

PICTURE OF THE WEEK: Seatbelt Laws for Pets

All pets love a good car ride, and in Santa Fe, New Mexico, such a treat may become a lot safer.

On Tuesday, March 23, an ordinance was sponsored by a City Council committee that would require pets of any kind traveling inside a vehicle to be restrained so that they do not fall out of the vehicle or distract the driver. Animals riding in the bed of a truck would need to be crated or restricted, as well. The proposed ordinance would also require that dogs and cats wear leashes when on public property.

The Humane Society, an anti-abuse of animals group, said that some states already have such laws in place. The Humane Society offers other tips about traveling with pets on its Web, (www.hsus.org).

It says that when traveling by car, pets should always be restrained in a safety harness or in a well-ventilated, hard-sided crate or kennel. To minimize distraction, pets should also always be placed in the back seat. Also, do not allow pets to stick their head out the window if the car is in motion; don't leave animals in an unattended car, even if the windows are cracked; and never transport pets in the beds of pickup trucks.

Unrestrained pets in a moving vehicle not only causes potential harm because animals can be shifted and bumped suddenly, but it also causes great distraction to the driver. AAA cites unrestrained animals as the third most common in-car distraction that leads to automobile accidents.

--Written by [Anna Ferguson](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 1: America's Symbol of Freedom

What is the last American monument to open after 9/11? The Statue of Liberty. It is a symbol of our nation as a haven for others and a worldwide symbol of freedom. Why has this monument remained closed for an extended period time?

The Statue is 118 years old. One's safety in such an old building is hard to guarantee. There are few exits, long and narrow stairs, and because it's so popular, multitudes of people flock to the New York Harbor. All of these factors add up to an accident waiting to happen.

To temporarily resolve these issues, the pedestal, or base, of the Statue will be reopened this summer. The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation has raised \$7 million to correct the safety issues and create a glass ceiling in the pedestal. Visitors, if they have a reservation, will be able to see the interior of the Statue through the ceiling. Only the pedestal will open; thus, no one will be able to enter the actual Statue or experience the view from her crown. However, it will be open to the public and we can visit one of the oldest symbols of liberty in America.

--Written by [Katheryn Troyer](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 2: Frog Hides in Salad

A busy mom from Kaspell, Montana, was making a green salad on March 28 to serve with dinner when she unexpectedly came across some a surprise--a live surprise. Laurie Kollman was tearing up triple-washed spinach Sunday night when her 11-year-old daughter Ashley saw something moving. It was a small tree frog.

When Kollman found the tiny, sleepy-looking frog, dark as tree bark after its week in the refrigerator with the salad, she quickly popped a plastic Tupperware bowl over the spinach, then found a larger plastic tub and made a nice resting spot for the visitor.

Kollman said the frog perked up after it was freed from the fridge. She then brought the visitor to her third-grade classroom at St. Matthew's School, where she introduced it to her 20 eager students on Monday. In honor of another famous spinach-eater, they named it Popeye.

Kollmann hadn't had time by midmorning to do research, but she figured the critter's suction-cupped toes indicated it was some kind of tree frog. It not only changed color to a spring-leaf green hue outside the refrigerator, but livened up and started hopping when it was held.

The Pacific Tree Frog is one of our smallest but loudest amphibians of the Pacific Northwest. Pacific Tree Frogs live from southern British Columbia, Canada, south to California and east to Montana and Nevada. This frog can be recognized by its sticky toes pads, black stripes through each eye which extend to the shoulder, a V or Y-shaped mark between its eyes, light-colored belly and dark spots on back and legs. Its color varies from almost a bronze brown to a light lime green. Individuals can change color in green and brown tones in a few minutes depending on the temperature and amount of moisture in the air. This color change gives it the protection of camouflage as it hops and crawls about on low leaves.

