

THE WALDO TRIBUNE

The Children's Newspaper...that's Read by Parents and Grandparents, too!

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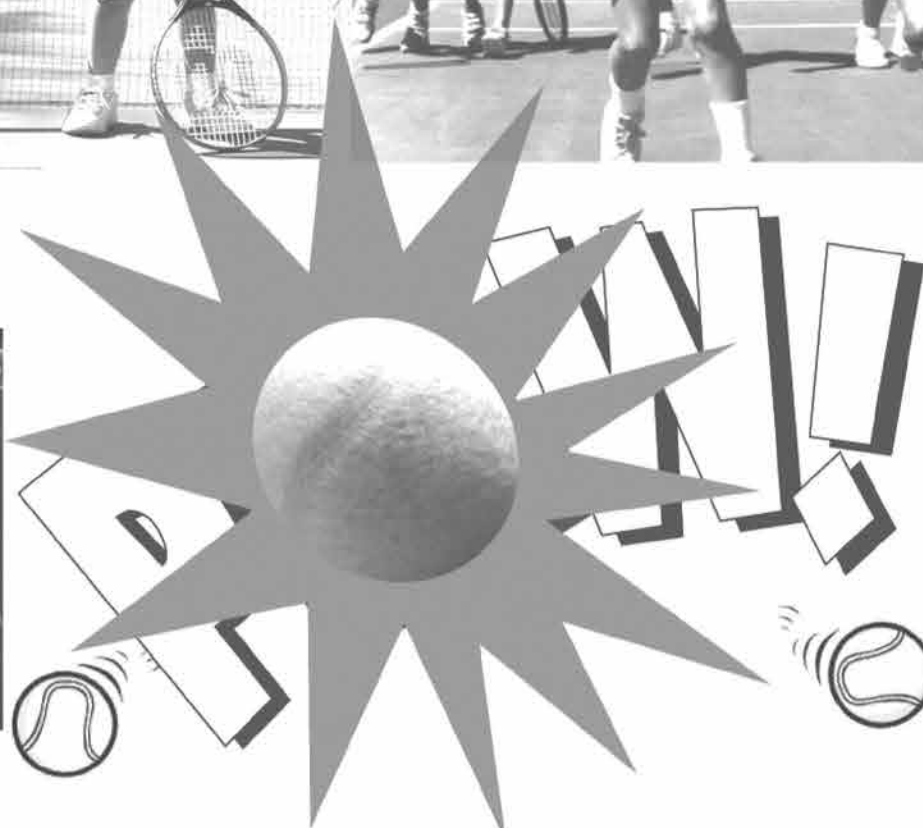
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The Cryptid Issue



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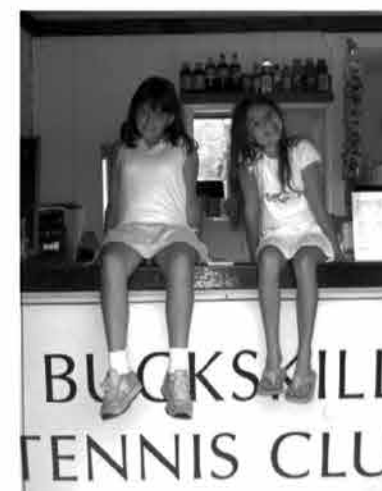
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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

For years, I have been fascinated by legendary beings known as cryptids. What is a cryptid, you may ask? A cryptid is defined as an animal that is claimed to exist, but has never been scientifically proven as real. Cryptids are only known or told about through anecdotes, folktales, blurry photographs, poorly lit films or videos. Some have been debunked, such as mermaids and unicorns, and others have turned out to be real, such as duck-billed platypuses, okapis, large gorillas and giant squids. But do creatures such as yetis, the Sasquatch, the mothman really exist? Or are they yet another product of the human imaginations?

Sincerely,
Tulip

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THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

by Paula Timpson

The Abominable Snowman, or the as known from the Tibetan name, Yeti, of the snowy Himalaya peaks, has white, shaggy fur and a body shaped like an ape. He is a legendary creature, and one of the most famous cryptids in the world.

In the 1920s, he was made popular by Western media. His name means "Man-like creature."

The Yeti is rooted in the culture and mythology of the Himalayas. He walks on two legs, written about in folklore, and said to be friendly. Yetis are nocturnal and are active at night. He is said to be between six and 15 feet tall.

There have been many sightings reported of the Yeti, yet no one has captured him. He has been depicted in movies, cartoons, and commercials. People have found large tracks in the mountains, supposedly made by the Abominable Snowman. There are photos or videos of him dating back to the 19th century from explorers, climbers and locals, yet many say they are not for real.

The earliest claimed sighting was in 1832. A British explorer, B.H. Hodgson, saw a shadowy figure in the Himalayas. This is where some of the highest mountains in the world are.

