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Hop to it! July 15 - 21 is National Rabbit Week, and Tidbits is zeroing in on the details of these members of the Leporidae family.

- According to the American Rabbit Breeders Association, there are 45 recognized breeds of rabbits. More than half of wild rabbits live in North America, with the rest scattered throughout the world on every continent but Antarctica. They're found in meadows, forests, grasslands, deserts, and wetlands.
- There are a few very rare endangered species of rabbits, including the Sumatran striped rabbit, found only on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia, at altitudes between 1969 and 5249 feet (600 and 1,600 m). There are only about 5,500 Amami rabbits alive, found only on two Japanese Islands, Amami and Tokuno. The Volcano Rabbit, also known as the teporingo or zacatuche, is the world's second-smallest rabbit, and lives only near four Mexican volcanoes south of Mexico City.
- Rabbits burrow in underground tunnel systems known as warrens. They have a unique way of preventing themselves from getting stuck in the tunnels. Because their whiskers are the same width as their bodies, if the whiskers don't fit, neither will the body!

turn the page for more







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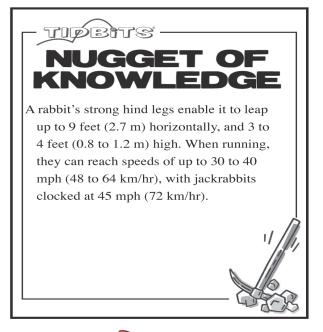
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### **RABBITS** (continued):

- Although the average rabbit is about the size of a cat, (13 to 20 inches [34-50 cm] in length and 2.4 to 5.5 lbs. [1.1 2.5 kg]), the checkered giant can weigh over 11 lbs. (5 kg), the Flemish giant more than 13 lbs. (5.9 kg), and the giant chinchilla rabbit between 12 and 16 lbs. (5.4 to 7.2 kg). The record for the world's longest rabbit belongs to Darius, a Flemish giant who measures 4 feet, 3 inches (129 cm) and weighs about 50 lbs. (22.7 kg). Darius is also considered the world's most valuable rabbit, is insured for \$1.6 million, and has his own personal bodyguard. The owner claims the rabbit thinks he is a dog!
- The smallest species is the pygmy rabbit, a tiny little creature just 8 inches (20 cm) long, weighing less than a pound (500 grams). Their home is in the West, in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and northeastern California, where much of their diet is sagebrush.
- Rabbits are herbivores, dining on plants only, including grasses, clover, and frequently vegetables from your garden, such as carrots, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts. They might also eat fruits, seeds, roots, buds, and tree bark. They can chew an unbelievable 120 times per minute. They have 28 teeth to accomplish this purpose, teeth that never stop growing throughout the rabbit's entire life! Continual gnawing of their food wears the teeth down, and an annual growth of 3 to 5 inches (7.6 to 12.7 cm) is not unusual.
- Because rabbits are the prey of several animals, they
  are always keeping an eye out for predators, such
  as coyotes and foxes. If danger is perceived, they
  warn their fellow bunnies by thumping their hind
  legs before heading for the safety of their burrow.





- \* Moving tip: Put books into suitcases, which often have wheels and good handles, in order to transport them. Books placed in boxes can get unbalanced when they don't fill the box efficiently. It makes them hard to carry and hard to stack, since you risk the corners crushing. But suitcases are easy to carry right to the shelf before unloading.
- \* Finding a bandage to cover a skinned knee or elbow is almost impossible. These can be a large or irregular area that doesn't fit under even the most generous of bandages, and adhesive bandages just don't stick well over a joint. Here's a tip for that: Apply antibacterial ointment generously, then cover the knee or elbow with a regular gauze pad. Then add a "sleeve" cut from a pair of tights. It moves with the joint without bunching up the way an ACE bandage does, and it stays in place.

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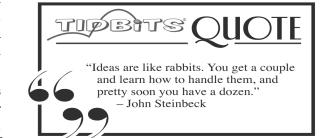
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Rabbits have highly-developed hearing, and they can hear that thumping from far away. They dodge their predators by running in a zigzag pattern at speeds approaching 18 mph (29 km/h).

