

# THE EPOCH TIMES

# LIFE &

# TRADITION



As he planned the Yorktown campaign, Gen. George Washington was worried about paying his troops. They had not been paid in months.

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## HISTORY

### How Sound Money Won the Battle of Yorktown—and Saved the American Revolution

*Two hundred and forty-one years ago, sound money helped save the day during the critical Battle of Yorktown*

LAWRENCE W. REED

Early this month, U.S. Rep. Alex Mooney (R-W.Va.) introduced the Gold Standard Restoration Act (H.R. 9157). If enacted into law, it would require public disclosure of the federal government's gold holdings and eventually define the dollar as a weight of gold.

For the moment, the bill's chances of passage are as nil as nil gets. Sound money, whether it's gold or silver or paper that is "backed" by one or both metals, may not acquire a sizable constituency again until a monetary disaster demands it. That's a sad commentary on the general state of economic knowledge. In the meantime, we can at least hope that Mooney's bill may stimulate a long-overdue discussion.

America is a nation whose very independence was first jeopardized by unbacked paper money, only to be purchased later by precious metal. That's a story often left out of history classes but I summarized it in "The Times That Tried Men's Economic Souls." After the runaway inflation of continental dollars, I explained:

"A currency reform in 1780 asked everyone to turn in the old money for a new one at the ratio of 20 to 1. Congress offered to redeem the paper in gold in 1786, but this didn't wash with a citizenry already burned by paper promises. The new currency plummeted in value until Congress was forced to get honest.

"By 1781, it abandoned its legal-tender laws and started paying for supplies in whatever gold and silver it could muster from the states or convince a friend (like France) to lend it. Not by coincidence, supplies and morale improved, which helped to bring the war to a successful end just two years later."

The enemy observed the last days of the continental hyperinflation with delight, expecting that it was a harbinger of inevitable British victory. Historian Barbara A. Mitchell writes:

*Continued on Page 2*



Homesteading offers connection with nature, the family, and with the broader community.

BIBA KAYEWICH

## CULTURE

### Surprised by Hope

#### An Afternoon With Homesteaders

JEFF MINICK

Start with a bright October sun and a blanket of blue sky. Add nearly 150 vendors and their wares, 50 speakers, and more than 5,000 participants, including several hundred children.

Throw in a few dogs, some chickens and goats, enthusiastic volunteers, lots of smiles and laughter, the scent of popcorn, freshly brewed coffee, and handmade soap, and you have a picture of the 2022 Homesteaders of America (HOA) Conference at the

Warren County Fairgrounds in Front Royal, Virginia.

Once you make your way past the grassy parking areas jammed with hundreds of cars, vans, and pickup trucks, you enter a wide, flat expanse covered with the tents of vendors, pathways teeming with veteran and amateur homesteaders, and picnic table pavilions for taking a load off your feet, eating, and conversing with friends and strangers.

Those who attended previous conferences—this year marks the fourth event—renew friendships, and new-

**Here were men, women, and children from all places and walks of life learning, sharing, and having a blast.**

comers find themselves drawn into talk with perfect strangers. The spacious building for the conference's speakers fills with people looking for advice on topics from working dogs to living a nontoxic life, practical food storage, composting, or catching a honeybee swarm. And right from the start, people you've never met in your life are smiling or nodding at you, as if you're friends passing each other on the streets of a small town.

*Continued on Page 2*



Homesteading skills are wide and far-ranging, from gardening to beekeeping.



CULTURE

# Surprised by Hope

## An Afternoon With Homesteaders

Continued from Page 1

In the colorful 52-page guide to the conference, founder Amy Fewell writes: “Our goal here at HOA is to help you in every way, but to also make an impact on our country, and beyond. To be a voice and a light where there once was no voice for this community and way of living.”

Believe me, there’s now a voice for this community, and you can hear it loud and clear this afternoon.

### Sharing and Learning

To help those new to the homesteading concept, and to sharpen up the knowledge and skills of veterans, the vendors play a key

“**When you’re a homesteader, a homeschool parent, or a business owner, the buck stops with you.**”

*Jill Winger, founder, The Prairie Homestead*

role. Some are here directly selling their goods, while others, particularly those who offer larger items such as electric fencing or farm equipment, hand out brochures about their products or take orders for delivery. All of these folks clearly know their stuff.

At Bee Guy Supplies, for example, the woman operating the booth, Mrs. Crow, fills me in on the reasons why they sell special hives for carpenter bees, explaining that those bees don’t make honey but they do help open up certain flowers for the honeybees. Her husband, Brian Crow, who owns this company operating out of Londonderry, Ohio, first became interested in beekeeping 14 years ago. He attended a lecture about bees at a garden club, became

fascinated with the topic and friends with the speaker, and for eight years has owned a farm, now home to 40 hives. He and his family operate a store on the premises selling honey and beekeeping supplies. Every third Thursday of the month, Bee Guy hosts a seminar where different apiarists share information and teach others about beekeeping. Anyone is welcome to attend.

In addition, the family raises quail and chickens for meat and eggs, and rabbits. “Everyone shares,” says Mrs. Crow. “And they want others to learn.”

Which was true of every vendor I spoke with that day.

### Written Words

Others share in different ways. Jeremy Kroening is an assistant editor at the online Homestead Living Magazine. “About 80 percent of our articles are “how-to” pieces,” he says, “and the rest are about the homesteading lifestyle.”

He reports a huge surge of visitors to the site in the past couple of years because of COVID-19, with lots of people especially interested in healthier living and growing their own food. Though he, his wife Amanda (a professional weaver), and their three daughters, ages 9, 7, and 6, live in Saint Paul, Minnesota, Jeremy does more than edit a magazine about homesteading. The family bought an empty lot next to their property in the city, where they put in a 20-foot by 20-foot vegetable garden. Someday, they hope to add fruit trees and a chicken coop. “The most appealing thing about homesteading for most people is the connection to the natural world,” he tells me. “As for me, I think it’s important we have a better understanding of taking care of each other and the world we live in.”

Like Jeremy Kroening, other vendors are promoting magazines and websites, and selling books on all sorts of topics, including guides for major disasters.

### Community

Most attendees at the conference come seeking wisdom and technical skills they can carry home with them, but Angie and Steve Helton of Paintsville, Kentucky, were here for a different reason.

Both husband and wife have long been attracted to homesteading, in part because they’d grown up on farms. They also got interested, Steve says, because of “the quality of the food and the independence.” Their three children, two daughters and a son, all nurses, are out of school and working, and the couple began laying plans to buy a farm of their own.

Then, as in the case of so many people, COVID-19 hit and threw those plans off-track. Steve contracted the virus, and though he felt few effects from it, he then caught pneumonia. He ended up hospitalized from September 2021 to March 2022, spending most of that time breathing through a trache tube. At first not expected to live, he pulled through and today feels and appears healthy, but their dreams of homesteading have for now been put on hold.

If that was the case, I wondered, then what had brought them to Front Royal?

“We came to experience the community,” Angie said. They’ve attended other conferences—they described this one as being the biggest by far, with many more vendor booths and people—and they’d driven from Kentucky to connect with friends they’d made earlier.



1. and 3. Various activities were planned for children, from learning about milking a cow to raising rabbits. 2. Speakers at the National Homesteaders of America Conference held on Oct. 7 and 8, 2022, in Front Royal, Va. Jill Winger of The Prairie Homestead, pictured in the center, spoke on the topic: “More Than Mason Jars: How Homesteading Can Redeem Our Culture.” 4. A group of friends at the conference. 5. A young child holds a chick. 6 and 7. Adults also enjoyed many hands-on demonstrations.

