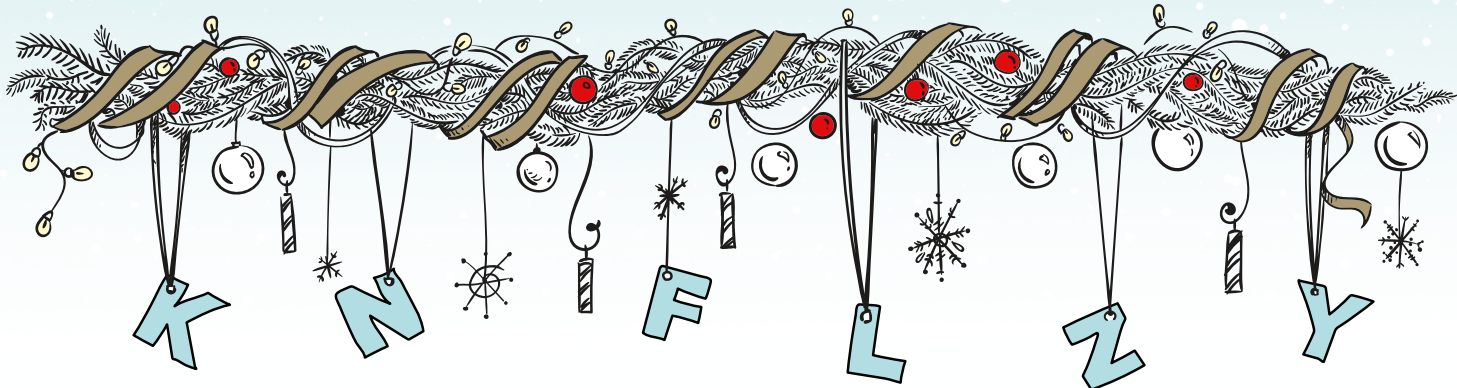


A PUZZLING CONCLUSION

BY KEN WEBER

Hanging letters

All but one of the letters that adorn this garland have two features in common. Replace the misfit letter with another in the alphabet that has both common features.



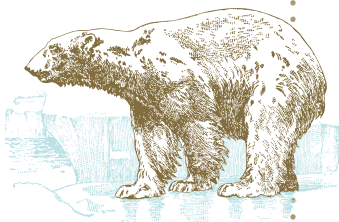
Keep your eye on the prize

Everyone solving this puzzle at the Alton Fair was entered in a draw for a brass desk calendar with removable month, day and date cards. Would you have been eligible?

Choose the one example of Canadian wildlife from this list that best completes the column below:

bluebird fox smelt
groundhog loon
marten lemming

CARIBOU	BEAR
BOBOLINK	SALMON
BISON	WOLVERINE
SKUNK	MUSKRAT
ELK	SQUIRREL
NEWT	_____



A random code

Jen didn't know the code to get in the door at the annual In The Hills puzzle symposium, so she arrived early and lingered near the entrance to pick up possible clues. She got a hint right away when a well-dressed woman, obviously a veteran attendee, walked confidently up to the door monitor and said, "Sixteen." The monitor responded, "Seven," and when the woman in turn said, "Five," he smiled and opened the door.

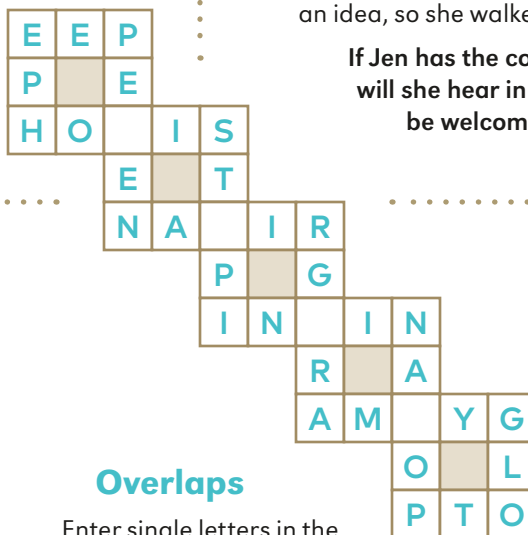
sixteen

seven

To Jen it was clear the code was a numbers exchange, likely with a number starting in the teens, but then the next regular to approach said, "Twenty-seven." This time the door monitor responded with "Eleven," and when that got a "Six" in reply, he again opened the door.

Still, what she overheard was enough to convince Jen the code began with a random number followed by specific responses. This gave her an idea, so she walked up to the door monitor and said, "Thirty."

If Jen has the code figured out correctly, what number will she hear in reply, and what will she say in turn to be welcomed to the In The Hills symposium?



Note the time limits!

A

In **under ten seconds** identify the mitsake in this puzzle:

1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19

B

Take **all the time you need** to figure out whether any of these words are misspelled:

miniscule descendent moccasin
hemorrhage withhold exhorbitant
sacreligious desiccate liquefy

Overlaps

Enter single letters in the empty boxes above so that an 8-letter word is spelled out around each solid box.

Each 8-letter word may read clockwise or counter-clockwise and may start at any of its letters.

Thinking outside the circle

Examine these 4-digit numbers carefully. What number goes in the empty bracket?

8084 (4) 2630 (1)
7978 (3) 5143 (0)
4062 (1) 6061 ()
0686 (4) 2988 (5)
1735 (0) 6790 (2)