

Answers on Page 3

Brain Zone!

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 from M<u>A</u>STER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

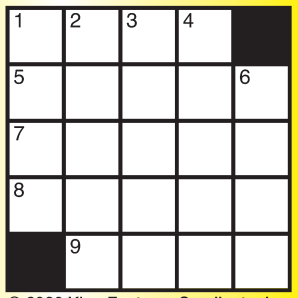
1. Streams	_	_	_	_	_	S	Model Shields	_	_	_	_	_	E
2. Rigid	_	_	N	_	_		Make fun of	_	_	A	_	_	
3. Mailbox find	_	E	_	_	_	_	Brood of puppies	_	I	_	_	_	_
4. Oust from school	_	_	P	_	_		Outshine	_	_	C	_	_	
5. Spring harbinger	_	_	B	_	_		Cue stick residue	_	_	S	_	_	
6. Small body of water	P	_	_	_	_	_	Nestle	C	_	_	_	_	_
7. Identical siblings	_	_	_	_	S		Hemp	_	_	_	_	E	
8. Fred's spouse	_	_	_	M	_		Authoress Cather	_	_	_	L	_	
9. Young cat	K	_	_	_	_	_	Fingerless glove	M	_	_	_	_	_
10. Shudder	_	H	_	_	_		Cobra or anaconda	_	N	_	_	_	

Micro Crossword

By Elizabeth C. Gorski

Across

1 Electricity unit
5 Natives of Nunavut
7 James Earl Jones's role in "The Great White Hope"
8 Paperless memo
9 God of love



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Down

1 Inexplicable feeling
2 Down ___ knee (ready to propose)
3 Temple city on the Nile
4 Connect with
6 Very, in Paris

Trivia test

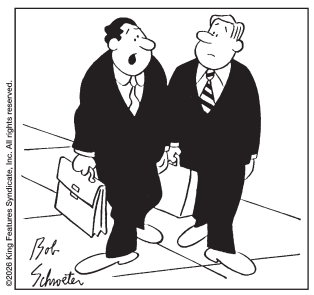
by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which pop music group sings at the wedding in "Bridesmaids"?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state's official dance is the shag?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which designer made the miniskirt famous?
4. MUSIC: How many strings does a standard violin have?
5. LANGUAGE: What does it mean to apricate?
6. TELEVISION: Who was the original host of "The Price is Right"?
7. ANATOMY: Which component of blood initiates clotting?
8. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Age of Innocence"?
9. MONEY: What is depicted on the back of a $10 U.S. bill?
10. HISTORY: When did the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) go into effect?

Flashback Pop, Rock & Soul Trivia

by Mick Harper

1. Who released "When Will I See You Again"?
2. Who was the first to record and release "If I Had a Hammer"?
3. Who had an international hit with "Portrait of My Love"?
4. Name the group that wrote and released "Good Vibrations."
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Out where the bright lights are glowing, You're drawn like a moth to a flame, You laugh while the wine's overflowing, While I sit and whisper your name."



"When I was in college, I used to dream of the _____ I won't be able to get by on this year."

SCRAMBLERS

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

Vast **COMICS** ___ ___ ☐ ___ ___ ___

Human **TRAMOL** ___ ___ ___ ___ ☐ ☐

Lane **LEYLA** ☐ ___ ___ ___ ☐

Delay **RELIGN** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ☐

TODAY'S WORD

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

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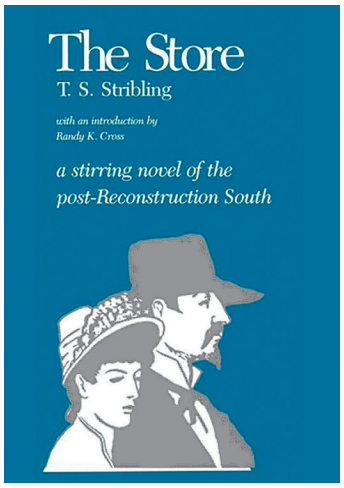
Excel computer services

