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limi Hendrix by Sebastian Kruger

TIDBITS® STRUMS ON A FEW GUITARS by Kathy Wolfe

It's not the most popular instrument in the world - that honor belongs to the piano - but the guitar comes in solidly in second place. April is National Guitar Month, and this week, Tidbits focuses its attention on the guitar and the music it brings to our lives.

• Many historians believe that our English word "guitar" has its origins in the Spanish word "guitarra," thought to have been adjusted from the ancient Greek word "kithara," usually translated into English as "harp."

• The tomb of ancient Egyptian Queen Hatshepsut, first discovered in 1917, contained what historians believe is the oldest recorded guitar-like instrument. The threestringed instrument was found buried next to a performer of the royal court of the queen, who reigned from 1473 to 1458 B.C.

• G.D. Beauchamp and Adolph Rickenbacker are credited with the invention of the first electrically amplified guitar to be mass-produced and marketed commercially. They called the instrument the "frying pan" because its long neck and circular body resembled that cooking gadget. Its official name was the Rickenbacker A-22, a six-stringed solid-bodied instrument made entirely of aluminum. The frying pan featured wound pickups, devices that convert the vibrations of metal guitar strings into electrical signals by creating a magnetic field. Signals are then sent to an amplifier.

• Beauchamp and Rickenbacker invented the frying pan in 1931 and began selling it in 1932, but the patent was not awarded until 1937.

• The first Fender guitar was built in 1949. Leo Fender, the company founder, started playing piano and saxoCJ's Country Dance Instruction, Since 1985

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TO PUBLISH A

Continued on page 6

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impact on that work of fiction.
* The first American alarm clock was invented in Concord, New Hampshire, in 1787 by Levi Hutchins. It was never patented and rang only at one time, 4 a.m., to rouse him for work.
* The pressure in a champagne bottle is three times higher than that of a car tire.
* When in danger, a hairy frog will break its own bones in order to create claws that it pushes through its skin to scratch a predator.

Once, he ran out of blue paper and had to use a creamcolored pad instead, which he believed had a negative

Thought for the Day: "The service you do for others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." -- Muhammad Ali





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Tammy Wynette

Born Virginia Wynette Pugh on May 5, 1942, in the tiny Mississippi hamlet of Tremont, Tammy Wynette would rise from rural poverty to become one of country music's most enduring icons. Her voice, both strong and trembling with vulnerability, carried the sorrows, struggles, and resilience of countless women who saw their own lives mirrored in her songs.

Raised on a cotton farm by her grandparents after her father's early death, Tammy's early life was marked by hardship and labor. She picked cotton, worked as a waitress, and even trained as a hairdresser—dreams of music swirling quietly in the background. But it wasn't long before that dream took center stage. With relentless determination, she moved to Nashville in the mid-1960s, a single mother of three with little more than her voice and ambition.

Her breakthrough came in 1967 with "Apartment No. 9," and the world took notice. But it was her signature hit, "Stand By Your Man," released in 1968, that carved her name into country music history. A song both praised and criticized for its perceived message, it nonetheless became an anthem of emotional complexity—where devotion and pain meet in the heart of a woman who loves fiercely.

Wynette's life offstage often echoed the heartbreak in her music. She married five times, most famously to fellow country legend George Jones. Their tumultuous relationship, marked by passion, music, and addiction, produced some of country's most beloved duets, including "Golden Ring" and "We're Gonna Hold On." Their chemistry was undeniable, both in love and in song, and even after divorce, their voices continued to intertwine in the public imagination.

Despite chronic health issues and personal battles, Wynette recorded over 30 albums and notched 20 number-one hits. She earned the title "First Lady of Country Music" not just for her chart success but for the emotional depth and authenticity she brought to her craft. Her influence stretched far beyond genre lines, impacting generations of artists across pop, rock, and country.

Tammy Wynette passed away on April 6, 1998, but her voice remains timeless. In every trembling note and tear-stained lyric, she gave her listeners something precious: the permission to feel deeply, to hurt openly, and to love unconditionally.





