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# STADY LANE OAKS OWHAT'S NEW O

FREE Every Month

Issue 10 ecember·2019 Happy Holidays!
Angie Mistretta of Clearwater Cascade shows off her Christmas Spirit! Delivered Door-to-Door by Monthly Mania Winner! \$100 Michael Christian Park Residents

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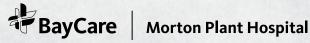


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# **Boost your thinking with Limits**

ometimes a few constraints can boost your creativity. As recounted on the Fast Company website, publisher Bennett Cerf bet one of his authors, Theo Geisel—better known as Dr. Seuss—that he couldn't write a children's book with just 50 different words. Seuss stepped up to the challenge and won the bet with his book, Green Eggs and Ham.

"Putting limits to encourage creativity might sound counterintuitive," writes JotForm CEO Aytekin Tank on the website. "But the thing is, constraints encourage more divergent thinking—and you can leverage built-in limits or apply them to the project at hand. For example, sometimes we'll tell our designers that they can only have 10 elements on a product screen. These limits stretch their problem-solving abilities and typically produce surprising results."



#### Four paths to inspiration

Creativity calls for patience and a willingness to make mistakes along the way to success. The Thrive Global website offers some advice on how to begin this sometimes difficult path:

- Anticipate the future. Look at trends instead of the status quo. What's changing, and how can you take advantage of it? This helps you challenge conventional thinking and start finding new areas to explore.
- Let yourself play. Don't take your projects too seriously. Take time to relax and do something different. When working, give yourself the freedom to try something new and outlandish. Even if it leads nowhere, it should loosen up your mind so you can spot new possibilities.
- Let your mind wander. Focus is important, but so is a wide perspective. Think about the project you're working on, and allow your mind to explore all the angles without worrying about what's "right." A wandering mind will sometimes come across a useful idea.
- Embrace ambiguity. Look at elements that don't seem related, and try to forge connections in your mind. Looking for similarities instead of differences can help you link ideas usefully and develop more options than what's immediately apparent.

A strange thing, words. Once they're said, it's hard to imagine they're untrue.

—Lauren DeStefano

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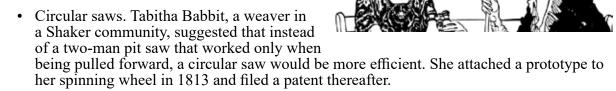
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# **Creativity**

# **Inventive women from history**

ome of the most common things we use every day were invented by creative women. Here are a few, gathered by the Mental Floss website:



- Paper bags. Margaret Knight created the modern, flat-bottomed paper bag in 1868. Before then, paper bags looked like envelopes. A man tried to steal the idea and file a patent, but Knight filed a lawsuit and won the rights to her creation.
- Windshield wipers. Mary Anderson invented the first manual windshield wipers in 1903. They didn't take off because most drivers thought it was safer to simply drive through rain and snow than keep pulling a lever to clear it. Another woman, Charlotte Bridgwood, invented an automatic version in 1917, but it wasn't accepted either. Still, by 1920 windshield wipers were everywhere, starting with Cadillac, which began installing them on all its cars.
- Liquid paper. A secretary named Bette Nesmith Graham corrected her typing mistakes with white tempera paint. After years perfecting the formula in her kitchen, she patented Liquid Paper in 1958. Gillette bought her company in 1979 for \$47.5 million.
- Kevlar. This lightweight material will stop a bullet. It's five times stronger than steel. A chemist named Stephanie Kwolek discovered it by accident in 1966 as she was trying to develop a lightweight fiber for car tires.

The writer must have a good imagination to begin with, but the imagination has to be muscular, which means it must be exercised in a disciplined way, day in and day out, by writing, failing, succeeding, and revising.

—Stephen King



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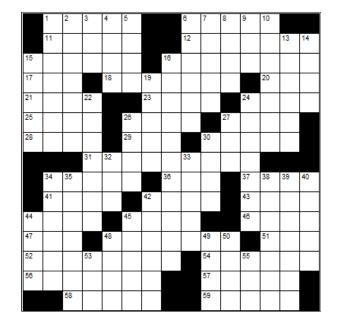
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#### ACROSS

- 1. Tranquility
- 6. Top of the head
- 11 Fervor
- 12. In the direction of
- 15. Ring around the nipple
- 16. Haggard
- 17. Flee
- 18. Disgraced
- 20. A state of SW India
- 21. Footnote note
- 23. Beers
- 24. Prune
- 25. Countertenor
- 26. Smile
- 27. Make secure by lashing
- 28. Clairvoyant
- 29. Donkey
- 30. Closes violently
- 31. Cabaret
- 34. English county
- 36. Furrow maker
- 37. Baroque composer
- 41. Bumpkin
- 42. Fix
- 43. Reflected sound
- 44. Common people
- 45. Paw
- 46. Apothecary's weight
- 47. Hole-making tool
- 48. Books on unusual subjects
- 51. French for "Summer"
- 52. Fast
- 54. Pact
- 56. Ablation
- 57. Habitual practice
- 58. Tubular pasta
- 59. Tropical nut





