

THE EPOCH TIMES LIFE & TRADITION

Ruse, a lawyer, has spent her career fighting on the national level for the big issues that affect family and life.

THINKING ABOUT MOVING?

HERE'S WHAT TO KEEP IN MIND

Page 5

GOOD SAMARITAN

PROVIDES NEIGHBORLY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE, FREE OF CHARGE

Page 6

Cathy Ruse

ON THE FIGHT PARENTS FACE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Page 3

Good Samaritan Provides Neighborly Roadside Assistance, Free of Charge

Walt Brinker has helped over 2,000 stranded motorists since 1980

ANDREW THOMAS

During Christmastime in 1980, Walt Brinker was driving when he saw a woman whose car had broken down on the side of the road. Her hood was popped open, and her engine had stalled. He pulled over and gave her a jumpstart with his jumper cables, and got her car running. Since then, he's provided over 2,000 roadside assists to complete strangers—at no charge.

"I was so inspired by her relief and how good I felt that I said, 'Wow, I've got to do more of this.' That's where it all started right there," Brinker said.

Helping people whose cars had broken down on the road became his hobby. Over time, Brinker, 76, acquired the knowledge, experience, and tools to address a variety of car problems.

Roadside Assistance

A West Point graduate with a 23-year Army career, Brinker resides in Eastover, North Carolina, about 60 miles south of Raleigh. He has four sons, two daughters, and eight grandchildren. Three of his sons are currently serving in active duty in the Army.

After the Army, Brinker lived in Texas, working as a project controls engineer and manager. He would pull over to help a motorist in distress whenever time allowed. He would patrol interstate 10 on his way to and from work and while running errands in the Houston area. The most assists he's had in one day was helping 11 motorists.

After he moved to North Carolina in 2010, he began patrolling Interstate 95, which is only about three miles from his home. He takes a 55-mile route and averages about one assist per trip. Now that he's retired, he goes on even more regular patrols—about three times a week. Whenever he's out running errands and isn't on a deliberate patrol, he still manages to find at least one "customer" to help—free of charge.

Memorable Assists

Out of the over 2,000 assists Brinker has performed, some memorable experiences have stuck with him. In 2008, he was driving from Texas to Virginia, and on the way home, he spotted a car on the side of the road at 9 p.m. The car had a flat tire, and Brinker turned around and pulled over to help.

The man's jack was broken, and Brinker used his own jack to help him change the tire. When they finished, he discovered the man was a Marine. The



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALT BRINKER



(Above) Items and tools Brinker carries in his car to help motorists.

(Left) This critical tool is a cheater bar (a 2-foot-long piece of 1-inch steel pipe) to make up for the short handle of most lug wrenches, quadrupling the leverage to remove too-tight lug nuts.

man was with his wife and small child, and said he was a little hesitant when Brinker pulled over in front of him. But as soon as he saw Brinker's Purple Heart license plate he felt at ease. They talked about the military for a few minutes, and Brinker gave him his card. He recommended they stop at a motel and get a new jack and spare tire before finishing their trip. About a half-hour later, he got a call from his wife, and she said, "I got a call from some Marine. He said to please tell you that he took your advice."

"The funny part of the story was I got a card in the mail a week or so later thanking me for stopping for him," Brinker said. "At the bottom of the card he said, 'I'd never thought I'd say this, but Go Army.' For a Marine to say 'Go Army,' that's a big deal," Brinker said.

Brinker's most meaningful experience was in 2012. He was driving on Interstate 95 and pulled over for an African American preacher and his wife whose right rear tire was shredded. Initially, Brinker thought he would just change the tire. A highway patrolman pulled up offering to help, but Brinker said he'd take care of it. After he took off the tire, he realized the spare tire wouldn't fit on the car.



Walt Brinker has been helping motorists free of charge since 1980.

The three of them got into Brinker's car with the old tire, and they drove to a Walmart nearby, but it was closed. They continued to a Pep Boys that was open until 9 p.m., and it was their only chance to replace the tire that night. Fortunately, they were able to fix the tire and returned to the couple's car, and put the tire back on the car.

