

**\$50 Monthly
Sweepstakes
Drawing**

**Kansas & Missouri
Edition**

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BINGO BUGLE

®

Vol 22 #3

North America's Bingo & Gaming Newspaper March 2011

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ARARAT SHRINE HALL had a good croud on a cold Thursday night. They have given away some pretty good jackpots in February. Try you luck.



Monday nights you get to see a lot of fun going on around the VFW in Olathe. It was plenty cold outside but nice and warm inside. Come on by and join the party.

This & That

Have you had time to drive by and try the Saturday morning Pull-tabs at Ararat Shrine yet. A nice way to get instant cash. They play on the first Saturday each month. Check out their ad on page two.....

We went to the big RV show at Bartle Hall in Kansas City, Mo. the first weekend in February. Man that was enlightening. There were RV's that had so much room you could live in them year round if you wanted to. We couldn't believe the prices they had on some of them. They cost more than the average home, and on rubber tires no less, going down the highway. But, if you had the money, what

a way to travel and see our great country.....

It must be getting closer to spring, we've had the Boat shows, the RV show, the Garden show, Home Improvement show and whatever else I might have left out. By the time spring does get here we will have forgotten about everthing we might have seen.....

Have you checked out the Bingo Cruise for this year. It is an eight day Bingo Gaming Cruise to the Caribbean in the middle of November no less. What a great time to be in the Caribbean when the weather is so cold back here. You get to play 60 Bingo games, plus all the food you can eat, room service plus 4 islands to tour, all included in the special price of the Cruise. Check it out.....



Horoscopes for March 2011

This month's featured sign is Aries: A return to optimum health must be at the top of your list now. Throughout the year, you'll make new discoveries...one issue leads to insight on another, and soon you've got a true, holistic way to grasp what your body/mind/soul need. All problems have solutions.

ARIES: March 21 to April 19 • Your new venture shows splendid signs of growth by the 6th. Keep the details of your core ideas under wraps (later, you'll be thankful). Be open to feedback and assistance from a close companion, and stay strong amidst temporary personal setbacks—love is on your side.
Lucky Days: 11-24
Lucky Numbers: 12-22

TAURUS: April 20 to May 20 • A friend needs you the 9th. Wonderful things result from your help...in turn, blessing you unexpectedly! From another direction, be aware of someone who would abscond with your money and affections. You'll have a most enjoyable weekend the 4th-5th.
Lucky Days: 4-30
Lucky Numbers: 5-23

GEMINI: May 21 to June 21 • Tripping over one thing the 7th prevents you from taking a big fall with the next step. Even the weird stuff ends up being a blessing in disguise this month. However, try to lay low during the full moon 18th-19th. Your input/efforts are highly regarded the 20th.
Lucky Days: 6-16
Lucky Numbers: 3-28

CANCER: June 22 to July 22 • No escaping to your shell this month...you're propped up and put out there. Enjoy your time in the limelight, for it is well deserved. Sensing no time to rest on your laurels, you persevere to finish a tricky task. Your beliefs are tested 25th-27th...some may not endure.
Lucky Days: 9-18
Lucky Numbers: 6-25

LEO: July 23 to Aug. 22 • Signs of spring appear early, literally and figuratively. Business/career: just getting better and better, and with you in charge, how can this not be?

Spouse/love interest also comes into his/her own, creating many occasions for the two of you to travel and splurge!

Lucky Days: 16-24
Lucky Numbers: 2-38

VIRGO: Aug. 23 to Sept. 22 • Fumbling fingers in a feathered nest is not an option now. You feel a "push" the 6th to take matters into your own hands, to organize your ideas/goals in order to take specific action quickly. Heading this sense of urgency throws your course into fast forward mode!

Lucky Days: 9-27
Lucky Numbers: 3-22

LIBRA: Sept. 23 to Oct. 23 • Romance has the best chance to blossom now. It's time to look more closely at what you're willing to compromise on, together. Matters of faith and personal habits should be discussed completely, honestly. It's the perfect evening for a lovely dinner and lingering conversation on the 11th.

Lucky Days: 11-16
Lucky Numbers: 8-21

SCORPIO: Oct. 24 to Nov. 21 • Rendezvous in a cherished place visited long ago on the 4th. There may not be instant resolution possible concerning a conflict at home that crops up the 10th. In spite of that, try NOT to make things worse, though your blood may be boiling. Patience...it does get better.

Lucky Days: 4-30
Lucky Numbers: 6-35

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 22 to Dec. 21 • Personal triumph sets you up for a great month the 1st. Determined to expose the puppets and pundits of the world and the agendas they espouse, you keep digging for answers. Be patient/thorough while assembling the big picture before shouting anything from the rooftops.

Lucky Days: 23-28
Lucky Numbers: 9-21

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22 to Jan. 19 • Experience with a sibling/close friend triggers a distant memory...talking about it, you comprehend more about why things were the way they were. Throwing money at a problem the 6th is futile and premature...time and pondering can bring in more cost effective resources.

Lucky Days: 4-30
Lucky Numbers: 5-28

AQUARIUS: Jan. 20 to Feb. 19 • Everything is going your way (1st-2nd). Don't take it for granted, though you might graciously milk it for all it's worth! Love tests you the 11th, maybe even rubs you the wrong way, but it gets you thinking (and further spurs you on to act decisively).

Lucky Days: 6-11
Lucky Numbers: 3-26

PISCES: Feb. 19 to March 20 • You're actually taking the lead on something that registers high on your "get 'er done" list. Friends seek to protect you from one who could tempt you to compromise your principles. Devilishly good time 8th-9th, and the best of both worlds.

Lucky Days: 4-30
Lucky Numbers: 6-30

Bugle Cruise News

■ **Your 2011 Tournament**
Cruise Ports of Call: Catalina Island; part two of a four-part series

By Jeffrey Charboneau

Special to the Bingo Bugle

Setting sail on Nov. 11, 2011, from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to the southern Caribbean, participants of the 23rd Annual World Championship Bingo Tournament and Gaming Cruise will visit the ports of Grand Turk, Catalina Island, Aruba, and Curacao aboard Carnival Cruise Line's Miracle.

Your second port of call is Catalina Island—and no, we are not referring to the famed island off the coast of California.

This Catalina Island is part of the Dominican Republic and was named "Santa Catalina" by Christopher Columbus when he discovered it in 1494.

Catalina Island is a beautiful and uninhabited Caribbean island near the southeast coast of the Dominican Republic. It is a protected natural park with few if any buildings, enhancing the sense of untouched natural beauty for which the island is known.

Catalina Island is only six square miles in size, and is a diverse preserve of eco-systems including sand dunes, mangroves and reefs. Formed out of coral stone, the island contains three overlapping plateaus. The highest elevation on the island is only 60

feet above sea level.

The seas around the island are rich in wildlife, with many species of birds and tropical marine fish, and there are large areas where natural sandbars offshore bring the depth to just a few feet.

The sea depth is so gradual, in fact, that cruise ships must drop anchor out at sea and transport passengers by tender to the island.

The two most enjoyable activities on the island are relaxing or beachcombing along its powdery white sand beaches or taking part in any number of swimming and diving adventures.

One of the most popular snorkeling and diving spots off Catalina Island is the spectacular "Wall."

From the beach, the gently sloping seabed leads to an impressive undersea wall that drops to more than 330 feet and features ledges at 83 feet and 132 feet. The slope from the beach to the wall is an amazing garden of corals, sponges and underwater fauna.

Another popular diving and snorkeling spot is the "Aquarium." The name says it all. The Aquarium features incredible coral formations teaming with beautiful and exotic tropical fish waiting to be explored.

A visit to Catalina Island is but one of the many adventures waiting for you during the 2011 World Championship Bingo Tournament and Gaming Cruise.

Go where no Bingo Cruise traveler has gone before. Visit us online at www.bingobugle.com/cruise or phone the Bingo Bugle Tournament Cruise Hotline at 888-352-2464 to learn more.

www.midwestbingobugle.com

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North America's Bingo & Gaming Newspaper

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(816) 822-1940

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Weight Wise



Adding carbs

■ Can help you lose weight

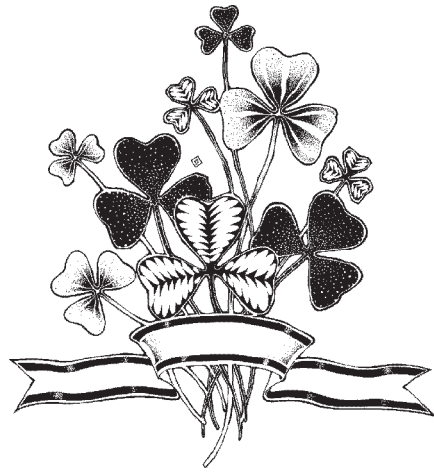
If your love of carbohydrates has been a stumbling block in every attempt you've ever made to diet, a book by Ellen Kunes, editor in chief of *Health* magazine, and Frances Large-man-Roth, RD, senior food and nutrition editor at *Health* magazine, may be just what the doctor ordered. *The CarbLovers Diet* takes the very natural love of carbohydrates and uses it to your advantage. Instead of feeling guilty about loving pasta and bread, the diet shows you how to eat carbs and get thin.

Recent studies have shown that eating the right carbs is the best way to get and stay slim. The multicenter study concluded that the slimmest people ate the most carbs in the form of whole grains, fruits and vegetables, and the chubbiest people ate the fewest whole grain carbs.

The diet plan in this book works by increasing your total intake of carbs and upping the percentage of a type of carb called resistant starch (RS). Research shows that this starch can help shrink fat cells, making you feel fuller and stoking your metabolism.

As the recipes in the book demonstrate, this can be a very tasty and satisfying diet. The book is published by Oxmoor House and is available where books are sold.

For more information, visit CarbLovers.com.



**BINGO BUGLE
CONTEST WINNER
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Please contact the Bingo Bugle office by the 15th of the month to claim your prize. Leave message. Checks will be mailed by the 16th.
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THE BINGO BUGLE NEWSPAPERS

HOTLINES & INFORMATION NUMBERS • U.S. & CANADA

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Lucky Lotto News

■ Lost numbers win for many

By Jeffrey Charboneau

Compiled from internet news sources

Lost Numbers Appear in Mega Millions Drawing

It was only a matter of time. The six-number sequence that mysteriously recurred throughout the television show *Lost* finally won a bunch of people a bunch of money. In a recent Mega Millions drawing, four of the six winning numbers were identical to the infamous set of digits from the show. The *Lost* numbers were 4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42. The Mega Millions winning combo was 4, 8, 15, 25, 47, 42. One of the now-finished series' creators, Damon Lindelof, tweeted about the coincidence, writing that "9,078 people played Hurley's numbers in the Mega Millions... each winning \$150." Verifying Lindelof's claim was *Newsweek* staffer K. Ryan Jones, who also played the *Lost* numbers. —popeater.com

Topeka Woman Uses Buying Formula for Lotto Win

A woman from Topeka who works for the state of Kansas had her "holiday dream" fulfilled when she discovered she had the winning ticket in the Kansas Lottery's \$1 million Holiday Millionaire Raffle. The woman, whose identity wasn't released, took home \$700,000 after 30 percent of the winnings was withheld for state and federal taxes. Kansas allows a lottery winner to claim a prize anonymously. The 61-year-old woman said she studied the strategy used by last year's million-dollar winner—a Wichita resident—and realized she needed to purchase a number of tickets in a wide distribution area. She began buying tickets Oct. 1, the day the Holiday Millionaire raffle opened. She said she signed each ticket and put them in a safe place. She wouldn't disclose the number of tickets she purchased. The woman, who has worked for the state

for 33 years, said she would channel part of the money into her retirement plan and use some of it for traveling with her husband, who is retired. —*Topeka Capital-Journal*

Virginia Lotto Recording Error Results in Double Payout

An incorrect number reported by the Virginia Lottery's Win For Life drawing prompted the participating states to pay out on two sets of winning numbers. Win For Life is a multi-state lottery game played in Georgia, Kentucky, and Virginia. Players choose six numbers from 1 to 42, and can win one of eight different prizes, ranging from \$2 to the grand prize of \$1,000 a week for life. The third number drawn for the game in question was 6, but was incorrectly reported by the Virginia drawing staff as a 9. As a consequence of this error, prizes were paid out for Win For Life lottery tickets bearing either 3, 8, 6, 17, 21, 30, Free Ball: 31 or 3, 8, 9, 17, 21, 30, Free Ball: 31. —*Virginia Lottery*

Colorado Lottery Holds First Raffle Drawing

The Colorado Lottery held its first-ever raffle drawing in January, creating two millionaires and several more happy, lucky lottery winners. Millionaire Raffle is a raffle-style game offered by the Colorado Lottery, with a limited number of \$20 tickets. With only 280,000 tickets sold for the raffle, Millionaire Raffle offers the best odds to win \$1 million of any Colorado Lottery game. At a media conference, Colorado Lottery Director Abel Tapia announced the top winning Raffle ticket numbers—two \$1,000,000 tickets, three \$100,000 tickets, and four \$10,000 tickets. An additional 500 players were awarded \$1,000. —*Colorado Lottery*

Win \$50

The Bingo Bugle Monthly Sweepstakes!