Himalayan communities believe the Yeti is a guardian spirit of the mountains, protecting the people and the area. Cultures in Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal share stories about the Yeti.

Scientists say the big footprints are made by bears, not the Yeti. A mountaineer, Eric Shipton, returned from an expedition on the slopes of Mount Everest. He brought back photos of very large footprints.

The Yeti inspired many books and films around the world. Cryptozoologists study the Yeti and other mysterious beings. DNA testing has shown samples to belong to animals, including bears and wildlife.

The Yeti is one of the most fascinating in the world of cryptozoology, or the subject of cryptids. Many try to figure it out, yet it remains a mystery.

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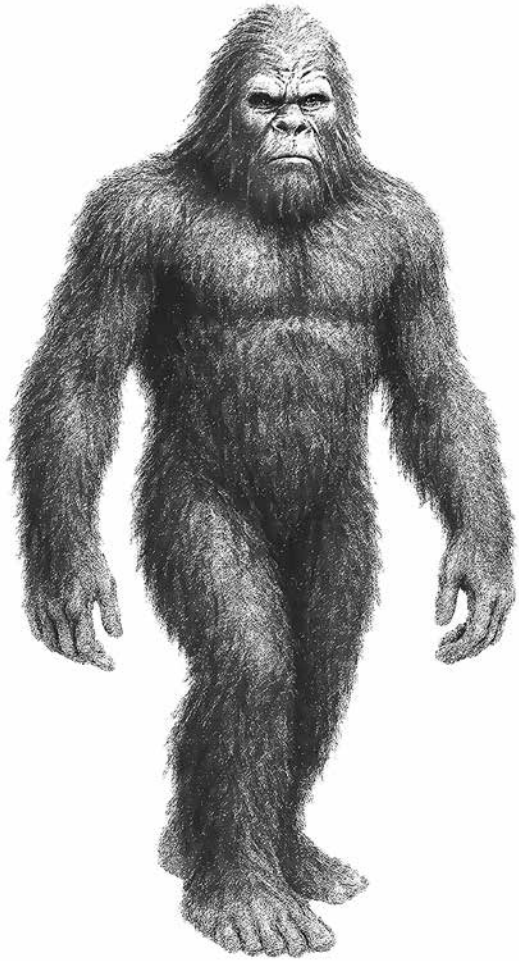


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The Story of Bigfoot



by Connie McGuinness

Did you know there is a giant, hairy creature in our Pacific Northwest that looks a little like a human and an ape? He is six to 15 feet tall. His feet are very big; they are 24 inches long and eight inches wide. His feet are so big he can't find shoes that fit him. At night, his eyes glow a yellow or sometimes a red color.

He lives in the forests of Northwest America. What does this creature do? Maybe he spends his time climbing trees, sleeps all day hiding, and then comes out at night. Are the other animals scared of him? Is he mean and scary? Or, maybe he is kind and gentle. Do you believe in him? Some people believe in this character known as Bigfoot, also called Sasquatch.

Even though this started out as a folklore legend, some people are convinced he is real and try to come up with evidence to prove it. People have taken audio recordings of strange, loud inhuman voices that researchers claim could not be from wildlife in the forest. Hair and tissue samples have been turned in by people claiming they belong to Bigfoot. People have made footprint casts of oversized human feet. The most famous piece of visual evidence is a short film made (the Patterson-Gimlin film), but its authenticity has been questioned.

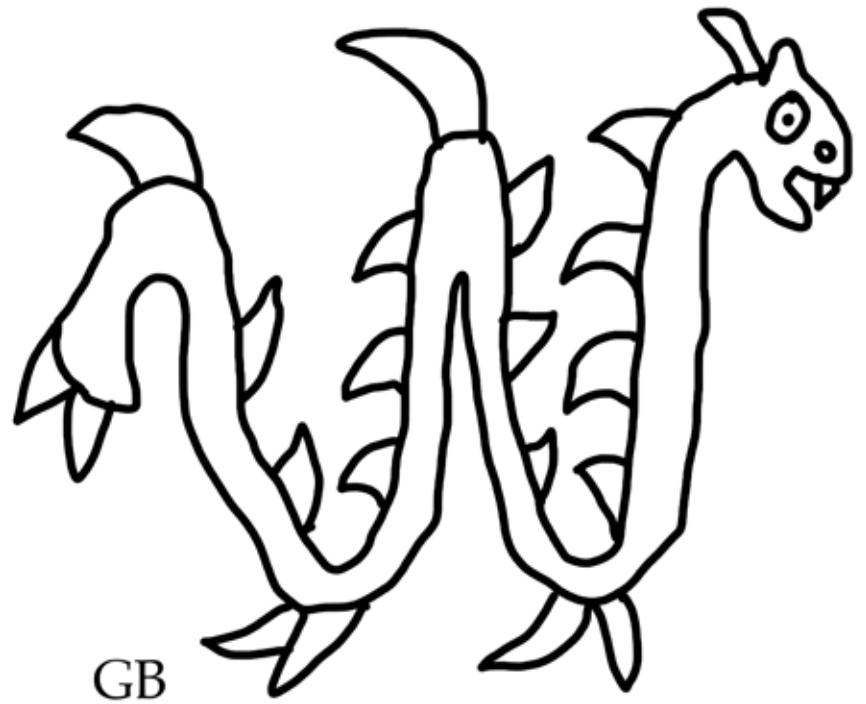
Even with all these objects and signs, scientists do not believe he is a real, living animal. They say there is no scientific proof that Bigfoot exists. Any samples that have been brought in by people have been tested and ended up being from animals like bears, deer, or dogs. There are also no bones or skeletons found of this creature. Scientists have stated if such a large creature existed, they would need a huge food source and territory to roam, making them hard to miss. This all seems to show that Bigfoot is not real.