The experience stuck with Brinker because it occurred about a week after the George Zimmerman trial, which sparked many protests. But all they discussed during the three-hour trip was their families. When they were finished, the preacher told him he was going to share the experience with his church.

"That's probably the heaviest time I've ever had during an assist was when he told me that, and I realized, 'Hey, this is good stuff,'" Brinker said.

Road Advice

In Brinker's experience, the most common reason for car breakdowns is tire failures, mainly due to under-inflated or worn-out tires. When someone tries to change a tire, the lug nuts are often too tight to unscrew. That problem can be solved with a cheater bar, which gives one more leverage. The second most common problem is that the spare tire is too low on pressure to be used. Brinker carries a 12-volt compressor to reinflate the spare. If the tire has a puncture from a nail or other debris, he plugs the hole with a \$10 kit.

"Seventy-five percent of all the people I meet out there have got a tire issue, and my advice is to practice it in your driveway," Brinker said. "That's the single thing, be sure that the tires on your car are in good shape, and that you know how to change a tire."

The other 25 percent of breakdowns are due to being out of gas, overheated engines, minor electrical issues, or being locked out of the car. Brinker recommends carrying an empty one-gallon gas can in the car to retrieve gas from the nearest station. If the car still won't start, it's normally because the gas has pooled in one part of the gas tank. Brinker will then employ his "rock the car method" by standing on the outside frame of the car and shaking the vehicle to distribute the gas in the tank.

If the engine overheats, the best thing to do is to let it cool first to avoid burning oneself before adding room-temperature water to the radiator before taking the car to a mechanic. (Make sure to use a towel to remove the radiator cap in case it's hot.) For minor electrical issues when the car dies, half of the time it's due to a loose battery clamp. Tighten the clamp with a combination wrench, and you should be good to go. If you're unable to tighten the clamp, Brinker recommends using a paper clip between the clamp and the post to tighten everything up.

In order to get back into a locked car, Brinker recommends getting a non-chip copy of the key that will unlock the driver's door only, and keeping it in a magnetic box under the car. Once in the car, the driver can access a stashed spare key in the car that will start the vehicle.

3 Critical Items to Carry

When it comes to tools, Brinker stresses the importance of carrying three critical items: A lug wrench, a working jack, and a pair of jumper cables in addition to a viable spare tire. The magical fourth and fifth items are a towel to keep you clean and a tarp to keep you dry if it's wet outside. He also recommends leather work gloves to help protect your hands. If you have nothing else, he recommends carrying a tire pressure gauge to ensure the tires are properly inflated.

Brinker has included his insight and advice in his book "Roadside Survival: Low-Tech Solutions to Automobile Breakdowns," which was published in 2014. According to his own experience and research, he found that vehicle breakdowns are at least five times more likely to occur than car accidents. He believes breakdowns are actually closer to 20 times more likely to occur than crashes because the statistics for AAA don't account for all breakdowns. Brinker's website, RoadsideSurvival.com, has three categories for individual drivers, driver's education, and law enforcement. It also features vignettes about his experiences on the road, and lessons to take away from each.

The motorists Brinker has helped have responded with tremendous gratitude. Not only does Brinker relish helping others, but his roadside assists also help him with his own moderate PTSD and depression. He finds his work truly therapeutic.

"I feel like a king. I'm one of the happiest clams you'll see," Brinker said.

A Doctor's Journey From the Bayou to the Emergency Room

ANDREW THOMAS

Many of us have had interesting life trajectories, and couldn't have predicted where we are today. For Dr. Lorrie Metzler-Szabo, her journey started in rural Louisiana just outside New Orleans and took her to the emergency room in Orange County, California.

Metzler-Szabo looks back on her childhood fondly. She lived in St. Bernard Parish, just southeast of New Orleans Parish on the bayou, and grew up with a loving family in humble circumstances. She and her family had a cabin in Hopedale, which was only accessible by boat. There was no electricity and no running water, but she had some of her most memorable experiences out there.

