

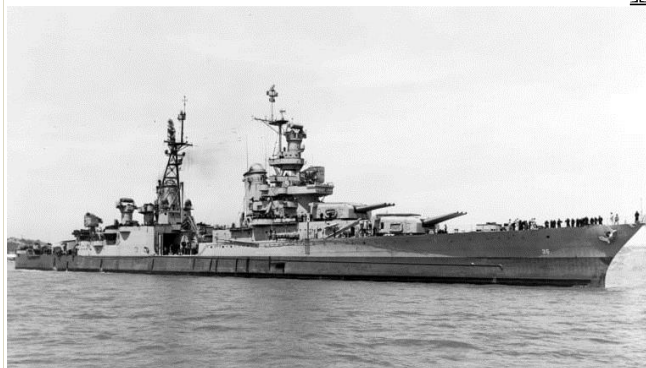
Camp Constitution Journal

Vol. 11 – No. 3

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

★★★★★

USS Indianapolis: Miracle at Sea



Ensign Harlan Twible was coming off his watch, sky aft, in the crow's nest of the USS Indianapolis. Just eight weeks out of the Naval Academy, he was at the bottom of the officer ratings, but the 23-year old son of Massachusetts mill workers would soon demonstrate his mettle and his leadership. Along with his shipmates, he was about to take part in one of history's most harrowing and heroic epics of survival.

It was 14 minutes after midnight, July 30, 1945. Ensign Twible was getting ready to start down the ladder to the main deck when a Japanese torpedo struck with thunderous impact. The ship's bow was blown away. Seconds later another torpedo struck the great ship on its starboard side, exploding the powder magazine and fuel bunkers. "At one and the same time I heard the explosion and felt the tear at my side," recounts Twible. "Then another explosion. Without thinking I reached down to my side and felt wetness." He had received a shrapnel wound. But, as he told **THE NEW AMERICAN** in a recent interview, "There was no time to think about my problem. I had other responsibilities to tend to. When you blow a ship to smithereens like that virtually everyone is wounded or injured. I think that probably all but 10 percent of the crew suffered some wound from the attack."

He ran to the quarterdeck, where the executive officer told him to go aft and get the men to the high side of the ship. "When I had arrived amidships, our starboard side

was about one foot above the water and sinking fast. I yelled, 'Over the side.' No one moved or let go of the lifeline he was holding. Who wanted to go into that forbidding sea? Many of them were only 17, 18, 19 years old; they were frightened - we were all frightened. Then I yelled, 'Follow me' and jumped into the water. The crew followed."

He had to get them away from the ship, so that it would not roll over on them or suck them under when it went down. The water was covered with oil and most of them had swallowed some of the toxic substance. Ensign Twible told the men to vomit to get the oil out of their system and then had them smear oil on their heads and faces to protect against exposure to the sun and the elements.

An estimated 300 of the ship's 1,200 crew were killed upon impact; as many as 880 were cast into the sea alive, though many were severely injured. Many of the men were badly burned or had suffered broken limbs, gaping wounds, or internal injuries. A large number of men had been forced to abandon ship without life jackets. Survival in the open sea was doubtful enough for men in peak condition; for this mass of maimed and mangled sailors it would take a miracle - and courage beyond measure. Pain, exhaustion, dehydration, blood loss, hunger, thirst, heat, cold, delirium, depression - and sharks - took their deadly toll. By the time help finally arrived,

four-and-a half days later, only 321 remained.

Ensign Twible had the men count off. There were 325; only 151 would survive until rescue ships arrived. They had only four rafts. "I told them to put the worst wounded into the rafts and for everyone else to tie themselves to the floater nets."

Off in the dark Pacific night, in the rolling waves, another, larger group of nearly 400 were assembling, under the leadership of Dr. Lewis Haynes, Marine Captain Edward Parke and Father Conway, the Catholic chaplain. They had no life rafts; Dr. Haynes called them his "swimmers." Only 66 from their group survived. Other smaller groups and individuals were scattered across the waves. By the time help arrived, the survivors had drifted 100 miles and were strung out along a swath 18 miles long.