Each month \$50 is given away by the Bingo Bugle to two winners. The Bingo Bugle Sweepstakes drawing is open to Bingo players 18 years or older. To enter, complete this coupon and deposit it in the "Bingo Bugle Container" supplied to the Bingo halls who are advertisers in this paper.

Please! Only one entry per person per issue. Chances of winning are determined by the total entries received.

Monthly winners are announced in each issue of the Bingo Bugle. Winners must call the Bingo Bugle office by the 15th of the month to claim their prize.

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

At what Bingo hall are you depositing this entry?

Stars Under The Stars

By Eve Quillin

Drew Barrymore

■ An intuitive Aquarian

Drew Blythe Barrymore was born into that royal family of Barrymores—Ethel, John, and Lionel were all stars in the early days of the movies, and stories about their work will continue to be told. Drew was born in Culver City, California on February 22, 1975; today she is an actress, producer, director and model. (Have you seen the lovely commercials of Drew making you want to use “Cover Girl” cosmetics?)

Drew is a cusp child in the sign of Pisces, but she would have a lot of Aquarius tendencies as well. She, along with those of you who are born from February 19 through February 25th are born on the Cusp of Aquarius and Pisces. As if we don't have

enough pull from all the emotions that our own Astrological sun sign gives us, those who are born in the cusp times of any sign have pulls from two separate sun signs, so you who have these birthdays may feel confused and disconnected at times. But on the other hand you have talent and intuition that others do not have. Your Aquarius leanings will give you a very people pleasing personality and you will be vitally interested in

others. Your Pisces feelings will give you the spiritual ability that can help these people you are interested in. You have the ability to help others make the connection of mind, body, spirit, that we all need to make life the reward that it can be.

Drew Barrymore is the granddaughter of the great John Barrymore and her upbringing was sometimes confusing to her and she got too old too fast and did some foolish things as a very young child. Those who remember know that she went through some of the things that several young actresses are going through now, but thankfully Drew overcame her demons and went on to become successful in everything that she does.



Because she is a Cusp person she would find herself drawn to being a teacher and leaning toward the religious aspect of life. As Cusp people get older their revelations become more pronounced and they know instinctively what they need to say to anyone who comes to them for help. So you Cusp people, go with the desire you have to be a so-called “do gooder” in your world—believe me the world needs your wisdom.

In a chosen profession you will always do your best work and be your happiest as a teacher of some sort, that is why Drew is so successful as a director, but whatever you do you should never take a job that pits you against harsh and aggressive associates. You should rely on your first impressions. Your extreme sensitivity will let you know immediately when people or situations are incompatible for you and you must not work where you are presented with a hostile work environment.

You are an impulsive spender but basically conservative in your habits. You desire money because of the personal independence it gives you, not for power as some signs do. You are apprehensive about security in your old age because you hate to accept charity, or even favors from anyone.

Your Aquarius-Pisces Cusp man will always remember your birthday and he'll

have a gift for you that is something you wanted, but not something practical. He will feed your aesthetic nature with his love offerings, and if you are truly his “one and only” he will never be far from your side.

Your Aquarius-Pisces Cusp lady is soft and gentle. The idea of being independent of her man is not an idea that she is in favor of. Love to her is not a world apart, it is her whole existence. You cusp-born are compatible with many more people

than others.

Drew Barrymore now fits that soft and gentle lady, who gives to her loved ones and gives to the world. She is the God-daughter of Sophia Loren and Steven Spielberg, so not only is her family the “first” family of the acting world, but her God parents are tops in their careers also. Through the years we will see and hear a lot more of Drew Barrymore, and she will bring much happiness to the world, through her acting and through her charitable donations, of both time and money.

Happy Birthday to all you Pisces born. Your year ahead looks great, so plan something that you have wanted to do, and do it! It's time.

BINGO LAND

STORIES FROM THE REAL WORLD & CYBERSPACE

■ This month: A Bingo host accused of inappropriate Bingo

By Jeffrey Charboneau

Special to the Bingo Bugle

Bingo Battle Divides Elderly Residents

In a series of tit-for-tat claims and counter claims, allegations involving late-night partying, loud music, vandalism and even one resident bringing home men for sex, have soured relations between elderly residents of a sheltered housing complex. Problems started when a woman moved in and began hosting regular Bingo sessions in the common room. Her crime was not the Bingo, but that she invited outsiders to come in the form of family and friends. Some of the residents, fiercely protective of their rooms, were infuriated, and sought redress through official channels. A series of ever more lurid accusations followed.

The woman who introduced the Bingo remains defiant and said she will not be intimidated. “Our Bingo will carry on and it will not stop me,” she said. “I don't want to vegetate for the rest of my life.” —*Telegraph, London, UK*

California City Gives Bingo Another Chance

The Richmond, California, City Council cleared the way for a lucrative new Bingo hall in Marina Bay, removing limits on when Bingo can operate in the city and adding rules to encourage honest charity games. With the ordinance, the council hopes to avoid the kind of political embarrassment that came with Marina Bay Bingo, which opened last year pledging to support veterans through an American Legion post. But the city and the landlord reportedly forced out Marina Bay Bingo after just two months fol-

lowing revelations about the post commander's alleged criminal history and questions about the operation's nonprofit status. Richmond's ordinance doubles local limits on game winnings to \$500, requires criminal background checks for all charity leaders and Bingo managers, and requires about 20 percent of Bingo proceeds go to the organization's stated charitable purpose. —*Contra Costa Times, California*

Firefighters Fundraising Carnival Includes Bingo

In 1923, Easton, Connecticut, Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 sponsored its first carnival and the company has hosted the event almost every year since. But, organizers said, despite the decades of years between then and now, many things remain the same. “The backbone of the festival is the home-cooked meals, the Bingo and the raffle,” said volunteer fireman Irving Silverman. “They have always been a constant.” The Town of Easton doesn't put any money into the festival, which makes it funded entirely by sponsors and the fire company. Volunteers work to set up, run and take down the festival's components, and run the Bingo and the raffle. The money raised goes to help operate the fire company. —*Connecticut Post*

Virginia Internet Cafes May Threaten Bingo

Bingo halls cried foul over a new form of gaming quietly popping up around Virginia Beach, Virginia known as Internet Sweepstakes Cafes. The Virginia Bingo Association said lawmakers should ban the cafes that currently enjoy no regulation. Association chairman Ron Smith said the cafes siphoned away customers from Bingo halls, which means charities are suffering. Unlike the cafes, Bingo halls must adhere to a list of state regulations. State law lets only non-profit groups host Bingo games and 10 percent of Bingo proceeds must go to charity groups like food pantries, children's hospitals and volunteer fire departments. Sweepstakes cafes are run by companies selling Internet time that comes with entries in sweepstakes. —*WVEC-TV, Virginia*



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BOB ON BINGO

By Bob Whittmore
In remembrance

■ A one-of-a-kind guy

A new look

A three-generation group found its way to our little Bingo Hall last week. The matriarch, a very stiff-looking lady formally dressed in a white-skirted suit with white linen pumps, was accompanied by her granddaughter, a pouty young beauty in tom jeans and very short top. The middle generation, they soon told us, was represented by the fine looking man who acted as caller. "That's my dad" and "That's my son" the two women said almost simultaneously.

In spite of her formal appearance, I found the older lady easy to talk to. She seemed eager for this new experience and was trying hard to please her granddaughter. "I was not allowed to play Bingo when I was young," she confided. "It was considered the work of the devil by my preacher father. But then, he didn't believe in having fun."

More and more I appreciate our fun-loving parents who would rather laugh than cry and considered life to be more of a celebration than a duty.

The older woman introduced herself as "Sylvia" and you could bet she was never nicknamed Syl or Silly. The granddaughter said her name was Kim or "just K is fine by me." Kate and K hit it off immediately and went to find a drink before the games started.

Sylvia had some difficulty with the games especially if the game pattern was complicated like the arrow in any position, which is a stinker to keep track of even if you've had years of experience. I was glad to be able to help her and once she won on a game she said she would have missed but for me. K zipped through the games with the confidence of the young and was exuberant about her grandmother's win. "Now it didn't cost you anything to play, Gran," the young woman bubbled. "We can even buy more special games." I noticed the caller kept looking in our direction, checking to see if his two women were doing all right.

During intermission when Kate and K found junk food to keep themselves going, Sylvia told me her son's wife had died a year earlier and she was trying to help them establish a new life without her. "I try to get the child to dress better and eat balanced meals but her father doesn't think that is important." She brushed an imaginary speck from her jacket. "I believe how you look says a great deal about you as a person."

While we waited for the next-to-last game to be verified, Kate and K began a dauber war pretending to shoot each other with various colored daubers. "Kimberley, do stop that silliness," said Sylvia. "Imagine how embarrassing it would be if your father had to ask you to leave."

K selected a dauber in bilious green and pointed it at her grandmother. "This gun destroys all spoilsports," she intoned and squeezed both sides of the dauber. With a whoosh, green ink spouted forth to cover Sylvia's beautiful white suit, her face and her perfectly coiffed white hair. There was intense silence as K leaped up to find paper towels to mop up the mess. "Oh, Gran, I'm so sorry," the youngster said as she tried to clean up the mess. "I never thought the top would come off. Oh, your beautiful suit."

Silently, Sylvia took a stack of paper towels and began trying to wipe off the green mess. The caller stared at the furor, a strange expression on his face. K held up her sodden last game sheet and said, "I guess I won't be playing the final blackout." Suddenly Sylvia began to laugh. "Look at these shoes," she gasped and displayed green speckled white linen. "These are the most uncomfortable shoes I've ever owned. Now I can throw them away with a clear conscience." She began laughing again and soon K joined in and the caller could no longer contain his mirth. We all laughed with them, relieved that this was not a life or death matter and Sylvia said, "I've been wanting to try a new hair color. What do you think of green for me?"

I begin this column by asking you a question: Is there one particular person at the hall where you play Bingo whom you would consider to be the funniest or maybe the oddest or the most memorable? I ask this because the person I would nominate died a few months ago and this is the first chance I have had to pay tribute to him.

His name was Ken and he played a lot at the old hall where I played nightly when I used to live in Las Vegas. He was a big-faced, larger-than-life kind of guy who was always accompanied by his wife, Jen. The chemistry between them was infectious. I don't think I have ever seen an older couple that seemed to enjoy each other's company the way Ken and Jen did. And now Ken is gone.

Like many older friends we have lost, his health began to deteriorate. Each night at Bingo the most common question people began to ask was, "Do you know if Ken is OK?"

To me, though, Ken was more than just a nice guy with a friendly smile. Ken was all the good things about Bingo wrapped into one. He was a courteous player, generous with his tips and winnings. But, more than that, he was a true "character."

If you read my column regularly, you know just what a stickler I am for good grammar. You know how I cringe when callers say "less" when they mean "fewer." Well, Ken shared my love of grammar and whenever he won, he demonstrated that love.

You see, when Ken had a Bingo he yelled: "Bingo loud and clear!" No, I didn't say he yelled "Bingo," loudly and clearly. Ken actually yelled: "Bingo loud and clear!" Since the caller had told the players that if they won they were to "yell Bingo loud and clear," that is exactly what Ken did. He was only following orders.