“Everyone here has a common bond,” Steve said.

### Taking Personal Responsibility

During my visit, I was fortunate enough to attend part of a lecture by Wyoming resident Jill Winger, founder of The Prairie Homestead, an online site with more than 1 million monthly visits. She told her audience that we live in a time and place where many people look for the easy way and that “our culture has a bias against effort ... it equates hard with bad.” The responsibilities that come with homesteading, she said, are an antidote to that attitude.

After explaining that “the adoption of responsibility gives meaning to life,” Winger also reminded her listeners that homesteaders “take on actions that make a huge difference” and that they have a “bigger sphere of influence than they recognize.” Others see what we’re doing, she said, and

want to join us.

In an article included in the program, Winger also addresses our culture’s idea of “ease.” She writes: “When you’re a homesteader, a homeschool parent, or a business owner, the buck stops with you. And as enticing as abdicating responsibility might seem, it’s not the answer. Not for me, and not for you.” She ends her brief essay, “So next time you find yourself saying the words, ‘I wish somebody would do something about ...’ Friend, consider that someone might just be you.”

That self-reliant, can-do code is probably as good a summation of the homesteading philosophy as we’re likely to find.

### Count Me Out ... but Count Me In

Unlike all these people, I don’t have any desire to raise chickens, plant large gardens, or milk cows, though I strongly identified with Winger’s remarks about responsibility.

My wife and I homeschooled our children, and for most of my life I’ve operated small—make that tiny—businesses.

But despite my lack of interest in becoming a homesteader, I’d go back to next year’s conference in a heartbeat. Here’s why.

As I wandered through this village of vendor tents, I saw several women wearing cross pendants on their throats. Two elementary school girls wearing hijabs were skipping toward an ice cream stand. Black boys and white boys were playing a game of touch football in a nearby field. Old people and young mingled together, and I saw several men and women sitting in one of the shelters who were clearly strangers to one another but were on the way to becoming friends.

And the only mention of politics I heard all afternoon came from a young vendor of chicken supplies, bearded and with a ponytail. I missed the first part of his conver-

sation with a customer, but as I passed, he pointed at a T-shirt for sale on the tent wall and said, “That right there is my political philosophy.” The T-shirt read: “Free Range.”

The entire time I walked those fairgrounds, I felt light-hearted. Here were men, women, and children from all places and walks of life learning, sharing, and having a blast. The bitter divisions we read about every day online were nowhere to be found in this crowd. They were united by a common interest and cause, a desire to make things grow and flourish.

Here, I thought as I walked to my car, is America as it is supposed to be.

Here is America as it can be.

*Jeff Minick lives and writes in Front Royal, Virginia. He is the author of two novels, “Amanda Bell” and “Dust on Their Wings,” and two works of nonfiction, “Learning as I Go” and “Movies Make the Man.”*

### HISTORY

# How Sound Money Won the Battle of Yorktown—and Saved the American Revolution



“The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, October 19, 1781” (1820) by John Trumbull.

Continued from Page 1

“As the government printed more money, Continental currency continued to hyper-inflate. The council in Philadelphia began publishing the month-to-month rates of currency to specie, which weary consumers then multiplied by three. When the currency finally collapsed in May 1781, its ratio to specie was officially 175 to 1, or 525 to 1 by public reckoning. A spirited procession was staged in Philadelphia to mark its collapse, with people marching with dollars in their hats as paper plumes. An unhappy dog trotted alongside, tarred and pasted with the worthless paper.”

America’s war with its mother country commenced in 1775 but as late as 1780, it wasn’t going well for the rebels. Gen. George Washington’s troops had lost more battles than they had won. While Congress paid in depreciating paper, supplies and suppliers ran for the hills. Washington’s troops hadn’t been paid in months. With families at home that depended upon them, it wasn’t at all clear that those troops would stick around. Rumors swirled that the Army might melt away in a desperate act of mass desertion. Mitchell reveals:

“As he planned for the Yorktown campaign, Washington was desperate for hard currency to pay his troops. He wrote to Robert Morris [the famous patriot and financier of

the Revolution]: ‘I must entreat you, if possible, to procure one month’s pay in specie for the detachment under my command. Part of the troops have not been paid anything for a long time past and have upon several occasions shown marks of great discontent,’ an understated reference to the mutinies by some Continental troops and the general unrest among many.”

Then, the unexpected occurred and dramatically changed the course of the war. Two hundred and forty-one years ago this week, sound money helped save the day during the critical Battle of Yorktown.

A French naval fleet under the command of Adm. Comte de Grasse was well aware of the dire financial straits of Washington’s army. De Grasse stopped in Havana, in mid-August, expecting to secure gold and silver (mostly from mines in Mexico) he planned to deliver to the Americans, only to discover that the specie hadn’t yet arrived. So, he solicited private contributions from the residents of Havana, who came through with an amazing half million pesos in silver and a smaller measure of gold—enough to pay Washington’s men and keep the Continental Army intact.

De Grasse knew that the clock was ticking, that Washington would soon move on Yorktown and that London would send a fleet to relieve British troops holed up in the city. To the enormous satisfaction of Washington and his men, de Grasse arrived in time. The

troops were paid in sound money. The three-week siege of Yorktown ended on Oct. 17 when British general Lord Cornwallis, unable to escape by sea because of the French fleet, surrendered. The war that so few once thought could ever end in American victory was effectively over.

I cannot recall any moment in history when either an army or a cause were mortally endangered by sound money and were saved at the last minute by depreciated, fiat-paper money. Yorktown was a victory every lover of liberty and sound money should celebrate, now and forever.

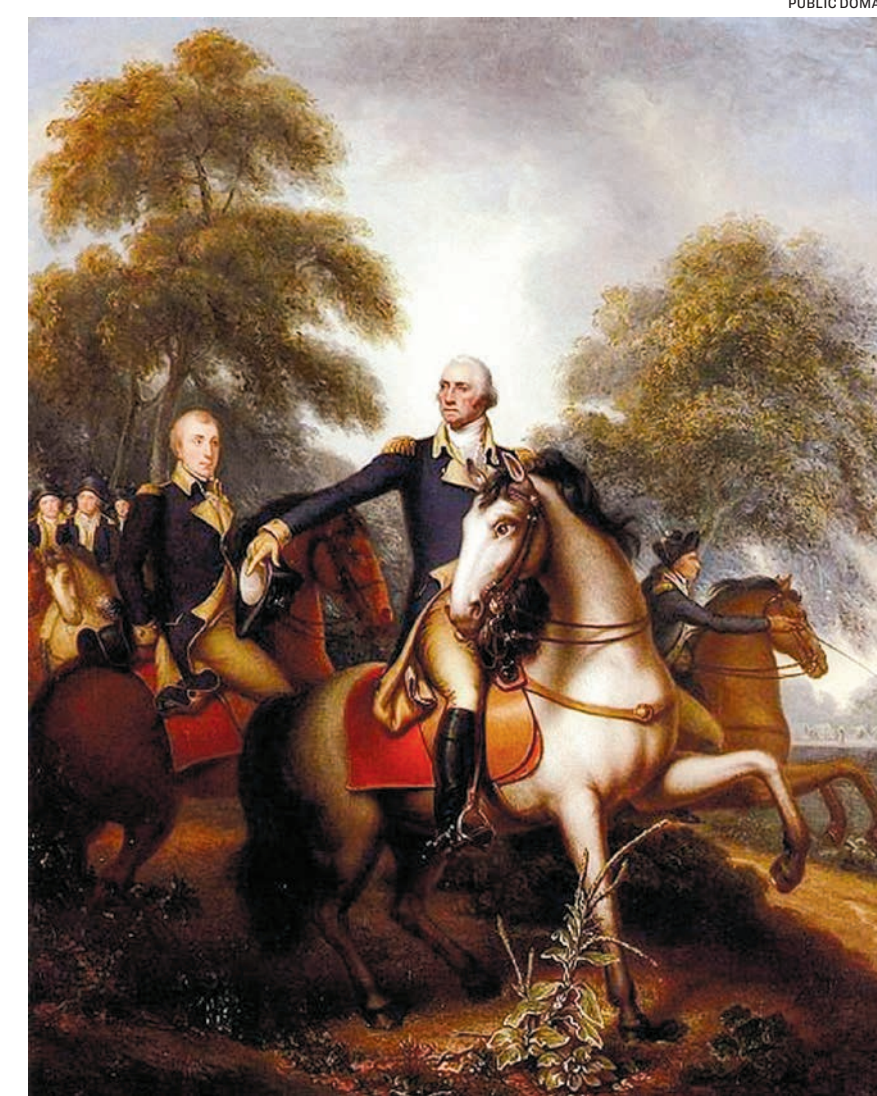
Whatever consideration Mooney’s Gold Standard Restoration Act gets, it should be informed at least in part by the role sound money played in America’s remarkable history. It starts at Yorktown.

