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TIDBITS® INVESTIGATES THE **NAMES OF SANTA**
 by Kathy Wolfe

Most of us think of Santa Claus as the jolly fat man in the red suit, but around the world, this holiday character has a different name and appearance. This week, Tidbits travels the globe to examine diverse and unique names for Santa.

- The name of St. Nicholas is a familiar one, and is thought to be beginning of the gift-giving legends. Born around 280 A.D. in what is now Turkey, this monk had a reputation for his kindness, giving away his inherited wealth, and helping the sick and poor around the countryside. The best-known tale is of St. Nicholas rescuing three poor sisters from being sold into slavery, providing each of them with a dowry for a suitable marriage. Because St. Nicholas died on December 6th, that became his feast day. On the night of December 5th, German and Dutch children put a boot or shoe outside the front door, hoping for gifts and sweets to be delivered during the night.
- Bavarian folklore depicts a companion for St. Nicholas, Knecht Ruprecht, who determines if children have been behaving and saying their prayers. If not, he shakes ashes at them, or leaves a stick in their boots instead of treats.

turn the page for more

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NAMES OF SANTA (continued):

- Christkind, the German word for “Christ Child,” referred to an angel who accompanied St. Nicholas on his travels, bringing presents to children in Switzerland and Germany. He was similar to a sprite or fairy, with blond hair and angel wings.
- Finland’s Christmas figure is named Joulupukki, which literally translates “Yule Goat.” His origins are in Norse mythology, where he drives a wagon drawn by goats. His garb is red leather pants and a tight, fur-trimmed red leather coat. According to Finnish legend, Joulupukki and his wife live in Lapland, the northernmost region of Finland, where they are assisted by tonttu, which are not elves, but rather dwarflike humans.
- Jultomten bears gifts in Sweden, riding in a sleigh led by the Julbocker, the goats of the god of thunder. He’s a gnome who dresses in red, lugging a sack loaded with goodies. In Denmark, he is known as Julemanden, and his sleigh is pulled by reindeer.
- Pere Noel delivers gifts to French children, treats small enough to fit in the shoes they have left out for him, typically candy, money, or small toys. The children place their wooden shoes by the fireplace, filled with carrots for Pere Noel’s donkey, Gui, the French word for Mistletoe. Pere Noel is accompanied by Pere Fouettard, who delivers spankings to naughty children. Pere Noel visits on December 5th, St. Nicholas Eve in France, and then returns on Christmas Day.
- In Louisiana’s French Cajun culture, Papa Noel is modeled after Santa Claus, but is transported in a small boat drawn by eight alligators.



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TRIVIA NEWSFRONT

1. The Netherlands Sinterklaas wears a red mitre. What is it?
2. How was St. Nick dressed in Clement Moore’s poem “The Night Before Christmas”?
3. Where is Santa referred to as Kanakaloka?
4. What country does Der Weihnachtsmann (The Christmas Man) visit on Christmas Eve?
5. What animals pull Santa’s sleigh in Australia?



- Russia’s fabled gift-giver is a woman named Babouschka, a name that means “grandmother” or “old woman” in Russian. She is said to have turned down a trip with the Wise Men to see the Baby Jesus. Another version is that she misled the Wise Men on purpose, giving them wrong directions. She very quickly realized her sin, and spent many years trying to find Baby Jesus and give her gifts to Him. When her search was fruitless, she began giving the gifts to children found along the way, hoping one of them might be Jesus.
- Italy’s Babbo Natale is a skinnier version of the North American Santa Claus, who commands his reindeer Cometa, Ballerina, Fulmine, Donnola, Freccia, Saltarello, Donato, and Cupido. However, the true gift giver in Italy is

Le Befana, the old woman who delivers gifts on Epiphany, January 6. Similar to Russia’s legend of Babouschka, Le Befana lived on the road taken by the Wise Men to locate the Christ Child. She was invited on the journey, but declined, later realizing her mistake. La Befana flies on her broomstick and drops down Italian chimneys on the Eve of the Epiphany, leaving gifts.

