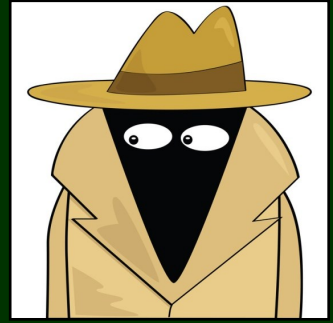


Steve's Puzzles & Stuff—114

“More of God’s Secret Agents: His Angels”



Angels Unaware



How many times are we kept from danger by unseen guardians?

In Psalm 91 we read this amazing promise from God addressed to those who put their trust in Him

"He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.."

So, is it true? Does it work?

Many people claim it does.

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, author of *"The Power of Positive Thinking"* and *"The Positive Power of Jesus Christ"* tells the story of a Christian minister who defeated the plans of a political leader named Sam.

"I'm going to kill that minister," Sam told friends after a meeting.

Some of them alerted the minister, who waved away their concerns.

"The Lord will be with me," he told them, and walked home alone in safety.

Years passed, and on his deathbed, Sam sent for the minister.

(Continued on page 2)

We shall remember them

While following the D-Day Remembrance celebrations, I came across the following, which tells the story of a US soldier fighting in the Afghanistan war, I thought it appropriate to pass it on as we think about, not just those who fought and died in past conflicts but, those still fighting.

Let me begin where I found it—in WhatsApp.

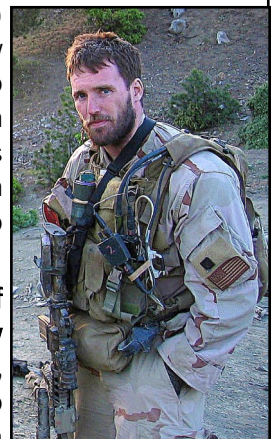
“This actually happened and concerns Lt. Michael Patrick Murphy

(7 May 1976 – 28 June 2005).

Mike was a US Navy SEAL officer who was awarded the US Army's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor for his actions during the war in Afghanistan *(the equivalent of our VC).*

His story would be a (sad) story like that of many other soldiers who went to war and returned home in a coffin, but Michael's is special because of an event that happened to his family.

The father and mother of the soldier, immediately after the funeral, heartbroken, started to get into their car to return home, when suddenly the mother's cell phone received a notification.



Reluctantly under the circumstances, Mrs. Murphy looked at the screen and what she read made her jump so violently that her husband slammed on the brakes.

The screen displayed the following message
“Mom, I'm home safe and sound. Mike”

(Continued on page 5)

Angels Unaware

(Continued from page 1)

"Reverend, I meant to kill you that night," he said. "I was in the woods with a club."

"Why didn't you?" the minister asked.

"What do you mean-why didn't I?" Sam asked. "Who were those two big men with you?"

"There were no big men with me," the minister protested.

"Yes, there were," Sam said. "I saw them!"

Visited by a strange little girl

Billy Graham wrote a book about angels in which he recounts the story of Dr. S. W. Mitchell, a Philadelphia neurologist, who had gone to bed after an exceptionally tiring day.

Suddenly he was awakened by someone knocking on his door. Opening it, he found a little girl, poorly dressed and deeply upset. She told him her mother was sick and asked if he would come with her. It was a bitterly cold, snowy night, but he agreed and followed her.



He found the mother desperately ill with pneumonia. After arranging for medical care, he complimented the sick mother on her daughter. She looked at him strangely and said, "My daughter died a month ago. Her shoes and coat are in the closet there."

Dr. Mitchell, amazed and perplexed, opened the closet door. Inside was the very coat worn by the little girl who had brought him to tend her. It was warm and dry and could not possibly have been out in the wintry night.

Had he been summoned by an angel who appeared as this woman's daughter?

And then, there's Michigan fire chief Glen Thomas who received an email from his security camera after it was activated by its motion sensor.

Thomas couldn't believe what he saw and immediately sent the photo to his pastor, Danielle Moes.

"I was like, 'whoa, it's an angel'. I mean, honestly, tears started coming from my eyes and right then I sent it to my wife and I sent it to my pastor. The pastor said right back, 'that's an angel'."

Well, it's got wings and a sword—what do you think?