This article was originally published on FEE.org

*Lawrence W. Reed is FEE’s president emeritus, Humphreys Family senior fellow, and Ron Manners global ambassador for liberty, having served for nearly 11 years as FEE’s president (2008–2019). He is the author of the 2020 book, “Was Jesus a Socialist?” as well as “Real Heroes: Incredible True Stories of Courage, Character, and Conviction,” and “Excuse Me, Professor: Challenging the Myths of Progressivism.” His website is LawrenceWReed.com*

## For Additional Information, See

- “When Thoughts Turn to Gold” by Lawrence W. Reed
- “U. S. Congressman Introduces Gold Standard Bill as Inflation Soars Out of Control” by Money Metals News Service
- “Pelatiah Webster: America’s Adam Smith and Forgotten Founder” by Lawrence W. Reed
- “The Times That Tried Men’s Economic Souls” by Lawrence W. Reed
- “Bankrolling the Battle of Yorktown” by Barbara A. Mitchell
- “Siege of Yorktown: The Last Major Land Battle of the Revolutionary War” by Henry Freeman
- “Beat the Last Drum: The Siege of Yorktown” by Thomas Fleming



“Washington Before Yorktown” (1824–1825) by Rembrandt Peale.



COURTESY OF TAMARON NICKLAS VIA SOUTHWEST AIRLINES



Tamaron Nicklas flew for the U.S. Air Force before giving up her wings to raise her children.

## Stay-at-Home Mom Returns to Cockpit

After a 24-year hiatus to raise her kids, this retired Air Force pilot returned to the skies

LOUISE CHAMBERS

A trailblazer who was an Air Force pilot for more than seven years and then quit as a T-38 instructor to raise her children has returned to the cockpit after a 24-year hiatus, alongside her husband, a commercial jet pilot. Her reentry into the world of flying has left her “grinning ear to ear.”

Mother-of-four Tamaron Nicklas, 58, of Dallas graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1986 as a member of the seventh class to ever allow women to enlist. When she gave up her career to raise a family, she assumed that she would never fly again, so stepping into the cockpit of a Southwest Airlines aircraft with her husband, Larry, was a dream come true.

“Truly, both he and I looked at each other and said, ‘You know, I think I need to pinch myself. This is actually happening,’” Tamaron told *The Epoch Times*. “I didn’t know if we should tell the passengers, but he was immediately so proud and announced, ‘This is my wife’s first flight at Southwest Airlines.’ Then one of the flight attendants also made some announcement, and everybody in the back ... rousing applause!”

Tamaron’s father was an Air Force pilot for more than 30 years, and the family lived all around the world. Tamaron went to high school in England and Belgium and loved the experience so much that she wanted to become a pilot. She thus decided to join the Air Force herself.

She met Larry, who was a year her senior, at the Air Force Academy through a mutual friend, and the pair fell in love. Prohibited from marrying while enrolled at the academy, they got engaged before Larry’s graduation and tied the knot after Tamaron’s in June 1986.

Larry attended pilot training in Texas while Tamaron trained at Vance Air

Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma. Tamaron recalled seeing Larry only on the weekends for the first six months of their marriage, as they each had to attend separate trainings.

“Pre-cellphones ... it was hard,” she said. “We pretty much got to see each other once a month for almost a year and a half. It was a challenging time, but we got through it, and we’ve been married 36 years.”

Tamaron was the only female in her section at Vance. After more than 7 1/2 years in the Air Force, she flew KC-135s, then returned to Vance as a T-38 instructor. At the time, Larry was securely employed as a pilot for Southwest Airlines, giving Tamaron the freedom to reassess her priorities after their third child was born.

She then decided to give up life in the skies to raise her family.

As a full-time mom, nobody in her new life knew that she was a pilot. The more time elapsed, the less she believed that she could ever go back. But when her youngest child left for college, she heard of a woman from an earlier graduating class at the Air Force Academy who had returned to flying after a long hiatus.

“It’s never too late,” Tamaron said, recalling a serendipitous experience. “Actually ... I opened a dark chocolate bar, and on the inside, the wrapper said, ‘You’re never too old and it’s never too late.’ It really inspired me. ... I felt like God was talking to me through a chocolate bar!”

“My husband was very excited for me. He said, ‘You can go fly; you don’t have to do it as a job. Just go fly,’ but I wanted to have a purpose.”

She went to a local Air Force flight school in Pueblo, Colorado, and shared her background with them. She told them that she hadn’t flown in a really long time. They immediately offered her a job as an instructor.

Tamaron worked in Pueblo for two years. When her daughter started a family, she

**The more time elapsed, the less she believed she could ever go back.**

**The first officer and mom-of-four is now inspiring women everywhere.**

and Larry relocated to Dallas to be closer, and she set her sights on commercial airlines. She worked for a regional airline for 2 1/2 years to update her skills.

“That was really challenging,” she said. “Training, new technology—when I had stopped flying 20-plus years prior, we didn’t have all the computerized cockpits and the GPS systems. Everything was different, so it was a pretty steep learning curve for me.”

Two of Tamaron and Larry’s three sons are F16 pilots in the Air Force, and so is one of their wives. They were all excited for Tamaron’s triumphant return to the cockpit. When she began flying for Southwest Airlines, she reached her ultimate goal.

“When I got hired, it was just so unreal, after all this time when I thought I’d walked away from flying forever,” she said. “My husband’s an instructor at Southwest; he’s check airman, so he gets to check rides and checks out new pilots, so we were able to do my first eight flights together. That was a really, really fun experience.”

Southwest celebrated their co-pilot couple in a Facebook post.

“Tamaron and Larry flew together for Tamaron’s first Southwest flight and look forward to sharing many more flights to come!” The post reads.

The first officer and mother-of-four is now inspiring women everywhere.

“A couple of women have reached out to me ... one woman is in my exact same shoes,” she said. “She hasn’t flown in 20 years, she was an Air Force pilot ... wondering if she could get back into it, and I just felt really inspired seeing my story.”

