

# Country Village News

March 2024

250 Theodore Drive, Coram, NY 11727

## Happy Birthday



04 Charlie Buscaglia  
05 Betsy Burbige  
08 Kathy Gasiewski

12 Jim Brendel  
16 Greg Gasieswski  
Richard Maffucc

Frances Salzano  
Venetia Maffucco



## Happy Anniversary



15 Teri and Gene Flynn



## March Is the Third Month of the Year

By Georg Rehberger

March is the first month of spring in the northern half of the world. It is named after Mars, the Roman god of war.

March is the third month in the Gregorian calendar and has 31 days. In the northern half of the world, March is the beginning of spring. In the southern half, it is the beginning of fall.

### **The Month of War**

The meaning of March comes from ancient Rome: In Latin, it was called martius mensis or the month of Mars, the Roman god of war. March was the first month in the early Roman calendar because war would start again after the winter.

## Important Dates in March

March 10: Daylight Saving Time (DST) starts in most areas in the USA and Canada by springing the clocks forward one hour. In Europe, clocks go one hour forward to “summertime” in the early hours of March 26. Most other countries that follow DST change their clocks on March 26.

March 17: St. Patrick’s Day. What started as a day in honor of Ireland’s patron saint has become an international celebration. People in many countries like to drink, be merry, and wear green on this day.

## Astronomical Events in March

Worm Moon: The Full Moon in March is traditionally called the Worm Moon, because earthworms tend to appear around this time in many locations in the northern half of the world.

March Equinox: The spring equinox is the first day of astronomical spring in the northern half of the world—and the start of fall in the southern half. The spring equinox is on March 19, 20, or 21, depending on the Moon.

## March Was the First Month

March used to be the first month of the year in the early Roman calendar. Around the year 700 BCE, the Roman king Numa Pompilius introduced January and February into the calendar, pushing March to the third position.

## March is still the first month of the year for at least one billion people:

In most regions of India, the new year in the Hindu calendar starts on the New Moon before the Sun enters the zodiac sign of Aries (Meṣa)—on or around the day of the March equinox.

The Persian new year, Nowruz, is celebrated on March 21 around the world—from Iran and the Middle East to the Balkans, the Black Sea, and Central and South Asia.

The orthodox Jewish calendar starts the new year with the month of Nisan, which falls in March or April in the Gregorian calendar.



***Both shamrocks and four-leaf clovers are associated with Saint Patrick’s Day, and they’re commonly confused as the same thing. A shamrock is a clover with three leaves, but the four-leaf clover is considered lucky. due to its rarity.***



## 7 Surprising Facts About St. Patrick's Day

Who was the real St. Patrick? Was that legend about the snakes true? And why did so many St. Patrick's Day traditions start in America?

While St. Patrick's Day is now associated with wearing green, parades (when they're not canceled) and beer, the holiday is grounded in history that dates back more than 1,500 years. The earliest known celebrations were held in the 17th century on March 17, marking the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick in the 5th century. Learn more about the holiday's history and how it evolved into the event it is today.

### 1. The Real St. Patrick Was Born in Britain

Much of what is known about St. Patrick's life has been interwoven with folklore and legend. Historians generally believe that St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Britain (not Ireland) near the end of the 4th century. At age 16 he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and sold as a slave to a Celtic priest in the area now known as Northern Ireland. After toiling for six years as a shepherd, he escaped back to Britain. He eventually returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary.

### 2. There Were No Snakes Around for St. Patrick to Banish from Ireland

Among the legends associated with St. Patrick is that he stood atop an Irish hillside and banished snakes from Ireland—prompting all serpents to slither away into the sea. In fact, research suggests snakes never occupied the Emerald Isle in the first place. There are no signs of snakes in the country's fossil record. And water has surrounded Ireland since the last glacial period. Before that, the region was covered in ice and would have been too cold for the reptiles.

### 3. Leprechauns Are Likely Based on Celtic Fairies

The red-haired, green-clothed Leprechaun is commonly associated with St. Patrick's Day. The original Irish name for these figures of folklore is "lobaircin," meaning "small-bodied fellow." Belief in leprechauns likely stems from Celtic belief in fairies—tiny men and women who could use their magical powers to serve good or evil. In Celtic folktales, leprechauns were cranky souls, responsible for mending the shoes of the other fairies.



#### **4. The Shamrock Was Considered a Sacred Plant**

The shamrock, a three-leaf clover, has been associated with Ireland for centuries. It was called the “seamroy” by the Celts and was considered a sacred plant that symbolized the arrival of spring. According to legend, St. Patrick used the plant as a visual guide when explaining the Holy Trinity. By the 17th century, the shamrock had become a symbol of emerging Irish nationalism.

#### **5. The First St. Patrick’s Day Parade Was Held in America**

While people in Ireland had celebrated St. Patrick since the 1600s, the tradition of a St. Patrick’s Day parade began in America and actually predates the founding of the United States.

Records show that a St. Patrick’s Day parade was held on March 17, 1601, in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Florida. The parade and a St. Patrick’s Day celebration a year earlier were organized by the Spanish Colony’s Irish vicar Ricardo Artur. More than a century later, homesick Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in Boston in 1737 and in New York City on March 17. Enthusiasm for the St. Patrick’s Day parades in New York City, Boston and other early American cities only grew from there. In 2020 and 2021, parades throughout the country, including in New York City and Boston, were canceled or postponed for the first time in decades due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus. They returned in 2022.

#### **6. The Irish Were Once Scorned in America**

While Irish Americans are now proud to showcase their heritage, the Irish were not always celebrated by fellow Americans. Beginning in 1845, a devastating potato blight caused widespread hunger throughout Ireland. While approximately 1 million perished, another 2 million abandoned their land in the largest-single population movement of the 19th century. Most of the exiles—nearly a quarter of the Irish nation—came to the shores of the United States. Once they arrived, the Irish refugees were looked down upon as disease-ridden, unskilled and a drain on welfare budgets.