--Written by [Hillary Rouse](#)

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Read [WEEKLY NEWS 3: California Wildfire Recovery Project](#)

WEEKLY NEWS 3: California Wildfire Recovery Project

On Thursday, April 1, 2004, the California Wildfire Recovery Project was launched. Many groups and organizations have worked together to start this project, including Home Depot, Earth Day Network, TreePeople, Student Conservation Association and the Earth Communications Office. So why are all these groups working together?

The California Wildfire Recovery Project intends to reforest nearly 60,000 acres of land that was destroyed by wildfires in 2003. Most of the land is located in the Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Diego areas.

The California wildfires of 2003 caused more than \$10 billion in damage. Many people were forced to leave their homes because of the fires. Many animals lost their homes, too, because the trees were destroyed or the land was left in ashes. If the land is not restored, it will be more vulnerable to erosion and pollution.

Home Depot has donated \$1 million to the project, but many volunteers will be needed to help achieve the goals. Over the next few months there will be more than 300 local events that will try and prevent future fires, and thousands of trees will be planted. The groups are hoping to get a lot of community support so their goals can become a reality.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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Read WEEKLY NEWS 4: [Virtual Bunnies for Easter](#)



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WEEKLY NEWS 4: Virtual Bunnies for Easter

On Thursday, April 1, 2004, The Fund for Animals announced that "virtual rabbits" are available for adoption through the organization's rabbit sanctuary in Simpsonville, South Carolina. The sanctuary actually has real live bunnies that you can "virtually" adopt. When you sponsor a rabbit, you get a certificate of adoption, a photograph, a newsletter, and other goodies.

So why are these animals available for "virtual" adoption? The Fund for Animals wants to discourage people from giving live bunnies as Easter gifts. This time of year, many pet stores feature cute and cuddly baby animals--like rabbits--in hopes that people will put them in baskets as an Easter surprise.

But taking care of a pet can be a lot of work. Sometimes, when the fun of a new animal wears off, the pet doesn't get all the attention it deserves. Animals are a big responsibility. They must be fed, watered and cleaned. They also need to get exercise and proper healthcare. And they need lots of love, too! All of this is the responsibility of the pet owner. So the Fund for Animals suggests that people "virtually" adopt a bunny instead of getting a new one.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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AROUND THE WORLD 1: Coup Attempted in Sudan

If a group of people suddenly takes over a government without any formal process or transition, this change in leadership is known as a coup--short for the French term coup d'etat. The government of Sudan said that a group of politicians and military officers was planning to carry out a coup last week by overthrowing the Sudanese president. The Sudanese government claimed to know exactly who was involved, and they were able to arrest the plotters before they could proceed with the plan. They also arrested the famous Islamist leader Hassan al-Turabi.

Coups and coup attempts are not uncommon in Sudan. Numerous racial, religious and political groups have been struggling for input and control in the large African country for decades. Most significantly, Sudan has experienced a civil war between Muslim Arabs in the North and Black Christians in the south. This civil war has gotten attention from the international community, and the two sides agreed to hold peace talks in the neighboring country Kenya.

The Arab-dominated government in the capital city of Khartoum has been focusing on ending the civil war between the north and the south over the past several months. During this time, however, the western region of Darfur became restless with its own demands and complaints about inequality between blacks and Arabs. Claiming that their needs are not being addressed, people in the western region have protested and organized into groups to threaten the government.

In response to this, the government has been sending troops to the Darfur region to forcefully prevent the people in the region from rising up against the government. A tragic side effect of this conflict between the western rebels and the government is that large numbers of Sudanese people have been driven out of the region either by force or because they had to leave to find food and safety.

The recent coup attempt will only make this situation worse. The government claims that the prevented coup was planned by several groups, including rebel groups in the west. The most important group accused of planning the coup is known as the Popular Congress Party (PCP). The government closed down the headquarters of this political party and arrested its most prominent leader, Hassan Al-Turabi. Many other groups and leaders are accused of involvement in the plot, including the governor of the capital city, who has now gone into hiding.