From a very young age, she learned how fish for crabs and shrimp, and she and her family would cook pretty much everything they caught. One of her fondest memories was when her father gave her baby alligators to hold in her own hands. Whether they were fishing, cooking, or shooting, she was always taught to be self-reliant.

"I guess I got to see a lot of things that other children today really wouldn't see," Metzler-Szabo said.

News and Photography

When Metzler-Szabo was a young college student she won the Miss Louisiana competition in 1975. She relished the opportunity to meet new people and be a representative and spokeswoman for her state. She has always enjoyed competition, and set high goals for herself throughout her life.

Metzler-Szabo graduated from Loyola University in 1977 with a degree in communications and became a television news reporter. She found the profession both honorable and exciting, and thought of news reporting as a public service.

After working as a television reporter for a year, she made her first career pivot and opened her own photography business in New Orleans. She had started experimenting with photography while working as a reporter, and decided to take a professional leap. She got to work at the 1984 World Fair in New Orleans, and her most memorable assignment was covering the 1988 Republican National Convention.

"I really, really wanted that assignment. Boy, did I go after it. I mean, I was tenacious," Metzler-Szabo said.

Metzler-Szabo had the opportunity to cover Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush for 11 days at the convention. Despite being a Democrat at the time, she was honored to be hired for the gig solely based on her skills as a photographer. She enjoyed being around exciting people and vividly remembers the opening ceremony.

"It's something I'll never forget. Everybody in the whole Superdome was crying. It was just such a beautiful, wonderful, patriotic moment," Metzler-Szabo recalled.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF LORRIE METZLER-SZABO



(Top) Lorrie Metzler-Szabo with her husband, Dean Szabo.

(Left) Metzler-Szabo won the Miss Louisiana competition in 1975.



(Right) Metzler-Szabo working in the emergency room at Chapman Global Medical Center in Orange County, Calif.

Never Too Late

After working as a professional photographer for a decade, Metzler-Szabo made another big career change. Her first passion had always been biology, and she decided to go into medicine. She ultimately decided she wanted to become a doctor, but she had to go back to school to take her premed courses to get into medical school. Despite starting this career path at age 39, she found that she was more mature and a better student.

"People should never think it's too late to change careers or never think it's too late to pursue something that they really love or might want to do because they think age is a problem, because it is not," Metzler-Szabo explained.

After a year and a half of pre-med courses, she applied to medical school and graduated on May 30, 1998. In 2005, she was finishing her residency when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. She had planned on pursuing a career in dermatology, but the city desperately needed emergency room doctors.

Metzler-Szabo never thought she would like working in the emergency room, but after her experience treating patients after the hurricane she discovered how much she enjoyed the work. She was a single mother

at the time, and juggled her parenting responsibilities with her schedule as a doctor. Whenever she was able, she would take her son with her to work.

Throughout her career, Metzler-Szabo has had a rewarding experience. Not only has she been able to save lives, but she's also been able to connect with patients on an emotional level. Even when she was a photographer, if she saw someone struggling, she had a habit of trying to comfort them and empathize with them.

"I've always been really sensitive to people's feelings in all aspects of my life," Metzler-Szabo said. Whenever patients in the emergency room feel scared and vulnerable, she feels like they could very easily be someone close to her and treats them as such. She tries to calm them down in any way she can, and is always honest with them.

"I start talking to them about them, and they like that," Metzler-Szabo said.

Metzler-Szabo has had a particularly challenging time recently. Every procedure has become more difficult and complex as a result of the pandemic, and an already difficult job has become even more stressful. However, it's been a rewarding time as well.

"I feel so honored to be able to help, especially at my age," Metzler-Szabo said.

After working as a professional photographer for a decade, Metzler-Szabo made another big career change. She decided to go into medicine.

Golden Retriever Sets World Record for Most Tennis Balls in Its Mouth

ROBERT JAY WATSON

Six-year-old dog Finley might look like a garden-variety golden retriever at first glance. However, this impressive pooch entered the Guinness Book of World Records this spring.

The accomplished retriever from Canandaigua, New York, set the record for "most tennis balls held in the mouth by a dog," according to Guinness World Records. Finley can carry six balls in its mouth at once. Its owners, Cherie and Rob Molloy, and their adult daughter Erin were naturally incredibly proud of their pup's accomplishment.

