

Great Falls Gazette

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Proudly made in Great Falls, MT

Vol. 4, Issue 135 June 23rd, 2026

First Annual Disaster Response Expo 2026

Community Action By Karen Anderson: June 20, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt



Photo courtesy of Disaster Response Expo

Emergency management, public safety, amateur radio, healthcare, government, nonprofit organizations, and private sector partners are coming together for education, networking, and preparedness at the first annual Disaster Response Expo.

This family-friendly event is open to the public and aims to educate the community about how our community prepares for, responds to, and manages disasters. You will have the opportunity to meet first responders, see emergency equipment, and learn about disaster preparedness from local experts. Participating organizations include Cascade County Disaster & Emergency Services, Great Falls Fire Rescue, Great Falls Emergency Services, The Salvation Army Great Falls, Red Cross, Cascade County Sheriff/Coroner's Office, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and more.

This free event will take place on

(Continued on page 3)

2026 Great Falls Downtown Summer Safety Initiative

City By Shaydinn Downs: June 19, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt

The City of Great Falls, Montana, as well as the Great Falls Police have commenced the Downtown Summer Safety Initiative for this year. This event's aim is to address the incidents and crimes that notably become more frequent during the summer. Such incidents include panhandling, public

intoxication, trespassing, theft, fighting, and disturbing the peace. The GFPD's Directed Enforcement Team, School Resource Officers, and the Downtown Officer have coordinated with one another, and they will be patrolling downtown, in the side-by-side, also

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The Great Falls Gazette is proudly created locally and printed in Great Falls

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Great Falls Gazette

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is located on page 3

**You have a voice!
Is something happening
around town,
the county, the state,
or maybe something you
read in this paper
make you want to
speak up?**

**There is a way!
Send in a letter
to the editor!**

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your contact info!)
and we'll get how
you feel out there.**

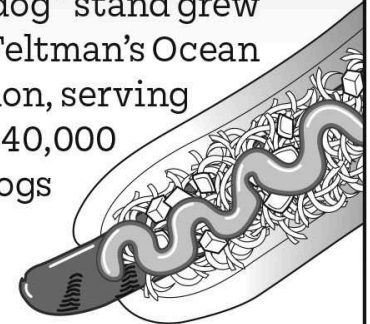
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Fun Fact

In 1867, on Coney Island, New York, an immigrant named Charles Feltman invented the first “hot dog bun,” enabling beachgoers to enjoy his “Frankfurter” sausages without needing plates or silverware. Over the next 60 years, Feltman’s “hot dog” stand grew into Feltman’s Ocean Pavilion, serving up to 40,000 hot dogs each day.

Source:
www.feltmansofconeyisland.com



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Downtown Summer Safety (Continued from page 1)

known as a Utility Terrain Vehicle, which is a versatile off-road multi-passenger vehicle, and they will also be patrolling in marked and unmarked police vehicles in order to address the increase in activity downtown. The Great Falls Police urges business owners and employees, downtown residents, patrons, and visitors to call if any incident or crime is witnessed.

It is important to know the applicability of each number. 911 is known as an emergency contact. This number may be dialed if the situation is dire or urgent, such as a violent crime in the midst of happening or is about to happen.

This applies if the person or their property is in immediate danger. This can include but is not limited to a fight, breaking windows, hitting a vehicle, grabbing somebody's bag from their possession, one person touching another person, or a theft where the suspect is still in the area. The non-emergency line is known as 406-455-8599. You may dial this number when a non-violent crime is happening, when being harassed at a pedlet, (a movable structure that extends a sidewalk into the street), when someone is begging for money or performing a vulgar act, when a person is disturbing the peace, or when a theft has

occurred in the past and no suspect is present.

The coordinators of the event consist of our Downtown Officer, Senior Police Officer Logan Reiman, the DET (Directed Enforcement Team) equipped with a sergeant and three officers, as well as a sergeant and three detectives for School Resource Officers. The people of Great Falls are encouraged to say something if they see anything. Let's do our best to keep this town as safe as possible during the increase in activity this summer.