How did this phenomenon start, and why do people still believe? This folklore began hundreds to thousands of years ago, although years later, it became a modern, popular 20th-century craze, starting in 1958. Native Americans tribes shared stories of large, wild, hairy men living in the mountains. They were not regarded as monsters, but rather protectors, and spiritual guardians of the forest.

Today people love the mystery of legends from the past keeping us wondering, giving us a fantasy to believe in. Not everyone is a believer. It's up to you to decide.

Cryptid Jokes

written and illustrated by Greg Bullock



1. What is the Abomidable Snowman's favorite dessert?

Answer: Snow Cones!

2. What cryptid circles around lights?

Answer: Mothman!

3. What did the Michigan Dogman say?

Answer: Woof woof!

4. There once was a sea monster named Nessie that made the seaweed all messy.

She dived way down deep
and then fell asleep.

So Nessie never cleaned up her messy!

(See drawing.)

5. Tulip: What has horns, hops like a bunny, and eats carrots all day?

Waldo: Bugs Bunny driving a taxi?

Tulip: No. The Jackalope!

6. What kind of snack do cryptids eat?

Answer: Cryp-tidbits!

7. What do you do if you see the Mongolian Death Worm?

Answer: Run!



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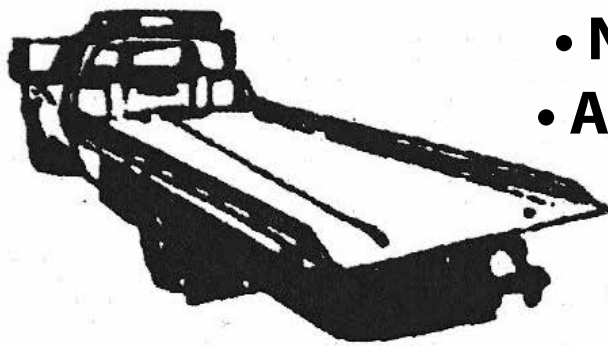
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The World Cup

by Chris Clark

The World Cup is one of the biggest sporting events in the world. Every four years, countries from all over the world come together to compete in soccer. Millions of people watch the games and cheer for their favorite teams. The 2026 World Cup was especially exciting because it was played in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. After many exciting games, Spain became the champions of the world.

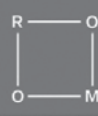
Spain had a very good team throughout the tournament. They were able to pass the ball well, play good defense, and score important goals. As the tournament went on, Spain continued to beat strong teams and get closer to the final. Their players showed that working together and staying focused can make a big difference.

The final game was between Spain and Argentina. Argentina was the defending champion, so it was expected to be a very difficult game for Spain. The game was very close, and neither team could score during regular time. This meant the game went into extra time, which gave both teams another chance to win the World Cup.

In the 106th minute, Spain finally scored. Ferran Torres put the ball into the net, giving Spain a 1-0 lead. Argentina tried to come back, but Spain's defense stayed strong. When the final whistle blew, Spain was officially the 2026 World Cup champion.

Winning the World Cup was a huge moment for Spain. It was their second men's World Cup title, with their first coming in 2010. Spain also made history because their men's and women's teams were both World Cup champions at the same time.