"The joy he brings to us is one thing," Finley's owner Cherie Molloy told Rochester's Democrat & Chronicle. "But he brings joy to people all over the world."

The Molloy family never set out to raise a record holder. When Erin Malloy brought Finley, then just a 10-week-old puppy, home from college, it took a while before



COURTESY OF FINLEY MOLLOY

Finley has a passion for tennis balls.

they started to notice that the dog was crazy about tennis balls.

The family observed Finley fetching not just one ball but as many as it could fit in its mouth at once, Erin said. At 2 years old, Finley was already accomplishing near-record feats. "I look over and he's trotting over to me with four tennis balls in his mouth," Erin recalled.

From there, the family realized that if they kept throwing it more, Finley would somehow find a way to make space for them. Before long, it was besting the previous record holder, a dog from Texas that could hold five at a time, according to the Democrat & Chronicle.

It took a long time for Finley's owners to get all the documentation done so that it could be officially awarded the record. "It's just so exciting," Erin Molloy told USA Today. "When I look at him I'm like, 'I want to squeeze you, I love you so much!'"

When the family finally got the news from Guinness, after a year-long process, they threw Finley a party, including friends and a cake from a local bakery. "He got pretty excited when all of our neighbors were outside his front yard," Erin explained. "Obviously, he's staying humble, but I think he's pretty pumped."

Even before being officially awarded the Guinness record, Finley had already amassed quite a large following on social media. Erin had created an Instagram account for the dog and its antics, @finnyboymolloy.

Just by virtue of its amazing abilities, the dog has amassed a following of over 37,000 people. In addition to a feat of stuffing six tennis balls at a time in its mouth, one of Finley's most endearing and most popular tricks also involves fetching.

The trick involves getting on its back and holding a tennis ball in the air with its front legs, dropping it to the ground, and then pouncing on it—a game of fetch with no humans required.

To those who wonder if Finley was put up to the task by its owners, a quick perusal of photos and videos reveal a one-track mind: this dog was born to retrieve tennis balls. "We've never forced him to do any of that," Cherie shared.

While the record has brought Finley increased popularity, it hasn't changed the simple pleasures the dog enjoys. "He lives the life of a king," Cherie said, and pictures of Finley tearing into a giant cake made in his honor certainly seem to confirm it.



Walt Brinker changes a tire at night.



Let the kids pick their own books, with some supervision, and pursue their various interests.

Keep the Fire Burning: Consider Summer School

JEFF MINICK

Summer's approaching, and if you're like most American parents, your children have spent the last few months getting their education in the home, either by distance learning or by materials and assignments provided by their school. You've helped guide them through reading and math lessons, you've spent some time editing their compositions, you've encouraged them when they can't get online for their scheduled hour of video lessons in biology.

Some of those students, and perhaps you, can hardly wait until schools reopen. Others—some polls say 40 percent of quarantined families—are considering homeschooling full-time beginning in the fall.

Whatever your situation, let me encourage you to keep up some form of schooling at home throughout the summer.

Summer Schooling

My wife and I taught all four of our children at home. They received extra instruction in homeschool co-ops in elementary and middle school, attended special seminars—I taught several of these—in high school, and entered the dual enrollment program at our local community college, but until the last two years of secondary school, they did the bulk of their work at home.

After a few years of experimentation, we found our school operated best by following a modified schedule during the summer months. Usually, this schedule meant either meeting for three days a week for a couple

of hours of academic instruction or else for an hour daily Monday through Friday.

There were several advantages in continuing school during the summer. It took the pressure off of us to complete all subjects in a given amount of time. It often allowed our children to advance more rapidly through spelling lessons or texts like the Saxon Math books. Finally, sticking to a routine seemed to make our children happier.

Advantages for You

In the case of parents who intend to return their children to private or public schools, this summer instruction will enhance their performance in the classroom. The students will return in the fall to their teachers and classmates knowing they have achieved not only what was assigned them, but have gone above and beyond those requirements.