- The Dutch were strong celebrators of St. Nicholas Day, giving him the name of Sinter Klaas, derived from Saint Nikolaos, or Sint Nikolaas. He dressed as a bishop and rode a white horse over the rooftops distributing gifts. Dutch immigrants brought the tradition to America, and the name was modified to

Continued pg.4

TIDBITS GOES LONG.....

In 1890, the Salvation Army began their holiday campaign of soliciting donations to provide meals to needy families. They dressed unemployed men in Santa Claus suits and sent them into the streets of New York City.

* Trying to open a stuck jar? Tap the sides of the lid on the counter or floor on all sides, and the jar will magically open. Try it!

* “Every year, we host a Christmas party. To make the house more accessible, and to make guests more comfortable, we put little tags on the door to the bathroom and whichever room we are using to hold coats, etc. I close all the other doors, so when a guest walks down the hall, they can easily figure out what door leads where. No more confused people looking for the restroom.” -- Arianna B.

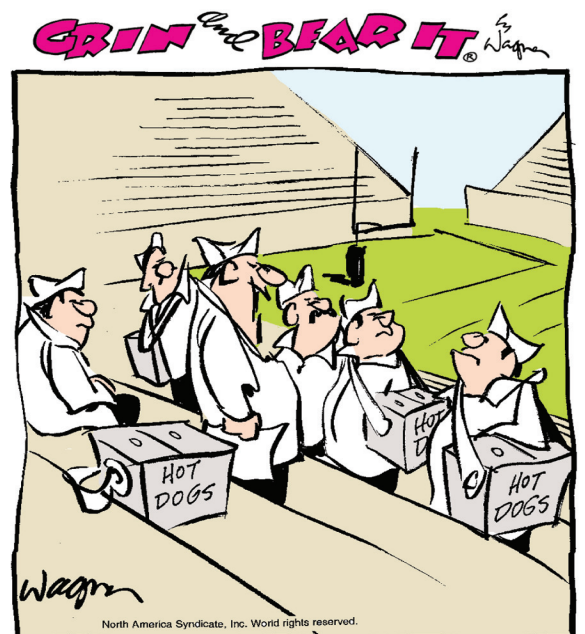
* Invest in a meat thermometer this gift-giving season. Food safety is important, but really, why guess when the technology is so easy and accurate?

* “Since we start cooking Christmas dinner almost as soon as we get up on Christmas morning, I noticed that the kids seemed to be breakfasting on cookies exclusive-

ly. Last year, while we were waiting for Santa to arrive on Christmas Eve, I put out boxes of cereal, bowls, spoons and a pitcher for milk. I also bought a fruit tray, which I just put out in the morning. The kids ate a proper breakfast, and I still had the kitchen to myself to start preparations. It worked great!” -- Sharon L.

* To keep beverages ice-cold for your party, just save a 2-liter soda bottle or a rinsed half-gallons milk jug. Fill most of the way with water and freeze. At party time, nestle sodas, beers or water bottles around these mega ice blocks to chill drinks.

* For fun-and-colorful cloth napkins, try using bandanas. They add a bright and fancy touch to your table setting.



“We’re cutting you from the squad, Willoughby. ... You’re not Super Bowl material!”

Yummy Eggnog Has No Sugar, Fat

For diabetics who think they have to miss out on eggnog during this holiday season -- well, they don't. This recipe has a great eggnog flavor, and you don't have to give up anything else just to enjoy a glass.



- 4 cups fat-free milk
- 2 cups fat-free half and half
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1/2 teaspoon rum extract
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1. In a large pitcher, combine milk, half and half, dry pudding mix, rum extract and nutmeg. Mix well using a long-handled spoon.
2. Refrigerate for at least 10 minutes. Gently stir again just before serving. Makes 6 (1 cup) servings.

