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26 Tinseltown Talks by Nick Thomas Eddie Muller's Case of the Missing Marshmallow Monkey









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JANUARY 6 - Preventing Senior Moments Stan Goldberg. PhD, author and lecturer

JANUARY 13 - Current and Future Plans at Ochsner LSU Health in Shreveport Corwin Harper, Ochsner LSU Health CEO

JANUARY 20 - Near-Death Experiences Dr. Peter Boggs, an allergist-immunologist

JANUARY 27 - Caddo Council on Aging Provides Valuable Services Monica Wright, Executive Director of Caddo Council on Aging

**FEBRUARY 3** - Legal Issues Facing Seniors Kyle Moore, Elder Law Attorney and Vickie Rech, Client Care Coordinator

**FEBRUARY 10** - Arthritic Conditions and the Latest Treatments Robert Goodman, MD with Arthritis and Rheumatology Clinic

**FEBRUARY 17** - Pre-planning Your Funeral Andy Shehee, Director of Rose Neath Funeral Homes

**FEBRUARY 24** - Senior Living Options Lorrie Nunley, Executive Director with Azalea Estates Assisted Living Facility

MARCH 2 - Senior Medicare Patrol Protects Beneficiaries Brenda Melara, Community Outreach Specialist with AdviseWell

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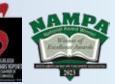
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#### Mediterranean Diet the Best Prevention Against Prostate Cancer

Men who consume colorful fruits and vegetables on a regular basis are less likely to be diagnosed with

prostate cancer (PC), according to new research by University of South Australia scientists. A rainbow of foods rich in certain micronutrients helps to prevent prostate cancer (PC) as well as speed up recovery among men who undergo radiation treatment for the disease. The findings, from two studies published in the journal *Cancers*, highlight the importance of a Mediterranean or Asian diet that includes these foods. Researchers compared micronutrient plasma concentrations of prostate cancer patients with a healthy control group, revealing low levels of lutein, lycopene, alpha-carotene, and selenium in PC patients and high levels of iron, sulfur, and calcium in the same group, relative to controls. Foods that are rich in lycopene include tomatoes, melons, papayas, grapes, peaches, watermelons, and cranberries. Selenium-rich foods include white meat, fish, shellfish, eggs, and nuts.

#### Eyes may be the window to your soul, but the tongue mirrors your health

A 2000-year-old practice by Chinese herbalists – examining the human tongue for signs of disease – is now being embraced by computer scientists using machine learning and artificial intelligence. Engineers from Middle Technical University in Baghdad and the University of South Australia used a USB web camera and computer to capture tongue images from patients with diabetes, renal failure and anemia, comparing with a data base of 9000 tongue images. Using image processing techniques, they correctly diagnosed the diseases in 94% of cases. Diabetes patients typically have a yellow tongue, cancer patients a purple tongue with a thick greasy coating, and acute stroke patients present with a red tongue that is often crooked.

# Unsafe skin care trends to avoid

Board-certified dermatologists are spotlighting unsafe skin care trends that they see on social media and elsewhere to help you keep your skin looking its best.

Performing cosmetic treatments at home. Dermatologists warn against people microneedling, injecting fillers, and using lasers to remove unwanted hair due to the risk for infection or bad reactions.

Trying nasal tanning spray. While self-tanner that you apply to your skin is a safe way to look tan, nasal tanning spray is not. For nasal tanning spray to work, you need to first inhale the spray and then spend time in the sun without protecting your skin from the sun. The sun exposure increases your risk of developing skin cancer and signs of premature skin aging like

wrinkles and age spots. The active ingredient in nasal tanning spray also isn't safe. Using hot peppers to make lips fuller. This is potentially very dangerous, because it can cause allergic contact dermatitis, a form of eczema, or other rashes that can leave dark spots around the mouth or on the lips that are hard to get rid of.

Taking supplements randomly without first consulting a physician. Ingredients in

supplements advertised for skin, hair, and nails have been linked to birth defects, an increase in cancer risk, and even side effects such as acne and hair loss.





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# Featured Favorite Quotes to start the New Year

Be at war with your vices, AT PEACE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS, and

let every new year FIND YOU A BETTER MAN. – Benjamin Franklin

Let our New Year's resolution be this: WE WILL BE THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER AS FELLOW MEMBERS OF HUMANITY, in the finest sense of the word.

– Goran Persson

I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are MAKING MISTAKES, then you are MAKING NEW THINGS, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, CHANGING YOURSELF, CHANGING YOUR WORLD. – Neil Gaiman

> Write it on your heart that EVERY DAY is the BEST DAY in the year. –Ralph Waldo Emerson

Your SUCCESS and HAPPINESS lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and YOU SHALL FORM AN INVINCIBLE HOST AGAINST DIFFICULTIES.

– Helen Keller



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#### IN PRAISE OF MARDI GRAS KREWES Local Krewes Support Their Communities Throughout the Year By Kathleen Ward

**THE FIRST MARDI GRAS** celebrations in New Orleans started in the 1730s, slowly building on traditions celebrated in France since the Middle Ages. Shreveport's celebrations started around 1876, but lapsed for decades until the Krewe of Gemini held the first modern parade in 1990. "Mardi Gras is literally a 'season' and this year it is seven

weeks long," said Mardi Gras Captain of Captains Paul Lopez. Each of the area's 16 krewes has a Captain and Lopez works with all of them and attends every krewe's ball and parade. "All 16 have a ball and 12 have parades scattered from Natchitoches to Minden. All get their support from locals and every single one is different, each has a theme, and all events are open to the public."

Shreveport-Bossier City Mardi Gras parades were attended by 225,000 people in 2023, with 41% of the crowds coming from out of town and staying for at least one night. Parades, balls and other Mardi Gras expenses and events bring \$20,000,000 into the economy of Northwest Louisiana each year, but the work of the krewes doesn't stop after Mardi Gras. *The Best of Times* spoke with captains about the valuable volunteer work krewe members do to support their communities all year long.

