

# Unlocking the Facts

## FIND OUT MORE!

Knowing your way around *The World Almanac* is important if you want to find information quickly. There are four guides you can use to find information.

- The **Quick Thumb Index** on the back cover is most useful when you are looking for a large section, such as Sports. Use this index by moving your thumb from the topic on the back cover to its matching black-edged pages and open the book.
- The **Contents** on page 3 of the almanac lets you know what general topics are covered in the almanac (in the order they appear). It is most useful when you are looking for general information or want to browse a certain topic.
- The **Quick Reference Index** on the last page (1008) has many more specific topics—such as Academy Awards or Presidential Elections—arranged in alphabetical order.
- The **General Index** starting on page 980 is the most detailed of all, with 28 pages of topics and subtopics covered in the almanac. It is most useful for finding specific information, such as the languages spoken in Switzerland.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The average  
U.S. movie ticket price  
increased from  
\$4.22 in 1990  
to \$8.43 in 2015.

### CHECK IT OUT

#### Where would you look for the following information?

First check the **Quick Reference Index**. If you don't find what you're looking for, go to the **General Index**. When you've found the answer to each question, write the page number and topic that led to the answer and the index you used. If the information is not found in the **General Index** under the first topic you check, then you'll need to look for related topics or subtopics. Sometimes you may have to look in several different places in the index to find what you need.

|  | PAGE  | TOPIC | INDEX |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 How much money does the U.S. make from tourism?  | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2 Where was actress Jennifer Lawrence born?  | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3 In 1770, on the eve of the American Revolution, which colony had the largest population? | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4 What is the highest mountain peak in South America?                                      | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5 What was the most popular color for 2015 model year luxury cars/SUVs and light trucks?   | _____ | _____ | _____ |

# Find Facts Fast

## MAKE CONNECTIONS

Use the **Quick Reference Index** to help find the facts below. The **boldfaced** words will help you find the correct topic in the **Quick Reference Index**. Write the page number of the answer in the parentheses, and write the answer on the line. Then circle the answers in the puzzle. Answers go across, down, and diagonally.

- 1 Last name of 21st U.S. **president** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Country whose **flag** is a white field with one red circle in the center ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 **Planet** with an average daytime surface temperature of  $-162^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Country that is the most reliant on nuclear **energy** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 **Chemical element** with the symbol Fe ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 U.S. **city** with the third-largest **population** in 2015 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 State where Mesa Verde **National Park** is located ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 State where the source of the Salmon **River** is located ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Last name of the **basketball** player who was the 1998 NBA Finals MVP ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Second-highest top-grossing American **movie** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 **Holiday** celebrated on June 14 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 State where **first lady** Jacqueline Kennedy was born ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Connecting the Facts

## MAKE CONNECTIONS

Use both the **Quick Reference Index** and the **General Index**. Write the page number of the answer in the parentheses and print the answer on the line.

- 1 State whose capital is Salem ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Country whose flag has a single large yellow star on a solid red background ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Birthplace of singer Drake ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Capital of Indonesia ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Pitcher who won baseball's Cy Young Award in 1961 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Director of the Central Intelligence Agency under President Eisenhower ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 First woman to complete a transoceanic solo flight, in 1932 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Book awarded the 2016 Newbery Medal ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Length of the Statue of Liberty's nose ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Winner of college football's Heisman Trophy in 2004 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 Subject of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Inventor of the lightning rod ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 Winner of the 1970 Nobel Prize for Peace ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 Portrait that appears on the U.S. \$10,000 bill ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 Birthplace of writer J. K. Rowling ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 Zodiac sign that comes after Taurus and before Cancer ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 State that has the northernmost city in the United States ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 Symbol for the chemical element silver ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

# Cross-Country Trip



## DID YOU KNOW?

**New Jersey is the most densely populated state. On average, it has more than 1,218 residents per square mile. Alaska, the least densely populated state, has only 1.3 residents per square mile.**



Throughout *The World Almanac*, you'll find fascinating facts about every state—including yours. There are dozens of topics listed under "States, U.S." in the **General Index**, and more information about states can be found using other index entries.

## FIND OUT MORE!

Each clue below leads to one state. Write the page number of the answer in the parentheses and the state's postal abbreviation (see page 396) on the line next to it.

