

Issue 7 September 2023

What A Reflection!
Thank you to Lisa Ferris of Paradise Park for the great picture!

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Shuffleboard	Jeannie Jewel	(727) 669-7686 Unit 32
		(317) 501-4243 Unit 179
Chatter Editor	Nancy Luallen	(816) 809-6564 Unit 153











### **FOOD GIVE-A-WAY**

Submitted by skm 8/11/2023

For a year and a half Silk Oak HOA has partnered with the Good Neighbors Organization to host a Food Pantry every other Tuesday at the Clubhouse. (Please see the calendar for September dates and times). During this time an average of 38 households have shopped at each event.



#### **WORTH REPEATING:**

- 1. Being a Silk Oak resident is the only prerequisite to partake.
- 2. You may have a neighbor shop for you.
- 3. There may be times when items will be limited although it's never been desserts or bread!
- 4. Bring your own bags in fact, bring any extra you may have because we are running low.

We were recently alerted by Good Neighbors that to continue the Pantry we must have people available to unload the goods from their delivery vehicles. This task requires some heavy lifting. There will be a signup sheet at every event if you can commit to one or more Tuesday. Although we never know exactly what time the deliveries will be, it is good to be at the Clubhouse an hour before the Pantry start time.













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## A New Face Among Us!

Contributed by ncl 8/11/2023

By now, you may have met Allen Payne, our new Service technician. Allen joined us here at Silk Oak on July 6, 2023, and almost immediately made his presence known. Working with park management, he has straightened fencing, installed better signage, and generally righted a lot of minor 'wrongs' that have refreshed the appearance of our park curb appeal and throughout the interior of the park.

Allen's approach to his duties begins first with a morning survey of the park in general, looking for those small things that add up to big improvements, intending to stay in front of pending issues to proactively address them, instead of waiting for bigger problems to occur.

Allen and his wife, Tracey, moved to Clearwater from Owensboro, Kentucky this year, having experienced the "Florida Lifestyle" visiting retired family. Between them, they share five grown children: three girls and two boys. Allen likens their blended family to the Brady Bunch! There are also three granddaughters to spoil. Tracey is employed by The Bronze Lady in Treasure Island.

Please join us in welcoming Allen to the Silk Oak Family!





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#### To our valued customers:

During the current times we wanted to let you know that we are taking as many precautions as we can to ensure not only our workers safety but yours as well. We check workers' temperatures each morning and have limited the amount of contact our crews have with each other. Our crews work in Tyvek suits with respirators which helps to ensure your safety as well as theirs.

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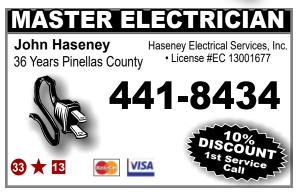
We Need Cover Pictures! Send in Your Interesting Photos!

Get Your Picture on the Cover - We select a new and interesting picture every month to be printed on the cover of your newsletter. If you or your neighbors have fun events or activities please send in a picture and we'll enter it to be selected. Please include a description of the image and a brief release allowing us to reprint the picture. Our mailing and email address are here:



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#### ACROSS

- 1. Fearless
- 5. Prefer
- 10. Anagram of "Sale"
- 14. African sheep
- 15. Tequila source
- 16. Female horse
- 17. Arranged in random order
- 19. Ear-related
- 20. Estimated time of arrival
- 21. Protective covering
- 22. Hush
- 23. Individual meal portion
- 25. A frequently visited place
- 27. Night before
- 28. Reticent
- 31. Landslide detritus
- 34. Mock
- 35. Twosome
- 36. A rigid circular band
- 37. Fine thread
- 38. List of choices
- 39. Large flightless bird
- 40. Parental sisters
- 41. Charges
- 42. Collection of information
- 44. Sticky stuff
- 45. Intestinal section
- 46. Mother of a parent
- 50. Committee
- 52. Style of building columns
- 54. Be bedridden
- 55. Utiliser
- 56. Shriveling up
- 58. Fish sperm
- 59. Motif
- 60. Environs
- 61. Compensates
- 62. S S S
- 63. Combustible pile