"We have provided a monthly meal at Hope House for six years and sponsor an entire room at Providence House, providing everything in the room and replenishing it when the residents move out," said Captain Theresa Miller of the *Krewe of Atlas*. "We participate in annual fundraising walks for Out of Darkness (for the American Association for Suicide Prevention), the Walk to End Alzheimer's (Alzheimer's Association) and Heart Walk (the American Heart Association). Several members of our krewe have either lost a family member or been affected with these illnesses." "Our philanthropy includes all animal advocates," said *Barkus & Meoux* Captain Jessica Frey. "We work with all the animal rescues, shelters and pet pantries. We are currently putting together a directory of all animal advocacy organiza-

tions in Northwest Louisiana, describing what they do, what they need and how to contact them. We host rescue forums that bring these groups together. We offer emergency vet funds to the community and host events that



King and Queen of Barkus and Meow Kenny and Ann Frizzell

and host events throughout the year that allow us to raise money to be able to continue our mission. We visit nursing

homes, schools and hospitals with our animal royalty." "We have 30

floats that each participate in some kind of philanthropy work," said *Krewe* of *Centaur* Captain Ricky Bridges. "We raise money that benefits Operation Santa Claus by auctioning off cakes at our annual cake auction and through toy donations. In 2021 we raised over \$9,000 in one night



Bill Landrus was crowned King of Mardi Gras at Savannah Grand Assisted Living by Krewe of Centaur Queen Tina Tomasek and King Danny Lowery.



- Jesus Eguia, Jane Hudson and Sharon Davis with residents of Brookdale Bossier City Retirement Community
- Dianne Harmon and Marilyn Creswell at The Glen Elders Captain Pat Stell at Summerfield Estates
- Ada Duos, Sherrie Vullo, Liz Skyles and Celia Frazier entertain at Brookdale Bossier City Retirement Community

and in 2022 we raised the bar to \$10,600, which we hope to exceed this year. The Shreveport Police and Fire Department come and collect and distribute the toys and use those funds to purchase more toys."

"The *Krewe of Elders* community outreach program's focus is on nursing home visits during the Mardi Gras season," said Captain Pat Snell. "We bring the spirit of Mardi Gras and the sense of community to the residents. In addition to the nursing homes, our Krewe has also visited the Goldman School and Child Development Center, Holy Angels, Riverside Elementary, Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home and the Bossier Council on Aging." The krewe also contributes funds to the American Legion, knits caps for Tina Oliver's Winter Hat Drive for cancer patients and supports the Shreveport Regional Arts Council's Christmas in the Sky and ArtBreak programs.



"The *Krewe of Gemini* supports the Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, Operation Santa Claus, LifeShare Blood Center, WK Center For Pediatrics - South, Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport

Pediatrics, Pilgrim Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation and the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home," said Tom Wyche, Krewe Captain. The Krewe of Gemini's Mardi Gras Museum in Bossier City is filled with costumes and floats from past parades and is available for scheduled tours for schools and other groups during the Mardi Gras Season.

"The Krewe of Harambee hosts the Hopes and Dreams breakfast during the MLK holiday which provides \$6,000 in scholarships to students from single parent homes each year," said Captain Cynthia Pearson. "We have contributed more than \$27,000 to the Northwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation for education, research and

transportation.

Throughout the



Harambee King Michael Robertson with Rosaline Darty, Alexandra Stewart, Alex Walton, Captain Cynthia Pearson, Queen Sabrina Wilson, Richard Hall, and KaDavien Baylor

year, the krewe and Royal Court Ambassadors visit nursing homes and schools. In 2023 we supported Creswell Elementary School by donating school supplies to all teachers in every third, fourth and fifth grade class. These special projects and our regular meetings make our area a better place to live."

The *Krewe of Highland* contributes instruments to high school bands, started the Highland Jazz and Blues Festival, updated lighting and electrical wiring at a fire station and Columbia Park, and planted more than 300

pear, fig, plum, and apple trees in Highland Park. Working closely with the city, local businesses and Boy Scout Troop 15, the krewe's ongoing projects have improved public areas,



Krewe of Highland: (left to right)

Robin Ramsey with documentation for the street repair
 Operation Santa Claus
 Sydni Smith and Robin Ramsey during Operation Santa Claus

parks and medians at 10 locations along their parade route through the neighborhoods of Highland, South Highland and Madison Park.

"The *Krewe of Justinian* supports the Shreveport Bar Foundation in working to supplement the legal needs of our low-income community and those in crisis through the Shreveport Bar Foundation Pro Bono Project, Self-Represented Litigants Program, and the Legal Representation for Victims of Domestic Violence Program," said Captain Amy Gardner Day. "Over the last thirty years, the krewe has proudly contributed over \$300,000 to the Shreveport Bar Foundation." The krewe was founded as a committee by the Shreveport Bar Association and holds fundraisers on the Bar's behalf several times a year.

"The *Krewe of Oceanus* does charitable events every quarter," said Captain Parker Ward. "We delivered school supplies for children at Forest Hills Elementary School for children who may be without, and we will be giving gifts to Roy's Kids for local children for Christmas. We are a family friendly krewe that encourages children's participation."

"We have spread our support to many schools and





Krewe of Sobek : Virgin Rachal, Brandon Hancock, Shondreka Fitch, Doug Moseley, Tamesha Lane, Darryl Lane, Dottie Bell, Freddie Russell and Stormy Watts

organizations in the community," said the *Krewe of Sobek* publicity chair Shirley Pierson. We support the Salvation Army Angel Tree and make an awesome effort to donate school supplies in the Fall and purchase bicycles at Christmas. We award three individual scholarships and donate funds to the Alumni Associations of both Grambling and Southern University.

We also donate to J. S.



Dana Joseph, Sobek Captain Rosiland Howard, Anitra Furlow and Barbara White shop for Angel Tree

Clark, Cherokee Park, Werner Park and Queensboro elementary schools, support the Food Bank, and visit nursing homes throughout the year."

For those of us in Louisiana, Mardi Gras Season starts on '12th Night' (January 6) and ends with the party of the year on Mardi Gras day (Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>). "Everywhere else it's just Tuesday!"

# Be Ready to Save a Life

# Understanding the 2 Steps of Hands-Only CPR

Very year, 350,000 people die from cardiac arrest in the United States. However, hands-on emergency intervention like cardiopulmonary resuscitation – or CPR – from a bystander can make the difference between life and death in sudden cardiac arrest emergencies.

In fact, immediate CPR can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival, according to the American Heart Association. During the first few minutes an individual is suffering from cardiac arrest, chest compressions can help keep blood flow active and push remaining oxygen through the body to keep vital organs alive, which extends the opportunity for a successful resuscitation once trained medical staff arrive.