Tamaron urges others to chase their dreams, no matter their age.

“If there’s a dream out there ... don’t be afraid to try and take that first step,” she said. “Just give it a shot. Fortunately, it worked out for me, and it can work out for many people.”



Three of Tamaron and Larry’s children.



Tamaron Nicklas and her husband Larry, flying Southwest Airlines.

## Family Throws Surprise Wedding for Grandparents’ 50th Anniversary

Kay and Scottie Kratchen get the wedding ceremony of their dreams, 50 years later

LOUISE CHAMBERS

An elderly couple who didn’t have a wedding ceremony when they got married in 1972, were surprised when their family organized a full church ceremony and a party for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Scottie and Kay Kratchen first met in March 1972, when Scottie was living with her sister and brother-in-law in Ohio.

Kay, who is Scottie’s brother-in-law’s brother, was invited to a Sunday dinner, and the rest was history. The couple tied the knot at a courthouse in North Carolina, a month after Scottie’s 19th birthday on Sept. 2, 1972. With most of their family in Virginia, the young couple opted for a quiet wedding.

Today, they have nine children, 26 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. When the couple’s family began to think of ideas for a surprise celebration for their 50th wedding anniversary, one of their grandchildren, Maddie Ilapit, who got married in October 2021, recalled Scottie wishing she’d also had a wedding with all the family present.

So ahead of the celebrations, Maddie got to thinking: What if we threw them a wedding instead of just a party?

“My brother, Travis, is a photographer,” Maddie told *The Epoch Times*. “We had previously done Scottie’s makeup for weddings, and just for fun; we knew if we told her that we wanted to do her makeup so my brother could take photos for their anniversary, they would believe us.”

Maddie, her mom Lisa, her aunt Bonnie, and her sister Elle put their heads together to make it a reality. The wedding would take place at Oakland Christian Church in Suffolk, Virginia. Scottie and Kay’s children would be the bridal party, two granddaughters would be flower girls, and family, friends, and coworkers would be in attendance, to shower the couple with their love and best wishes.

“The day came, and we had Scottie and Kay come over, to do Scottie’s makeup,” Maddie said. “My mom had purchased a dress for her to wear for the photos, and we told her we would be going to this ‘pretty church down the street’ so Travis could take photos of them in front of the stained glass. When we got there, all the guests were inside the chapel, waiting.”

Neither Scottie nor Kay noticed the cars parked outside the church, Maddie said. Kay entered with Elle and was met by family and friends, while Travis pretended to take photos of Scottie outside.

Next, it was Scottie’s turn to be surprised. The family walked her into the chapel, where she was met by her children, her stepfather, and a beautiful bouquet of flowers with which she could walk down the aisle. Footage capturing the magical moment was later posted on Instagram and TikTok,



After 50 years, Scottie Kratchen finally got the wedding ceremony she wanted, with all the family present.



Kay and Scottie Kratchen with their bridal party, comprising their children and two granddaughters.

**Their family organized a full church ceremony and a party for their 50th wedding anniversary.**

where it went viral.

“She was very surprised ... there was not a dry eye,” Maddie said. “Seeing the joy and emotion in Scottie, especially her children’s faces getting to witness their parents get married again after 50 years together ... there was so much love that filled the room, and they couldn’t be more deserving.”

“It was one of the nicest things anyone has ever done for me,” Scottie told *The Epoch Times*. “When I walked to the front and all my beautiful children were dressed, standing there, smiling at us, all I could think was, ‘This is my life,’ and



Kay and Scottie Kratchen at their wedding ceremony.

## Scotland’s ‘Hobbit House’

This cow shed became the first hobbit house, before Peter Jackson’s films were released

ANNA MASON

Stuart Grant, 89, didn’t set out to create a “Hobbit House” to live in, but that’s exactly what he did.

It all began in the early 1980s in Scotland. The retired woodcutter had temporarily moved into an old cow shed in his garden while renovating a house. No one knew his makeshift home was about to undergo an amazing transformation.

Once there, the craftsman started making the place comfortable—and just didn’t stop. He would bring back materials found in the woods surrounding the property near the village of Tomich, deep in the Scottish Highlands. Bit by bit, he built a magical nest for himself, all with his own hands.

The house looks as though it’s something straight out of “*Lord of the Rings*.” What’s even more remarkable is that Grant himself bears more than a passing resemblance to the beloved character of Bilbo Baggins. As well as being 5 feet, 3 inches tall, he enjoys going barefoot and pottering around crafting wooden furniture. The rounded front door of the charming cottage, complete with stained glass on both sides, is almost exactly the same as that owned by Mr. Baggins.

The project got underway in 1984, de-

cadec before “*Lord of the Rings*” was released in movie theaters, when Grant was approaching his 40th birthday.

In a YouTube interview with his friend Iain Maclean, who went there to film the project, Grant said that he had been living in Australia prior to 1984 but returned home to Scotland following a divorce and a bout of ill health.

“I came back a broken man in every way, financially, physically ... and spiritually,” Grant said.

Half artist and half builder, Grant had originally intended to renovate a cottage. But, short of money, he realized that the cow shed actually had more potential and a better view, and it was cheaper as well. The work was extensive, but many years later, Grant’s home is fit for a fairy tale.

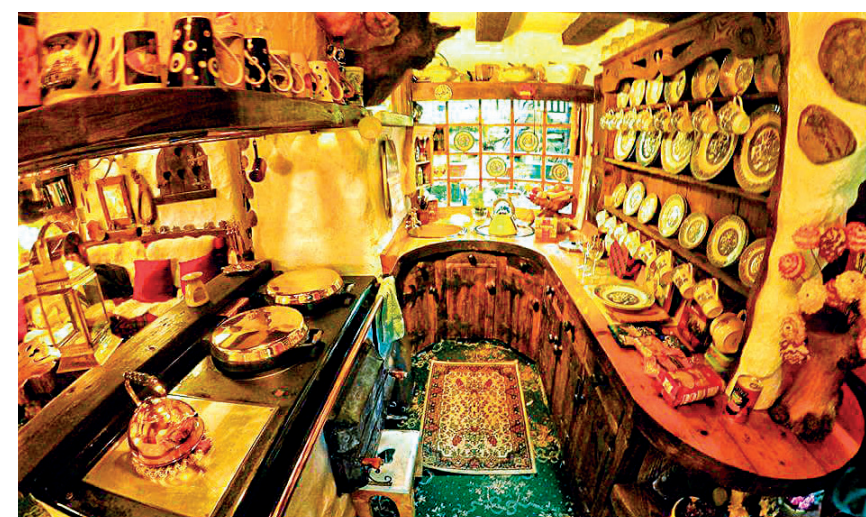
The roof is covered in moss; ivy crawls up the walls; the ceilings are beamed and the windows mullioned. Cozy touches are everywhere, from sheepskin rugs and tartan throws to colorful crochet quilts. Outside is a flower-filled garden with a pretty pond and a greenhouse for growing tomatoes.

The delightfully secluded spot hasn’t been without visitors, however. After Maclean’s video of the cottage first emerged in 2009, a handful of “*Lord of the Rings*” fans made the pilgrimage to meet the man who dreamed



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAHLUM GRANT

Once a cow shed, this cottage now looks like a bonafide “Hobbit House.”



Stuart Grant’s personal touch has transformed the cottage into a unique, charming dwelling.

and built his very own “Hobbit House.”

Share your stories with us at [emg-inspired@epochtimes.com](mailto:emg-inspired@epochtimes.com), and continue

to get your daily dose of inspiration by signing up for the *Inspired* newsletter at: <https://www.TheEpochtimes.com/newsletter>.