On the other hand, parents attracted to homeschooling by their experience this spring won't lose the impetus and routine that learning at home has already brought them.

Moreover, as many of you begin switching from the distance learning of another teacher to materials specifically designed for homeschooling, the transition will be easier if you ease into it instead of facing some new and different method of schooling in the fall.

So what does this summer homeschooling look like?

The 3Rs: Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic

Here are some of the ideas and projects my family devised, as well as some used

by other parents I have known. Let's assume you decide to spend one hour daily on instruction.

Reading. Set aside a certain amount of time daily for reading. Do not label this reading as a part of "school." The idea is to grow lifelong readers, and making that activity part of the summer school day for some students is an instant turn-off.

This is the time when the kids get to pick their own books, with some supervision, and pursue their various interests. Does 14-year-old William love sports? Head for your public library for back issues of "Sports Illustrated," which offers some excellent writing, or introduce him to the sports books in the adult section. Do horses enthrall your 10-year-old? Have the librarian introduce her to the classics in both the fiction and non-fiction equine categories.

Have the older children read to their pre-school and kindergarten siblings. This makes better readers of big brother or big sister, and keeps their younger siblings engaged with books.

Writing. This one is simple. For Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, have your children write journal entries for 15 minutes. Have them date each entry, and then write whatever they wish, with the proviso that you will occasionally read those entries. Encourage them to use proper grammar and spelling, but the main thrust of this exercise is to keep them writing. Someday their own children and grandchildren may enjoy perusing these journals.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, you might

ask them to write letters to friends, grandparents, and other relatives. From this exercise they derive two benefits: they are writing, and they are bringing a smile to others.

Mathematics. Have your young people spend a minimum of 15 minutes per day on math. They can review multiplication and division tables, advance in their textbooks, or choose from an array of math games on the computer. These drills and brief lessons will keep them sharp in math and will pay dividends in the fall when school resumes.

Other subjects. Your children have now spent 15 minutes on math and 15 minutes on writing. For science, history, geography, and other subjects, you have many options. If you are working from home or busy with household chores, go to YouTube and have the kids watch half an hour of a video about George Washington, elephants, earthquakes, or whatever other suitable topic draws their interest.

If you have the time and desire to teach them yourself, the "Core Knowledge Series" edited by E.D. Hirsch is an excellent tool for doing so. Each of the books in this series—"What Your Kindergartner Needs to Know," "What Your First Grader Needs to Know," and so on—provides instruction in all elementary school subjects, features many entertaining stories and folktales, includes some fine poems, and presents history and science in an approachable way.

Parental Explorations and Expectations

As parents close out the regular school year and enter the summer, it's also a great time for them to begin planning for the fall. Those who decide to re-enroll their children in a brick-and-mortar school might explore ways they can strengthen their education or help them in those subjects with which they are struggling. Those who decide to continue homeschooling can use this time to consider the many curricula and resources now available to home educators.

Summer with its slower pace also affords an excellent opportunity for parents to step back and view their children's education with a new pair of eyes. What are the goals of an education? What are the aims other than the mastery of academic subjects? What values do we want children to learn in school? What sort of adults do we wish our children to become?

Often, swept up in the demands and realities of daily life, we have little time for such questions. Now that you've had a taste of teaching, however, these questions are worth pondering. Whatever course you pursue when the school lockdown ends—a return to public or private school, or turning instead to homeschooling—summer affords a fine time for a deep, leisurely contemplation of prospects.

"The more that you read," wrote Dr. Seuss, "the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

To which I add this line: "And summertime school will help make it be so."

Jeff Minick has four children and a growing platoon of grandchildren. For 20 years, he taught history, literature, and Latin to seminars of homeschooling students in Asheville, N.C. Today, he lives and writes in Front Royal, Va. See JeffMinick.com to follow his blog.

Should You Homeschool? 4 Questions to Help You Decide

BARBARA DANZA

Who could have predicted that a global pandemic would dramatically increase the broader adoption of homeschooling in society? Yet, right now many families are asking themselves the question: Should we homeschool?