--Written by [Betsy Mesard](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 2: UK's Richest Teens** 

AROUND THE WORLD 2: UK's Richest Teens

Two Harrys are the richest teenagers in the UK. Daniel Radcliffe, who plays boy wizard Harry Potter comes in second to Prince Harry who is the wealthiest teen in the UK.

Radcliffe replaced Charlotte Church, the 18-year-old opera singer as the second richest teenager this year. It is estimated that as Radcliffe's salary rises with each film, he might surpass Prince Harry and his 25 million dollar fortune within the next couple of years. Depending on how many more Harry Potter movies will be made, Radcliffe might even become the richest teen in the world.

Daniel Radcliffe isn't the only person benefiting from the Harry Potter franchise. According to Forbe's magazine, author J.K. Rowling is estimated to be worth \$1 billion dollars, making her one of five self-made female billionaires and the first billion dollar author. Unlike the other self-made female billionaires, Rowling's fortunes have yet to reach their peak.

Rowling's five Potter books have sold 250 million copies worldwide in 55 languages, including Latin and Ancient Greek. "Harry Potter and The Order of the Phoenix," which sold 12 million copies in the United States earned her \$185 million in just six months. The mother of two, who was once living on welfare, is currently creating more magic. She is in hiding and writing the sixth book of the Harry Potter series.

--Written by [Lyssa Walker](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 3: Dutch Dogs Get Toilets** 

AROUND THE WORLD 3: Dutch Dogs Get Toilets

Dutch dog owners can soon throw away their pooper-scoopers and plastic bags and instead walk their furry creatures to their very own toilet. The developer of a new "doggy toilet," a small fenced-in patch of artificial grass, hopes the self-cleaning device will help rid towns of the mess left behind by man's best friend.

The first toilet is being tested in Zaltbommel, a small town in central Netherlands, but the developer has already been approached by government wanting to use the device from government officials from as far away from the Netherlands as London.

"This is only a pilot program, but we hope to roll out 200 to 300 of these toilets in one year," Hans van de Pos, who has patented the device, told Reuters Tuesday.

Many cities have long held "Dog Waste Ordinances", or laws and regulations about canine droppings, in effect to protect the public from potential hazardous health conditions and prevent environmental pollution caused by dog waste. The City of Boston's dog fouling ordinance, for example, requires dog owners to remove and properly dispose of any waste left by their dogs. This ordinance covers waste left by on sidewalks, streets and parks, and on neighbor's yards.

Many diseases, such as the Parvo virus, are the result of healthy dogs coming into contact with canine waste. Parvo is a virus that attacks the intestinal lining of a dog causing vomiting and severe dehydration.

But these new doggy "toilets" may help eliminate some of these problems, since the dogs will have their own special place.

--Written by [Hillary Rouse](#)

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Read **AROUND THE WORLD 4: London Fire Authority Ready** 

AROUND THE WORLD 4: London Fire Authority Ready

On Thursday, April 1, 2004, the Fire Brigades Union in the UK announced that it needs at least 1,000 more firefighters to help deal with possible terrorist attacks. The fire departments have been provided with lots of new equipment to help handle any chemical attacks, but they do not have enough manpower. Much of the equipment requires lots of people to use it, so it's very important that more firefighters be added to the staff.

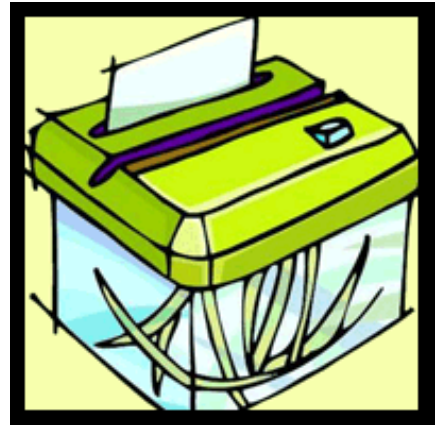
The new equipment includes 80 mass decontamination showers, protective suits and breathing equipment. The fire departments also plan to add more search and rescue equipment, as well as machinery for moving heavy rubble.

