

# Gifted

November 2009 – 1 Month Of Holidays

## Have You Considered Hangin' With NASA? Apply for VASTS.

Daily interaction with NASA scientists and engineers while designing a human mission to Mars! FOR FREE!! Check out this distance learning opportunity called the **Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)** program. Current high school juniors who successfully complete an on-line may be selected to participate in a week long residential Summer Academy at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, where they will interact daily with scientists, and engineers to design a human mission to MARS! The application deadline is fast approaching. Complete program information, a sample course module, and application materials are located on the program website: <http://www.vasts.spacegrant.org/>.

The Deadline is Friday, November 6, 2009. Check out on Facebook by searching for VASTS.

**THE GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS PROGRAMS** is hosting a half day event at The Douglas Wilder Performing Arts Center at Norfolk State on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Plan to attend to receive information about scholarships, college admission, and financial aid.

Scholarship Central, a link on the VA school's web page [www.vbschools.com](http://www.vbschools.com), contains information about scholarships and scholarship applications. Click on Class of 2009 to access the link.

## Interested in attending the Summer Governor's Residential Program for Academics?

**Governor's School Application Deadlines** – Summer residential Governor's Schools provide gifted high school rising juniors and seniors (this year's sophomores and juniors) with intensive educational experience in the humanities, mathematics, science, technology, medicine and life science; or through mentorships in marine science or engineering. A school division selection committee chooses the nominees for these programs for each division and forwards the nominees to a state committee. Consideration is given to student's academic records, test scores, extra-curricular activities, honors, and awards, creativity, original essays, and teacher recommendations.

Students interested in an Academic Program must be formally identified as gifted in Virginia Beach. Check out the following website for program description descriptions and access to the application.

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/DOE/Instruction/Govschools>



Salvation Army

### DOING THE MOST GOOD

Sign up to Volunteer Bell Ring during the Holiday Season:

Please contact Shelby Moore, Assistant Director of Development:

757 – 543-8100, ext. 106, or

[Shelby\\_more@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Shelby_more@uss.salvationarmy.org)

## Auditions for the year-round Governor's School for Performing Arts

For those that committed to auditioning, the dates and locations are as follows:

**Wednesday, November 4, 2009**

**Dance Auditions** – Old Donation Center, 1008 Ferry Plantation Road, Virginia Beach.

**Visual Arts Auditions** - Old Donation Center, 1008 Ferry Plantation Road, Virginia Beach.

**Theatre Auditions** – Kempsville High School, 5194 Chief Trail, Virginia Beach

**Instrumental and Vocal Auditions -** Kempsville High School, 5194 Chief Trail, Virginia Beach

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### THE NEXT ELIGIBILITY TESTING IS SET FOR NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

Any student may be tested for the program. If you wish to have your child tested for the gifted program, contact Mrs. Pasko at 648-5650, ext 57108 or [pmpasko@vbschools.com](mailto:pmpasko@vbschools.com)

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!**

## SAT Upcoming Test Dates

SAT National Test Dates	TEST	Registration Dates	SAT Late Registration
12/5/09	SAT & subject tests	10/30/09	11/12/09
1/23/10	SAT & subject tests	12/15/09	12/30/09
3/13/10	SAT only	2/4/10	2/18/10
5/1/10	SAT & subject tests	3/25/10	4/08/10
6/5/10	SAT & subject tests	4/29/10	5/13/10