Brain Teaser—1

I can travel at nearly 100 miles per hour, but never leave the room.

You can cover me up, but that doesn't slow me down.

You will not know if I come only once or again and again and again.

What am I?

Spot 7 Differences



Code Word Puzzle

Each letter in this puzzle is represented by a number 1-26. Can you crack the code and solve the crossword? Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. THREE letters are already in place

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 6 | 20 | 8 | 5 | 13 | | 23 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 22 |
| 22 | | 9 | | 18 | | 11 | | 5 | | 19 | | 11 |
| 9 | 8 | 25 | 4 | 20 | | 23 | 4 | 15 | 20 | 21 | 5 | 24 |
| | | B | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | | 3 | | 11 | | 5 | | 12 | | 5 | | 21 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | U |
| 26 | | 2 | 5 | 15 | 14 | 22 | 5 | 1 | | 25 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | | 21 | | | | 11 | | 5 | | | | 11 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | 26 | 5 | 13 | 11 | | 17 | 3 | 16 | 13 | 12 | |
| 15 | | | | 11 | | 25 | | | | 8 | | 25 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 4 | 8 | | 8 | 11 | 24 | 5 | 13 | 6 | 11 | | 5 |
| 16 | | 11 | | 7 | | 11 | | 9 | | 24 | | 20 |
| 11 | 17 | 23 | 4 | 9 | 21 | 6 | | 24 | 5 | 21 | 26 | 12 |
| | | V | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | 11 | | 8 | | 6 | | 5 | | 22 | | 11 |
| 5 | 7 | 24 | 5 | 16 | 11 | | 9 | 8 | 22 | 11 | 8 | |

| | |
|----|----|
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| 10 | 23 |
| 11 | 24 |
| 12 | 25 |
| 13 | 26 |

Brain Teaser—2

What is special about the following?

“My pink, dancing unicorn wants to play football with an indigo giant known as Frank. Should I allow him to do so?”

Church Bulletin Bloomers

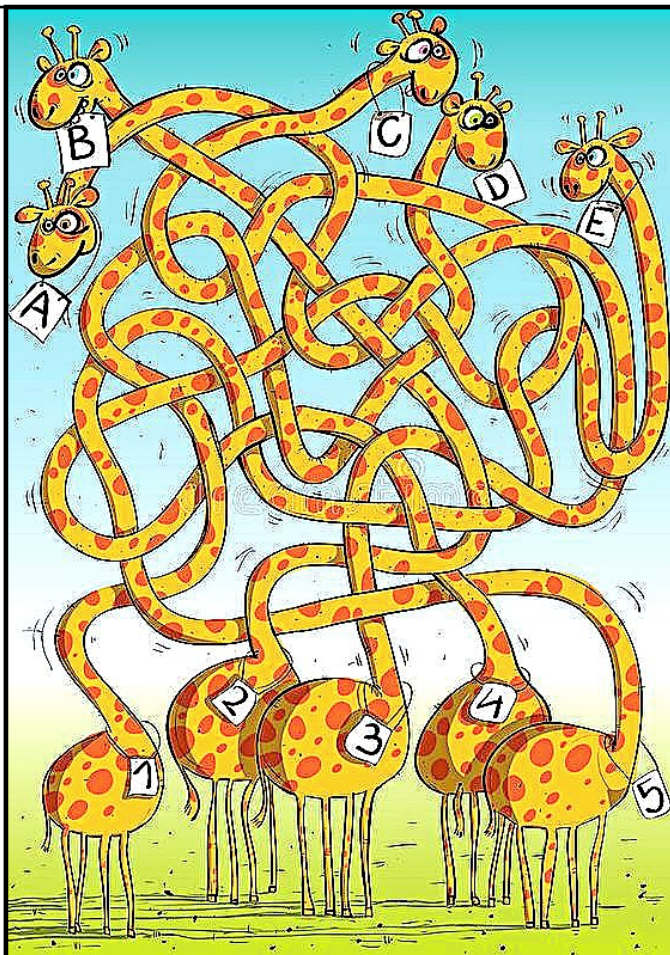
- Next Friday we will be serving hot gods for lunch.
- Women's Luncheon: Each member bring a sandwich. Polly Phillips will give the medication.
- Congratulations to Tim and Rhonda on the birth of their daughter October 12 thru 17.