Seaman first-class Ed Brown was in Dr. Haynes' group. "There was a huge explosion and a big ball of fire that shot up into the sky - probably 200 feet or more," he recounted to **THE NEW**

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(USS Indianapolis Continued from page 1)

AMERICAN "It did not take very long for the ship to start listing badly. I jumped; it was about 70 feet down to the water." He swam for about 100 yards, then turned back to look at what seemed "just like a Hollywood production. We could see the keel standing up, the fantail with the screws still turning, silhouetted against the moon." Then, as the ship sunk beneath the waves, the moon hid again in the clouds and all was dark.

A few days before, Ed Brown had unknowingly played a key role in world history. On July 26th, the Indianapolis, one of the Navy's most prized cruisers, had completed a record-setting run from San Francisco to the island of Tinian (about 100 nautical miles north of Guam and nearly 5,300 nautical miles from California). It was a secret mission, delivering critical components for an ultra-secret weapon: two uranium-235 triggers for the atomic bombs that would be dropped on Japan.

At Tinian, Brown had operated the crane that unloaded the mysterious cargo. "It wasn't until after our rescue, while we were at the hospital in Guam, that we learned that our cargo was the A-bomb," Brown recalled.

What was the worst part of his ordeal in the water? "Physically, there was, of course, the heat and the cold. We took that for granted, but we only expected to have to endure it for a day before we would be rescued. The thirst and dehydration was terrible and many men went mad from drinking the sea water. And the sharks, of course. But even worse than the terror of the sharks was the anguish of feeling utterly deserted and alone out there in this huge expanse of sea. It seemed at times so hopeless, that help would never come. Especially after the second day."

Did he pray? "Oh yes, I think everyone prayed," said Brown, agreeing with the old maxim that there are no atheists in fox holes - or on sinking ships. "We were bobbing there in the water and someone said, 'How do you pray?' I hadn't always been that religious, but I led them in the Lord's Prayer. In a desperate situation like that you quickly realize how vulnerable you are and how dependent you are upon God. I was at the end of my strength, within an eyelash of death when I was picked up. I had just started to fall asleep and would have drowned."

Harlan Twible agrees that it is by the grace of God that he was saved. "I never thought that I was going to die. I knew I was in God's hands and was sure he was going to keep me alive to help keep the other men alive," he told **THE NEW AMERICAN**.

The experience profoundly changed him and the other men of the Indianapolis. "In those four days and five nights, we had experienced a tragedy beyond dimensions," he says. "We had watched our shipmates die tragic deaths of their wounds because there was no means of assuaging their pain. We watched our shipmates give up all hopes of life because weakness of body had overtaken their strength of mind. We watched as our shipmates were snatched from life by those foraging sharks. We watched as our shipmates expended energy on their wounded friends which they could have marshaled for their own survival. We saw man's love for his fellow man. We saw men holding up other men while they themselves were dying. We saw true greatness.

"We came out of that water different men than we were when we went in. We would forever think of those who had given their lives, who would never see their loved ones again. We were quiet, stronger, and somehow more knowledgeable than we were before and probably ever would be again. We believed in the brotherhood of man because we had seen that brotherhood in action. We didn't know how or why but we had become different people. I've been asked, 'Why did you live, Mr. Twible, when other people died?' My answer was that it was God's will. We know that it was through God's grace that those of us who survived did survive. We have tried to fulfill the obligation cast upon us of living the life that honors those who gave theirs. We will never forget, we must never forget. They gave up their places at the table of Life so that we could have ours. We owe it to them to make our lives ones that were worth their sacrifices."★