If you're one of them, whatever has led you to this point, homeschool is an option worth considering. Here are some questions to ponder as you think this significant decision through.

1. What Do You Know About Homeschooling?

You may have some ideas about what you think homeschooling is. Some of those ideas may be rooted in fact and some may be notions or stereotypes that don't actually hold true.

Dive into some research to discover what homeschooling really looks like in 2020. There are so many homeschooling parents on Instagram, YouTube, and Pinterest sharing their experiences and ideas. Take a look at how widely those experiences vary, how vast

the possibilities are, and get a real-world picture of what homeschooling actually is. If you know any homeschooling families personally, talk to them. Ask them about their experiences and how they came to become homeschoolers themselves.

2. What Do You Know About Teaching?

Many parents are hesitant to attempt homeschooling because they lack confidence in their ability to teach. Homeschooling doesn't call for the same type of teaching that traditional school does, however. What's more, if you consider all that your child learned before going off to school (walking, talking, eating, playing, maybe even recognizing letters and numbers and early writing, and the names of every dinosaur ever discovered), you'll see that you've got what it takes to educate your child.

It may be helpful to see yourself as a facilitator of learning rather than a teacher. Much of a teacher's training is focused on strategies for classroom management. In homeschool, you're providing

an environment in which your particular child can best learn. If you're supportive, resourceful, and dedicated to the task, you have everything you need.

So, before you judge your ability to teach your child, toss aside the picture of a traditional teacher in front of a classroom and dig into what teaching might look like in your home.

3. Do You Know What Your Children Are Being Taught in School?

The current circumstances may have given you a glimpse at what was being covered in school this year. While academic mediocrity may not be too surprising, many parents who've done their research have been shocked to discover some of the content in science, history or social studies, and especially the health curriculum.

While you're considering other options, look into what's being taught to your children in school. It may be hard to find (or decipher) on your school district's website, which may be telling in and of itself.



In homeschool, you're providing an environment in which your particular child can best learn. If you're supportive, resourceful, and dedicated to the task, you have everything you need.

4. Can You Give Homeschooling a Try for a Year?

Once you consider homeschool an option for your family, you'll be faced with a renewed sense of freedom and actual choice when it comes to your children's education. If you decide later that homeschool is not for you, you can always enroll your child back into public school.

So why not give it a try? To do so you need at least one year. The transition from traditional school to homeschool takes some getting used to. Most of us don't realize how ingrained the model of tra-

ditional school is in our minds. You likely are a product of a traditional school system yourself and it takes some time for a paradigm shift to take place.

Can you struggle through some adjustment and tweak your lifestyle until you find a rhythm and routine that works for you and your family? Can you give it your all for the span of a year and then review your experience at the end?

Rather than taking on the task of providing your child's entire education, why not just commit to one year? Has there ever been a better year to give this a go?



FOR KIDS ONLY

THE EPOCH TIMES

Stars and Stripes Forever

By John Phillip Sousa

Hurrah for the flag of the free!
May it wave as our standard forever,
The gem of the land and the sea,
The banner of the right.
Let despots remember the day
When our fathers with mighty endeavor
Proclaimed as they marched to the fray
That by their might and by their right
it waves forever.



L. JULIA/SHUTTERSTOCK

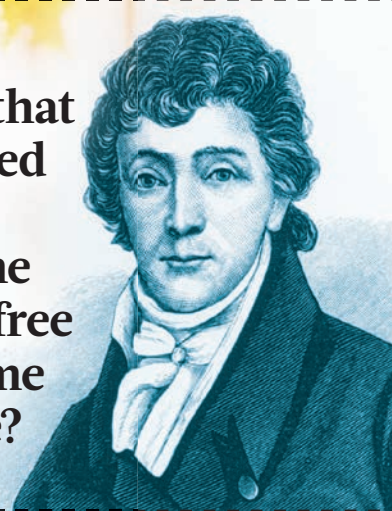
WHAT'S RED, WHITE, BLUE, AND GREEN?

A PATRIOTIC PICKLE

L. JULIA/SHUTTERSTOCK

“O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?”