SUDOKU

The rules of Sudoku are simple. Place a digit from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

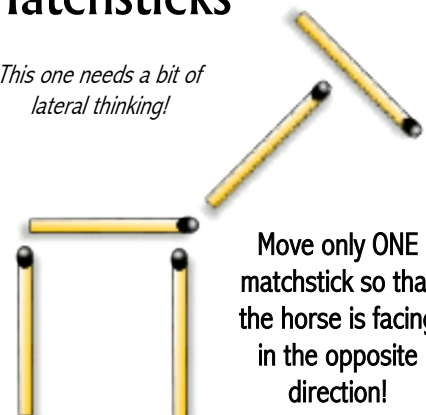
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | | | 1 | | | | 7 | 2 |
| 8 | | | | | | | | |
| | | 5 | 8 | | | | 9 | |
| | 3 | | | 5 | 1 | | | |
| | 7 | | | 3 | | | 4 | |
| 1 | | | | | 4 | | 6 | |
| 7 | | 1 | 3 | | | 4 | | 8 |
| 5 | | | 2 | | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | | 7 | | |

Can you untangle the Giraffes and match the heads to the bodies?



Matchsticks

This one needs a bit of lateral thinking!



Move only ONE matchstick so that the horse is facing in the opposite direction!

Hidden Objects to find and colour

Unexpected Guest



ice-cream bar



golf club



artist's brush



teacup



tent



paper clip



ring



lightning bolt



baseball cap



lollipop



slipper



party hat



fish



bird



pea pod



banana

We shall remember them

(Continued from page 1)

This was a practice that Mike adopted every time he returned from a mission. He texted his mother to reassure her that he was fine. It had probably been sent a mission before the one in which Mike lost his life, but by a strange and unique coincidence, it arrived a few minutes after the burial of his body... assuring them, in a sense of his safe arrival in heaven.

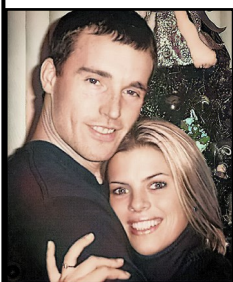
The thought has occurred to me, since coming across this, that we who are Christians could leave a similar message with a friend to be posted/texted to our loved ones after we die, assuring them that we have arrived safely in our eternal home:

"Hi Mum/Dad/Love/Kids... I'm home safe and sound... Love you!... (name)"

Murphy was known to his friends as "Murph" and as "The Protector" in his high school years. In 8th grade, he protected a child with special needs who was being bullied by a group of boys, ending with Murphy physically pulling the attackers away from the child.

He also protected a homeless man who was being attacked while collecting cans. He chased away the attackers and helped the man pick up his cans.

Murph's passion for helping people continued wherever he went. Friends said he was such a nice guy. After graduating from High School, he went to University. He played ice hockey while there and, a keen swimmer, acted as a **lifeguard** every summer... which led him to join the US Navy SEALs. He was an avid reader; his reading tastes ranged from the Greek historian Herodotus to Tolstoy's *"War and Peace."* Murphy's favourite book was Steven Pressfield's *"Gates of Fire,"* about the Spartan stand at Thermopylae.



In the meantime, Mike had proposed to his fiancée, Heather Duggan, under the Rockefeller Centre Christmas Tree in 2003 and they planned to marry in November 2005. He always had his engagement ring with him while he was in Afghanistan where he was posted after the Taliban's attack on the World Trade Centre in 2001.

Sadly he was killed the previous June.

Murph, now a Lieutenant, was the leader of a four-man Navy SEAL reconnaissance squad which included himself, Danny Dietz, Matthew Axelson, and Marcus Luttrell. As part of Operation Red Wings, the team was tasked with conducting surveillance on a top Taliban leader who commanded a group of insurgents. They were dropped off by helicopter in a remote mountain area near the Pakistan border. After an initially successful infiltration, local goat herders stumbled upon the



SEALs' location and, it is believed, alerted nearby Taliban forces, causing 40 of them to surround and attack the small team.