- Panoramic 360-degree vision also helps rabbits be aware of predators in all directions. Their only blind spot is right in front of their nose. Even better than their eyesight is their sense of smell. They can smell a predator even before they see them.
- A rabbit's ears will reach a length of up to 4 inches (10 cm). The ears can move independently of each other, enabling the bunny to determine the direction from which a sound is coming.
- Most of us have heard of the extreme reproductive



habits of rabbits, leading to the phrase "multiplying like rabbits." Rabbits breed three or four times a year, with each litter between 4 and 12 babies after a short 30-day gestational period. Females are capable of reproducing at just 4 months of age, which means that in

### Continued pg.4

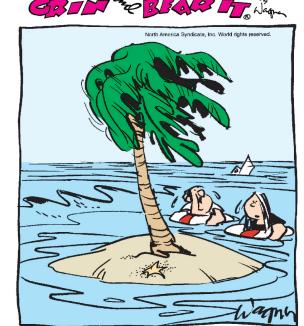
by Jeff Pickering







- \* "After the kids decorated cupcakes one day, I found that the counter and floor were covered with little spilled sprinkles. They were the ball kind, and they were hard to pick up. Rather than sweeping them up (which made them go flying), I used a lint roller, which worked perfectly." -- S.I.
- \* "To save money on electricity, hang jeans and other heavy clothing to dry first. When it's mostly dry, pop it in the dryer to fluff. Do the same with towels. The dryer softens it, but the sunlight dries it well, and I think it smells better too." -- U.F.
- \* Some facts about cantaloupe, now in prime season: Choose fruit that is smooth and round, with a depressed, soft scar on the stem end. Look for netting on the skin that is even and yellow, not green. One cantaloupe will get you about 50 melon balls or 4 cups of fruit when diced.



"And you said I never take you anywhere!"



by Samantha Weaver

- \* It was popular British romance author Jilly Cooper who made the following observation: "The male is a domestic animal which, if treated with firmness, can be trained to do most things."
- \* If you're like the average human, you blink about 17,000 times every day.
- \* Filmmaker George Lucas is arguably best known for his "Star Wars" franchise, but he also directed "American Graffiti." During the making of that earlier film he designated each reel of film with an R before the reel's number, and each instance of dialog was prefixed with a D. At one point during the sound mixing, the sound designer needed to use Reel 2, Dialog 2, and so asked for "R2D2." Lucas liked the sound of it so much that he used it for the name of a robot character in his later work.

- \* At 6 feet, 4 inches tall, Abraham Lincoln is the tallest president in the history of the United States.
- \* I'd be very surprised if you'd ever heard of Bokassa I, former emperor of the Central African Republic. It's interesting to note, though, that while he was on trial for infanticide, cannibalism and torture, he commented, "Being head of state is an extremely thankless job."
- \* If you suffer from ophidiophobia -- and, sadly, many people do -- you may find the following tidbit to be rather unsettling: There are more than 3,000 different species of snakes.
- \* Researchers have discovered that humans aren't the only ones to imbibe alcohol on a regular basis. It seems that the tiny pen-tailed tree shrew makes a habit of consuming naturally fermented palm flower nectar, which has an alcohol content of 3.8 percent -- comparable to that of most beers.

Thought for the Day: "An intelligent man is sometimes forced to be drunk to spend time with his fools." -- Ernest Hemingway

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### Weekly Sudoku Puzzle Sponsored by

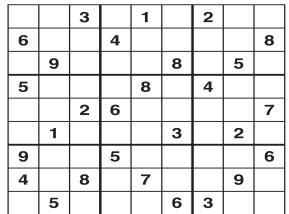


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### Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



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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Carlyne Lee lives in Author of 15 Cookbooks. For more information or to purchase your own copies of her books you can 250-836-3181 or 1-877-812-3181

### SHEILA'S SPINACH SALAD WITH **STRAWBERRIES**

1 pound fresh spinach (torn slightly) 1 pint fresh strawberries (halved) 1/2 cup toasted, slivered almonds (toast in oven

for 10 minutes) 2 tablespoons sesame seeds

1 tablespoon poppy seeds **DRESSING:** 

1/4 cup white sugar 1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire

1/4 teaspoon paprika

1/2 cup vegetable oil (can be Canola)

1/4 cup cider vinegar

Mix first 5 ingredients in large bowl. Process the dressing and pour over salad.