Because 88% of cardiac arrests – electrical malfunctions in the heart that cause an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia) and disrupt the flow of blood to the brain, lungs and other organs – occur at home, it is often a friend or family member who witnesses a child, spouse, parent or friend going into cardiac arrest. As survival can depend on how quickly CPR is started, compression-only CPR, or Hands-Only CPR, is recommended for use by people who see a teen or adult suddenly collapse in an out-of-hospital setting such as at home, work or in a park.

"By equipping people with Hands-Only CPR training, we are empowering them to spring into action if a loved one needs help, as the majority of cardiac arrests occur at home," said Dr. Anezi Uzendu, M.D., interventional cardiologist and American Heart Association volunteer.

As part of the World Restart a Heart Day initiative, the American Heart Association aims to increase awareness about the importance of bystander CPR through its Hands-Only CPR campaign, nationally supported by the Elevance Health Foundation, and offers these two simple steps:

1. Call 911 (or send someone to do that).



2. Push hard and fast in the center of the chest of the individual experiencing cardiac arrest.

Using the beat of a familiar song with 100-120 beats per minute, such as "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee Gees, can help you stay on pace with the necessary compressions.

"Being able to efficiently perform Hands-Only CPR in the moment can mean the difference between life and death, and by following these two simple steps we can increase someone's chance of survival from cardiac arrest," said Shantanu Agrawal, M.D., board certified emergency medicine doctor and chief health officer at Elevance Health. "As a longstanding supporter of the American Heart Association, we remain focused on working together to improve health inequities in our communities by expanding access to training and increasing the number of people who learn and feel confident performing Hands-Only CPR to save lives."

To find more information and resources, visit heart.org/ CPR.

# 6 Links in the Adult Out-of-Hospital Chain of Survival

When properly executed, a strong chain of survival – or series of actions – can improve the chances of survival and recovery for victims of sudden cardiac arrest. Hands-Only CPR is a critical step in the American Heart Association's Chain of Survival, which also includes:

- Activation of Emergency Response: Recognize symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 911.
- High-Quality CPR: Push hard and fast in the center of the victim's chest until emergency personnel arrive.
- Defibrillation: Use an automated external defibrillator (AED) to restart the victim's heart and reset it to a healthy rhythm.
- Advanced Resuscitation: Medical professionals provide additional life-saving medical services.
- Post-Cardiac Arrest Care: Transport victim to an appropriate hospital or treatment facility to optimize survival, organ function and neurological recovery.
- Recovery: Survivors receive additional treatment, observation, rehabilitation and psychological support to aid in recovery and help prevent recurrent cardiac arrest.



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#### Laws of the Land by Lee Aronson

# The Case of the Vet Who Wouldn't Touch Animals

There was a veterinarian in Texas who didn't want to physically examine animals. Let's call him Yosemite Sam (not his real name.) So he started an internet only practice. Does that sound OK to you? Would you be willing to have your pet treated over a video conference? Well, it wasn't OK with Texas. They have a law that says that vets can't treat animals "solely by telephonic or electronic means." (Ironically, Texas has no problem with allowing doctors to treat humans over the internet.)

Yosemite Sam thought that was extremely unfair. He thought that the government shouldn't be able to stop him

from giving veterinary advice to pet owners. Whatever happened to free speech? So he sued.

He told the Judge that he offered pet owners an opinion based on his experience and never offered to treat their pets and didn't prescribe any medication for the animals.

He did give the Judge some examples of things he was



doing over the internet or phone.

Someone from Iran called in about his bird. The bird owner claimed that he had "accidentally" broken his bird's leg so he "tied up the bird's leg" and wanted to know if there was "any chance for the bird." Yosemite Sam responded by telling the Iranian that his bird's bones were too soft and recommended that he add Tums to the bird's diet.

Yosemite Sam also told the Judge about someone in England who had contacted him about "a young tit bird" with an injured leg. The vet told the bird owner that she did not need a veterinarian. Instead, she should "contact a male

watch-maker [no one asked why a woman wouldn't do] for tiny tools, an arborist to ascertain the shape of local shrubs and construct tape shackles" for the bird.

Then there was the dog who woke up every night to shake, bark frantically and scratch at the floor before falling back asleep. Yosemite Sam suspected fleas.



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#### **Family Caregiving**



After hearing all this, the Judge asked Yosemite Sam if he was really a veterinarian. It turns out that he was. He graduated from a real vet school back in 1966 and had a license to practice veterinary medicine since that time. He went on to explain that he had worked for various animal hospitals for 4 decades and still maintained his license to practice.

The Judge explained that our freedom of speech is not absolute. For example, it's not OK to yell "Covid!" in a crowded theatre. Nor is it OK to provide counterfeit immigration documents to noncitizens and then argue that making fake immigration papers was "free speech." Yes, someone really did try to argue that. He's in jail now.

The Judge went on to say that "states have broad power to establish standards for licensing practitioners and regulating the practice of professions." For example, in Louisiana, you must have a license in order to be a florist. That may seem ridiculous to you, but here's another way to look at it: should people who flunk out of medical school be able to treat your cancer?

Anyway, the Judge told Yosemite Sam that the Texas requirement that veterinarians physically examine an animal before treating it or otherwise practicing veterinary medicine falls squarely within this long-established authority to regulate professions and does not offend the First Amendment.

Here's how the Judge explained it: it is sometimes OK for the government to regulate speech in order to advance an important governmental interest. And in this case, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Board had some important interests: public and animal health and safety, public confidence in veterinary licensure, maintaining a minimum standard of care and preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases.



Yosemite Sam's case was thrown out and he had to shut down his online practice.

Lee Aronson is an attorney in Shreveport, Louisiana, with Gilsoul & Aronson, LLC. His practice areas include estate planning and elder law.

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#### Dear Pharmacist by Suzy Cohen, R.Ph.

#### **Taste Adventures: When Dysgeusia Takes Center Stage in Health**

oday I will teach you about a quirky topic that many of us encounter at some point on our health journeys called dysgeusia. It's when your favorite food suddenly doesn't taste quite right. Some foods that are sweet or salty taste bland, or other foods you eat taste metallic, or bitter. It will lead to low appetite and weight loss, but not cachexia.

Even the tasteless things (like mashed potatoes) can be perceived as gross. It's not a taste hallucination, it's a distortion but your mind doesn't know it. You'd swear on your life it was rancid, even though no one else around you tastes what you do!

