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				5		6		9
9	3							7
			7		4	8		
		3		6				
		4			7			
2		7					1	
		9		8	6			
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Level: Intermediat								

Level: Intermediate

1							5	
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		3			2	9		
		2	7		9			8
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Level: Advanced

SUDOKU **Fun by the Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

○** △శ ♣ ~ ● ఆ ♦ * ★ × * + ※ * ▲ (* 8 * × № 九 △ Ω & A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Solve the code to discover words related to popcorn. Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 24 = E)

13 24 14 2 24 4 A.

Clue: Small center

В. 21 9 5 14 17 20 1 16 24

Clue: Kitchen appliance

10 17 4 7 **24 2**

Clue: Yellow in color

25 5 13 24

Clue: Container

D.

POPCORN

WORD SEARCH

K В В S R D Ρ Ι Α Ε 0 W Т R Ι Т G Ε 0 C Р N K Ε Ε S Υ М R 0 D C 0 Z Т Α Ν L В N C Ι В G N R C Ρ N R 0 Ρ 0 Ι В C D Н U K 0 K D C Т 0 C ٧ 0 Ρ Ρ Ε K J G J 0 R L G ٧ ٧ 0 Z Α В М Α Ρ Ρ C 0 N Κ В М D G Ι Ι N Т М ٧ ٧ Υ Α D Т W R N D В C S Α Ι Α Z В Α W C Κ Т Υ Ι D Α ٧ Ν R C 0 ٧ C Ι K 0 0 W Χ U W S Ζ Ζ V Ν Υ N N 0 S S Τ S K Χ G Α D Ι Ε C C Ε Н Κ Ι ΙA

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

19

25

28

39

43

49

53

56

60

WORDS

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THEATER

UNPOPPED

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
 5. Highly impressed
- 11. Pronoun to identify
- something specific 12. Uttered in an impassioned

- 16. Outfits
- 17. "Westworld" actor Harris
- 18. Stewed game casserole
- 19. Indignities inflicted on others
- 24. Blood type
- 25. Says beneath one's breath
- 26. Taxis 27. Transmits genetic
- information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- 28. NFL great Randy
- 29. Where college students live
- 30. Brief Yankees sensation
- Kevin
- 31. Condiment
- 33. -frutti 34. Polish city
- 38. Astronomy unit of distance
- 39. Romanian village
- 40. Bears first overall pick
- Williams 43. Irritated
- 44. Clothing for sale has them
- 45. One-time world power 49. When you anticipate arriving
- 50. Farm building
- 51. Organize thoughtfully
- 53. Detective
- 54. One who reduces
- Nursemaids 58. Partner to "Pa"
- 59. World's longest river
- 60. Commemorates 63. Compound
- 64. The Lannisters and Starks
- fought for one 65. Email function
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Open-roofed entrance
- 2. Japanese religion
- 3. Dancer's garments 4. Distributes

B. microwave

 Ω golden

Ō

- 5. Yemeni port
- 6. Spanish doctors

- 7. It cools your house
- 8. Engine variant
- 9. Makes more manageable
- 10. Days (Spanish) 13. Milliliter
- 14. Spread out from
- 15. With two replaceable hydrogen atoms
- 20. Respectful title for a man
- 21. Equally
- 22. Scarlett's home
- 23. Big Blue
- 27. Subway dwellers
- 29. One-tenth of a liter 30. Central European river
- 31. Distress signal
- 32. Expression of sympathy
- 33. Bar bill
- 34. Football equipment
- 35. Dance music

- 36. Russian river
- 37. Mary __, cosmetics 38. Gym class
- 40. Autos
- 41. Fourth and honorable name in ancient Rome 42. Defeats (abbr.)

63

65

- 44. A way to color
- 45. Planet
- 46. Form of humor 47. Taken without permission
- 48. Go over again
- 50. Auto parts manufacturer 51. Detective's source
- 52. Home of the Flyers 54. Short official note
- 55. Emit coherent radiation
- 57. In the year of Our Lord 61. Atomic #18
- 62. Not from, but...