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY



PUBLIC DOMAIN



THE UNITED STATES GETS A NEW FLAG



Francis Hopkinson

On June 14, 1777, The United States Continental Congress adopted Francis Hopkinson's stars and stripes design as the national symbol.

The resolution stated, "Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Of course, the thirteen stars and stripes represented the original thirteen colonies. Today's flag still commemorates the original thirteen in its stripes.

BIRDS OF THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

(PART II)



KEEL-BILLED TOUCAN

This large toucan is the national bird of Belize. It is also one of the more colorful toucans: Its back and belly are a maroon-black with a slight sheen. Its face and chest are bright yellow (hence the nickname sulfur-breasted toucan) and its bill is bright green with a maroon tip.

The Amazon rainforest is so teeming with life

that it is one of the few places on earth that could be called an animal city. Birds are no exception—you will find the large, the small, the colorful, the drab, and the weird all in the same forest.

It nests in tree cavities where it lays 2-4 white eggs. Both parents care for the chicks, incubating and feeding them. All toucans eat fruit, however the keel-billed also eats bird eggs and chicks, insects, lizards, and tree frogs. The enormous bill is very versatile, and its length allows it to reach fruit in high places that others cannot, while it is also used as a club to defend its territory. The serrated bill edge allows them to pick and grip fruit. To eat, the toucan will throw its head back and catch the fruit in its throat. The bill looks very heavy, but it's constructed with a complex framework, so that, while it is very strong, it is also very light.

HOATZIN

This might be the strangest-looking bird in the rainforest! It has a slate-gray back and a longish tail of the same color, a whitish underbelly, a blue face that is bare of feathers, red eyes, and a large, rufous crest not unlike a mohawk. It has other markings of all colors on its neck, back, belly, and tail tip. Its disproportionately small head is mounted on a long neck.

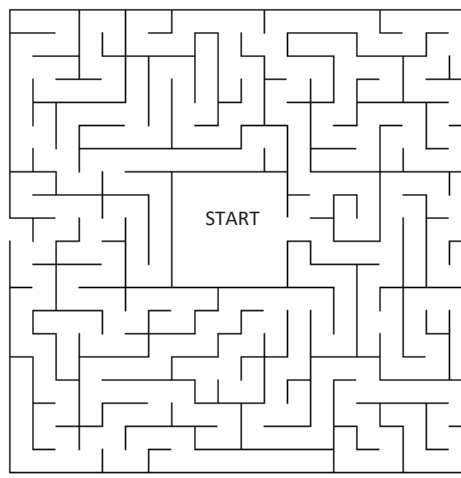
Hoatzin chicks are very vulnerable to predation, and to combat this they have an unusual way to escape. They have claws protruding from the joint of the wing, which they use together with their feet to climb to safety. If this doesn't work, they can drop off of the tree into the water over which adult hoatzins build their nests, and swim underwater to safety.

Hoatzins eat predominantly leaves. Since their digestive system cannot handle so many leaves, they have a symbiotic relationship with bacteria that helps them digest it. This bacteria is passed on from adults to young when the adult will regurgitate some of their bacteria, in the form of a sticky substance, to the chicks.



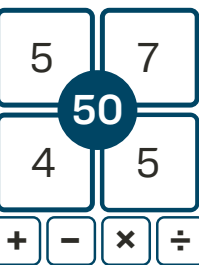
ALL PHOTOS BY SHUTTERSTOCK

AMAZING ESCAPES!



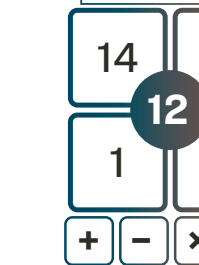
USE THE FOUR NUMBERS IN THE CORNERS, AND THE OPERANDS (+, -, AND X) to build an equation to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one "unique" solution but, there may also be "equivalent" solutions. For example: 6 + (7 X 3) + 1 = 28 and 1+ (7 X 3) + 6 = 28