That simple act of yelling what he was told to yell endeared me to Ken. I know that most people in the hall thought he was crazy for announcing his Bingo that way. I could not wait for him to win. In many ways, Ken was the most perfect Bingo player I ever knew. And, now he is gone.

Not to end on a really sad note, but, we all have lost a "Ken" or two over the years. These "wiseguys" and "wisegals" are what make Bingo fun. They put life into the halls where we play. They stick out like a sore thumb. Thank God for the "characters" who put fun into our favorite game.

Let me know about the Bingo "characters" at your hall. E-mail me: bobonbingo@earthlink.net.

Next time around: What if everyone only played ONE card?



Second Court Rules Poker is a Game of Skill

For the second time in two weeks, a trial court has found that poker is a game of skill, and therefore not gambling.

Both cases involved criminal charges being brought against operators of real-money, though unlicensed, games. Both cases ended with the defendants walking. But, unfortunately, in both cases the decisions are unpublished conclusions of state trial courts and thus binding only on the parties, and cannot be used as binding precedents in any other case.

But the results are still significant. The two cases are a trend, because they are a radical break with the way poker cases have been handled before.

The most important new developments are that the poker operators are getting support, including money for experts in legal and gaming issues, from organizations like the Poker Players Alliance, and the judges are letting in scientific evidence and recent law review articles. Instead of nonsense, like "an amateur could beat a professional by getting dealt a Royal Flush," which makes poker sound like a single roll of dice, judges and juries are hearing about statistical studies and experts who conclude, "in the long run, good players will win money and bad players will lose money."

The first case, which I discussed in my last column, is a more persuasive precedent, because a trial judge dismissed the gambling charges with a written opinion. Columbia County Judge Thomas A. James, Jr., held that Texas Hold 'em is predominantly a game of skill and thus not gambling under Pennsylvania state law.

Nine days later, a Colorado jury found Kevin P. Raley not guilty of gambling for setting up a poker tournament in a bar. Because there was no written decision, other than "not guilty," it is always possible that the jury based its decision on some other reason. But that seems unlikely, because the only issue in dispute was whether the poker tournament was predominantly skill or chance.

In the past, trials about poker tended to be short affairs. Prosecutors would call up a law enforcement officer who would testify that he has played poker for years and concluded that winning or losing depended on luck more than skill. The defendant would sometimes testify himself or get a professional poker player, who would testify to the exact opposite.

But the modern poker trials are being fought with the organization and skill that only big money can provide. Anecdotal and pure opinion evidence have been replaced with experts in gaming law and statistics.

In Colorado, for example, a major factor was the testimony of Robert Hannum, Professor of Statistics at the University of Denver. In the Pennsylvania case, the judge cited recent books and articles, including from the *Gaming Law Review and Economics*, for which I am co-editor-in-chief, and a statistical study of online poker published by academics in Sweden.

Guilt or innocence often depends on the language of ancient statutes. In South Carolina, for example, defendants in a private home Texas Hold 'em tournament were

charged with a statute enacted in 1802, before poker had even been invented. The law outlaws "any game with cards or dice," which would even make games of skill, like duplicate bridge, illegal.

Eventually the law will catch up to fact that people understand the difference between a slot machine and poker. The tide has turned for poker operators and players, because the legal fight has finally gotten organized help.

© Copyright 2010. Professor I. Nelson Rose is recognized as one of the world's leading experts on gambling law and is a consultant and expert witness for players, governments and industry. His latest books, *Internet Gaming Law and Gaming Law: Cases and Materials*, are available through his website, www.GAMBLINGANDTHELAW.COM.



Leslie Nielson

■ His final movie

Q: How is Shania Twain doing? I know she went through a rough divorce a while back. —*Ginger F., Ocala, Fla.*

A: Shania's heart is mending just fine—thanks to new husband Frederic Thiebaud. She and former hubby, Robert John "Mutt" Lange, separated in 2008 (with the divorce becoming finalized this past June) when Mutt left her for her former best friend, Marie-Anne Thiebaud. And yes, you are reading that last name correctly: Shania decided to mend her broken heart with the help of her former friend's husband.

Q: How much do reality-television stars, people like Kim Kardashian, make? —*Frankie F., Washington, D.C.*

A: It depends on the star's popularity, as well as extracurricular activities, like perfume and clothing lines, books, etc. Kim, for instance, is the highest-paid reality star, raking in \$6 million in 2010. Lauren Conrad is close behind, banking \$5 million in 2010.

Q: Did the late Leslie Nielson film anything before he died? —*Jeff D., via email*

A: The great Leslie Nielson, 84, who began his acting career back in 1950, passed away in November after a short battle with pneumonia. For his final movie, he voiced a character in the animated comedy *The Waterman Movie*, which is scheduled for release some time this year.

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Pack-splitting

■ Readers weigh in

Dear Aunt Bingo,

After reading the story about the reader who was kicked out of Bingo for playing her mother's packs because her mother had to leave the hall, I couldn't believe that a hall would go that far. It's not like the two women sat there and both played half the pack each with one admission ticket. Only one person played no matter who bought them.

I've been going to many Bingo halls for years and have heard all kinds of unnecessary complaints. This one tops them all. It's like kids—one is so afraid that other one is going to get more than them. I think that woman should have been paid. I would have walked out too, but I would have gone further and called the authorities. That Bingo hall is real lucky that the woman didn't try to sue.

It's sad that there are troublemakers out there like that. I think the hall owes this woman an apology and maybe even give her something for the aggravation. —**BB, via e-mail**

Dear BB,

My impression is that, like most people, once the spotlight was cast on this player—with a fellow player accusing her (twice), the Bingo hall manager scolding her, and a security guard looming over her—she just wanted to get away from the situation.

It is a very tough spot to be in when you feel you have done nothing wrong but are surrounded by others who think you have. Animal instinct is "fight or flight." She attempted to fight, but when outnumbered chose "flight" by leaving the Bingo hall.

I suspect that most of us would be inclined to do the same. —**Aunt Bingo**

Dear Aunt Bingo,

You are very, very wrong—pack splitting is when one person buys more packs than they can play and gives the excess to another player who has bought in for less packs than they can play, or who has not

bought in at all.

According to you, a person could not have someone watch their paper while going to the restroom mid-game. (That should make a lot of aggressive players happy to know.)

I don't know why it seems you always run to the defense of Bingo halls, but it's ruining Bingo. Why not ask your readers what they think about how the games are run today? You may be shocked. —**MG, Costa Mesa, California**

Dear MG,

My column is ruining Bingo? I never realized I wielded such power!

I'm pretty sure I do not "always run to the defense of Bingo halls." My goal is to weigh a reader's argument, consider both sides of the situation and give an opinion. And it is just that: an opinion. Readers are welcome to write in and share their impressions of comments made by me and other readers. In fact, I welcome it. It makes my job—and this column—more fun.

Regarding your definition(s) of pack-splitting, I still do not see why you think I am wrong. A woman bought into the games. She then called someone else (in this case, her daughter) who did not buy in, but simply took the rest of her packs and played them. Regardless of the reasons behind it, it was still packs bought by one person and played by two people. That, to me, and also to the Bingo hall manager, was pack-splitting.

And no, I do not think this holds true for someone watching another player's paper while that player takes a run to the restroom. That is an entirely different, and acceptable, scenario. —**Aunt Bingo**

Dear Aunt Bingo,

I went to a Bingo session in the Sacramento area recently and was disturbed that they only had one Bingo caller assigned to the session. Not knowing much about the law, I still think that two are supposed to be assigned to each four-hour session. —**L.A., Sacramento, California, via e-mail**

Dear L.A.,

You know, I really have no idea and have never paid much attention to how many callers work a particular Bingo session. But I have to agree that four hours of calling by one caller is a lot. I'd be worried that he or she would get tired and start making mistakes, not to mention needing bathroom breaks. —**Aunt Bingo**

Dear Readers: I am curious to learn who your Bingo Buddies are, how long you've played together, why they are the ones you enjoy playing with the most, what you talk about, etc. Is it a sister? A parent? Your best friends? Let me know! —**Aunt Bingo**

Share your views! Write to Aunt Bingo c/o the Bingo Bugle, P.O. Box 527, Vashon, Washington 98070, or e-mail her at STENGL456@aol.com.



Straight flops quickly turn

Matt Damon, in *Rounders*, has his life literally hanging in the balance, flops the nut straight, and quoting his admiration for the play of his idol Johnny Chan, "has the discipline to wait it out." The discipline? Really? It's not his discipline I admired, it was his fool's courage!

I take no issue with the life stakes, I realize it's a movie. My issue is with the hand. If he had flopped a full house, the scene would have been perfectly sensible. A full house is a flopped hand that makes me suppress my grin while I watch my pot build. A full house lets me go into bad actor mode where I can call crying and hope someone else raises. What am I worried about? No one has quads. I'd bet my life on it. A nut straight doesn't come close to filling me with that kind of confidence. When I flop a nut straight, lack of patience isn't the reason I come out and bet. I'm not too eager to collect my payoff. I'm protecting a vulnerable hand.

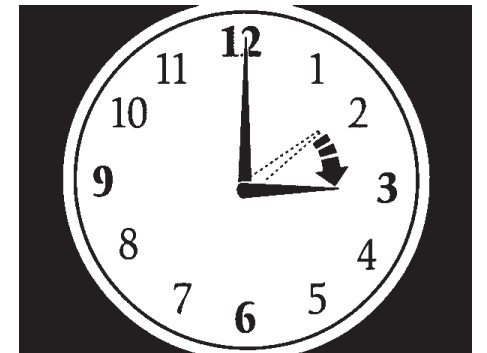
Even an ideal rainbow-flopped straight becomes immediately scary if the turn brings a pair, which it will almost twenty percent of the time. I can hope the board remains ideal and the fourth suit appears, but only ten cards will bring that without the board pairing, and a couple of those will get me nervous about a bigger straight. And that's not including the river! I still have that to worry about. I'm not being overly cautious; I do like my hand, but I have to bet and get some idea what I'm up against. The odds of a flopped straight remaining the best hand to the river are quite good, the odds of it remaining the best possible are really quite slim.

I liken flopping a straight to picking up pocket aces. It's currently the best hand, but there is a good chance it won't be soon, depending on how I play it. There are occasions where I'll be deceptive with pocket aces, disguising the strength of my hand till after the flop or even later, depending on a myriad of factors. If I'm heads up trying to close out a tournament, I might put a betting opponent on a pair and wait all the way to the river to get him or her all-in while I'm

holding pocket aces. I'm risking getting outdrawn, but I have good odds for my hand holding up. It's a move I'll make, again, depending on the circumstances. Slow playing a flopped straight is also a move I will make, but I weigh the risks. If multiple players are in the hand, and the flop checks around, the next card is likely to put a better possible hand out there. Let's say the bottom card pairs. Any bet now will look like a steal. Which means any raise of a bet will also look like a steal. How does a flopped straight feel, now? The big blind might have been trying to check raise the flop with bottom two pair and now turned a full house. Players are increasingly harder to read the less betting there has been. It's too late to tell the table about the powerful straight I flopped, a street ago. That opportunity passed when I checked.

This could all still work out, as planned. A re-raise might push everyone out and I'm stacking that bet and raise onto my chips all because of that sly check on the flop. Someone with trips might move all in, I'll make the correct read and call, and my straight will hold up. The play holds the potential for high reward, no doubt, but with that high reward comes high risk. Which is why I much prefer flopping a full house: high reward, low risk. That's my kind of poker. I'm usually going to come out betting with a flopped straight, which might be conservative, but then again, I almost always make sizable raises with aces before the flop.

In both instances, I try to make an honest appraisal of whether or not I'd be able to fold later. If I feel like I'm capable of tossing those aces when I feel likely beat—sure there's a chance they're still good but it's not likely enough—then I'll consider slow playing with them. If I check my flopped straight and the board pairs, am I going to make an honest read and fold if I feel like someone hit a full house? Or am I going to bemoan my bad luck that my nut straight is no longer the nuts and stick around to show everyone how unlucky I am after the chips are all in?



