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JUST FOR FUN

NOSEY THE NEWS BEAR



First, find Nosey the News Bear hiding in this week's issue of McCreary Journal! Secondly, win a prize if you are the first to visit our office by this Friday and correctly show us where our mischievous cub bear reporter is hiding! Immediate family members of employees of McCreary Journal are not eligible to win. Winners must wait six months before being eligible to win again. Now. Get ready, get set, let's go on a bear hunt!

Horoscope

ARIES – MAR 21/APR 20

Aries, your energy is impressive and contagious this week. You can put it to use tackling tasks that you have been putting off. A surprise message could brighten your weekend.

TAURUS – APR 21/MAY 21

Taurus, review your budget and consider a new investment opportunity. This week brings a chance to reconnect with someone special. Don't avoid vulnerability, as it could enhance things.

GEMINI – MAY 22/JUN 21

You might find yourself in discussions that lead to exciting new projects, Gemini. Be open to collaboration and work on improving your communication skills. Time for fun comes later.

CANCER – JUN 22/JUL 22

This week is all about self-care, Cancer. Take some time to focus on your emotional well-being and nurture it as much as you can. A midweek work opportunity could arise.

LEO – JUL 23/AUG 23

Leo, dive into artistic pursuits or share ideas with others this week, as your creativity will be shining brightly. A social engagement may bring new connections that lead to exciting prospects.

VIRGO – AUG 24/SEPT 22

Get down to business and organize your workspace or tackle a project that has been pushed aside, Virgo. If you feel overwhelmed, be sure to ask for some help from those you trust.

LIBRA – SEPT 23/OCT 23

Libra, it's all about balance this week, something you know a lot about as the scales sign. Make time for both work and play so you can make the most of every opportunity.

SCORPIO – OCT 24/NOV 22

Intensity and passion might define your week, Scorpio. Delve into a project that excites you. By the middle of the week, news reaches your ears and it could be very exciting.

SAGITTARIUS – NOV 23/DEC 21

This is the week for exploring new ideas or planning a trip, Sagittarius. It's only a matter of time before you realize that adventure awaits. Get started on what awaits.

CAPRICORN – DEC 22/JAN 20

Capricorn, try focusing on your long-term goals this week. Strategic planning will pay off in the long run. If you need help, seek a mentor who can offer advice.

AQUARIUS – JAN 21/FEB 18

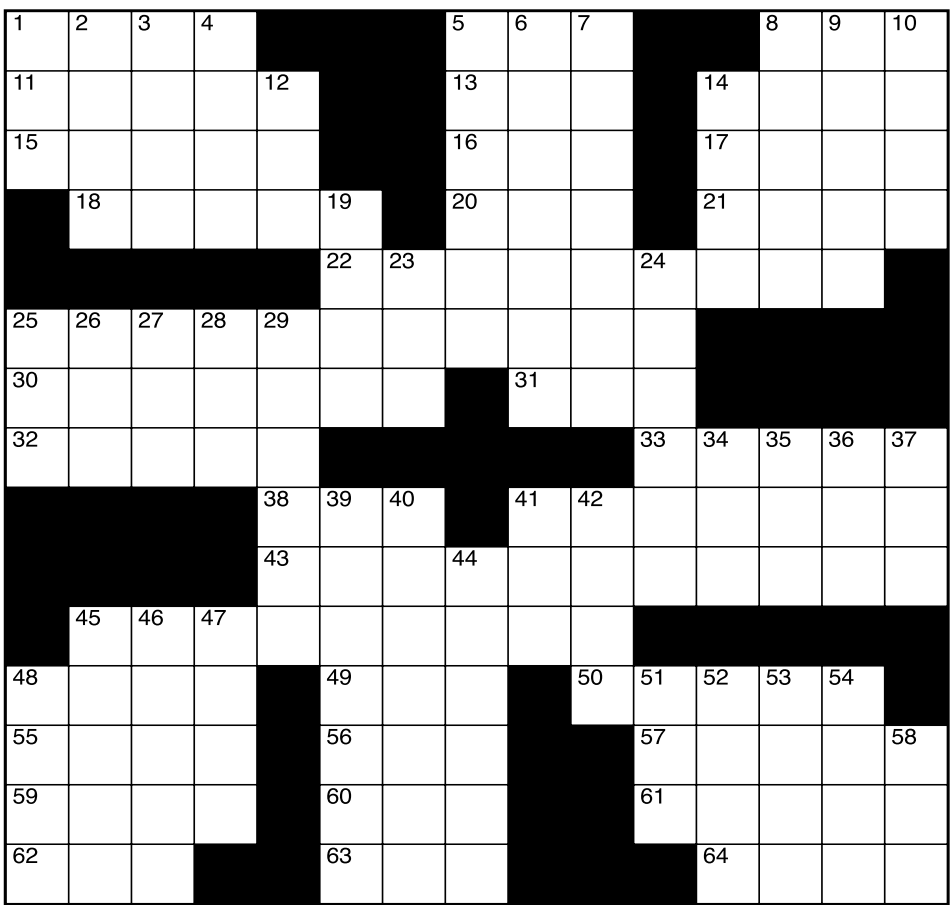
A surprise opportunity might arise for you midweek, Aquarius. Don't hesitate to snatch it up quickly, as others also might be interested. Leave weekend plans open for now.