-- William F. Jasper, *The New American Magazine*, December 17, 2001

eXavier's Zingers – Trivia Challenge

1. There are five "Directional" States. Name them.
2. Two states have capitals named in honor of the same man. Which States? Who is the man?
3. Where is the Mason-Dixon Line?
4. Two men named Bush served as President. Four other names were also repeated. What were those names?
5. Name the two presidents impeached by the house but not convicted by the Senate.
6. What is AOC?
7. Who's football team derives its name from searching for Gold?
8. Which state has a name that is a mistake?
9. Name the four "New" States.
10. Name the eight states that begin with the letter "M".
11. Name the four Presidents that were assassinated.
12. Two States have no elevation over 1000 ft. Name them.

BONUS: What is the source of the word "America".

Answers in tomorrow's edition.



Original Art by Sage Griffin

★ Come to the new First Amendment Museum in Augusta, Maine! ★

I was thrilled to recently be part of an outstanding tour with my DAR Chapter at the new First Amendment Museum, just one block away from the Maine State Archives, the State Library, and the Capitol Building in downtown Augusta. Families could plan on two days to view all that these civic, historical and educational sites have to offer.

The First Amendment Museum is a nonprofit and nonpolitical educational organization. It offers two floors of exhibits for children and adults, which is still in the early and continuous stages of development.

The museum is repurposing the home of Maine newspaper publisher Guy P. Gannett as an interactive First Amendment Museum honoring the Gannett family legacy. Mr. Gannett was a huge promoter of the First Amendment, especially the Right of a Free Press.

Guy P. Gannett founded the Guy Gannett Publishing Company as an "institution to be managed for the public good". What started with a publishing venture that merged Portland Maine's newspapers together as the Portland Press Herald, grew into a major communications firm operating newspapers, radio, and television stations around the country.

The First Amendment Museum's home is more than a century-old Mediterranean Revival home on State Street in Augusta next to the Blaine House, the Governor's mansion. Built in 1911, the home was a wedding gift from William H. Gannett to his son, Guy.

Every one of us makes use of the First Amendment every day of our lives, whether we realize it, or not. Every hour something happens related to the First Amendment. It is the guardian of our democracy," said Genie Gannett.

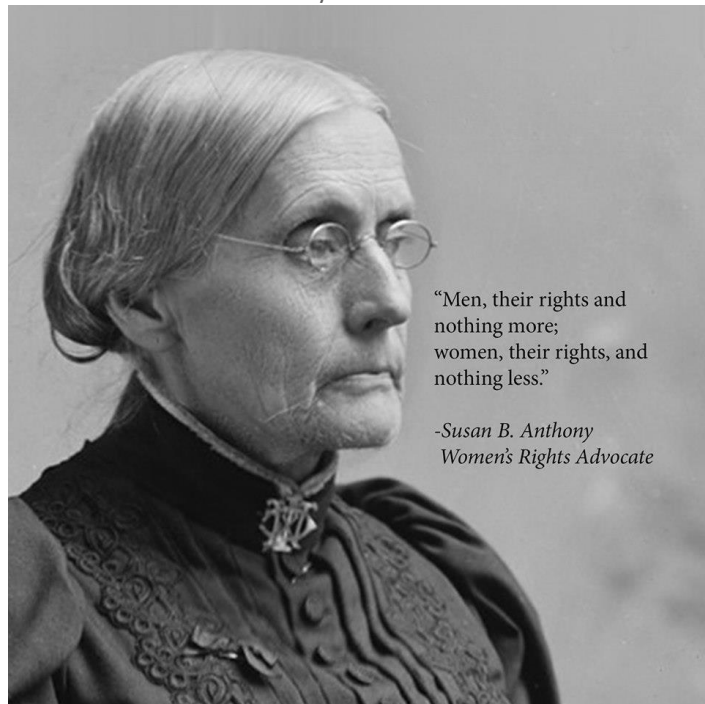
But new polling in 2017 by the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania found that 25 percent of Americans can't name any First Amendment rights while another 12 percent don't know any. The Center polled over 1,000 U.S. adults over 18 on civics as part of an annual survey.

