

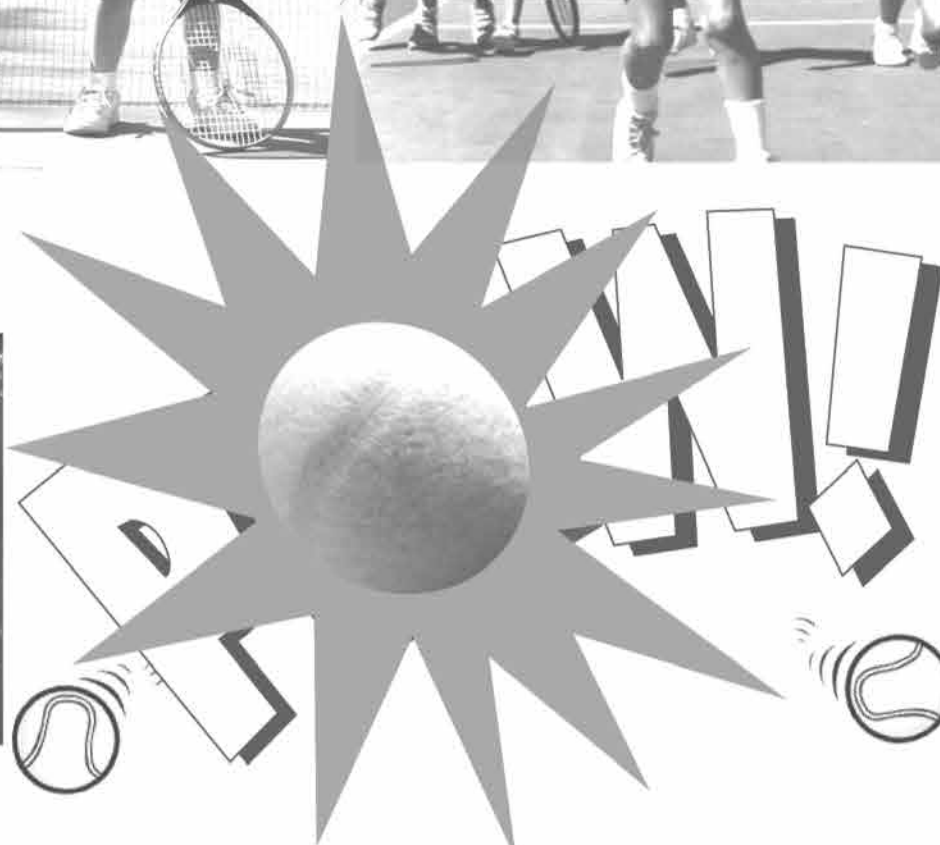
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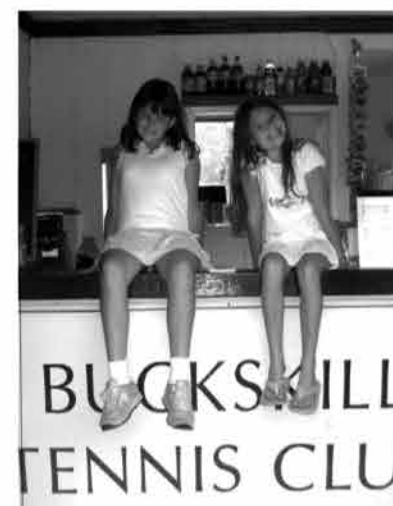
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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

For thousands of years people all around the world lived and were protected by walls of fortresses. At some time, gun powder was invented, and the world was changed. Castles had archers and spear throwers. Sometimes they were attacked by fire.

Castles had moats and draw-bridges. They were the homes of kings and queens, and were beautiful beyond words. This issue is a tribute to a time gone by that no longer exists; only the ruins of walls of kingdoms past.

Sincerely,
Eric Wald



illustration by
Rosemary Szczygiel

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The Best-Known Castles of Italy

written by Debbie Tuma
photo credit: VWPics via AP Images

Hey Kids! Did you know that there are 350 castles in Italy, and some of them are the most beautiful in Europe? Italian castles are mostly well preserved and they blend together different architectural styles. No two castles seem alike, and they represent political changes over the centuries. Here are some of the best castles in Italy:

1. Castel del Monte, located in Southern Italy in the region of Apulia, is one of the most significant in the country and it is a World Heritage site. It is a 13th century castle which is an example of medieval military architecture, with an octagonal (eight-sided) tower. Castel del Monte is beautifully restored and it is featured on the one-cent coin of the Italian issue of the Euro.