#### **7. Corned Beef and Cabbage Was an American Innovation**

The meal that became a St. Patrick’s Day staple across the country—corned beef and cabbage—was an American innovation. While ham and cabbage were eaten in Ireland, corned beef offered a cheaper substitute for impoverished immigrants. Irish Americans living in the slums of lower Manhattan in the late 19th century and early 20th purchased leftover corned beef from ships returning from the tea trade in China. The Irish would boil the beef three times—the last time with cabbage—to remove some of the brine.





## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**

Saturday, March 23, 2023 at 10:00am

Choices will include eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, French toast, home fries, bagels, juice, coffee, and tea

**\$18 per person**

Sign-up sheet will be in the Clubhouse.

**Cash payment** will be accepted at the Clubhouse on  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2023 between 10:00am**  
**&11:00am and 6:00pm & 7:00pm.**

### **CHINESE LUNCHEON**

Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 1:00pm

Catering from Lotus East

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## **Touchstone Management**

Brian Arellano – President  
Jackie Licurse – Management Representative  
Austin Cleary – Assistant Property Manager

16 Sawgrass Dr, Suite 1, Bellport, NY 11713 (631) 448-7919  
Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Email: [info@tpm.team](mailto:info@tpm.team)

## **Country Village Website**

<https://country-village.net>  
Password: TheoDrive250

Webmaster: Roland Diehl (631)433-2198

## **Country Village Board Members**

President:	Phyllis Benanti	(631) 790-3238
Vice-President:	Greg Williams	(631) 220-8862
Finances	Ellen Forestieri	(631) 226-0714
Secretary	Linda Bily	(631)721-5280
Director	Carl Schroder	(570)955-9999

## **Country Village Newsletter Committee**

Editor:	Doreen McCrystal	(917) 270-0426
Co-Editor:	Sandy Bakofen	(631) 745-6152
	Debbie Buscaglia	(631) 559-9480
	Marie Palagonia	(516) 301-6780
Treasurer:	Francine Leiboff	(631) 846-1070

## **Country Village Entertainment Committee**

Jackie Bromberg	(631) 320-3086
Francine Davino	(631) 696-4750
Sandy Bakofen	(631) 745-6152
Betsy Burbige	(631)987-9507
Carol Fox	(631)790-3239

# Country Village News

## Enjoy Our Community

Times of events are located on the back calendar page of the newsletter.

- Monday – Mexican Train Domino's, Woman Cards, and Bunco 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month
- Tuesday -
- Wednesday – Knitting Group, Ladies Game Day, Bingo
- Thursday – Men's Club, Chair Yoga and Mahjongg
- Friday - 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month Left Right Center (unless there is an event on Saturday)

## The CVE Board's Corner

Board members will be in the clubhouse on the *first Saturday* of each month from **9am-10am**, for any homeowner who would like to express an issue.

## NEW ADVERTISERS:

I want to thank the following for recommending these new Advertisers:

- Linda Bily for recommending MCKENNA Real Estate
- Angel Weiss for recommending Elite Comfort Group HVAC
- Doreen McCrystal for recommending Old City Public House
- Nancy Fritz for recommending Bobby Mac Handyman
- Board for recommending Perfect Lawn Care

If anyone knows of a business that you think would like to advertise with us, give me a call or have them give me a call, 917-270-0426.

## Picking Up After Your Dogs:

There are some residents or their guests not picking up after their dog. We are finding huge loads of poop and of course smaller loads.

It is disrespectful to the entire community and their guests. How would you feel if someone tracked dog poop into your home. I would think you would not like it. How difficult is it to pick up your dog poop. There is ***NO EXCUSE***, it is just irresponsible and lazy.

***ALSO:*** The Club House garbage cans located at the pool parking lot are ***NOT*** for your dog's poop. You need to carry your poop back to your home, use your own garbage cans like everyone else in this community that has a dog.

## HEALTH And WELLNESS

This month we will read about Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

# Country Village News cont.

## **STRED-A-THON**

Claire McGuckin Leface from Signature Premier Properties provided a list of locations where the mobile shredder truck will be. They were unable to have the truck come to Country Village, maybe next year.

## **Future Entertainment Committee Events at The Club House:**

- April – Chinese Luncheon April 20, 2024, 1:00pm
- May – Tea Party
- June – Italian Night

Information for all future events will follow.

**NOTE:** If you are interested in renting out the club house, please call Jackie Bromberg (631) 320-3086 regarding availability.

## **BINGO**

**The bingo group is looking for someone who is interested in calling the numbers once a month. If you are interested, please reach out to Charlotte Worthington, 631-880-3628**

## **BUNCO**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (February 12<sup>th</sup>) of the month at 7:00pm, please arrive at 6:50. We need 12 people to have a game, but we always would love more. If you cannot make the game, PLEASE call Linda Bily (631) 721-5280.

## **MahJongg:**

We have changed back the time to 7:00 – 9:00 pm on Thursday.

If you are interested in learning or already know how to play, please reach out to Doreen McCrystal, 917-270-0426.

## **Donations**

Please help our local community, we are still in need of your support, which is always appreciated, nonperishables can be left at the club house in the lobby.

## **Supporting Our Advertisers**

The newsletter would not be possible without our advertisers. When you do patronize our advertisers, please remember to tell them you are from Country Village Estates. They have been loyal to us so let's reciprocate our patronage. If anyone has information regarding someone who is interested in advertising with us, please reach out to me, Doreen McCrystal, [cvenews@yahoo.com](mailto:cvenews@yahoo.com).