Only the London Fire Authority has made an effort to recruit more firefighters. They've added 256 more people to their staff. The Fire Brigades Union is urging other parts of the UK to follow the example of the London Fire Authority.

The Fire Brigades Union believes it's important that the entire UK be ready for any possible attacks. They are worried that some cities may be simply ignoring the issue and hoping that nothing will happen. The union is urging all UK cities to recruit more firefighters.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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SPORTS ZONE 1: MLB Season Underway

Last Tuesday night the 2004 Major League Baseball officially began when the New York Yankees and the Tampa Bay Devil Rays squared off in Tokyo, Japan.

Both teams arrived in Japan five days prior to facing off in Tuesday's opening game that saw the D-Rays beat the Yanks 8-3. The Yankees jumped out to a 2-0 first inning lead on Jason Giambi's two-run homerun. Then it went all downhill for the defending AL champions.

Yankees starting pitcher Mike Mussina was rocked in his five innings of work, giving up 10 hits, 5 earned runs that included a six run homerun to D-Rays right fielder Jose Cruz.

The D-Rays got a solid performance from starting pitcher Victor Zambrano. After a tough first inning Zambrano settled down only giving up one more run in the sixth.

D-Rays first baseman and former Yankee Tino Martinez sealed the win for Tampa with a two-run homerun in the bottom of the 7th inning.

The Yanks would get revenge in the second game of the two game series the following day. New York's offense exploded for 12 runs on 11 hits. Hometown hero Hideki Matsui hit a two-run homerun in the 5th, earning him a standing ovation from the hometown crowd of 55,000 fans.

Both teams have now traveled back to the U.S. where they will continue their regular seasons against the rest of the teams who are currently wrapping up their spring trainings.

--Written by [Cris Sigovitch](#)

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Read **SPORTS ZONE 2: Olympic Torch Lit in Greece** 

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SPORTS ZONE 2: Olympic Torch Lit in Greece

The 2004 Summer Olympics are to take place in Athens, Greece in August, but the festivities have already begun. Last Friday, the Olympic torch was lit during an elaborate ceremony. This is the first of many traditions that mark the Olympic games.

Athens was the birthplace of the Olympics in 776 B.C. Because the Olympic games are returning to their place of origin, a special lighting ceremony took place. An actress named Thalia Prokopiou was dressed as a goddess and lit the silver torch with the sun's rays. Now that the flame is lit, it will not go out until the Olympic Games are completed.

During this time, the torch will travel to every continent in cars, boats, airplanes, trains, and on elephants and camels. The most common way for the torch to travel is the hands of torchbearers, or runners, as they jog through their towns. Often people will celebrate this first taste of the Olympics by cheering on the torchbearer. The torch will travel 46,800 miles in 78 days. It has left Greece and the next stop is Australia. It will run through America June 16th-19th. Be prepared to celebrate with our torchbearers in Los Angeles, Atlanta, and New York!

--Written by [Katheryn Troyer](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Tetrapod Humerus Discovery

A group of scientists from the University of Chicago and the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia announced in the journal Science this week that they have discovered a humerus--the upper arm bone--of a prehistoric water-dwelling tetrapod, indicating that the ability to do a push-up evolved before early organisms left the oceans, not after.

Life began in the oceans and spread to land in the Devonian period, which lasted from about 417-354 million years ago, experts believe, and at some point organisms that made the transition went from fins to feet, and the ability to push up from the ground and walk on them. Scientists had previously thought that the ability to lift the body up off the ground developed in tetrapods, the four-limbed creatures that evolved after our earliest ancestors left the oceans, as a result of their new land-living lifestyle. But with this new discovery, experts believe they may have found a sort of missing link between the fossils of water- and land-dwellers, since the bone shows characteristics of both arm bones and fins.