Imagine sipping on a glass of juice but it tastes like you've dipped your tongue into some rusty nails. Hmm, that example may not be ideal because if your water tastes metallic you could have iron overload! But you get the point, something neutral is perceived to taste awful!

Dietary supplements should be neutral especially if you're taking a capsule versus a tablet that's coated. But even these taste "bad" to someone with dysgeusia! They may taste metallic, rancid, or bitter to you. Trust me, it's not a conspiracy, have someone else try the capsules to prove it to you! Why does it occur?

There are many reasons and even some medical conditions. During the pandemic, many COVID-19 patients found their taste and smell sensations were completely off, or turned off altogether! The familiar became



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Nevertheless, let's get practical with 4 strategies that might help:

**1. Stay Informed and Calm:** Understand that dysgeusia is a sensory adventure, not a permanent flavor makeover.

2. Have Good Oral Hygiene: Make dental floss your best friend. Go to a dentist for a deep cleaning and checkup because infections and gum disease cause dysgeusia. Brush your teeth and tongue twice a day. Good oral hygiene is important for fresh breath and normal tongue health.

**3. Tweak Your Diet:** Experiment with different flavors and textures. Certain tastes can counteract the strange ones. Try ginger ale, or club soda because the fizziness is distracting. Foods that don't have to be cooked (like sandwiches)

might be easier to stomach.

**4. Stay Hydrated:** A dry mouth and dehydration can amp up the taste distortions. Drink plenty of water or electrolytes to keep yourself in balance.

Some medications and medical conditions are known to cause dysgeusia but no one may have told you. Blood pressure pills are high on the list I have a more complete list of the biggest offending medications and conditions in the longer version of this article which is at my website, suzycohen.com. Sign up for my free newsletter and I'll email it to you. Remember, dysgeusia is not usually permanent, but often just a short-term side effect.

This information is not intended to treat, cure, or diagnose your condition. Always



consult your physician for all medical matters. Visit www.SuzyCohen. com. ©2023 Suzy Cohen, R.Ph. Distributed by Dear Pharmacist, Inc. Sam Stroope Hair Replacement Specialist and Hair Stylist

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#### From the Bench by Judge Jeff Cox

# The U.S. Constitution and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment

ne of the major debates at the United States Constitutional Convention was the issue of how the leader of the United States would serve. Would we have a King like other nations or a leader that was elected for a period of time? Some wanted George Washington to be the King and serve for his lifetime. Of course, many did not want another King like in England, especially since they fought the

with how many terms a President can be elected to serve as the President. Until the ratification of this amendment in 1951, there had be no mention of term limits for the President in the United States Constitution. President George Washington had only served two terms as President of the United States and other United States Presidents followed this tradition until Franklin Roosevelt, who was elected to

Revolutionary War to shed themselves of that type of system of government.

As such, the drafters of the Constitution settled the debate by stating a President would be elected to serve a four-year term. Every four years, another election would be held to either re-elect the then serving President or elect a new President.

The Twenty Second Amendment to the United States Constitution deals



four terms and died in office during his last term. Persons in the United States felt that a President being elected to multiple four-year terms came close to being a King and this was not was intended by the drafters of the United States Constitution.

The Twenty-Second Amendment states: No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no

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#### person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of President more than once.

This Amendment limits the term of the President to two terms. The second portion of this Amendment affects the Vice-President of the United States. If a President dies in office or becomes incapacitated where they can longer perform their duties, the Vice-President will take over the duties of the President. If the President had more than two years left on their term at the time they were not able to serve, the Vice-President could only be elected to one more fouryear term. However, if the President had served two years of their four-year term, the Vice-President could then be elected to two four-year terms in their own right, meaning that they could serve as President for a total time of ten years.

As stated earlier, this Amendment was ratified by the states in 1951. Most people in the United States believe this has been a good Amendment. People believe fresh leaders bring



new ideas. Additionally, most people do not want the chance of there being a King or a dynasty by one family. The Twenty-Second Amendment is designed to keep both things from happening in our country. *Judge Jeff Cox is judge of the Louisiana Circuit* 

*Court of Appeal for the Second Circuit.* 





#### Eat Well Live Well by Abigail McAlister with Laura Gillin

## Vitamin B12 Plays a Large Role in Proper Body Functioning

Variation B12 is an important nutrient that helps with forming red blood cells, making DNA, and regulating nerve function. Many people think vitamin B12 gives you energy or improves athletic performance - unfortunately that's not true! However, this vitamin still plays a large role in many important functions in the body.

Most people get enough vitamin B12 in their diets. However, as we age, it can become difficult to get the amount of B12 our bodies need. This is due to decreased stomach and chicken. Pork especially contains a high amount of vitamin B12. Fortified cereals and grains can also contain vitamin B12, but it's often not as easily absorbed as sources that naturally contain vitamin B12. The body does not produce vitamin B12 on its own, so it's important that we get enough in our diets.

If you struggle to get enough B12 in your diet, your healthcare provider may recommend a supplement. Remember, it's important to speak with your provider before

acid production. Stomach acid is needed to properly break down vitamin B12 for our bodies to absorb it. Taking stomach ulcer medications and antacids can also lead to decreased B12 absorption in the body. Some vitamin C supplements may also interfere with absorption. If you have been advised to supplement both B12 and vitamin C, try taking them two or more hours apart from each other.



For some of us, aging also plays a role in vitamin B12 intake due to oral status. Many food sources that are rich in B12 are meats that may be difficult to chew if you have tooth loss, swallowing problems, or dry mouth.

It's recommended that adults get 2.4 micrograms of B12 each day. This vitamin is found mostly in animal products, like red meat, fish, shellfish, turkey, liver, eggs, dairy products, taking any over-thecounter supplement to make sure it's appropriate for your needs. Some ways to squeeze in more B12 throughout the day may look like eating seafood for dinner twice a week, snacking on yogurt, choosing foods higher in B12 when grocery shopping, drinking milk during meals, or eating eggs during breakfast.

If you don't get enough vitamin B12, you may

be at risk for a nutrient deficiency. Vitamin B12 deficiency symptoms include anemia, gastrointestinal issues, tingling or numbness in the hands or feet, constipation, confusion, neurological changes, difficulties with walking and balance, unintended weight loss, fatigue, and mouth soreness. Vitamin B12 deficiency can be severe if left untreated and can lead to permanent damage of the nerves. If you think you may



be deficient in B12, it's a good idea to meet with your healthcare provider. Many of the deficiency symptoms listed above can also be symptoms for other conditions, so it's always good to talk with your provider if you have concerns.