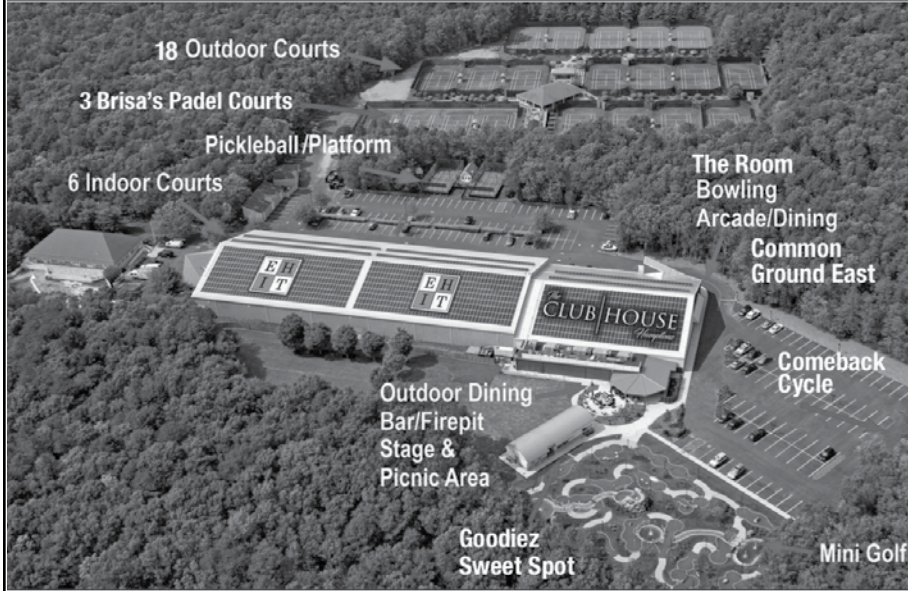
The World Cup is about more than just winning games. It brings people from different countries together and gives fans something to be excited about. Spain's victory showed how important teamwork, practice, and staying calm can be. Their 2026 World Cup win will be remembered as a special moment in soccer history.



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Sandcastle Contest

story and photos by Susan Wald

Once again, the much beloved annual summer tradition of the East Hampton Sandcastle Contest was held by the Clamshell Foundation. August 8, 2026 marked the 35th year of this fun activity, with its goal of raising funds for local charities, such as food pantries, medical funding, child care, college scholarships, and more. A great time was in store for those present at this temporary exhibit of art in sand, whether they were admiring the myriad of whimsical works, or were actively and enthusiastically engaged in building and shaping those fun forms.

With so many amazing works on the beach, the judges had quite the task on their hands in figuring out whom to award the coveted miniature sandcastles, (more durable than real ones, of course!), which were the trophies.

The following entries, for categories that included children, are the recipients of the trophies:

For Sand Hoppers (groups or individuals ages eight and under): third place, "Jabba the Hut"; second place, "Boat Sandy Joe Dan-Di-Jo" (*see photo below*); first, "Spiderman, Save the Whale".

For Sand Fleas (ages nine to 15 years): third place, Woody from *Toy Story*; second place, "Munster Truck", first place "Mount Everest & Mariana Trench".

For Sand Tribes (families with children): third place, "Odyssey - Don't Wake the Sandclops"; second, "Beware the Sirens" (Another *Odyssey*-themed entry); first, "Hammer Jammer" (*bottom photo*.)



The Waldo Tribune congratulates the trophy winners, and thanks all who participated in this fun and important event. We hope to see you next year.

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

I know routine is important as the new school approaches. Are check-lists still a thing?

Yes, these are an effective and measurable way to ensure all steps are completed before your child heads off to school. This also reduces those phone calls from the office. You can create a simple document and make multiple copies. You can even create lists using a dry erase board with some cute magnets. And there are digital resources that you customize, too.

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

As a librarian, I feel children are so connected to their devices, but rarely turn the pages of a "book". My grandchild just turned five, and I want to provide her with a service that would help her create her own book library. I am hoping this could lead to a book exchange of sorts with her friends.

I do agree that the digital world is taking paramount importance over turning the page of a book. There are tons of sites that do just that. Here is one: bookaroo.com

I would suggest the idea of book exchange with her classmates, when school starts to open. This is a way for children to receive "new" titles.



This edition is about cryptids. This site from the Kennedy center is a great resource.

<https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/resources-for-educators/classroom-resources/lessons-and-activities/lessons/3-5/cryptozoology-and-tall-tales-of-north-american-folklore/>

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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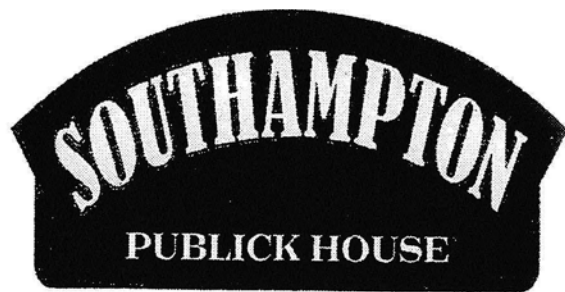
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Artist David Slater

by Eric Wald

David Slater was born in 1940 in Hempstead, Long Island. He now lives in Springs with his lifetime friend, Elisa Jeansonne, an artist. He is a world-famous artist, working at the Pollock-Krasner House in Springs, East Hampton, taking care of the museum.

He is a full-time artist. He started to paint in 1955 and has sold hundreds of paintings. He now uses acrylic paint, but in the past, used oil. He is most known for his collages. His works have been in many auctions on Long Island and New York City, and was just featured in an Outsider Art Fair, where he sold five paintings. He says he paints from his dreams and from his lifelong experiences. He has a son named Jeremy who is also in the arts. He says painting is a part of his life, the thing that keeps him going. He lives here in the Hamptons, where so many creative souls work and play.