## DEAR NEXT GENERATION

## The Worst of Times, the Best of Times

→ Advice from our readers to our young people

### The Worst of Times

I was born in 1929 in an industrial blue-collar city called Holyoke in Massachusetts. It was the year when the stock market crashed. Welcome to the Great Depression.

### The Worst of Times

Of course, the early '30s was when massive unemployment took place and the Depression really hit. My father had a meat and grocery store where the norm was for customers to charge their groceries and pay once a week on payday. Depression laid workers off, meaning they were unable to do so when payment was due, causing the failure of the store. Loss of business meant no income or way to support a family with five children. There was no unemployment compensation. Eviction from the rented apartment soon followed, as rent couldn't be paid.

Through assistance, a roach-infested fourth-floor apartment in neglected condition in one of the poorest sections of the city was available. I can't imagine the hardships my parents were faced with at that time. Hardships continued for many years with part-time jobs—the Works Progress Administration initiated by President Roosevelt. Hardships continued throughout the '30s and the beginning of the '40s.

On Dec. 7, 1941, at the age of 12, while walking I was approached by a frantic newspaperman asking me to hurry down to get newspapers at once. Having sold evening papers on a street corner for a number of years, I wondered why on a Sunday afternoon. They were of course "Extras," with large headlines stating that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Shouting "Extra, Extra" on Main Street and even selling at 5 cents instead of the usual 2 cents, I kept selling out. I returned home to show my mom how much money I had made, only to find her crying as she listened to the radio with my dad. She knew that my two older brothers who had just finished high school would be called to serve our country.

The war years were difficult as the country prepared for war, including being involved with Japan and Germany. However, patriotism was greater than at any time that I can recall, with women filling in as a workforce, bond drives, kids (including me) collecting scrap metal, and movie theaters playing the national anthem before the film showing while all in attendance were standing. There was no kneeling or disrespect for the flag.

### The Best of Times

My childhood and into my teenage years were good times for our generation. We didn't have our parents' worries. We had little and most likely would be considered poor today; however, many of my childhood friends were in the same boat. We had a tightly knit family life, which sadly isn't seen too often these days. There were pick-up games on Saturdays, following strict but good learning at school. If you misbehaved at school, you dreaded your father finding out—he always said you got what you deserved—and there was respect for authority at all times.

The '40s following the war and the return of my brothers after three years in the Pacific and Europe were good years, and it stayed that way until the start of the '50s with the Korean conflict—of which it was my turn to be drafted and serve in combat.

Other than 1950 to 1953, the '50s were very good years, what with meeting my current wife of 64 years and having five great children.

### Not So Great Times

It's very difficult to give advice to the present generation. Through no fault of their own, they've been exposed from an early age to entitlements, comfort zones, drugs, critical race theory teaching, foul language, transgenderism, pornography, freedom of speech, and a lack of respect for our great country and authority. I pray that a change is coming—and I'm becoming more confident that it is via elections—to right this ship, which is badly in need of it happening.

As a grandfather and great-grandfather, may God bless our present generation and our great country.

—Gerald Page, New Hampshire



"On Dec. 7, 1941, at the age of 12, while walking I was approached by a frantic newspaper man asking me to hurry down to get newspapers at once," writes Gerald Page.

### The 1930s, '40s, and '50s

I read the article by Richard Bryant with great interest. He's 86, and I'm 85, so our lives paralleled each other. I grew up in a small, rural, farm village in upstate New York. It was a wonderful life for a little kid. Every farmer had dogs, so puppies were plentiful. The next-door farmer gave me a puppy when I was 3 years old. My parents said OK, but I had to be responsible for it. What a great learning experience. It's a shock for me to see puppies sell for more than \$2,000 today.

I generally agree with everything in the article but would like to add a few points. I don't remember the '30s, but the '40s and '50s were a great time to be a kid. I played a lot of baseball in my early years; every little town had a baseball team. It was the national pastime. We learned teamwork and how to win and lose gracefully. I had chores to do. Families were encouraged to grow their own vegetables to help the war effort. These were called "victory gardens," and I was in charge of our family's garden. I grew carrots, potatoes, corn, and tomatoes. I used to go out in the garden with a salt shaker and eat tomatoes right off the vine. Delicious! Also, the paper boy used to sell war bond stamps. When your stamps totaled \$18.75, you could turn them in for \$25 after a period of time.

After my chores were done, I would go play baseball with my friends. I had to be home by 6 p.m. because my father got home from work at that time, and the family rule was that we all had to eat together at the kitchen table. We had no TV. My mom was a stay-at-home mom, and it was wonderful. She was the greatest mom ever. She and I used to go blueberry picking in the fields together, and we also played a lot of games.

Bryant must have been rich by my standards. He mentions buying school lunches. In my 12 years of public school, I was never able to afford the school lunch. My lunch primarily was a ketchup sandwich that I brought from home. For those who don't know what a ketchup sandwich is, it's just what it sounds like: two pieces of bread with ketchup in the middle. I drank a glass of water. Sometimes, the other kids would trade lunches, but no one ever traded with me. As an interesting side note, at my house, tomato juice was a glass of water with a spoonful of ketchup in it.

I had to earn my own spending money; my parents didn't have any money to spare. I worked on the neighbors' farms for 50 cents an hour. My jobs were cleaning stables, baling hay, repairing fences,

rounding up cows, milking cows, and chopping wood, and I did a lot of babysitting as well. Baling hay was the greatest because it had side advantages. It gave me strong arms, so I won the home run championship in grade school.

We couldn't afford a TV or phone until the '50s. Our first phone was a party line with eight families on the same line. You knew who the call was for by the number of rings. For instance, ours was two short rings, our next-door neighbor was a long and a short, and so on down the line. On Friday nights, we would go next door to watch the fights on TV sponsored by Gillette.

I went to college from 1954 to 1958. I graduated with no student debt. Tuition was only \$500 per year, and I had an academic scholarship. I also played varsity baseball for four years—no athletic scholarship, but the athletic department gave me a work-study job taking care of the sports fields, putting down lines for the games, cleaning trash after the games, and so forth. I went to college in New Jersey, where the drinking age was 21, so I never had a drink in college. I graduated when I was 20. There were no drugs in high school or college in those days, and I never smoked. Best decision I ever made. Don't start—it's the worst thing you can do to your body.

I never had a car in high school or college; I couldn't afford one. When I graduated from college in 1958, I used my graduation money, \$500, to buy a used car. I then got a full-time job. I went into the Army in 1960; the draft existed back then. When I got out of the Army in 1962, I went back to my same job. In 1964, I bought my first brand-new car, a 1964 Plymouth sedan.

There's no doubt in my mind that this was the best time to be a kid. We had nowhere near the problems kids face today from broken homes, drugs, gangs, and crime. I had a happy childhood. We were lucky!

—Dr. Douglas Lonnstrom, New York

**What advice would you like to give to the younger generations?** We call on all of our readers to share the timeless values that define right and wrong, and pass the torch, if you will, through your wisdom and hard-earned experience. We feel that the passing down of this wisdom has diminished over time, and that only with a strong moral foundation can future generations thrive.

Send your advice, along with your full name, state, and contact information to NextGeneration@epochtimes.com or mail it to: *Next Generation, The Epoch Times*, 229 W. 28th St., Floor 7, New York, NY 10001



The neoclassical-style Palace on the Isle in Warsaw, Poland, reflects the last king of Poland's love of art and architecture. The palace sits on an artificial lake. The king used the arts to convey morals, patriotism, and the values of good governance at a time when Poland was occupied for most of his reign.