As we age, it becomes more important to be mindful of what we are eating. Making sure we get the vitamins and minerals our bodies need is important for maintaining our overall health. Eating a balanced diet and keeping up with medical appointments are good preventive tools for avoiding nutrient deficiencies.

Abigail McAlister is a Registered Dietician and nutrition agent with LSU AgCenter for Caddo and Bossier Parishes. Her focus is adult nutrition education and



promotion. Contact her at AMcAlister@agcenter. lsu.edu. This article was written in collaboration with Laura Gillin, dietetic intern from Louisiana Tech Univ.





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#### Old Friends (Endless Love) by William McDonald

# The Last Dance

Comb his hair and ask, "Feel like going for a walk?" He smiles, points at his feet. I get his shoes. Slip-Ons these days. Easier for both of

us to manage. It is 20 feet from his front steps to the sidewalk that runs u

It is 20 feet from his front steps to the sidewalk that runs up and down the street where he lives. Where we both live now.

It will take us 10 minutes to cover those 20 feet plus another minute to be certain the gate is properly closed. There was a time when my father could swim across a lake in 11 minutes.

It will take us half an hour to walk half a block. He will stop to remove every pebble, every twig, every leaf, everything that does not belong on the sidewalk.

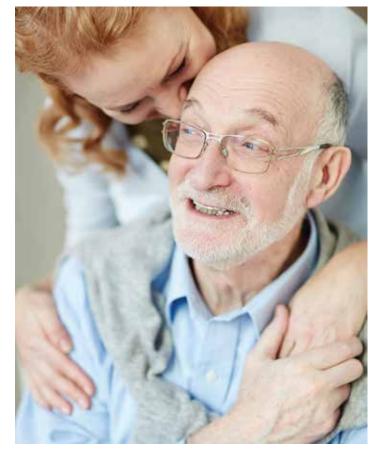
He has taught me to be more patient with him than he ever was with any part of his life.

After our walk I take him to A&W for onion rings and root beer. He will study every onion ring the same way an infant studies its fingers and toes. I will hold the mug of root beer for him while he drinks. He cannot lift it on his own. I once saw him swim across the lake, chop down a 40-foot tree, trim it, drag it to the lake and swim it back to where he would use it to build a dock. I have never known anyone as strong as he was.

He has taught me to be stronger than I thought I could be. Later, we will watch The Weather Channel for a couple of hours before I bathe him, change him and tuck him in. He lifts the blanket, points to his feet and smiles. He likes to sleep with his socks on. I remember the day he cracked two ribs but refused any help from anyone to get his socks off and on.

He has taught me there is more to perseverance than I imagined.

I go to bed hating Alzheimer's. Hating that I know so much



about it, and nothing about it. Hating that my father and millions like him have no idea why the memories they spent a lifetime so carefully scrapbooking in their minds have been so slowly, methodically erased.

Hating that I have learned how to hate.

In the night I hear him cussing. I find him at the window, shaking his fist at the first snow of the season. When he was himself, he would wake me and say, "It's snowing. Let's get



out there and clear the driveway so your mom and sisters don't get snowed in." My mother passed on years ago and my sisters have long since moved into their own homes but I say to him, "Let's get out there and clear the sidewalk."

He smiles. We get dressed and go sweep the snow from the sidewalk. When we are finished he cups my face in his hands, looks into my eyes and nods once.

He has taught me there is more to having a sidewalk with no snow on it than having a sidewalk with no snow on it.

There is more. If you've been there - or are there - you know there's more. It is not easy watching your parent (or anyone) disappear before your eyes but if you listen, if you watch, you will see and hear it – "*I have more to teach you*."

My father was in a wheelchair. There was music playing. He held out his arms. I danced with him. My sister filmed it on her phone. I did not know why my father had a tear in his eye.

A week later, my father died. My sister emailed me a copy of the video of he and I dancing. I had not noticed the song



we were dancing to was, "Time to Say Goodbye."

The last thing my father taught me, with a tear in his eye, was to dance to the song being played.

"From "Old Friends (Endless Love) available exclusively at Amazon.com

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# **Eddie Muller's Case of the Missing Marshmallow Monkey**



I f reading bedtime stories to the grandkids is a cherished family tradition, Eddie Muller has an unusual tale to share: a gritty feline sleuth searches for a stolen artifact while encountering a host of seedy underground characters prowling through a shadowy urban setting.

If that sounds like the plot from 1940s film noir cinema, you're no dope. In his first published children's book, "Kitty Feral

and the Case of the Marshmallow Monkey," the Turner Classic Movies host has channeled his film noir expertise onto the pages of a new book for kids aged 4 and up.

Toning down the traditionally dark stylized themes from early crime fiction thrillers was a no-brainer for Muller (www.eddiemuller.com) and Running Press Kids publishers (www.runningpress.com). The result is a cute mystery tale with animal characters that cleverly reference popular classic noir films, including one of the best from 1941.

"The Maltese Falcon' seemed a perfect template," said Muller from his home in the San Francisco Bay Area. "Film noir themes revolve around the most diabolical and dastardly motivations that are not suitable for a children's book. But many are detective stories, so the idea of a simple quest, like a treasure hunt, seemed adaptable for kids."

Just like private detective Sam Spade's search for the precious 'Falcon' statuette, Kitty Feral pursues a stolen artifact (a Marshmallow Monkey) and along the way, interacts with some interesting characters, driving the plot. (Kitty is also on a mission to locate kidnapped crime-fighting partner Mitch the Mutt).

Above: Eddie Mulller. (Credit David M. Allen) Right: Case of the Marshmallow Monkey cover When originally approached by (co-author) Jessica Schmidt with the idea, Muller says he jumped at the opportunity provided the artwork would emulate the style of classic noir film. Drawn by Forrest Burdett in glorious noir-ish black-and-white and distinctively skewed viewer angles, the Oregon-based artist added a splash of vivid blue highlights to Kitty who roams the dark alleys, deserted city rooftops, and eerie waterfront in search of a missing Marshmallow Monkey – a stolen sweet treat.

While obviously aimed at children, adults familiar with classic movies will enjoy the subtle references to noir films. For instance, Kitty begins the search at the Acme Book Shop – similar (but naturally less risqué) to a Humphrey Bogart scene right out of 1946's "The Big Sleep."