For about 45 minutes, the men fought on, as ammunition ran low. Three SEALs were wounded by gunfire or rocket-propelled grenades. One screamed, *"I'm hit!"* Murphy yelled back, *"We're all hit! Keep moving!"*

Murph climbed to higher more exposed ground and into the open to make a satellite phone call for help. Despite receiving **14 severe wounds**, he completed the call and continued fighting, exhorting his men to escape while he held off their attackers, **his final words, as he signed off were, "Thank you,"** then continued fighting from his exposed position until he died from his wounds.

A Quick Reaction Force immediately mobilized in a daring daytime mission to reinforce the SEAL squad. Eight Navy SEALs and eight Army Night Stalker commandos perished when their MH-47 helicopter was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade and crashed.

The SEAL squad courageously fought on alone, Axelson and Dietz were also killed in the fierce firefight as they provided protective fire that allowed Marcus Luttrell, to escape. 35 Taliban fighters were also killed.

Luttrell, was blasted over a ridge by a rocket propelled grenade and knocked unconscious. Coming round some time later, he managed to escape, badly injured, and crawl away down the side of a cliff. Dehydrated, with a bullet wound to one leg, shrapnel embedded in both legs, three vertebrae cracked; he travelled seven miles, evading the enemy for nearly a day.

Local nationals came to his aid and carried him to a nearby village where they kept him for three days. The Taliban several times demanded that he be turned over to them, but the villagers refused. One of them bravely making his way to a Marine outpost with a note from Luttrell, and U.S. forces launched a rescue mission.

Murphy's remains were recovered by a group of American soldiers during a combat search and rescue operation and returned to the United States.

Luttrell wrote a book about their ordeal, called "Lone Survivor", later made into a film starring Taylor Kitch as Murphy, and Mark Wahlberg as Luttrell. It's on YouTube.



Dingbats

Say what



| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">FINGERS</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">FINGERS</p> | | <p>→ Five</p> <p>Five</p> | |
| <p>1</p> <p>TROUBLE</p> <p>TROUBLE</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> <p>→ AID</p> <p>AID</p> <p>AID</p> <p>AID</p> <p>AID</p> | <p>7</p> <p>LI NK</p> | <p>8</p> |
| <p>9</p> <p>SOMEWHERE</p> | <p>10</p> <p>DR. <small>DO</small></p> | <p>11</p> <p>LEM</p> <p>ADE</p> | <p>12</p> |
| <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> <p>N O C</p> <p>A E</p> | <p>15</p> | <p>16</p> |
| <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> |

What's your Secret?

A bald, wizened little man was rocking in a chair on his porch, smiling happily.

A passer-by, charmed by his smile, came up to him and said, "I couldn't help noticing how happy you look. What's your secret for a long happy life?"



"I smoke three packs of cigarettes a day," he said with a toothless grin. "I drink a case of whiskey a week, eat fast food, and never exercise."

"No way! How old are you?"

"Twenty-six."

A load of hot air!

A man in a hot air balloon realised he was lost. He reduced altitude and spotted a woman below.



He descended a bit more and shouted, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The woman below replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be in IT," said the balloonist.

"I am," replied the woman, "How did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help. If anything, you've delayed my trip."

The woman below responded, "You must be in Management."

"I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well," said the woman, "you don't know where you are or where you're going."

"You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise, which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's my fault!"

Bible Teachers Word Search

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

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| | | | |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|
| MOSES | JOSIAH | SIMEON | APOLLOS |
| SAMUEL | EZRA | LUCIUS | AQUILA |
| DAVID | JESUS | MANAEN | PRISCILLA |
| SOLOMON | BARNABAS | PAUL | TIMOTHY |

Cheese d'Orf—or, How Well Do You Know Your Cheeses?

- Which vegetable dye is used to colour "red" cheese?
- What gives Windsor Red its flavour and colour?
- From which country does Jarlsberg cheese originate?
- What is added to Cheddar cheese for it to become Ilchester cheese?
- What is Cornish Yarg cheese coated with?
- Which European country does Edam cheese come from?
- Which two cheeses combine to make Huntsmen Cheese?
- What type of cheese is used in a Greek salad?
- What gives "blue" cheese its colour?
- What is the name of the enzyme used in most hard cheese manufacture?
- Which cheese is traditionally grated onto Italian dishes?
- Which country produces Limburger Cheese?
- What type of milk is used to make Mozzarella cheese?
- From which country does Gorgonzola cheese originate?
- How does Double Gloucester Cheese differ from Single Gloucester?
- From which Irish County does Cashel Blue come from?
- In which country does Gruyere cheese originate?
- What animal's milk is used in Roquefort cheese?
- In which English county is the village of Stilton?
- In which European country does the goat cheese called Vare originate?
- Where does Sue's favourite Blacksticks Blue originate?