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#### **DOWN**

- 1. Reveals
- 2. Give a speech
- 3. Associated with the moon
- 4. Accomplished
- 5. An acute insufficiency 28. Flavor
- 6. Growing old
- 7. Flower holder
- 8. Modernizes
- 9. Scarlet
- 10. Sum
- 11. Map parallels
- 12. A Great Lake
- 13. Religious offshoot

- 18. Martini garnish
- 22. Resign
- 24. Vice President (slang)
- 26. Skin disease
- 29. Litter member
- 30. French for "We"
- 31. Outbuilding
- 32. Deep sleep
- 33. Commonly
- 34. Metalworkers
- 37. Outdoor party
- 38. Natural satellite

- 40. Cain's brother
- 41. Manager
- 43. Alarms
- 44. Complains 46. Munchkin
- 47. Kind of farm
- 48. Mineral excavator
- 49. Seaweed
- 50. Flow intermittently
- 51. Largest continent
- 53. Minerals
- 56. Consumed
- 57. Jabber



# September Crossword

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## Making gold from your life

solve problems with the creativity we are all born with.

o you have an idea about something you want to do—something you want to start—but you don't really feel like you have the know-how to do it. That seems to be a problem that is cropping up more and more for human beings. We just don't feel like we can do it, whatever it is. Maybe it's because we've gotten so far away from the day when people had to do virtually everything for themselves—needed a blanket to stay warm during the winter, someone in the household had to make it. Needed a fence to keep deer out of the garden—someone had to build it. But as technology takes us further and further from that type of self-sufficiency, it is as if human beings are losing the ability to believe in themselves—in our innate ability to

Remember the words of Nelson Mandela: "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous. Actually, who are you not to be?" — adapted from *Waiting for the Mountain to Move, by Charles Handy* 

### How to run a race well

here was a Special Olympics race and eight children glowed in anticipation of the event. Excitedly the chil—dren all took their places and got ready for the start of the race.

A starter gave them the signal and shouted, "Get on your mark, get set—goooo!" And the children sprinted out. Soon one girl clearly took the lead with the other children running to catch up.

However, back in the pack of runners one boy, who had gotten off to a slower start, tripped and fell. He began to cry on the racetrack. He whimpered and tears spilled down his cheeks.

The leader of the race, a girl with Down syndrome heard her opponents anguish—and though she was clearly set to win the race she stopped and ran back to the boy. When she reached him, she gingerly dropped down and gave him a kiss on the knee and then she wiped away his tears.

When the other runners saw what was going on they also turned around and ran back. Together they pulled the boy up—then they set off to finish the race they had begun.

As the children approached the finish line it was hard to find a dry eye among the spectators. The runners came down the final stretch toward the finish line—with their arms linked. And each one of them was absolutely delighted to be together. —adapted from *Relationships of Grace, by Chris Karcher* 

Courage is grace under pressure.
— Ernest Hemingway.

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SILK OAK CHATTER SEPTEMBER, 2023 N 14

## How a 17 year old started a thriving online business

t the age of 14, Joseph Cohen started his online venture. As a matter of fact, he waited until his parents went out of town for the weekend, but instead of throwing a party a la Risky Business, he called a car service, descended on Manhattan, bought \$3,000 worth of toys and Christmas lights and opened a Yahoo! store. Before his parents got home, he had doubled his money and had orders waiting.

Cohen says he did it while his parents were away because he thought they'd try to talk him out of it, because just a few weeks before he had accepted a credit card for a payment of \$1,000 in his first online venture — and the card turned out to be phony.

Three years later Cohen's business has \$1.9 million in sales — earning him \$425,000 before taxes.

During the first 14 months of his venture, Cohen sold \$270,000 worth of merchandise—but the following summer when he was 15 he went away to travel camp and took his eye off the business. On his Web site he offered a 50-foot rolled, flat hose for \$20. While he was at camp for six weeks thousands of orders came in and were put on backorder. When Cohen returned he rushed the items out to customers only to find out that the hoses were defective. He had to give customers' money back while he waited for a manufacturer's refund. Even worse, the item had been left online all summer and had racked up \$43,000 in ad charges through a per-click charge. He took care of what needed to be done and has gone on with his online business.

His advice for success: "You've got to do what you love."

