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MAROONED

After being shipwrecked on a deserted island for weeks, the marooned pirate was starving.. One day, he saw a large shark circling the island. Desperate, he shouted, "Ahoy, shark!" To his surprise, the shark swam closer.

The pirate cautiously approached the water. "How about a deal? You bring 🔇 me fish everyday and I'll tell you all about life on land..."

Since there were no other sharks nearby, the big shark readily agreed.

Every day thereafter the shark delivered fresh fish, leaving them neatly on the shore. The unlikely pair struck up an unusual friendship—the shark brought fish and then, for endless hour upon endless hour, each and every day, the pirate recounted details of his life above water to the shark.

This went on for months, until the pirate was rescued by a passing ship. Saddened to part ways, the man said, "You've

become more of a friend than a fish. Will you be okay without me?" The shark replied, "I'LL BE FINE!"

Relieved, the pirate reluctantly waved goodbye.

But, as the shark swam off into the blue water, it was heard to mutter, "Man, I thought that guy would never shut up!"





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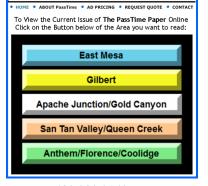
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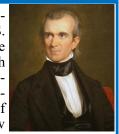
ELEVATOR MUSIC BOTHERS ME ON SOME MANY LEVELS





Moments in time THE HISTORY CHANNEL

* On May 13, 1846, in response to a request by President James Polk, the U.S. Congress declared war on Mexico. The conflict, which ended two years later with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, eventually cost the lives of 11,300 American soldiers and resulted in the annexation of lands that became parts of Oklahoma, New



Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and Colorado.

* On May 12, 1896, New York City passed America's first anti-spitting law in an effort to combat tuberculosis, imposing fines and even jail time on unruly protesters who demonstrated their discontent by expectorating on anti-spitting signs. By 1910, more than 2,500 arrests had been made.



* On May 14, 1998, legendary crooner, actor and show business icon Frank Sinatra died of a heart attack in Los Angeles at the age of 82. A heartthrob who married four times and divorced three, Sinatra's career spanned more than five decades, including a notable comeback in the 1950s.

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ASK GOD ... BECAUSE THERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS THAT CAN'T BE ANSWERED BY GOOGLE

* On May 16, 1975, Junko Tabei of Japan became the first woman to summit Mount Everest. She later gained further fame as the first woman to scale all Seven Summits, the tallest mountains on each continent.



* On May 15, 1948, 3-year-old June Devaney of Blackburn, England, was abducted from the hospital where she

was recuperating from pneumonia. After her body was found two hours later, the detective inspector assigned to the case ordered the fingerprinting of the more than 40,000 men residing in Blackburn, which took nearly three months but eventually led to the killer, who was convicted and executed later that year.

* On May 17, 2000, the final episode of "Beverly Hills, 90210" aired after 10 seasons.



* On May 18, 2012, Facebook held its initial public offering (IPO) and raised \$16 billion. It was the largest technology IPO in American history at the time and third-largest IPO in the United States, after those of Visa and General Motors. When it went public, the social net-

work was valued at \$104 billion and boasted some 900 million registered users around the world.

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by Dave T. Phipps

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ACROSS

- 1 German sausage
- 6 Hoops great Curry
- More minuscule
- 12 Succeed
- 14 Ridiculous
- 15 Eventually
- 16 Bygone bird 17 Valleys
- 19 Pensioned (Abbr.)
- 20 Taking action
- 22 Label
- 23 Corrida bull
- 24 Tennis star
- Rafael 26 Dessert that
- jiggles
- 28 Violin tuner
- 30 Novelist Deighton
- "The Peasant 51 Oral
- 35 Everglades wader
- 39 Give temporarily
- 40 Lumber unit
- 42 Wrestling style
- 43 "Nasty!"
- 44 Thread holder
- 46 Damage
- South Carolina river

- 12 15 16 19 20 26 40 48 49 52 54
- 49 La Brea attraction
- Dance" paint- 52 Moving vehicles?
 - 53 Ceases

- **DOWN**
- 2 Tacit
- 3 Estuary
- 4 Dispatch
- 5 Pick up the tab
 - 6 Classic catalog giant

- 7 Catches some ravs
- Tolkien creature
- 9 Christie sleuth
- 10 Arm bones 36 Ado
- 54 Garlic crusher 11 Shakespeare's 37 Inbox fillers
 - of Athens" 38 Civil wrongs

31 Ecstasy

33 Detangle

34 Brit's

32 Summaries

restroom

- 13 Rockies range 41 Arose
- 1 Actress Ryder 18 Trail the pack 44 Ooze
 - 45 Cowardly Lion 21 Recorded portrayer
 - 23 Zesty flavors
 - 48 Ring decision 25 Pants part
 - 27 Director Spike 50 Arctic explorer John
 - 29 Smooth writing imple-
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no one has been a loser longer than satan

Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

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I WISH EVERTHING WAS AS EASY AS GETTING FAT

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: R equals S

UV ZNRRUXM RHXTYEXKBYZR
MYYG LQ LUY QVV ZQHYR,
EDXL GQ OQN LDUMB LDYO

EUKK CXBY? TQRCQ-BMQLR.