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS
Sunday, March 13th

Turn your clocks ahead one hour

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Vegas' Top Ten Values for March

1. **Cosmopolitan** • FREE • The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas • Daily
2. **Room Rates** • \$24 and up • Hooters • Mon-Fri
3. **Dollar Days** • \$1 • Sahara • Daily
4. **Buffet** • \$14.95-\$25.95 • Mirage • Daily
5. **All Stage Pass** • \$99 • Harrah's • 24 Hours
6. **Prime Rib** • \$12.95 • South Point • 24 Hours
7. **Shrimp Cocktail** • \$1.99 • Golden Gate • 10 a.m.-2 a.m.
8. **Fontana Bar** • \$6 • Bellagio • 6 p.m.-Closing
9. **Beer** • \$1 • Casino Royale • Daily
10. **Unlimited Appetizers** • \$19.99 • Hard Rock • Weds.-Sun.

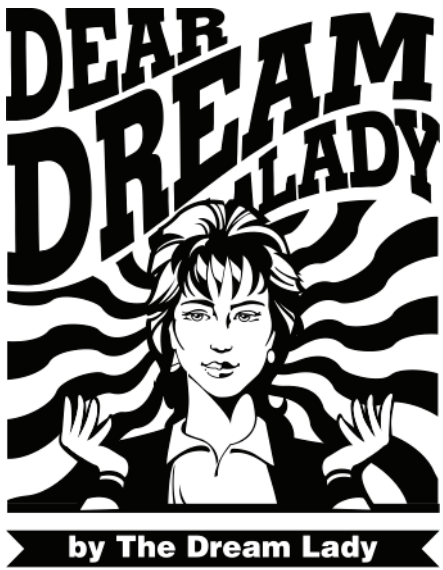
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Past loved ones
 ■ A sign of comfort

Dear Dream Lady,
 I have been ill for over two weeks and during that time, I was not able to get out of bed. I had dreams every night that I was dreaming of my friends and relatives who had passed away. The dreams were not scary. The people who had passed away ranged from 8 months to more than 20 years ago. Can you help me interpret this dream? I thank you in advance.
Vera G., Ventura, California

Dear Vera,
 First, I hope you are feeling better. Secondly, you do not mention if you took medication during your illness. If so, that might explain your dreams since all types of dreams happen when people are ill and/or on medication. The majority of dreams I interpret include people who have died and come back

to visit friends or family through dreams. I have read many books on this and the central conclusion I believe is that dead people from the past come to us in times of need to comfort us. You wrote, "The dreams were not scary." I see that often, thus I am convinced that your late family and friends stepped in to comfort you during your illness. I hope this helps. Please let me know that you are feeling better by the time you read this. —*Dream Lady*

Dear Dream Lady,
 I dreamed I was in a kitchen (not mine) and doing normal things, then I walked out onto a pier and just sat there. A person who looked like a thief approached me and asked for money, but he had no gun. I told him to go away. Then I walked towards a creek in the distance and saw a dwarf who told me I had nothing to worry about. I woke up feeling confused because I have a calm life and I don't worry about anything right now, but should I?
Connie W., Houston, Texas

Dear Connie,
 In your dream, the kitchen symbolizes normalcy and the pier signifies an unknown, but not dangerous situation. The thief tells me you are afraid of something being taken from you. A creek signifies a short and pleasant journey. The dwarf tells me you are close to your friends. It sounds like you truly do not have anything to worry about, so relax and enjoy your friendships.
 —*Dream Lady*

Send your dreams to Dream Lady at P.O. Box 403, Ardenvoir, WA 98811. Enclose an SASE if you want a personal reply before publication.

PREDICTORS

LUCKY CARD FOR MARCH

B I N G O				
6	28	33	52	71
1	21	40	50	67
3	17	FREE 91551	56	72
10	23	31	53	64
7	27	37	60	69

MARCH'S LUCKY FLASHBOARD NUMBERS

- B: 5, 6, 8, 11, 15
- I: 17, 24, 25, 27, 28
- N: 31, 37, 38, 40
- G: 46, 49, 53, 55, 56
- O: 65, 69, 71, 72, 74

Mona's Monthly Numbers

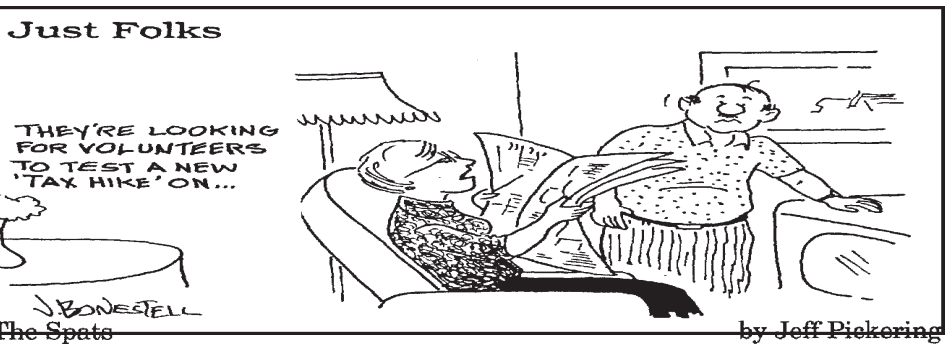
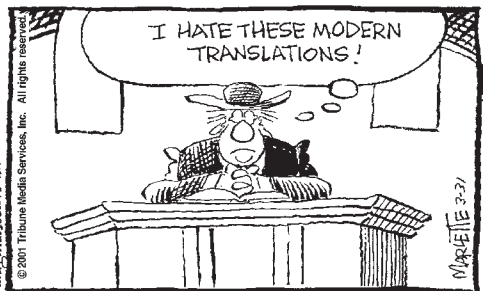
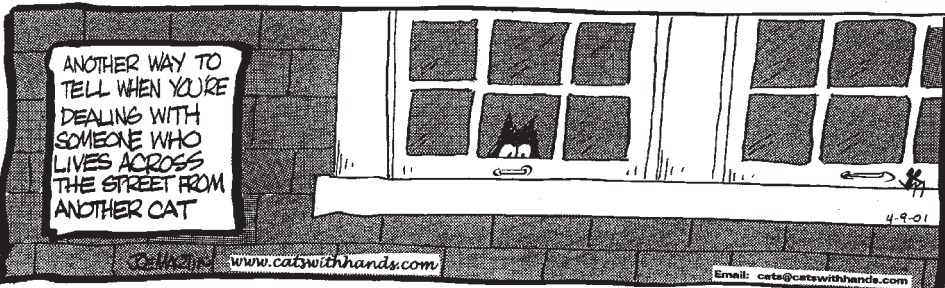


- B...9...14...7...2...13
- I...27...24...19...22...16
- N...42...39...FREE...32...33
- G...56...49...48...55...51
- O...68...65...72...69...71



March 2011

- 3rdI Want You To Be Happy Day
- 4thWorld Day of Prayer
New Moon ☾
- 8thOrganize Your Home Office Day
- 9thAsh Wednesday
- 12thFirst Quarter Moon ☽
- 13thDaylight Saving Time Begins
- 15thTrue Confessions Day
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- 19thFull Moon ☽
- 22nd ...As Young As You Feel Day
- 26thLast Quarter Moon ☾
- 30thPencil Day



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Lucky Troll Dolls (Set of 5)		x\$29.95	
Lucky Troll Doll Individual (Choose) B <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/>		x\$6.95	
Butterfly Combo (Bag & Cushion)		x\$33.40	
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Abdallah Shrine Temple	5300 Mecalf, Overland Park 913-362-5300	7:00 P.M.							6
Moose Lodge 1999	6621 Turner Drive, K.C., KS. 913-334-4900	7:00 P.M.							
Dorsey-Liberty Post 14 American Legion	3408 W. 6th Street, Lawrence KS. (Behind Spangles) 785-842-3415	Early Bird 6:45P.M. Regular 7:10 P.M.							
Southside Optimist Hall Wheel Chair Bowlers	11154 Blue Ridge Ext., K.C. MO. 816-763-7622		7:00 P.M.						11
Fantasyland St. Gabriel Home @ School Assoc.	6970 N. Broadway, Gladstone 816-436-9080			6:45 P.M.					9
Amecian Legion Post 370	7500 W 75th, Overland Park 913-432-4012			7:00 P.M.					6
American Legion Post 153	410 Dennis, Olathe 913-782-0621				7:00 P.M.				13
Hayden High School	401 Gage, Topeka 785-272-2150				Early Bird 6:30P.M. Regular 7:00 P.M.				5
Ararat Shrine Temple	5100 Ararat Drive, K.C., MO. 816-923-1975				7:00 P.M.				4
Amecian Legion Post 370	7500 W 75th, Overland Park 913-432-4012					7:00 P.M.			6
Fantasyland K Of C Council 3414	6970 N. Broadway, Gladstone 816-436-9080					6:45 P.M.			9
Southside Optimist Hall Southside Optimists	11154 Blue Ridge Ext., K.C. MO. 816-763-7622					7:00 P.M.			11
Moose Lodge 1999	6621 Turner Drive, K.C. KS. 913-334-4900					7:00 P.M.			
Hayden High School	401 Gage, Topeka 785-272-2150						Early Bird 6:30P.M. Regular 7:00 P.M.		5
Southside Optimist Hall Vietnam Vets	11154 Blue Ridge Ext., K.C. MO. 816-763-7622						6:00 P.M.		11
Fantasyland IOOF Oliver P. Gentry Lodge 877	6970 N. Broadway, Gladstone 816-436-9080						6:45 P.M.		9
Dorsey-Liberty Post 14 American Legion	3408 W. 6th Street, Lawrence KS. (Behind Spangles) 785-842-3415						Early Bird 6:45P.M. Regular 7:10 P.M.		
VFW Post 846	8804 Grant, Overland Park 913-648-4991							6:00 P.M.	9
Fantasyland IOOF Colofax Lodge 460	6970 N. Broadway, Gladstone 816-436-9080							6:45 P.M.	9
Southside Optimist Hall Optimist Club of Lake Lotawana	11154 Blue Ridge Ext., K.C. MO. 816-763-7622							2:00 P.M.	11
Bordertown Casino & Bingo	129 W Oneida St., Seneca MO. 1-800-957-2435	24hrs	24hrs	24hrs	24hrs	24hrs	24hrs	24hrs	16



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This month's tour

■ Touring in cape fear

When you see Beau Rivage you think casino, but not if it is the Beau Rivage in the Cape Fear area of North Carolina. Located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Cape Fear River, this Beau Rivage is one of *Golf Digest's* best places to play, and bills itself as "the only stay and play resort facility in the coastal Carolinas." Close to historic downtown Wilmington and many local beaches, it offers something for everyone—except gaming.

Downtown Wilmington visitors can explore the area on foot on the cobblestone streets or riding in horse-drawn carriages, trolleys, or boats. With almost three centuries of history, there is a surprise around every corner. A World War II battleship is anchored at the dock inviting both those that remember the era and those who have only read about it. The Hollywood Location Walk of Old Wilmington takes you onto one of America's largest movie sets where some of the biggest movies have been shot, such as *Weekend with Bernie* and

the *Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*. Or consider the Screen Gems Studio Tour to walk through working sets for *Dawson's Creek* and *One Tree Hill* among others. You can also take a walk through the old alleyways on the Ghost Walk of Wilmington. Let actors and ghost hunters show you the active haunted houses as they tell tales of pirates and spirits of both today and long ago.

With all that touring, the next item on the agenda is likely to be food. But that can also include a tour. To find the best of Wilmington, follow local food pro Liz Biro on her blog, Port City Foodies. A culinary expert, Liz provides her own tour as she picks from twenty foodie hot spots in the Wilmington area. Choose from a tour of downtown drinking spots on Friday nights or get a taste of the downtown restaurants on Saturday afternoons.

But for local games of chance, other than Bingo, you have to leave the Cape Fear area for the home of the Cherokees, who still hold dominion over North Carolina gaming. It is quite a drive, but it is in the Smokies, so the natural beauty makes it worth your while. Another reason for the effort is that the gaming is different than at other Harrah's casinos because of the agreement between the Cherokees and the state. And of course this location started out as one of the early high-stakes Bingo centers that drew tours from all over the Eastern United States, and it still maintains a limited Bingo schedule. Of course the facility has wonderful restaurants and conference/event centers, too.

