

OUT OF THE VAULT

Blacksmith's spark ignites powder cache

An explosion ripped through a blacksmith's shop west of Pendleton on July 16, 1907, leaving two brothers badly burned and the shop incinerated.

Brothers Leon and Ed Kidder, ages 19 and 21, were working on a threshing machine in the blacksmith shop on the family farm three miles west of Pendleton along the Umatilla River in preparation for wheat harvest. A spark from the anvil off a red-hot piece of metal fell on a 50-pound can of black powder that had been stored in the shop by another Kidder brother, setting off a horrific explosion.

Leon, the youngest of the brothers, was terribly burned from the waist up and his clothing was burned completely off his body. His injuries were thought to be potentially fatal. Ed, who was further away from the powder cache when it exploded, was also badly scorched on his face and hands, but was expected to survive the blast.

The explosion obliterated the interior of the shop and set the building on fire. A Greek section crew from the O.R. & N railroad working nearby put out the fire while one of their members rode a handcar into town to summon the doctor.

Leon was taken to St. Anthony

Hospital in Pendleton in serious condition, where the burned skin was removed from his upper body and arms. Unable to lie down because of the extent of his injuries, he was forced to sleep sitting in a chair. Two months later, Leon returned home from the hospital to recover from his burns. His arms were still disabled, but doctors thought his injuries would not be permanent.

Older brother Ed's burns were not considered serious, and he was ready to begin threshing wheat six days after the blast, on the machine whose repair sparked the explosion.

DEAR ABBY

Romantic wedding dreams dim in tug-of-war over marriage

Dear Abby: My boyfriend, "Pierre," and I have been a couple for 18 months. We moved in together three months ago.

The trouble is, Pierre is French, and he doesn't believe in marriage. He says it's an "outdated institution and a social construct." He also claims that no one in France gets married.

My parents are very religious, and they do not support us living in sin. They say if we have a child out of wedlock, they will cut me off completely.

What should I do? I love my family, but I also love Pierre. And I've always dreamed of having a romantic wedding with my father walking me down the aisle. I know Pierre is committed to me, but he dislikes the institution of marriage and won't budge on this. I'm 34 and my biological clock is ticking. Any advice will be appreciated. — **Conflicted In California**

Dear Conflicted: Pierre has given you fair warning and so have your parents. Marriage exists in France just as



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

it does here in the USA. That Pierre doesn't believe in it should be an indication that the two of you have very different definitions of what a committed relationship is, and it may be partly cultural in nature. How do you feel about that?

I think it's sad that the parents of a 34-year-old woman would threaten to cut her off if she decided to have a child without being married. If you can support one, that choice should be yours and not theirs. My advice is to stop dreaming about a romantic wedding with your father walking you down the aisle unless you can find a man with a different view of commitment than Pierre appears to have.

P.S. I once had a poodle named Pierre. He and I got along fine and marriage was never discussed.

Dear Abby: My mom and many others share this problem. She refuses to throw away expired food. I'm not talking about something a few days past its "best used by" date; I'm talking YEARS.

Yesterday, I found a box of bread crumbs that had expired in 2001 (I took a picture). Mom insisted that they "never really go bad." I told her she had better hope she isn't the beneficiary of the life insurance policy of anyone who eats them or she could end up as an episode of "Snapped."

Seriously, though, this is a huge problem for the elderly. I hope you will encourage your readers to help their older friends and family members by cleaning out their fridge and cabinets. I always check the expiration date before eating anything at my mom's. Thank you! — **Date Checker**

Dear Date Checker: Your mother is mistaken. While it is safe to consume some foods a few weeks past their expiration date, other items begin to lose their nutritional value or spoil.

I'm glad you wrote. I'm printing your letter for other readers whose older relatives think the way your mother does, so they can check the expiration dates on packages in their relatives' cupboards (and remove any bulging or rusted cans that could cause botulism, a fatal illness).

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian July 7-8, 1918

A.B. Boyce is confined at his home in Pendleton by injuries received when his railroad speeder jumped the track Saturday near Campbell. Mr. Boyce is employed in the signal department of the railroad and it was while on the round of his duties his speeder jumped the track. The cause of the accident he is unable to explain. All he knows is that when he came to his feet lay across one rail and his head against the other. He was badly bruised and had been unconscious, but how long he did not know. He expected to be able to return to work in a few days.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian July 7-8, 1968

The Snow Board Fire, which has already consumed 3,500 to 4,000 acres of Umatilla National Forest, remained out of control this morning and is the biggest headache of the forest's 54 fires, concentrated in the Heppner, Dale and Ukiah districts. Snow Board, the forest's largest fire, about 10-12 miles southeast of Kinzua, 18 miles northwest of Spray, and

20 miles east of Fossil, is manned by state fire protection crews. The Snow Board blaze mushroomed on three sides this morning, extending the burn area to over 4,000 acres.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian July 7-8, 1993

Steve Herbes graduated with a straight-A grade point average this year from Pendleton High School. He placed first statewide in the National French Exam. But there's more to this teen-ager than academic excellence. He has pursued track, soccer, singing and the violin. He was the school's president of French Honor Society, choir and orchestra. He competed three times at state solo contest. He appeared in drama productions, earned his Eagle Scout and performed with the Oregon East Symphony. He has been active at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Herbes applied for and received 15 scholarships as he plans to enter the University of Portland. The awards total roughly \$57,000, including some divided over four years or with the chance of renewal. He attributes his success to diversity, intensity and tenacity. "Don't do anything part way. If you're going to do something, go ballistic on it," says Herbes.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On July 7, 1865, four people were hanged in Washington, D.C., for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln: Lewis Powell (aka Lewis Payne), David Herold, George Atzerodt and Mary Surratt, the first woman to be executed by the federal government.

