



The Bowfin Inquirer



May, 2022

“Address To Impress” Contest

for Bowfin St. children ages 2 - 16

These 6 photographs of Bowfin Street homes' front yards were taken about two months ago. To participate in this contest, children are to find the houses pictured here, **add up** their six street addresses, **and subtract** the Bowfin Inquirer's **first year of publication**, to arrive at a **two-digit number**. Write **THAT NUMBER** along with your name and address on Bowfin, and email us at editor@bowfininquirer.com. OR - write these on a sheet of paper and leave it in our mailbox (344). **Deadline for entries is June 15, 2022.**

\$20 cash prizes will be awarded to three entrants providing the correct number.

If there are more than three entries, winners will be selected by random drawing. Only one winner per household.

Have fun, kids!



The other four front yard photos are on page 4

Aaron's Answers



CAN



MAY

Question: An alternative to "May I?" in requesting permission is "Can I?" - but there is a difference between them, I seem to recall. Can you ... *or May you?* ;-) ... provide our readers with when, if ever, to use CAN and when to use MAY? -Jerry

Aaron's Answer: Everyone knows the joke about can and may. A student raises his hand and says "Can I go to the bathroom," to which the teacher replies "I don't know, can you?" This joke plays on the fact that *may* is the correct word to use in that sentence. However, technically speaking both words are correct. The original meaning of the word *may* was to express permission, and you would use the word *may* to ask to use the restroom or to excuse yourself from the dinner table. The original meaning of the word *can* was to express ability. So, in their original forms, the phrase *may* I use the restroom is asking for permission, while *can* I use the restroom is asking if the person has the ability to use the restroom.

There is a concept called "semantic change" in every language. The concept refers to the following scenario. Imagine that on a faraway planet there is a bunch of aliens who speak a language. One of their words is "blurg," which

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Solution to Last Month's Quiz

APRIL "SHOW"ers

Solution provided by neighbor, Gary Colman:

Show	Cast
1. Best in Show (Movie, 2000)	B. Fred Willard, Eugene Levy
2. The Bullwinkle Show (TV, 1959-1963)	A. Bill Scott, June Foray
3. The Greatest Show on Earth (Movie, 1952)	D. James Stewart, Charlton Heston
4. The Greatest Showman (Movie, 2017)	C. Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams
5. The Last Picture Show (Movie, 1971)	I. Timothy Bottoms, Jeff Bridges
6. Quiz Show (Movie, 1994)	F. Ralph Fiennes, John Turturro
7. The Rocky Horror Picture Show (Movie, 1975)	H. Tim Curry, Susan Sarandon
8. That '70s Show (TV, 1998-2006)	J. Topher Grace, Laura Prepon
9. The Truman Show (Movie, 1998)	E. Jim Carrey, Ed Harris
10. Your Show of Shows (TV, 1950-1964)	G. Sid Caesar, Imogene Coca

Show	Directors/Creators
1. Best in Show (Movie, 2000)	II. Christopher Guest
2. The Bullwinkle Show (TV, 1959-1963)	III. Jay Ward
3. The Greatest Show on Earth (Movie, 1952)	I. Cecil B. DeMille
4. The Greatest Showman (Movie, 2017)	VI. Michael Gracey
5. The Last Picture Show (Movie, 1971)	VII. Peter Bogdanovich
6. Quiz Show (Movie, 1994)	IX. Robert Redford
7. The Rocky Horror Picture Show (Movie, 1975)	IV. Jim Sharman
8. That '70s Show (TV, 1998-2006)	V. Mark Brazill
9. The Truman Show (Movie, 1998)	VIII. Peter Weir
10. Your Show of Shows (TV, 1950-1964)	X. Sykes & L. Weaver, Jr.