#### DOWN

- 1. A short moral story 15. Pseudonym
- 2. A Christian recluse 16. A type of light
- 3 Pother
- 4 Soft drink
- 5. Historical periods
- 6. Flower part
- 7. Essential parts
- 8. Blown away
- 9. Legislation
- 10 Standalone
- computer software
- 13. Sags
- 14. Break

- - exercise 19 Abrasive
- 22. A heavy damask
- 24. Groused
- 26 A
- measuring instrument
- 27. Grippe
- 30. Sleigh
- 32. Bother
- 33. Condominium
- 34. A brief period of
- precipitation

- 35. Peak
- 38. Land
- 39. Personal property
- 40. Cozy
- 42. Relating to the sea
- 44. Notability
- 45. A Great Lake
- 48. Metal money
- 49. Counterfoil
- 50 Backside
- 53. East southeast
- 55. "Dig in!"

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# December Crossword



# Santa by another name

anta Claus has been a fixture of Christmas for centuries. But he goes under many different names: Kris

Kringle, St. Nicholas, Father Christmas. Here's what the "jolly old elf" is called around the world:

• Brazil: Papai Noel

• China: Shengdan Laoren

• Hungary: Mikulas

• Italy: Babbo Natale

• Netherlands: Sinterklaas

• Portugal: Pai Natal

• Russia: Ded Moroz

• Sweden: Jultomten

Turkey: Noel Baba



# **One-liners**

few jokes for when you want to lighten the mood:

- I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.
- I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
- Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- The evening news is where they begin with "Good evening," and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor.
—Charles Dickens

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Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7  Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
10	11	12	13	14
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# **Happy Puppy**

ur pets make us happy, or we wouldn't have so many of them. Thirty-three percent of U.S. households have a dog, 11% have a cat, and 14% have both. The 2018 General Social Survey looked at the connection between pets and overall happiness.

The survey found that 36% of dog owners describe themselves as happy, and 18% of cat owners said the same. (Twenty-eight percent who have both a dog and a cat agreed)

Does that mean you'll be a happier person with a dog as opposed to a cat? Not necessarily. The survey found that dog owners are more likely than cat owners to be married and own their own homes, two factors that influence happiness and life satisfaction. Dog owners are more likely to engage in outdoor physical activity, another factor in overall happiness.

Whatever kind of pets you have, enjoy them and they'll bring you lots of happiness.

# It's hard to make friends

ere's some sad news: The average American hasn't made a new friend in five years, according to a survey of 2,000 adults by OnePoll, reported on the Sputnik News website. Forty-five percent of respondents said they struggle to make new friends.

Thirty percent said they have trouble finding new friends because they don't like going to bars. About 33% said they're worried everyone already has a well-established circle of friendships, and 29% said their hobbies aren't good for making friends. Twenty-one percent said moving to a new city had made it difficult to forge new connections.

Age may be a factor. A majority of participants felt that making friends was much easier in their early 20s. Most said they had the largest circle of friends at 23. The survey noted that the average U.S. adult has 16 active friendships.

Like dreams, statistics are a form of wish fulfillment.
—Jean Baudrillard

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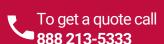
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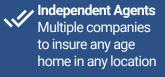
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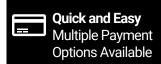
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# **Meeting James Bond**

Roger Moore was one of the many actors to play James Bond in the long-running movie series. The website for The Independent tells the story of one young fan who met his idol in an airport—and what happened afterward.

When Mark Haynes was 7 years old, he spotted the actor in the airport in Nice, France, and implored his grandfather to ask "James Bond" for an autograph. Even though he had no idea who the actor was, Grandpa dutifully obliged, and Moore signed the boy's plane ticket with his name—Roger Moore. Young Haynes was confused, and Grandpa, embarrassed, handed the ticket back, saying that Moore had signed the wrong name.

Moore beckoned the young boy over. "I have to sign my name as 'Roger Moore," he explained, "because otherwise Blofeld [Bond's archnemesis] might know I was here." He asked Haynes not to blow his cover, and the boy boarded the plane excited to be working with James Bond.

There's an epilogue: As an adult, Haynes, now a scriptwriter, met Moore when he was recording a video for UNICEF. Haynes told him the story, and Moore smiled and said, "Well, I don't remember, but I'm glad you got to meet James Bond."

Then, as he was heading out to his car, Moore motioned Haynes over. "Of course I remember our meeting in Nice," he whispered. "But I didn't say anything in there, because those cameramen—any one of them could be working for Blofeld."

### A Little Means Alot

ometimes very short stories have lots of meanings. Here are a few examples:

- During a long drought, the mayor of a small village directed everyone to gather in the square to pray for rain. They all came, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
- When you toss babies into their air, they laugh and smile because they know you'll catch them. That is trust.
- Every night we go to bed with no guarantee that we'll wake up tomorrow. But we still set our alarm clocks to wake up. That is hope.
- We make big plans without any knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
- We see suffering in the world, but we still get married and raise children. That is love.