LARGER THAN LIFE: ART THAT INSPIRES US THROUGH THE AGES

## The Last King of Poland's Summer Retreat ROYAL LAZIENKI PALACE

### LORRAINE FERRIER

WARSAW, Poland—In 1764, King Stanislaw August Poniatowski bought a baroque bathhouse pavilion along with a surrounding estate to build his summer retreat in Warsaw.

The bathhouse, originally designed by Dutch architect Tylman van Gameren, was extended to make the king's neoclassical-style summer retreat, the Royal Lazienki Palace. Some of the original bathhouse décor remains inside the palace, which

is more commonly known as the Palace on the Isle.

The palace sits on about 180 acres that include several neoclassical buildings and vast English-style gardens. Court architects Domenico Merlini (Lake Como, Italy) and Johann Christian Kammsetzer (Dresden, Saxony) took their inspiration for the palace from various eras of Italian architecture, including the mannerist style of the Villa Medici, the baroque style of the Villa Ludovisi, and the neoclassical style of the

Villa Albani.

The vast gardens reflect the king's love of the English gardens that he'd seen on his Grand Tour, in particular the Stowe Gardens in southeast England, designed by the eminent head gardener Lancelot "Capability" Brown.

Among the estate's notable neoclassical buildings are the Myslewicki Palace, the Old Orangery (which contains the Royal Sculpture Gallery and the Royal Theater, home of the Polish Royal Opera and one

of the few surviving 18th-century court theaters), and the White Pavilion, the dining room of which contains the first Polish grotesques (murals of flora, fauna, and fantastical creatures).

The king was an avid art collector, a hobby he'd picked up in the Netherlands after he was inspired by the work of Peter Paul Rubens and Anthony van Dyck. The art and architecture throughout the king's buildings promote religious and moral values and the Republic of Poland.



The apartments of King Stanislaw August's heir and nephew, Prince Jozef Poniatowski, can be found in the Myslewicki Palace. The semi-circular neoclassical palace is topped with curved copper roofs that reflect Chinese-style architecture. Visitors enter the palace through a tall niche flanked by statues of Flora and Zephyr.

1. The Old Orangery houses the Royal Theater, one of the few surviving 18th-century court theaters in Europe. The 200-seat theater is made of wood and different colored marble. French André-Jean Lebrun designed the sculptures, and Polish Jan Bogumil Plerch painted architectural details and an imaginary audience peering from the arcades. For the latter, he used a technique called *trompe l'oeil* (French for "deceives the eye") to make objects appear real on a two-dimensional surface.

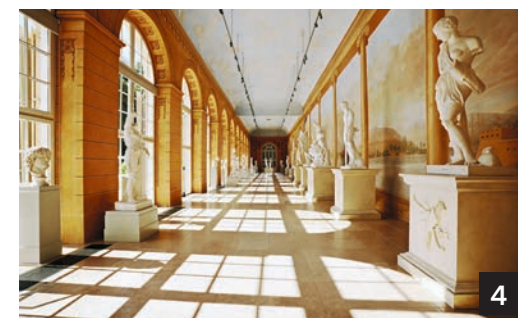
2. Light fills the dining room from two sides in the White Pavilion. It's here that court painter Jan Bogumil Plerch painted Poland's first grotesques in a classical home. All the paintings show the world at that time, the four elements, the four seasons, the continents (America is represented by an ostrich), and people's jobs.

3. The king once owned 80,000–100,000 prints and drawings. The Royal Collection of Prints can now be seen in the White Pavilion. In this room the pictures are displayed on a wall of delicately painted flowers.

4. In the Royal Sculpture Gallery, plaster casts of ancient sculptures replace the exotic trees that once lined the walls of the Old Orangery in the winter months. Conservators reconstructed the 1787–1788 "Kammsetzer Colonnade," where copies of the most famous ancient sculptures were displayed against murals of Italian architecture and countryside scenes.

5. Every day while the king was being dressed, he would listen to officials read documents to him in his dressing room overlooking the lake. The room features an 18th-century Swiss-made gilded bronze birdcage, which is actually a clock.

6. Portraits of King Stanislaw August's parents hang over the doors of his bedchamber in his apartments. These are only a few of the surviving pieces from the original room's décor. The repetition of sumptuous fabric used on the bed, walls, and armchairs echoes the French fashions of the time. The neutral, luxurious furnishings complement the striking parquet floor.



Italian-Polish architect Domenico Merlini worked at the king's court and designed the Old Orangery. Built between 1785 and 1788, the neoclassical building houses the Royal Sculpture Gallery and the Royal Court Theater, the present home of the Polish Royal Opera.





WESTEND61/GETTY IMAGES  
Brainstorm all the different strategies you could use to achieve your goal, and then choose the most optimal path.

# A Goal-Oriented Life: Consider Your Aim

If you don't know where you're going, you might not go anywhere

BARBARA DANZA

What are your goals for your life? Where do you see yourself in the next 10 years, or five years? A year from now, what do you hope to have accomplished? What are you trying to achieve today? In other words: What are you aiming at?

## Goals Require Courage

Goal-setting is something that people tend to think about at certain times of the year—New Year's Eve, birthdays, or at the onset of a pivotal life event such as a graduation or wedding.

## When a goal is set, it defines an improvement or ideal to aim at.

While goals are often talked about, according to an oft-quoted Harvard study, only 3 percent of people have written goals.

There may be many reasons for that. People are busy just trying to get through today; who has time to craft goals for the future? Many people believe that their fate isn't within their control anyway, so why bother setting goals?

Well-defined goals that are specific and

measurable and attached to a timeline can also bring up a fear of failure. After all, if you never define what you're aiming at, you'll never fail to achieve it.

Still, others are so pessimistic about life that they find it difficult to muster the hope required to come up with a goal worth striving for.

The thing about goals is that even those that are never achieved can provide value and meaning to one's life. You probably wouldn't set out on a road trip without a destination in mind, but even if you take a detour along the way or stumble upon a better destination than the one you had in mind, it was the path you laid out that led you there.

When a goal is set, it defines an improvement or ideal to aim at. As one begins taking steps toward a goal, mistakes will be made, lessons will be learned, and new opportunities may present themselves—any of which may lead to the alteration of the goal itself. However, it was the effort directed at a particular aim that led to growth and development.

Most people tend to have a vague sense of the goals they wish to aim for. Perhaps they wish to improve their fitness or their financial situation; they hope for a career change or to find a spouse and start a family; they dream of starting a business or developing a particular talent; they want to move to a different home or geographical location; they may wish to improve their character or develop themselves spiritually.

A vague goal is better than no goal—at

least there's a vision, albeit fuzzy. A specific, written goal, though, can set you on an adventure.

**Define Your Objective**  
To set a new goal, you must define what you're aiming at. Clarity will give you momentum.

Write down a specific result you hope to achieve. For example, rather than saying you want to become debt-free, calculate your debt and declare on paper that you want to pay off this specific amount of debt by this specific date. You could go further by defining milestone goals along the way to measure whether you're on track.

**Brainstorm**  
Once you know what you're aiming at, you can then begin brainstorming all the ways you can go about achieving your goal.