Florence Historian
Billy Warren

FLORENCE Then & Now

Answers on Page 3

A Trilogy Set In Florence



Well-known author Thomas Sigismund (T.S.) Stribling (1881-1965) was a native of Clifton, Tennessee, but he spent a great deal of time during his growing-up years – especially in the summer months – with his maternal grandparents at their home near Waterloo and, later, when they moved to Florence. He graduated from Florence Normal School (now the University of North Alabama) in 1902. Through his resulting familiarity with the various levels of society in Florence, he made the wise decision to set The Forge – the first book in what would become a trilogy – in the City and to create the fictional Vaiden family as the protagonist. It was The Store, the second book in the trilogy, though, that gained the attention of critics. In 1933, The Store brought Stribling – and the City of Florence – into the national spotlight as he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize. (It's still a really good read today.) In an interview by the local newspaper at the time of the book's release, Stribling was quoted by the journalist as saying, "When word came down that The Store would hit the market that day, all of Florence was divided into two camps: those who were afraid they were in the book and those who were afraid they weren't." Not long after The Store was published, the final book in the trilogy, The Unfinished Cathedral, completed the hitherto unfinished story of the Vaiden family.

– Billy Warren, City Historian (brwarren@florenceal.org)

Brain Zone!

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Galatians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Mosaic law, what would happen to the person who cursed his father or mother? *Imprisonment, Outcast, 10 lashings, Death*
3. In Genesis 14:3, what lake is called the Salt Sea? *Galilee, Lake Pison, Dead Sea, Euphrates*
4. From Daniel 2, who had a dream about a statue composed of different materials? *Jezebel, Daniel, Rezin, Nebuchadnezzar*
5. In Acts 7, who said, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge"? *Philip, Stephen, Luke, David*
6. Whose biblical name means "salvation"? *Jude, Ahaz, Hosea, Ruth*



MINI SUDOKU

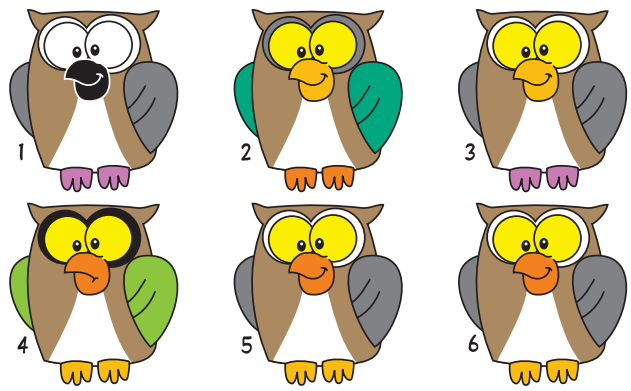
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way: that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

	2		1		
1					5
	5	1			
4					
		6	2		
			5	6	

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FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



Sports QUIZ

by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Which legendary golfer was nearly killed in a 1949 accident in which his car was struck head-on by a Greyhound bus?
2. Before it was renamed Orange Speedway in 1954, the motorsports dirt track near the town of Hillsborough, North Carolina, was known as what?
3. Name the NFL head coach who said, "I got the greatest job in the world. I'm the head coach of the Cleveland Browns for God's sake. How cool is that?"
4. At the 1964 Innsbruck Winter Olympics, skiing sisters Christine and Marielle Goitschel appeared on the same podium twice. For which country did they compete?
5. Defenseman Denis Potvin's No. 5 was the first number retired in the history of which NHL team?
6. Which team made Major League Baseball history in 2026 by becoming the first team ever to record multiple shutout wins of 20 or more runs in a single season?
7. Name the two HBCU football teams who compete in the Battle of the Real HU rivalry game.

GO FIGURE!

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.

	+		÷		= 2
+		+		-	
	-		÷		= 1
÷		×		+	
	+		+		= 18
= 2		= 56		= 10	

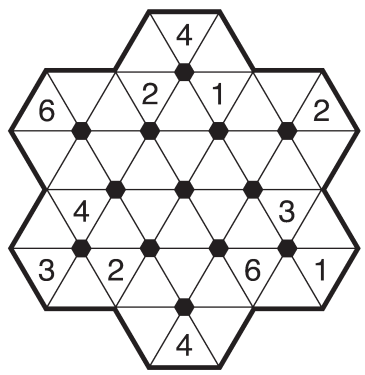
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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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

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

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

DE OER XKZTG OERQ EMT PZQCHT ZTC HJSHKKBDF OERQ EMT DERK, BTDGHZC EL MZBGBTP LEQ DEJHETH GE SQBTP LKEMHQD GE OER.