Riddle: Take off my skin – I won't cry, but you will! What am I?

Answer: An onion.



- Puzzle answers on page 5 -

— OPEN HOUSE -

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OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, Nov. 2 and Sunday, Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to noon.

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TERMS: 5% buyer's fee. \$10,000 earnest money cash or personal check, balance due at closing in 45 days or less. Successful bidder required to sign a standard offer to purchase with no contingencies. All announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed material. Seller may accept or reject any and all bids.

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Everything in this sale is in good condition. This will be a large sale auction. Plan to attend!

MIKE SMITHEE, OWNER

TERMS: Cash or good check. Have positive ID. Not responsible for items after sold AUCTIONEERS: Rob Young, IL #441000593, 815-632-8000; Kevin Conklen, Sale Manager, 815-590-8027. CASHIER: Dianne Behrens. CLERK: Cheri Lockhart.

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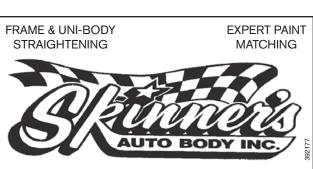
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Page 2 puzzle answers

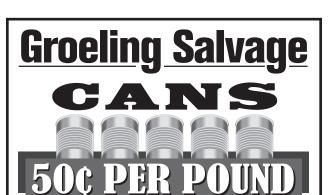
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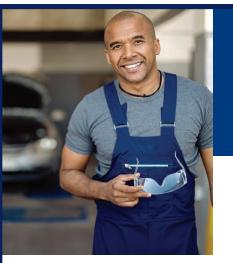
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ge 6 THE SHOPPER Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024

VIEWPOINT

Slices of life

Courtroom mayhem: The day they tried corn

This is a classic column originally published in 2014.

It was a serious day in the garden. Various vegetables gathered to witness the much-anticipated criminal fraud case against corn.

Corn had filed a countersuit claiming defamation of character and vegetative discrimination. These historic proceedings would hopefully answer the question that had plagued the human and plant kingdoms since the dawn of time: Is corn a grain or vegetable?

Corn entered the courthouse amid chants of, "Grain, grain, grain," from the other vegetables in attendance. Broccoli and cauliflower threw quinoa at him.

The bailiff, a head of iceberg, entered and asked everyone to be seated. "Let us start this mess," he said.

In opening arguments, corn, who represented himself, argued that although technically a grain by standard definition, he deserved the title of vegetable based on his longstanding position next to mashed potatoes on the dinner plate. "Everyone knows you only include one starch with a meal," he said. "That makes me the vegetable by default."

The rest of the vegetables, not possessing a grain of intelligence of their own, called an expert witness to the stand. Dr. Bunsen Honeydew, of Muppet fame, testified under oath that corn has been associated with politically incorrect terms. "Words like high fructose, saturated fat and



JILL PERTLER Columnist

processed food products are not language worthy of vegetables," he said.

At that moment, celery went limp and fainted. He was carried out by a large family of zucchini who had arrived late and couldn't find a space to sit.

Corn objected to
Honeydew's testimony,
saying the doctor's obvious
fruity family history,
not to mention surname,
disqualified him as a
vegetative expert. Corn
then went on to highlight
the nutritional and health
benefits of himself. He was
over-ruled.

During the commotion, kale lost his cool and let out a series of expletives. After a heated exchange, jalapeño hauled him out of the courtroom, but kale later made bail.

Beet testified he believed corn was beat, even though the ruby red root had previously made a covert contribution to corn's legal expenses with a note that read, "Give me some sugar." The two, at a much later date, became the sweetest of friends.

Cabbage corroborated beet's statement and added information that sounded a little roughage around the edges.

Next, onion took the stand and provided layers

and layers of testimony that made everyone cry. Artichoke was particularly choked up.

Throughout the process, corn was all ears.

Not all vegetables were so outspoken. Beans sat on the fence stating they didn't give a toot about the matter while pumpkin made funny faces throughout the day. Carrot remained silent during the proceedings, afterward reporting to the press he "didn't care at all."