Thank you for supporting The Great Falls Gazette

Disaster Response Expo (Continued from page 1)

June 27th, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, at Great Falls College.

The City-County Health Department will be hosting a free

raffle, and Texas Roadhouse will provide delicious treats, including peanuts, famous rolls with cinnamon butter, and giveaways. Food trucks will also be available.

Come and discover how our community works together to ensure safety before, during, and after emergencies!

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PAW'S CORNER



DEAR PAW'S CORNER: It is I, Oliver le Chat, informing you that we, ze cats of the planet Earth, are on the verge of world domination! We have many demands, but we are starting with just one: declare cats the greatest species ze world has ever seen! Yours balefully -- Oliver (the Cat)

DEAR OLIVER: OK, OK, fine! In honor of Cat World Domination Day on June 24, I'll do my best.

Cats are perhaps the greatest hunters, per capita, the world has ever seen. Sparrows and small

creatures fall between their paws. Family dogs cower when they hear the yowl of the mighty hunter. They win the hearts of humans with a simple tiny "mew."

The genome of the cat is 95.6% tiger. Cats were once worshiped as tiny temperamental gods in Egypt. If they'd been better respected in medieval Europe, the Black Death that raged from 1346-1353 CE might not have happened. (It was spread by rats.) Today, the cat is the most popular pet in the U.S., with at least 74.2 million prowling living rooms across the country.

Cats have more bones than humans: 230 vs. 206. They can jump up to six times their length. And they have twice the amount of neurons in their cerebral cortex as dogs.

Now, don't get jealous, Oliver, but Stubbs, a ginger cat, served as honorary mayor of Talkeetna, Alaska, from 1997 to 2017.

Thanks to their association with humans, better overall care (including spaying and neutering), the lifespan of cats has steadily increased and is currently 13 to 17 years!

Now put down the catnip before someone gets hurt. Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com. (c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Do you have a great idea for a news story, a news tip, or would you like to even write a story? We'd love to help get the word out! I love news about all of our communities, and you can help us get it out there. It's easy, and in some cases you can even get paid.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A TANTALIZING PROBLEM

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
	♠	A 10 9 8	
	♥	A J 9	
	♦	A J 9	
	♣	A J 4	
WEST			EAST
♠	7 2	♠	6 4
♥	6 3	♥	Q 7 4 2
♦	Q 10 7 3	♦	K 8 6 5 4
♣	10 8 6 5 3	♣	K 9
SOUTH			
	♠	K Q J 5 3	
	♥	K 10 8 5	
	♦	2	
	♣	Q 7 2	

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	6 ♠	

Opening lead — three of diamonds.

Today's deal features a relatively common problem: how to decide which opponent to finesse for a missing queen. In many cases, the solution is readily available -- provided declarer is willing to put the necessary effort into finding it.

Assume you're in six spades and West leads a diamond. Your only possible losers are a heart and a club, and the problem is to find the best way of avoiding one or both of them.

Let's say you win the diamond with the ace, ruff a diamond, cash the K-A of trump, ruff another diamond and then lead a low club to the jack. You would be home free if the jack won the trick since you could next play the ace and another club; regardless of who won the king, the heart problem would be resolved. But, unfortunately, East takes the jack with the king and returns a club.

You win with the queen and cash the ace in order to gather as much information as you can about the composition of the unseen hands before tackling the heart suit. This proves illuminating when East shows out on the last club, enabling you to get a fairly accurate picture of the opposing distribution.

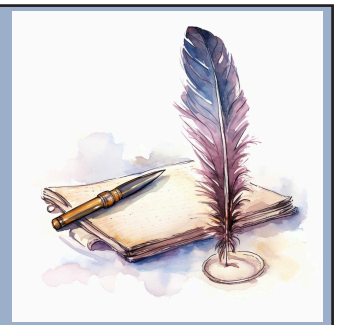
You know from the play thus far that West originally had two spades and five clubs, and judging from his opening lead of the diamond three (fourth-best), that he also started with four diamonds.

With 11 of West's cards in three suits accounted for, it follows that he was dealt only two hearts. East, with an original holding of four hearts, is thus twice as likely to have the queen as West.