# What's Special About November?

### Famous Birthdays In November

**November 1** Larry Flynt(1942) Dan Rather (1932)  
**November 2** Daniel Boone (1734) Burt Lancaster (1913)  
**November 3** Charles Bronson (1922) Roseanne Barr (1953) Dennis Miller (1953) Michael Dukakis (1933)  
**November 4** Art Carney (1918) Walter Cronkite (1916) Loretta Swit (1937)  
**November 5** Roy Rogers (1911) Art Garfunkel (1941) Vivian Leigh (1913)  
**November 6** Maria Shriver (1955) Sally Field (1946)  
**November 7** Joni Mitchell (1943) Billy Graham (1918)  
**November 8** Mary Hart (1951) Margaret Mitchell (1900) Bonnie Raitt (1949)  
**November 9** Carl Sagan (1934) Hedy Lamar (1913) Mary Travers (1936)  
**November 10** Martin Luther (1483) Richard Burton (1925)  
**November 11** George Patton (1885) Kurt Vonnegut Jr. (1922)  
**November 12** Grace Kelly (1929) Al Michaels (1944) Neil Young (1945) Charles Manson (1934)  
**November 13** Joe Mantegna (1947) Chris Noth (1957) Whoopi Goldberg (1955)  
**November 14** Prince Charles (1948) King Hussein (1935)  
**November 15** Ed Asner (1929) Petula Clark (1932) General Rommell (1891)  
**November 16** Burgess Meredith (1907)  
**November 17** Rock Hudson (1925) Martin Scorsese (1942)  
**November 18** Linda Evans (1942) Mickey Mouse (1928)  
**November 19** Jodie Foster (1962) Larry King (1933) Calvin Klein (1942) Ted Turner (1938)  
**November 20** Bo Derek (1956) Richard Dawson (1932) Robert Kennedy (1925)  
**November 21** Troy Aikman (1966) Marlo Thomas (1938) Goldie Hawn (1945) Stan Musial (1920)  
**November 22** Jamie Lee Curtis (1958) Rodney Dangerfield (1921) Billie Jean King (1943)  
**November 23** Bruce Hornsby (1954) Harpo Marx (1888) Boris Karloff (1887)  
**November 24** Scott Joplin (1868)  
**November 25** Joe DiMaggio (1914) John F. Kennedy Jr. (1960)  
**November 26** Charles M. Schulz (1922) Tina Turner (1939) Rich Little (1938)  
**November 27** Jimi Hendrix (1942) Carolyn Kennedy (1957) Bruce Lee (1940)  
**November 28** Barry Gordy Jr. (1929) Paul Schaffer (1949)  
**November 29** Kim Delaney (1961) Howie Mandell (1955)  
**November 30** Winston Churchill (1874) Mark Twain (1835) G. Gordon Liddy (1931)

- **Birthstone: Topaz**
- **Flower:**
- **Fruit or vegetable: Sweet potatoes and Kiwis**
- **Herb: Chicory**

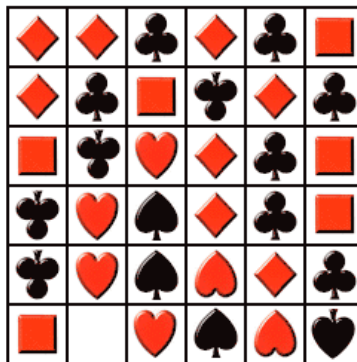


### NOVEMBER IN SPACE

- The first planned spacewalk from a shuttle had to be cancelled in November 1982 when spacesuits malfunctioned.
- Discovery astronauts ate a Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, gravy, cranberry sauce in orbit in November 1989.
- Sonny Carter lost his watch somewhere inside shuttle Discovery while orbiting in November 1989. Five months later, during Discovery's April 1990 trip to space, Loren Shriver found it.
- Shuttle Discovery commander Frederick D. Gregory suffered a foot infection in orbit in November 1989

**Veterans Day** is an annual American holiday honoring military veterans. Both a federal holiday and a state holiday in all states, it is usually observed on November 11. It is also celebrated as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day in other parts of the world. Veterans Day is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I; the war formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 with the German signing of the Armistice.

**TALK ABOUT A LEG UP** – You're carrying around the answers to this puzzle already. Hidden in the grid below are the names of 21 parts of the human body. To find them, go letter to letter either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. Just don't use the same square twice in a single word, or jump a square to get to that letter you need. Here's an example: NOSE can be spelled by starting with the N in the middle, moving diagonally down to the O, diagonally down again to the S, and up to the E. Good Luck!