2. Fenis Castle is one of the most famous in Northern Italy, near the border of Switzerland. This castle has many towers and high walls. It features many watchtowers, and towers in each corner of a pentagon. The inner courtyard has a picture of a dragon.

3. Castel Sant'Angelo is one of the most important historic buildings in Rome, the capital of Italy. This castle is a fortress and it was originally built for the Roman Emperor Hadrian. This castle has been turned into a popular museum that has received over one million visitors a year.

4. Castel Nuovo (*see in photo*) is one of the most important attractions in the southern city of Naples. This medieval castle was built in the 13th century and was a royal seat for many kings. This castle is a trapezoidal shape with five large towers. The entrance of this castle is very unique. It has an outstanding white marble archway.

5. Aragonese Castle is very unique because it is built on an island called Ischia Island, and is connected by a causeway. This is a beautiful castle which is surrounded by a moat, and high walls for protection, and it is built up and around a mountain.

6. Sforza Castle is one of the main attractions of Milan. It was built in the 15th century and is very decorative. In the middle is a unique tower. This castle was built by the Duke of Milan, Francesco Sforza.

7. Estense Castle is a moated medieval castle in the northern city of Ferrara. It consists of many high towers built together, and there are splendid views of the Italian landscape from the top.

So kids, if you ever get to Italy, these are some of the exciting castles worth checking out. You may also be able to get tours in different cities.

You can learn a lot about history by studying these historic Italian castles!!



In this photo is Annecy Castle in the French Alps, one of a good number of beautiful castles in France.

Fascinating French Castles

written by Paula Timpson
photo credit: Associated Press

The Mont-Saint-Michel is a castle on an island where Brittany and Normandy, France come together in the bay. It leads to a walled city that looks magical any time of the day or night. Population on the island is about 44, including nuns and monks who live in the Abbey. It is a medieval monastery, a Benedictine Abbey. A bishop claimed to have seen Archangel Saint Michael, so it was named after the angel, Saint Michel, in French.

During high tide the city is not a part of the mainland, and there are beautiful roof carvings. Mont-Saint-Michel is completely surrounded by water, and can only be reached at low tide. This makes it memorable and special, mysterious and quiet. It is special the way the Abbey seems to float and balance atop the island, making it even more wonderful to behold. The Mont-Saint-Michel is a World Heritage site, making it one of Europe's most visited places.

The Chateau de Chambord is the largest and most famous castle in the Loire Valley. Built in the 1500s for King Francis I, it is two hours from Paris, and is where there is a large forest with many deer. Francis I, a ruler who appreciated the arts, lived there. He enjoyed his hunting lodge. Francis I invited Leonardo da Vinci to be his artist. Da Vinci designed The Chateau de Chambord with his many sketches. It is famous for its double helix staircase, twirling around beautifully, and it was fun to walk on it and not see people on the other side of the staircase. There are 335 fireplaces. Salamanders decorate the ceilings and walls. Salamanders are symbols of resisting flames, so Francis I had them around his castle for strength and power. There is a huge French garden, and a park as wide as Paris, with more than 300 trees.

The Chateau de Villandry, Indre-et-Loire is best known for its wonderful formal gardens. A Spanish doctor, Joachim Carvello, renewed the gardens in the 20th century. The gardens all have themes: a sun garden, a water garden, a decorative vegetable garden, created into crosses and squares, and an ornamental garden.

The Castle Chateau Montresor is a Renaissance mansion. A Polish noble family bought it in the 19th century. The Ministry of Culture has given the castle the title, "Monument Historique", since 1996.

The Castle Roquetaillade has been the home of the same family for over 700 years. Its name means, "carved out of rock." Built out of stone, it was the castle of King Charlemagne (Charles the Great), as his army advanced toward the Pyrenees. The family promotes their wines.

The Palace of Fontainebleu belonged to the Kings of France. Originally a hunting lodge, it was enlarged by Louis IX in the 13th century, and was rebuilt into a palace in 1527. It was in a huge forest. The Palace of Fontainebleu has more than 1,500 rooms. It is not far from the center of Paris. It has been in the French line of Kings for eight centuries, beginning as a hunting lodge. At the edge of the ancient Forest of Fontainebleu, there was a royal game preserve. It kept being added to as each King lived there. Soon it became a wonderful French architectural sight. Fascinating are the castles in France. They all have much history and wonder about them.



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How English Castles Came to Be

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This is an example of a Norman keep, at Cardiff Castle, in Cardiff, Wales.

written by Jerry Cimisi
photo credit: VWPics via AP Images

When we think of castles, what most comes to mind is that of England's King Arthur and his knights of the round table. The story of King Arthur might be half true and half legend, but often castles have been linked with England.