PISCES – FEB 19/MAR 20

Pisces, if you feel your emotions are running high this week, try to channel your feelings into a creative project that will use them in a smart way. A friend may call asking for advice.

CLUES ACROSS

- Bar bills
- Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- Swiss river
- Czech Republic capital
- "Officially known as"
- A French abbot
- Having a strong sharp smell or taste
- Local area network
- Data transmission speed measure
- Embarrass
- When you hope to get there
- This (Spanish)
- Gives up
- Churchgoer
- Current
- Slang for gun
- Small drum
- Vanished union bigwig
- Rocker's tool of the trade
- Dearth
- 2024 Olympics host
- Excess blood in the vessels
- Afrikaans
- Agreement between provider and customer
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Ancient Syrian city
- Witch
- Celebrations
- Long period of time
- A team's best pitcher
- Current unit
- One-time aero-



space company
63. French/Belgian river
64. Swedish rock group

CLUES DOWN

- Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- Genus of clams
- Remark
- Actor LaBeouf
- Ohio town
- Olympic sport
- Cure
- Behave in a way that belittles
- Shares a boundary with
- Give advice
- Promotional mate-

37. Yes vote
39. Officer of high rank
40. Church office
41. Tire pressure measurement
42. From a distance
44. Photographs
45. Industrial process
46. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
47. Map out
48. Mammary gland part of female mammal
51. Honorable title (Turkish)
52. Spongelike cake leavened with yeast
53. Speak incessantly
54. Poetry term
58. Relaxing space

Christmas cookies embody the joy of holiday cooking!

Christmas Linz Shortbread Cookies With Red Jam

Makes 24 cookies
2 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 cup almond flour
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 cup unsalted butter, softened
3/4 cup sugar
2 egg yolks
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 tablespoon lemon zest
1/2 cup raspberry jam
1/2 cup powdered sugar

1. In a large bowl, whisk the flour, almond flour, salt, and cinnamon together. In a separate bowl, beat the butter and sugar until fluffy. Add

in the egg yolks, vanilla extract and lemon zest and continue to beat until well incorporated.

2. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and continue to beat until just combined to form a dough. Divide the dough in half; pat each half into a disc, wrap with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least an hour.

3. Remove the dough from the refrigerator, and let it soften for about 5 minutes, until soft enough to roll. On a lightly floured surface, roll one disc of dough out to about 1/4" thickness. Using a 3" cookie cutter, cut out cookies. Cut out a top for each cookie using a smaller cookie cutter to cut out the center. Transfer the cookies to a parchment-

lined baking sheet. Gather the scrap dough, roll, and repeat.

4. Place the first batch of cut cookies in the refrigerator for 30 minutes to chill. Preheat the oven to 350 F and repeat the process with the second batch of dough.

5. Bake the chilled cookies for about 12 minutes or until just starting to turn golden around the edges. Let the cookies cool for a few minutes until transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely.

6. Once cooled, spread the bottom half of each cookie with some raspberry preserves, leaving a thin border around each cookie. Dust the tops of each cookie with powdered sugar and place on its corresponding bottom



half. Use a spoon or piping bag to fill the cut-out center with a little more of the preserves.

Preparation time: 30 minutes
Resting time: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Baking time: 15 minutes

