STATE OF ARIZONA
} ss.
COUNTY OF PINAL

Notice to Bidders

Notice is hereby given that sealed responses will be received by Region 4 Education Service Center located at 7145 West Tidwell Road, Houston, TX 77092 until:

Thursday, October 8, 2014
@ 2:00 PM CDT

The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN)

Request for Proposal (RFP)
for

RFP # 14-16: School Supplies & Education Related Products
RFP # 14-17: Office Supplies
RFP # 14-18: Oracle Products
RFP # 14-19: Tires, Batteries and Related Services
RFP # 14-20: Auctioneer Services - Texas

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Until final award, Region 4 Education Service Center reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals, to waive any technicalities, to re-advertise, and to otherwise proceed when in the best interest of Region 4 Education Service Center.

No. of publications: 2; dates of publications: Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 2014.

Affidavit of Publication

RUTH A. KRAMER first being duly sworn deposes and says: That he/she is a native born citizen of the United States of America, over 21 years of age, that I am an agent and/or publisher of the Florence Reminder and Blade-Tribune, a weekly newspaper published at Florence, Pinal County, Arizona, on Thursday of each week; that a notice, a full, true and complete printed copy of which is hereunto attached, was printed in the regular edition of said newspaper, *and not in a supplement* thereto, for TWO consecutive issues the first publication thereof having been on the 28TH

day of AUGUST A.D., 2014

Second publication SEPTEMBER 04, 2014

Third publication _____

Fourth publication _____

Fifth publication _____

Sixth publication _____

FLORENCE REMINDER & BLADE-TRIBUNE

By Ruth A. Kramer
agent and/or publisher of the Florence Reminder & Blade-Tribune

Sworn to before me this 8th

day of September A.D., 2014

Debbie L. Mumme

Notary Public in and for the County
of Pinal, State of Arizona

Official Seal
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Arizona
County of Pinal
DEBBIE L. MUMME
My Comm. Expires 10-23-17

This space for filing stamp only

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SUN

4030 N GEORGIA BLVD, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407
Telephone (909) 889-9666 / Fax (909) 885-1253

DEBORAH BUSHNELL
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING NETWORK, THE
11280 WEST ROAD
HOUSTON, TX - 77532

SBS#: 2660756

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

State of California)
County of SAN BERNARDINO) ss

Notice Type: RFP - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Ad Description:

(TCPN) RFP #'S: 14-16, 14-17. 14-18, 14-19, 14-20

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of California; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of the SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SUN, a newspaper published in the English language in the city of SAN BERNARDINO, county of SAN BERNARDINO, and adjudged a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of the State of California by the Superior Court of the County of SAN BERNARDINO, State of California, under date 06/20/1952, Case No. 73084. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

08/28/2014, 09/04/2014

Executed on: 09/04/2014
At Riverside, California

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Barbara Cotty
Signature

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8/28, 9/4/14

SBS-2660756#

A000003533232

THE DAILY RECORD

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK
County of Monroe

The undersigned is the authorized designee of Liz Irwin/Publisher of The Daily Record, a daily newspaper published in Rochester, New York. A notice was published in said paper two times, commencing on 8/28/2014 and ending on 9/4/2014. The text of the notice as published in said paper is as set forth below, or in the annexed exhibit.This newspaper has been designated by the Clerk of Monroe County for this purpose.

Kristy O'Malley
Authorized Designee

Sworn to before me on this 4th day of September, 2014

LA TONYA N. JOHNSON
Notary Public, State of New York

LATONYA N. JOHNSON
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York
Qualified in Monroe County
Reg. No. 01JO6200636
Commission Expires February 9, 2017

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10597395 8-28;9-4-2t

Certificate of the Publisher

The Herald-News

THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING NETWORK
11280 WEST ROAD
HOUSTON TX 77065

Description:RFP 14-16,-17, -18, 19-20
HN1067

Shaw Media certifies that it is the publisher of The Herald-News. The Herald-News is a secular newspaper, has been continuously published daily for more than fifty (50) weeks prior to the first publication of the attached notice, is published in the City of Joliet, County of Will, State of Illinois, is of general circulation throughout that county and surrounding area, and is a newspaper as defined by 715 ILCS 5/5.

A notice, a true copy of which is attached, was published 2 time(s) in The Herald-News, namely one time per week for two successive week(s). Publication of the notice was made in the newspaper, dated and published on
08/28/2014 09/04/2014

This notice was also placed on a statewide public notice website as required by 5 ILCS 5/2.1.

