THURSDAY MORNING
NOVEMBER 12, 2026

# The Daily Perrigo

IT HAPPENS HERE
COTTONWOOD RIDGE EDITION

NO. 001
Pizza With the Works Except Anchovies Day · French Dip Day

**TODAY** **Lucy's Library Books Go Back Today. Sam's Trip Slip Is Due Friday.** Two books, in the blue bag by the door.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 64° / 38°<br>Sunny and breezy | SUNRISE<br>6:33a<br>Sunset 4:55p | DAYLIGHT<br>10h 22m<br>Two minutes shorter | CREEK<br>14 in<br>Running again | MOON<br>Waxing · 14%<br>First quarter Tue | AIR<br>AQI 31<br>Good | TONIGHT<br>Clear, cold<br>Down to 38° | NORA · 12 YRS<br>4,607 days old<br>Finn: 1,709 |

| The Brennans' Day | LUCY | NORA | SAM | FINN |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Library books back | Robotics until 5 | Practice at 4:30 | Show and tell: a leaf |

## A Library Book Came Back 61 Years Late. Nobody Has to Pay.

MATEO QUINTERO



An old library card catalogue. Every book once had a card in a drawer like these. *MarkBuckawicki — CC0*

On **Tuesday** morning, the librarians at the **Juniper Street Library** opened the return slot and found a book that had been gone since **1965**. It was a copy of *Misty of Chincoteague*, the story of a wild pony, and the card in its pocket was stamped **due 10 November 1965**.

So it came back on its due date, exactly **61 years** late. Inside was a note. "Sorry," it said. "I was nine, and I loved it too much to give it back." It had no name on it.

In 1965 the library charged **2 cents** for every day a book was late. After 61 years that would be about **22,280 days**, or **$445.60**. But the library stopped charging late fines in **2021**, so nobody owes a penny.

"We are just glad it had a good home," said **Rosalind Pike**, the head librarian. After a month in a glass case by the front desk, it goes back on the shelf for anybody to borrow. It will be due back in **three weeks**.

## The Rattlers Play for the Fall Ball Title on Saturday

DUKE SALCEDO

The **Ridge Rattlers**, the Little League fall team that **Sam Brennan** plays second base for, meet the **Mill Pond Muskrats** for the town's fall title on **Saturday at 10**, on field two at **Juniper Park**.

The Muskrats won the last game between them, **4 to 3**, on a ball that bounced off the top of the fence. So the Rattlers' coach, **Hal Ferreira**, has had them catching high balls all week. The winners get a small silver bat with every player's name on it. Bring a chair: the bleachers at field two hold only about 40 people.

## Sorrel Creek Is Running Again After 143 Dry Days

WREN FINCH

For **143 days**, since the end of **June**, there was no water at all in **Sorrel Creek**. You could walk along its bed in sneakers and find nothing wetter than a frog-shaped rock.

Then, on Saturday night, almost **2 inches** of rain fell on the hills above town. By Monday morning the creek was running again. The town's measuring post by the **Elm Street footbridge**, a white pole with numbers painted on it, read **14 inches** yesterday.

Most of the water runs down **Willow Run**, a smaller stream in the hills. A stream that flows into a bigger one is a **tributary**: today's Word of the Day.

Cottonwood Ridge is named after the **cottonwood trees** along the creek. Cottonwoods grow beside water in dry country, because their roots drink from the wet ground near a stream. In spring their seeds float off on fluffy white hairs, so the creek looks as if it is snowing.

While the water is high, do not wade in: fast water only **6 inches** deep can knock a grown-up off their feet.

## Today Is Pizza With the Works Except Anchovies Day

MATEO QUINTERO



A pizza with the works. Not an anchovy in sight. *Scott Bauer, USDA — public domain*

Today is **Pizza With the Works Except Anchovies Day**. "The works" means a bit of everything: pepperoni, sausage, peppers, mushrooms, onions and olives. Everything, that is, except **anchovies**.

Nobody knows who invented the day. The oldest mention anyone has found is in a **Florida** newspaper in **2001**.

Anchovies are small silver fish that swim in huge **schools**. Whales, sea lions and pelicans love them. On a pizza they come salted, and they taste very, very salty. Many people who say they hate anchovies have eaten them without knowing: there are anchovies in **Worcestershire sauce**.