The word "castle" comes from the Latin "castellum", which meant the fortified residence of a lord or noble.

Throughout its history, England has been invaded by many people. Two thousand years ago came the Romans, who took over the land of what were called the Anglo-Saxon people. A thousand years after that, in 1066, came the Normans, who were French, led by William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy. He began to build castles after the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Castles were used to control the larger towns of England and to control supply routes along old Roman roads. It is thought that as many as 500 wooden castles were built in England during this century. Sometimes their design followed those of old Roman fortifications.

These early castles did not look like what we think of as castles. They were built in what was called the motte and bailey method: earth would be piled up into a mound (a motte) and then a wooden tower was built upon that, with a wider enclosed area built around that. Other castles used a ring work method: earth would be built up in round or oval rings and then a tower would be built upon that.

It was early in the 12th century that stone castles began to be built. Many of the original wooden castles were rebuilt as stone. It seemed as quickly as the wooden castles had gone up, so did stone castles. It is thought a 100 had been built by 1216. Though of course, stone castles were harder to build. They could be four stories high, and some had walls that were 24 feet thick! These stone castles have been called the "bones of the country".

Owned by the king, and by lords, castles were often centers that oversaw hunting in a forest, or the production of a mining area. The king could order the building of new castles.

By their nature, castles, of course, were important for military defense. A civil war broke out in England from 1139-1153; often called "The Castle Wars", this period saw probably more than a 100 new castles being built. By the 13th century, with the invention of the crossbow, arrow slits for archers were built at the tops of castles. And the invention of muskets added another range of firepower to castles.

Cannons added to the defense of castles. Sections atop castles had to be built to fit these new weapons, which were unstable; there were accounts of cannons exploding, harming more of those who tried to fire them than attackers outside.

Castles also became storehouses of food and supplies; and in some cases, jails. They also became more decorated, especially with tapestries—which were like thick rugs with designs that could be hung on the walls, helping to keep in the heat during winter.

Moats were dug around castles as a further obstacle against attackers. Extensive gardens were planted. Castles were becoming showplaces for the nobility; they were often as much palaces as a means of defense.

By the 1500s it seemed that castles were either used as defense for certain regions or palaces for nobles and royalty to live lavishly. In 1539, King Henry VIII, fearing an invasion by the French, ordered a series of castles built along southern England. While in other castles, nobility and royalty might entertain as much as 500 guests for long periods of time, some of these castles, which cost so much in money and effort to maintain, became rundown or even abandoned.



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In the photo above is the Alcázar of Segovia, Spain, one of that country's most magnificent castles.

Spanish Castles

written by Jerry Cimisi

photo credit: VWPics via AP Images

Years ago, the late famous rock guitarist Jimi Hendrix wrote a song called "Spanish Castle Magic." There is in fact something a bit magical about the castles of Spain, something different from the castles in other countries.

This may have a lot to do with the castles of Spain growing out of two very different cultures that lived for centuries in the same country. More than 2,500 years ago, the Iberians were the native people on what the Greek and the Romans called the Iberian peninsula; this the land we now know as Spain and Portugal.

In the year 711, the Moors, people from northern Africa who were Muslim (practicing the religion of Islam), invaded Spain and occupied most of the southern part of the country. The Moors called the territories they controlled Al-Andalus. (Today the Spanish call this region Andalusia.) The Moors built many forts and castles in this area, using the building styles they knew in northern Africa.

Castles became an extremely important part of national life in Spain. The Latin word for castles is "castella," and is the origin of the name of Spain's most powerful region: Castile.

As early as 800, the region between the upper Ebro and the upper Duero rivers was known as Castella, indicating there must have been many castles and fortifications in the area. The fortresses and castles built by the Moors were known as *alcazars*, which is the Arabic word for fortress: *al-qasar*.

The Alcázar de Segovia is one of the most famous Moorish castles of Spain. The Alhambra in Granada is called the "Red Fort." Many visitors say it has an air of magic. It has tiled courtyards and Arabic stucco-work. It was the last refuge of the Moors before the Christian Spanish finally drove them entirely out of the country in 1492. In fact, ever since the Moors came into Spain, the Christians had been attempting what they called "Reconquista," a retaking of their country from these invaders. Legend says that as the Moorish leader Muhammad XII rode his horse from the Granada for the last time, he looked back with tears in his eyes on what he had considered paradise. In our time, the Alhambra is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The castles the Spanish people themselves built were very much influenced by the Moors. Coca Castle, built in 1453, a few decades before the Spanish drove the Moors out of the country, was a mix of Moorish influence and the native Christian faith. Its geometrical styles were taken from the Moors, while the openings in the turrets have the outline of the Christian cross.