# SHRED-A-THON!

Bring old documents and unwanted papers to de-clutter. All documents are shredded in a professional Mobile Shredding Truck and are then recycled. No need to remove staples or paper clips.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Merrick Office | 324 Merrick Ave, Merrick

**11:30am - 1:30pm**

Wantagh Office | 1867 Wantagh Ave, Wantagh

**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Massapequa Park Office | 1000 Park Blvd, Massapequa Park

## SUNDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Garden City Office | 730 Franklin Ave, Garden City

**12:00pm - 2:00pm**

Rockville Centre Office | 75 Seaman Ave, Rockville Centre

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Northport Office | 180 Main St, Northport

**11:30am - 1:30pm**

East Northport Office | 190 Laurel Rd, East Northport

**2:00pm – 4:00pm**

Dix Hills Office | 15 E. Deer Park Rd, Dix Hills

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Wading River Office | 6347 Route 25A, Wading River

**11:30am - 1:30pm**

Miller Place Office | 275 Route 25A, Miller Place

**2:00pm – 4:00pm**

East Setauket Office | 750 Route 25A, East Setauket

## SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Sayville Office | 95 Main St, Sayville

**12:00pm - 2:00pm**

Babylon Office | 126 W. Main St, Babylon

## SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>

**9:00am – 11:00am**

Smithtown Office | 7 W. Main St, Smithtown

**12:00pm - 2:00pm**

Ronkonkoma Office | 4949 Express Dr N, Ronkonkoma



# CVE BOARD'S CORNER

## FEBRUARY 2024

Two Board members will be available to meet with anyone at the clubhouse on 3/2 at 9am for any CVE issues.

**ASSEMBLY PERMIT** for the clubhouse is being obtained from the Fire Marshall. He found violations in some areas. Most items have been taken care of and the community is fine with meetings occurring in the clubhouse.

- **ISSUES FOUND**

- The door by the handicap bathroom that goes out to the pool, the push bar and lock were too high. These two items were fixed.
- The back exit at end of hallway in large room, needs to be cleared of tables and chairs. These items were preventing adequate egress from the building.
- Nothing should be in front of the alarm box located in the front hallway.
- Certain signage needs to be larger.

### **SNOW CLEARING**

Excellent job by Brookhaven Irrigation for both snowfalls on 2/13 (6") and 2/17 (3") snow fall.

### **HANDICAP BATHROOM**

#### **ABSTRACT PLUMBERS:**

- repaired pipes and added shut off valve for outside faucet in the pool area.
- A new handicapped toilet was installed.
- David Hallock completed sheet rock repairs, they spackled and painted.

The handicap bathroom looks brand new!

### **DYMOND INDUSTRIES**

Repaired potholes that were becoming hazardous on Theodore Dr.

### **NEW MAILBOX PURCHASES**

The Board is reviewing several types of mailboxes with different vendors. As soon as they have the cost and the type of warranties, they will finalize their decision. This will not happen till summertime.

### **REPAIRS TO HARDIBOARD**

On the front of some of the homes the boards are being replaced. This task is ongoing and will continue through the winter months.

### **MEMORIAL PLAQUES FOR BENCHES**

Arrived and are very well done. Planning on installing these on the new benches in the next week to 10 days.

# CVE BOARD'S CORNER Cont.

## THE BOARD MET A FEW TIMES

To review the handbook and send it out for reprinting. It is a convenient book to have to advise homeowners of HOA rules and Regulations as well as what is the responsibility of a homeowner and what is the HOA's responsibility. There is also some helpful Information regarding selling of a home.

Forms can be found within the book:

1. Directory & Emergency contact form
2. Service maintenance requests.
3. Rental of meeting room at the clubhouse
4. Architectural reviews, which are required for installation of windows, doors, skylights, solar tubes, patios and fencing.
5. Pictures of fences permitted and storm doors.

## NEW HOMEOWNERS' DIRECTORY

There have been many homes sold in the past year and the new homeowners' name and phone numbers will be added.

## PREMIUM PAVING

There are repairs that need to be completed, and we are waiting for warmer weather to make that happen.

## PROJECTS BEING WORKED ON

1. **Security cameras for front entrance**
2. **Fencing to prevent walk ins from entering the property.**

## SAVE THE DATE:

**Continued monthly wellness educational events.**

- Presentation by Faulkner Insurance on Medicare options March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm
- Health Screenings for 55+. To be announced.

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# Sunshine Protection

The **Sunshine Protection Act** is a proposed United States federal law that would make U.S. daylight saving time permanent, meaning the time would no longer change twice per year. The bill has been proposed during several sessions of Congress. In 2022, the Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent, although several senators stated later that they would have objected if they had known that the bill could pass. No iteration of the bill has passed the House.

## Background



The Ohio Clock in the U.S. Capitol being turned forward for the first U.S. daylight saving time on March 31, 1918

Time zones were first introduced in the United States in 1883 by railroad companies. In 1918, they were codified into federal law by the Standard Time Act, which also included a provision for nationwide daylight saving time modeled after European laws designed to save energy during World War I, but that component was repealed a year later due to protests by farmers.<sup>[3]</sup> Many states subsequently introduced daylight saving time, and in 1966, the Uniform Time Act standardized the dates when it begins and ends.<sup>[3]</sup> Hawaii, most of Arizona, and the U.S. territories have opted to observe permanent standard time, but the Uniform Time Act forbids observation of permanent daylight saving time.

The Emergency Daylight Saving Time Energy Conservation Act enacted year round daylight saving time for a two-year experiment from January 6, 1974, to April 7, 1975, but Congress later ended the experiment early on October 27, 1974, and did not make it permanent<sup>[5]</sup> due to unfavorable public opinion, especially regarding concerns about children walking to school and waiting for school buses on dark winter mornings.

In the late 2010s, resolutions were passed in more than 30 states advocating for the federal government to abolish the annual transitions.



# SPRING FORWARD

**MARCH 10 Don't forget.**

Daylight saving time  
begins at 2 a.m.