## THE NEXT FIVE DAYS

| | |
|---|---|
| TODAY | Lucy's library books back. Nora: robotics till 5. Sam: practice at 4:30. Sunny, 64. |
| FRI | Sam's trip slip due, signed. Lucy: ballet at 4. Pizza night. Windy, 58. |
| SAT | Rattlers' final at 10 (Dad). Robotics at 1 (Mum). Cloudy, 55. |
| SUN | Creek clean-up at 9. Grandpa's birthday lunch. Rain later, 52. |
| MON | Finn: pajama day. Lucy: two new library books. Showers, 50. |

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

| | |
|---|---|
| Grandpa Joe | Sat the 14th · turns 70 |
| Aunt Tess | Mon the 16th · turns 38 |
| Ava Delgado | Wed the 18th · turns 8 |

### AROUND COTTONWOOD RIDGE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| THU | Library, 4p | Lego builders' club |
| FRI | Grange Hall, 6p | Chili supper |
| SAT | The square, 8a | Farmers' market |
| SAT | Juniper Park, 10a | Fall Ball final |
| SAT | School gym, 1p | Robotics tournament |
| SUN | Footbridge, 9a | Creek clean-up |

### DAYS UNTIL

| | |
|---|---|
| Sam's field trip | 5 days |
| Full moon | 12 days |
| Thanksgiving | 14 days |
| Lucy's Nutcracker | 30 days |
| Christmas | 43 days |

WORD OF THE DAY

### Tributary

TRIBUTARY · noun · TRIB-yoo-tair-ee

A **tributary** is a stream or river that flows into a bigger one and adds its water to it. Willow Run is a tributary of Sorrel Creek. The **Missouri River** is a tributary of the **Mississippi**, and it is actually the longer of the two.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

### Nov. 12, 1954

On this day in 1954, **Ellis Island**, in New York Harbor, closed. Since **1892**, about **12 million** people coming to live in America had passed through its great hall. The very last one was a sailor from **Norway** called **Arne Peterssen**. Today the island is a museum, and visitors can look up the names of the people who came through.



ANIMAL OF THE DAY — MCKUNEC — CC0

### The American Black Bear

Black bears are getting ready to **hibernate**. In its den a black bear can go about **100 days** without eating, drinking or going to the bathroom, and its heart slows to as few as **8 or 9** beats a minute. Many are not black at all, but brown, cinnamon or blond.

**Aries** NORA
Something you built is ready. Let it go first.

**Leo** SAM
Warm up your arm, and your smile.

**Gemini** LUCY
Two books out, two books in. Choose slowly.

**Pisces** FINN
A leaf in your pocket is worth sharing.

**Libra** MUM
Four kids, one car: a good list wins.

**Capricorn** DAD
Order the pizza early.

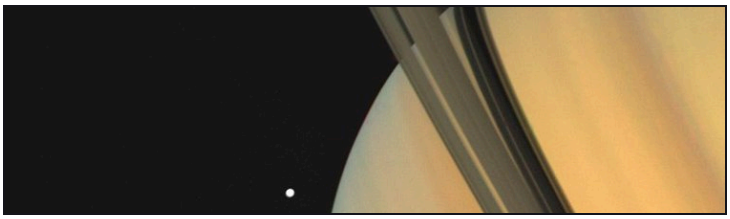
**Scorpio** MITTENS
Follow the patch of sun.

RIDDLE — MY NAME SAYS BLACK, BUT MY COAT IS OFTEN BROWN, AND ALL WINTER I SLEEP WITHOUT A SINGLE SNACK. WHAT AM I? (ANSWER ON PAGE TWO.)

# Page Two

## 46 Years Ago Today, Voyager 1 Flew Past Saturn

*It came within about 78,000 miles of the clouds, then headed out of the solar system for good.*



Saturn and two of its moons, Tethys and Dione, photographed by Voyager 1 nine days before it flew past. *NASA/JPL — public domain*

On **12 November 1980**, **Voyager 1** flew past **Saturn**, the planet with the rings. It had left Earth on **5 September 1977**, and it came within about **78,000 miles** of Saturn's cloud tops.

The day before, it swooped past Saturn's biggest moon, **Titan**, hoping to see the ground. It could not: Titan is wrapped in a thick **orange haze**. But its air turned out to be mostly **nitrogen**, like ours, at about **293 degrees below zero**.

It also found **three new moons**, and showed that Saturn's wide rings are really **thousands of thin ringlets**, like the grooves on a record.

Saturn's pull then flung it up and away from the planets, fast enough to leave the Sun behind. In **2012** it became the first spacecraft to reach **interstellar space**, the space between the stars. It is still sending messages home.

## The Middle School's Robot Can Tell a Can From a Bottle

*Sir Sorts-a-Lot is made from a kit, two skateboard wheels and a lot of tape.*

MATEO QUINTERO

The robotics club at **Ridge Middle School** has built a robot that sorts rubbish. Show it a can, and its arm swings left. Show it a plastic bottle, and it swings right.

Its name is **Sir Sorts-a-Lot**. Seven students built it after school, among them **Nora Brennan**, who wrote much of its code. A small camera inside looks at each thing's shape and shine.

On **Saturday at 1**, in the school gym, it goes to the **county robotics tournament**. Each robot gets **2 minutes and 30 seconds** to sort a pile of **40** things. Its best score in practice is **37**. "The three it gets wrong are always yoghurt pots," Nora said.