Inside the castle, there is a chapel, an armory and the "hall of secrets," decorated with Muslim-inspired jars, believed to hold secret treasures. There are designs of intricate tiling on the walls and ceilings of every room.

Coca Castle is also unique in that it is three sided; the back of the castle is against a solid rock base, as a defense against rear attack.

There were, of course, basic differences in Moorish and Spanish styles. The defensive walls of Moorish castles usually had square or rectangular towers, while the walls of Christian fortresses usually had semi-circular towers. Though often the influences of both cultures were mingled. The tall keeps (a fortified tower within the courtyard of a castle) of the Christians were adopted by the Moors, while the "albarrana" towers of the Moors would be incorporated by Spanish Christians.



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An Eventful 2019 - 2020 NBA Season

written by Christopher Clark, age 14, *Waldo Tribune* junior sports columnist
photo credit: Associated Press

The 2019-2020 NBA season has been nothing short of mind blowing. The season itself was a crazy one already. Then tragically in January, one of the best to ever play the game, Kobe Bryant, passed away in a helicopter crash. Later in the season the coronavirus filed in as one of the worst pandemics in over 100 years, causing an immediate halt to the season.



The NBA is planning on a return and a playoff season to wrap up the NBA year on an exciting note. A team-by-team breakdown of the four worst playoff teams in the NBA follow, ranking from 1 to 4 in statistical record (W's & L's).

1. Orlando Magic

The Magic are primarily run by a set of younger athletes, primarily located at the frontcourt positions. The long-time anchor of the Magic team, Nikola Vucevic, will start at center coming in averaging over 19 ppg. Their forwards are young and versatile, and the depth is there in a needed way. Some of

these players include a returning Jonathon Issac, an athletic Aaron Gordon, a reliable James Ennis, and a future superstar Mo Bamba. At guard Markelle Fultz, an underperforming former first overall pick and Wesley Iwundu lead the charge. The Magic are a young team with a bright future, but the lack of superstars on the court and even role players at the shooting guard position are a hard drawback to rebound from. Add the fact that they will most likely be playing the 1 seed. A playoff run seems unlikely this year.

2. Brooklyn Nets

The Nets are led by a mediocre-at-best starting 5 with not much youth to overcome the lack of raw talent given to their starting 5. A lack of superstars is also a concern given the two foundational pieces for the Nets are both out for the year with injuries. The Nets simply struggle to get

points on the board with a defensive frontcourt and only one top-50 scorer this season. That player, Spencer Dinwiddie, is the only real chance they would have at a realistic series win this year. This is simply a gap year for this team as they transition from a laughable franchise to potentially a heavy hitter in the years to come. Jarret Allen and Charis Levert are role players at best and in the playoffs, you need some superstar power. I do not see the Nets making it out of the first round this season, but I see them having a very bright next few years due to an exceptional front office.

3. Memphis Grizzlies

Another team with outstanding future potential, but not good enough pieces to make a run this playoff season. With 0 top 50 scorers on the season, the Grizzlies don't have the star power to keep up with some of the stars they would be forced to face, starting in the first round of the playoffs. Depth here isn't a huge issue, throughout the roster are key contributing and role players. Ja Morant, a rookie and the second overall pick in last year's draft, is most probably the best player on this young team. But his lack of size and frame would cause defensive struggles when playing bigger stars. The bottom line is that the Grizzlies are a team that may be the best team in the league five years from now. They are just not there right now due to the lack of stable star players.

4. Dallas Mavericks

Starting right now, any of the remaining teams have a legitimate chance at making it to the finals, as the 13 and 7 seed are only separated by 1 game. The Mavs are a well-run, well-coached organization that has the young pieces to be a legitimate finals contender as soon as next year. There is 0 lack of superstars on this team given that Luka Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis are playing together. The 6th, and 37th leading NBA scorers together are working well. The rest of the team though is not up to par with these two superstars. The rest of the starting lineup includes Dorian-Finney Smith, Maxi Kleber, and Tim Hardaway Jr. The lack of depth will hurt them come playoff time, but if you can build upon the key foundation over the next two year, this team is dangerous. As far as this year goes, a deep surge seems improbable. The health of Luka and KP have been a concern throughout the season, and the lack of contributing pieces will be a struggle to overcome.