Serve immediately.

THIS IS THE BEST SALAD I HAVE EVER TAST-ED. YOU WILL LOVE IT TOO. (This recipe is from my "ALL MY BEST TO YOU! SINCERELY, CARLYNE LEE" (This book contains over 120 of my favorite and best-loved recipes.) (This book is in support of Canadian Breast Cancer Fdn.)

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for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: U equals T

B LDTDQUAC LDFX F RVUUV UIFU

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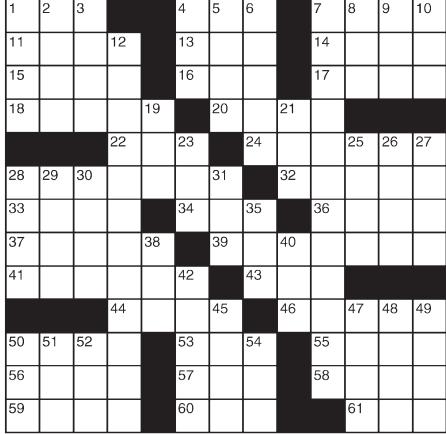
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King Crossword

### 1 Hollywood's Photoshopping? (Abbr.)

**ACROSS** 

- 4 \$ dispenser
- 7 Cheek by 11 Pilgrimage to
- Mecca
- 13 "How come?"
- 14 Overwhelms
- 15 Earthenware pot
- 16 Neither partner
- 17 Require
- 18 Westerns star John
- 20 Language of Pakistan
- 22 Grecian vessel
- 24 Red suit
- 28 Former Soviet 57 Unfriendly republic
- 32 Zagreb resident 33 Computer
- brand 34 Youngster
- 36 Christmas 37 Salvers
- 39 Topic
- 41 Blew hard
- 43 Greet the villain
- 44 Thing
- 46 Prank
- 50 Celebrity
- 53 Unopened flower
- 55 Noble title
- 56 Congers, e.g.



7 She's Betty in

"Mad Men"

Have bills

- 58 Old portico 59 Ridge caused by a blow
- 60 With 61-Across,
- finis 61 See 60-Across
- **DOWN**
- 1 Food, slangily
- Festive 3 Without doing 26 Body powder anything
- 4 Plant bristle Command-
- ment starter 6 Gift from the wise men
- 12 New Year's Day 19 Mess up 21 Calendar abbr.

9 Tiny

10 "Acid"

- 23 Almond or pecan 25 Libertine
- 27 Proofreading directive 28 Dog owner's
- 29 Beige 30 Symbol on
- chore
- Canada's flag 31 "Help!" 35 Place for 28-Down 38 Prepared 40 Feathery neckpiece 42 Subtraction from an account 45 Lots 47 Actor Donovan 48 Press 49 Dressed
- 50 Stitch 51 Golf prop 52 Everybody
- 54 Coloring agent

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### **RABBITS** (continued):

a single year, one female can produce as many as 800 children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. And that's even with only 15% of baby rabbits surviving to their first birthday. The largest reported litter was 24 rabbits. Wild rabbits can produce as many as eight litters of bunnies a year.

- Baby domestic rabbits are born furless and won't open their eyes until they are about two weeks old. Their average lifespan is around 5 to 8 years. First-time rabbit owners should be aware that keeping a rabbit outdoors will cut his life span in half, with risks of extreme heat and cold, illness, and predators. Even if a predator can't make its way inside the rabbit hutch, the bunny can actually have a heart attack just from seeing the predator outside.
- Do you know your rabbit terminology? Baby rabbits are known as kits or kittens. Males are bucks and females are does. The original name for babies was "rabbit," with adults being called "coneys." "Bunny" doesn't refer to a baby rabbit, it's just a term of affection there's no difference between a bunny and a rabbit. However, a rabbit and a hare are not the same. Hares are larger and faster, and have longer ears and feet than rabbits. They are born covered with hair, with

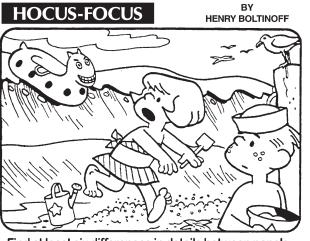
their eyes open, and they can run within just a few minutes of birth.