Eventually though you will return to the Beau Rivage area—without the casino—but with oh so much more. The folks at the Wilmington Cape Fear Convention and Visitors Bureau will see to it that you don't miss a thing when you call them at 877-406-2356 or visit their web site at www.capefearcoast.com.

Casino Secrets

By Larry Mak

Casino Q & A

■ How long should you stay at a slot machine?

Q: What is the fastest game in the casino?

A: The slot machine—with the average player making 400-600 plays per hour. The slowest game is live keno—with about seven to eight games per hour.

Q: Articles I've read on how to play slot machines all say to play them slowly. Just how slow is slowly?

A: If you normally spin the reels once every five seconds (12 spins a minute) slow down to 6 to 8 spins a minute. How? Don't hit the button the instant the reels stop spinning. Hesitate a moment. Then hit the button again. You'll barely notice the reduction in playing time, and your bankroll and playing time will last longer.

Make a conscious effort to do this. The slower you play the better.

Q: When was the "Wheel of Fortune" first introduced into the casinos?

A: The game, a product of International Game Technology, first appeared in 1997 and has become one of the most popular slot machines in casino history.

Q: How long should you stay at a slot that's giving you little or no payback? 7 spins? 10 spins? I keep thinking the next spin just might be

the big payoff.

A: The probability for hitting a winning combination is the same on every spin. So there's no inherent advantage in switching machines after a certain number of losing spins. It's all a matter of luck and timing. The time to leave a machine is when you become bored or tired of losing at it.

Q: To what key is the music on a slot machine tuned to?

A: The music on all slot machines is tuned to the key of "C." This keeps the musical sounds of slots placed next to each other from clashing.

HEALTH TIP: The "Casino flu." Slot machines, casino chips, playing cards, hand rails, and other casino objects are touched by hundreds of people every day. So these objects become breeding grounds for a wide variety of germs and viruses. And your chances of coming home with a case of the "casino flu" are greater than with a wallet full of cash.

Before eating and after using the restroom wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds—about as long as it takes to say the English alphabet (a to z) slowly.

Dry your hands with an air dryer or paper towel. Turn off a faucet with the paper towel or with your elbow. Restroom faucets are prime sources of contamination. Hand sanitizers can be used in a pinch, but use soap and water whenever you can. This simple precaution will drastically reduce your chances of coming home with the "Casino flu."



'SAVVY SENIOR'

YOU ASK THE SENIOR QUESTION

~ WE FIND THE SAVVY ANSWER

Bird Watching

■ How to attract birds

Dear Savvy Senior,

Since retiring last year I've really gotten into bird-watching, but would like to attract more birds to my backyard. What's the easiest way to do this, and what resources can you recommend for learning more about bird watching.

Bird-Watching Barney

Dear Barney,

Backyard bird watching, or birding as many call it, is a great hobby shared by millions of retirees. To help you create a backyard that's literally for the birds, you need three basic ingredients: food, water and shelter. Here are some tips to help you get started.

Do Some Homework

Your first step in creating a bird-friendly backyard is to become familiar with the bird species that reside or migrate through your area, and determine which kinds of these birds you want to attract to your yard. A great source that can help is the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology (allaboutbirds.org) that offers a free online "Bird Guide" and a comprehensive section on "Attracting Birds." After you've done a little homework, you're ready to start with the basics.

Provide Food

Birds, like humans, appreciate a good meal. But birds' diets are diverse. Some gobble up seeds, nuts, berries, buds, or insects, while others prefer fruit, nectar, or sugar water. To attract a wide variety of birds, get several types of bird feeders for your yard and offer a variety of foods. The type of feeders and food obviously needs to match the types of birds you want to attract. Natural sources of food are also very appealing, so depending on the climate you live in, consider planting some berry-producing shrubs and vines, fruit-bearing

trees, and seed-producing plants such as sunflower and purple coneflowers.

Shelter Too

Cover is as important to birds as food. They feel more secure if they have shelter to protect themselves from the wind, cold and their enemies. The best kinds of cover are trees and large shrubs that give them a place to hide as well as raise and protect their young. Or you can buy a bird house or two specifically designed for the birds you want to attract (a store-bought birdhouse should include this information).

Add Water

Providing clean, fresh water will attract birds to your yard quicker than anything else you can do. They need it to drink, of course, but they are especially attracted to shallow water (one-to-two-inches deep) where they can bathe. A simple solution here is to purchase a birdbath, and keep it clean. Birds are also attracted to the sound of running water so consider adding a mister, dripper, or circulating pump to your birdbath, or purchase one that has a built-in fountain. And for the winter months in cold climates water heaters are available to keep the water from freezing so you can provide a constant water source year-round.

Savvy Tips: To learn more about birding and attracting birds to your yard, the National Audubon Society (audubon.org) is a great resource that provides lots of information on their Web site along with links to your local chapter. They also offer *The Audubon Society Guide to Attracting Birds* book for \$25 that you can order through Amazon.com or through the Cornell University Press at 800-666-2211. Another good resource is the free online booklet called *For the Birds* (see forthebirds.info) written by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Also see the American Birding Association Web site (aba.org), another excellent resource for bird watchers.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of *The Savvy Senior* books.



We caught these girls getting ready to eat some of the good food at Fantasyland Bingo Hall in Gladstone before the games.

Naturally Savvy

Natural living for your pets

By Andrea Donsky and Randy Boyer

There's no doubt Americans are trying to live a more natural, or organic life. Almost three-quarters of Americans buy at least some organic products, and 31 percent increased organics purchases between 2008 and 2009, according to the 2009 U.S. Families' Organic Attitudes and Belief Study. Interest in natural and organic pet care has also been growing slowly but steadily in recent years, as pet owners begin to realize that the things that are bad for humans are also bad for animals.

Diet plays a crucial role in your pet's health. Most manufactured pet foods are made with preservatives such as sulfites, which are not good for overall health. Organic and natural pet foods are increasingly available, but there are some things to know before you shop. There is no USDA standard for "natural" foods, so be cautious about pet foods claiming to be natural. Also, pet foods are fortified with essential nutrients that are not always found naturally in the food ingredients, so they can't be 100 percent organic, according to USDA rules.

Manufactured pet foods have come under great scrutiny in the past few years. Studies published in 2002 and 2004 also linked Bisphenol-A in the lining of pet food cans with hyperthyroidism in cats, a leading cause of illness in mature cats. More recently, pet food manufacturers voluntarily recalled more than 100 cat and dog food brands in 2007 after animals developed kidney failure as a result of melamine contamination.

Homemade food made with natural and organic ingredients may be the healthiest alternative for your dog or cat. It's best to consult with your veterinarian about homemade pet foods, as dietary requirements will vary depending on your pet's health and species—cats, for example, require the amino acid taurine, which is found naturally in fish, but too much fish could lead to elevated mercury levels.

Grooming and coat care is another issue to consider. Many dog and cat cleaning products are full of chemicals and synthetic fragrances, which can

irritate your pet's skin. Additionally, many flea and tick treatments are loaded with carcinogens and other toxins. Look for all-natural products, and read the labels and research any suspect ingredients before buying. Some products will list plant ingredients in Latin, but as a general rule, if it reads like a chemistry textbook, it's probably full of chemicals.

Pets can also be particularly vulnerable to environmental toxins. In 2008, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) released a report titled *Polluted Pets: Chemical Exposures and Pets' Health*, and though the study was small, Dr. John Billeter, DVM, the veterinarian who conducted testing, said the results suggest there is a potential of "harmful consequences" for animals and the need for further study.

The EWG tested dogs and cats for 70 industrial chemicals, and found 48 of them in the animals tested; what's more, the concentrations of 43 of the chemicals were higher than that found in humans. Levels of fire retardants (PBDEs) in cats were 23 times the levels normally found in humans, while levels of plurofluorochemicals—found in stain-proof and grease-proof coatings—was 2.4 times higher in dogs than in humans.

In a different study published in 2004, researchers linked an increased risk of bladder cancer in dogs to exposure to lawns or gardens treated with herbicides and/or insecticides. Researchers found the risk of bladder cancer increased 7.2 times when using both herbicides and insecticides, compared to dogs that were exposed to untreated lawns. Lawns treated only with herbicides increased the risk 3.6 times, while those treated only with insecticides increased risk 1.6 times.

While environmental toxins are a concern, there are ways to minimize exposure. Think of all products you bring into your home as part of your pet's environment. Look for furniture, carpeting, cookware, and other household products that have not been treated with a fire retardant, a stain-resistant coating, or a greaseproof coating.

As you support a natural environment and diet for your pet, you might also want to consult with your veterinarian to consider homeopathic pet health care to compliment all the other things you're doing to help your pet live a long, happy, and healthy life.

Andrea Donsky and Randy Boyer are the co-founders of NaturallySavvy.com, a website that educates people on the benefits of living a natural, organic and green lifestyle. For more information and to sign up for their newsletter, visit www.NaturallySavvy.com.

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Calculating cashback offers

There are two keys to becoming a successful video poker player. The first is the expected return (or ER) of the base video poker game that you are playing and the second is the ER of the cashback (and bounce-back cash) offers that the casino will give you for playing. By adding up these two components, you will be able to calculate what your overall ER will be. Your goal should be to get the overall ER as close to or over 100 percent and I will show you how to do this.

Here is an example. Suppose you want to play NSU Deuces Wild. The ER for this base game is 99.73%, which means a player playing this game with computer-perfect playing strategy can expect to lose about three tenths of a percent of all the money wagered in the long run. If there was no other way to boost the ER of the game, a player would eventually end up a loser (because the ER is less than 100 percent). However, you can get the ER of the game to greater than 100 percent by taking advantage of the ER of the cashback and bounce-back cash offers. In order to do this, however, you need to know how to compute the ER of these casino benefits.

The ER of a cashback offer is simply the ratio (or percentage) of the amount of cash the casino gives you over the coin-in. Therefore, if a casino gives you \$3 in cash for every \$1,000 of coin-in, the ER is 0.3%. Here is how you would arrive at the ER using a calculator.

Divide 3 by 1,000...answer is 0.003.

Multiply 0.003 by 100...answer is 0.3 (in percent).

Here is another tip to make the calculation even easier: after you divide the cashback by the coin-in, move the decimal place in the result two places to the right to arrive at the ER percentage.

Once you know the ER of the cashback offer, you can add it to the ER of the base game to arrive at your overall ER. Therefore, if you were to play, say, a NSU Deuces Wild game, your overall ER with the 0.3% cashback would be 100.03 percent (99.73% + 0.3% = 100.03%). Easy enough?

Unfortunately, some casinos will complicate things by only advertising how many points you need to get a specific amount of cashback. For example, suppose a casino will give you \$5 in cashback for every 100 points earned on their Player's Reward Card. Let's assume it takes \$20 of coin-in at video poker to generate 1 point so the ER is calculated as follows.

First, determine how much coin-in it will take to earn the \$1 in cashback (or free play). To arrive at this figure, multiply the amount of coin-in required to earn 1 point (\$20) by the amount of points you need to earn \$1 in cash (100 points). If you multiply these two figures, your answer is \$2,000 coin-in. In other words, you need \$2,000 in coin-in on a video poker machine to earn \$5 in cashback.

To determine the ER of the cashback, simply divide the cashback (\$5) by the coin-in (\$2,000) and then multiply the result by 100 (or move 2 decimal places to the right). The result is 0.25 percent (or 0.25% ER).

Now let us suppose you play a 9/6 Jacks-or-Better game with an ER of 99.54%. If you add in the 0.25% cashback (or free play) that you will receive from the Player's Club, you can increase your overall return to 99.79%.

To further boost the ER of any game, you should take advantage of a casino's multiple-point promotions and their bounce-back cash offer in their mailers. For example, suppose a casino offers 2x points on certain days of the week (or month). When you play video poker during these 2x point promotions, your ER for the Player's Club cashback (or free play) will double.

Getting mailers from a casino is also another way to boost your overall ER. Most casinos have different Player Club Tiers (or levels) and each Tier is determined by a player's coin-in (sometimes it is based on the amount of coin-in over a month, other times it's based on a daily average...I'll have more to say about this in a future column). Each Tier gets a different mailer and obviously the greater the coin-in or daily average, the more lucrative will be your mailer including the bounce-back coupons for cash (or sometimes free-play).