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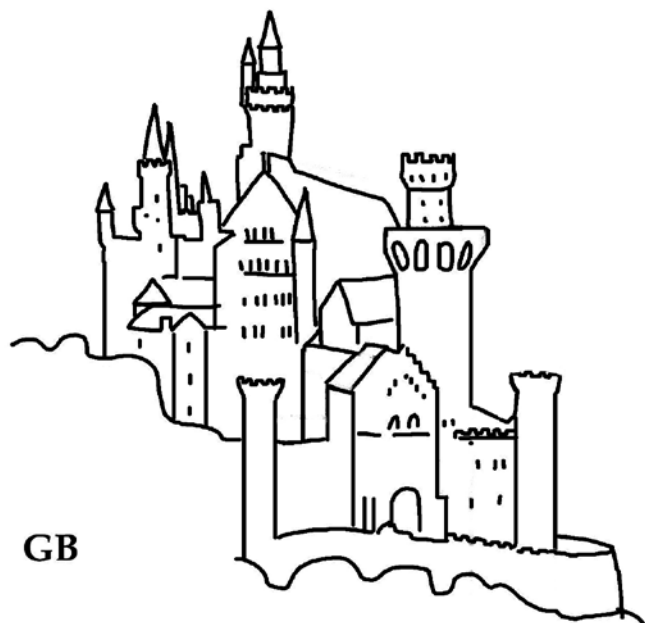
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Fun Facts About Castles

written and illustrated by Greg Bullock

1. The Citadel of Aleppo is the oldest castle in the world. It was built in Aleppo, Syria around 3000 BCE.
2. The early castles in history were primitive forts. The first real castles in England were built by the Normans after they conquered that country in 1066.
3. A castle is considered to be the fortified residence of a lord or a noble.
4. Early European castles were built from earth or timber but were rebuilt with stone.
5. The word castle comes from the Latin word "castellum" which means fortified place.
6. In the Middle Ages, castles were not only centers of military power, but also used as administrative centers.
7. At the end of the Middle Ages, the invention of gunpowder and cannons decreased the value of castles. Cannons could break down castle walls.
8. The Cinderella Castle is the home of Cinderella at Disneyland in Florida and Japan. (See picture.)

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

I want my fifth grader to continue reinforcing his math skills, but with distance learning, he spent a lot of time on the computer. Any ideas?

This is a very valid question for the time we are currently in. We do need to encourage our children to go outdoors, but there is concern that there will be gaps with learning due to distance learning. I would suggest sidewalk chalk math. Be creative too! You can create hopscotch with multiplication problems. Another idea is Bean Bag Skills. Create a board with numbers 1-20 in small boxes. Use different color bean bags. Use a die that you carefully make into this (substitute 1 for multiply, 2 for add, 3 for subtract, 4 for divide, 5 players' choice, and 6 parent's choice) Then toss one color bag, then the die, then the other bag to create a problem to solve.



Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

My child has to read books for her school's summer reading program. With libraries closed, are there any other options?

While in my view, nothing compares to traditional page turning and reading, there are many audible options. Some do have a cost, but local libraries have been promoting some free options too. Audible.com has a 30-day free trial. I also suggest going to your home library website for other options. My local library has many options.

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

My child is fascinated with medieval times. Any ideas to use this for fun learning opportunities?

This question fits directly into the topic of our issue, "Castles". PBS has a great one. Check out <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/lost-empire/trebuchet/race.html>. As a teacher, I also find that creating your own Coat of Arms is a great activity. It combines many multi-disciplinary modalities. You can use a computer template or design one with traditional markers. Another website is: <https://www.my-tribe101.com/crest/>. This can also spark conversation about family history.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS: Have a question about your child's or student's education or learning? You may contact Ms. Spiral Notebook at waldoandtulip@optonline.net, with "Ms. Spiral Notebook" in the subject line. You may also fax your question to us at 631-808-3248, or mail it to her c/o The Waldo Tribune, P.O. Box 2587, Sag Harbor, NY 11963.

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Thomas, the K9 Police Academy Reject

written by Eric Wald


illustrated by Rosemary Szczygiel

Well, it was a nice day in Australia, and it was time for the police dog finals. All the other canine students were there. Now Thomas, was a purebred German shepherd dog. That means his mom and dad, all his grandparents, great-grandparents, and great-great-parents, etc. were all German shepherds. For weeks, his owner, officer Nick, had been working with him, trying to train him to attack, sit, run, and follow the scent. That meant Officer Nick would give him the command, and he was supposed to follow the scent of the suspect.

Well, there was just one problem. Little Thomas the German shepherd K9 police student wasn't cut out to be a police dog. He was a mushball. He loved to give kisses, have his belly scratched, and play.

Well, it was the big finals day. Officer Nick gave the command, and Thomas just didn't know what to do. All his training for nothing! He got a big F on his score sheet.