- Have you ever seen a rabbit jump in the air, turning and twisting its body? That activity is known as a "binky," and it simply means the rabbit is happy!
  - The rabbit is the fourth animal in the Chinese Zodiac calendar, and includes individuals born in 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, and 2011. For those born in a rabbit year, lucky colors are red, pink, purple, and blue, while lucky numbers are 3, 4, and 6. According to Chinese lore, rabbits are kind, gentle people, full of love. They are quiet, patient, skillful, compassionate people who treat others politely, but have a tendency to be melancholy. During rabbit years, it's believed by many that rabbits themselves should be more careful about all aspects of their lives. The next Rabbit year will be 2023.
- For those who choose to dine on rabbit meat, it has several benefits. It's all white meat, and contains the least amount of fat among other meats, with half the calories of pork. Its sodium content is less than other meats, and it's almost cholesterol-free.

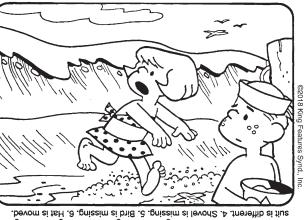
### FOOD OF THE WEEK: BAGELS

Tidbits invites you to bite into some of these facts about one of our favorite breads, the bagel.

- Bagels have their origins in the Jewish communities of Poland. The word is derived from the Yiddish word beygal, which translates "ring" or "bracelet." The word was first documented in writing in 1610 in the Community Regulations of Krakow, Poland, which decreed that a bagel should be given as a gift to all women in childbirth. Its round shape was a symbol of long life, and believed to bring good luck.
- Another version of the bagel's origins states that bagels were invented by a Viennese baker in 1683. Legend has it that the baker was paying tribute to Poland's King Jan Sobieski, who had led Austrian and Polish troops in defense from invading Turkish armies. Because the king was a renowned horseman, the baker shaped dough into a shape resembling the king's stirrup, which translated beugel in German.
- Traditional bagels are shaped by hand from a long thin piece of dough, round with a hole in the middle. The dough is then allowed to rise for a short time, then put into vigorously boiling water briefly before baking. The boiling water



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



moorplememda. The seam of the search of the



### **BAGELS** (continued):

might contain sugar, honey, or barley malt syrup for a different flavor. Bagels might also be brushed with sugar water or egg before baking to create a glossy crust. They might also be dipped in poppy seeds, sesame seeds, garlic, onion, or salt before baking.

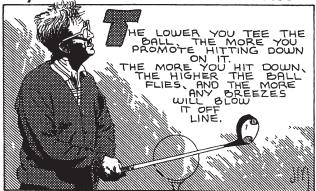
- The hole in the center serves a couple of purposes. It ensures that the bread boils and bakes more evenly. It also makes for an easier way to transport and display the bagels, enabling them to be threaded onto string or wooden dowels.
- Immigrant Polish Jews brought bagels to North America, and their recipes were a closely guarded secret. In 1907, the International Bagel Bakers Union was founded in New York City, monopolizing production since only the sons of union members were allowed in as apprentices.
- In 1927, Polish baker Harry Lender established the first bagel factory outside New York City, settling in New Haven, Connecticut. In the 1950s, Lender's son Murray revolutionized the production and distribution of bagels by developing frozen bagels, and supplying to supermarkets. Murray also introduced presliced bagels.
- In the early 1960s, inventor Dan Thompson devised the first commercial bagel-making machine. Dan's father, a Winnipeg, Canada bakery owner, had been working on a machine for decades without success. With Dan's machine, 200 to 400 bagels could be produced per hour, and traditional hand-shaped bagels quickly disappeared.
- In recent years, steam bagels have been introduced. They are not boiled, but rather baked in an oven with a steam injection system. The procedure requires less labor with the elimination of the boiling stage. The bagel is fluffier, softer, and less chewy than the traditional boiled bagel.
- North America has primarily two types of traditional bagels Montreal-style or New York-style. The Montreal is a little smaller, and has no salt. Because it is boiled in honey-sweetened water, it has a sweeter taste. The bagels are baked in wood-fired ovens, resulting in a crunchier product. The New York bagel contains salt and malt, is boiled in plain water, and baked in a standard oven, resulting in a puffier bread with a moist crust. In contrast, Chicago-style bagels are steam-baked.