Sunday. **Set your  
clocks ahead  
one hour.**







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## Daily Specials

### Monday

**Buy 1 French Dip, Get 1 Half Price**

Must purchase a beverage with each french dip.

Lower priced french dip discounted. Available all day.

**Buy 10 Boneless Wings, Get a 10 Free**

Must purchase a beverage.

### Toasted Tuesday

**BLUE/POINT**  
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**\$7 Toasted Lager Pints ~ All Day**

**Buy 10 Bone-In Wings, Get 5 Free**

Must purchase a beverage. Available all day.

**\$2 Off All Rib Dinners**

### Wednesday

**\$4 Off All Burgers ~ All Day**

### Foodies Thursday

**\$3 Off All Burgers**

**\$3 Off All French Dips**

**\$7 Pints Of Guinness**



### Friday

**Buy 1 French Dip, Get 1 Half Price**

Must purchase a beverage with each french dip.

Lower priced french dip discounted. Available all day.

### Sunday

**Buy 10 Bone-In Wings, Get 5 Free**

Must purchase a beverage. Available all day.

**\$3 Off All Appetizers ~ All Day**

Must purchase a beverage with each appetizer.

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## 4 Things Older Adults Need to Know About RSV as Cases Surge

Little ones aren't the only ones in danger from this common respiratory virus  
By Rachel Nania,

It's often thought of as a risk to young kids, but respiratory syncytial virus (or RSV for short) can be downright dangerous for older adults too.

More than 177,000 older Americans wind up in the hospital each year because of RSV — well within the range of the flu's annual impact — and roughly 14,000 die from it. And right now, cases of RSV are surging in many areas of the country. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that nationwide infection rates have skyrocketed in the past few weeks, and older adults are being hospitalized at higher rates than previous years.

That is bad news ahead of what many experts say could be a stormy season for flu and COVID-19. All three illnesses — RSV, influenza, and COVID-19 — share a similar list of symptoms. And all three cause complications in adults with certain chronic health conditions and in those who are 65 and older.

"I think RSV is a virus that's been a little bit under the radar screen, but it's responsible for a significant number of infections," says Marshall Glesby, M.D., associate chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York. "So, it is something to be aware of."

Here's what you need to know about RSV, including how to help prevent an infection and how to spot warning signs if you do get sick.

### 1. Symptoms are hard to separate from other common illnesses

What makes the increase of RSV cases so tricky, especially this time of year and given the pandemic, is that many of its common symptoms overlap with those of the common cold, flu and COVID-19.

A cough, a fever and a runny nose often accompany an RSV infection, the CDC says. Same with wheezing, sneezing and a decrease in appetite. You may even notice a "pinkeye-type of manifestation" or sinus-like issues, Glesby adds. It's typical for these symptoms to appear in stages, not all at once.

Most adults who get RSV will experience a mild course of these ailments. But in some adults — especially older adults who have weaker immune systems — the illness can turn serious and lead to pneumonia or congestive heart failure. People with asthma and chronic lung disease may also suffer with more severe symptoms that make it difficult to breathe.

### 2. Shortness of breath is a warning sign you need medical attention

If you find yourself battling a bad case of RSV, you may need to be hospitalized.

Shortness of breath is one warning sign that you should seek immediate medical attention. "If you find yourself having coughing spasms or fits where it's hard to catch your breath, that's not normal," says Patricia A. Stinchfield, a pediatric nurse practitioner and president of the National

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID). The same goes if you get out of breath while doing routine chores.

“That means that your lungs and your heart and your circulatory system are sort of overworking,” Stinchfield says. (Likewise, struggling to catch a breath or taking short and shallow, rapid breaths are red flags for severe RSV in babies.)

You should check in with a doctor if you have significant weakness or your symptoms get worse and won’t go away, Glesby says.

## **ARE YOU AT HIGH RISK?**

Adults at highest risk for severe RSV infection include:

- Older adults, especially those 65 and older
- Adults with chronic heart or lung disease
- Adults with weakened immune systems
- Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

“The main thing for older adults and parents of young children is to listen to your gut. If your gut is saying, ‘I don’t think this is normal, and I’m scared,’ that’s when it’s time to call [the doctor],” Stinchfield says.

An NFID report found that although adults with RSV and influenza report similar symptoms, RSV patients do not seek medical attention as quickly as flu patients.

## **3. There is no specific treatment for RSV**

Unlike with the flu or COVID-19, there isn’t an antiviral treatment available for the majority of adults that can knock out RSV, nor is there a vaccine that can help prevent it, though researchers are working to develop both.

There also isn’t an easy at-home test that can tell you if your illness is due to RSV. If you go to your doctor’s office with symptoms, they’ll probably test you for multiple viruses to rule out different treatment options.

If you’re positive for RSV, over-the-counter pain relievers can help to manage fevers and general discomfort. Fluids can help keep you hydrated and your immune system functioning at its best, Stinchfield says. If you need to be hospitalized, you may receive oxygen support and fluids through an IV.

## **4. RSV is very contagious.**

You can catch RSV just like you might catch the flu and other respiratory bugs. Virus droplets can fly through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes and land in your eyes, nose or mouth. RSV can survive for several hours on hard surfaces, the CDC says, so be sure to wipe down high-touch areas (think doorknobs, light switches and TV remotes) if you or someone you live with is sick.

You can also get RSV from direct contact with the virus, say by kissing an infected grandchild on the face. Once you have it, you are usually contagious “for quite a while,” Stinchfield says — up to eight days. Some infants and people with weakened immune systems can spread the virus for as long as four weeks, according to the CDC.

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To that point, if you have a grandchild or another little one you plan to be around who is battling a runny nose and cough, it's best to wait until symptoms subside before visiting, Stinchfield says.

As RSV rages, it's important to wash your hands often (and correctly, which means with soap and water for 20 seconds), wipe down frequently touched surfaces and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth — all familiar precautions from the coronavirus pandemic, Glesby says. Finally, if you can, stay home when you are sick.