## El Consejo de Tía Mariana

TÍA MARIANA

**El arroyo** — *el ah-ROH-yoh* — the creek.

*¡Mira! El arroyo tiene agua otra vez.* — Look! The creek has water again.

**Tía Mariana says:** English borrowed this word. In the dry Southwest, an **arroyo** is a creek bed that sits empty most of the year until a storm fills it, just like Sorrel Creek. A tiny stream is **un arroyito**.

## The Word Search

*Twelve words, all somewhere else in this paper.*

**LIBRARY · CREEK · TRIBUTARY · SATURN · VOYAGER · TITAN · PIZZA · ANCHOVY · BEAR · ROBOT · RATTLERS · MITTENS**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | C | N | N | C | H | C | K | E | E | R | C | R | N |
| B | S | D | Y | V | O | H | C | N | A | H | U | U | S |
| Y | R | A | T | U | B | I | R | T | P | B | R | S | S |
| M | B | H | S | N | E | T | T | I | M | E | B | R | E |
| J | N | E | R | D | B | L | Z | T | G | S | J | R | V |
| F | D | S | S | U | E | Z | S | A | T | U | R | N | G |
| L | L | I | B | R | A | R | Y | N | D | O | R | W | C |
| S | B | T | S | G | R | O | P | V | R | N | B | Y | K |
| O | S | O | L | J | V | H | Z | F | W | Y | H | O | C |
| S | J | Q | P | K | X | O | J | T | C | D | Q | N | R |

## The Riddles

**1.** I am a wooden chest of little drawers, with a card for every library book.

**2.** I am a small, salty silver fish, and today a whole holiday says "everything except me."

**3.** I am a stream that flows into a bigger one. Willow Run is one.

**4.** I am Saturn's biggest moon, and my orange haze hid my ground from Voyager 1.

**5.** I have an arm and a camera, and I can tell a can from a bottle.

ANSWERS! TURN THE PAPER UPSIDE DOWN

1. A card catalogue. 2. An anchovy. 3. A tributary. 4. Titan. 5. Sir Sorts-a-Lot, the robot.

THE RIDDLE FROM PAGE ONE

FROM THE FRONT PAGE — The American black bear.

## Two Jokes

*Guess first. Then flip!*

**Where do library books like to sleep?**

FLIP IT!

Under their covers.

**What kind of music do the planets like best?**

FLIP IT!

Neptunes.




### "Finn, 4, asks: why does Mittens purr?"

*holds a stethoscope to a sleeping cat and listens with great seriousness* Because of her **voice box**! A cat's purr comes from the **larynx**, in her throat. The flaps inside it, called **vocal folds**, flutter about **25 times a second**, and the air rushing past makes that rumbly motor sound. Here is the clever bit: a cat purrs while breathing **in** AND while breathing **out**, so the purr never stops for a breath. Cats purr when they are happy, but also to calm themselves when they are poorly or scared. And a mother cat purrs to her kittens, who can feel the rumble before their eyes are even open.

**NOW. THE PART YOU WILL TELL EVERYBODY.** A lion can roar, but it cannot purr like Mittens. A **cheetah** can purr, but it cannot roar.

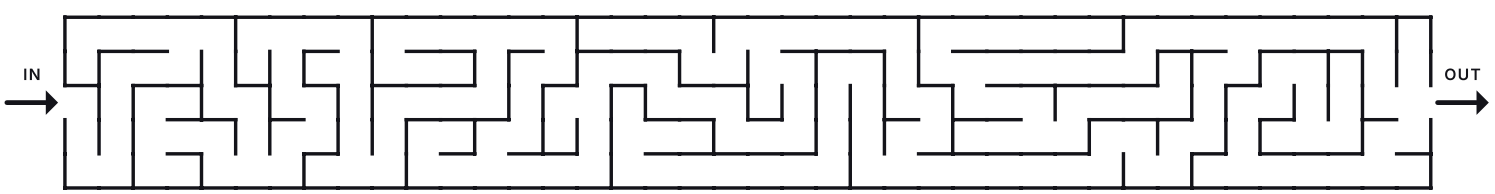
**Got a question for the Professor?** Anyone in the house can send one. Reply to Opal's morning letter, and he will answer it right here.

## Did You Know? The Moon Moves 1.5 Inches Farther Away Every Year



A waxing crescent, like tonight's. *NASA — public domain*

Every year the **Moon** drifts about **1.5 inches** farther from Earth, about as fast as your fingernails grow. Scientists measure it by bouncing **laser** light off mirrors that **Apollo** astronauts left on the Moon more than 50 years ago. The light takes about **2.5 seconds** to get there and back.






A SAMPLE · This house, its town and its news are made up · dailyperrigo.com