The researchers have not yet been able to figure out to which early tetrapod species the bone belongs. The humerus was discovered, along with several other fossil specimens, in a block of bedrock taken from an ancient streambed unearthed in Pennsylvania more than 10 years ago, during a road-construction project. The bone in question, however, was only fully examined in the last few years. It is estimated to be about 365 million years old.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: File Sharing Legal in Canada

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: File Sharing Legal in Canada

With anti- file sharing suits pending in Europe and others already settled in the US, April Fools Day brought cruel news to recording industry executives worldwide this week as a Canadian judge ruled that sharing songs on the Internet is legal and is not copyright infringement, potentially setting a precedent for file-swapping suits pending in other countries.

In hopes of putting a halt to music file-swapping, the Canadian Recording Industry Association (CRIA), like America's Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), recently filed a lawsuit to identify 29 individuals who uploaded MP3 files to the Internet. The CRIA could presumably then take legal action against the file swappers. The judge in the case, however, refused to grant access to the names of the file swappers, ruling that their actions were not copyright infringement, since the CRIA could not prove the people who uploaded the files were intending to distribute them. His rationale was that they uploaded the files for their own use on a shared directory--other users could access the files, but the CRIA had not proved the intent was to share.

The ruling by itself is a headache for the recording industry, since artists, executives and their lawyers argue that the recording industry has lost hundreds of millions of dollars in music sales around the world since file-swapping programs on the Internet became popular. Attempts to stop the swapping have focused mainly on publicly punishing swappers to scare others away from the practice, since technology seems to advance for security to catch up. The judge's decision means that Canadian file swappers will not be exposed for public punishment, and that others can continue to legally share music, at least until the CRIA appeals the decision.

The ruling does, however, pose an additional threat. In many lawsuits, judges often base their decisions in part on precedents, the decisions of judges in similar cases that have occurred before. Now, in future cases on file-swapping, judges may look to this ruling when making their own decisions.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Tetrapod Humerus Discovery

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On April 6, 1917, America formally entered World War I two days after the U.S. Senate voted to declare war on Germany. The entrance of America's well-supplied forces was a turning point in the war. By the end of the war on November 11, 1918, more than two million Americans had fought in battle in Western Europe.



On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee sent a letter to Ulysses S. Grant, offering to surround his troops and essentially ending the bloodiest conflict in American history. Lee and Grant met in the parlor of the Wilmer McLean home and came to terms for Lee's men, including pardon, food, and permission to keep personal property. Scattered resistance continued for the next few weeks, but the war was over.

and a lack of preparation, more than fifteen hundred people died as the ship sank into the cold ocean. Approximately 700 people survived, mostly women and children.

On April 10, 1912, the R.M.S. Titanic set sail on its maiden voyage. Declared the both unsinkable and the fastest ship afloat, the luxury liner struck an iceberg four days later. Due to both a shortage of lifeboats



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MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 1: The Man Behind the Dog

"Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed" was the number one movie last weekend, earning \$30.7 million. The Mysteries Inc. crew from the first movie is back for more action inspired by the original cartoon. But while Sarah Michelle Gellar, Freddie Prinze Jr., Linda Cardellini, and Matthew Lillard will be seen on TV and in magazines as Daphne, Fred, Velma and Shaggy, what about the real star of the show, Scooby Doo? Scooby Doo as we see him on screen is, of course, computer-animated. That's only half the character, though. What would Scooby Doo be without sayings like, "Ruh-roh, Raggy?" Neil Fanning, the man behind the dog, was interviewed by the Associated Press to get his take on being Scooby.

Fanning is a voice actor and stunt man from Australia. How did an unknown actor end up voicing such a popular character? The first Scooby Doo movie was shot in his hometown, and they needed someone to read the Scooby parts while they filmed the other actors. Neil did such a good job that they hired him for the final Scooby voiceover. While it might seem hard to copy a famous voice, he says that years of cartoon watching helped prepare him for it, but he does need to warm up his voice every day on the job. Whenever he was given lines, he also how to figure out how to best say new words using Scooby Doo's unique pronunciation.

While his Scooby has played for millions in movie theaters and on video, he also uses his voice talents for smaller audiences--doing all the voices when he reads bedtime stories to his kids or doing a quick Scooby impersonation for a fan. No matter what size the audience, though, Neil Fanning is definitely a hit as Scooby Doo.