Using the example above, take time to consider the different paths you could take to pay off your debt. You may start by simply increasing your payments by a certain amount each month, cutting back on other expenses until the debt is paid. As you think further, you may realize that more frequent payments would reduce your overall interest in the debt, so that's a strategy to consider. Or, you may realize that you have some items you no longer

need in your home, which you could sell to pay your debt down faster. You may even consider selling a large item, such as a car or home, to very aggressively relieve yourself of the debt. On the other hand, you may see a business opportunity that could help you achieve your goal.

When you clearly define a goal and then give yourself the time and space to think of all the ways it can be achieved, you may find yourself amazed by the many options and avenues that are laid out before you.

**Schedule**  
Once you settle upon an action plan for achieving your goal, make sure to lay out those steps on a timeline. This may involve a daily or weekly habit you need to maintain, calendarized actions you need to take at certain times, or systematized actions that are automated in some way.

Consistency is key to achieving any goal, and setting up a schedule is the key to consistency.

**Measure**  
As you move toward your goal, track your progress. The true joy in reaching for a goal is the recognition and celebration of progress.

The actual moment of achievement may be only a brief moment, but the sense that you're continuously improving your life in some way is a daily delight. In fact, progress in one area tends to inspire progress in others. The key to getting the most out of this journey is to track and measure progress.

In our example, you might check the balances on your debts monthly or bi-weekly and graph your progress over time. Measuring progress, of course, will also show you when you get off track at any point and allow you to quickly correct course.

**Rest**  
There's truth to the idea that we aren't really in control of our fate. As you work toward your specific aims, be sure to maintain an open heart and mind to the opportunities and lessons that life presents you along the way. Oftentimes, we set out along a path and encounter all manner of unforeseen challenges and opportunities. It's through these that, if looked at from the proper perspective, we are tempered and improved, and we may even happen upon better aims to strive for.

Do your very best and leave the rest to fate. This takes the pressure off any idea that we are in control of or responsible for fully designing every outcome of our lives, and allows us to simply rest and do our best.

## EDUCATION

# The Revival of Phonics May Sound Death Knell for Tyranny

ANNIE HOLMQUIST

I came across some good news today. The kind of news that makes me think that there's some hope for America and its citizens.

"What is this good news?" you might ask. It's simple, really: Schools are beginning to teach phonics again.

"Is that all?" I can hear you reply. "That's not such a big deal!"

Au contraire! Teaching phonics is a very big deal because, by teaching phonics, we enable literacy to surge, which makes knowledge soar, which, in turn, brings common sense and understanding back to the minds of the voting public.

That America has finally realized the importance of phonics is evident in a recent New York Times article by Bella DiMarco, "Sounding Out a Better Way to Teach Reading." DiMarco described how early grade school students in central Virginia sound out letters without any cues to help them guess. The joy on their faces when the sounds of the letters click into a word gives a good picture of how much of a decoding game reading is. Once you know the key to the code, everything becomes clear.

Teaching students that code is having impressive effects. "After just one year using the new reading strategy, Richmond Public Schools raised its early literacy scores by seven points, the largest single-year gains the district has seen," DiMarco wrote.

And it's not only this school that has seen success. The entire state of Mississippi first started using a phonics-based approach to reading in 2013, she wrote. By 2019, its national standing in fourth-



MARIA MADRINA/SHUTTERSTOCK  
Phonetic strategies in education have been correlated with higher literacy rates.

grade reading scores went from 49th to 29th. That's not bad, considering that Mississippi is the poorest state in the union.

But can teaching phonics have that much of a positive impact on our nation as a whole? Surely American students have always grade school students in central Virginia sound out letters without any cues to help them guess. The joy on their faces when the sounds of the letters click into a word gives a good picture of how much of a decoding game reading is. Once you know the key to the code, everything becomes clear.

To answer those questions, it's helpful to look at some historical data on literacy rates, data which former teacher of the year John Taylor Gatto laid out in his book, "The Underground History of American Education."

According to Gatto, "literacy was universal" in the American colonies. In fact, it seems that reading was so easy to teach, that many schools in colonial days didn't even offer reading instruction "because few schoolmasters were willing to waste time teaching what was so easy to learn." Apparently, parents—or perhaps dame school teachers—were expected to take care of such a simple

task. Perhaps we should consider that an early endorsement for homeschooling—but I digress.

Such high literacy rates were apparently par for the course until World War II, as military tests found a 96 percent literacy rate among the millions of men who registered and were either inducted into the military or rejected for various reasons. When the Korean War rolled around a few years later, that literacy rate had dropped to 81 percent, according to Gatto, dropping further to 73 percent during recruitment for the Vietnam War. What happened during these three decades to cause such a sudden decline in literacy rates?

"Well, one change is indisputable, well-documented, and easy to track," he wrote. "During WWII, American public schools massively converted to nonphonetic ways of teaching reading."

## Once you know the key to the code, everything becomes clear.

Today, only 37 percent of high school seniors can read proficiently. Are the 63 percent who can't read proficiently illiterate? Some, yes. Others can likely read enough to get by, but such reading is unenjoyable, and when reading is unenjoyable, learning and growth in knowledge is much harder to come by.

Such a lack of knowledge doesn't do much for students, but it does do a lot for those in power, whether they're close to home in the schools and local com-

munities or further away in the halls of Congress or the White House. If students are unable to read well—if at all—then they'll be unable to discern important truths and make connections from those truths to accurately judge the character and actions of those in power. And if they can't accurately judge whether the actions of those in power are right or wrong, then they'll tread ever closer to living under tyranny.

John Adams said it best when he wrote: "I must judge for myself. But how can I judge, how can any man judge, unless his mind has been opened and enlarged by reading? A man who can read will find in his Bible, in his common sermon books that common people have by them, and even in the almanac, and the newspapers, rules and observations that will enlarge his range of thought, and enable him the better to judge who has, and who has not that integrity of heart and that compass of knowledge and understanding which forms the statesman."

And that's exactly why the resurgence of phonics is joyous news. Such instruction clearly sets students on a path to being stronger readers, and once they're stronger readers, they'll increase their knowledge and become more discerning, shining a light on and exposing those who would lead blind followers on the path toward tyranny.

*This article was originally published on Intellectual Takeout.*

Annie Holmquist is the editor of *Intellectual Takeout* and the online editor of *Chronicles Magazine*, both projects of the *Charlemagne Institute*.



# FOR KIDS ONLY

THE EPOCH TIMES

## Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

By Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

ALL PHOTOS BY SHUTTERSTOCK

## WHICH TREE HAS THE MOST FRIENDS?

THE POPULAR TREE.

DAMIAN LUGOWSKI/SHUTTERSTOCK

## In the woods we return to reason and faith.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON  
(1803-1882), AMERICAN WRITER

ROXANA BASHYROVA/SHUTTERSTOCK

## This Week in History

# BLACK MONDAY

On Oct. 19, 1987, the stock market experienced the largest one-day loss in its history. The Dow Jones Industrial Average, an index of 30 of the most actively traded public stocks, dropped by just over 22 percent that day. The day became known as "Black Monday."

The crash occurred not just in the United States, but actually began that day in Hong Kong, making its way through Europe before the U.S. markets were affected. Financial experts have been analyzing its causes ever since, many saying panic played a large role, among other factors.

ALL IMAGES BY SHUTTERSTOCK

By Aidan Danza

# THE GRIZZLY BEAR

The grizzly bear is probably one of the most well-known frontier animals—a great symbol of the American wilderness.

A grizzly bear catching a fish right out of an Alaskan river is iconic. Grizzlies are some of the most adaptable carnivores in the world, living in a wide range of habitats and eating a wide range of foods, which can encompass the smallest berry to the largest moose.