— adapted from "The Merchant of Bay Ridge," by Phyllis Berman, in Forbes

## **Stephen King gives his Top 10 list to graduates**

t a commencement speech this year, Stephen King issued a Top 10 list to graduating seniors urging them to remember to hug and kiss the people who had helped them get to where they already are in life, to be voracious readers, and to give away one-tenth of what they make during their lifetimes.



King, a lifelong resident of Maine, also urged the students to make their careers in his beloved state. As a matter of fact, his last four points on his Top 10 list were: Stay in Maine, stay in Maine, stay in Maine and stay in Maine. King lives near Bangor, Maine. — adapted from www.bostonherald.com

Manifest plainness, embrace simplicity, reduce selfishness, have few desires.

— Lao-Tzu, Tao Te Ching

# Did You Know?

Fleas can jump 350 times its body length?

Hummingbirds are the only birds that can fly backwards?

Only female mosquitoes bite?



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Sunday	Monday	Γ
OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7		
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# Silk Oak

uesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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- 1pm	12	13	14	15	16
	19	20	21	22	23 First Day of Autumn
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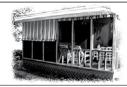
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# September Word Search





















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## **September Calendar**

Monthly

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Month. Sept. 1–30. To educate the public about childhood health issues by educating them about ADHD. For more information, browse www.ppsinc.org.

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Baby Safety Month. Sept. 1–30. The Juvenile Products Manufacturer's Association, a national trade organization devoted to helping parents keep babies safe, disseminates information about baby safety. For more information, e-mail *jszwalek@ahint.com*.

**Backpack Safety America Month. Sept. 1–30.** Thousands of school-age children are straining in pain under backpacks that are too heavy for their growing bodies. To remind students, parents and teachers about the safe and proper ways to choose, pack, lift and carry a backpack. For more information, browse *www.backpacksafe.com*.

**International Strategic Thinking Month. Sept. 1–30.** A monthlong effort to bring awareness of the universal need to improve thinking skills. The International Center for Strategic Planning hosts this month each year to draw attention to the value of seeking to expand individual views of the world and remove thought barriers that pre—vent professional achievement. For more information, browse *www.icfsp.com*.

**Library Card Sign-up Month. Sept. 1–30**. Public and school libraries join forces to try and ensure that every child has a library card. For more information, browse www.ala.org.

Weekly

International Enthusiasm Week. Sept. 1–7. Display genuine enthusiasm to every person, every project, every possibility that comes your way. It will change your week, your month, your year, your life. For more information, browse www.carolynstein.com.

National Childhood Injury Prevention Week. First week of September.

Injuries are the No. 1 killer of children. This week is to promote prevention and intervention of unintentional injuries to children. For more information, browse www.AsSafeAsPossible.org.

National Dog Week. Sept. 20–27. To promote the relationship of dogs to mankind and emphasize the need for the proper care and treatment of dogs. For more information, e-mail mraskin@yerizon.net.

#### **Daily**

**Labor Day. Sept. 4.** A national holiday celebrating the people who keep the country going through their hard work.

**Sept. 11**. Attack on America Anniversary. Sept. 11, 2001. In memory of those who suffered and perished when terrorists hijacked four planes, piloting two of them into the World Trade Center's twin towers in New York City and one into the Pentagon. On the fourth plane, passengers appear to have tried to overcome the terrorists. That plane crashed in western Pennsylvania.

American Business Women's Day. September 22. To recognize the important contributions of more than 57 million American working women. For more information, browse www.abwa.org.

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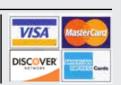
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### Health

Experts warn that Southern style diets can cause strokes, heart problems

outhern-style diets worry health experts because while the types of food in a typical Southern diet are not a concern themselves, the way they are prepared adds lots of unnecessary fat and calories and could be the reason that residents of Southern regions suffer more strokes and heart problems.

Concern for the way some Southern communities eat started in 1962, when a study showed that people living in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia were suffering disproportionately from high stroke death rates. Now the area of highest concern has shifted to the Mississippi Delta region.