In 1846, U.S. annexation of California was proclaimed at Monterey after the surrender of a Mexican garrison.

In 1898, the United States annexed Hawaii.

In 1919, the first Transcontinental Motor Convoy, in which a U.S. Army convoy of motorized vehicles crossed the United States, departed Washington, D.C. (The trip ended in San Francisco on Sept. 6, 1919.)

In 1937, the Second Sino-Japanese War erupted into full-scale conflict as Imperial Japanese forces attacked the Marco Polo Bridge in Beijing.

In 1948, six female U.S. Navy reservists became the first women to be sworn in to the regular Navy.

In 1954, Elvis Presley made his radio debut as Memphis, Tennessee, station WHBQ played his first recording for Sun Records, "That's All Right."

In 1969, Canada's House of Commons gave final approval to the Official Languages Act, making French equal to English throughout



AP Photo

Elvis Presley is seen on his theater tour in the summer of 1957. Scotty Moore is on guitar and Bill Black is playing the stand-up bass.

the national government.

In 1976, President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford hosted a White House dinner for Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip. The United States Military Academy at West Point included female cadets for the first

time as 119 women joined the Class of 1980.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan announced he was nominating Arizona Judge Sandra Day O'Connor to become the first female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

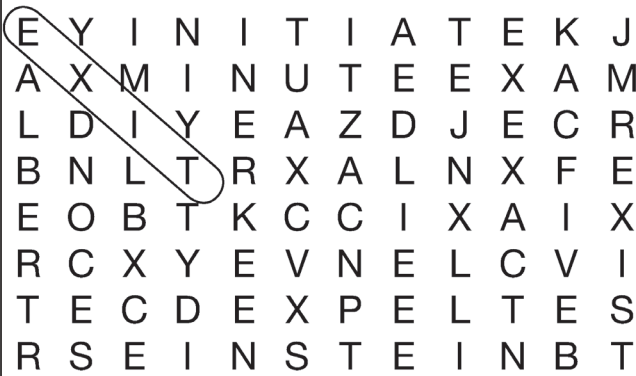
WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Seven words starting with EX
- Three six-letter units of time
- Theoretical physicist (first/last name)
- Two four-letter numbers
- Word with five vowels

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: EXTRA EXCEL EXACT EXPEL EXIST EXIT EXAM / SECOND MINUTE DECADE / ALBERT EINSTEIN / FIVE NINE INFLATE
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7 LITTLE WORDS

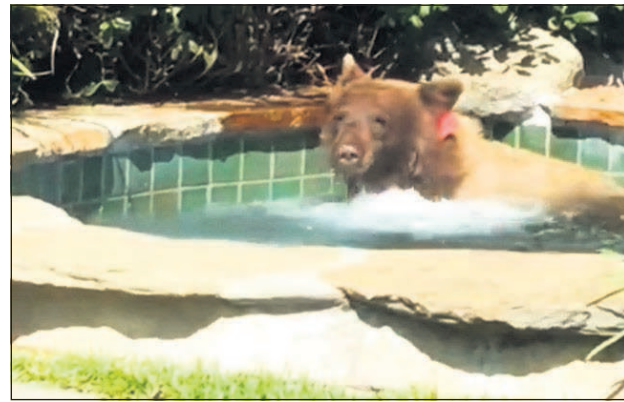
Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 strike out swinging (5)	_____
2 strike a pose (5)	_____
3 strike a happy medium (10)	_____
4 strike down (4)	_____
5 what a strike stays out of (6)	_____
6 go on strike (7)	_____
7 strike fear in (10)	_____

GUT	MOD	MI	AY	WHI
RO	TER	FF	TE	SE
MP	OTE	PR	EL	SL
INT	CO	DA	ST	IMI

Today's Answers: 1. WHIFF 2. MODEL 3. COMPROMISE 4. SLAY 5. GUTTER 6. PROTEST 7. INTIMIDATE

ODDS & ENDS



Mark Hough via AP

This June 29 image made from video released by Mark Hough shows a bear in a hot tub in Hough's backyard in Altadena, Calif.

Margarita-loving bear takes a dip in a hot tub

By ALINA HARTOUNIAN
Associated Press

enjoying himself."

Mark Hough had barely taken a sip of his Friday afternoon margarita when he heard twigs snapping and leaves rustling in his lush Altadena, California, backyard.

At first he brushed it off as the sounds of his neighbor pottering next door, but the noise grew louder.

"So I got up, looked over in the bushes and behold there's a bear climbing up over my fence," Hough said Monday.

The sighting was the first of many encounters Hough would have with the bear that particularly hot Friday afternoon — over the course of a few hours the bear availed itself of Hough's backyard, his hot tub, and the cocktail he left behind.

After first spotting the bear, Hough retreated inside, only to later find the furry intruder "bobbling away in the Jacuzzi

Hough recorded video of the bear lolling in the unheated hot tub with the jets on. The creature played with the chlorinator and tossed the thermometer in the air, Hough said.

"He was playing, having a grand old time," he added.

Bears have been frequently filmed romping around the community that straddles city and wilderness. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Joana Warren said the department received six bear-sighting calls that Friday, but failed to find it.

The bear's dip only lasted a few minutes before it emerged and lumbered around the yard.

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