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The Around Town Paper

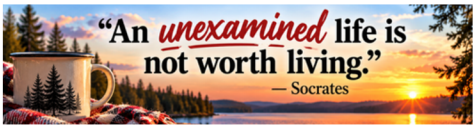
STORIES • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY • ENTERTAINMENT

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the smarty pants challenge

1. What gets smaller every time it takes a bath?
2. I have a neck, no head. I have two arms, but no hands. What am I?
3. What comes down but never goes up?
4. I am easy to lift, but hard to throw. What am I?
5. What do the numbers 11, 69 and 88 all have in common?
6. I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What number am I?
7. Which word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?
8. What has many rings but no fingers?
9. It has keys, but no locks. It has space, but no room. You can enter, but can't go inside. What is it?
10. Who has married many women but was never married?
11. What can you hold in your right hand, but never in your left hand?
12. Ask this question all day long, but always get completely different answers, and yet all the answers will be correct. What is the question?
13. You'll find me in Mercury, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus. But never Neptune, or Venus. What am I?
14. What can go through glass without breaking it?
15. It belongs to you, but your friends use it more. What is it?

Riddle answers: 1. soap 2. a shirt 3. rain 4. a feather 5. They all read the same way when placed upside down. 6. seven 7. Incorrectly 8. a phone 9. a keyboard 10. the priest 11. your left hand 12. what time is it? 13.. the letter 'r' 14. light 15. Your name



The only people who deserve to be in your life next year are the ones who treat you **with love, kindness and total respect.**













♈ **ARIES (Mar 21–Apr 19):** Choose your battles carefully. A little humour and a change of scenery could turn everything around.

♉ **TAURUS (Apr 20–May 20):** A pleasant surprise involving money or an old friend could brighten your weekend.

♊ **GEMINI (May 21–Jun 20):** Your gift of gab comes in handy this week, but remember that listening can be just as powerful.

♋ **CANCER (Jun 21–Jul 22):** It's time to share the load and make room for yourself. A quiet evening, favourite meal, or good laugh will do wonders for your spirits.

♌ **LEO (Jul 23–Aug 22):** This is a wonderful week to tackle something you've been hesitant to try. Just remember that not every disagreement requires a grand performance!

♍ **VIRGO (Aug 23–Sep 22):** Plans may not unfold exactly as expected, but sometimes the detour turns out better than the destination.

♎ **LIBRA (Sep 23–Oct 22):** A thoughtful gesture or unexpected invitation could make your week memorable.

♏ **SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21):** Trust what your gut is telling you, but don't jump to conclusions without the facts.

♐ **SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21):** Adventure is calling, even if it's just a drive somewhere you've never been. Break away from the usual routine and try something different.

♑ **CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19):** Keep going! A practical conversation could help clear up a lingering concern. Make some time for fun this weekend.

♒ **AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18):** Your creative side is itching to take over. Follow an unusual idea and see where it leads.

♓ **PISCES (Feb 19–Mar 20):** Don't allow other people's negativity to become your problem. By the weekend, a small act of kindness could restore your faith in humanity.



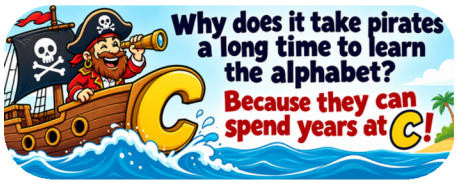
Befriending Your Fear - If you were to follow your fear, what specific dream, idea, or life change would it direct you toward right now? So many of us are conditioned to avoid fear, overcome it, or, in some cases, actively run away from it. Of course, some fear exists to protect us. But not every flutter in your stomach or voice of uncertainty means you're heading in the wrong direction. Sometimes fear appears because you're standing at the edge of something that matters deeply to you.

Fear and desire can live right beside each other. The opportunity you can't stop thinking about, the creative idea you keep returning to, or the change you secretly long to make may also be the very thing that brings up thoughts like What if I fail? What will people think? Am I really ready for this?

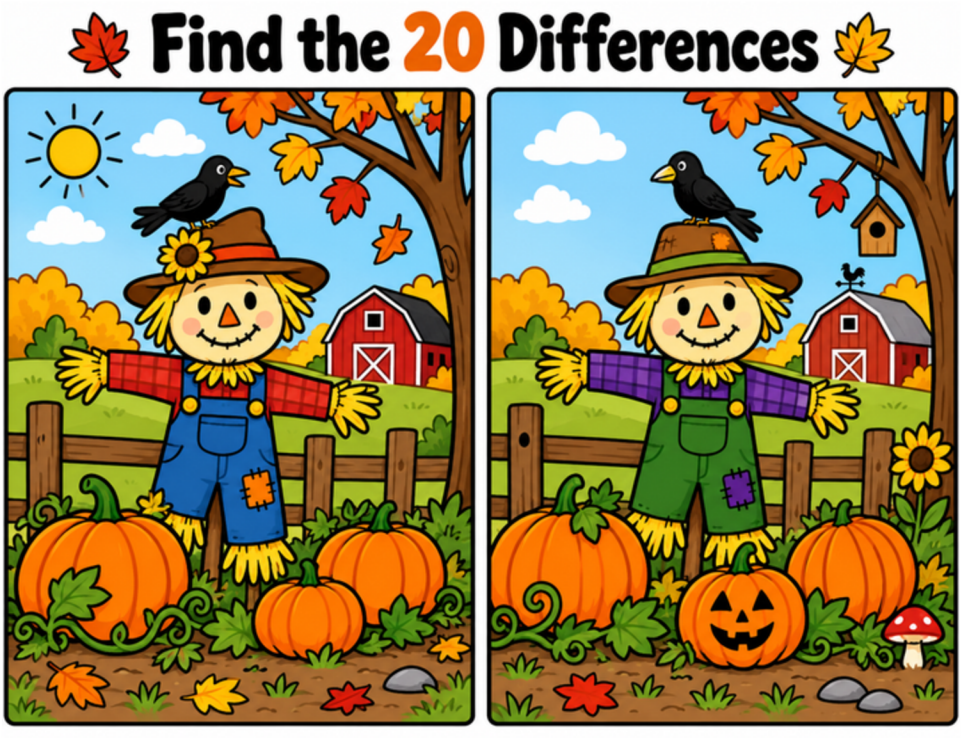
Rather than treating those questions as stop signs, we might become curious about what they're pointing toward. Often, the things that ask the most courage of us are also the ones inviting us to grow.