**MISSING SQUARE**

Complete the square logically.

(Answer is at bottom of page)

H	S	E	C	D
T	G	H	A	W
M	U	N	I	R
E	O	L	S	B
S	T	R	I	Y

**How Do You Rate?**  
**10-12** Good thing you're not a doctor!  
**13-15** You might make it through medical school  
**16-19** Go ahead and open a practice  
**20-21** How does Chief of Surgery sound?

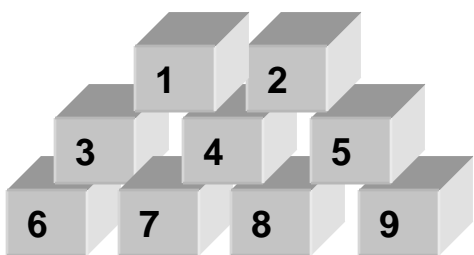
Answer is at bottom of page.

A contest is fixed. Everyone knows it, including the contestants. One of the contestants, however, makes it to the final playoff level. The master of ceremonies presents the following challenge: "This box contains two slips of paper. One slip has the word 'winner' printed on it, the other has the word 'loser.' Your task is to select the winning slip -- without looking of course." The contestant knows that his challenge is fixed. He realizes that both slips have the word 'loser.' How can he select one slip and win the challenge? By the way, the contestant can't declare this contest is a fraud or he'd lose his current winnings.

Answer is at bottom of page.

**Pasko Puzzles**

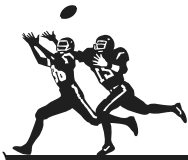
Can you arrange these numbered blocks into three equal stacks so that the sum of the numbers displayed in each stack must be equal to any other stack.



Answer is on next page.

**Do you know your NFL mascots??**

- Arizona Cardinals: Big Red (cardinal)
- New England Patriots: Pat Patriot
- Atlanta Falcons: Freddie the Falcon
- New Orleans Saints: Fetch Monster (dog)
- Baltimore Ravens: Edgar, Allan, and Poe (ravens)
- Philadelphia Eagles: Swoop (eagle)
- Carolina Panthers: Sir Purr
- San Francisco 49ers: Sourdough Sam
- Chicago Bears: Grizz (bear)
- Tampa Bay Buccaneers: Skully (parrot)
- Dallas Cowboys: Rowdy (cowboy)
- Denver Broncos: Thunder (Arabian stallion)
- Detroit Lions: Roary the Lion
- Jacksonville Jaguars: Jaxson de Ville (jaguar)
- Kansas City Chiefs: K.C. Wolfs
- Miami Dolphins: T.D. (dolphin)
- Minnesota Vikings: Vikadontis Rex (dinosaur)



(y y y)  
**WORD**

A word to the wise

What makes a word like FACETIOUS so unusual? It has all the vowels in alphabetical order.

**Winning Slip**  
 The contestant picks one of the slips. The slip is placed out of view (possibly eaten). The contestant then asks the MC to read the slip that was not selected. That MC's slip has the word "loser." When the audience hears "loser," they logically conclude that the contestant must have picked the winning slip.

**Answer to Missing Square**  
 Each symbol is associated with another's position; this upside-down spade is always to the left of a right-side-up heart.

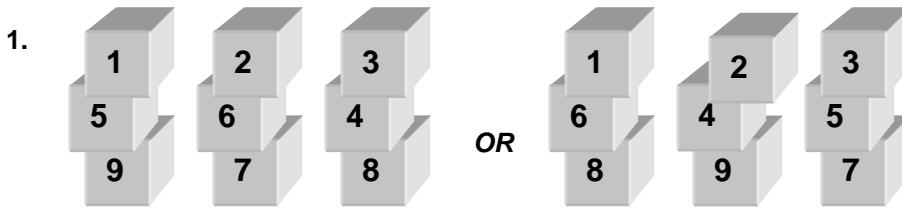
Clans of long ago that wanted to get rid of their unwanted people without killing them used to burn their houses down, hence the expression "to get fired."