- 1 Home of the first Secretary of Health and Human Services ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Birthplace of 29th U.S. president Warren Harding ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Site of Zion National Park ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 State where Mount St. Helens volcano is located ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 State where the U.S. center of population was located in 1900 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 State with the fifth largest city by population in 2015 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 State admitted to the Union on Jan. 3, 1959 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Birthplace of TV host Ellen DeGeneres ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 State with the largest office building ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 State with the smallest population in 2015 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 State with the largest area among the 48 contiguous states ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 State whose WNBA basketball team won the 2011 title ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 State whose population increased by more than 44 percent between 2000 and 2015 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 State with the largest number of students enrolled in public schools ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 State that had the lowest total energy consumption in 2014 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 State with the most coastline ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 State that is home to Cornell University ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

# All-American Facts



Write the answers on the numbered blanks. Then put each letter into the matching numbered square in the diagram. When you've finished, read the grid from left to right, starting at the top, and you'll find the answer to the following question: What motto appears on the Great Seal of the United States?

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  |    | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |    |    |    |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |    |    | 14 |    | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |    |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |    | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
|    | // | 33 | 34 | 35 |    | 36 | 37 |    | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | /  |
|    |    |    |    |    | 42 | 43 | 44 | // |    |    |    |    |    |

- U.S. president during the Mexican War  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 14 26 44                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      15
- State that entered the Union on Mar. 1, 1803  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 33 21 30
- City settled by the Dutch in 1624 as part of the colony of New Netherland  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 39 3                      \_\_\_\_\_                      19 41
- Constitutional amendment prohibiting "unreasonable searches and seizures"  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 37 42 4                      \_\_\_\_\_                      35
- Railroad line joined with the Central Pacific when the transcontinental railroad was completed  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 10 31 18                      \_\_\_\_\_                      29                      20 28                      \_\_\_\_\_                      6
- Union general who captured Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the Civil War  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 12                      \_\_\_\_\_                      24                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      32                      \_\_\_\_\_                      40
- State where the Oregon Trail began  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 13                      \_\_\_\_\_                      9                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      34 5
- City where the U.S. battleship *Maine* exploded, triggering the Spanish-American War  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_                      23                      \_\_\_\_\_                      16 43                      \_\_\_\_\_
- French explorer who traveled with Louis Jolliet down the Mississippi River  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      8 1                      \_\_\_\_\_                      38                      \_\_\_\_\_                      22                      \_\_\_\_\_                      27 17                      \_\_\_\_\_                      25
- Rebellious act by colonists Dec. 16, 1773  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 7                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      36 11                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      2

# Armchair Traveling

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2014, South America welcomed more than 2.2 million visitors from the United States.

## FIND OUT MORE!

Using the map on pages 480-81, plan a five-stop tour of South America, starting in Buenos Aires. Do you want to spend most of your time in major cities or in rural areas, or divide your time about equally between the two? How many countries do you want to visit? The Nations of the World section of the almanac will help you make your travel decisions.

Number and label the stops you expect to make on the map of South America below. The first stop, Buenos Aires, is done as an example. You can visit popular tourist destinations, the seashore, the mountains, or any place that captures your imagination.