— NEQPH KRBD SEQPHD

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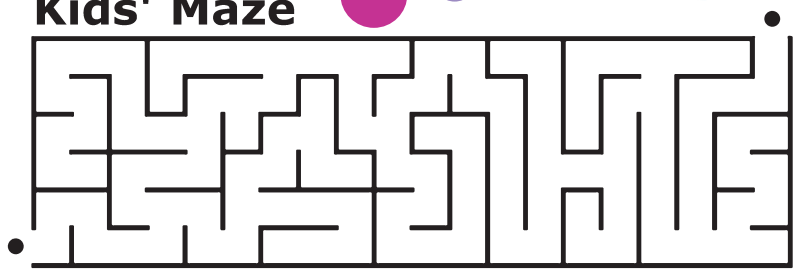
WORD SPIRAL

T T
S
G L

Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

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Kids' Maze



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Brain Zone! ANSWERS

Even Exchange
answers

1. Brooks, Brooke
2. Tense, Tease
3. Letter, Litter
4. Expel, Excel
5. Robin, Rosin
6. Puddle, Cuddle
7. Twins, Twine
8. Wilma, Willa
9. Kitten, Mitten
10. Shake, Snake

Flash Back Pop Rock & Soul Trivia
by Mick Harper

Answers

1. The Three Degrees, in 1974. The group didn't want to release the song, thinking it was too simple, but the song ended up in the top 10 in the U.S., South Africa, Canada, Belgium, Australia and Ireland.
2. The Weavers, in 1950. But it was the version by Peter, Paul and Mary that was the most popular in 1963, winning two Grammy awards.
3. Steve Lawrence, in 1961. The song spent 16 weeks on the charts.
4. The Beach Boys, in 1966.
5. "Four Walls," by Jim Reeves in 1957. Reeves had to push the record company to let him release the song because they thought it was more appropriate for a female, but he was right: His version topped the charts.

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Trivia test
by Fifi Rodriguez

Answers

1. Wilson Phillips.
2. South Carolina.
3. Mary Quant.
4. Four.
5. To bask in the sun.
6. Bill Cullen (The original debuted in 1956.)
7. Platelets.
8. Edith Wharton.
9. The U.S. Treasury Building.
10. 1994.

Sports QUIZ
by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. Ben Hogan.
2. Occoneechee Speedway.
3. Todd Monken, following the Browns' first win in 2026.
4. France.
5. The New York Islanders.
6. The Milwaukee Brewers (22-0 vs. Mariners on Aug. 18, 20-0 at Reds on Sept. 11).
7. The Hampton University Pirates and the Howard University Bison.

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SCRAMBLERS
Solution

1. Cosmic; 2. Mortal
3. Alley; 4. Linger

Today's Word

SALARY

Word Spiral
Answer

TAILGATES

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

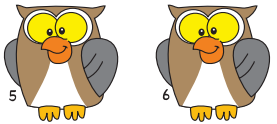
ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Death, 3) Dead Sea, 4) Nebuchadnezzar, 5) Stephen, 6) Hosea

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.

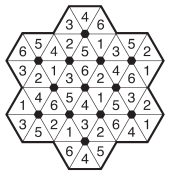
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9	+	5	÷	7	= 2
+		+		-	
3	-	2	÷	1	= 1
÷		×		+	
6	+	8	+	4	= 18
= 2		= 56		= 10	

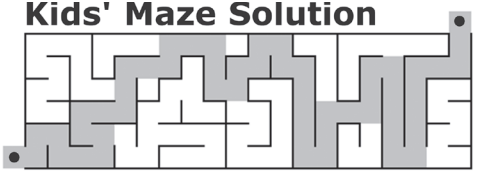
FIND THE TWINS
WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



SNOWFLAKES
solution



Kids' Maze Solution



MINI **SUDOKU**

Answer

6	1	3	5	2	4
4	2	5	6	3	1
2	3	1	4	6	5
5	4	6	3	1	2
3	5	2	1	4	6
1	6	4	2	5	3

CryptoQuip
answer

Two noted amateur detective brothers who live in a distinctly bohemian culture: The Arty Boys.