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Rosh Hashana: Friday and Saturday, September 11 and 12
Saturday, September 12; Light Candles AFTER 7:44 PM

Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre: Sunday, September 20, 6:31 PM
Light Holiday Candles Sunday, September 20 at 6:31 PM

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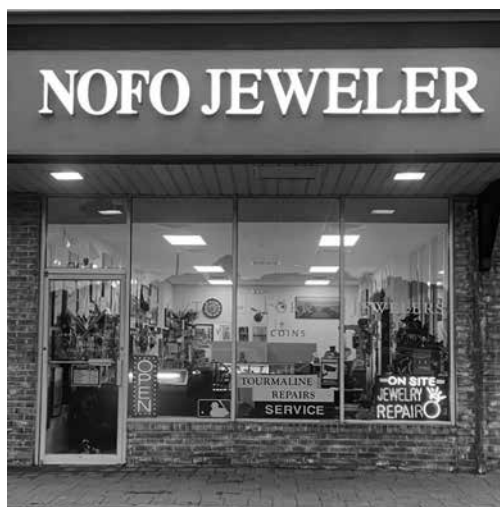
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The Loch Ness Monster

by Rosemary Szczygiel

Loch Ness is a large, deep lake in northern Scotland, the Scottish Highlands. The lake is surrounded by tall hills and trees. It is also surrounded by legends, tall tales, and mysteries.

Some people believe a sea monster with a big tail, long neck and fins lives in Loch Ness. They have even given it a nickname, "Nessie". Some say they have seen Nessie, but so far none of the evidence proves it.

At least one photograph was revealed to be a hoax! Still, the mysteries surrounding Loch Ness and its resident monster have a long history.

Ancient Scots called the Picts made stone carvings that show a mysterious beast with flippers. Saint Columba, an Irish missionary among the Picts in the year 545, is said to have performed a miracle by commanding the "water beast" to leave when it was ready to attack a swimmer.

St. Columba saw the beast and commanded it to "Go no further. Do not touch the man. Go back at once." The creature stopped and swam away, deep into the water.

In the 1850s, a strange sighting by fishermen was unexplained. Some said it could have been the mythical water-horse called the "Kelpie". But the monster appeared to be something else.

Interest grew in 1933 when a local newspaper, *Inverness Courier*, published a report from Aldie Mackay and her husband, who said they saw a huge "whale-like fish" rolling in the waters while they were driving along the lake.

Many people reading the article were curious. Automobiles increased travel and the road had been improved. More people could visit and view the legendary lake.

The *Courier* published another story of a man and his wife who saw what looked like a plesiosaur, a dinosaur that had been extinct for millions for years. It was no surprise that Nessie was considered to be a plesiosaur. A plesiosaur fossil skeleton was discovered in England in 1823, and caused an unforgettable sensation when it was moved to the Geological Society in London.

Sightings at Loch Ness could have been optical illusions, other animals mistaken for monsters, or worse, attempts to manufacture evidence that proved false. Photographs and films appeared to use props. None of the evidence was believable. Then more photographs, films, and expeditions. Then DNA testing, robotic search drones, sonar mapping, thermal imaging and underwater microphones.

A high-tech search was made in 2023 for the 90th Anniversary of the 1933 sighting. Wouldn't you think if Nessie were real, it might remain hiding in the dark waters until all the searches were over, and Loch Ness could just be the magical place a mythical monster calls home?

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Carousel Poem

by Eric Wald

"No," says the man on the carousel ride,
in the park
where the horses go up and down,
and the music is loud.

You can't ride for free,
and the little babies are crying
because of the loud music.

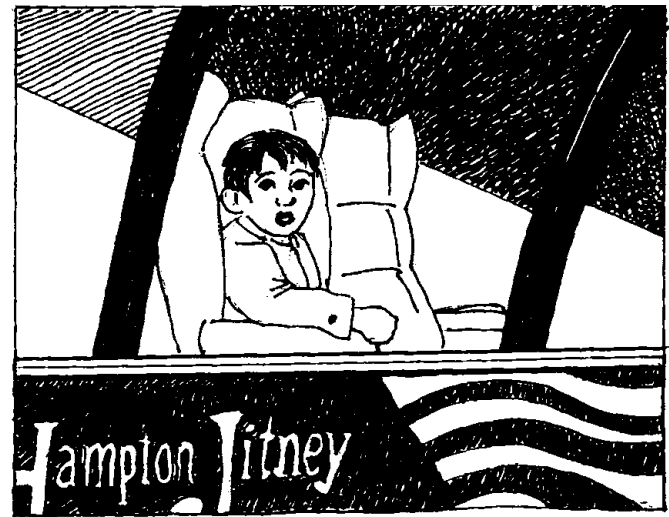
The poets sit and scribble
on old pieces of cardboard,
selling their poems
for promises of immortality and long life.