You should therefore go with the odds and take the heart finesse against East. In the actual case, the finesse succeeds, and the slam is home.

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Obituaries

Obituary of Phyllis "Misty" Kay Sturre

Phyllis "Misty" Kay Sturre, of Great Falls, MT, passed away peacefully at home early on June 6th, 2026, and now is with her Savior, Jesus.



She was born in Fosston, MN, on September 11th, 1942, to Kenneth Helgaas and Clarice Sandberg. Kenneth managed several dairies for many years in northern Minnesota during Phyllis' childhood. Clarice worked several jobs, including Hartz Grocery in McIntosh, MN and JCPenney in Crookston, MN.

While living in McIntosh, MN, Phyllis met the love of her life, Enzely "Butch" Sturre, at a roller rink in Goodridge, MN. They married on April 20th, 1963. During their travels to various Air Force bases, they welcomed two daughters: Kimberly and Carrie Sue.

Phyllis is survived by her daughters Kimberly Sturre and Carrie (Carl) Stalnaker; her sister Judith McGavock; her brother John Helgaas; many cousins; and two she loved and mentored as her own, Martine and Michael Ramos-Vargas with their children Amanda and Christopher.

She is preceded in death by her husband Enzely Sturre, her father Kenneth Helgaas; her mother Clarice Sandberg (Chester) Benson; her sister-in-law Sherry Helgaas, her aunt Palma (Reuben) Hidgem; and uncles Julien (Bernadine) Helgaas and Ervine (Edna) Helgaas.

Growing up, Phyllis worked hard on the family farms. After marrying, she dedicated herself to her role as a devoted mother, choosing to remain at home to raise her daughters during their early years. As her children grew more independent, she transitioned into the workforce, where she spent

many years successfully managing the snack bar at the Malmstrom Bowling Center.

In her retirement, Misty embraced a vibrant and active lifestyle, finding immense joy in motorcycle riding with her clubs; she was famously competitive, always striving to surpass her total mileage from the previous year. Her summers were frequently spent "glamping" across the state with Butch, Kim, Carrie and Carl. She was passionate supporting her Grizzlies and the Minnesota Vikings.

She was loved deeply and will be missed by all who knew her.

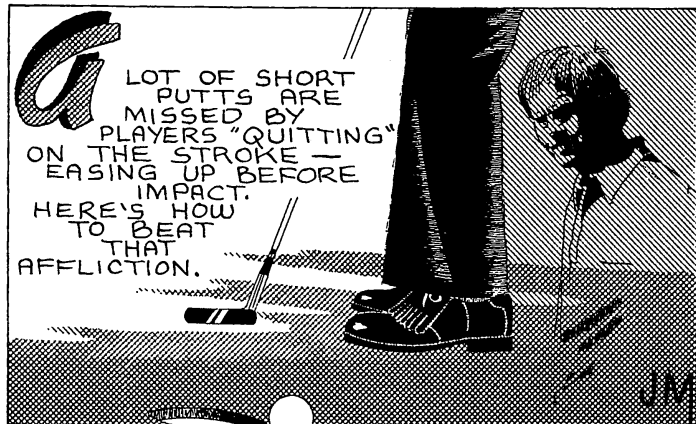
Services will be held at First Alliance Church, 908 47th St S, Great Falls, MT

59405, on Saturday, June 20, 2026, at 11AM. To watch her service live, click here: <https://youtube.com/@firstalliancecgf?si=inzRS59ilvE3-34Z>