A dockside warehouse image captures a scene from "99 River Street," a theater marquee acknowledges producer Val Lewton's "Leopard Man," and there are plenty of obvious references to "On the Waterfront," "Casablanca," "Shakedown," and "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

As for the book's cast of supporting characters, rotund owl boss Casper Nighthawk and sleazy Wilmer the Weasel represent villainous Kasper Gutman (Sydney Greenstreet) and Wilmer Cook (Elisha Cook Jr.) from "The Maltese Falcon." Sinister leather-clad Johnny Gila is distinctly reptilian, a nod to William Talman's title role in 1953's "The Hitch-hiker." "People have said he looked like a Gila monster," notes Muller. And speaking of "Perry Mason" actors, there's even a character representing Raymond Burr's villainous roles (but we'll leave that one for readers to uncover!).

As for Kitty, the character is modeled after actress Ella Raines, especially her sultry role in 1944's "The Phantom



Lady," even though Muller doesn't formally acknowledge Kitty's gender in the pages.

"Kitty was clearly inspired by Raines – a smart, independent woman intent on solving a crime herself in the film, not the typical femme fatale character," explained Muller. As a bonus, if reading the story to kids, grandparents can test the youngsters' powers of observation by asking if they can spot something intentionally omitted from the artist's images of Kitty!

Of course, most of the book's film references will be beyond young readers, but Muller thinks adults reading the story to their little ones will enjoy opening up a monochromatic world not usually seen on cellphones, laptops, or while gaming. And, perhaps, some may even come to appreciate the screen imagery in classic films enjoyed by their parents and grandparents.

"Since the book came out, I've attended film festivals that lasted several days and people told me they were buying the book for their grandkids," recalls Muller. "They've returned a second day, reporting they read it to them and that the kids



loved it. So that's really gratifying."

Nick Thomas teaches at Auburn University at Montgomery, in Alabama, and has written features, columns, and interviews for numerous magazines and newspapers. See www.getnickt.org.



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#### By Victor Block

If you're thinking of exploring places close to home next year, you'll be in good company. If Europe is your dream destination, you'd better begin planning now,

Travel experts are predicting a continued upsurge in vacation trips during 2024, expansion of popular types of travel and increased focus upon tourism which extends beyond the usual.

The resurgence of domestic vacations that began as the pandemic waned is expected to continue. Folks who learned to love attractions near where they live will spur a continued rise in domestic travel.

This coincides with a jump in "microcations," short trips that don't require much planning or time off. These minijourneys provide introductions to local destinations that were overlooked in the past.

The U.S. Travel Association reports that domestic leisure travel has been "normalizing" during 2023 and is likely to return to pre-pandemic levels next year.

In addition, international travel will retain its allure. Therefore, it's not too early to begin taking steps to lock in reservations.

Cristiano Cabutti, manager of a Marriott resort in Venice, Italy, says one result of pent-up travel demand is that the property already is receiving reservation requests for next spring. Dino Triantafillou of the Italian Journeys tour company suggests that clients book trips at least six months in advance "to get what they want at the right price."

According to the Airports Council International, 2024 is positioned to be a milestone year for global passenger traffic. All regions are expected to reach pre-pandemic levels and the Caribbean Islands are predicted to be among the first regions to achieve that goal.

Even as the volume of travel recovers to previous levels, there likely will be changes in what many people are seeking. According to Hannah Free, travel and tourism analyst at GlobalData, "Consumers are more likely to pursue authentic experiences, demand personalized travel offerings, blend business and leisure travel, and be more conscious of their overall environmental impact."

One trend is an increase in experiential and transformative trips. More people are expected to seek an immersion in the customs and culture of places they visit. Others will look for close interactions with unspoiled nature or opportunities for self-reflection.

An increasing number of people also are paying attention to the effect their travel will have on the environment. Sustainable tourism is becoming a mainstream goal. This means assurances that a trip will not degrade a destination, and will support the local economy.



Volunteers collecting trash at tourist destination

Those who seek to combine a trip with efforts to improve the lives of others are expected to support an increase in volunteer tourism. Opportunities cover a wide range of activities, from helping to build and repair houses to assisting overworked health care providers, and from teaching English as a second language to school children to picking up trash at tourist sites.

The world-wide pandemic has influenced the way people will travel as it wanes, if not disappears. One result has been



heightened awareness about health and wellness. That translates to vacations which offer holistic benefits and enhance physical and mental well-being. This may include

yoga and meditation, spas that offer therapeutic treatments and outdoor adventures which promote physical fitness.

Also, as family and friends look forward to reconnecting after being parted by health restrictions, multi-generational and group travel are expected to increase in popularity. These trips provide opportunities for sharing experiences and personal bonding, along with some practical advantages.

For example, going with members of your family or another group can be cost-effective because expenses like accommodations and land transportation are shared. Discounts may be available for tours, excursions and entrance to attractions. An added bonus is the security of being with others in case of an unexpected situation or emergency.

Also predicted to grow during 2024 are "workations." These are trips that combine the appeals of a traditional vacation with the benefit of being able to work remotely from anywhere in the world. As people are less tied to toiling in a traditional office environment, more are expected to take advantage of the ability to work elsewhere, enabling them to stick to their job at the same time that they enjoy learning about different places and the people who inhabit them. A growing number of accommodations is catering to these "digital nomads" by offering comfortable workspace, high-speed Wi-Fi connection and other amenities that blur the distinction between employment and enjoyment.

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# Quick, Easy Recipes to Add to Your Dinner Rotation

# Image: Contract of the second seco

seeds and ribs discarded, diced

washed and diced

1/2 medium tomato, diced

1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

2 tablespoons fresh lime juice

1 medium garlic clove, minced

1/4 cup diced red onion

1/8 teaspoon salt

1 medium tomatillo, papery husk discarded,

#### Poached Egg Tostadas with Avocado-Tomatillo Salsa

Servings: 4 (1 egg and 1/2 cup salsa per serving)

Nonstick cooking spray 4 corn tortillas (6 inches each)

- 4 cups water
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 4 large eggs

Salsa:

1 medium avocado, diced

1 medium Anaheim or poblano pepper,

Preheat oven to 400 F. Line baking sheet with aluminum foil. Lightly spray foil with nonstick cooking spray.