**Answer to: Talk About A Leg Up**  
 Brain, chest, chin, ear, gum, hair, head, lung, mouth, nail, nose, nostril, rib, shin, tibia, toe, tongue, tonsil, uina, waist, wrist

**Fun With Idioms**

The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.

## ANSWERS TO PASKO'S PUZZLES



### 10 interesting facts about the humble yet resilient cockroach...

1. **Like Humans, cockroaches are omnivores** - they will eat anything organic including but not limited to dead things, grease, crumbs, discarded human skin cells, their own eggs and glue off the back of postage stamps and book bindings (glue is usually derived from animal protein).

2. **Cockroaches can truly live without their heads for up to a month.** A beheaded specimen would continue to breathe (through its spiracles) and lead a rather boring existence without much activity until (barring an infection by a mold, virus or bacterium) it eventually died of dehydration and starvation.



3. In some species of cockroach, **the female only needs to mate once** to produce eggs for her entire lifespan.

4. **Cockroaches are rather large insects.** Most species are about the size of a thumbnail, but several species are bigger. The world's largest cockroach is the Australian Giant Burrowing Cockroach, which can reach over 3.5" in length and weigh more than 1.06 ounces.

5. **Some cockroach species can go without air for 45 minutes** .

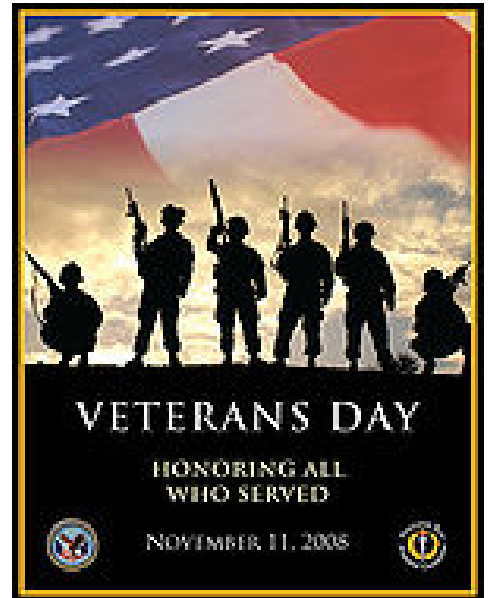
6. The **spines on the legs of cockroaches were earlier considered to be sensory**, but observations of their locomotion on sand and wire meshes has demonstrated that they help in locomotion on difficult terrain. Cockroach legs have been used as inspiration for robotic leg designs.

7. There are about **4,000 species of cockroach** of which 30 species are associated with human habitations and about four species are well known as pests.

8. The commonly held belief that in the case of a nuclear holocaust cockroaches would be the last species left to inherit the earth is not really accurate. Although **cockroaches do indeed have a much higher radiation resistance than vertebrates**, with the lethal dose perhaps 6 to 15 times that for humans, they are not exceptionally radiation-resistant compared to other insects, such as the fruit fly.

9. **Newly hatched roaches, known as nymphs, are usually white.** Shortly after birth, they turn brown, and their exoskeletons harden. At this point nymphs begin to resemble small, wingless adult roaches. Nymphs molt several times as they become adults. The period between each molt is known as an instar. With each instar the nymph becomes progressively more like an adult cockroach. In some species, this process takes only a few weeks. In others, like the oriental cockroach, it takes between one and two years. The overall life span of cockroaches differs as well — some live only a few months while others live for more than two years.

10. **As they walk, cockroaches leave trails of fecal matter (poop)**, which they use to find their way around. On top of being gross, these trails can cause stains and odors and contain lots of bacteria. The proteins in cockroach saliva and waste can also cause allergies and aggravate asthma.