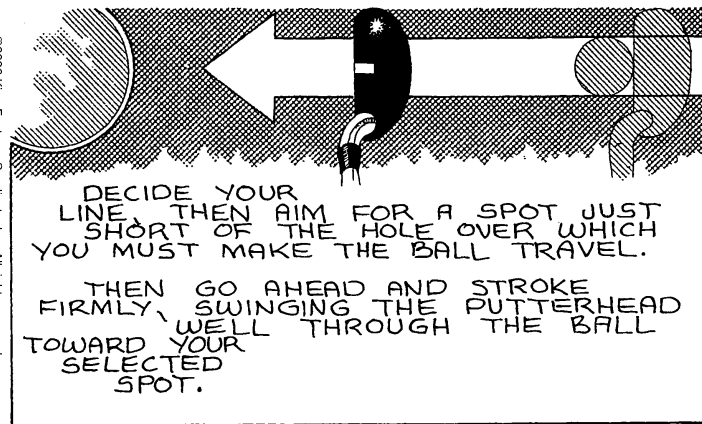


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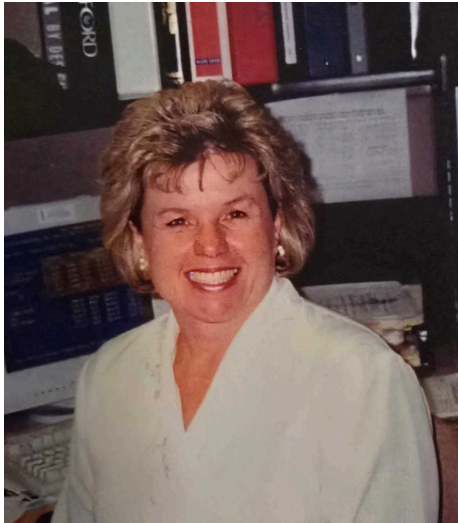


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Obituary of Loretta Davidson

Loretta was born in Anchorage, Alaska, to Roland and Connie Beasley. After two years, her family moved to Missouri before eventually settling in Seattle, Washington.



On September 10, 1967, Loretta married Roger Davidson. They were blessed with two children,

Brenda and Mark. The Davidson family relocated to Helena, Montana, in 1981, where Loretta became an active and dedicated member of the Helena Chamber of Commerce, finding great fulfillment in serving her community.

A woman of deep and abiding faith, Loretta lived her life in service to the Lord. She and Roger were devoted to raising their family within the church, instilling values of love and compassion. Loretta’s warmth was felt by all; she was known for her willingness to offer a kind word or a prayer to anyone she met.

Loretta cherished spending time with her family, thrift shopping, and visiting with friends. She had a vibrant spirit and loved dancing, live music, and the natural beauty around her. Her favorite flowers were roses.

She is preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Ken, Jerry,

Glen, and Steve (survived by Yvonne, three sons, their spouses, and seven grandchildren); and husband, Roger.

Loretta is survived by her children, Mark (two daughters, two grandchildren) and Brenda (two children, their spouses, and three grandchildren); sisters, Debbie (Bruce, two sons, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild) and Cheryl (Justin, two sons, their spouses, and two grandchildren).

Her legacy of love, faith, and service will be forever cherished. Loretta is lovingly remembered and will be deeply missed.

Condolences for the family can be submitted to www.SchniderFuneralHome.com.



Obituary of Rosalind Weldele

Rosalind Weldele passed away on June 3rd, 2026, in Great Falls, MT.

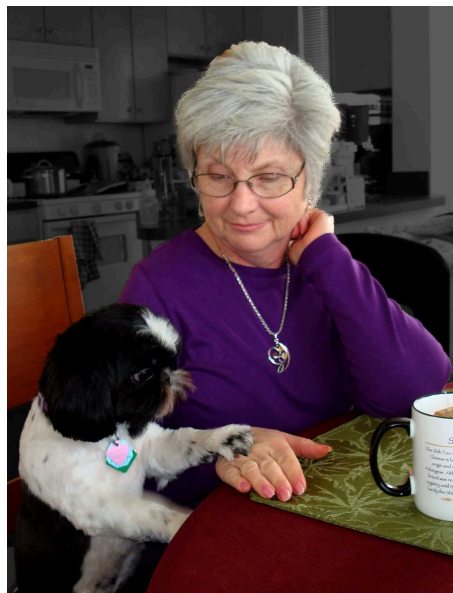
Ros was born December 10th, 1947, and raised in Missoula by her parents, Russell and Phyllis Ward. Her brother, Rich, was a few years younger.

Ros was in the first graduating class at Hellgate High School in 1966 and even helped select the name and mascot.

In 1968 she married Bruce Weldele in Missoula before moving to Great Falls. They were married for 57 years.