Easy puzzle 1



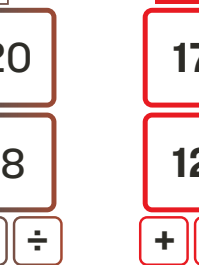
Solution For Easy 1

Medium puzzle 1

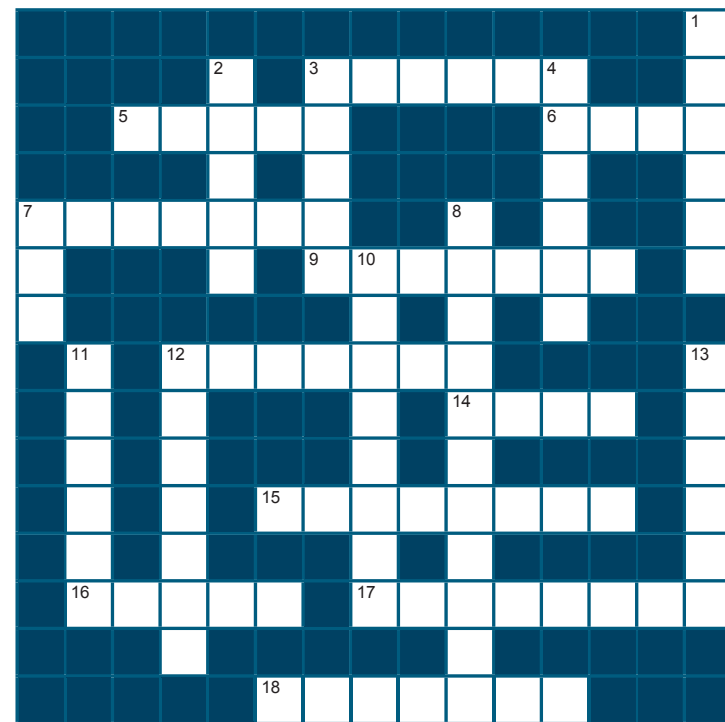


Solution For Medium 1

Hard puzzle 1



Solution For Hard 1



Across

- Military members ____ the flag (6)
- To "raise" a flag on a ship (5)
- To show mourning, we fly the flag at half-____ on naval vessels (4)
- Flap gently in the breeze (7)
- "Stars and ____ Forever" (John Phillip Sousa march) (7)

Down

- The "Star Spangled Banner" is our national ____ (6)
- The number of stars on our flag today (5)
- They rest on a field of blue (5)
- The Bald Eagle is our national ____ (6)
- We only ____ the flag during the day (3)
- The stars on our flag (4-7)
- Betsy Ross' flag had this many stars (8)
- Roll out (6)
- When we take down the flag (7)
- Ornament at the top of the flagpole (6)
- When we raise the flag (7)
- What your flag might fly on (4)
- Citizen of the USA (8)
- We ____ the flag at dusk (5)
- The Stars and Stripes refers to our ____ flag (8)
- This day always falls in June (7)

Subscriber Resources Guide



Honest Journalism is Always “Essential”

Greetings, Epoch VIP, and welcome to your print edition of The Epoch Times!

This might be your first time actually meeting us in person, which is great! Not that our online edition isn't just as good, but there's nothing quite like the feel of a good old-fashioned newspaper in your hands over a cup of coffee—at least, in our opinion.

And don't worry; while we do have many opinions of our own, we do our best to put them in our editorial and op-ed sections where opinions belong. Our news reporting is reserved for facts that we can prove with credible sources, so that we can deliver you an accurate, unbiased, and comprehensive picture of what's going on in the world today.

We're believers in the idea that news reporting should inspire people of all different

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We don't know what your reaction will be, but what we do hope is that the paper in your hands inspires you to have an open, honest conversation—with your friends and family, with society, or even with us.

Tell us if you agree, let us know if you disagree, write a letter to our editors; we'd love to hear from you. For we believe that freedom of expression is the fire that forges a society's best ideas, and that principle is also what drives the kind of classic American journalism we want to restore to the limelight.

So let's bring back news that's accountable to its readers. Let's bring back the dialogue that comes with getting the paper in the morning. Let us know if we're putting our money where our mouth is, because we want to prove that “truth and tradition” isn't just a motto.

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