Of course, no two casinos are identical when it comes to the base games they offer, the amount of their cashback and bounce-back cash. This is why it is important that you be able to evaluate these casino benefits to determine your overall ER for playing. If you happen to be math challenged, you can always go to the excellent site www.vpfree2.com where they summarize the cashback ER for casinos in different regions of the U.S. (just click on the name of the casino and then click on Player's Club).

Henry Tamburin is a blackjack and video poker expert. He hosts the smartgaming.com website and is the editor of the *Blackjack Insider* newsletter (for a free three-month subscription, visit www.bjinsider.com/free). For a FREE copy of his *Casino Gambling Catalog* that contains training products for video poker players, call toll free 1-888-353-3234, or visit the web store on smartgaming.com. Henry also holds the student record for the most numbers thrown before a 7 (see www.goldentouchcraps.com).

WHAT'S NEWS IN NEVADA...

A Hard Opening

■ *Lady Luck proposes to reopen!*

Casino Debut

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas debuted exactly at the appointed time, at 8 pm on Wednesday December 15, without a hitch. A few of the restaurants didn't fully open till Saturday the 18th (and only a partial inventory of hotel rooms is ready), but otherwise it was a hard opening. The hotel-casino is now in full operation.

Binion's Shrinkage

Binion's shrank a little more last month, eliminating its valet parking service and employee dining hall. The hotel rooms closed last year, so the absence of overnight guests is leading to the downsizing.

Ownership Reverts

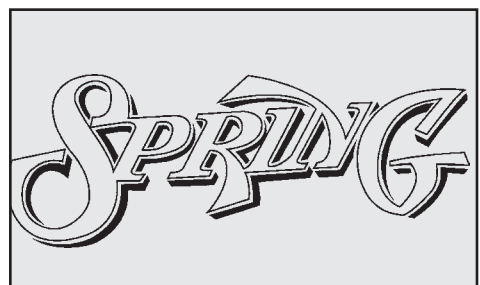
Ownership of the Westin on Flamingo just east of the Strip is about to revert to its lenders from current owner Columbia Sussex, which has been in default on the property's mortgage of nearly \$150 million since last March. An appraisal conducted in May placed its value at \$90.3 million. It's unclear at the moment what will happen to the resort, its gambling license, and the Westin franchise, but it can't wind up much worse than it's been over the past few years.

\$100 Million Renovation

Another new plan—this one involving a \$100 million renovation—has been proposed to reopen the Lady Luck. The complete overhaul includes a makeover of the property, a new swimming pool, and new restaurants and shops. The announced completion date is the third or fourth quarter of 2012, but because owner Resort Gaming Group (RGG) expects a "major hotelier" to get involved as operator, we'll believe it when we see it.

Streamline Switches

Downtown's Streamline Towers, after selling only 27 of 275 units, is switching from a condominium complex to apartments. Streamline's monthly rents will run from \$1,000 to \$2,400. Its name will also be changed to Ogden. Two other former condo towers owned by the same company—Loft 5 and One Las Vegas—will also switch to rental.



Southside Optimist Hall

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Luck of the Irish? Maybe Not

May your pockets be heavy and your heart be light,
 May good luck pursue you each morning and night.
 —Irish Blessing

As we march into March, St. Patrick's Day comes to mind. Why normally sane people, most of whom are not Irish, paint their faces and other body parts green and drink green beer is beyond me. Some do the same thing, but use the color orange because they proclaim themselves to be orange Irish; my husband being one. The difference I'm told is that the green represents Irish Catholics; the orange, Irish Protestants. Whatever the chosen color, every one gets into the spirit and March 17th is a day of good cheer. Personally, I think March 20th three days later should be our day of major frivolity. Why? Because, dear readers, that is when winter ends and spring begins in our Northern Hemisphere. It is formally called the Vernal Equinox and this year it occurs precisely at 1:32 P.M. eastern daylight time. That means that at precisely 1:33 P.M. spring has arrived and with it comes warmer weather. Yoo-hoo!

Another thing that comes to mind during March is the concept of luck. We hear com-

ments about the luck of the Irish and see lucky leprechauns and shamrocks and pots of gold here, there, and everywhere. Did you know that the luck of the Irish is really not a good thing? Many believe that the luck of the Irish is *bad* luck because the Irish people have endured poor fortune, bad times, famine, and centuries of loss and domination of their homeland. That being the case, I'd rather not have the luck of the Irish.

On the other hand, I'll take all the good luck that I can conjure up. The question is how to do that. Here are a few things to try. First, hold a four-leaf shamrock (or clover) in your left hand at dawn on St. Patrick's Day. You'll get what you want very much but haven't wished for. Is that possible? If I want something, then surely I'm going to be constantly wishing and hoping that I get it. Second, to bring good luck and ensure a long life, carry an acorn. Well, squirrels and chipmunks do that all the time and yet, have you checked highway road-kill lately? Probably not, but I'm here to tell you that too many of the cute little rodents get squished by traffic. Not one to take chances with my life, I'll just leave acorns on the trees where they belong. Next, a cricket living in your house will summon good luck into your household. Crickets make a chirping sound and chirping day and night would drive me bonkers. I would end up like Rambo on a search and destroy mission, stomping the innocent little insect if I could find it. What would that do to my luck? Lastly, always enter and leave a house through the same door; wear new clothes every Easter Sunday; and never cut your fingernails on a Friday or Saturday. The last three seem doable—the first three, not so much. Of course, if you believe that good luck will come your way, it surely will, sooner or later. And that's the truth... as I see it.

Until next month, may Lady Luck blow you kisses as dance out the door with dollars. Win big. And, the next time you win big at Bingo, amaze your friends by saying, Bhi an t-adh liom. That's Gaelic (Irish) for the luck was with me.



A meatball mixture

Dear Ask Annie,

I would like to try making meatballs with different kinds of meats. Do you have a recipe for this type of meatball?

Rachel from Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Rachel,

I have a very good recipe for meatballs from a niece of mine. She uses lean ground beef, ground veal and ground pork. I am sure you will be pleased with the results. I use this recipe when I am serving pasta to a crowd. Serve with the sauce of your choice. —Annie

MEATBALLS

- 1 lb. ground lean beef
- 1/2 lb. ground veal
- 1/2 lb. ground pork
- 2 lg. eggs
- 1 cup freshly grated Pecorino
- 1 1/2 T. chopped Italian parsley
- 1/2 small garlic clove, peeled and minced, optional

- 2 cup breadcrumbs
- 2 cup lukewarm water
- Salt (preferably Kosher or Sea Salt) and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1 cup fine-quality olive oil
- Romano cheese

Combine the beef, veal, and pork in a large bowl. Add the eggs, cheese, parsley, garlic and salt and pepper to taste. Using your hands, blend the ingredients together. Blend the breadcrumbs into the meat mixture. Slowly add water, 1 cup at a time, until the mixture is quite moist. Shape the meat mixture into balls (2 1/2- to 3-inch). Heat the oil in a large sauté pan. When the oil is very hot but not smoking, fry the meatballs in batches. When the bottom half of the meatball is very brown and slightly crisp, turn and cook the top half. Remove from the heat and drain on paper towels. Lower the cooked meatballs into simmering spaghetti or marinara sauce and cook for 15 minutes. Serve over pasta or on their own. Makes 28 meatballs.

Dear Annie,

Just a short note to thank you for the "Breast of Veal with Bread Stuffing" recipe that you suggested. I made it for my parents 50th wedding anniversary party. They loved it. Thanks again for all your recipes.

Deliah from Atlanta, Georgia

Your comments and questions about cooking and entertaining will be addressed in this monthly column. Write to "Ask Annie" c/o Annie Ennis, 8312 SE 168th Trinity Place, The Villages, Florida 32162. So Ask Annie. Don't forget you can E-mail me at aennis@thevillages.net And let's get cooking.



Antique Bingo

One of these days, *Antique Road Show* will come to Michigan. I have been preparing for them for about a year now. I can just see the amazement on the face of the appraiser when he sees the treasures I have in store to show him.

"Ah," he will say, "What do we have here?" I proudly slip the cover off my display. "This jar of corn kernels is the very corn my great grandmother used when she played Bingo on these hardboard cards. When the announcer called one of her numbers she put a kernel of corn on it till she had a straight line. The prize during the great depression was a basket of groceries."

I go on as he watches with obvious amazement. "Now here, we have the improved cards and

these little cardboard circles to cover the numbers. They became popular in the 40s.

"These little plastic circles were invented in the sixties, and were called CHIPS. The nice thing about them was you could see the numbers right through them. Then they increased the ways to win and a housewife working in a plastic factory came up with these square markers, called waiters, to help us keep track of the numbers we were hoping to hear. The seventies was a great decade. It was perfectly acceptable in those days to play with the chips and flip them across the hall like tiddlywinks."

When I move to the Bingo Bag, he is getting so excited; he calls over a couple other appraisers. I know they are excited too when they roll their eyes toward the top of their heads.

"What are these little bottles?" one asks as he watches me set up the daubers, all nestled into the little compartments on the outside the Bingo Bag. I explain the gradual move from cards to throw away papers and show them how to use the daubers.

"That's it," I said triumphantly. "How much do you think I could get for this historic collection?"

"I'll give you five bucks for the bag," said one of the men. "It would be great for small tools I carry in my car."

"I'll go ten," said another.

I didn't want to break up my valuable collection. I am anxiously waiting to see myself on TV and all the world can see how smart I am to hold on to my treasures.



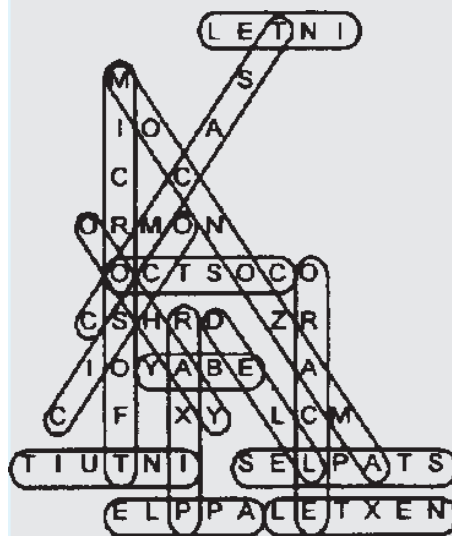
Ararat Shrine in Kansas City, Mo. have a lot of good games every Thursday night. Come out and join in.

Bingo Bugle Puzzle Answers

The Bugle Unscrambler Answer

LURID DUCAT CARBON HANDLE
 This resulted when the Frenchman didn't say good-bye — ADO OVER ADIEU

Magic Maze Answers



Sudoku Answer

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

Go Figure! Answer

9	—	2	x	1	7
—		÷		x	
4	—	2	x	8	16
x		+		+	
5	+	6	+	7	18
25		7		15	

CryptoQuote answer

Behind every successful man stands a surprised mother-in-law. —

Bugle Word Game Answer
 SPACECRAFT

Pops Quiz Answers

Answers from top to bottom (questions are in parentheses):
 Sanfrancisco(5), Satisfaction(2), Garland(3), Memory(1), Candy(Shaded)

BUGLE CROSSWORD ANSWER

M	E	M	O		E	N	T	E	R		G	O	L	D			
A	M	I	D		F	A	I	R	E		A	V	E	R			
T	I	N	E		F	I	R	M	S		R	A	V	I			
T	L	C		M	O	V	E	A	T	A	C	L	I	P			
E	Y	E	S	O	R	E		L	U	I							
					W	H	A	T		P	E	E	K	A	B	O	O
S	T	O	U	T		G	L	A	S	S		U	M	A			
C	O	R	N		S	E	A	R	S		E	M	I	T			
A	D	D		S	C	A	N	S		C	A	P	T	S			
M	O	S	S	H	A	R	T		V	A	S	E					
					I	O	N			D	E	S	T	R	O	Y	
P	R	U	N	E	D	A	N	I	S	H		C	H	E			
R	A	N	G		A	R	E	N	T		G	R	A	M			
E	V	I	L		L	I	T	E	R		P	O	R	E			
P	E	T	E		S	A	S	S	Y		S	P	A	N			



© King Features
Combat stress
■ Cell-Phone apps help

If you are struggling with stress issues or are just back from deployment and aren't sure how you're doing, there are two new cell-phone applications (apps) that could be of help: The Telephone Mood Tracker and the Tactical Breathing Trainer. These two apps placed first and second in the Apps4Army competition in the General Wellness category. Both apps are free.