### Have you heard the one about the turkey?

The pro football team had just finished their daily practice session when a large turkey came strutting onto the field. While the players gazed in amazement, the turkey walked up to the head coach and demanded a tryout. Everyone stared in silence as the turkey caught pass after pass and ran right through the defensive line. When the turkey returned to the sidelines, the coach shouted, "You're terrific!!! Sign up for the season, and I'll see to it that you get a huge bonus." "Forget the bonus," the turkey said, "All I want to know is, does the season go past Thanksgiving Day?"

### THE PERFECT TURKEY

An industrious turkey farmer was always experimenting with breeding to perfect a better turkey His family was fond of the leg portion for dinner and there were never enough legs for everyone. After many frustrating attempts, the farmer was relating the results of his efforts to his friends at the general store get-together. "Well I finally did it! I bred a turkey that has 6 legs!"

They all asked the farmer how it tasted.

"I don't know" said the farmer. "I never could catch the darn thing!"

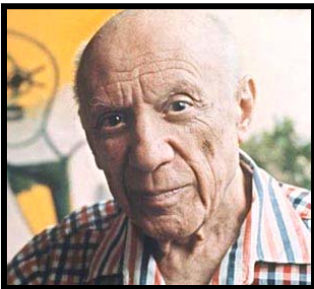
Science tells us that human beings only use about 10% of their brain capacity. Men average 11%, while women clock in at 13%. Nobody alive can tell us why this is the case, but isn't it just possible that exercising these faculties can improve mental capabilities? Some say yes. And what better way to expand your mind than by learning something new every day? Think about that. While you're thinking, here are some Very Little Known Facts:



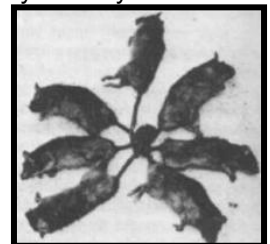
- White cats are tone deaf. (Do they purr off-key?)
- Peanuts are technically legumes, meaning that they form the root systems of small, deciduous trees.
- There are more attics in America than moonrocks on the Moon.



- Human eyelashes are composed of a single, fibrous cell.
- In addition to conquering most of Europe and Eurasia, Napoleon Bonaparte invented the breech-loading cannon, the flanking maneuver, the jury system, linoleum, and the modern system of street numbering with even numbers on the north or east side, odd numbers on the southwest side.
- To increase the life expectancy of rubber bands, keep them refrigerated.
- Traditionally, there is only one day a year for birthday parties in China. This is the seventh day of the New Year, which is known as "everybody's birthday." (Remember, that's the *Chinese New Year*.)
- Some have said that giraffes have no vocal cords. This is a myth. Giraffes rarely vocalize, but when they do they sound like elephants.



- There was no full moon in the month of February 1961.
- When a den of rats becomes overcrowded, the tails of young, malformed, or injured rats can become inextricably intertwined and subsequently fused together in a Gordian knot of blood, dirt, and excrement. These unnaturally conjoined rodents must then live out the balance of their lives in a filth-covered mass known as a Rat King. (Ugh)
- Between January 1969 and January 1970, Pablo Picasso completed 167 paintings. (That was basically 1 painting every 2 days.) He was 87 years old.



- Hershey's Kisses are called that because the machine that makes them looks like it's kissing the conveyor belt.
- More people are killed annually by donkeys than die in air crashes.
- The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- The most common name in the world is Mohammed.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.



**Girl Looking In A Mirror**

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

- Now is the time to start thinking about signing up for a second semester gifted elective class (1/2 credit).
- Next semester's class will be the Philosophy of Tolerance.
- See Mrs. Pasko or your guidance counselor if you are interested.



**Died of natural causes**



**Died as a result of wounds received in battle**



**Died in battle**