Now this story has a happy ending. Officer Nick fell in love with Thomas and took him home to his family and kids, who also loved him right away, and that's how Thomas the German shepherd dog found his own home in Australia.



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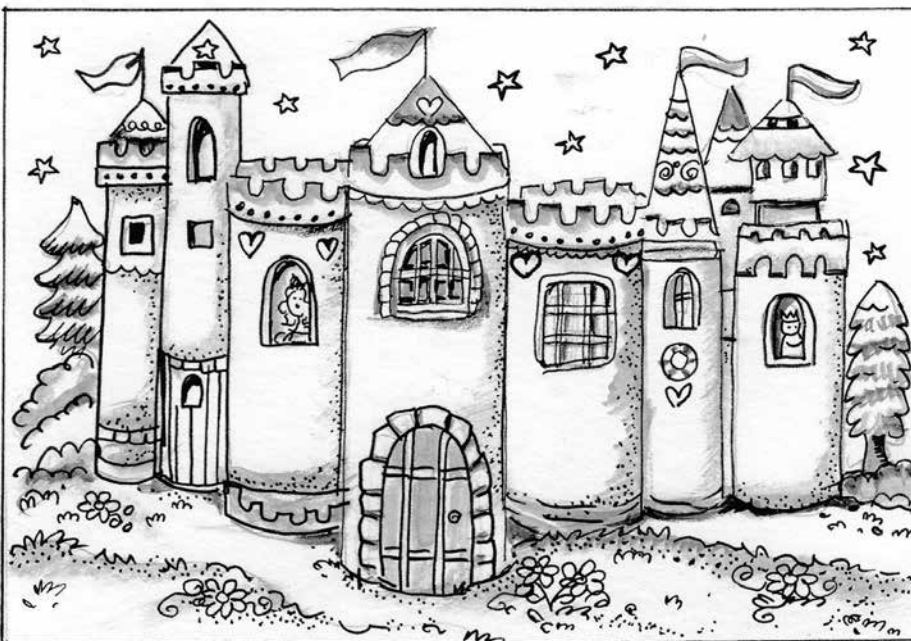
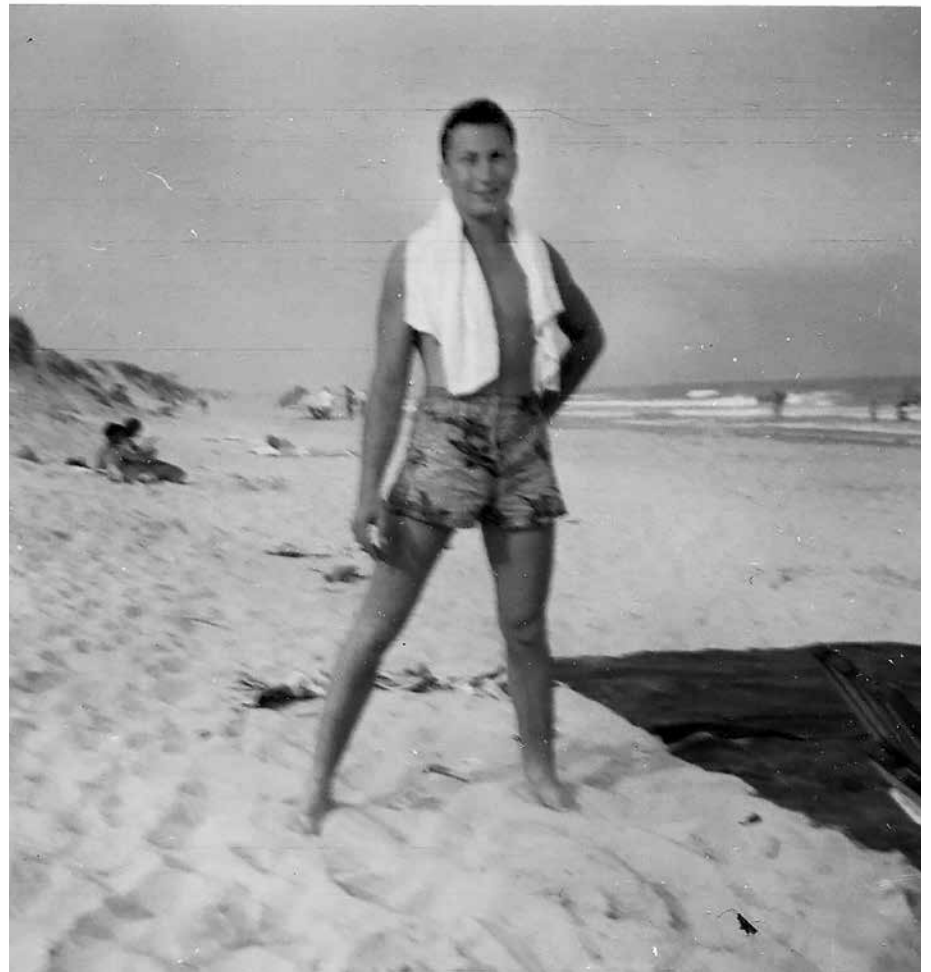