In witness, Shaw Media has signed this certificate by John Rung, its publisher, at Joliet, Illinois, on
4th day of September, A.D. 2014

Shaw Media By:

John Rung, Publisher

Account Number 10092359
Amount $312.44

OFFICIAL SEAL
DEBRA G SHERMAN
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:06/20/18

PUBLIC NOTICE

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(Published in the Herald-News August 28, September 4, 2014. HN1067)

Certificate of the Publisher

The Herald-News

THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING NETWORK
11280 WEST ROAD
HOUSTON TX 77065

Description:RFP 14-16,-17, -18, 19-20
HN1067

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4th day of September, A.D. 2014

Shaw Media By:

John Rung, Publisher

Account Number 10092359
Amount $312.44

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DEBRA G SHERMAN
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:06/20/18

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(Published in the Herald-News August 28, September 4, 2014. HN1067)

DEBORAH BUSHNELL
TCPN
11280 WEST ROAD
HOUSTON TX 77065

Acct Number:		**00060293**
Ad Number:		**00421909**
Insertions: **1**	Total:	**$28.20**
Affidavit:		**$7.50**
Total		**$35.70**

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

NEW JERSEY, SUSSEX COUNTY, ss.

Donna Hendricks , of full age being duly sworn, did depose and say that the notice hereto attached was published in THE NEW JERSEY HERALD and/or NEW JERSEY SUNDAY HERALD a newspaper printed and circulated in said county on 08/29/2014,.

Donna Hendricks

Sworn and subscribed before me this 29th day of August 2014

Kim E Leonardo

KIM E. LEONARDO
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY
Commission Expires 05/20/2015

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August 29, '14 pf$28.20
00421909 NJH

4770 S. 5600 W.
P.O. BOX 704005
WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH 84170
FED.TAX I.D.# 87-0217663
801-204-6910

The Salt Lake Tribune | MEDIAOne of Utah | Deseret News

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

CUSTOMER'S COPY

CUSTOMER NAME AND ADDRESS	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE
TCPN, ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 11280 WEST RD HOUSTON TX 77065	9001498627	9/4/2014

ACCOUNT NAME	
TCPN,	
TELEPHONE	**ADORDER# / INVOICE NUMBER**
7135540460	0000978385 / I00978385-08282014
SCHEDULE	
Start 08/28/2014	End 09/04/2014
CUST. REF. NO.	
14-16, 17, 18, 19, 20	
CAPTION	
Notice to Bidders Notice is hereby given that sealed responses will be receive	
SIZE	
39 Lines	2.00 COLUMN
TIMES	**RATE**
4	
MISC. CHARGES	**AD CHARGE**
	TOTAL COS
	251.48

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978385 UPAXLP

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

AS NEWSPAPER AGENCY COMPANY, LLC dba MEDIAONE OF UTAH LEGAL BOOKER, I CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED ADVERTISEMENT OF **Notice to Bidders Notice is hereby given that sealed responses will be received by Region 4 Education Service Center located at 7145 West Tidwell Road, Housto** FOR **TCPN,** WAS PUBLISHED BY THE NEWSPAPER AGENCY COMPANY, LLC dba MEDIAONE OF UTAH, AGENT FOR THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE AND DESERET NEWS, DAILY NEWSPAPERS PRINTED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WITH GENERAL CIRCULATION IN UTAH, AND PUBLISHED IN SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE COUNTY IN THE STATE OF UTAH. NOTICE IS ALSO POSTED ON UTAHLEGALS.COM ON THE SAME DAY AS THE FIRST NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION DATE AND REMAINS ON UTAHLEGALS.COM INDEFINATELY. COMPLIES WITH UTAH DIGITAL SIGNATURE ACT UTAH CODE 46-2-101; 46-3-104.

PUBLISHED ON Start 08/28/2014 End 09/04/2014

SIGNATURE

VIRGINIA CRAFT
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF UTAH
My Comm. Exp. 01/12/2018
Commission # 672963

DATE 9/4/2014

Virginia Craft
NOTARY SIGNATURE

THIS IS NOT A STATEMENT BUT A "PROOF OF PUBLICATION"
PLEASE PAY FROM BILLING STATEMENT

4770 S. 5600 W.
P.O. BOX 704005
WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH 84170
FED.TAX I.D.# 87-0217663
801-204-6910

The Salt Lake Tribune | MEDIAONE OF UTAH | Deseret News

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

CUSTOMER'S COPY

CUSTOMER NAME AND ADDRESS	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE
TCPN, ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 11280 WEST RD HOUSTON TX 77065	9001498627	9/4/2014