## **What Adults Need to Know About the New RSV Vaccines**

June 9, 2023 – After nearly 60 years of effort, vaccine protection against the potentially lethal respiratory infection respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, is finally a reality.

The FDA approved two new RSV vaccines: GSK's Arexvy on May 3, and Pfizer's Abrysvo on May 31. Both approvals are for adults ages 60 and above, who are among the most vulnerable to the infection.

If the CDC recommends the vaccines – a decision that's expected after its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices meets June 21 and gives its recommendation – both vaccines could be available by fall, ahead of the RSV season.

The new vaccines are “a wonderful advance,” said William Schaffner, MD, an infectious disease specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, and medical director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

Yet he and other experts wonder if Americans have so much “vaccine fatigue” that they will pass up the shot – especially since it is expected to be offered at the same time as the annual influenza vaccine and an updated COVID-19 booster.

Awareness about the disease itself is another issue that may thwart the vaccine effort, as even some doctors mistakenly think of RSV as solely a pediatric danger, other experts said.

### **RSV Danger for Older Adults, Children**

RSV is a contagious virus, spread via virus droplets, direct contact with the virus, or touching a surface with the virus on it, causing lower respiratory infections. It can occur in all age groups but can be especially dangerous in older adults and children younger than 5. Symptoms may include a runny nose, coughing, sneezing, a decreased appetite, a fever, and wheezing.

The virus circulates seasonally, usually beginning in the fall and peaking in winter.

Often, the infection is mild and clears up, but it can turn serious, leading to more severe infections such as pneumonia.

## **Effectiveness**

The FDA's approval of Arexvy, the vaccine from GSK (formerly GlaxoSmithKline), is based on clinical trial research studying a single dose given to people ages 60 and older. In the main phase III clinical trial, 12,500 people received Arexvy and 12,500 received a placebo.



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The vaccine reduced the risk of getting RSV-associated lower respiratory tract disease by 82.6% and the risk of having a severe disease by 94.1%.

Leonard Friedland, MD, GSK's vice president and director of scientific affairs and public health, vaccines, termed those results "exceptional" in an emailed response to questions.

Side effects reported by some patients most commonly involved pain where they got the shot, fatigue, muscle pain, a headache, and joint pain or stiffness. Atrial fibrillation, an abnormal heart rhythm, was reported in 10 people who got the vaccine and four who received the placebo.

Two other studies evaluated about 2,500 people receiving the vaccine. In a group receiving the RSV vaccine with an influenza vaccine, two people had a kind of inflammation affecting the brain and spinal cord, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM). One died.

In another study, one person developed Guillain-Barre syndrome, a disorder that occurs when the immune system damages nerve cells, leading to muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis. The FDA is requiring the company to do a post-marketing study to investigate further the risks for Guillain-Barre syndrome and ADEM. GSK said it will also assess atrial fibrillation risks in a post-marketing study, voluntarily.

The FDA approved Pfizer's Abrysvo based on the results of an ongoing clinical trial in which about 17,000 people got the vaccine and another 17,000 got a placebo, analyzing data from the first RSV season of the study.

The vaccine reduced the risk of RSV-related lower respiratory tract disease with two or more symptoms by 66.7% and three or more symptoms by 85.7%. It was 62% effective against RSV-associated acute respiratory illness, which can lead to hospitalization.



# FUN AND GAMES

## WORD SEARCH

### Exotic Travel

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ANTIGUA	GUAM
BALI	HAWAII
BANGKOK	LONDON
BARCELONA	LOS ANGELES
BORA BORA	MADRID
CAIRNS	MALTA
CANNES	MANHATTAN
CAYMAN ISLANDS	MARBELLA
CHAMONIX	MELBOURNE
COSTA DEL SOL	MOROCCO
CROATIA	PARIS
CYPRUS	PRAGUE
DUBAI	RIO DE JANEIRO
DURBAN	ROME
FLORENCE	SYDNEY
GALAPAGOS	VENICE



# FUN AND GAMES

## WORD SEARCH

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

Answers on page 191.

# FUN AND GAMES

## CROSSWORD

### PRETTY WOMAN

#### ACROSS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Angeles
4. Bob Hoskins' role in "Hook"
8. Tabloid twosome
12. "The \_\_\_\_\_ Bully" (animated film with the voice of Julia Roberts)
13. Estate in "Gone with the Wind"
14. Artist Salvador
15. Flirty actress West
16. Pitcher's figs.
17. Getaway spot
18. 1990 Julia Roberts breakout film
21. Will Smith biopic
22. When a plane is due in: abbr.
23. He played Lt. Cohill in "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon"
26. Senseless?
29. At this moment
32. 2003 "artsy" Julia Roberts movie
35. Machine tooth
36. "\_\_\_\_\_ She Great" (2000 Bette Midler biopic)
37. "CSI" regular George
38. Buddy and Rob's co-writer, familiarly

40. Ex of Artie and Mickey
42. 1999 Julia Roberts flick with Hugh Grant
47. Gumbo pod
48. "Misery" actor James
49. "The \_\_\_\_\_ Couple"
52. Sack dress designer
53. Shrek, for instance
54. By way of
55. Tractor-trailer
56. Stated
57. Quiche base

#### DOWN

1. Quick flight
2. "Love \_\_\_\_\_ Rooftop"
3. Kind of stool or ladder
4. "\_\_\_\_\_ Magnolias" (1989 Julia Roberts movie)
5. Bond drinks
6. Word in a proof ending
7. Good-tempered
8. Moron
9. Island of "devils"
10. Jazz legend Fitzgerald
11. Aura or demeanor
19. \_\_\_\_\_ avis
20. Intricate patterns
23. TNT alternative
24. Oozy stuff
25. Light wavelength