Of the more commonly known freedoms, almost half of respondents named freedom of speech, 15 percent named freedom of religion, 14 percent named freedom of press, and 10 percent named the right to assemble.

The mission of the First Amendment Museum at the Gannett House is to examine the history and promote the practice and understanding of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Gannett family's local, state, and national involvement in such history and practice will set the stage for the examination of these freedoms around the world.

THE 1st AMENDMENT & WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE: 1948-2020

Upon my visit to this Museum, I was inspired to make a connection between the First Amendment and the entire history of the upcoming 2020 Centennial of Women Suffrage via the long, 72-year journey to the ratification of the 19th Constitutional Amendment. The earliest suffragists strategized and laid the ground work for what would finally be ratified in 1920 as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment to the Constitution.



"Men, their rights and nothing more;
women, their rights, and nothing less."

-Susan B. Anthony
Women's Rights Advocate

I realized how the first suffragists of the mid-19th century began to use the Five Freedoms found in the first of the ten Bill of Rights Amendments. These strategies were "caught" and advanced by future suffragists who outlived all of the women suffrage initiators, well into the 20th century.

Indeed, Women Suffrage would never have succeeded without the suffragists' preaching and demanding for their own inherent Equal Rights granted to ALL citizens in Amendment #1.

In my mind, this "new angle" linked the birth of the first 1848 Women's Rights Convention of Seneca Falls, NY — to the suffrage and various other reform movements to come.

All five Freedoms: religion, speech, the press, assembly and petition belonged to ALL citizens as expressed in the First Amendment. Of course, the Preamble begins with "We the people...". And NO where in the Constitution are found the words "men" or "women" which could have been used to separate the rights of male and female sexes.

1848 FIRST WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION & BEYOND TOWARD SUFFRAGE

Seneca Falls' own "mover and shaker," Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Quaker abolitionist Lucretia Mott had met eight years before at the First Abolitionist World Convention in London. Mr. Henry Stanton, the first professional speaker hired for the abolition of slavery, brought his new bride to that meeting. Elizabeth was attracted to her husband because of his strong stance on human rights for those who were ensnared and coerced into an institution they knew to be inhumanly "evil".

Slavery, they argued, was also in opposition to the Declaration of Independence as well as to the Preamble and, of course, to the original intent of the Founding Fathers who affirmed all of the personal liberties embedded into the First Amendment. These personal rights are totally separate from what the Federal Government is Constitutionally NOT allowed to do—interfere with one's own person and his/her tangible and intellectual property which belongs exclusively to each individual citizen.

CONCLUSION

No matter what one's knowledge of the Constitution may presently be, The First Amendment Museum will offer a valuable and meaningful experience for all ages. The more we learn about the Constitution—and specifically the First Amendment—the more we can appreciate what a unique and permanent national gift the Constitutional Framers and all of the Amendment reformers have given to us. The more we learn, the better we Citizens of our Constitutional Republic become. AND, especially in these troubled times in which we are now living, the better off our nation will be.

by **Bonnie Graves Wilder**, Constitution Chair of the Koussinoc Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Instructor for the Jr. Patriots of the family Camp Constitution in Pittsfield, MA one week every summer.

CONTACT

connect@FirstAmendmentMuseum.org
(207) 557-2290
184 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04330



The Mount Greylock Hike

The Mount Greylock hike started much further up the mountain this year. Instead of 2 or 3 miles in length it was a more reasonable 1 mile hike. Thankfully, no one was hurt. The view made all the sweat put into the climb well worth the effort.