Actually, grizzly bears are a type of brown bear, a bear which populates much of Europe, Asia, and North Africa in relatively small numbers. They are one of the world's largest carnivores, with a maximum height of five feet at the shoulder. When they stand on their hind legs, they can measure up to eight feet.

They live across the world in a variety of habitats, including deserts, mountains, dense forests, and Arctic tundra. In these habitats, they maintain a large home range, from 30 square miles (19,200 acres) to 1,000 square miles (640,000 acres), which is almost the size of Rhode Island. These home ranges consist of the whole area the animal uses on a regular basis, but doesn't include the animal's territory, which the bear defends from other bears.

In areas where food is scarce, home ranges will be larger. Female grizzlies tend to use

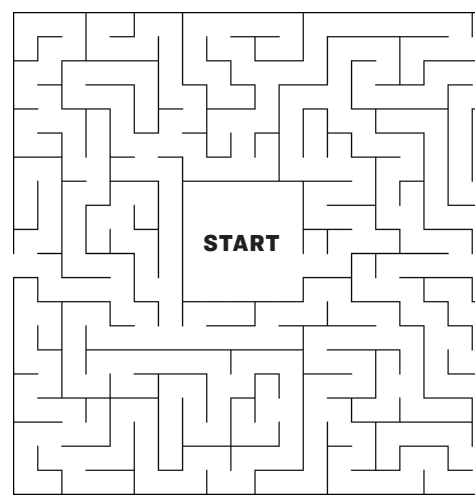
smaller home ranges than males do. They are largely solitary, with the only usual interactions being between a mother and her cubs. When they do gather in large numbers to feast on a major food source (usually salmon), they will fight to establish dominance.

For food, anything goes for a grizzly bear. They are omnivorous, meaning they will eat both animals and plants. They will eat grass, roots, fruits, nuts, etc. in the plants

department and will eat insects (including moth larvae) and a wide variety of burrowing rodents, including mice, prairie dogs, squirrels. However, when the grizzlies live in a habitat where large prey is abundant, they will often eat moose, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats. Sometimes, they'll even eat smaller bears. Alaskan grizzlies will feast on salmon running in the rivers and prey on reindeer.



## 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

7	8		
4	7		
+	-	x	÷

Solution For Easy 1  
7 × 4 = (8 - 7)  
7 × 4 = 28

Medium puzzle 1

14	19		
13	14		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Medium 1  
13 + 19 = 32

Hard puzzle 1

5	31		
3	22		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Hard 1  
5 × (31 - 22) = 45



WORD SEARCH: Forest Creatures!

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

Ant	Hedgehog	
Bald Eagle	Honeybee	
Beaver	Lizard	
Bluebird	Monkey	
Brown Bear	Moose	
Cardinal	Mosquito	
Chipmunk	Newt	Raven
Cicada	Opossum	Salamander
Elk	Osprey	Tiger
Fox	Owl	Tortoise
Frog	Parrot	Turkey
Hawk	Rabbit	Turtle

HIDDEN TREASURES by Liz Ball  
www.HiddenPicturePuzzles.com

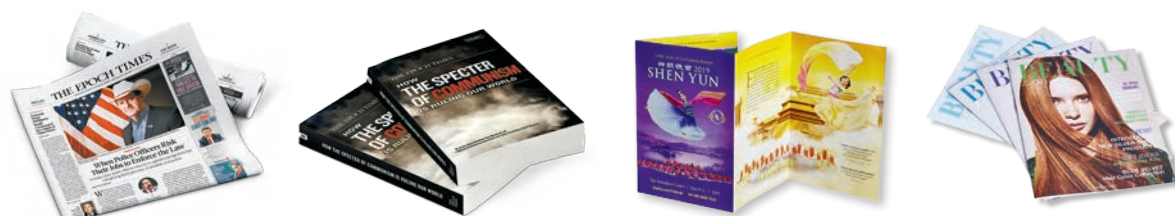




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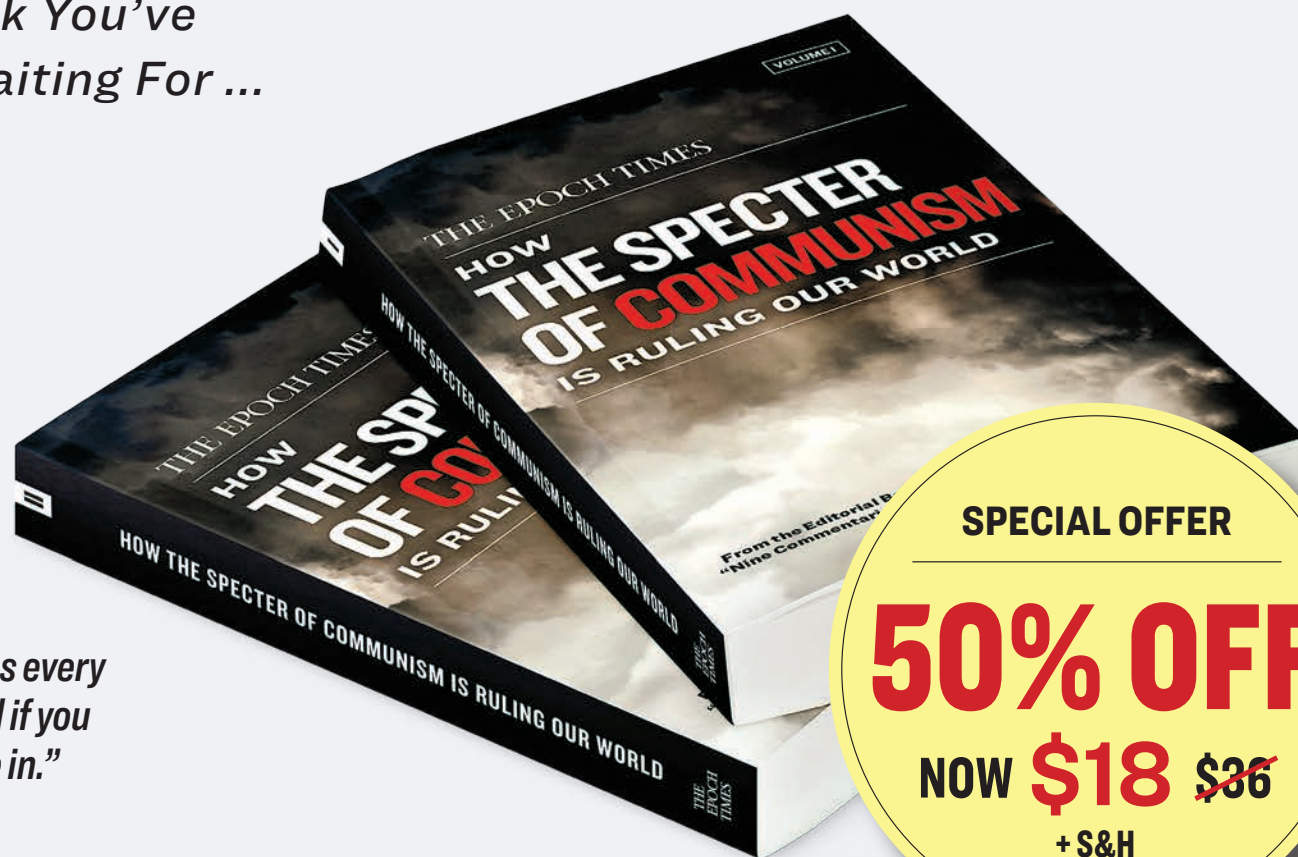
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