Puzzle Answers

Cheesed d'Orf

- Annatto.
- Wine.
- Norway.
- Beer & Garlic.
- Nettle leaves.
- Holland.
- Double Gloucester & Stilton.
- Feta.
- Mould.
- Rennet.
- Parmesan.
- Belgium.
- Buffalo.
- Italy.
- It's twice as big.
- County Tipperary.
- Switzerland.
- Sheep's.
- Cambridgeshire.
- Spain.
- Blacksticks Blue Cheese comes from the award-winning *Butlers' Inglewhite Dairy* at Inglewhite in Lancashire. It is a British classic that has been called 'the daddy of all blue cheeses'. Tesco sell it. I used to take groups of kids from school to Bible teaching meetings each summer in the village when I taught at Longridge.

Dingbats

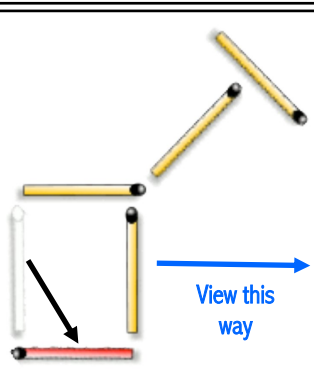
- Fingers Crossed
- Haunted House
- High Five
- Apple Pie
- Double Trouble
- Hotshot
- Broken Record
- Jack in the Box
- Snowman
- First Aid
- Broken Link
- iPhone (eye-phone)
- Somewhere over the Rainbow
- Dr. Doolittle
- Lem-on-ade.
- Earrings
- Raining Cats and Dogs
- A Drop in the Ocean
- Bad Blood
- Under Fire

Hidden Objects



Matchsticks

Move the one matchstick as shown, then walk round the table or paper to see the result.



Spot the Differences



Sudoku -pif33

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

Weight loss goal:
To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.

Brain Teasers

- A Sneeze.
- There are no letter 'e's, the most commonly used letter.

Giraffes

a-3, b-2, c-4,
d-1, e-5.

Code Word

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| | 6 | 20 | 8 | 5 | 13 | | 23 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | D | | O | Z | | | E | | A | | Q | | E | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | O | 8 | 25 | 4 | | 23 | 4 | 15 | 20 | 21 | 5 | 24 | L | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | D | | 3 | Y | | 11 | | 5 | A | | 12 | H | 5 | A | 21 | U | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | G | | 2 | J | 5 | 15 | 14 | 22 | 5 | A | 1 | W | 25 | B | 9 | 10 | X | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | E | | 21 | U | | | | 11 | E | | 5 | A | | | | | 11 | E | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | A | 26 | 5 | 13 | 11 | | 17 | 3 | 16 | 13 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | C | | | | | | 11 | E | | 25 | B | | | | | | 8 | R | 25 | B | | | | | |
| | 4 | | 8 | | | | 8 | R | | 11 | 24 | 5 | A | 13 | 6 | 11 | | 5 | A | | | | | | |
| 16 | M | | 11 | E | | 7 | F | 11 | E | | 9 | O | | | | 24 | L | 20 | T | | | | | | |
| 11 | E | 17 | 23 | V | I | 9 | O | 21 | 6 | S | | 24 | L | 5 | A | 21 | 26 | G | 12 | H | | | | | |
| 8 | R | | 11 | E | | 8 | R | 6 | S | | 5 | A | | | | 22 | D | 11 | E | | | | | | |
| 5 | 7 | 24 | 5 | 16 | 11 | | 9 | 8 | 22 | 11 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | W | 2 | J | 3 | Y | 4 | I | 5 | A | 6 | S | 7 | F | 8 | R | 9 | O | 10 | X | 11 | E | 12 | H | 13 | P |
| 14 | C | 15 | M | 16 | N | 17 | Z | 18 | Q | 19 | T | 20 | U | 21 | D | 22 | V | 23 | L | 24 | B | 25 | G | 26 | |

Word Search

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