### Stop 1

Buenos Aires, capital of  
Argentina

### Stop 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Stop 3

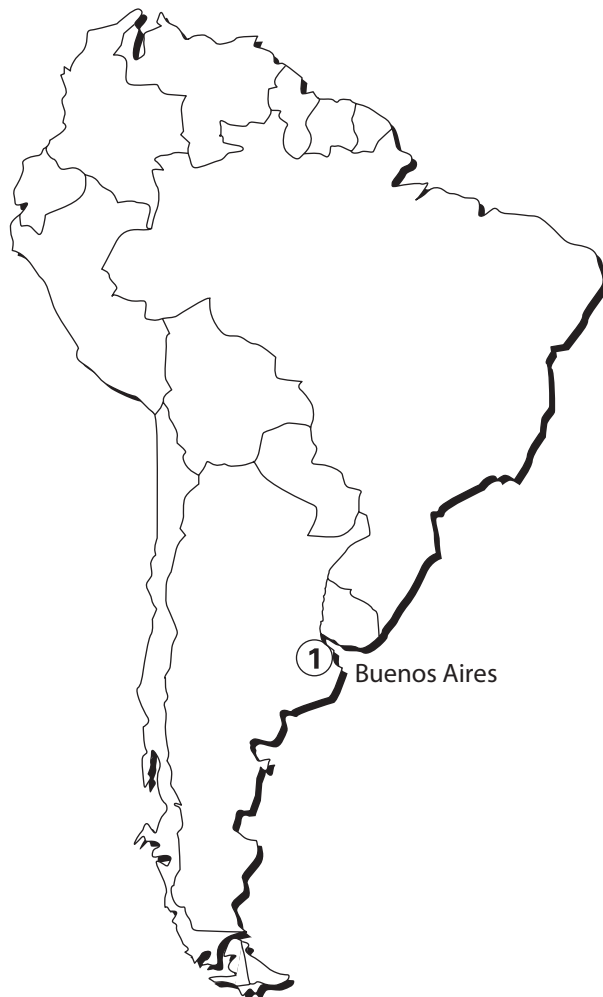
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Stop 4

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Stop 5

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Flags of the World

## FIND OUT MORE!

Find the answers to the following questions by looking at the flags section on pages 473-76 of *The World Almanac*.

- 1 How many stars are on Burundi's flag? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What color are the stars on China's flag? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Are all the stars on Samoa's flag the same size? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 What shape do the stars on Venezuela's flag form? \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK IT OUT**

Now use the Quick Thumb Index to find the Nations of the World section. Draw a line from each of the following nations to its type of government.

Bhutan

Nauru

Qatar

Liechtenstein

Denmark

El Salvador

Botswana

Finland

Sweden

**Monarchy**

**Republic**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Most nations' flags are rectangular, but Nepal's flag has an untraditional shape: the red flag with white symbols and a blue border looks like two triangles, one above the other. Switzerland and Vatican City have square flags.



There are common elements in many flags. Stars are often used as symbols, as are stripes, crosses, and the color red.

## MAKE CONNECTIONS

On the back of this sheet, design a flag for your family. The symbols you choose could be of special interests, symbols of your state or town, or something representing your parents' ethnic backgrounds. Explain the meanings of the symbols you chose. Have fun!

# Picking a President

## DID YOU KNOW?

Until 2016, only three presidents in U.S. history had lost the popular vote but captured a majority of Electoral College votes to win the election. They were Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876, Benjamin Harrison in 1888, and George W. Bush in 2000. In the 1824 election, Andrew Jackson won the popular vote, but no candidate had a majority (more than half) of electoral votes; the House of Representatives chose John Quincy Adams as president.

## FIND OUT MORE!

- 1 At least how many Electoral College votes does a presidential candidate need to win an election?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Which president is buried in New York, New York?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 How many children did President John Quincy Adams have?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Whose presidential library is located in Ann West Branch, Iowa?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Who was the first president to be born in a hospital?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Who was the first president to hold an Internet chat?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7 What third-party presidential candidate ran as a Socialist in every election from 1900 to 1912?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8 What presidential election since 1932 had the highest voter turnout rate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Which state is the home state of the most presidents?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10 What third party did Martin Van Buren represent in the 1848 presidential election?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## CHECK IT OUT

Unscramble the names of the following presidents. Then write a fact about each president on the line that follows.

- 11 vedcenlal \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 feejsnofr \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 gradhin \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 roomen \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 ruthar \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 granae \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 chanbanu \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 drof \_\_\_\_\_



# Facts and Figures

## MAKE CONNECTIONS

Sentences A through P below can be completed with a number. Write the page number of the correct answer in the parentheses, and write the answer on the line. Then put each answer (number) in the square with the matching letter on the grid.

When you are done, each row and column will form a mathematical equation that can be solved from left to right or top to bottom.