--Written by [Lorie Witkop](#)

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MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 2: The Coolest Street in America

The show that features Big Bird, the Cookie Monster, Oscar the Grouch and diverse people living harmoniously in a friendly neighborhood celebrates its 35th season this year.

"Sesame Street," which premiered November 10, 1969, educates children while letting them have fun and feel comfortable. The inspirational children's show premiered during a time of uncertainty; the Vietnam War was being fought and the civil rights movement was underway, one of the major themes of "Sesame Street."

The streets are basically the same as they were 35 years ago; peaceful and happy. A few changes have been made to keep the show modern. Maria and Luis, two of the main human characters, no longer run the fix-it shop, they manage a "Mail It" shop, where monsters can use fax machines and mail packages. Because of the internet, America's favorite red Muppet Elmo has also kept up with the changing times. During his ultra-popular segment, Elmo takes viewers on cyber-explorations.

Elmo and "Sesame Street" have been informing and educating kids of all ages for 4,057 episodes. In its 35th season the ratings are up 9 percent, remaining very popular despite the heavy competition.

--Written by [Lyssa Walker](#)

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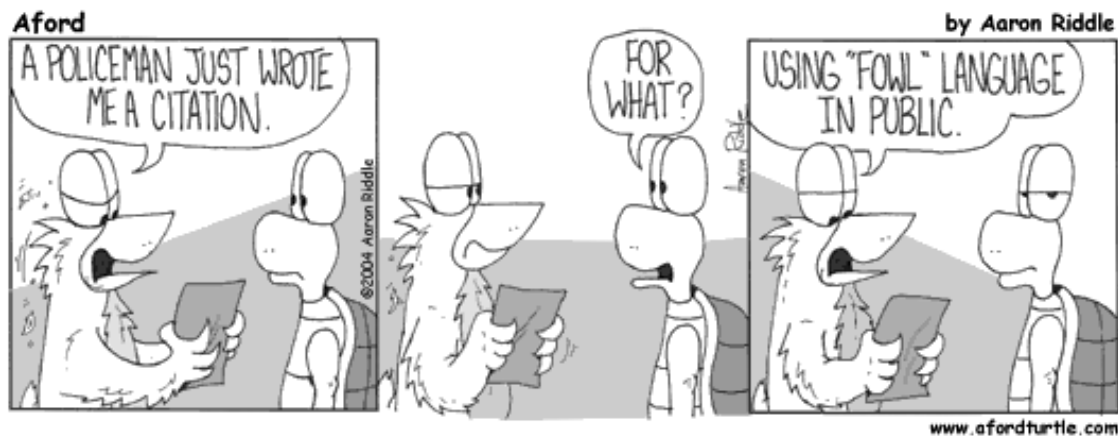
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COMICS & POEMS 1: Aford Turtle, Comic Strip



--Written by [Aaron Riddle](#)

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COMICS & POEMS 2: Soft Rain In New Orleans, Poetry

Soft Rain In New Orleans

In the soft New Orleans rain,
we danced our slow dance,
that found us with brethren, former slaves
jostling the ancient streets with sad laughter.

Music of the soul starved ones,
pealing across the cobblestones,
echoing in the bars, a soft forgiving rain.
Finding its birth among the tears
of yesterdays rains, mingling us
denominators of a common culture.

We found ourselves, in the
Soft new Orleans rain.