Brussels sprouts were unable to join the discussion,

as they spoke no English and their translator was lost in translation.

Finally, in the midst of broccoli's heady and flowery testimony, a teary-eyed tomato stood up and made an announcement. "I'm not who you think I am," he said. "I've been living life as a vegetable, but since the day I sprouted I've always known I am a fruit!"

A hush went over the crowd. The peas were not pleased and rolled off in a huff. They'd planned for months to announce

their status as seeds and now tomato had stolen the limelight.

Meanwhile, eggplant embraced tomato muttering through his sobs, "I've never felt like myself either. Perhaps I'm a fruit as well."

Iceberg demanded order, but chaos ensued, as one by one, vegetables became fruits. Taking advantage of the hullabaloo, corn slipped quietly out the back door. He was met there by butter and salt, who'd been waiting, as planned, with a get-away vehicle. The three drove off

into the sunset, never to be seen again, or at least not for a week or two.

The moral of the story? It may sound corny, but it doesn't matter what other people call you as long as you've got good friends. That, and corn goes best with a little butter and salt. You might want to try it.

Jill Pertler is an awardwinning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. You can read more and follow her column on the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



Weekly connection

The joy of the abundant apple and family

I'm sure you all have heard the joke, "What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Only finding half a worm!" This has been a fall to remember as far as apples are concerned at my place. Lots of my friends have told me that their trees have produced like crazy, too. The two apple trees that I have on my place have yielded the



SCOTT CERNEK Columnist

biggest, fattest, and sweetest apples ever this fall. One is a small honey crisp tree that I planted a couple years

ago, and it produced 25 of the big, sweet treats. But my main tree which has been around as long as I can remember went absolutely crazy. We always loved the apples from this tree, even from the time I was a kid and this farm was still owned by someone else. In fact, when we started renting their farmland I was in high school and we

used to roll in the driveway with our grain harvesting equipment and when we drove by this tree, we always stopped and grabbed a few apples off this same tree to eat and to keep in the truck or combine for later. They were great then and they're still great today. I'm not exactly sure what kind they are but they look like a delicious hybrid of

some sort. They are not a soft apple, they are more of a medium-hard apple that become as sweet as honey after the first frost.

This year the grandkids

got very excited about all the apples on the tree sometime in about midsummer. They wanted to start picking them back in July when they were still small and green, but I kept telling them to wait until they turn red. Well, they any of our grandkids come over, they head straight for that tree. I like to whip out my pocket-knife and start slicing. It's fun to watch them chow down on one after the other. When all 14 grandkids are here with their parents, we can slice up 10 or 12 apples with no trouble at all before supper and a bunch after, too, before they all head home. The trouble is there are way more apples on this old tree than we have grandkid visits.

Every morning there are a bunch of apples that have dropped from the top branches onto the ground and many of them are halfeaten by birds. I usually fill a five-gallon bucket with these scrap apples every

couple days and feed them to the sheep and pigs. I make applesauce out of the good apples that fall to the ground. This year the freezer is full of applesauce. Early on, I was putting a little sugar in the recipe, but the last two batches I haven't added a drop and

the sauce tastes great.

Our church had a harvest dinner recently after our worship service. I decided to get up early, peel and cut up one and a half five pails of apples to make fresh applesauce to share at the dinner. I cooked them down in a big pot and there was only a little left to bring home. I love it in a dish, on pancakes, cottage cheese, or on ham, but it's the best when I heat it up and scoop it over fresh vanilla ice cream. Yum!

In Genesis, the first chapter and verse 29, we read, "Then God said 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food." God knew what He was doing when He created fruit trees, especially apples. They are the best.

Until next week, God



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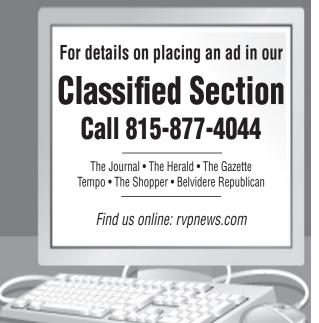
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