illustration by Connie McGuinness



Eddie Wald, Life Guard and United States Marine Who Saved Lives

by Eric Wald

My father, Eddie Wald, was in his late teens when he joined the Marines, went to camp Le Jeune and was sent to Korea. After serving, he became a lifeguard at Lido Beach where he was proud to watch the swimmers and guard the beaches.

This is a copy of a letter that I found in a box my sister, Candy, forwarded to me. It goes like this:

"Mrs. Nat Cantor
Brooklyn 10, New York

September 5, 1947

Dear Eddie,

Through contact with The Life Guard Headquarters, I was fortunate enough to obtain your name and address. Everything happened so quickly last Sunday that it was just impossible for us to get the information.

The purpose of the inquiry, naturally, was so that I could offer you my thanks.

Believe me, Eddie, words can't express my gratefulness to you. This may sound a little trite, but I truly owe my life to you.

I shall always consider you my hero. I pray to G-d that someday you will be rewarded properly for your very courageous deed.

I have two children of my own. Consequently, I am in a position to know how your Mother and Dad must feel. They should be extremely proud of you, and justly so. Anyone who is willing to risk his own life for the sake of others, certainly is deserving of the highest praise.

Once again please allow me to say, very sincerely, thank you, Eddie.

Gratefully yours,
Lillian Cantor"

Mrs. Cantor gave my father a silver cigarette case inscribed with "Thank you for saving my life". My father was a hero; he saved this woman's life. I am so, so, so, proud ; his goodness is with him forever.

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Letter To Waldo

Dear Eric,

It is with great joy that I reflect upon my new, growing and expanding role as a grandfather, Saba, as I am affectionately called. From the moment I embraced Leo, my first grandchild, actually as in the first hours of his life, he squeezed my little finger, I was overwhelmed with the rush of emotion and that continues to grow. Just one day after Leo's second birthday, his little sister Elodie arrived, then last July we were blessed with the arrival of their cousin, little Stella -- in London, completing the team ! The physical connection combined with the enthusiasm of learning, their curiosity, creativity and physicality in sports are totally enchanting.

Whether we are engaged in a virtual chess game or swinging in my hammock, I become both teacher, mentor along with the development of a unique and enthralling friendship. Sometimes I see myself as a child again, and concurrently very privileged following their special interests, hobbies, quirks. Elodie and Stella rekindle memories of playing with my own girls decades ago - cherished souvenirs springing up in many forms.

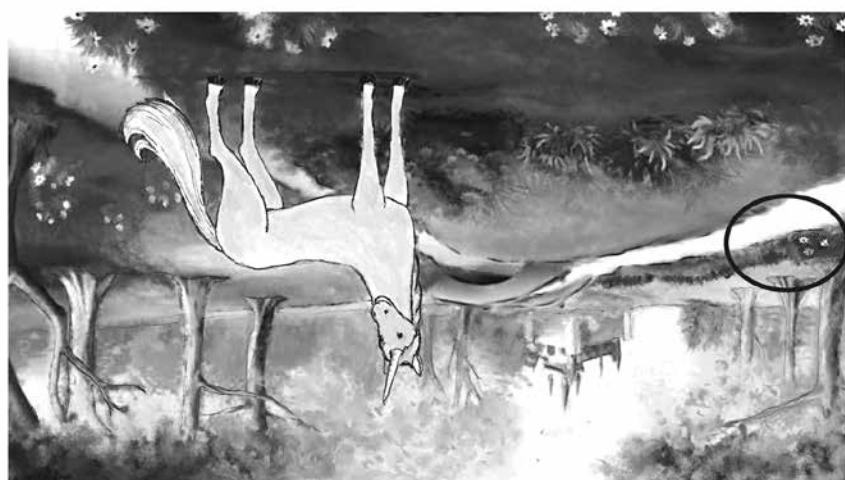
From,
Peter Klein

UNICORN and CASTLE

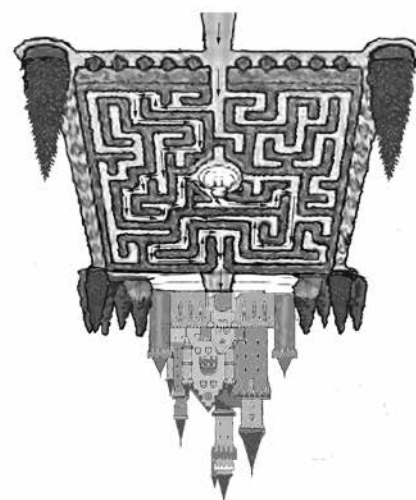


What is different?