TARGET DATE FOR Next Month's Contributions
June 16, 2022
 Please reach us with your articles, news, photos or ideas at
 344 Bowfin, (650 572-9153) or email us at our email
EDITOR@BOWFININQUIRER.COM
 or by adding a **NOTE** on our Facebook Page
 or our website: **BOWFININQUIRER.COM**

This Month's Quiz

Come What MAY

Can you fill in these blanks to become a MAYjor General? *If answers are multiple words, lengths of words are provided.*

1. M A Y _____ brand of flavored cereal
2. _____ M A Y _____ soap brand
3. M A Y _____ cosmetic brand

4. M A Y _____ moving / trucking
5. M A Y _____ creamy sauce
6. M A Y _____ American writer/poet/civil rights activist (4,7)
7. _____ M A Y _____
i. Famed baseball player (6,4)
8. M A Y _____
a. McCartney song, 1970 (5,2,6)
9. _____ M A Y _____
a. Lancaster, Douglas thriller, 1964 (5,4,2,3)
10. _____ M A _____
a. Boss Tweed's domain (7,4)

Art for the B.I. contributed by Meera



Congratulations to SMHS Graduate, Peyton Jensen!



2009 – 2nd Prize Bowfin Inquirer Science Fair project on capillary action in celery



2022 – Off to college to study nursing

Status of Covid-19

REPORTED Foster City's Covid cases increased to a level higher than all but two prior months' (Jan/Feb '22), with roughly 1% of our population getting infected last month! (County HOSPITALIZATION rates can be found here:

<https://www.smchealth.org/data-dashboard/hospital-data>)

Month	SM County Total	New County Cases	County New Case Pct Chg Mo/Mo	Foster City Total	NewCity Cases	City New Case Pct Chg Mo/Mo
20-Aug	8,000			67		
20-Sep	9,785	1,785		122	55	
20-Oct	11,341	1,556	-13%	145	23	-58%
20-Nov	13,707	2,366	52%	174	29	26%
20-Dec	23,681	9,974	322%	436	262	803%
21-Jan	35,235	11,554	16%	646	210	-20%
21-Feb	38,674	3,439	-70%	708	62	-70%
21-Mar	40,105	1,431	-58%	744	36	-42%
21-Apr	41,013	908	-37%	763	19	-47%
21-May	42,069	1,056	16%	783	20	5%
21-Jun	42,386	317	-70%	787	4	-80%
21-Jul	43,676	1,290	307%	807	20	400%
21-Aug	45,631	4,955	284%	958	131	555%
21-Sep	51,908	3,277	-34%			
21-Oct	52,852	944	-71%	1,003	65	-100%
21-Nov	54,140	1,288	36%	1,036	33	-50%
21-Dec	55,064	2,724	111%	1,055	59	79%
22-Jan	100,737	45,873	1511%	2,043	948	1507%
22-Feb	118,133	17,396	-60%	2,942	899	-5%
22-Mar	120,865	2,732	-84%	3,034	92	-90%
22-Apr	124,946	4,081	49%	3,166	132	43%
22-May	137,333	12,307	204%	3,620	454	244%

Block Party Planning Group

Interested in having a Bowfin block party sometime this summer and willing to help put together plans for it? Please contact us at editor@bowfininquirer.com to get the ball rolling! (Ordinarily, we've organized block parties with little input needed, but in the 'age of Covid' we'd very much appreciate additional help to make sure safety concerns will be adequately addressed.)

A Quail's Tale

by Wendy Iwata (365)

This is the amazing story of the quail who escaped on April 4, but was found on the morning of April 20, after someone posted in Marlin park next-door that they found a quail! Amazing that she survived through the past two weeks of wind storms and rain. It was discovered by Lauren's childhood friend who we hadn't seen in 15 years! Anyway, I came back after Pickleball today to find out it died. I think it had internal damage as its wing was not moving. Amazing lucky quail who lived in Freedom for two weeks, and then died. May she Rest In Peace!

I still have three egg-laying quail if anyone would like some quail eggs!



Aaron's Answers *continued from page 1*

means *fruit*. However, everybody uses the word *blurg* to describe hair color. Because the word *blurg* evolved from its original meaning and is now used in a completely different way, the word *blurg* essentially has *two* meanings. The same concept applies with the word *can*. *Can* originally meant ability, however through popular usage it evolved to mean both permission to do something, and the ability to do that thing. Therefore, both words are correct. The same

concept applies to other modern words such as "cap." *Cap* originally meant something that is put over something else to close it, like a lid. However, through popular usage *cap* can mean *lies* to modern day children, as in "no cap," which essentially asks "Are you lying?"

"Address to Impress" additional yard photos

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