- A** The name of a famous auto racing competition is the Indianapolis \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- B** Michigan's rank among state populations in 2015 was \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- C** The total number of seats Florida and Alabama have apportioned to them in the U.S. House of Representatives is \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- D** The number of home runs Socks Seybold hit in 1902 to lead the American League was \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- E** *Talley's Folly* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 19\_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- F** *Phantom of the Opera*, the longest-running Broadway show, opened on Jan. 26, 198\_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- G** The denomination of U.S. paper currency bearing a portrait of Abraham Lincoln is the \_\_\_\_\_ dollar bill. ( )
- H** The smallest prime number is \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- I** Diamonds are traditional wedding anniversary gifts given for \_\_\_\_\_ years of marriage. ( )
- J** Austria's flag has \_\_\_\_\_ stripes. ( )
- K** *Mad Max: Fury Road* is ranked number \_\_\_\_\_ on the 50 top-grossing movies in 2015 list. ( )
- L** The width of the Statue of Liberty's mouth is \_\_\_\_\_ feet. ( )
- M** John C. Calhoun was the \_\_\_\_\_th vice president of the United States. ( )
- N** The total number of bills passed by Congress that President Warren G. Harding vetoed is \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- O** The atomic number for the element oxygen (O) is \_\_\_\_\_. ( )
- P** In 2015, the American Kennel Club ranked Pomeranians number \_\_\_\_\_ in popularity by total dog breed registrations. ( )

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | ÷ | B | - | C | = | D |
| - |   | - |   | - |   | + |
| E | ÷ | F | ÷ | G | = | H |
| ÷ |   | X |   | - |   | + |
| I | + | J | ÷ | K | = | L |
| = |   | = |   | = |   | = |
| M | + | N | + | O | = | P |

# Getting Around the Facts

## FIND OUT MORE!

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Port of South Louisiana—the busiest port in the United States—handled more than 267 million tons of cargo in 2014. The busiest U.S. airport—Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta—served more than 101 million passengers in 2015. When it comes to transportation, there are many ways for people and products to get from here to there. Travelers can catch a bus, hop in a car, or board an airplane. Stop and think for a minute about how transportation affects your life. How did the food you ate for breakfast get to you? How did you travel to school today?

Whether they're taking a vacation or driving to work, people travel a lot. Here are some questions about transportation and travel. Write the page number of the answer in the parentheses, and circle the letter of the correct answer. Then transfer the letters onto the numbered blanks at the bottom of the page.

- Which country produced the most cars in 2015? (      )  
**S** Japan  
**T** China  
**U** United States
- In what country is the world's tallest roller coaster located? (      )  
**G** United Arab Emirates  
**H** United States  
**I** Japan
- Who invented the helicopter? (      )  
**D** Wright  
**E** Sikorsky  
**F** Earhart
- Which ship sank in May 1915? (      )  
**U** *Titanic*  
**V** *Eastland*  
**W** *Lusitania*
- Who was the first U.S. woman in space? (      )  
**H** Sally Ride  
**I** Mae Jemison  
**J** Eileen Collins
- Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in what year? (      )  
**D** 1930  
**E** 1932  
**F** 1928
- What was the top-selling passenger car in the U.S. in 2015? (      )  
**E** Toyota Camry  
**F** Nissan Altima  
**G** Honda Accord
- Which was the busiest Amtrak station in 2015? (      )  
**J** Washington, DC  
**K** Chicago, IL  
**L** New York, NY

What was the most important invention in the history of transportation?

\_\_\_\_\_

1            2            3            4            5            6            7            8

# Facts You Can Count On

## FIND OUT MORE!

Do these facts add up? Find the Weights and Measures chapter, and complete each statement with an  $=$  (equals) or a  $\neq$  (does not equal) sign. If the two items are not equal, replace the underlined number with one that would make them equal.

1 1 acre \_\_\_\_\_ 4,840 square yards \_\_\_\_\_

2 1 tablespoon \_\_\_\_\_ 3 fluid drams \_\_\_\_\_

3 25 degrees Celsius \_\_\_\_\_ 77 degrees Fahrenheit \_\_\_\_\_

4 1 kilogram \_\_\_\_\_ 1.1 pounds \_\_\_\_\_

5 1 meter \_\_\_\_\_ 36 inches \_\_\_\_\_

### DID YOU KNOW?

To find the volume of a rectangular prism, multiply the length by the width by the height.



The next time you need a little help with your math homework, turn to your almanac. You'll find mathematical formulas, tables of weights and measures, and conversion charts for temperature and metric measurements.

Now find the answers to these mathematical questions. Write the page number of the correct answer in the parentheses and the answer on the line.