Health officials from the Centers for Disease Control and other agencies have spent thousands of dollars on grants to promote healthy eating, even sending nutritionists in to educate the public in the South. These experts teach locals how to prepare Southern-style foods in healthier ways, such as reducing the amount of frying and fat used. But traditional Southern cooks often complain that changing the way the food is cooked also reduces flavor. Frying has long been a favorite Southern way of preparing food, the region seems to have latched on to frying long ago because it was a quick, inexpensive and flavorful way to cook food. Frying didn't heat up homes as much because it was such a fast way of cooking. But today's health conscious experts are striving to help find alternative preparation methods that will improve the health of the people who love to eat Southern regional cooking. — adapted from the Aetna IntelliHealth Web site

## Plant-based diets lower 'bad' cholesterol more effectively

If you want to lower your LDL, your "bad" cholesterol, and you're on a low-fat diet, the type of diet you choose to follow can make a big difference in results. A recent study by the Stanford University School of Medicine confirmed that a low-fat diet rich in fruits, vegetables and whole grains is more effective in lower—ing LDL than low fat diets that do not focus on these foods.

What exactly does this mean? It means that when you eat spinach salad, egg and oatmeal-carrot cookies, it's healthier for you—heartwise—than eating lean beef, asparagus and low-fat chocolate chip cookies. That holds true even when both meals are equal in amounts of saturated fats and cholesterol. The findings are from a study that compared results from a conven—tional low-fat diet and one that was heavily plant based. The conventional diet lowered LDL by 4.6 per—cent; the plant-based diet lowered LDL by 9.4 percent. —adapted from the Nutrition Horizon Web site

The world breaks everyone, and afterward, some are strong at the broken places.

— Ernest Hemingway

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SEPTEMBER, 2023 N

### The hitchhiker

A

hitchhiker caught a ride. As soon as the hitchhiker sat down in the front seat the driver floored the gas pedal and drove right through a red light.



Frightened, the hitchhiker said, "You oughtn't do that—it's dangerous."

The driver looked over at the new passenger and said earnestly, "Why, that's the way my brother always drives."

They continued on and when they came to the next traffic light, it was red, and the driver didn't as much as pretend to slow down. He barreled right through the intersection. Other cars slammed on their brakes to keep from hitting the red-light-running car.

By this time the hitchhiker was starting to lose his temper, "What are you trying to do—kill us? You're driving like a maniac."

Again, the driver answered in a sincere fashion and said, "My brother always drives exactly like this."

They continued down the road, and as they approached the next traffic light, it turned green just as they were about to go through it. Suddenly, the driver slammed on the brakes and stopped the car immediately.

Beside himself, the hitchhiker said, "Why on earth are you driving like this. Why are you running all the red lights and stopping on green?"

The driver looked at the hitchhiker and said: "My brother might be coming through." — adapted from "Bad driver," as told by Ivan Amburgey, in Laughter in Appalachia, by Loyal Jones and Billy Edd Wheeler

#### The sawmill

There was once a sawmill worker who bent down, got too close to the saw and cut his ear off. The ear fell down into the pile of sawdust and disappeared. The worker got down into the sawdust pit and started scratching around looking for his ear.



I walked by and saw my worker in the pit and I asked, "What you looking for?" The worker said, "I cut my ear off and I'm down here looking for it."

"Well, hang on," I said. "I'll come down and help you." I got down into the pit and started feeling around in the sawdust and I found the ear. "I got it," I called out. "Here it is."

The worker took hold of the ear and looked at it closely, then he threw it back down in the sawdust. "Better keep on looking," he said. "Mine had a pencil behind it." —adapted from "Wrong ear," as told by Glen Baker, in Laughter in Appalachia, by Loyal Jones and Billy Edd Wheeler

Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore.

— Andre Gide

# September



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#### **EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

Craft Fair 11/18/23, 9 AM - 1 PM at Clerawater Cascade. Contact Jane Boucher 903-426-3636, Janeboucher29@gmail.com

Craft Fair, OakCrest/Acorn Clubhouse, 9925 Ulmerton Rd. Largo. Oct 21st. 9-2. Handcrafted items. Vender space available. Contact Jill at 443-741-5304

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Palm Hill Bazar has split. Craft Bazar Nov. 18, Christmas Flea Market Dec. 2. Both 8-1. Refreshments and bake sale at both. 401 8th Ave SW.

#### ATTENTION RESIDENTS!

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-Monthly Media Staff

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Thomas Barboza	. \$10	BugginOut Pest Control
Karen Ballard	. \$10	Royal Enterprise
Alberta Wells	. \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
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Mary Collins	. \$10	Boss Electric
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