The Telehealth Mood Tracker (also called the T2) is designed to track the emotional health of those who are post-deployment or are undergoing treatment for any type of stress. The app helps keep track of changes in moods, emotions and behavior in different environmental settings, and the results of therapy and medications. The big benefit from this app is that you no longer have to try to keep notes about how you're feeling at a particular time so the information can be relayed to your doctor later. It will be much easier, too, to figure out patterns. Note your information on the spot, and you'll have it for future reference. This particular app only works with Android right now, but a version for iPhone is coming next year. You can get it at t2health.org (put T2 Mood Tracker in the search box). This site also has screen shots so you know what you're getting.

The Tactical Breathing Trainer (sometimes called the iBreathe) is used to get control of responses to stress: emotions, hemirate and more. It includes exercises, practice sessions, a place to insert your own notes and charts of your progress. This app is written for iPhone (you need iTunes) and is free. Look for it at itunes.apple.com. Android development will come soon.



© NAPSA
Hair straightening
■ Making it simpler

Here are some tips on finding the best straightener:

- Look for a straightening method that does not take a lot of time. Thermal straightening can require several hours spent at a salon, while some at-home systems achieve results in about an hour. No continuous combing is required with some at-home systems, which also cuts down on potential hair damage.
- Look for a low pH content to avoid hair damage. The high pH level in thermal straightening formulas and traditional relaxers may damage hair.
- Read the ingredients. Gentle at-home systems, such as Easy-Straight, contain vegetable oils and conditioning agents to improve elasticity and allow for more styling flexibility. The system is so gentle, it can be used in color-treated and most highlighted hair.
- Consider the cost. Some at-home systems deliver results for a fraction of the price of thermal straightening salon visits or even traditional relaxers—and results last up to three months.

With the right straightener, hot weather can be a breeze. For a quick style that will get you out the door fast and still turn heads, shampoo, apply conditioner, rinse and just blow-dry the hairline and/or bangs.

Add gloss and your hair will look "just done" for hours.

For more information, visit www.EasyStraight.com or call 1-888 260-5272. © NAPSA



by Steve Rosenbloom
Reading based on you

In the meta-game that poker can become, you are not only trying to get a read on your opponents based on their image—playing style, betting patterns, that sort of thing—but you also need to get a read based on the way they play against you.

The case of bluffing maniac Jamie Gold, the World Series of Poker main event champion in 2006, presents an interesting example of moves that his image demands but might require different action by other players. In this hand from the 2008 World Series of Poker \$10,000-buy-in main event at Las Vegas' Rio Hotel, with blinds at \$50-\$100, two players limped ahead of Gold, who also limped with K-3 suited on the button.

The blinds also played, so five players took a flop of K-3-7, two spades. The original limper made an overbet of \$600 into a \$500 pot. The second limper folded. Gold called with top and bottom pair in position. The blinds folded.

The turn came the five of clubs. The original limper made another overbet of \$2,000 into a \$1,700 pot.

"There are two spades on the flop and a spade didn't come on the turn, so he thinks I'm on spades," said Gold, celebrity spokesman for ALS, the disease that killed his father. "I called because he didn't know what I

had, and I knew that if the next spade doesn't come, he's going to bet again and I'm going to get him.

"No one ever believes me because I'm always bluffing. So, I knew I might get doubled up. He was the chip leader at the table, and he had the chips to call my stack."

The river paired the 5. Gold's key second pair was counterfeited by a higher second pair on the board. The original limper checked. Gold checked. The original limper showed K-Q offsuit, giving him the pot with a better kicker.

"If I had raised on the turn, he still would've called me and I still would've gotten counterfeited and lost more money," Gold said. "He wasn't getting off the hand unless I went all in, which is a stupid play. What if he had a set? I wasn't 100 percent willing to go all in and put my tournament life on it.

"I know now that they're calling me, so when I get counterfeited, I can get off the hand. It's the smartest play for me, but any other player should've raised there because they can get people off one pair. No one's getting off K-Q and one pair and nothing else on the board. Not against me. They're just not, especially when there's a draw out there and I could be on the draw. You have to play the way people are playing against you."

TABLE TALK

Button: The last betting position in all betting rounds after the flop; a powerful spot because you get to see every other player act before you.

Steve Rosenbloom is a sports columnist for the *Chicago Tribune* and the author of the book *The Best Hand I Ever Played*, now available in bookstores. He can be reached at srosenbloom@tribune.com.

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By Guy Williams

Hardboards live on

■ Feeling like a kid again

Dear Guy,

In a recent column you asked about games that still use hardboards. I work as a volunteer at our local American Legion, and we use hardboards for all of our regular games (10) and then continue on paper for our specials and other games (11).

The hardboards we use do not have sliding buttons and require the players to use plastic markers (which they already own or they borrow from the Legion). We have a loyal following to the point where the volunteers know most of the players on a first-name basis, and they show up each week, although our prizes are much smaller than our competition. It is a very friendly group, and I often see newcomers who have never been at the Legion before come back time after time—nobody minding that we use plastic markers.

The upshot for the Legion is that by using markers, is to my understanding a savings of about \$50 a week that we would have otherwise paid if we were using all paper, and the money we save goes to support local charities that our Legion helps subsidize as we are a non-profit organization. —R.W., New York, via e-mail

Dear R.W.,

That's really interesting and pretty darn nostalgic. I can't remember the last time I saw one of those clear plastic deli tubs with the snap-on lid filled to the brim with transparent colored Bingo tokens. And here it is a regular feature at your hall,

which appears to be thriving even in the high-tech Bingo world of today.

I congratulate your Legion on its ability to maintain the simple spirit of Bingo and even attract new players using the good ol' hardboard/paper combo. There's an important lesson to be learned here by halls that find themselves struggling. —Guy

Dear Guy,

You asked if there are still hardboard games being played. The answer is yes.

Toward the end of last summer I was vacationing and there was a fire station in town that had weekly Bingo, which my wife and I went to. The entire game was played on hardboards with the sliding windows that you use to cover up your numbers when they are called.

It made me feel like a kid again, sitting in the basement playing Bingo with the family. It also made me wonder if this might not be the next phase in Bingo—Retro Bingo—where halls actually invest in and promote their hardboard games. I'd definitely go. —Bruce, Colorado, via e-mail

Dear Bruce,

It definitely sounds like fun. But keep in mind why hardboards were replaced with paper: Hardboards got lost, damaged, or stolen, resulting in games that people felt were uneven. Paper cards and electronic Bingo solved that problem because at the end of each game the paper is discarded and replaced with fresh paper for the next game. To me it just feels fairer. But I have to admit I would love to play Bingo on hardboards again. —Guy

Dear Guy,

I played hardboard Bingo last year while visiting relatives, and what it reminded me was that I am soooooo glad hardboards were replaced with paper.

The cards we had had sliding plastic windows, half of which were gone so you had to cover them with pennies or chips or whatever you had. They were also kind of yellowed and stained, making me wonder what I was touching.

But the worst part was one woman who Bingoed on several of the games. A woman at my table muttered about how this woman always wins and that she and others suspected she used the same card week after week. (This made sense, as several numbers were called frequently that night and other not at all, leaving me wondering if the balls were as old as the cards.)

In the end it was pretty fun to use hardboards again, but they are certainly nothing I miss or will look for anytime soon. —Luke T., via e-mail

Dear Luke,

Well, I guess it's good that you "sort of" got into the spirit of the hardboard games, and I hope you didn't have to wait long before you got a hold of some hand sanitizer. —Guy

Readers: Do you have a hardboard Bingo story to share? Pass it along! —Guy

Hey guys! (And gals!) Write to Guy's Turn c/o The Bingo Bugle, P.O. Box 527, Vashon, Washington 98070, or e-mail Guy directly at Tonder22@aol.com.



Attacking Allergies

Finding relief for the allergies plaguing as many as one in five Americans seems to be turning a corner.

Doctors are now suggesting a drug-free treatment that effectively teaches the body not to react to allergens, helping to relieve symptoms ranging from watery eyes to runny noses to itchy skin and even irritable bowel syndrome.

It's a state-of-the-art laser technology used by trained practitioners at AllergiCare Relief Centers across the country. It's noninvasive and once successfully treated, patients can recommence contact with the substance that had previously caused the allergic reaction or sensitivity.

More than 50 million Americans are afflicted with allergic diseases, with over 37 million sufferers having a pollen allergy. As the fifth-leading cause of chronic disease in the U.S., allergies cost the health care system \$18 billion annually.

For more information, visit www.allergicare.com. © NAPSA

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Thursday
7:00pm**



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Olathe, Ks
(913)782-0621**

- * Display Board
- * TV Monitors
- * Non-Smoking

Bingo Bugle Games

BUGLE WORD GAME

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions—horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your **MAGICWORD**.

Y R T N E E R E L B A S U E R
M I S S I O N E G O R D Y H S
U K N A T L E U F N F R P A C
I M A N U E V E R I L E E N C
N U D A E H K L U B O T R O A
A I W E R C N A S A R I J I S
T L D A O L Y A P C I B E T T
I E G L I D E C K S D R T A U
T H R U S T N E C S A O T T A
L I F T O F F S P E E D I S N
A P O X Y G E N G I N E S E O
U I P O W E R F U L L N O C R
N L F U S E L A G E I N N A T
C O M P L E X F C T A A E P S
H T A P T H G I L F T M D S A

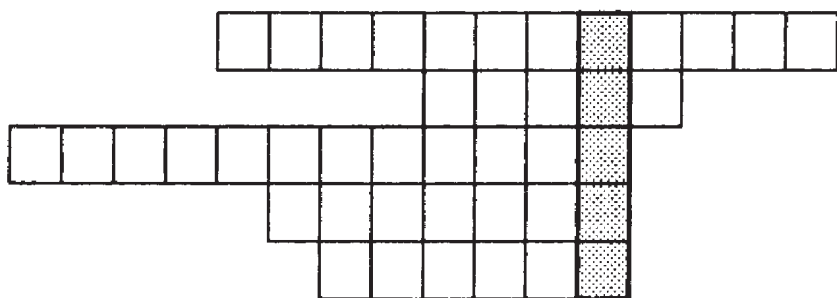
SPACE SHUTTLE (sol.: 10 letters)

A-Airlock, Ascent, Astronauts; B-Bulkhead; C-Cabin, Cargo, Complex, Crew; D-Decks; E-Engines; F-Flight path, Florida, Fuel tank, Fuselage; G-Glide; H-Helium, Hydrogen; J-Jettisoned; L-Launch, Liftoff; M-Manned, Maneuver, Mission; N-NASA; O-Orbiter, Oxygen; P-Payload, Pilot, Powerful; R-Re-entry, Reusable; S-Space Station, Speed; T-Tail, Thrust, Titanium

Pop's Quiz *by Dave McGill*

© King Features

Signature Signs



Enter answers on one of the horizontal lines. (They're NOT all in order!)

1. Bob Hope—Thanks for the what? (Hint: It's singular)
 2. The Rolling Stones—They don't get no what?
 3. Judy Who?—"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"
 4. Tony Bennett—He left his heart where?
 5. Frank Sinatra—I did it how?
- Shaded Column: Sammy Davis, Jr.—The ___ Man can.