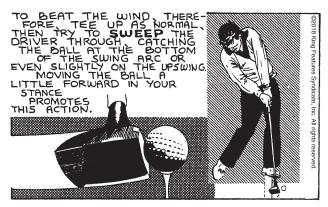
### PEZ

• Eduard Haas wanted to help people quit smoking, so he invented a small mint to



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give smokers something to suck on to help them over their cravings. The mints also appealed to smokers wanting to mask their breath.

- Setting up a factory in 1927 in Austria, Eduard packed the mints in a tin box designed to look like a cigarette lighter. Because they were mint-flavored, he abbreviated the German word for peppermint, pfefferminze, and named the candy after it: PEZ.
- The candy was popular, but for the next 20 years, marketing was aimed at adults, and smokers



### **Community Events**

Shuswap Theatre has announced the lineup for its fourth "Theatre on the Edge Festival", to be held July 20-22 at the theatre on Hudson Avenue in Salmon Arm. Over the three days of the festival, seven theatre groups will each offer two one-hour performances. This year, two troupes new to this "fringe" style festival will be joined by five returning groups. Theatre performances begin Friday, July 20 at 3 pm, and are scheduled every two hours. The Festival will close with the 7 pm performance on Sunday, July 22. All shows are at Shuswap Theatre, 41 Hudson Ave NW in Salmon Arm. Tickets for "Theatre on the Edge Festival" plays start at ten dollars (\$10) and the more shows you buy, the lower the price per show! The performance schedule and tickets are available at shuswaptheatre.com and at Intwined Fibre Arts, 81 Hudson Ave NE in Salmon Arm. For more information, contact Hamilton Mc-Clymont, hammcc3@gmail.com,- 604-741-5305

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A lady opened her refrigerator and saw a rabbit sitting on one of the shelves, "What are you doing in there?" she asked.

The rabbit replied, "This is a Westinghouse, isn't it?" The lady confirmed, "Yes."

"Well," the rabbit said, "I'm westing."

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### TIPBITS GOES LONG.....

A rabbit twitches its nose anywhere from 20 times per minute up to 120 times. When it's excited or stressed, it twitches faster, and the action slows down when the bunny is relaxed or sleeping.

### PEZ (cont'd)

in particular. Eventually the tin box was redesigned so it would dispense the mints one at a time which allowed the mints to be shared without being touched.

- The mints, which were originally round, were redesigned to be rectangular instead.
   This made them easier to be wrapped and kept production costs low.
- After World War II, Eduard wanted to expand operations to the U.S. He formulated a marketing strategy aimed at children. By placing a cartoon head upon the dispenser and by replacing the metal with plastic, he turned the candy dispenser into a toy.
- Santa Claus, Popeye, and Mickey Mouse were among the first cartoon heads used. They were followed by a robot and a space gun, which shot candies out of the muzzle. In 1962, the PEZ Corporation teamed up with Disney to produce many Disney character heads, though Mickey Mouse continued to out-sell them all. Because they are so often tucked into Christmas stockings, Santa Claus continues to be a top seller as well. To date, over 500 cartoon toppers have been created.
- When he found that the strong mint flavor of PEZ was unpopular with children, he experimented with fruit flavors instead.
- The raw ingredients in PEZ candy undergo 3,000 pounds of pressure to become the tiny tablets. Each package has only 12 candies.
- Several real-life people have graced the tops of PEZ poppers. In 1976, Betsy Ross, Paul