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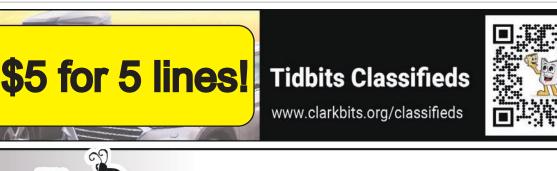


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1. MOVIES: Which animated movie was the first to be nominated for a Best Picture Academy Award?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Interior and exterior film shots of Alnwick Castle in England are featured in the first two movies of which film series?

3. TELEVISION: What was the last name of the family in the sitcom "Married ... With Children"?

4. LITERATURE: For which category is the Caldecott Medal awarded?

5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Also known as a double eagle, what is the golf term for scoring three under par on a hole?

6. ANATOMY: What is the protein that carries oxygen in the blood?

7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was the first to name a woman as a Cabinet member?

8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby toad called?

9. FOOD & DRINK: Which fast-food chain's secret ingredient is 11 herbs and spices?

10. ASTRONOMY: How many moons does Mars have?

Gargen The Bug dogwood legend

The ancient stories say that the dogwood tree was tall and straight-limbed in the days of Jesus, and its wood was chosen



to build the cross for His crucifixion. Afterwards, the dogwood was cursed to grow gnarled and short, so it would never again be used to crucify, and the bracts of its flowers were given the mark of a driven nail and seeping blood. The center was given the likeness of a bowed head bearing a crown of thorns.

Sources: hgic.clemson.edu, plantmegreen.com, wikipedia.org – l

– Brenda Weaver



ord **RE-SOUNDING DUOS**

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Guitars (continued)

age 14, shifting his interest to electronics after studying a radio his uncle had built from spare parts. Shortly afterward, Fender opened up a small radio repair shop in his parents' home. In his late 20s, Fender borrowed \$600 (about \$13,000 in today's dollars) to establish Fender Radio Service, which included building and repairing public address systems and amplifiers for stringed instruments. Leo Fender began selling his electric guitar, dubbed the Esquire, in 1950, with its bolt-on neck, thin solid body, and single pickup. The following year brought a double-pickup guitar Fender called the Broadcaster. That name didn't stick for long when Fender had a trademark conflict with another manufacturer, Gretsch, who already had a Broadkaster. This led to a new name for Fender - the Telecaster. That year also marked the introduction of the Fender Precision Bass, capable of producing rich low-end sounds, an alternative to the bulky acoustic double bass that couldn't match the volume of electric guitars.

The ingenious electric guitar inventor Leo Fender didn't even know how to play or even tune a guitar. He hired musicians to come in and test the prototypes of all of his designs. In 1953, Fender, assisted by a draftsman, began designing what would come to be known as the Stratocaster, the first Fender to boast three pickups and a contoured body shape. The company's head of marketing was very interested in aviation and suggested the name Stratocaster, stating that guitarists would feel like they had been "put into the stratosphere."

• Both the Telecaster and Stratocaster have been in continuous production since their introduction.

• Noted jazz, country, and blues guitarist Les Paul first approached the Gibson Guitar Corporation in 1941 with his innovative idea for a solid-body electric guitar he called "The Log," because of the solid chunk of pine that ran through the body. Gibson wasn't interested. That is, until 1950 when Fender introduced the Esquire and Broadcaster, and Gibson decided it was time to jump on the bandwagon. Les Paul had drawings of his idea and Gibson's Ted McCarty became the chief designer of what became the Gibson Les Paul introduced in 1952. Les Paul was brought in as a consultant and spokesman in exchange for royalties on sales. The guitar made its debut played by Les Paul himself at New York City's Paramount Theater.

• The first Gibson Les Paul had a mahogany body and neck and a rosewood fretboard. It had an opaque gold finish leading to the name "Les Paul Goldtop." It sold for \$210, which might seem affordable now, but in 1952 it was equivalent to about a month's salary.