Arrange tortillas in single layer on foil. Lightly spray tortillas with nonstick cooking spray. Using fork, pierce tortillas to prevent from filling with air. Bake 5-6 minutes on each side, or until golden brown. Transfer to serving plates.

In large skillet over high heat, bring water and vinegar to boil.

Once water is boiling, reduce heat and simmer. Break egg into cup then carefully slip egg into simmering water. Repeat with remaining eggs, avoiding eggs touching in water. Simmer 3-5 minutes, or until egg whites are completely set and yolks are beginning to set but aren't hard. Using slotted spoon, drain eggs. Place each egg on tostada.

To make salsa: In medium bowl, gently stir together avocado, pepper, tomatillo, tomato, red onion, cilantro, lime juice, garlic and salt. Serve with tostadas.

aking time for meals together can have a positive impact on the well-being of families. In fact, regular meals at home can help reduce stress and boost self-esteem, according to research published in "Canadian Family Physician." Mealtime conversations are also a perfect opportunity to connect with your loved ones. Making time for meals together shouldn't require spending all night in the kitchen, however. A simple-to-prepare ingredient like eggs can help you spend less time cooking and more time with family. For example, these heart-healthy recipes are ready in 15 minutes or less. They include a wide variety of vegetables, fruit, whole grains and healthy protein sources, which are recommended by the American Heart Association to help prevent heart disease and stroke. To find more recipes, visit heart. org/eatsmart.



#### Sweet Potato Hash with Eggs

Servings: 4 (1 cup per serving)

2 teaspoons canola or corn oil
½ medium onion, chopped
4 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into ½-inch cubes
½ medium red or green bell pepper, chopped
⅔ cup fat-free, low-sodium

vegetable broth

*up per serving*)
2 teaspoons minced garlic
2 teaspoons smoked paprika
1 teaspoon ground cumin
½ teaspoon dried thyme, crumbled
½ teaspoon coarsely ground pepper
½ teaspoon salt
4 large eggs
hot pepper sauce (optional)

In pressure cooker set on saute, heat oil. Cook onion 3 minutes, or until soft, stirring frequently. Turn off pressure cooker.

Stir in potatoes, bell pepper, broth, garlic, paprika, cumin, thyme, pepper and salt. Secure lid. Cook on high pressure 3 minutes. Quickly release pressure. Turn off pressure cooker.

Remove pressure cooker lid. Crack one egg into small bowl. Using back of spoon, make small well in potatoes. Slip egg into well. Repeat with remaining eggs, making separate well for each egg. Secure lid with pressure vent open. Saute 2 minutes. Let stand on "keep warm" setting 2 minutes, or until eggs are cooked to desired consistency.

Serve hash sprinkled with dash of hot pepper sauce, if desired.

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The Best Of Times

#### Puzzle Pages (All puzzles Copyright ©2023 Puzzle Junction.com. Solutions on page 36)

<b>WORD SEARCH</b> Locate the words in the grid which are running horizontally, vertically, or diagonally - forward or backward.		X R U	L A V	H K C	Z T S	S L L	D F U	N O D	A S I	L C H	G L L	N O O	E O O	M X R	R Q I	U H Z	N Y N	E I L	S I N
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#### **SUDOKU**

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row, column and box must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

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6	9	3						
		5						
	8		2				3	
4			3				1	
	7		5			3	4	9
				3	9	1		
	5		1			2		

## CROSSWORD

#### 47 Contributions Across 14 15 16 1 Polish's partner 50 Comprehended 5 Man of steel? 17 18 19 55 Hack 10 Emollient 56 Winery process 20 21 22 23 14 Alleviate 58 Fit 59 Hopped off 15 Split to unite 24 25 16 Woodwind 60 Barrier 17 "Cleopatra" 61 Glasgow gal 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 backdrop 62 Optimistic 18 As such 63 "Pomp and 33 34 35 19 For fear that Circumstance" 20 Equestrian composer 36 37 38 sport 64 Arduous 39 40 22 Fearsome fly journey 41 24 Possesses 42 43 44 25 Kind of jet Down 1 Dispatch 26 Sports stat 45 46 29 Gregarious 2 Twosome ocean mammal 3 Cruise stopover 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 33 Mother-of-4 Souvenir shop pearl item 55 56 57 58 34 Beach sights 5 Meal 35 Give a thumbs-6 First name in 59 60 61 down to fashion 62 7 Yawner 63 64 36 Race pace 37 Sent packing 8 Wife of Saturn 38 Coarse file 9 Moved 39 Did a 25 Recluse 32 Kick out 43 Blue moon, builder unsteadily 10 Ravel classic marathon 26 Cavern, in 34 Bubble-headed 52 Way up the e.g. 44 Sticking point? 37 1964 Walter 40 Shoot-'em-up 11 Help at a heist poetry mountain 27 Kitchen wrap 47 Asterisk 53 Apart from this 41 Thicket 12 Red ink Matthau movie 54 Pigeonhole's 48 Light ring 42 Perk up 28 Teatime treat 38 Halite amount 44 A finger or toe 29 Blender button 40 Eye amorously 49 \_\_\_\_ of Evil place 13 Ration (out) 30 Unsuitable

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- 45 Supporter 46 Inquire
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- 50 Minor damage 51 Machu Picchu
- 57 Salon goo







#### **CADDO COUNCIL ON AGING**

#### Presentations

CCOA will be offering the following programs on **Thursdays** at Caddo Council on Aging/ Valencia Community Center, 1800 Viking Drive, Shreveport (unless otherwise noted) **at 10 a.m.**. For info call 318.676-7900. Admission is **FREE**.

• January 11 - "Ombudsman Program", Casandra Cesare

• January 18 - "Medicare 2024", Laphelia Johnson

• January 25 - "Bingo – Intensive Behavioral Health", Sunni Scott

• February 1 - "Empowering Women", Debra Reed

• February 8 - "Myth Busters –



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Long Term Care & Medicaid", Tracy Neighbors

• February 15 - "Differences in Hospice Care", Terry Tisdale

• February 22 - "Bingo & Senior's Mental Health", Latunia Brown

• February 29 - "Levels of Home Care", Michelle Johnson

#### EVENTS

#### Pat Sewell Exhibition

"Fun Visitations," an exhibit of artwork by Pat Sewell, M.D. of Shreveport will be on display from January 11 through February 28 at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum. The exhibition of oil paintings, graphic works and found object sculpture will open with an artist's reception in the West Wing Gallery on Thursday, Jan. 11 from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. with light refreshments provided by Friends of LSEM. The exhibit is FREE and open to the public. For more info, call LSEM at 632-2020 or visit www.laexhibitmuseum.org.

