROLE

Serves 6-8

- 1 (10-1/2-ounce) can cream of chicken soup
- 1 (10-1/2-ounce) can cream of mushroom soup
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 1/2 cups cooked wild rice
- 1 1/2 cups cooked long grain white rice
- 4 cups cut-up cooked chicken
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 cup diced red pepper (substitute: green bell pepper)
- 3/4 cup chopped green onions
- 1 (8-ounce) can water chestnuts, drained and loosely chopped
- 1/3 cup slivered almonds, lightly toasted
- Chopped fresh parsley (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 F. In a large bowl, combine soups and mayonnaise. Stir in cooked wild and white rice, chicken, celery, red pepper, green onions, and water chestnuts.

Transfer into a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Bake, uncovered, for 50-55 minutes until bubbly.

Remove from oven and sprinkle toasted almonds and fresh parsley on top. Serve piping hot.

Shopping Tip: In many grocery stores, there are 6-ounce boxes of combined long grain and wild rice that can yield 3 cups of cooked rice for this recipe.

...

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

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- 4-4-1/2 lb whole beef tenderloin
- Cremer's Rub-Me-Tender Seasoning

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Season tenderloin with Cremer's Rub-Me-Tender seasoning.

Place tenderloin in roasting pan or on cookie sheet.

Roast tenderloin for 30 minutes or until 130 degrees internal temperature for medium rare (10 minutes additional for medium well).

Cremer's Cooking Tips

Cremer's E-Z Whole Beef Tenderloin

Remove tenderloin from oven, cover with foil tent, and let rest for 15-20 minutes.

Internal temperature may increase 5-10 degrees while resting—due to residual heat.

Slice tenderloin into 1/4" to 1/2" slices. End piece will be more done and center of roast more rare.

As Christmas fast approaches it represents the busiest time of the year for many of us. For most of us there are holiday gatherings that continue

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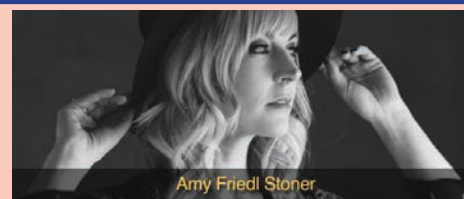
The Beatelles
Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023 • 7PM
World Famous Female Driven Beatles Tribute Show
New Years Eve!

The Beatelles feature four powerhouse female vocalists performing the songs of John, Paul, George and Ringo with harmonious perfection. These ladies have shaken up the tribute world, offering a fresh and fun twist to a timeless catalog that spans from "Love Me Do" to "Let It Be." Set to a backdrop of stunning multimedia, there is also choreography, costume changes, witty banter, and trivia. This is a must see show for any fan of The Beatles!

Tickets: \$30 (in advance) \$35 (at the door)

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Amy Friedl Stoner - Go Your Own Way
The Music of Fleetwood Mac
Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024 • 7PM



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Amy Friedl Stoner returns to the stage with a new show chronicling the hits and heartbreak of rock superstars Fleetwood Mac. Formed in 1967, Fleetwood Mac grew from humble English beginnings to capture the hearts and attention of fans worldwide. The band has gone on to sell over 100 million albums and chart numerous #1 hits, culminating in their 1998 induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Tickets: \$25 (in advance) \$28 (at the door).

Students (18 & Under) Tickets: \$15 (in advance) \$18 (at the door)

Box Office Open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Phone: 563-652-9815
Purchase Tickets online at www.ohnwardfineartscenter.com

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- DOZEN DINNER ROLLS
- 2 LB. MASHED POTATOES
- 1 LB. AMISH ROLLED BUTTER
- 1 QT. HOMEMADE TURKEY GRAVY
- 1 PUMPKIN PIE

through the month and spill over into the New Year.

The hands down most popular item we carry for the upcoming season is Whole Beef Tenderloin. Its versatility becomes as favorable as its delicate beef flavor. Whether sliced thin for finger sandwiches

at a cocktail party or the main course for Christmas dinner. Roasting these at a high heat for a relatively short amount of time is sure to ease the challenges of entertaining and delight your guest.

For other Holiday entertaining or gift giving ideas give us a call.

MAGIC MAZE ● — MARKET

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

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

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------|---------|-------|
| After | Down | Free | Meat |
| Bear | Emerging | Futures | Money |
| Bull | Farmer's | Labor | Super |
| Commodities | Food | Mass | |

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

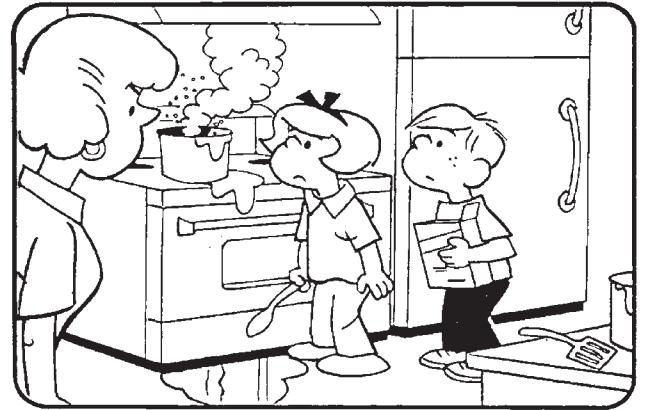
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

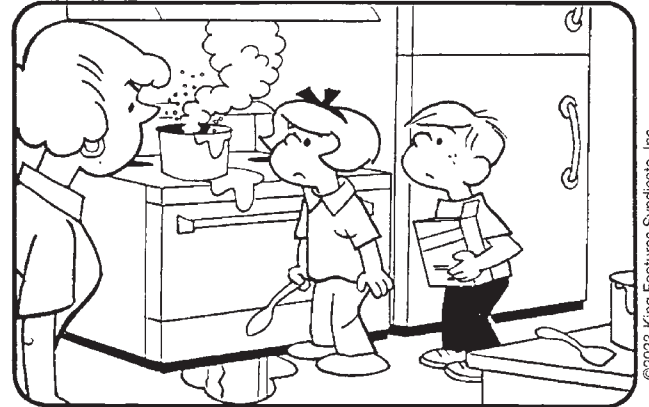
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

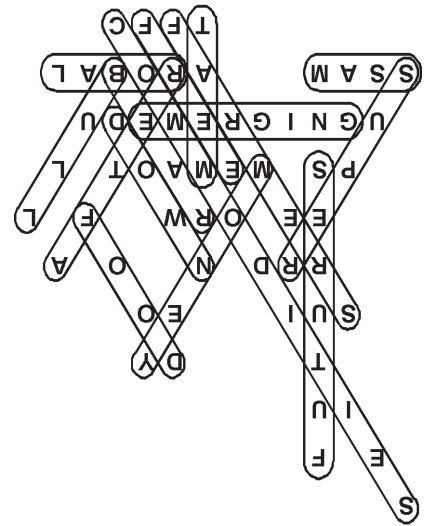


Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Oven window is missing. 3. Puddle is smaller. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Handle is smaller. 6. Spatula is different.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Here's My Card



— MARKET —

Go Figure! answers

	21	19		28	
28	7	-	5	×	7
	×		-		×
18	3	×	4	+	2
	÷		×		÷
18	9	×	6	-	8

— King Crossword —
 Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

SUDOKU Answer

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

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Stickelers Answer STRAWBERRIES don't belong with the others. All of the other fruits grow on trees, while strawberries are ground plants!