Following that kind of fear doesn't mean you need to have the whole path figured out. It might simply mean taking one small, brave step and seeing what opens from there.

New people, opportunities, and experiences can appear in ways you never could have predicted. Sometimes fear isn't standing between you and the life you want. It may be walking right beside potential, pointing toward the next beautiful thing waiting to unfold.







Deadline for ads is Fridays at 12 noon. Visit: www.blueravendesign.ca

Hearty, Thick & Beefy Stew 🥩🥕

Rich, stick-to-your-ribs comfort food!



Ingredients

- 2 lbs beef chuck roast, cut into 1½-inch cubes
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 cups beef broth
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- 1 tsp dried rosemary
- 2 bay leaves
- 5 potatoes, peeled, cubed
- 4 carrots, cut into chunks
- 3 celery stalks, chopped
- 1 cup frozen peas (optional)

For extra-thick gravy:

- 2 tbsp cornstarch
- 3 tbsp cold water

Directions

1. Coat the beef. Toss beef cubes with flour, salt, and pepper until coated.
2. Brown the beef. Heat oil in a large Dutch oven or heavy pot. Brown beef in batches until a deep golden crust forms. Don't crowd the pan! Remove and set aside.

3. Build the flavour. Add onion to the pot and cook for 4–5 minutes. Stir in garlic and tomato paste, cooking for another minute.

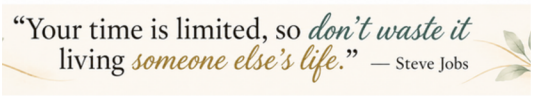
4. Make the rich broth. Slowly pour in beef broth, scraping up all those delicious browned bits from the bottom. Add Worcestershire sauce, thyme, rosemary, and bay leaves.

5. Slow simmer. Return beef and its juices to the pot. Cover and simmer gently over low heat for 1½–2 hours, until the beef starts becoming tender.

6. Add the vegetables. Stir in potatoes, carrots, and celery. Continue simmering uncovered or partially covered for 45–60 minutes, until the vegetables are tender and the beef is fall-apart delicious.

7. Make it THICK! Mash a few potato chunks right into the stew. Mix cornstarch with cold water and stir into the bubbling stew a little at a time until it reaches your desired thickness.

8. Add peas during the last 5 minutes if using. Remove bay leaves, taste, and adjust seasoning. Enjoy!









Just Because You CAN Comment Doesn't Mean You SHOULD!

You know the ones. They see a post about a tragedy, an accident, a death, or a family going through something heartbreaking, and instead of scrolling past or offering a kind word, they decide it's their moment to shine.

Out comes some sarcastic, nasty, completely unnecessary comment that contributes absolutely NOTHING to the conversation and for what? A few laughs? A little attention? The satisfaction of being the biggest jackass in the comment section?

Here's a newsflash, sweetheart: Somebody else's worst day is NOT your opportunity to be entertaining. But here's the part that really gets Ruby's knickers in a knot.

The second somebody calls these people out for their behaviour, suddenly THEY'RE the victims. They're offended! They're outraged! They don't want anyone seeing what they've said because, heaven forbid, their precious reputation might suffer.

The internet has given everyone a voice, but somewhere along the way, people confused having a voice with having absolutely no responsibility for what comes out of their mouths. Freedom of speech does not mean freedom from criticism. If you can dish out a nasty comment publicly, you should be prepared for someone to publicly disagree with you.

Before you hit that COMMENT button, ask yourself three little questions: Is it necessary? Is it appropriate?And would I say this standing face-to-face with the grieving family?

If the answer is no, maybe give those typing fingers a little holiday. We don't all have to agree. We don't even have to like one another. But basic human decency shouldn't be some extraordinary achievement. You can be funny without being cruel. You can have an opinion without being an ass. And you can scroll past a tragedy without making it about YOU.

Love, Ruby ❤️

FALL Word Search

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

ACORN
APPLE
AUTUMN
BONFIRE
CHESTNUT
CIDER
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRY
CRISP
EQUINOX
FESTIVAL
FOLIAGE
FOOTBALL
GOURD
HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAYRIDE
LEAVES
MAPLE
MIGRATION
NOVEMBER
ORANGE
ORCHARD
PUMPKIN
RAKE
SCARECROW
SQUASH
SUNFLOWER
SWEATER
THANKSGIVING