- Revere and Daniel Boone were on Bicentennial Commemorative PEZ dispensers; several U.S. presidents have been featured, as well as the members of KISS.
- At one point there was a PEZ dispenser on a necklace that dispensed candy-scented perfume instead of candy.
- One of the rarest PEZ characters was called the "Make a Face" PEZ and it came with little noses and eyes that you could use to design your own dispenser, just like Mr. Potato Head. Kids started choking on the pieces and the dispenser had to be recalled.
- One of the most valuable PEZ dispensers was the "political donkey" dispenser which was originally owned by John F. Kennedy. It sold for \$13,000. And a set of dispensers shaped like Prince William and Kate Middleton sold at a charity auction for \$13,360.
- Another rare one depicts Adolf Hitler. It was a bootleg item, created by a guy who bought generic PEZ heads and hand-painted them to resemble Hitler, then sold them by mail. PEZ lawyers cracked down on the counterfeits but not before about 80 of them were sold. Of those, about 50 are thought to still exist.
- Today the candy comes in over a dozen different flavors, and over three billion of the tiny square mints are sold annually. PEZ dispensers are made in China, Slovenia and Austria, then shipped to the world's only PEZ candy factory in Orange, Connecticut, where candy and toy dispensers are paired up and packaged. The factory in Orange produces 12 million tablets of PEZ every day and uses up 50,000 pounds of sugar every four days.

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	BLERS within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then ters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!
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Each numbered row conta other by only one letter, w MASTER for an I, you ge	hich has already been inse	rted. For example, if yo	ou exchange the A from
1. Sports team list	R	Wanted sign	P
2. Released	E	Cooked in oil	1
3. Clothes stiffener	_ T	Browse the internet	E
4. Avocado color	N	From Athens	K
5. Put the lid on	V	Tremble	w
6. Silent	E _	Grandma's blanket	L
7. Monkey with	_ A	Kind of tantrum	E
8. Restaurant lists	_ E	Subtract	_ '
9. Confess	P	Feel ill-will toward	s
10. Like Zorro	K	Like some potatoes	н
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PAW'S CORNER By Sam Mazzotta

### **Keeping Small Pets Safe From Coyotes**

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Yesterday we had a very scary incident in our backyard. I let our Llasa Apso, "Cherie," run free, knowing that she wouldn't wander into the woods as long as I was on the back porch, watching her. I was reading the newspaper when Cherie started barking. Looking up, I saw two coyotes at the edge of the woods, slowly approaching her.

I ran toward them, waving my arms and yelling like a crazy person. The coyotes took one look at me and disappeared into the woods. I picked up Cherie and brought her inside.

She wasn't hurt, but the situation could have quickly turned tragic if I hadn't looked up in time. For now, I'm keeping her indoors and only letting her out on a leash to relieve herself. Is there anything else I can do? -- Bob in Leominster, Massachusetts

DEAR BOB: Keeping Cherie on a leash for the short term is a good idea, and I'm very glad you were supervising her backyard exploration. Contact the local animal control agency to report the coyotes' behavior.

Long term, you may want to put up fencing -- at least 6 feet high and 1 foot below ground -- to deter the coyotes, as well as motion-activated lights.

Make sure to keep trash securely covered and, if possible, indoors. Don't feed pets outside, because coyotes may investigate the food smell. Clear brush from your property and keep hedges

On the plus side, you may never see more than two full-grown coyotes in your area -- they are very territorial. If they become problematic, though, your municipality may need to step in and remove or eliminate the coyotes.

Send your questions, tips or comments to ask@pawscorner.com. c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.



250-832-7376

Jasmine is a 3 year old spayed female cat. She's waiting at the Shuswap SPCA for her new home. Jasmine would do well in a home with no other cats and preferably adults only. She is a little bit reserved when you first meet her but she gains



confidence quite quickly with lots of attention.

We are still getting to know Jasmine so will update with more information as we find out more. If you'd like to meet her she is waiting at the Shuswap SPCA.

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### SCRAMBLERS

solution

- 1. Method; 2. Outfit;
- 3. Debate; 4. Snide

Today's Word

HUSBAND

### **Even Exchange**

- Roster, Poster 6. Quiet, Quilt
- Freed, Fried 7. Tamper, Tempe
- Starch, Search 8. Menus, Minus Green, Greek 9. Repent, Resent
- Cover, Cower 10. Masked, Mashed

### CryptoQuip

answer

I recently read a motto that a lighting store had been using: "The customer is always bright."

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