¥ Each serving equals: 112 calories, 0g fat, 8g protein, 20g carbs, 343mg sodium, 332mg calcium, 0g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fat-Free Milk; Carb Choices: 1.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Use an old phone
- 5 Plastic user's accumulation
- 9 Yon bloke
- 12 Resting
- 13 Neighborhood
- 14 Expert
- 15 Shipwreck site
- 16 Ancient Briton
- 17 Say it's OK
- 18 It's right on the map
- 19 Shell game need
- 20 Took the bus
- 21 — canto
- 23 Mainlander's memento

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
18					19				20			
			21	22			23	24				
25	26	27					28			29	30	31
32								33				
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39	40	41			42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49					50			
51					52				53			
54					55				56			

- 48 Fond du — horse
- 49 Abrupt
- 50 Fed
- 51 Bonfire residue
- 52 Soft cheese
- 53 Dryer collection
- 54 "How come?"
- 55 Celeb
- 56 Therefore
- 6 Huron neighbor
- 7 Soothe
- 8 Body art, for short
- 9 Good ring?
- 10 On the rocks
- 11 Apportion (out)
- 20 90 degrees
- 22 Overact
- 24 American emblem
- 25 Carnival city
- 26 Throw in
- 27 Scoundrel
- 29 Luau bowlful
- 30 Doctrine
- 31 Greek H
- 35 Dairy-section item
- 36 Overcoat named for a region of Ireland
- 39 Talon
- 40 Whip
- 41 Sore
- 43 Bocelli show-stopper
- 45 Eastern bigwig
- 46 Pealed
- 47 Aware of
- 49 Letterman's employer

DOWN

- 1 Tragic
- 2 Concept
- 3 Hearty quaffs
- 4 Forgotten, maybe
- 5 Spotted

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FRUITCAKE COOKIES

- 3/4 cup white flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 cup chopped red or green glace' cherries
- 1/4 cup chopped glace' pineapple
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup chocolate chips (optional)

Preheat oven to 350F. Blend or sift the first nine ingredients. Beat in the butter (it will be crumbly.) Mix in egg and extract. Fold in the last 4 ingredients. Drop by full teaspoons on to ungreased cookie sheet until a golden brown, about 10 minutes. MUCH EASIER THAN MAKING FRUITCAKE!

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: L equals R

CIPXP BQZXV DLPOPL XNGKDCGLP
 SHPL DQVUCVUM. V MGPXX ZSG
 NSGKB XQZ V'HP IQB Q NIQUMP
 SO QLC.

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Your last opportunity to contribute to the Women's Emergency Shelter before Christmas Day!

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 1981 - 9th Ave. N.E. Saturday, December 23, 7:00 p.m.

NAMES OF SANTA (continued):

Santa Claus. In 1809, author Washington Irving published "The History of New York," which contained a collection of Dutch stories, many of which featured Sinter Klaas, described as large man wearing a red waistcoat, blue tri-cornered hat, and yellow stockings. Irving jokingly referred to him as the patron saint of the city

- It's believed that the name Kris Kringle was initially Krishinkle or Belsnickel among America's Pennsylvania Dutch in the 1820s. The name translates from the German "Nicholas dressed in fur." According to legend, the stern-faced Belsnickel showed up unannounced at children's homes, ringing a bell and carrying a bag of cakes, nuts, and candies, along with a stick. Children recited a verse to the gift-giver, and if they had been good throughout all the year, Belsnickel would toss treats on the floor and depart. However, naughty children received a spanking with his switch.

- England's Father Christmas dates back to the 1500s during Henry VIII's reign. He was a giant of a man dressed in green or scarlet fur-lined robes, and was greeted during his visits with mince pies and milk or brandy, left out for him by English children. His visits were on December 6, but when England abandoned keeping the Feast Day of St. Nicholas, Father Christmas began coming down the chimney on Christmas Eve, similar to the tradition of Santa Claus.

- It was Clement Clarke Moore's 1822 poem "An Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas," what we know today as "The Night Before Christmas" that changed our perspective of Santa Claus. Moore's poem gave Santa his sleigh led by reindeer, his jolly laughter, and his skill of navigating up and down chimneys. In 1863, political cartoonist Thomas Nast drew a cartoon of Santa for "Harper's Weekly" magazine that started the modern Santa image. Over the years, Nast updated his illustrations until his 1881 drawing that depicted Santa with his round belly, white beard, red-and-white suit, and sack of toys, along with a North Pole workshop and elves.