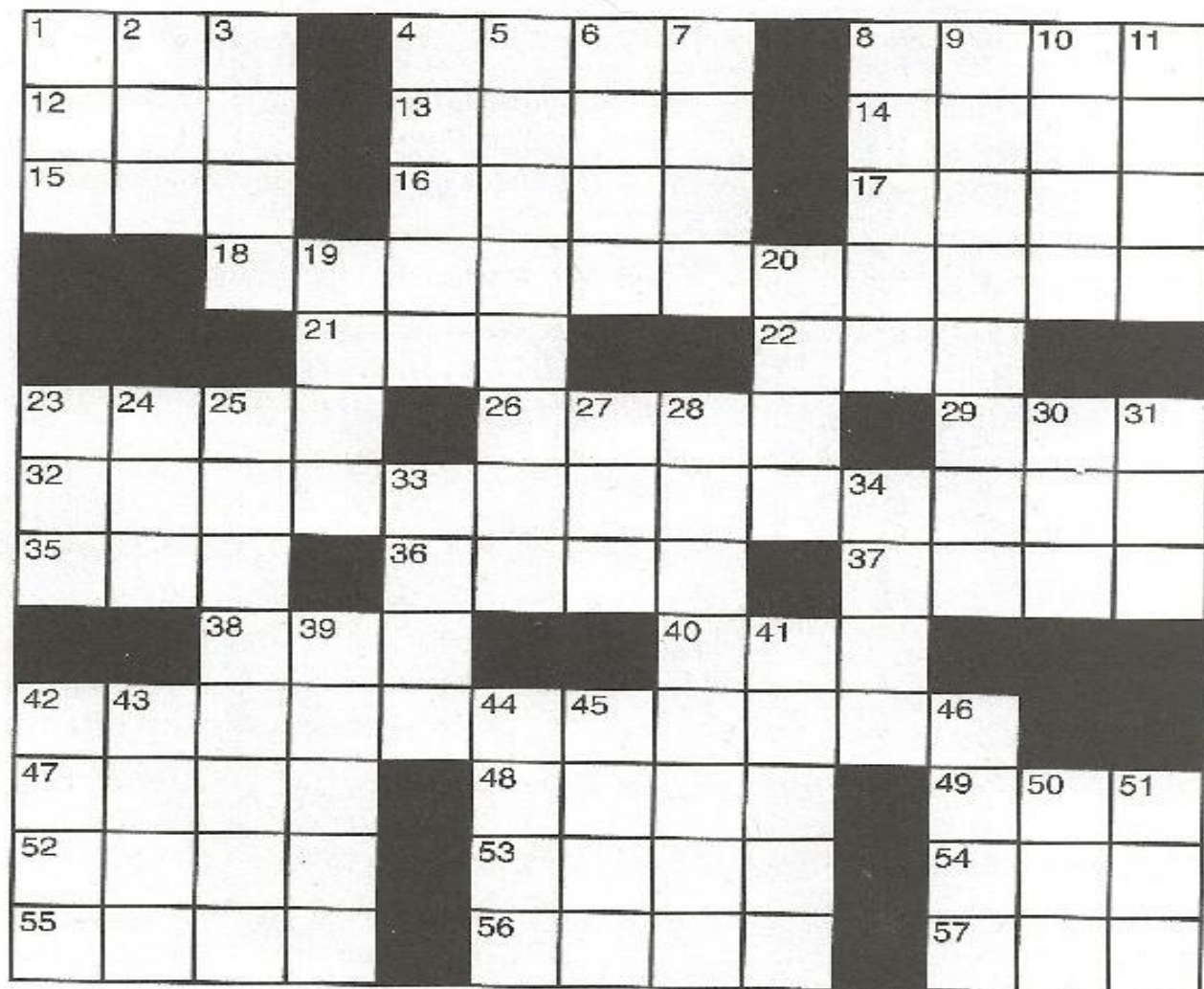


# FUN AND GAMES

## CROSSWORD #1

27. "Lt. Robin Crusoe, \_\_\_\_\_"  
(1966 Disney film)  
28. Spy played by Greta Garbo  
30. Ancient  
31. Film director Craven  
33. Leslie Caron musical  
34. Breakfast or supper  
39. Maker of the game Asteroids  
41. Grew like ivy

42. Approvals  
43. "Illegals" or "scum" from  
"The Grapes of Wrath"  
44. Ones ranked E-4 to E-9;  
abbr.  
45. Enthusiastic, to the max  
46. 1996 Julia Roberts movie  
"Everyone Says I \_\_\_\_\_ You"  
50. Search for buried treasure  
51. Trygve's successor



# FUN AND GAMES

## CROSSWORD #2

### WHODUNITS

#### ACROSS

1. Crocodile \_\_\_\_
6. Bride's destination
11. Impressive success
12. Apply holy oil to
13. Wilkie Collins mystery considered the first detective novel (1868)
15. Camera named for a goddess
16. Not the gregarious type
17. Capital city on the Han River
18. Homer's doughnut supplier
21. Bad, in Barcelona
24. Beer named for a Dutch river
26. This John Dickson Carr whodunit is the quintessential locked-room mystery
29. Strike out on one's own
30. "\_\_\_\_ silly question, get..."
31. Spot on a peacock feather
32. 1983 Mr. T comedy
35. Used a bat
36. Blackjack card
39. A gypsy curse figures in this suspenseful Agatha Christie tale of murder
43. Like Miss Congeniality
44. Marsh wader

45. African grassland

46. Big, messy mix-up

#### DOWN

1. Head, in Paris
2. Cave phenomenon
3. Pub brews
4. Bighorn male
5. Got to second base, in a way
6. California's San \_\_\_\_
7. Tolkien trilogy, to fans
8. Barcelona uncle
9. "Barbara \_\_\_\_" (Beach Boys classic)
10. 1 or 66, briefly
12. Like physicals, for many
14. Tic-tac-toe winner
17. Picturesque London quarter
18. 24/7 cash dispensers
19. High point
20. Arm bone
21. Lender's offering: Abbr.
22. Call to Jack Sparrow
23. \_\_\_\_ majeste (high treason)
25. Clean, as a deck
27. Cowboy's frontier land
28. Plague insect
33. Brain, spinal cord, etc.
34. "Citizen Kane" actress Moorehead