• Sales of the Les Paul were a little disappointing, and Gibson halted production in 1961. In its place, they introduced the Les Paul SG with a double-cutaway shape. Les Paul himself didn't care for the shape with its two-pointed horns and wasn't too thrilled with the use of his name on the "new and improved" model. In 1968, Gibson restarted production of the older version, and its manufacture has continued non-stop since then.

 Universal Pictures made a boo-boo when they featured actor Michael J. Fox as Marty McFly playing a Gibson ES-345 during his time travel to 1955 in the film "Back to the Future." That Gibson model wasn't introduced until 1959!

• Jimmy Page used a 1960 Gibson Les Paul Custom for recording Led Zeppelin's first album, a guitar he had bought on layaway in London when he was 18. In 1970, this "Black Beauty" was stolen from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport and remained missing for 45 years until it was discovered in a Twin Cities music store, recognized by the guitar repairman, who returned it to Page. Things didn't end as happily for Eric Clapton, whose 1960 Les Paul Beano was used for recording the 1966 album "Bluesbreakers." Clapton's guitar was stolen from a church hall practice room shortly afterward and hasn't been seen since.

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• The most expensive guitar ever sold to date is a Martin 1959 D-18 acoustic. This instrument sold for \$6 million at a June, 2020 auction. Why the astronomical price tag? It had been owned by Nirvana's frontman Kurt Cobain.

• A tribute to guitarist Jimi Hendrix set the record for the most people to simultaneously play guitar. The "Thanks Jimi" Festival is held every year in Wroclaw, Poland, and in 2019, 7,423 guitarists joined together to play Hendrix's hit "Hey Joe." The event was first held in 2003 with 588 guitarists showing up in the community's market square. Hendrix, a Seattle native, died in 1970 at age 27.

• In 2011, Irishman Dave Browne set out to set a record for the longest time playing a guitar non-stop. He accomplished the challenge at Dublin's famous Temple Bar pub, where he played for 114 hours, 20 minutes. Browne was allowed a 30-second break between songs and a 40-minute break every 8 hours. During his gig, he played 1,372 different pieces of music, with a requirement of at least two minutes each, about 12 songs every hour. For a few hours, Browne was privileged to play a rare signed limited edition Stevie Ray Vaughan Fender Stratocaster, loaned by a patron. It was the first time the guitar had been played in 20 years.





Weekly SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: $igodoldsymbol{\Phi}$

♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

MAGIC MAZE \bullet — DAY : OBSERVANCES
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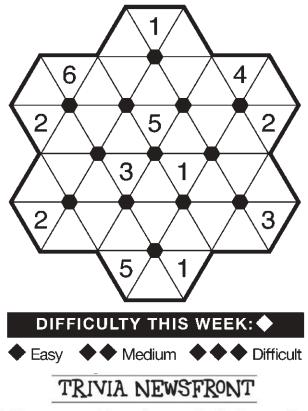
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: CELEBRATION OF OLD GLOR

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

SNOMELHHKF? by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



- 1. How many strings does a standard acoustic guitar usually have?
- 2. Which part of the guitar is used to adjust the tension of the strings and tune the instrument?
- 3. What is the name of the decorative piece of material around the soundhole of a guitar?
- 4. Name the musician who used a Fender Stratocaster to record "Voodoo Child."
- 5. Before guitar strings were made of nylon, they were made of



Match the instruments on the left with the definitions on the right.