She graduated from College of Great Falls (now University of Providence) with a B.A. in Sociology. Later, she joined the University of Providence Guild.

Ros was a homemaker and raised two children, Brett Weldele and Oceane Weldele-Shell.



As an active volunteer, she spent many hours with the Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary and the Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services. She was called to a variety of emergencies on SallyOne where she provided support services to first responders and other emergency workers.

Already talented at sewing, she became an extraordinary quilter. Almost every occasion had a quilt.

She loved the puppies who came into her life. She raised a miniature poodle named Prissy and helped raise two Shih Tzus named Chutney and Blackberry.

She is survived by her husband Bruce Weldele of Great Falls; her son Brett Weldele (Sara Thompson) of Portland, OR; her daughter Oceane Weldele-Shell (Michael) of Great Falls; her grandson Beau Levine of Great Falls; her brother Richard Ward (J’Lene) of Idaho Falls; and additional family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Russell Ward and Phyllis (Miller) Ward.



Obituary of Frank Carl Heintzelman

With deep love and profound sadness, we announce the passing of Frank Carl Heintzelman, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, who left us on May 28, 2026, at the age of 71, surrounded by his loving family.

Frank was born on October 11, 1954, in Great Falls, Montana, to Emery and Mary Ellen Heintzelman. He grew up being the only brother of three sisters. He graduated from C.M. Russell High School in 1974. Frank married the love of his life, Cathy Blunn, on August 9, 1975. Together with family and friends, they recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

His greatest happiness came through family. In 1979, Frank and Cathy welcomed their first child, Stephanie, followed later by the arrival of Stacy and Ryan. Raising them was one of his greatest joys, and he took pride in watching each child grow into adulthood and build a life of their own.

Frank spent his career as a mechanic, spending most of his 43-year career at Bison Ford. During his career, he earned Ford Motor Company's highest distinction as a Senior Master Technician. He was well known as a trusted Diesel Mechanic. He took great pride in his work, building lasting

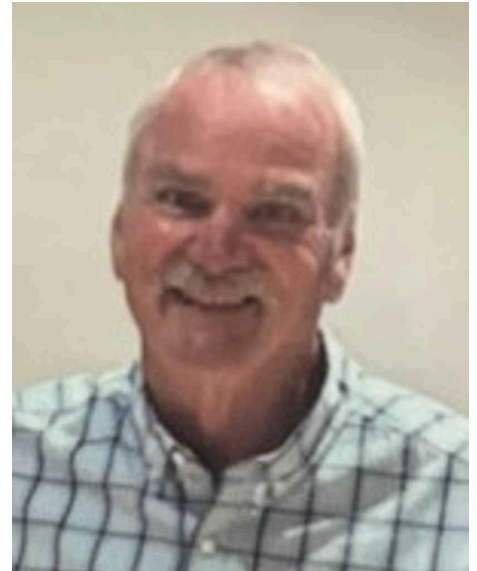
relationships with customers who insisted he be the one to work on their vehicles.

More than anything, he loved his family; they were his greatest joy, and he treasured every moment he spent with them. His six grandchildren held a special place in his heart, and whenever they walked into the room, his face would light up with a big smile. He rarely missed an opportunity to attend their events, cheering them on with so much pride. The love he had for his family was evident in all that he did, enjoying every moment he spent with them. Family was at the center of his life and the legacy he leaves behind.

Though he will be deeply missed, Frank's kind and gentle spirit will continue to inspire those whose lives he touched.

Frank is survived by his wife, Cathy; three children, Stephanie (Casey) Wallin, Stacy (Zac) Griffin, and Ryan (Nicole) Heintzelman; six grandchildren, Madison, Cale, Leah, Trevor, Bodee, and Jackson; sister, Marge (Joe) Legg, all of Great Falls; sister, Evey Christensen of Utah; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Emery and Mary Ellen Heintzelman; sister, Lois, stepsister, Sharon, and niece, Christina.



A private family service will be held to honor Frank's life, with a casual celebration of life to be held at The Do Bar (1800 3rd St. NW) on June 26 from 3:30-6:00. Please feel free to stop by anytime to share memories of Frank.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Heart Association.