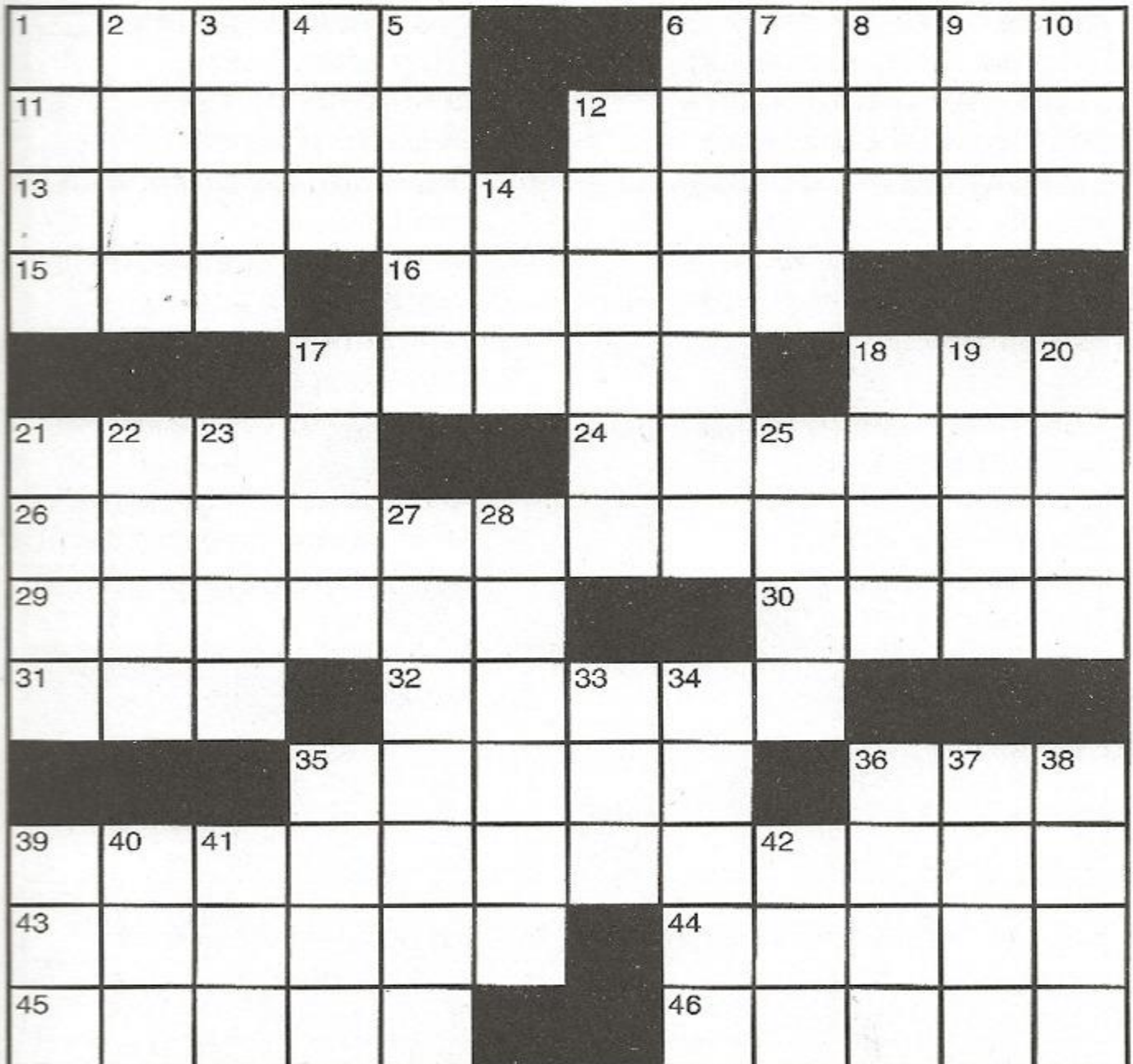


# FUN AND GAMES

## CROSSWORD #2

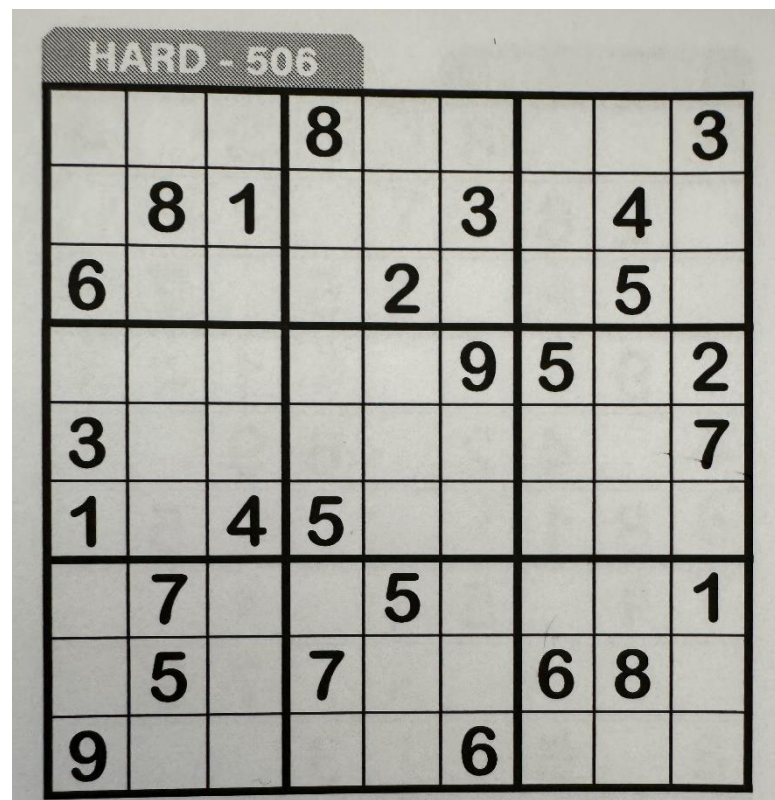
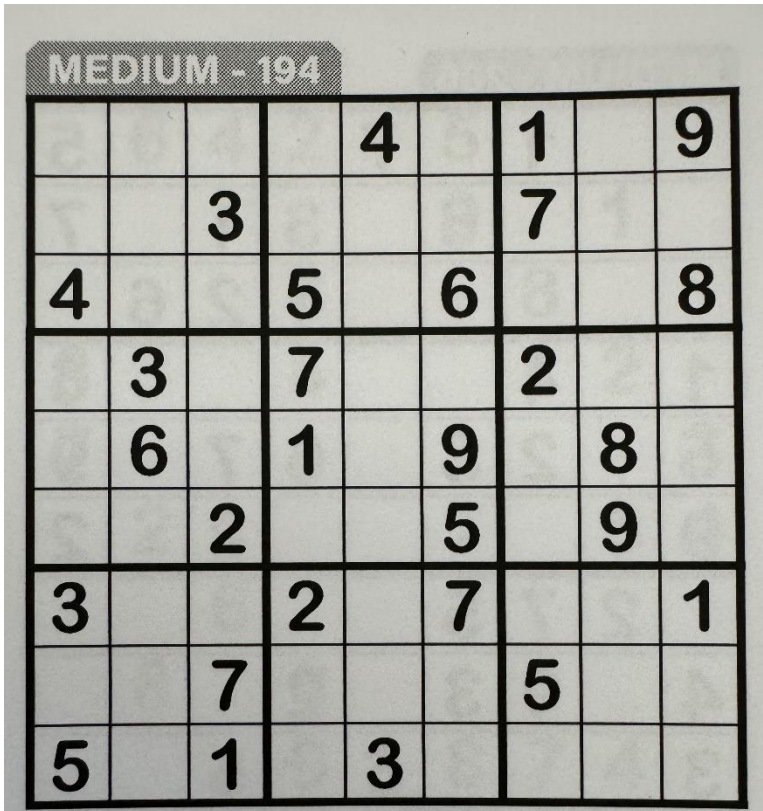
35. Citizen Kane's Rosebud  
 36. Taj Majal city  
 37. Paul Prudhomme, for one  
 38. Caesar's rebuke to Brutus

39. Ltr. container  
 40. Nietzsche's "never"  
 41. 650, to Romans  
 42. Car key's place: Abbr.



# FUN AND GAMES

**Sudoku** is played on a grid of 9 x 9 spaces. Within the rows and columns are 9 “squares” (made up of 3 x 3 spaces). Each row, column and square (9 spaces each) needs to be filled out with the numbers 1-9, without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square. Does it sound complicated? As you can see from the image below of an actual Sudoku grid, each Sudoku grid comes with a few spaces already filled in; the more spaces filled in, the easier the game – the more difficult Sudoku puzzles have very few spaces that are already filled in.





# FUN AND GAMES

## ANSWERS

### Exotic Travel (pages 156-157)

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

### PRETTY WOMAN (PAGE 134)

LOS		S	M	E	E		I	T	E	M			