Yet the clowns are crying too,
and the pigeons are thirsty
as they fly around the carousel
in silent frozen motions.

You want to go on one more time,
but the night is closing like a curtain
drops on an end of a play.

"No more music for today",
says the man who has been there
for thirty years.

He knows the secret to youth
is the music of laughter
and tears of babies
and woes of old men who sit
feeding the squirrels.



The Little Boy Inside of Me

written by Eric Wald

illustrated by Mary Delaney-Cook

Coming home one recent afternoon on the Hampton Jitney, there was a little boy with his mother in front of me. The boy was small, and had blond hair like I did long ago. He must have been five or six years old, and was deeply in love with his mother, holding her, kissing her, playing patty-cake like I did as a little boy. And every time she kissed him, I remember my mom kissing me, holding me and loving me, and I wanted to be that little boy again in the arms of his mother, she holding him.

As we drove by the cars and homes and signs, I wanted to go back in time; and as the little boy smiled, I remember my mom and how she protected me from the world, and how magical the love of a mother to a son really is, how powerful her soft kisses are, and how I miss my mother and all the good times we shared together; and how lucky he is and doesn't know how much and how strong love is that comes from within and never leaves, a love so profound that there are no words to express it, that is kept secret but can never leave; a love of a mother to a son, a love that is old as time itself, a love that every man has and every boy cherishes that fills one up with love; soft, sweet love that comes to a little boy so naturally, so easily, and lasts a lifetime, and never, never, never dies.

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The Mothman of West Virginia

by Debbie Tuma

Hey Kids! Another cryptid is "The Mothman of West Virginia." This strange, winged creature appeared to the people of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, between November of 1966 and December of 1967.

It first appeared to some men who were digging graves in a cemetery in Clendenin, West Virginia in 1966, and it looked like a "huge, brown human being with wings, flying overhead, tree to tree."

Then it appeared again in front of a car, with four people inside, who said it looked like a "huge bird with glowing red eyes, and it was gliding really fast, without flapping its wings." They were going 100 miles per hour, and it kept flying over them. It also seemed to avoid the headlights. As this creature started showing up around Point Pleasant, West Virginia, people there thought it was tied to local disasters, like the collapse of a local Silver Bridge, which killed 46 people. They fell into the river below.

As time went on, the Mothman, as they called it, seemed to show up before a disaster came! Over the next 13 months, there were hundreds of sightings

by many local people.

Over time, the wildlife scientists, like Dr. Robert Smith, at West Virginia University, studied this mythological creature. Some suggested that this original "monster" was actually a large, disoriented bird, such as a Sandhill Crane or a Great Blue Heron, flying outside its usual migration pattern.

Over time, there have been books written about the "Mothman," and even a movie called *The Mothman Prophecies*."

There is even a Mothman Museum and an annual Mothman Festival, in Point Pleasant, West Virginia, where a 12-foot metallic Mothman statue stands. People come from all over the world to see this festival and statue in the small, historic town of Point Pleasant, with a population of just 5,000.

And this year, the Mothman Festival is on September 19 and 20. There will be live bands, vendors, speakers, bus tours, a 5K Mothman Race, and everything is kid friendly! So book your calendars, learn more about this cryptid, and have fun!



Letter to God

by Eric Wald

This is a letter to God, praying that when He takes my father, he will be kind and just, and love him like I love myself, maybe even more.

This is a letter to God, asking Him to watch over my father, so that he is safe and warm, and the love he has stays in within him and makes me know that he is strong, and that the love I have for him wipes away my tears of sadness and pain.

This is a letter to God, so that He can keep him forever and forever in His heart, and keep him in heaven until I reach him there.

This is a letter to God, asking Him to protect

him, so that he can kiss me with his warm, beautiful, soft kisses.

In time, my sorrow will grow and grow until we can meet again in heaven. I pray for him, so that when God takes him in to heaven, he can tell me to get a haircut, pull up my pants or shave my face, eat slowly and hold my hand as we walk down 34th street as if it were the last time he could.

I can hear him say, "Never be ashamed to kiss your father." His hand can hold mine, even in his darkest hour, when there is so little light.

He can feel my love that I hold so dear, that will never die or disappear.