■ **Andrew Affleck**

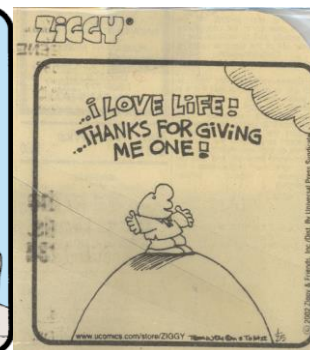
Without religion there is no morality, and without morality this is no true science.

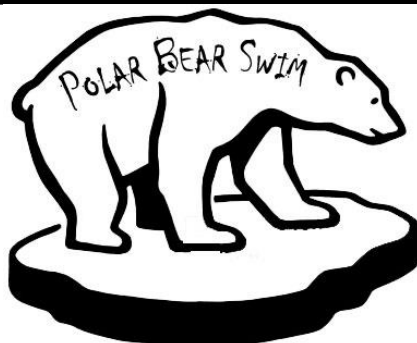
James Morrison

Morning Polar Bear Swim ! Try it out, we are looking for more bears.



A View of Richmond Pond by Sage Griffin (Original Sketch)





Today's Conditions: "cool"

Bears

Dr Willie Soon	Mr. Hoderny
Franklin Soon	Syra Wanager

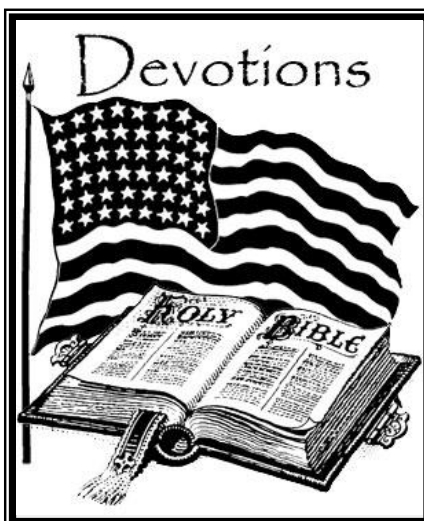
Runners

Kristina Shurtleff	Nate Shurtleff
Emily Shurtleff	Elijah Mery
Willow Whitworth	Emma Emerey

Snack Bar News

Hours	Prices	
1PM – 5PM	Chips	\$1.00
6PM – 630PM	Candy Bars	\$1.00
830 PM – 9PM	Soda	\$1.00
10PM – 1030PM	Gatorade	\$2.00
	Juice	\$0.50
	Water	\$1.00
	Raisins	\$0.50
	Fruit Snacks	\$0.50
	Cookies	\$1.00
	Ice Cream	\$1.00
Camp Constitution Journal		Free
TNA Magazines (Limited Supply)		Free
USMCA Slim Jims		Free
USMCA Reprint (2 copies only)		Free

Camp Constitution Journal has customizable letters opposing the USMCA. If you want to send copies to your officials and the President, please stop by and the editor will print them for you. A \$2 donation for postage is optional. I have donors willing to cover the costs.



Morning Devotion

Scripture	Grace Kalis
Flag Duty	Angelica K. & Sage Griffin

Evening Devotion

Flag Duty	Andrew Affleck & Elijah Mery
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Grace Before Meals

Breakfast	Emma Emerey
Lunch	Emily Shurtleff
Dinner	

Campfire Devotion

Scripture	Psalms 1:1 Sophia Daniels
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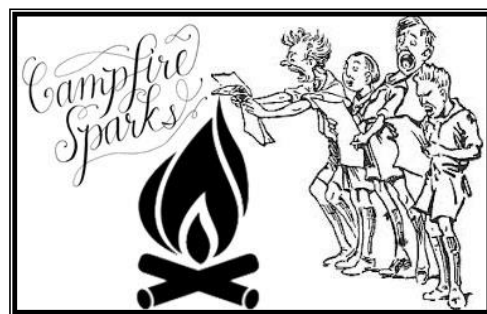
Psalm 1:1 - Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Tensions Rise as Brits Sink Unarmed U.S. Vessel

Emily and Sophia Gimenez were minding their own business, paddling along Richmond Pond when Mr. James Morrison got the brilliant idea to hitch a ride back to shore.