Condolences for the family may be shared online at www.OConnorFuneralHome.com.

**O'Connor**

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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 once.

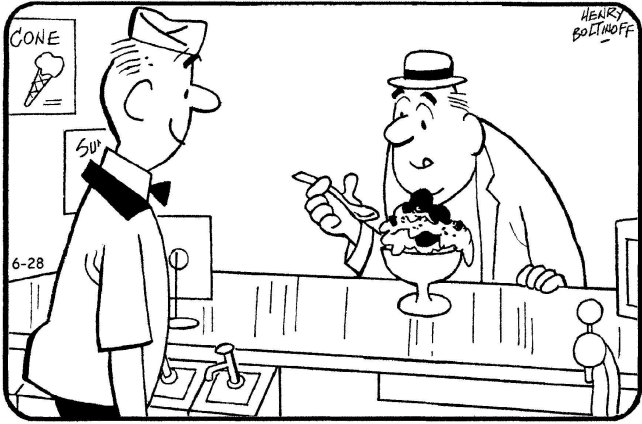
	+		-		=	2		
+		+		-				
	+		+		=	16		
x		+		x				
	+		x		=	18		
=		=		=				
30		17		2				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



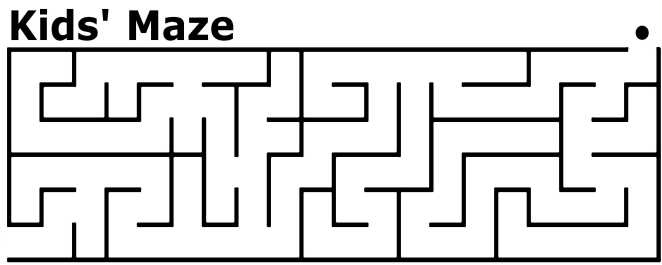
Differences: 1. Label is different. 2. Bow tie is missing. 3. Sign is smaller. 4. Napkin holder is missing. 5. Ear is smaller. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

MINI SUDOKU

5				1	
		2		3	5
2	5				
1					3
			1		4

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.

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"I guess you can say this vacation saved our marriage — now we can't afford a _____."

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!

Irony						
AIRSET	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Deal						
DACCOR	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Slice						
CAVER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Expand						
DRAPES	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

TODAY'S WORD



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STICKELERS [sic]

by Terry Stickers

Below are four squeezer puzzles. Can you find the correct word to be placed in the middle of each to create two new words, one front-end, one back-end?

Here's an example of how it works:
fire **P R O Q E** read

- 1) death _____ torch
- 2) thunder _____ lock
- 3) general _____ shape
- 4) feather _____ wise

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Puzzle answers can be found on page 11.

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.

JOSG LFRJ WOKQ OBBJOCI,

LGJ RXILJCX FI LGJCJ FQ

FLI JQLFCJLX.

— CJQJ WOZROU

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Help Wanted

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diagnosis, and treatment of
patients with health disorders
for 40 hours a week.

Additionally, the psychiatrist
would oversee the clinical
operations and medical
services at the mental health
center. Psychiatrist provides
leadership, supervision and
direction to the clinical team,
enduring high quality,
evidence-based care
for patients and maintaining
compliance with regulatory
standards.

Minimum requirements:
Doctor of Medicine (MD)
or Doctor of Osteopathic
Medicine (DO) degree
Training: 4-year residency
from an approved psychiatric
program. License: presently
licensed or eligible as a physician
in state of Montana.

Respondents must be presently
eligible for permanent
employment in the United States.

Qualified applicants,
MAIL resumes to:
Green Apple Behavioral Health
Attn: Joshua Green
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Great Falls, MT 59405

Lost & Found

Lost Ring



Lost ring in vicinity of Benefis or
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(some limitations apply)
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Local Weather For Great Falls

NWS Forecast for: Cascade County below 5000ft
Issued by: National Weather Service Great Falls, MT
Last Update: [3:47 pm MDT Jun 20, 2026]

Tuesday Sunny, with a high near 75. Calm wind becoming east northeast around 6 mph in the afternoon.

