VOL. 1 / NO. 1 A MONTHLY PAPER / SAMPLE ISSUE

The Sunday Edition

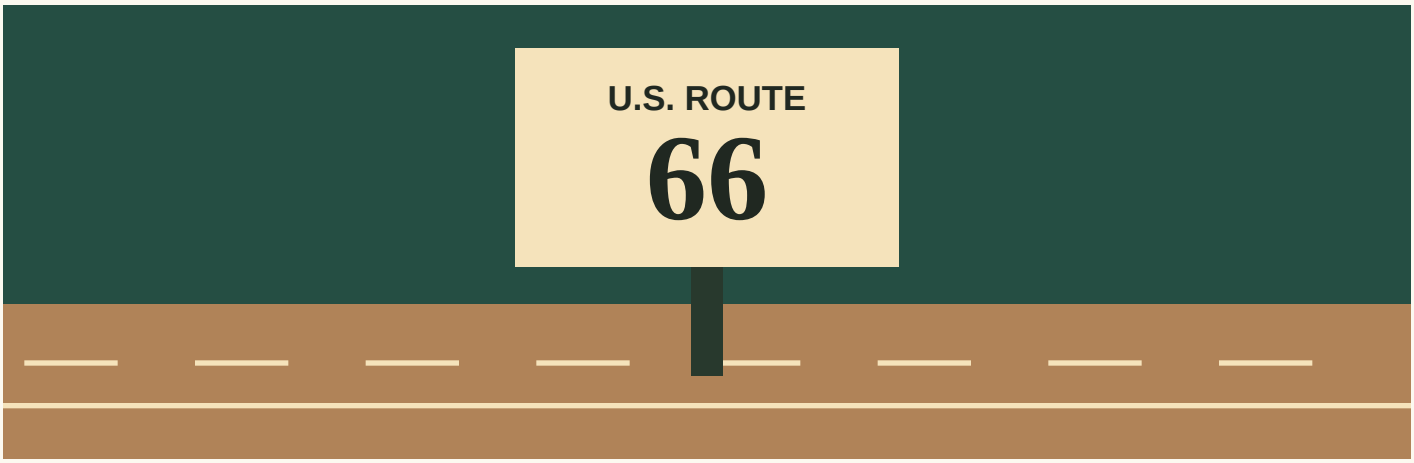
PREPARED FOR FRANK

YOUR PICKS Road Trips • Backyard Birds • Railroad History • Christian Faith

ROAD TRIPS

The long way west on Route 66

Before the interstate, the Mother Road took travelers right through the towns along the way.



Designated in 1926, Route 66 ran from Chicago to Santa Monica. It carried families leaving the Dust Bowl and later became a favorite of vacationers heading west by car. Gas stations, motor courts, and diners grew up along the route.

Interstates eventually took over, and Route 66 lost its federal highway designation in 1985. You can still drive surviving stretches. Part of the pleasure is leaving the fast road and seeing what's still on Main Street.

Source: National Park Service, Route 66

BACKYARD BIRDS

Who’s whistling out there?

You may hear a Northern Cardinal before you see one. Listen for a string of clear whistles that can sound like “cheer, cheer, cheer.” Both males and females sing. The male’s bright red feathers are easy to spot, while the female is mostly warm brown with touches of red.

If cardinals live in your area, try sunflower seeds in a feeder. Then listen as well as look. A sharp chip from the shrubs may tell you where to turn your head.

Source: Cornell Lab of Ornithology, All About Birds

RAILROAD HISTORY

The day two railroads met

On May 10, 1869, the Central Pacific and Union Pacific met at Promontory Summit in Utah Territory. A ceremony marking the completion of the first transcontinental railroad brought two steam locomotives face to face.

The engines were Central Pacific’s *Jupiter* and Union Pacific’s No. 119. Both originals are gone, but working replicas stand at the site today.

Source: National Park Service, Golden Spike National Historical Park

CHRISTIAN FAITH / PSALM 46:10 (KJV)

A quiet minute with God

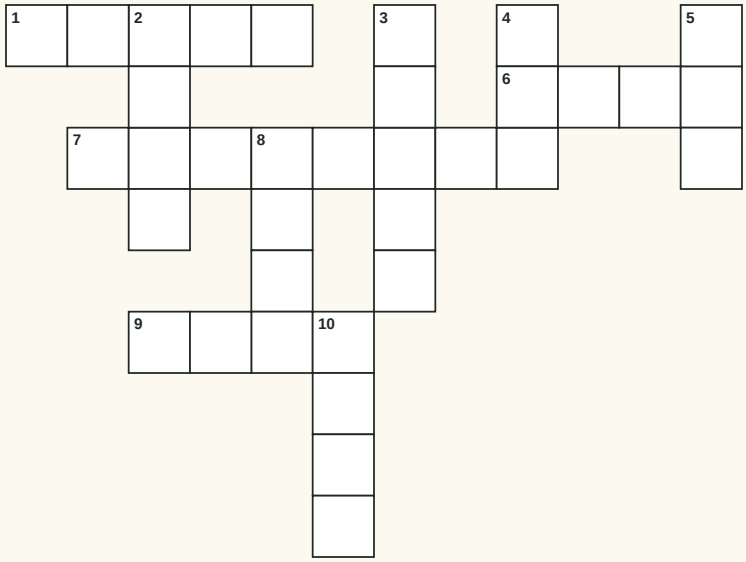
“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Prayer. Lord, quiet my heart and help me trust You with what I can’t control. Thank You for being near. Amen.

YOUR PICK / BACKYARD BIRDS

At the bird feeder

Write one letter per box. Leave out spaces. Answers are on page 4.



ACROSS

1. Bird with an orange breast that often hunts for worms (5)

6. A bird spreads this to take flight (4)

7. Crested backyard bird with a bright red male (8)

9. Small songbird whose name rhymes with ten (4)

DOWN

2. The hard part of a bird’s mouth (4)

3. Gold___, a yellow bird that likes tiny seeds (5)

4. Night hunter with a familiar hoot (3)

5. What a chick hatches from (3)

8. Bird often used as a symbol of peace (4)

10. Where a mother bird lays her eggs (4)

I’VE ALWAYS WONDERED

What happened to the caboose?

A call-in question from Frank, our sample subscriber

A caboose gave the crew at the rear of a freight train a place to work. From there they could watch for trouble, including shifting cargo and overheating axles. It also doubled as the conductor’s office.

In the 1980s and 1990s, railroads retired most cabooses. A small electronic device clipped to the last car could flash a red marker light and send information about the train back to the crew. Next time a freight train passes, watch for that little red light.

Sources: Mid-Continent Railway Museum and Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