A	N	T		T	A	R	A		D	A	L	I	
M	A	E		E	R	A	S		I	S	L	E	
			P	R	E	T	T	Y	W	O	M	A	N
			A	L	I			E	T	A			
A	G	A	R		N	U	M	B		N	O	W	
M	O	N	A	L	I	S	A	S	M	I	L	E	
C	O	G		I	S	N	T		E	A	D	S	
			S	A	L			A	V	A			
N	O	T	T	I	N	G	H	I	L	L			
O	K	R	A		C	A	A	N		O	D	D	
D	I	O	R		O	G	R	E		V	I	A	
S	E	M	I		S	A	I	D		E	G	G	

### WHODUNITS (PAGE 34)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
T	E	A	R	S		A	L	T	A	R					
11	E	C	L	A	T		12	A	N	O	I	N	T		
13	T	H	E	M	O	O	N	S	T	O	N	E			
14	E	O	S		15	L	O	N	E	R					
					16	S	E	O	U	L		17	A	P	U
18	M	A	L	O			19	A	M	S	T	E	L		
20	T	H	E	H	O	L	L	O	W	M	A	N			
21	G	O	S	O	L	O			22	A	S	K	A		
23	E	Y	E		24	D	C	C	A	B					
					25	S	W	U	N	G		26	A	C	E
27	E	N	D	L	E	S	S	N	I	G	H	T			
28	N	I	C	E	S	T			29	E	G	R	E	T	
30	V	E	L	D	T				31	S	N	A	F	U	

194								
2	7	6	8	4	3	1	5	9
8	5	3	9	1	2	7	4	6
4	1	9	5	7	6	3	2	8
9	3	8	7	6	4	2	1	5
7	6	5	1	2	9	4	8	3
1	4	2	3	8	5	6	9	7
3	9	4	2	5	7	8	6	1
6	8	7	4	9	1	5	3	2
5	2	1	6	3	8	9	7	4

506								
7	4	2	8	6	5	1	9	3
5	8	1	9	7	3	2	4	6
6	3	9	1	2	4	7	5	8
8	6	7	4	1	9	5	3	2
3	9	5	6	8	2	4	1	7
1	2	4	5	3	7	8	6	9
4	7	6	3	5	8	9	2	1
2	5	3	7	9	1	6	8	4
9	1	8	2	4	6	3	7	5