GO FIGURE! *by Linda Thistle*

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	-		x		7
-		÷		x	
	-		x		16
x		+		+	
	+		+		18
25		7		15	

Difficulty this week: ★ ★

- ★ Moderate
- ★ ★ Challenging
- ★ ★ ★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

© King Features

THE BUGLE UNSCRAMBLER

Unscramble these four words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

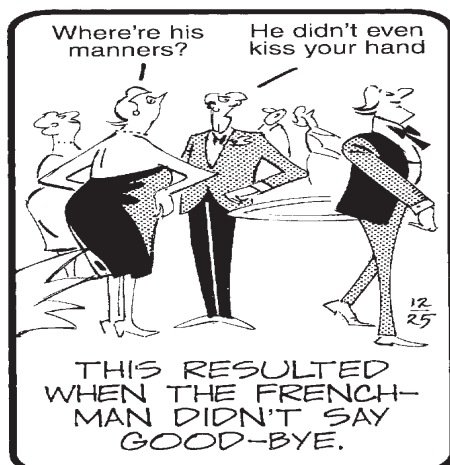
RUILD

ACTUD

BANCOR

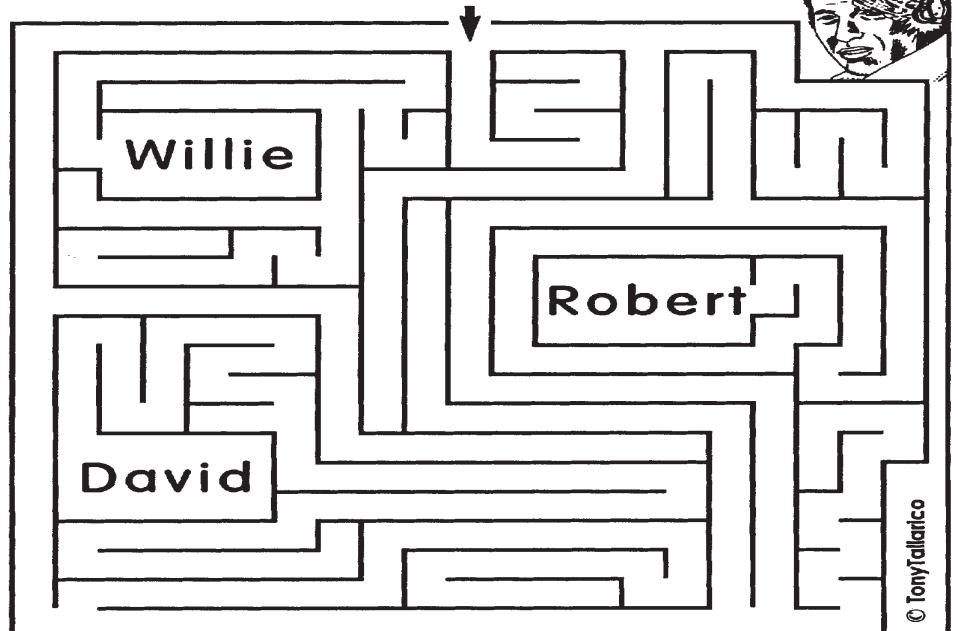
ELDAHN

Answer: OVER



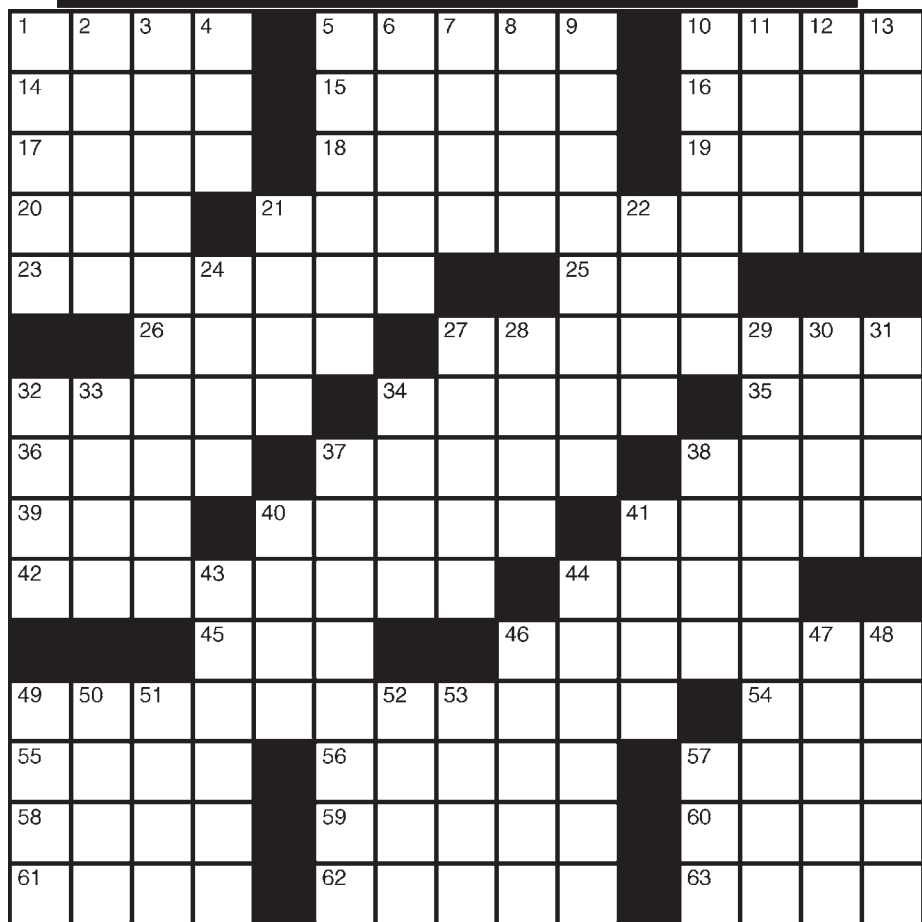
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

What is daredevil Evel Knievel's real first name?



© Tony Talliano

BINGO BUGLE CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Brief note
 - 5 Go in
 - 10 Top-med-al metal
 - 14 Sur-rounded by
 - 15 Laissez
 - 16 Swear
 - 17 Fork part
 - 18 Corpora-tions
 - 19 Sitarist Shankar
 - 20 Pamper-ing letters
 - 21 Speed along
 - 23 Visual blight
 - 25 Him in Italy
 - 26 Eh?
 - 27 Baby's game
 - 32 Portly
 - 34 Tumbler
 - 35 Thurman of "Batman & Robin"
 - 36 Country humor
 - 37 Roe-buck's part-ner
 - 38 Give forth
 - 39 Annex
 - 40 Reads a bar code
 - 41 Mil. offic-
 - 42 George S. Kaufman's partner
 - 44 Bouquet holder
 - 45 Tiriac of tennis
 - 46 Tear down
 - 49 Pastry choice
 - 54 Fidel's comrade
 - 55 Pealed
 - 56 ___ we all?
 - 57 Light weight
 - 58 Depraved
 - 59 Metric unit
 - 60 Skin opening
 - 61 Sampras or Rose
 - 62 Smart-alecky
 - 63 Bridge
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Flat finish
 - 2 Watson of "Breaking the Waves"
 - 3 Moderate one's speech
 - 4 Yeats offer-ing
 - 5 Exertion
 - 6 Gullible
 - 7 Grow wea-ry
 - 8 Ms.
 - Bombeck
 - 9 Antsy
 - 10 Grateful Dead head
 - 11 Elliptical
 - 12 Pants maker
 - 13 Dork
 - 21 Castle's protection
 - 22 Puffins and guille-mots
 - 24 Eschew
 - 27 Factory
 - 28 I'm all ___!
 - 29 Farmer's success
 - 30 Skip
 - 31 Feedbag food
 - 32 Con game
 - 33 Uproar
 - 34 Toothed wheel
 - 37 Tabloid creations
 - 38 Compass reading
 - 40 Wing-tip or oxford
 - 41 Currency
 - 43 One-base hit
 - 44 Sacristy
 - 46 Has a meal
 - 47 "Butter-
 - field 8" au-thor
 - 48 Country on the Gulf of Aden
 - 49 Private sch.
 - 50 Great review
 - 51 Motel room, e.g.
 - 52 Operatic melody
 - 53 New Jer-sey team
 - 57 All-pur-pose MDs

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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

ZNPWTF NENQS
BLRRNBBJLC XVT BDVTFB
V BLQQQWBNF
XKDPNQ-WT-CVY. - PLZNQD
P. PLXOPQNS

© King Features

MagicMaze

NASDAQ-100 COMPANIES

E S Q N K H L E T N I E B Y W
T R O M L J G S E B Y W U S R
P N K I O I A G D B Z X V K S
Q O M C K C I G E C A Y W C U
S Q O R M O N P N L J H F U E
C A Y O C T S O C O X V U B S
Q P C S H R D N Z R M K J R H
F E I O Y A B E C A B Z Y A X
V C U F T X Y R L C M Q P T O
T I U T N I M S E L P A T S L
K I H E L P P A L E T X E N G

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Amazon.com
- Apple
- Cisco
- Comcast
- Costco
- Dell
- eBay
- Intel
- Intuit
- Microsoft
- Nextel
- Oracle
- Pixar
- Staples
- Yahoo

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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MARCH BINGO CALENDAR

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
 FREE BINGO March 25th 1 Buy-In Per-Person <i>(Does Not Include Pig, Tax or Hotball)</i>	1 Budget High Roller \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	2 Hot Hot Seat 5-\$100 Drawings \$200, \$300 & \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	3 \$500 GAMES Double Your Money Ball Early Birds Double Your Money in 4 #s Double Your Lucky Duck \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 "BIG" Bucks \$500 & \$600 Games BIG's pay \$600 \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	5 MEGA Odd Ball \$800 & \$1000 Odd's pay \$1,000 Even's pay \$800 \$14.60 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball \$10 Matinee @ 4:30pm Ante-Up Bingo!	6 \$500 GAMES "GOODY, GOOD" NEIGHBOR REGULAR & BUDGET \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Budget Buy-In \$9.40
 "MONday Madness" \$300 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax	8 FAT TUESDAY \$400 & \$500 Games Free beads Mardi Gras King & Queen \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	9 Hot Hot Seat 5-\$100 Drawings \$200, \$300 & \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	10 \$500 GAMES Double Your Money Ball Early Birds Double Your Money in 4 #s Double Your Lucky Duck \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 "BIG" Bucks \$500 & \$600 Games BIG's pay \$600 \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 SUPER SATURDAY \$600 & \$1,000 Games Progressive Payout \$14.60 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball \$10 Matinee @ 4:30pm Ante-Up Bingo!	13 \$500 GAMES "GOODY, GOOD" NEIGHBOR REGULAR & BUDGET \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Budget Buy-In \$9.40
 "MONday Madness" \$300 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax	15 Budget High Roller \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	16 Hot Hot Seat 5-\$100 Drawings \$200, \$300 & \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	 ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIAL Bingo on a Green (G) \$250 Bonus Pack Game Single Winner Wear Green receive a free dauber. \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 "BIG" Bucks \$500 & \$600 Games BIG's pay \$600 \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 Great "BIG" Bucks BIG's pay \$800 N's & O's pay \$700 \$14.60 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball \$10 Matinee @ 4:30pm Ante-Up Bingo!	20 \$500 GAMES "GOODY, GOOD" NEIGHBOR REGULAR & BUDGET \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Budget Buy-In \$9.40
 "MONday Madness" \$300 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax	22 Budget High Roller \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	23 Hot Hot Seat 5-\$100 Drawings \$200, \$300 & \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	24 \$500 GAMES Double Your Money Ball Early Birds Double Your Money in 4 #s Double Your Lucky Duck \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	 Bordertown's Gone Crazy FREE BINGO 1 Free 9-on (Limit 1 per person) DOES NOT INCLUDE Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	26 \$500-\$1,000 Games Luck of the Draw \$14.60 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball \$10 Matinee @ 4:30pm Ante-Up Bingo!	27 \$500 GAMES "GOODY, GOOD" NEIGHBOR REGULAR & BUDGET \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Budget Buy-In \$9.40
 BOGO 2 for 1 2 plays for \$10.80 Includes Pig & Tax \$300 Games	29 Budget High Roller \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	30 Hot Hot Seat 5-\$100 Drawings \$200, \$300 & \$400 Games \$9.40 Buy-In Includes Pig & Tax Ante-Up Bingo!	31 \$500 GAMES Double Your Money Ball Early Birds Double Your Money in 4 #s Double Your Lucky Duck \$12.50 Buy-In Includes Pig, Tax & Hotball Ante-Up Bingo!	Open EASTER Sunday Budget Only! Sales Start at 4:00pm "Bunny Money" Progressive Pay \$200-\$700 \$9.40 Buy-In INCLUDES PIG & TAX ANTE-UP BINGO SPECIAL EVENT!		

HIGH STAKES Thur-Sat 7 pm & Sunday 2 pm
BUDGET BINGO Sun-Wed 7 pm
 129 West Oneida | Seneca, Missouri | 800.957.2435