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TIDBITS QUOTE

"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves."

- St. Nicholas of Myra

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**UNUSUAL PLANTS:
POINSETTIAS**

It's the holiday season and time for the display of poinsettias! Here are the facts on the best-selling potted plant in North America.

- American diplomat Joel Roberts Poinsett was a South Carolina legislator and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives before being appointed the first Ambassador to the new Republic of Mexico in 1828. While touring Mexico's southern Taxco region, Roberts, an amateur botanist, discovered a beautiful flame-red blooming shrub growing by the side of the road. He was so fond of the plant that Poinsett sent home clippings to his plantation near Charleston. He continued to breed the plant in his greenhouse, sharing plants with others, and the plant was given his name in the United States. However, for all his efforts, Poinsett couldn't extend the bloom time of just a few days. It wasn't until the 1960s that horticulturists were able to breed plants that extended that time.
- Growing wild in Mexico, the perennial shrub, botanically known as Euphorbia Pulherrima, can reach heights of 15 feet (4.6 m). Prior to Poinsett's visit, the plant, which blooms in December, had been used by the Mexicans to decorate their churches, calling it the "Flower of the Holy Night," referring to Christmas Eve. The Since the 14th century, the Aztecs had used the poinsettia leaves to dye fabric, as well as using the milky sap

for medicinal purposes, such as controlling fevers.

- The bright red parts of the plant are not the flowers, but rather the leaves that change color as a reaction to the plant forming flowers. The true flowers are the yellow clustered buds in the center, known as cyathia. When choosing a poinsettia plant, those with flowers showing little or no yellow pollen will stay in bloom longer.
- Poinsettias have long had the reputation of being poisonous. A university study indicated that a 50-lb. (22.7 kg) child would have to

consume in excess of 500 leaves to have a harmful effect. However, while not technically poisonous or fatal, it still isn't a good idea to eat the leaves. Eating leaves can lead to stomach irritation, including vomiting and diarrhea. The sap can also cause a skin reaction to those with a latex allergy.

- Today, in addition to the bright red plants, there are more than 100 varieties of Poinsettias, including pink, white, yellow, purple, salmon, and speckled. The plants contribute over \$250 million to the U.S. economy.
- Most folks choose to purchase a new poinsettia each year,

Continued pg.6






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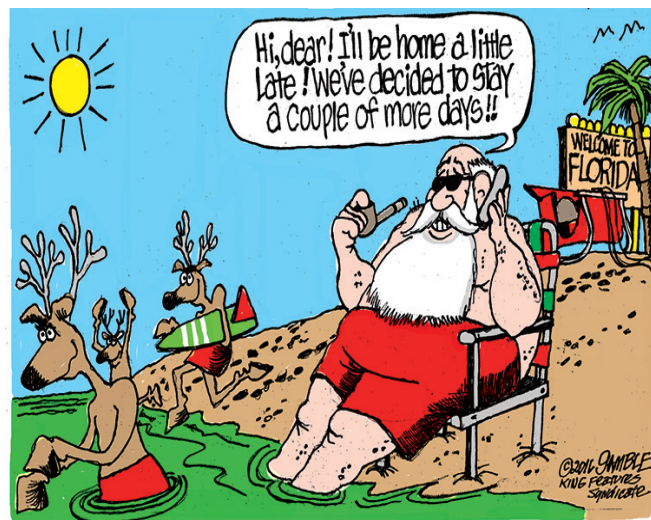
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but devoted horticulturists can get their plants to bloom again the following year. Continue to water the plant until March, then cut the stems to 6 inches (15.2 cm). In June, repot the plant in a larger container, and keep it in a sunny window. The poinsettia can be kept outside as long as the temperature doesn't dip below 50 degrees F (10 C). Beginning in September, the plant requires 14 hours of uninterrupted darkness every day for eight to ten weeks, and can be kept in light only from 8 AM to 5 PM. Even turning on a light briefly during the dark hours will delay the flowering.