1.	pyrometer	a) measures sensitivity
2.	algometer	to pain
3.	leptometer	b) measures oil viscosity

- 4. hydrometer c) measures high

April Fools'	Columbus	Labor	Mother's
Armed Forces	Election	May	New Year's
Armistice	Father's	Memorial	Veterans
Bastille	Independence	MLK	

5. clinometer

temperatures

d) measures slopes and

elevations e) measures specific

gravity of liquids



partner:

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Task JETCROP	
Guady RIGSHA	
Profit	
^{Chair} HORNET	
	TODAY'S WORD

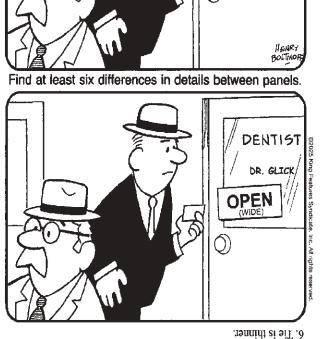
Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

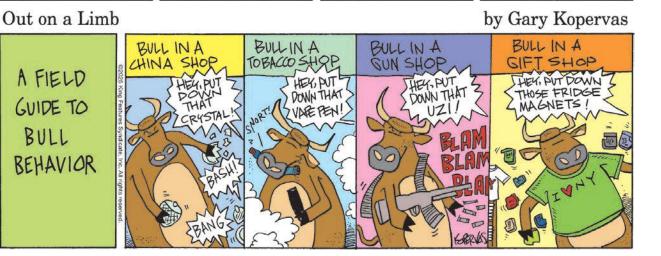
1. Join the parade	R	Tennis game
2. Very fast	C	Idiosyncrasy
3. He wanted "more"	0	Splinter
4. Stare intently	R	Open space
5. Boundary	G	Short or Scorsese
6. Thames and Rhine	S	Journalist Geraldo
7. Decelerate	A	Without funds
8. From Athens	К	Lime or olive
9. Rush	_ U	Potter or Styles
10. Flag	N	Chitchat

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Differences: I. Eyes are different. 2. Hat is larger. 3. Lapel is different. 4. Door is not as wide. 5. Name on door is lower.













Sports Quiz

1. Driver Scott Dixon, winner of six IndyCar season championships from 2003-2020, represents what country?

2. Name the sportswriter and TV journalist who served as a commentator for HBO Sports' boxing coverage from 1978-2012.

3. John John Florence, Filipe Toledo, Caroline Marks and Caitlin Simmers are elite athletes in what sport?

4. Auricular hematoma, a condition often affecting wrestlers, boxers, rugby players and mixed martial artists, is better known by what name?

5. The Philadelphia Bell, Memphis Southmen, Southern California Sun and the Hawaiians were among the teams in what professional football league that operated from 1974-75?

6. Name the musician and TV/radio personality who composed the "Roundball Rock" theme song for NBC's coverage of the NBA beginning in 1990.

7. In 1959, infielder Pumpsie Green became the first Black player to appear in a game for what American League team?



SPORTS STORIES STEEPLECHASE

When most of us hear the word steeplechase, we think of a sport associated with horseback riding. Although that was its original method, steeplechase has now evolved into a popular track and field event. Follow along as Tidbits explores this centuries-old tradition.

• Steeplechase started out with a hunt - riders turned loose a pack of dogs to pursue their prey, with the riders chasing the dogs, dashing across fields, leaping over fences, gates, and ditches, splashing through streams, and galloping through the woods until the prey was captured. However, sometimes there was no fox or hare visible. Not wanting to squander the outing, the riders would turn the hunt into a sport known as steeple hunting. It was described as "horsemen riding helter-skelter towards the first church steeple that catches their eye, and he that is in first is the best man."

• The riders enjoyed the alternative activity so much, they adopted it as a specific sport, believed to have begun in Ireland. The sport of "steeple race" had traveled to England by the late 1700s with their first official race offering 100 guineas to the winner. The winner finished the nine-mile course in 26 minutes.