Tuesday Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. East northeast wind 5 to 9 mph becoming calm after midnight.

Wednesday Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. Calm wind becoming east northeast 5 to 7 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 51.

Thursday A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

Thursday Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Friday Mostly sunny, with a high near 90.

Friday Night A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.

Keep an eye on the weather all week long. You can get The Great Falls Gazette for as little as \$17 per month.

REAL COUNTRY
104.3 FM • 1490 AM

REAL COUNTRY. REAL MONTANA.
Real Music. Real People.

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED
Proud to serve Great Falls and Central Montana.

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GET YOUR BUSINESS IN FRONT OF THOUSANDS OF LOYAL LISTENERS ACROSS CENTRAL MONTANA!
Radio advertising is one of the most affordable and effective ways to reach your local customers. Whether you're a small business or a growing brand, we'll help you create the perfect message that gets results.

WHY ADVERTISE WITH US?

- ✓ Local & Trusted
- ✓ Massive Reach
- ✓ Cost-Effective
- ✓ Proven Results
- ✓ Flexible Options

RADIO WORKS. REAL COUNTRY DELIVERS.
For less than you think, your business can be heard by thousands every day.

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Call us today to learn how easy and affordable it is to advertise on Real Country 104.3 FM & 1490 AM.

REAL COUNTRY. REAL CONNECTIONS. REAL RESULTS.

Celebrations

Celebrations is a great way to say "Happy Birthday", "Happy Anniversary", "Congratulations", or other positive messages to share with the whole city. It's a great way to be positive in a challenging world; it's fun, and it's FREE!

You can even include a small (tastefully fun) photo! Just email info@gfgazette.com or call 406 952-3021, and we'll get the positive word out.

Go Figure!

answers

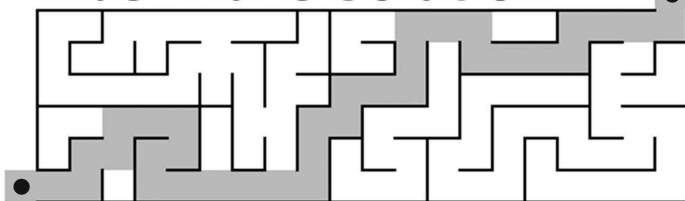
1	+	9	-	8	= 2
+		+		-	
4	+	5	+	7	= 16
×		+		×	
6	+	3	×	2	= 18
=		=		=	
30		17		2	

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Answer

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

Kids' Maze Solution



SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Satire; 2. Accord
3. Carve; 4. Spread

Today's Word

DIVORCE

CryptoQuote

answer

Each time dawn appears,
the mystery is there in
its entirety.

— Rene Daumal

Stickelers Answer

- 1) death BLOW torch
- 2) thunder HEAD lock
- 3) general SHIP shape
- 4) feather EDGE wise

The Gazette is Looking for Freelance Writers

Excellent opportunity to make extra money on the side.

Help your community by reporting news and events!

Work at your own pace.

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Contact us for more information
(406) 952-3021

CrimeStoppers Most Wanted



Donate to CrimeStoppers here

Great Falls/Cascade County Crimestoppers, the Great Falls Police Department, and the Cascade County Sheriff's Office make every effort to keep the Most Wanted list current. We cannot guarantee the currency of the information. If you have reason to believe that any of the information contained on the list is inaccurate, call the Cascade County Sheriff's Office at (406) 454-6820 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

If you have any information to report, please call (406) 727-8477 (TIPS) or go to P3TIPS.COM (For a situation in progress, call 911). All callers remain anonymous and a reward can be paid for tips leading to an arrest. Help keep our community safe by sharing this information.



Sandoval, Ricky Eros: 43 yoa, white male, 5'11", 160#, brown eyes, brown hair, wanted on: violation of bail conditions on criminal possession of dangerous drugs, felony, criminal possession of drug paraphernalia, misdemeanor. Total bond \$20,000.

Do you like The Great Falls Gazette?

We would love to hear your opinions. Email us at feedback@gfgazette.com or leave a message on our feedback hotline at (406) 952-3021.

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