Since the mid-1800s, the United States has observed December 12 as National Poinsettia Day. This is to commemorate the day that Joel Poinsett died in 1851. Following his stint as the Ambassador to Mexico, Poinsett served as Secretary of War, and was a co-founder of the National Institute for the Promotion of Science, a predecessor of the Smithsonian Institute..

TIDBITS

NUGGET OF KNOWLEDGE

In the country of Lithuania, Kaledu Senelis, or Grandfather Christmas delivers gifts to children on Christmas Eve. According to tradition, those who desire to receive a gift must tell him a verse or sing a song about Christmas in order to collect.



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JACK FROST

These days, our toes and nose are definitely cold! Is it the work of Jack Frost, the one described in "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" as "nipping" at our nose? Follow and along and see!

- According to Norse mythology, Jack Frost is the embodiment of frost, ice, snow, sleet, winter, and freezing cold. He's responsible for sneaking around at night, painting elegant, fernlike frosty designs on windows, leaves, and grass. Legend says his mother was Kari, the Norse god of the winds, who named her son Jokul Frosti, which translates "frosty icicle."
- Another Norse character was Ullr, the god of winter and son of a frost giant. Ullr is credited with creating the Aurora Borealis (Northern lights) to help balance out the shortened daylight of the winter season.
- Jack Frost is usually depicted as a jolly, carefree, sprite-like youth, full of mischief, who bites the noses of people to give them a chill. In some myths, he is an old man known as Father Winter, who rode across the lands on icy winds. The Russians call him Grandfather Frost, who was a blacksmith who forged the chains to bind the Earth and its waters together. German folklore has Old Mother Frost, an ancient white-haired woman, who shakes out her feather blanket to

Continued pg.7

HOLIDAY BONUS -- New Year Resolutions:

New Year Resolutions: A New You?

By Lucie Winborne

Quick: What's as old as time and as easy to break as a bone-dry pie crust?
 Answer: New Years resolutions.

We've all made 'em. We've all broken 'em. A very few (only about 8-12 percent!) will actually keep them. But are we really doomed to fail at losing weight, spending more time with family and friends, paying down debt and pretty much every other type of good intention we solemnly pledge each Dec. 31? Let's face it, that "blank slate, fresh start" feeling that comes with each new year can be a bit of a rush. There's always the hope that this year will be different. Those blank calendar pages are loaded with unexplored opportunity! And then real life sets in. You know, the same life we were living last week, last month ... er, yesterday. The same responsibilities. The same routines. Even the same unexpected curveballs and interruptions. Where did the time go? Where did our resolutions go?

Some of us prefer to call resolutions goals, as if secretly believing, even unconsciously, that giving this Jan. 1 staple a different name will disarm the shadow of past failures. "Goals!" we say. "I'm setting goals this year." And then most of us proceed to fail at our goals as well. What the heck is wrong with us?!

Well, maybe it's not so much us as the system that's at fault. Setting goals is a great alternative, but if we merely change the name and not the way we go about achieving our resolutions, it's a safe bet that by February most of us will

be sighing, "Blew it again!"

Let's beat that flawed system. As best-selling author, blogger and speaker Michael Hyatt has noted, five simple keys are vital to goal-setting success:

- 1) Belief
- 2) Closure
- 3) Design
- 4) Motivation
- 5) Tactics

Belief: Do you really believe that you can achieve what you want? With all your heart?
Closure: Are you ready to let go of past failures? Keep your eyes on the prize?
Design: Have you formulated specific steps to measure your progress? Bite-size swallows are easier to digest.
Motivation: What's your reason for setting a particular goal? Have a good strong "why" before you even try.
Tactics: How will you direct your forces to carry out those measurable steps? Learn from those with proven strategies. As every captain on land or sea knows, even the smallest change of course may radically alter your ultimate destination.

So, can you realistically look forward to a new you in the coming new year? With the help of a few smart steps (to paraphrase a certain former U.S. president), "Yes, you can!"

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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!