# **Monthly Memos**

Tational Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. Drinking and driving can make the holiday season deadly for drivers, passengers, and pedestrians. National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month seeks to spotlight the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or both. According to the National Safety Council, more than 40,000 people died in alcohol-related traffic accidents last year, so this year, stay safe during the holidays.

- National Safe Toys and Gifts Month. In recent years, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has created a robust toy safety system, requiring testing by independent, third-party laboratories around the world, imposing some of the most stringent toy standards in the world, and more. These combined efforts continue to foster the confidence of American families as they prepare to shop for toys this holiday season.
- National Tie Month. December is the month to honor the most required yet maligned strip of cloth that's an essential part of business attire—the necktie. Neckties give people the chance to add a little spice to their classy, professional look. A nice necktie speaks volumes about a person's sense of style and even gives people a little look at his or her personality. So this month, give a little extra respect to the people who are professional, classy, and trendy in their favorite ties.

# **Awareness Week**

ational Handwashing Awareness Week, Dec. 1–7. Avoid colds and flu during the winter months by following the four principles of hand awareness: Wash your hands when they are dirty and before eating; don't cough into your hands; don't sneeze into your hands; and above all, don't put your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth.

- Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, Dec. 2–6. Older Driver Safety Awareness Week aims to promote understanding of the importance of mobility and transportation to ensuring older adults remain active in the community—shopping, working, or volunteering—with the confidence that transportation will not be the barrier stranding them at home.
- Kwanzaa, Dec. 26–Jan. 1. A weeklong celebration observed in the United States as well as other countries with populations of African descendants, Kwanzaa is a holiday that honors African culture in not only the African American community but also in the world African community.

Life it is not just a series of calculations and a sum total of statistics; it's about experience, it's about participation, it is something more complex and more interesting than what is obvious.

—Daniel Libeskind







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#### **EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

SOUTHWIND CRAFT FAIR and BAKE SALE: December 7th, 9am-1pm. 795 County Road 1, Palm Harbor.

Craft Show, Saturday December 14th, 9am-1pm. Clearwater Cascade MHP, 9790 66th St N., Pinellas Park.

Craft Fair Sugar Creek Saturday 12/7/2019, 8:30-1:30 PM. 10265 Ulmerton Road. Vendors needed: 401-835-0700.

Driveway Sale - Sat. Dec. 7th, 10am - 5pm. Teakwood Village West, Lot # 18 Missouri Ave, Largo.

Huge Rummage Sale: January 10th, 11th, & 12th. Location: Japanese Gardens 19709 US 19 N. Clearwater, FL 33764. For details call or text Noreen: 727-776-3151

Annual Rummage Sale: Sat., Jan. 11th 2020, 8am-1pm. Golden Crest MHP 800 Main St., Dunedin.

Palm Hill North Recreation Club's Annual Bazaar, Craft & Bake Sale with lunch available. Saturday, December 7th, 9am-1pm (early admission 8:30am \$1.00). 401 8th Ave. S.W., Largo (off Seminole Blvd)

#### ATTENTION RESIDENTS!

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-Monthly Media Staff

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(Allow 4-6 weeks for	r mailing	g of check). This month's cash
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Charlotte Slemmer	\$10	1st Class Handayman Service
Sharon Laney	\$10	Royal Enterprise
Al MacDonald	\$10	Largo Tech Services
James Huck	\$10	
Kathryn Brady	\$10	Debbies Salon
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Bob Gornicki	\$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Catherine Akers	\$10	Community Roofing
Ralph Sparks	\$10	Bob's Mobile Home Washing
		Doll Brothers
Kim Mann	\$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Mike Matheny	\$10	Recreational Golf Cars
		J. Timothy Doerner, D.D.S., P.A.
Edward Walter	\$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Clara Williams	\$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Edmund Boudreau	\$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
		Palm Harbor & Dunedin Electric
Janis Wilson	\$5	Modern Air Conditioning
Charles Shuman	\$5	Discount Computer
Vince Martello	\$5	Air Masters of Pinellas
		Buggin Out Pest Control
Jan Ballard	\$5	
Cheryl Kittle	\$5	Bob's Mobile Home Washing

Larry Coyne	. \$5	Imperial Electric
Frances Boyd	. \$5	At Home Carpets Plus Color Tile
Raquel Hernandez	. \$5	AJ's Beds
		Debbies Salon
		Royal Enterprise
		Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Iwan Iwanoff	. \$5	Buggin Out Pest Control
Albert Zierak	. \$5	Bob's Mobile Home Washing
Marilyn Jones	. \$5	Royal Enterprise
Janice Konstantatos	. \$5	Community Roofing
		Jones & Sons Plumbing
		Mr. Fix It
		Bob's Mobile Home Washing
		E & E Gliddon
Harold Junceski	. \$5	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Home Wash
Gail Olsen	. \$5	Imperial Electric
		Natures Resource Pest Control
Mary Houpt	. \$5	Community Roofing
		Debbie's Cleaning
Toni Betti	. \$5	Royal Enterprise
Sheila Sakuta	. \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy
Helen Bare	. \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
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