

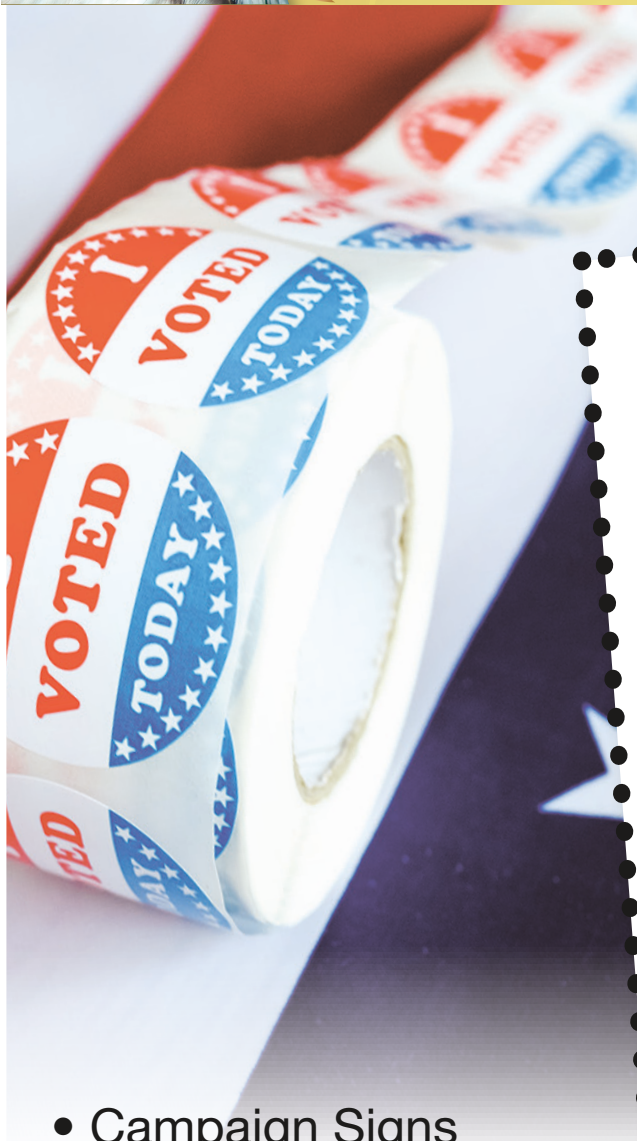


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The era when old friends are not forgotten



Always a certain sadness to the New Year song Auld Lang Syne because, of course, people come into our lives, we love them, and they drift away.

Unlike in eras past, those people we once loved are no longer really lost. You can find people these days with internet searches, sometimes easy, sometimes you have to dig a little harder.

The good part is that searching for old friends is free if you do it yourself. And, secondly, you don't actually have to contact them.

One 85-year-old man lost his wife of 50 years and became morose, feeling he had no reason to live. But, after suffering for months, he remembered an old friend. He typed her name into the google search engine and immediately found her facebook page. She lived in the same town! She had also lost her spouse. He called her and six months later, they were married.

A 70-year-old woman recalled one night an old flame. She typed his name and location into a search engine. She immediately found him. Sadly, he had passed away more than a decade earlier.

A 50-year-old woman knew the name of her birth father. One day, for fun, she typed in his name and last known location. The birth father had passed, but she discovered she had a half-brother. They soon met.

If you search, be prepared for either good news or bad.

You can try your search first through Facebook. Or you can use a search engine. Spell the name as accurately as possible and type in the state or locale that your friend once lived.

If you think your friend has died, type in "obituaries" along with the name and location.

A Brief History of Printing in America

When we think of the history of printing in America today, we are most likely to place the starting point with Ben Franklin and some of the other great American printers of the 18th century. In fact, as early as fifty years after its invention the printed word had become an integral part of Western culture, and wherever European discoverers ventured, a printing press was sure to follow.

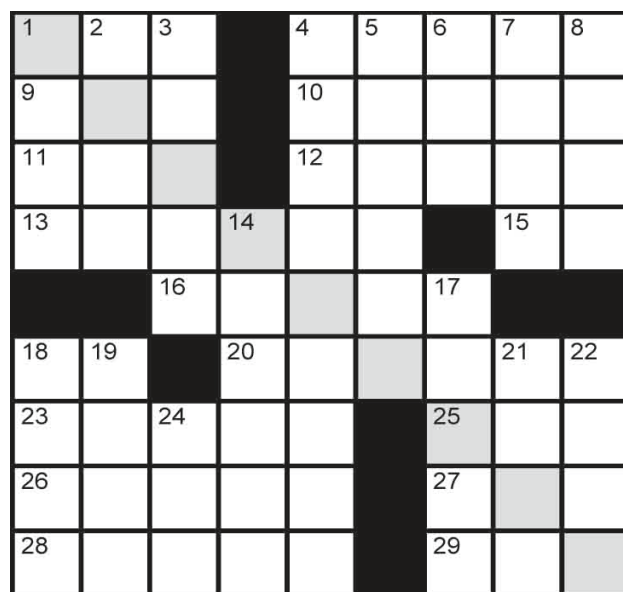
Thus the first American-printed book was issued in Mexico in 1536: By order of the Spanish Viceroy Mendoza, Jesuit missionaries printed the "Escala espiritual de San Juan Climaco". We have no tangible evidence of this little volume, no copies appear to have survived the tides of time. The second printing project fared only slightly better: Just four single leaves of the "Manual de Adultos" from 1540 have come down to us. Later editions survive in greater quantities, showing us that the printing industry in the Spanish colonies flourished after those early years.