Startled by the Britt's attempt to board the vessel, Sofia turned her oar into a weapon and persistently pounded James upon his noggin. The boat began to list, titanic-like she showed signs of weakness as water began to fill the hull.

The Britt now, 8 inches deep in pond scum watched helplessly as Emily continued to row in earnest and the canoe drifted deeper into the muck and



Monday's Campfire

The Jr. Patriots under the direction of The Constitution Lady (Mrs. Bonnie Wilder) learned how to sing and present her original lyrics for the Monday night campfire. The tune is familiar to all of us who watched the Mickey Mouse Club on our little tv's in the 1950s. Mrs. Wilder and Jr. Patriots hope that Camp Constitution will make it their theme song for our week together every summer! Mr. Shurtleff shared from George Washington's Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior. Emily Shurtleff recited the "God Poem". Jokes, if you want to call them that, were provided by Gus Kalis, Shibastian Belanger, Mr. Shurtleff, Jesse King, and Gabe Kalis. The 7B Boys cabin performed the perennial submarine skit.

Our second night of campfire was another successful event. It showcased our camps first-class talent. Spunky the Clown made another appearance, but seemed a bit hungrier than normal as he devoured chips and an entire banana in mid-act.

Some of the all-time favorites sung this night were: "Battle Hymn of the Republic", "Bicycle Built for Two", "Bonnie", "Oh, Susannah", "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain".

Of Course, the "Baby Shark" rendition was the highlight of the evening. ★

■ Thomas Hazelrigg & Moria Herrygers

mire. Sofia now abandoned the oar and tried valiantly to dunk her British counter-part under water.

Soon, the lifeguards and accompanying ships rendered aid to the wayward crew.

Many campers contributed to this story.

Group photos are \$4.00. Make arrangements with your counselor if you wish to purchase one.

★ CABIN ★ INSPECTIONS ★

7A – George Washington

We named you the George Washington Cabin because for right now, you are first. We loved the streamers and balloon, but the hand-crafted dinner plates on the wall was a step above. Decorating the eye sore of a water heater was the clincher! Never has a water heater looked so good. The Christian flag prop is certainly in good taste. Bunting is always nice; it just should not be relied upon as the sole decoration. Clean room, tidy and beds well made. Congrats and keep up the great work. Feel free to name your own cabin, let the newspaper know your cabin name of choice.

Score: 7

**7B – Thomas Jefferson**

Without a doubt, your streamer flag has kept you in the contest. We like hand crafted touches and streamers from the rafters are cool, but this creativity is definitely what we're looking for. The three wick potpourri made the cabin smell much nicer than your average teenage bedroom. We know from experience! There were. However, some paper on the floor that should have been in a trash bin. By the way, obviously we named you Jefferson because you are clearly second best. Feel free to name your own cabin, let the newspaper know your cabin name of choice.

Score: 5



"It's easier to believe an incredible lie than an incredible truth."

-- Samuel L. Blumenfeld

Girls Port Side

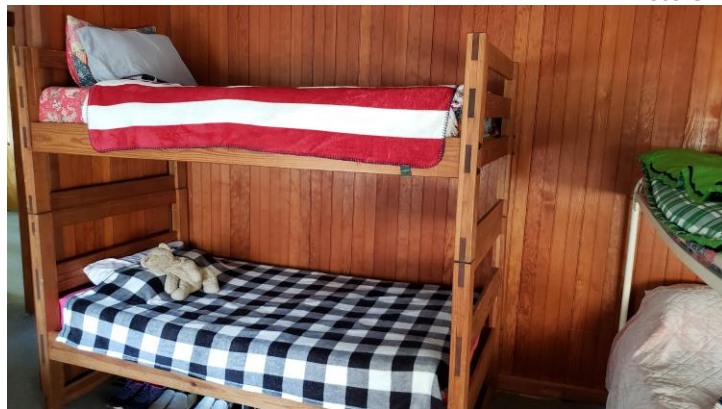
The only thing new in the cabin today, was a Trump 2020 banner. Your inspectors hereby issue the following warning: For your safety and the safety of other, do not text and iron at the same time. We see evidences of abandoned irons on the carpet. Our assumption is that someone was distracted. We're sure you inherited the condition but we ain't got nuttin' else to talk about.