--Written by [John Kirkhoff](#)

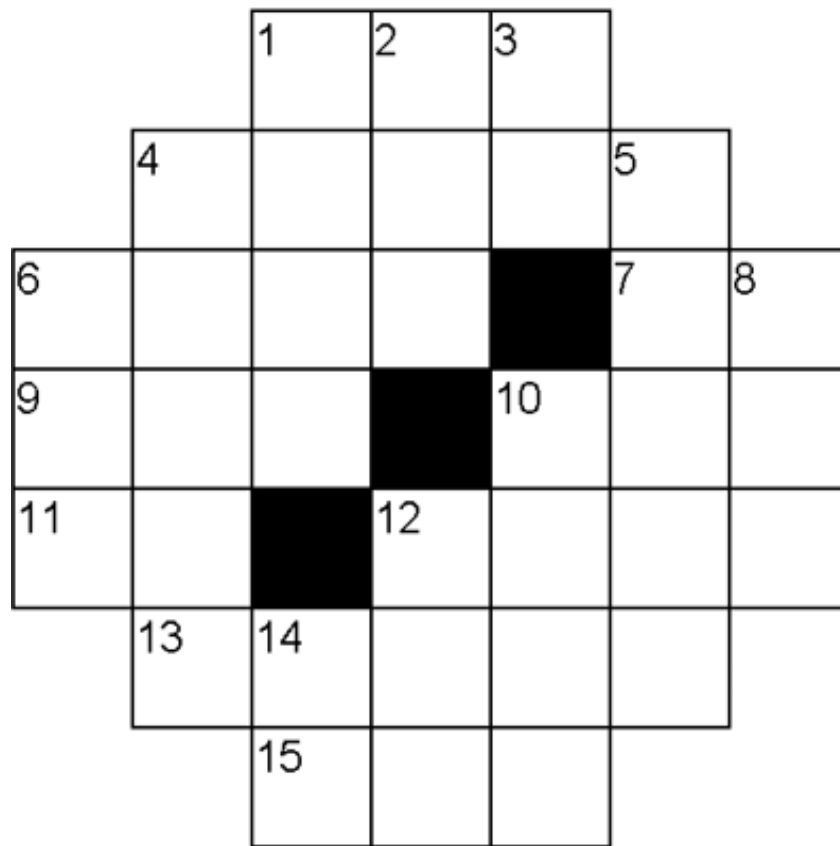
This poem is featured in [The Promise of Dawn](#), an Anthology of Poetry released by the International Library of Poetry in July 1998.

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Read COMICS & POEMS 3: Freedom Fires, Crossword 

COMICS & POEMS 3: Freedom Fires, Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Prohibit
- 4 Two __ (has two faces)
- 6 Not yours
- 7 Awake
- 9 Former president of U.S.
- 10 School group
- 11 Scale note
- 12 Juicy
- 13 Whinny
- 15 Seafood

DOWN

- 1 Energy
- 2 Spots
- 3 Rupee (abbr.)
- 4 African country
- 5 Germanic language
- 6 Spoiled
- 8 Earnings
- 10 Summon
- 12 Rio de Janeiro
- 14 Emergency room

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U.S. GOVERNMENT 1: Financial Literacy Month Designated

On Thursday, April 1, 2004, Governor Edward G. Rendell of Pennsylvania proclaimed April to be Financial Literacy for Youth Month. What does that mean? He wants kids to learn more about money.

During this month, many organizations and agencies will work together on programs to try and teach kids about money. April 18-24 is National Credit Union Youth Week, and many credit unions in the state will be holding events and promotions. April 22 is National Teach Children to Save Day, and bankers in Pennsylvania will work with schools and communities to teach kids the basics of saving money.

So why is this important? The Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Finance Education just released a study that the average grade on a "financial literacy" test take by high school seniors was a failing 52.3%. That means more kids need to learn how to save, invest and spend their money wisely.

Governor Rendell proclaimed April as Financial Literacy for Youth Month because he thinks life will improve for Pennsylvanians if more kids learn how to handle their money in smart ways. If Pennsylvanians act in a responsible manner with their finances, it will help improve the state's economy.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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U.S. GOVERNMENT 2: Spam Shields for Kids

U.S. GOVERNMENT 2: Spam Shields for Kids

A Michigan state senator has proposed a bill that, if passed, would allow parents to keep explicit or profane content away from their children. Senator Mike Bishop, a Republican, states that while computers a powerful learning tool, children need to be shielded from much of what goes on over the Internet.