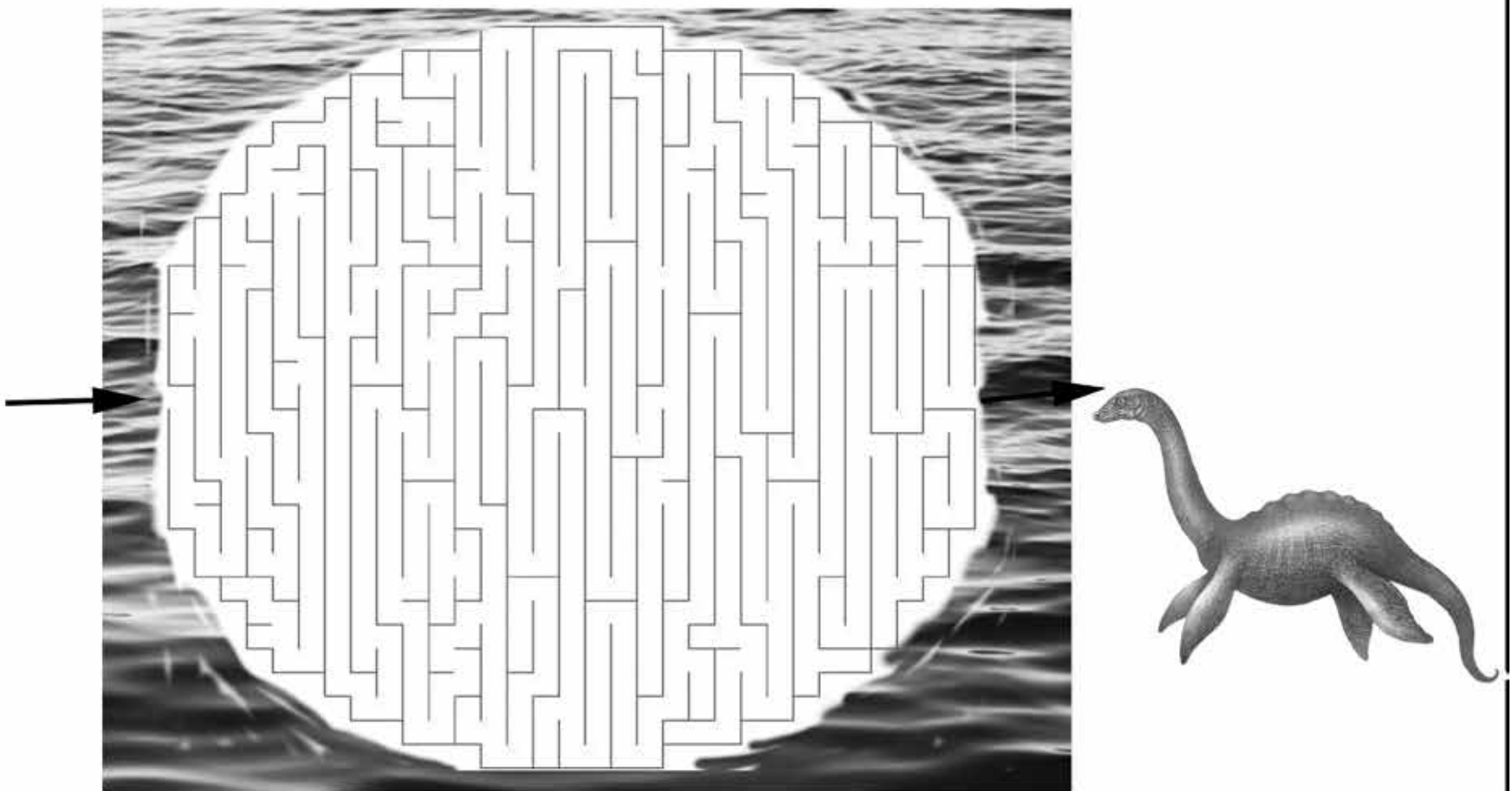
Letter from Waldo

This is me and my grandfather, Lew Wald, with me on him, riding piggyback when I was so small and in love with all my being. I can remember his sweet, beautiful kisses and the way he loved me more than anything in this world, and today, I try to mold myself like he was - smart, handsome and wonderful. Today I remember him and all the ways he loved me with all his might, with so many bunches that I cannot count.

Love,
Eric Wald

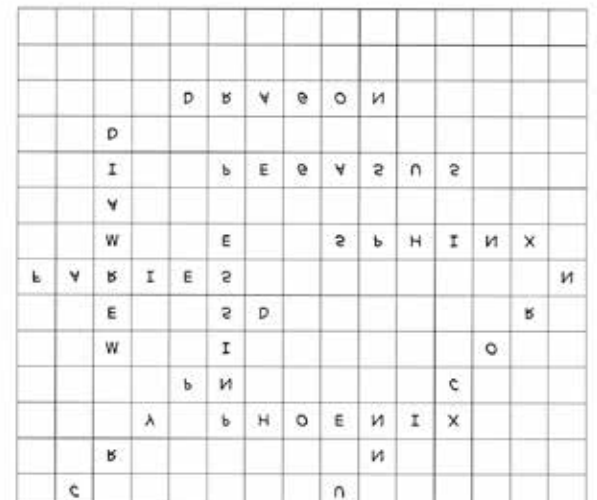
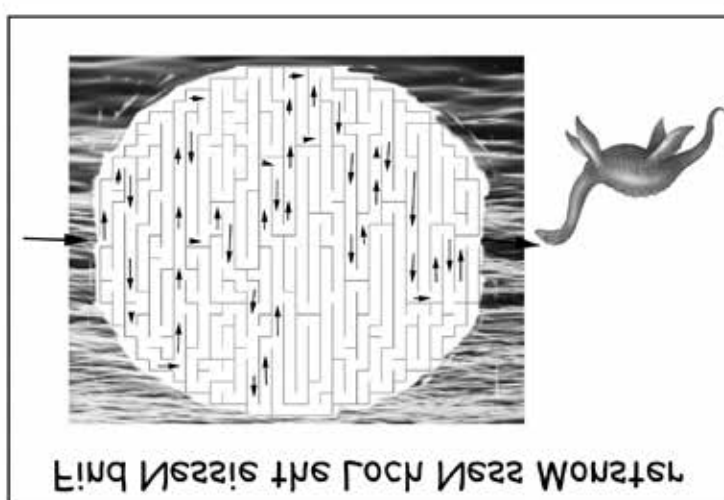