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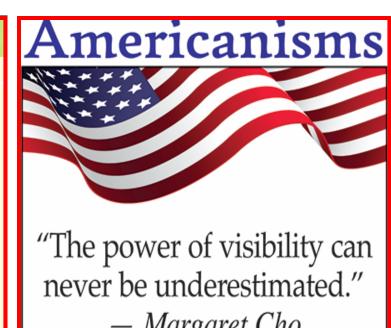
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Margaret Cho

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- 1. **TELEVISION:** Which actor was nominated for an Emmy for the same character on three different sit-
- 2. **MOVIES:** Who was the first actor to refuse an Oscar award for Best Actor?
- 3. **GEOGRAPHY:** Which modern city is in the shadow of the active volcano Mount Vesuvius?
- 4. **FOOD & DRINK:** What gas is used to create seltzer water?
- 5. **SCIENCE:** What is the center of an atom called?
- 6. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**: Who are the six men who have made a career Grand Slam in pro golf?
- 7. **ANATOMY:** What is the largest artery in the
- 8. **LITERATURE:** For which category is the O. Henry Award given?
- 9. **ASTRONOMY:** Which star system is nearest to our solar system?
- 10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many presidents have died in office?

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc. 10. Eight. 9. Alpha Centauri. 8. Short stories. 7. The aorta. liger Woods and Rory McIlroy. Gary Player, Jack Micklaus,

6. Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan,

5. Mucleus. 4. Carbon dioxide. 3. Naples, Italy. 2. George C. Scott, for "Patton."

> "Wings," "Cheers" and . Kelsey Grammer for



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THE CHILDREN OF IDENTICAL TWINS ARE GENETICALLY CONSIDERED AS SIBLINGS, NOT COUSINS

CryptoQuip

answer

If Russian spacewalkers need to tie off ropes, what do you think they will make? Cosmo-knots.

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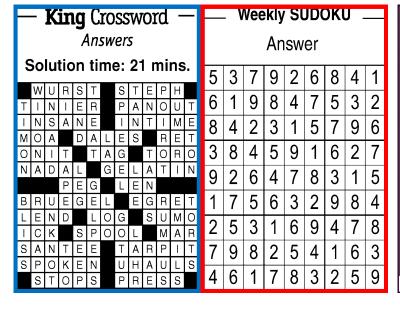
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ABOVE ALL ELSE, GUARD YOUR HEART, FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO FLOWS FROM IT - PROVERBS 4:23







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By Lucie Winbourne

- * In 2010, a group of 15 monkeys escaped from a Japanese research institute by using trees to catapult themselves over a 17-foot-high electrical fence.
- * Potato aphids will not mate if they detect a drop in air pressure.
- * Casting for Quentin Tarantino's "Jackie Brown" was partly done by Jaki Brown, and Lee Daniels' "The Butler" was cast by Leah Daniels-Butler.
- * It would only cost you in the neighborhood of \$140 per year to eat ramen for every meal.
- * France is the most visited country in the world.
- * Neurologists claim that every time you resist acting on your anger, you are actually rewiring your brain to be calmer and more loving.
- * Leonardo da Vinci was the first person to observe the curvature of the human spine.
- * During WWII, Winston Churchill wore a specially designed onesie that he called his "siren suit."
- * Don Gorske earned a spot in the Guinness World Records in 2016 for the gastric feat of consuming his 28,788th Big Mac.
- * While most parents do what they can to prevent or stop their babies from crying, in Japan a 400-year-old tradition holds that if a sumo wrestler can make your baby cry, it will live a healthy life. During a special ceremony, parents hand over their infants to wrestlers who bounce the tots and sometimes even roar in their faces to get the tears going.

In 1923, a jockey suffered a fatal heart attack but his horse finished and won the race, making him the first and only jockey to win a race after death.

* Mike Tyson would KO spar-

ring partners quickly so he could get home in time to watch "Tom & Jerry."

Thought for the Day: "Not all paths offer a vista. But every path offers a lesson." -- Toni Sorenson (c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.