ACCOUNT NAME	
TCPN,	
TELEPHONE	**ADORDER# / INVOICE NUMBER**
7135540460	0000978385 / I00978385-08282014
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PUBLISHED ON Start 08/28/2014 End 09/04/2014

SIGNATURE

DATE 9/4/2014

VIRGINIA CRAFT
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF UTAH
My Comm. Exp. 01/12/2018
Commission # 672963

NOTARY SIGNATURE

THIS IS NOT A STATEMENT BUT A "PROOF OF PUBLICATION"
PLEASE PAY FROM BILLING STATEMENT

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

DJC

921 S.W. Washington St. Suite 210 / Portland, OR 97205-2810
(503) 226-1311

STATE OF OREGON, COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH--ss.

I, **Marc Caplan** , being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am a **Public Notice Manager** of the **Daily Journal of Commerce** , a newspaper of general circulation in the counties of CLACKAMAS, MULTNOMAH, and WASHINGTON as defined by ORS 193.010 and 193.020; published at Portland in the aforesaid County and State; that I know from my personal knowledge that the Goods and Services notice described as

Multiple Services
Region 4 Education Service Center; Bid Location Houston, TX, Harris County; Due 10/08/2014 at 02:00 PM

a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in the entire issue of said newspaper for **2** time(s) in the following issues:

8/29/2014 9/5/2014

State of Oregon
County of Multnomah

SIGNED OR ATTESTED BEFORE ME
ON THE **5th** DAY OF **September, 2014**

Marc Caplan

Notary Public-State of Oregon

OFFICIAL SEAL
JOSHUA K COATES
NOTARY PUBLIC - OREGON
COMMISSION NO. 453647
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2014

Deborah Bushnell
The Cooperative Purchasing Network
11280 West Rd
Houston, TX 77065-4493

REGION 4 EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
MULTIPLE SERVICES
Proposals due 2:00 pm, Oct. 8
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

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Published Aug. 29 & Sept. 5, 2014.
10596941

CAPITAL CITY PRESS

Publisher of
THE ADVOCATE

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The hereto attached notice was published in THE ADVOCATE, a daily newspaper of general circulation published in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and the Official Journal of the State of Louisiana, City of Baton Rouge, and Parish of East Baton Rouge, in the following issues:

08/28/14, 09/04/14

Shelley Calloni, Public Notice Clerk

Sworn and subscribed before me by the person whose signature appears above

September 4, 2014

M. Monic McChristian,
Notary Public ID# 88293
State of Louisiana
My Commission Expires: Indefinite

M. MONIC McCHRISTIAN NOTARY PUBLIC NOTARY NO. 88293 STATE OF LOUISIANA

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5024158-aug 28-sep 4-2t

THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASE NETWO 5024158
DEBORAH BUSHNELL
11280 WEST RD
HOUSTON TX 77065

Region 4/TCPN Solicitations

Solicitation Requested

- [ ] RFP # 14-16 School Supplies & Education Related Products
- [ ] RFP # 14-17 Office Supplies
- [ ] RFP # 14-18 Oracle Products
- [ ] RFP # 14-19 Tires, Batteries and Related Services
- [ ] RFP # 14-20 Auctioneer Services - Texas

Company

Contact Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

E-mail Address

Submit Reset

Solicitations

Current Solicitations

14-16 - School Supplies

posted on Thursday, August 28, 2014 9:00 AM due Wednesday, October 08, 2014 2:00 PM

Click here to request a copy of this solicitation.

Questions & Answers

14-17 - Office Supplies, Related Products and Office Services

posted on Thursday, August 28, 2014 9:00 AM due Wednesday, October 08, 2014 2:00 PM

Click here to request a copy of this solicitation.

Questions & Answers

14-18 - Oracle Products and Related Services

posted on Thursday, August 28, 2014 9:00 AM due Wednesday, October 15, 2014 2:00 PM

Click here to request a copy of this solicitation.

Questions & Answers

14-19 - Tires, Batteries and Related Services

posted on Thursday, August 28, 2014 9:00 AM due Wednesday, October 08, 2014 2:00 PM

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Questions & Answers

14-20 - Auctioneer Services - Texas

posted on Thursday, August 28, 2014 9:00 AM due Wednesday, October 08, 2014 2:00 PM

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Questions & Answers

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ON THE VERGE **TINASHE**
SPOTLIGHT ON BREAKTHROUGH ARTISTS

Her '2 On' anthem is one hot number

Patrick Ryan
@PatRyanWrites
USA TODAY

NAME GAME: Memorizing the words to Tinashe's late song-of-summer entry, *2 On*, is easy. But saying her name correctly? That's another feat entirely. "I've gotten a lot of 'Tina-shee,' 'Tina-shay' and 'Tanisha,' " she says. (It's pronounced "Tee-nah-shay.") The name is common where her father is from in Zimbabwe. "The worst I ever got was 'Tarnish.' What? How'd they even come up with that?"