The bill calls for a Children's Protection Registry, which is modeled after the national do-not call list to prevent unwanted calls from telemarketers. Parents would register their children's email addresses, pagers, cell phone numbers, instant message screen names, and other contact information. Following that, any spammer who contacts a registered child would be prosecuted.

Bishop is looking to push this legislation onto a national level. However, many critics believe that his plan would be very difficult to enforce as children tend to change email addresses frequently.

Utah has also drafted a similar bill, defining inappropriate messages to include alcohol, pornography, tobacco, prescription drugs, and gambling.

In both states, spam has been one of the top citizen complaints. The bills face very little opposition and are likely to pass.

--Written by [Meg Austin](#)

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U.S. GOVERNMENT 3: National Security Advisor to Testify

U.S. GOVERNMENT 3: National Security Advisor to Testify

In a surprising turn of events, President Bush this week did an about face and decided to allow National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice to testify before the independent panel investigating the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Additionally, Bush as well as Vice President Dick Cheney will offer testimony privately and jointly before the panel. The reversal by the Bush Administration reflected concern by the President that continued resistance to the investigatory panel may erode his support with voters on national security, considered one of Bush's strongest points.

In a brief statement Tuesday in the White House pressroom President Bush said, "I've ordered this level of cooperation because I consider it necessary to gaining a complete picture of the months and years that preceded the murder of our fellow citizens on Sept. 11, 2001. Our nation must never forget the loss or the lessons of September the 11th, and we must never assume that the danger has passed." Bush took no questions after making his statement.

The panel, headed by Thomas Kean, former Republican governor of New Jersey, is certain to ask Rice pointed questions regarding how seriously the Bush Administration took the threat of terrorist organization al-Qaida, what she was told by outgoing members of the Clinton Administration with respect to al-Qaida, and even her own credibility on national security. Some officials have claimed that Rice was generally unaware of Osama Bin Laden's terror network prior to the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon that claimed more than 3,000 lives in 2001. Said Kean, "We want to hear from Dr. Rice ... (about) the kind of threats and dangers that were apparent to her before 9-11."

Richard Clarke, a former counterterrorism chief under both the Clinton and Bush Administrations, has previously testified that the Bush administration disregarded a memo that he sent about the terror network after an October 2000 suicide attack on the naval ship the USS Cole. After that bombing, which claimed the lives of 17 sailors, Clarke drafted a memo to the urging immediate action against al-Qaida. However, upon forwarding that memo to Rice in January 2001, Clarke claims that Rice put off his recommendation, in part because it was a "holdover" from the Clinton Administration. Rice is expected to testify before the panel sometime next week.

--Written by [Lincoln Gaffney](#)

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U.S. GOVERNMENT 1: Financial Literacy Month Designated

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Answer all of the questions on the quiz, then select the Score button to grade the quiz.

There are 15 Questions total.

1. 1. When were the first Olympics?

700 BC

726 BC

776 BC

786 BC

2. Which states are considering anti-spam laws to protect children?

Utah and Michigan

Alabama and Oregon

Texas and Arkansas

North Carolina and Georgia

3. A little-known Australian actor provides the voice for what movie character?

Scooby Doo

Stitch

Spiderman

Harry Potter

4. Why is it important that you pick up your dog's waste?

So your parents won't get upset

To keep from spreading diseases

So the city won't smell bad

To keep the city looking nice.

5. Where was the opening game of the 2004 MLB seasons played?

New York

Tampa Bay

Tokyo

Boston

6. How old is the Statue of Liberty?

81 years

100 years

118 years

140 years

7. What author is the first billion dollar author?

Stephen King
Dr. Seuss
J.K. Rowling
J.R.R. Tolkien

8. What year did "Sesame Street" premiere?

2002
1972
1970
1969

9. In what country was Internet file-sharing recently ruled legal?

United States
Italy
Canada
Germany

10. How old is the missing-link tetrapod humerus discovered by researchers recently?

354 million years old
365 million years old
417 million years old
450 million years old

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