Find Nessie the Loch Ness Monster



Answers to the Cryptid Issue Puzzles (Turn Upside Down)

puzzles by KarenLise Bjerring



NISSE - What Three Things are Different?



CRYPTID

Mythological Creatures - Find the Hidden Words

You can go down, across, or diagonally.



PEGASUS is a magical winged horse from Greek stories. He is usually shown as a bright white stallion with large feathered wings. He was born from the sea god Poseidon and the Gorgon Medusa.

MERMAID: A legendary aquatic creature with the upper body of a female human and the tail of a fish.



DRAGON: Reptilian or serpent-like giants found in European, Asian, and Mesoamerican traditions, often symbolizing chaos,



UNICORN: A horse-like beast with a single large horn on its head.



PHOENIX A magical bird that bursts into flames and is reborn from its ashes.

SPHINX A mythical creature with the head of a human, a falcon, or a cat, and the body of a lion with eagle wings



NISSE: A small, gnome-like farm spirit wearing a red hat. He helps around the farm if treated well with a bowl of Christmas porridge, but plays nasty tricks if offended.

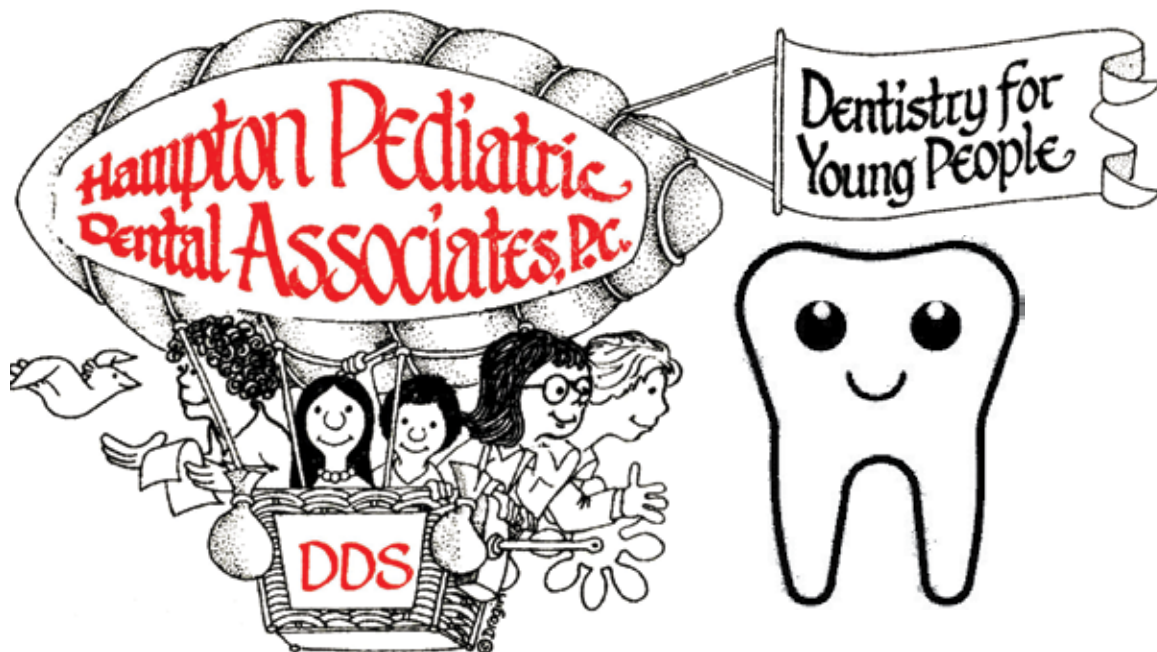


FAIRIES: area mythical creatures of folklore and romance originating from European traditions—especially Celtic, Germanic, and French culture. They are typically described as human-like beings



A	C	T	I	O	N	E	X	U	S	U	P	E	R	Z
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T	R	E	X	P	N	O	P	Q	U	I	C	K	L	Y
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