#### Square Dance

Offered by Southern Swingers Square Dance Club. **Tuesday, January 9. Registration is 6 to 7 p.m.; Dancing 7 to 9:30 p.m.** at Promenade Hall, 5400 Benton Road (Hwy 3), Bossier City. No experience necessary, **FREE** admission. Open to people of all ages. For more information go to Facebook: Southern Swingers Square Dancers or email ssssquaredance@gmail.com.

• Weekly square dance classes -Beginning **Tuesday**, **January 17**. All January classes are **FREE**.

#### ENTERTAINMENT

■ Shreveport Little Theatre Shreveport Little Theatre is located at 812 Margaret Place, Shreveport. Tickets are \$30. Call 318.424.4439 or visit www.shreveportlittletheatre.com.



• "Dial M for Murder" on February 23, 24, March 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m.; February 25, March 2 and 3 at 2 p.m. Tony Wendice has married his wife, Margot, for her money and now plans to murder her for the same reason.

#### Shreveport Symphony

Performances are held at Riverview Theatre, 600 Clyde Fant Parkway, Shreveport. For tickets visit www. shreveportsymphony.com or call 318-227-TUNE (8863).

• "Special Event: The Music of Def Leppard". Saturday January 13 at 7:30 p.m. Windborne Music and the SSO present the iconic music of Def Leppard. The performance will be highlighted by Broadway sensation Justin Sargent. Tickets are \$30 - \$80.

• "Brahms & the Bandoneon". Saturday January 27 at 7:30 p.m. Debussy's evocation of tranquility is followed by a vision of a 'world without evil' from Argentinian composer/ bandoneon soloist Richard Scofano. Brahms' Symphony No. 1 offers its own glimpse of paradise, especially in its transcendent finale. Tickets are \$20 - \$75.

#### ■ The Strand Theatre

The Strand Theatre is located at 619 Louisiana Avenue, Shreveport. For tickets visit www.thestrandtheatre.com or call 318-226-8555.

• "ON YOUR FEET!" - The inspiring true story about heart, heritage and two people who believed in their talent – and each other – to become an international sensation: Emilio and Gloria Estefan. Friday January 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$89, \$65, \$47, \$30 (student).

• "The Greatest Love of All: A tribute to Whitney Houston" - February 2 at 7:30 p.m. Whitney's musical legacy is brought to life in this critically acclaimed tribute show described as "mind-blowingly spot on". \$55, \$45, \$35, \$30 (student).

#### MARDI GRAS

#### Parade Schedule

Krewe of Sobek- Saturday, January
13

• Krewe of Harambee MLK Day Parade- Monday, January 15 • Krewe of Centaur - Saturday, February 3

• Krewe of Gemini - Saturday, February 10

• Krewe of Highland - Sunday, February 11.

#### MEETINGS

# Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association Meeting

Saturday, January 13 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Broadmoor Branch Library, 1212 Capt Shreve Dr., Shreveport. Guest speaker is Jon Soul, Educator, Teacher at Montessori School, and Preservationist. His topic is History of Coates Bluff and the Nature Trail. This event is free and open to the public. For information: Call 746-1851 or visit www.altgenealogy.com.

#### MOVIES

#### Silver Screenings

Silver Screenings feature a matinee and luncheon for senior citizens showcasing a classic film on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Robinson Film Center, 617 Texas Street in downtown Shreveport. Movie begins at **10:30 a.m.** and is followed by a buffet lunch. Cost is \$16 for movie and lunch. For persons 60 and older, there is a senior discount of \$5, compliments of AARP Louisiana. For info or tickets, visit www.robinsonfilmcenter.org or call (318) 459-4122.



• "Viva Las Vegas" on January 16 at 10:30 a.m. Viva Las Vegas is a 1964 American musical film starring Elvis Presley and Ann-Margret. The film is widely regarded by critics and fans as one of Presley's best films, and it is noted for the on-screen chemistry between Presley and Ann-Margret.

### THE SHREVEPORT LITTLE THEATRE 102nd SEASON 2023-2024 102 Years of Great American Theatre!



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#### My grandchild complains of shoulder, neck and back pain when in school. Could this be due to his heavy backpack?

Yes. Backpacks are designed to distribute weight to larger muscle groups that can handle the load. Backpacks should have 2 padded wide shoulder straps, a padded back, and a waist strap (for heavier loads). Also backpacks should be light and not add to the load. Rolling backpacks are an alternative, although stairs are a problem. Your grandchild should use both shoulder straps, tighten straps so the pack is 2 inches above the waist and closest to the body, not pack more than 20% of the child's body weight in the backpack, and pack only what he needs. Pack heavier items close to the back and unpack unnecessary items in the locker.

# Are your caregivers considered self-employed and where can services be provided?

No, all of our caregivers are hired and employed by us. No contractors. They are thoroughly screened, trained and insured by Always Best Care. We can provide home care services in homes, apartments, hotel rooms, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, or anywhere you call home. We can even provide someone to provide companionship to your loved one during a hospital stay.

#### Why did I need reading glasses when I hit 40 years old?

When we read, our natural lens thickens allowing magnification. We call this accommodation. As we age, we slowly lose the ability to accommodate and when we reach our early 40's we can no longer focus within arms reach. This is a normal change of aging and is easily corrected with reading glasses. Some patients will opt for contact lenses to allow one eye to see distance and one eye to see near. This is called monovision and allows people to see all distances without glasses.

#### PUZZLE answers (from pages 32 -33)

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**Chris Shelby, MD** WK Eye Institute 7607 Youree Dr. Shreveport, LA 71105 (318) 212-3937 See our ad on page 23.

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Do you recognize any of the people or recall anything about the events in these photographs? *The Best of Times* has partnered with Northwest Louisiana Archives at LSUS to identify individuals and events in their collections. If you can help, please email Tina at editor.calligas@gmail.com or Laura at laura.mclemore@lsus.edu.

These photos are from the Lawrence Lea collection from the year 1978. The photo on the right appears to be a customer/salesperson interaction in a Christian bookstore (or books and gifts). The photo below shows 2 women and a child on a set for a play, or possibly for a commercial ad.







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