Answers to Castle Issue Puzzles (Turn upside down to see.)



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FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS



You can go up, down, or diagonally...

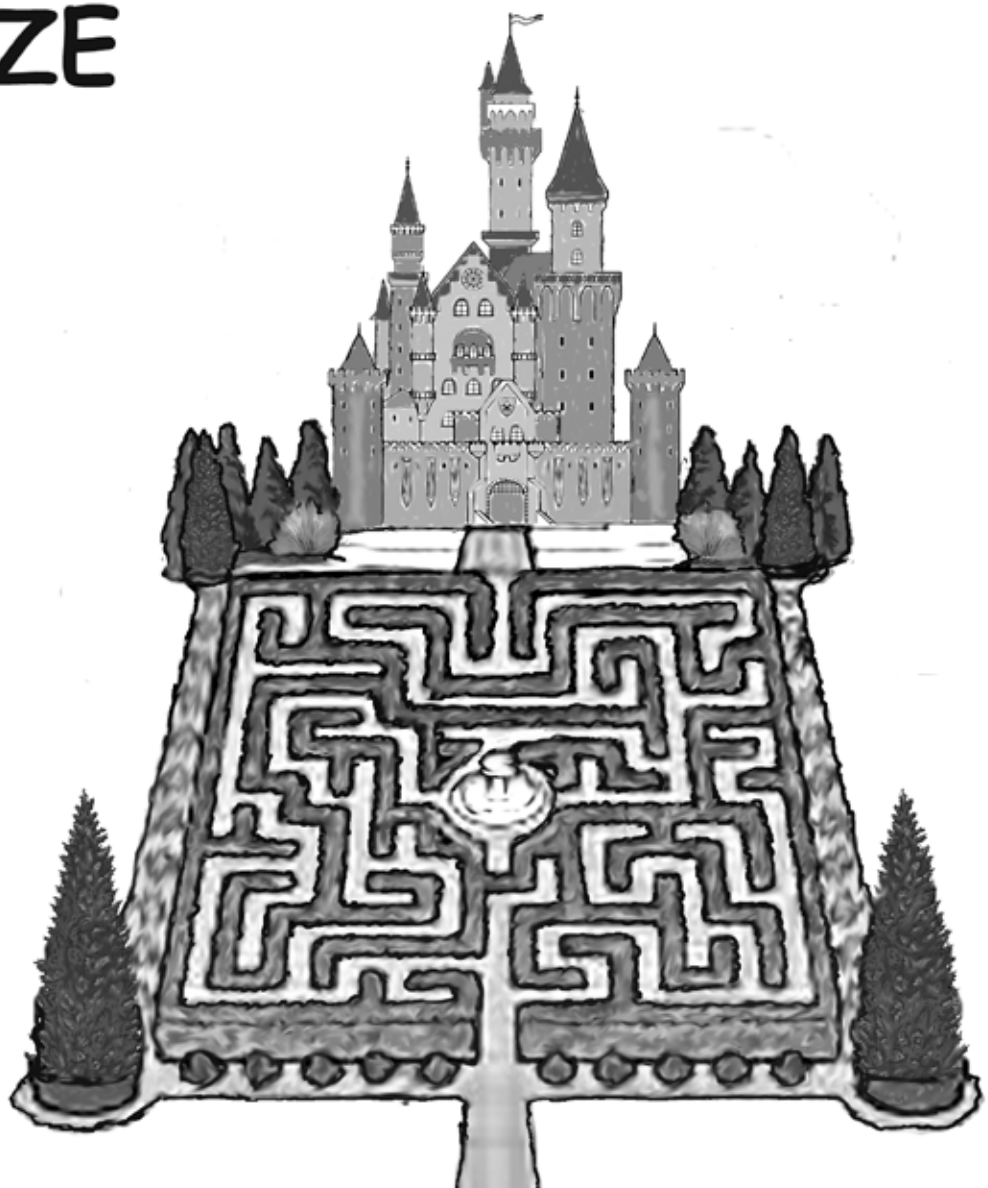
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F	I	L	W	E	P	A	L	C	O	M	I	N	O

CASTLE MAZE

Find your way
through the garden
maze over the moat
and into the castle

Start here



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