Likewise, one should think that the Pilgrim fathers had other things on their minds than printing, mainly their survival, but as early as 1638 a printing press was established in Cambridge,

Massachusetts Bay Colony, to provide reading material for the spiritual edification of the colonists. The Rev. Jesse Glover and a number of Dutch gentlemen jointly contributed "towards furnishing of a printing-press with letters, forty-nine pounds and

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SEPTEMBER GOLD



Across

1. African antelope
4. Behind
9. Period in the earth's history
10. Forest clearing
11. Sushi order
12. Batman's sidekick
13. Small burger
15. Gift-tag word
16. Link
18. In attendance
20. Most rational

Down

23. Bigwig
25. "Winnie-the-Pooh" baby
26. Fish with a net
27. Tennessee athlete, for short
28. Silly
29. Football lineman

5. Old Italian coin
6. Keyboard key
7. Cut and paste
8. Attorney General Janet
14. Renounce
17. Audacity
18. Opposed to
19. Mountain pool
21. Sometime today, say
22. Related
24. Bleat

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something more". The press was run by Mr. Stephen Day, his first publication was the Bay Psalm Book of 1640. While leaden types were still imported from the mother country well into the 18th century, a paper mill was established in Germantown, Pennsylvania as early as 1690, which illustrates the high demand for printed material.

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, brought a master printer by the name of William Bradford to Philadelphia. Bradford produced several religious publications and a small number of other printed material, but he soon found that he could not run a profitable business under the oppressive moral code that ruled Penn's colony; it prevented him from printing even the most trivial news. In 1725, Bradford moved to New York and established the New York Gazette, the first newspaper in that city and one of the first in New England.

Newspapers were a vital part of colonial life. In a society where communication between the 13 colonies, and even between towns, was discouraged, they provided the only means of spreading news other than by mere hearsay. This importance was recognized during the years preceding the War of Independence: both Colonists and British rulers employed the press to spread heated propaganda among the people. The newspapers announced the Declaration of Independence as well as Lord Cornwallis' surrender. They were and are the forum for political discussion in our democracy – black and white evidence of the importance of free speech.

An interesting aspect of Colonial American printing is the uniformity of the typefaces used. Virtually every printer seems to have used the same exact type. This goes so far that, unless the piece in question is printed in one of these few faces, we do not consider it "the real thing". To find the reason for this lack of variety, we have to go back in history. The place is England, the year, 1637. The Star Chamber just decreed that "there shall be four founders of letters for printing and no more". There are many reasons for this measure, most prominently the fear that too much printed material might educate the masses beyond the comfort level of the ruling class. In any case, the new restriction reduced the number of available type styles to a small, mediocre selection. While some printers resorted to importing superior type from Holland, many others looked for a "homegrown" solution to the problem. They found it in William Caslon (1692-1766), a renowned engraver and tool maker. Caslon was commissioned to cut punches for a number of distinguished presses in London. He based his new designs on the Dutch fonts of the time and achieved such marvelous results that his type faces quickly became the standard for all kinds of printing, from fine books to the lowest of newspapers. Especially printers in the American colonies used the new type so extensively that no piece of 18th century American printing looks "real" to us unless it is printed in Caslon.

The Walden Font Co. is looking to further this proud tradition by offering the means for anyone to print authentic colonial-era documents. Please visit our Minuteman Printshop, a collection of fonts and images suitable for the design of broadsides, advertisements, forms, and other printed matter from the mid to late 18th century.

Happy Retirement Sandy!

Thank You for 16 Wonderful Years!



Labor Day is still called the great seasonal divide

During the last couple of decades of what we have called change, all of the old boundaries of custom have been crossed and crisscrossed until they are blurred in our perception.

But, one still stands, as firm (and arbitrary) as ever: Summer is the time to play. And summer ends on Labor Day.

Labor Day seems as final as the midnight chime for Cinderella. The ball is over. It's back to school, back to work.

This year, with virus lockdowns, many of us didn't even get to vaca-

tion and we may not even be back to school.

So, let's forget the great divide. We will still have time to take vacations, and enjoy ourselves even if we do it in months other than summer.

Your efforts to keep things running smoothly during Covid lockdowns and work interruptions are sincerely appreciated!

The one thing time and change have not blurred is our right to have a great Labor Day weekend. So have a good one. Have a great time, but stay safe.



Puzzle Answers

D	N	E		E	N	A	N	I
L	O	V		L	W	L	A	T
O	R		B	O	B	A	N	
T	E	S		N	S	A	T	A
		N	I	E	T			
O	T		R	E	D	I	S	
N			R	O	B		E	E
E			L	A	D		N	E
R			A	F	T		U	G