6 What does each of these prefixes mean?

a. mega ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

b. nano ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

c. yocto ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

7 What is each of the following measures associated with?

a. ream ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

b. knot ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

c. decibel ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

8 How long is an inch in centimeters? ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

9 How can you abbreviate these words?

a. barrel ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

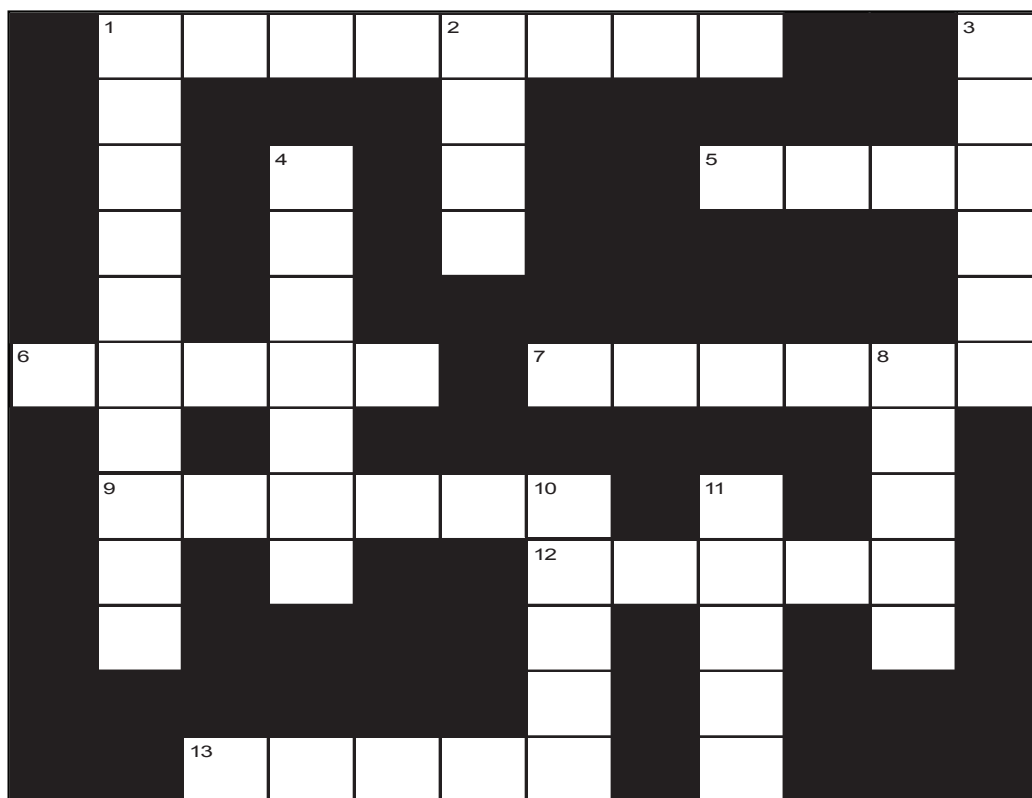
b. gallon ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

10 What is the Roman numeral for 90? ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

# Athletic Facts

CHECK IT OUT

Use the following clues to solve this crossword! Write the page number of the answer after each clue (in the parentheses), and put the answer itself in the crossword. When a person's name is asked for, give the last name. When a professional team's name is asked for, use the team nickname.



## ACROSS

- 1 Swimmer who won the women's 100-meter and 200-meter backstroke in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games ( )
- 5 Winner of Super Bowl XXXIV ( )
- 6 Country that will host the 2022 Winter Olympic Games ( )
- 7 2012 NCAA Division I men's lacrosse champion ( )
- 9 1994 MLB American League Most Valuable Player ( )
- 12 2015 Hart Memorial Trophy winner ( )
- 13 Woman who won the 1980 New York Marathon ( )

## DOWN

- 1 2010 winner of the Indianapolis 500 ( )
- 2 Wimbledon women's singles champion in 1975 ( )
- 3 Country whose athletes won the most gold medals at the 2014 Winter Olympics ( )
- 4 Boxing heavyweight champion 1908-15 ( )
- 8 Ladies Professional Golf Association leading money winner in 1978 ( )
- 10 1972 Olympic men's 100-meter freestyle swimmer who won gold ( )
- 11 Winner of the Tour de France bike race in 1966 ( )