Athletic
EIGAL

Portion
HEARS

Frail
RENTED

Turned
WEAKS

TODAY'S WORD

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 MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Paying guest	L _ _ _ _ _	Dickens' artful one	D _ _ _ _ _
2. Stable occupant	_ _ _ R _ _ _	Abode	_ _ _ U _ _ _
3. Engaged male	_ _ I _ _ _ _	Napoleon's country	_ _ R _ _ _ _
4. Not in this lifetime!	_ _ _ V _ _ _	Recent	_ _ _ W _ _ _
5. Joyful and happy	_ _ _ _ R _ _	Compassion	_ _ _ _ C _ _
6. Easy as pie	_ _ I _ _ _ _	Take a taste	_ _ A _ _ _ _
7. Christmas visitor	_ _ _ _ _ A _ _ _	___ Fe, NM	_ _ _ _ _ E
8. MC _____	_ _ _ _ M _ _ _	Clothes basket	_ _ _ _ P _ _
9. Swamp	M _ _ _ _ _	Callous	H _ _ _ _ _
10. Take small bites	_ _ _ B _ _ _	Agile	_ _ _ M _ _ _

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create snow.

- Jack not only creates the intricate frosty patterns, he is also depicted with a paint brush and bucket giving the autumn foliage their vibrant colors of red, yellow, brown, and orange.
- In 1902, L. Frank Baum, author of The Wizard of Oz series of books, published the children's book The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus. The book chronicles the life of Santa, found as a baby in the Forest of Burzee by the Master Woodsman of the World. Baum introduces Jack Frost as someone described by Santa as a "jolly rogue," although he doesn't trust him. Jack takes pleasure in nipping "scores of noses and ears and toes," and is asked by Santa to spare the children from his antics. Jack Frost also appears in a short story by Baum entitled "The Runaway Shadows," in which Jack has the power to freeze shadows, separating them from their owners, forcing them to live apart in their own being.
- Jack Frost has been mentioned in stories and songs since at least the 18th century. Although Jack Frost is basically a friendly, cheery character, in some media, he is presented as a villain who can kill his victims by covering them with snow.
- In modern culture, Jack has been featured in several movies, video games, and comic books. In the 1998 movie, Jack Frost, a father who died young returned to Earth as a snowman in order to spend time with his son. An equally unusual film Revenge of the Mutant Killer Snowman, focuses on a serial killer who turns into a snowman but continues to kill. Nominated for a Golden Globe Award, Dreamworks' 2012 3D computer-animated fantasy film Rise of the Guardians features Jack Frost along with his friends Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, the Sandman, and the Easter Bunny, all trying to keep villain Pitch Black from immersing the Earth in darkness.



PAW'S CORNER By Sam Mazzotta

The Best Gift You Can Give Your Pet

DEAR PAW'S CORNER:

I read your column about a person who did not vaccinate their house cats, and after one of them got out, lost all of them to feline leukemia. I can relate to this person. I only have one cat, and I thought, for a while, that I could get away without vaccinating her. Fortunately, a friend convinced me otherwise.

It turns out that it doesn't take much to protect my baby when she depends on me to take care of her. I've never gone without just to pay for "Racquel's" vaccinations, and in turn, she is a healthy cat who brings so much companionship to my life. Please tell your readers not to skip this important annual appointment. -- Donna in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

DEAR DONNA: You told them, and I thank you. Vaccinating indoor pets can seem like a pricey extravagance, but it pales in comparison to the cost of treating the diseases that they can contract if they're not vaccinated.

To reduce the annual cost, check around for discounted shot clinics. These are usually held on specific dates and places -- pet supply stores, public buildings or participating veterinary clinics. However, these clinics often don't advertise extensively due to costs, so you may need to search a bit. Contact your city or county government to see if any clinics are being held nearby, or stop in to major pet supply retailers like Petco, which often sponsor shot clinics. If not, their workers often know about pet health clinics nearby.