Score: 4

**Girls Starboard Side**

The only thing new today (at least we think it new) is a one-eyed stuffed bear. What should we attribute to the one-eyed bear? In the forest of the blind, the one-eyed bear is king. This reminds us of the no eyed deer joke at campfire last night but it just doesn't work with a bear.

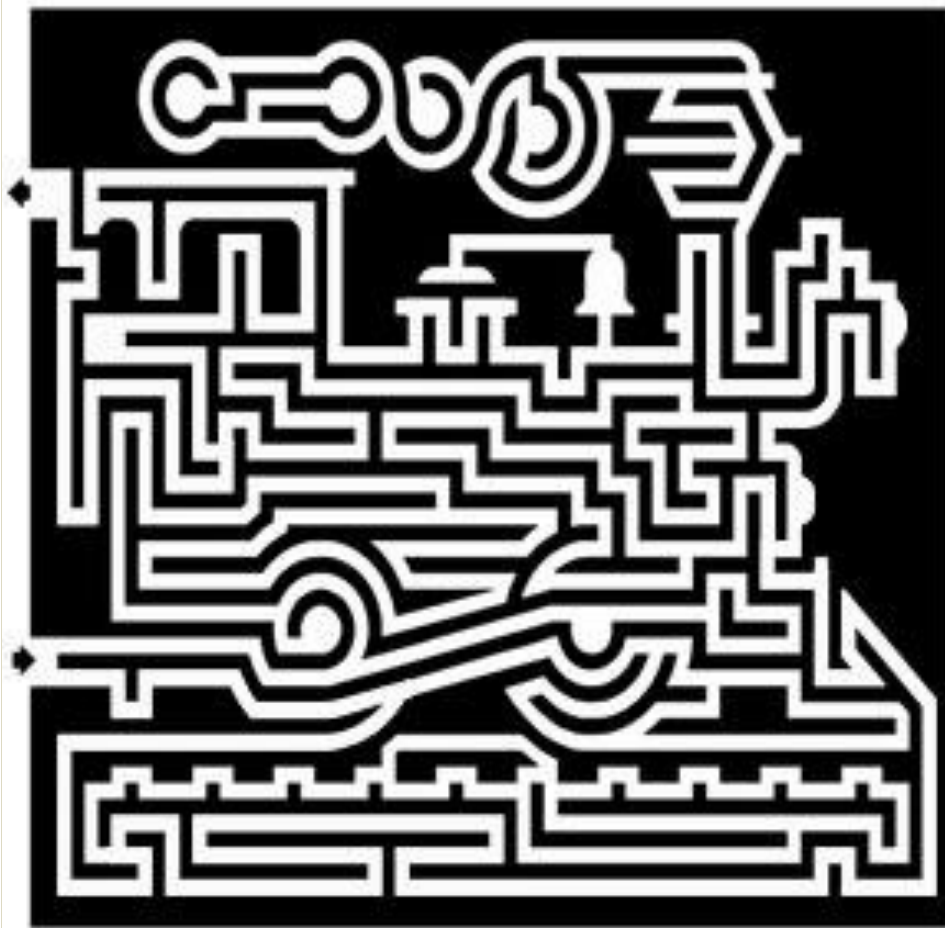
Score: 4



★ 2019 PIZZA PARTY RACE ★

Standings	M	T	W	Thu	F	News	Total
7A	4.0	7.0	0	0	0	0	11.0
7B	4.0	5.0	0	0	0	0	9.0
Port	4.0	4.0	0	0	0	0	8.0
Starboard	4.0	4.0	0	0	0	0	8.0