• While the original sport involved jumping horses over natural obstacles in the wild, the modern steeplechase is a track and field event in which athletes run a 3,000-meter (1.86-mile) race on foot, leaping over hurdles and splashing through water. It takes place on a track rather than in the woods, covering 7 1/2 laps. There are 28 barriers/ hurdles and 7 water jumps over the course of the race, with each lap containing 4 barriers and one water jump. • The hurdles differ from a typical hurdle race in which the hurdles can fall over. Steeplechase barriers are sturdy and solid, and athletes are allowed to step on them and push themselves off. Missing even one barrier results in disqualification. • Competitive track and field steeplechase originated at Oxford University in the mid-1800s. In 1900, the race was included in the Paris Olympics, a competition that included two races, one of 2,500 meters and another of 4,000 meters the following day, a race comprised of a water jump, hurdles, and stone fences. At the 1920 Games, the course was standardized to 3,000 meters with five barriers measuring 36 inches (91.4 cm) high along with the water pit. Steeplechase has been an official Olympic sport for men since those 1920 Games in Antwerp, Belgium. It wasn't added to the Olympics for women until the Beijing Games in 2008. The height of women's hurdles is 30 inches (76.2 cm). • The water jump is 3.66 meters (about 12 feet) long and includes a 12-ft.-wide pit filled with 28 inches of water. There's a hurdle in front of the pit that must first be navigated before the runners splash into the water. Athletes aim to land close to the barrier to minimize time spent in the water. • Athletes from Kenya dominate this sport, winning all but three Olympic golds in the steeplechase since 1968. An Ethiopian male runner set a new record in 2023 with a time 7:52.11. • Although steeplechase mainly refers to the track and field event, there are still horse races in which riders jump fence and ditch obstacles.

Are You a Golf or Tennis Pro? Sponsor a Cartoon!! www.clarkbits.org/sponsor

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

DOUBLES:

WHERE TO STAND

Where should you stand at the net?

Generally, the better player you are

the farther back from the net you can

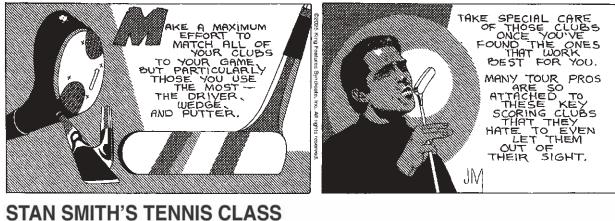
stand. You should try to stand about

halfway from the net to the service

line. You need to guard the alley, but

don't stand right on the side line.

ReVive

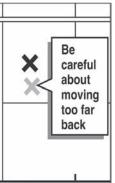


NET

SERVICE LINE

SIDELINE

Some players prefer to stand a little farther back so they can reach lobs more easily. However, if you stand too far back, the ball has a tendency to dip below your waist, and you'll have to hit a more difficult low volley. Also, by standing too far back, you give more room to your opponent to hit the crosscourt shot.



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PetBits





Is this puppy ready for a long hike?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I adopted a beautiful pup at about 3 months old this winter. Now that the weather is warming up and "Blondie" is about 6 months old, I can't wait to start going on hikes with her. How far can a puppy that age walk? Do you have any safety tips? -- Carl J., via email

DEAR CARL: Blondie sounds like an amazing pup! With the correct training, she will eventually be able to accompany you on some hikes -- but not this season.

Puppies at 6 months of age should only take limited walks, ranging from five to 10 minutes max, on level ground. Don't take them farther -- pushing them too soon can cause a host of physical problems because their growth plates haven't fused.

Most experts recommend lengthening walks gradually starting from about 9 months. For longer distances over uneven ground, and when training dogs to carry their own panniers, wait until they are 12 to 18 months old.

So, you won't be able to take Blondie with you on day hikes this year -- unless you carry her. There are special "sport sacks" just for carrying small- to medium-size dogs. Think of it as a fitness challenge for you, and a way for your pup to learn to love the outdoors.

In the meantime, you can work on Blondie's obedience training. It's critical that she respond immediately when you call her, especially out on hikes. She should also be well socialized to people and other dogs -- this prevents a lot of grief on the trail. Right now is the perfect time to do that, and to bond with your dog so that you have fun whether you're outdoors or not.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.