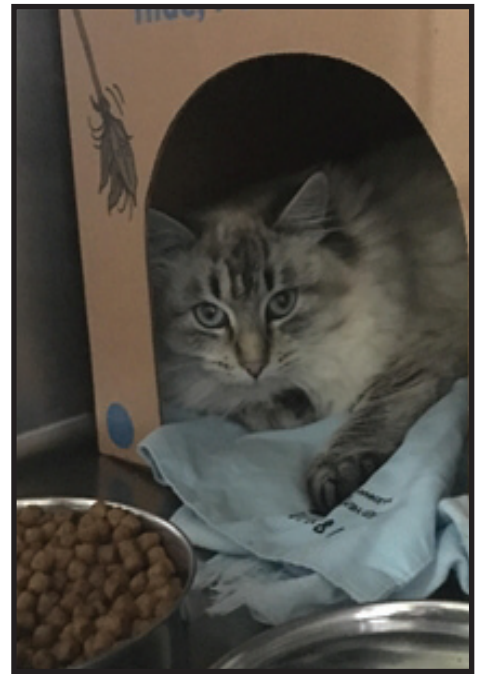
These clinics offer required vaccinations and licenses, and sometimes have microchipping and a basic health exam available at a low fixed price per pet.

Send your questions, comments and tips to ask@pawscorner.com.



250-832-7376

Jordyn is a young semi feral cat who is looking for a special home with people who will be able to continue to work with him. He has been bought up using a litter pan, sleeping inside in a nice warm squishy bed with his siblings with a full bowl of food. However... Jordyn has never been cuddled, held, handled, or even petted (willingly). He's been admired from a distance and that's all. Jordyn has a sister called Jorji who is also looking for a home. They will do really well with another confident friendly cat to show them the ropes. If you have a home for Jordyn and possibly Jorji, we would love to talk to you.



Adoptables ad is donated by Tidbits. To sponsor call 250-803-4664

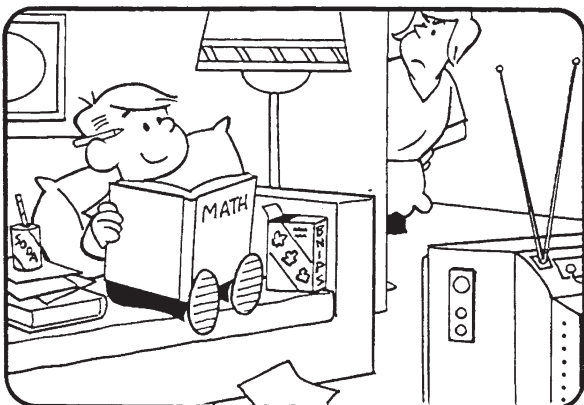
Laugh a bit with TIDBITS

Q: Why does Santa always go down the chimney?

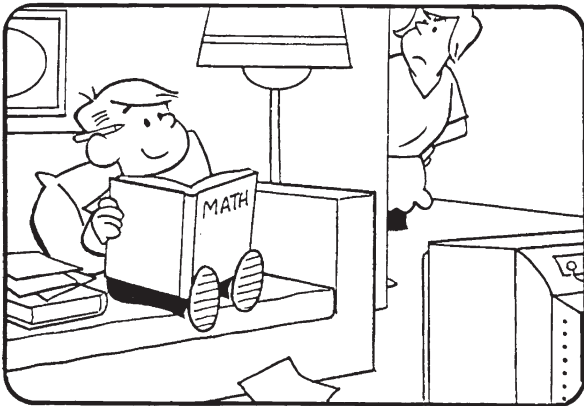
A: Because it soots him!

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Can is missing. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Lamp shade is different. 4. Box is missing. 5. TV controls are missing. 6. Antenna is missing.

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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Agile; 2. Share;
3. Tender; 4. Askew

Today's Word
HANGER

Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Lodger, Dodger | 6. Simple, Sample |
| 2. Horse, House | 7. Santa, Sante |
| 3. Fiance, France | 8. Hammer, Hamper |
| 4. Never, Newer | 9. Marsh, Harsh |
| 5. Merry, Mercy | 10. Nibble, Nimble |

TRIVIA NEWSFRONT ANSWERS

1. The headdress of a bishop
2. "He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot."
3. Hawaii
4. Germany
5. Boomers (large male kangaroos)

CryptoQuip

answer
These days I prefer sculpture over painting. I guess you could say I've had a change of art.



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



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