★ PUZZLES ★ GAMES ★ QUOTES ★



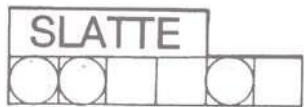
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4	9				8		1	
	6		5	7		3		9
		3				8		
	4		1		5			7
1		8		6			9	
	5					6		
		2	3				4	
	8			9		1		3

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

★ JUMBLES ★

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here



★ YESTERDAY'S ★ SOLUTIONS ★

Twelve Disciples

[illegible]

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/738/>

Tomorrow's Schedule

★ Camp Constitution Schedule ★

When	Required *	What	Where/Notes
6:30AM		Polar Bear Swim / Morning Run	Lake Front / Trail
7:00AM	*	Wake Up !!! Last Call	
7:50AM	*	Flag Raising: Devotions & Announcements	Flag Pole
8:00AM	*	Breakfast	Outside Cafeteria for Grace
8:30AM		Staff Meeting (Students Cabin Prep)	
9:00AM	*	Constituting America	Ms. Janine Turner
		Short-Break	
10:00AM	*	Articles II and III of the U.S. Constitution	Mr. Norman Tregenza
		Short-Break	
11:00AM	*	The Right to Keep and Bear Arms	Keith Hanson
		Short-Break	
12:00PM	*	Lunch (See Optional Field Trip)	Outside Cafeteria for Grace
1:00PM		Recreation Time - Mr. Kalis Optional Field Trip: "Shay's Rebellion" Mr. Howell (in front of Springfield Armory Museum)	LAKEFRONT USE REQUIRES LIFEGUARD
5:30PM	*	Dinner	Outside Cafeteria for Grace
6:30PM	*	Red Pill Politics: Mr. Dave Kopacz with Debbie Bacigalupi & Lord Monckton	
7:20PM	*	Flag Lowering	Flag Pole
7:45PM	*	A More Perfect Union	Mr. Tom Moor
8:00PM		Break: (Long Sleeves, Bug Repellant, Songbooks, Flashlight)	
9:00PM	*	Camp Fire (Songbook & Flashlight) - Ron Peik	
10:00PM		Break: Snack & Newspapers (hopefully)	
10:30PM	*	Report to Cabin	Assigned Cabins
11:00PM	*	Lights Out	Good Night
★Wednesday, July 31, 2019★			

★ Camp Constitution Jr. Patriot Schedule ★

Start	End	Program	Where/Notes
6:30 AM	7:00 AM	Polar Bear Swim / Morning Run	
7:00 AM	7:50 AM	Wake Up !!! Last Call	
7:50 AM	8:00 AM	Flag Raising: Devotions & Announcements	
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Breakfast	
9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Morning Prayer & Songs	Mrs. Edith Craft & Ms. Isabell K.
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	Break	Mrs. Edith Craft
10:00 AM	10:40 AM	Constituting America via Skype (Lesson A)	Ms. Janine Turner
10:40 AM	11:15 AM	Minding Your Money (Lesson B)	Mr. Howard Jacks
11:15 AM	11:45 AM	Craft Time / Lesson Tie-In	Mrs. Edith Craft & Staff
11:45 AM	11:55 PM	Cleanup & Announcements	Mrs. Edith Craft
11:55 AM	1:00 PM	Bag Lunch on Trip	
1:00 PM	5:30 PM	Field Trip: Armory Museum	
5:30 AM	6:30 PM	Dinner	Outside Cafe for Grace
6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Free Time (Flag Lowering @ 7:20)	
9:00 PM	10:00 PM	Campfire(Flashlight & Songbook)- Ron Peik	Fire Pit
★Wednesday, July 31, 2019★			