HER MORE. IT WAS GOING GREAT, UNTIL SHE NOTICED I WAS JUST READING ALL HER INSPIRATIONAL PLAQUES IN THE KITCHEN.



It's time to leap into learning about our froggy friends! Frogs play a vital role in ecosystems as both predators and prey, and they're important indicators of environmental health. With over 7,000 species found around the world, frogs come in all shapes, sizes, and colors — from the tiny poison dart frogs to the iconic American bullfrog.

This month, take a moment to appreciate these fascinating amphibians. Whether it's by exploring local wetlands, listening for their evening chorus, or learning about frog conservation efforts, there's always something new to discover.

Let's hop to it - protect the frogs, protect our planet!

Do you have a pet frog? Email us a picture at petbits@clarkbits.org

EMAIL YOUR PET'S PHOTO AND A SHORT DESCRIPTION TO PETBITS@CLARKBITS.ORG FOR A CHANCE OF YOUR PET BEING FEATURED





See these and other adoptable animals at hssw.org/adopt



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Luna

I'm easy going. Wanna go for a walk? Okay. Hang out in the yard? No problem. Just relax on the couch? I can do that. I'm pretty happy to go at your pace and I don't really need much more than most dogs do. If you're looking for a steady companion, I'm all yours. It's recommended I meet any dogs or kids living in my new home before I'm adopted. I just want to make sure we all get along.

I need a slow introduction to cats. I tend to chase them and other small animals.



Midna

If there are kids in my new home, I'd prefer to meet them before going home. An adoption counselor can tell you more.

I need a slow introduction to cats. I can share my space with cats, but I'd like to get used to the idea over time.

PAGE 12 Week 17 (360) 605-3502 clarkbits.org info@clarkbits.org Week 17 - Wednesday, 4/23/25 ©Outlaw Publishing, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit The Neatest Little Paper Ever Read® Need to promote or grow your Painting Business? Advertise with Tidbits! 10" x 2" - Banner Size Starting at only \$90/Week! *Additional charge front page placement clarkbits.org/advertise ANSWERS - DAY : OBSERVANCES Sports Quiz Answers 1. New Zealand. S\UВМULOC) 2. Larry Merchant. Surfing. Cauliflower ear. 5. The World Football League (WFL). 6. John Tesh. 7. The Boston Red Sox. Trivia Answers 1. "Beauty and the (YA)M Beast." 2. "Harry Potter." **NOMELTARE** 3. Bundy. 4. Outstanding children's picture books. solution 5. Albatross. 뒹브 TAURANT & LOUNGE 6. Hemoglobin. 7. Franklin D. Roosevelt WASHOUGALTIMES.COM · 360-835-2488 named Frances Perkins as Labor Secretary. 8. Tadpole. 9. Kentucky Fried UBER EATS MENUS Chicken. 10. Two: Phobos and Deimos. **NEW BATCH OF** SCRAMBLERS Even Exchange solution 1. Project 2. Garish; March, Match 6. Rivers, Rivera 3.Intake; 4. Throne **STONEJAX SEASONING** 2. Quick, Quirk 7. Brake, Broke Today's Word 3. Oliver, Sliver 8. Greek, Green SPARRING 4. Glare, Glade 9. Hurry, Harry 5. Margin, Martin 10. Banner, Banter **NOW AT STONEJAX.COM** Weekly SUDOKU TRIVIA NEWSFRONT ANSWERS Answer 1.6 7 5 3 9 6 2 4 8 1 2. Tuning pegs 8 4 9 3 5 1 6 7 2 3. Rosette 1 2 6 4 8 7 5 9 3 4. Jimi Hendrix 5. Animal intestines 9 8 2 1 7 4 3 6 5

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Fender manufactures about 90,000 guitar strings every day. That's about 20,000 miles (32.187 km) of strings a year. Add it up - that's almost enough to go around the equator!



WOJD SOMES

ANSWER

RESONATOR

5-d

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M A R A C A A W A R E I M A M A C M O R E L B I N A N D S C O N E S

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Answers

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