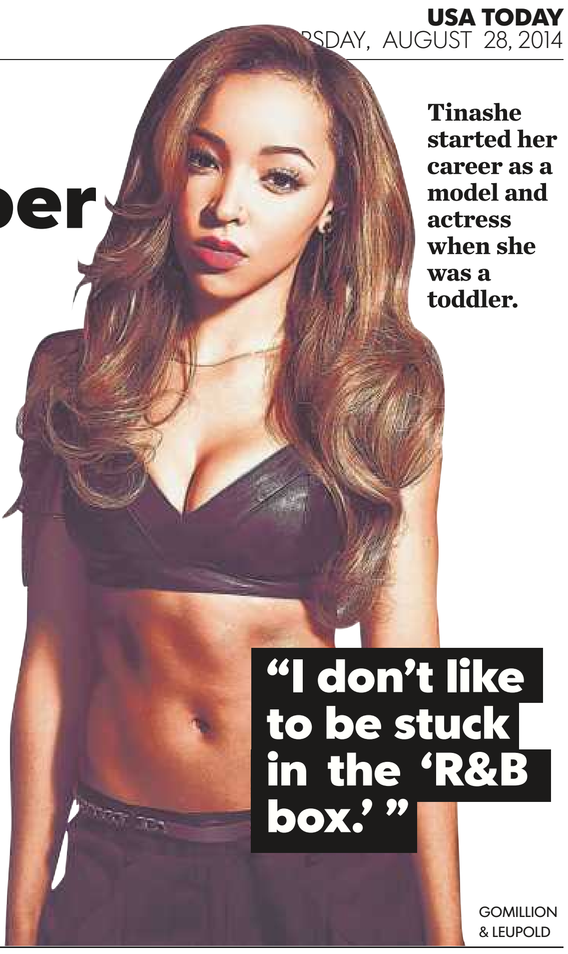
TRIPLE-THREAT TALENT: Tinashe Kachingwe got her start modeling and acting as a toddler, working as a motion-capture model for Tom Hanks' *The Polar Express* in fourth grade and playing a recurring role on CBS' *Two and a Half Men* as a teen. After forming The Stunners in 2007 and opening for Justin Bieber in 2010, the girl group disbanded. Tinashe branched out solo, charting her first hit with *2 On*, which topped USA TODAY's rhythmic airplay charts for four weeks.

READY TO PARTY: The inspiration was simple for the sultry "turn up" anthem, which features a verse by Schoolboy Q and production by DJ Mustard. Having just turned 21, she wanted to make "a song that I can hear in the club, something that pumps me up and makes me want to dance." *2 On* has since been remixed by Drake, who performed it with Tinashe at his OVO Fest in Toronto.

AGE OF 'AQUARIUS': Expect more flirty coos and alluring beats on her debut album, *Aquarius*, out Oct. 7 on RCA Records and named in part for her horoscope sign. Influenced by Michael and Janet Jackson growing up, as well as newer artists James Blake and Sbtrkt, "my music is definitely rooted in a place of R&B, but it has a lot of influence from hip-hop, alternative, electronic," Tinashe says. "I don't like to be stuck in the 'R&B box.' "

FAMILY FIRST: Tinashe still lives with her parents. Her next big investment? "I'd like to buy a house for my family. They've been invested in me for years and years, and I feel I owe them."

MANY TALENTS: Aside from holding a black belt in tae kwon do, she also loves to paint. "Nature feels religious and very spiritual for me, so I paint landscapes, oceans, trees and abstract art. I don't really like to paint people."



Tinashe started her career as a model and actress when she was a toddler.

"I don't like to be stuck in the 'R&B box.' "

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RFP # 14-17: Office Supplies
RFP # 14-18: Oracle Products
RFP # 14-19: Tires, Batteries and Related Services
RFP # 14-20: Auctioneer Services – Texas

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DOB: Jul 1, 1998
Missing: Apr 2, 2014
Age Now: 16
Sex: Female
Race: Hispanic
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
From: Pittsfield, MA

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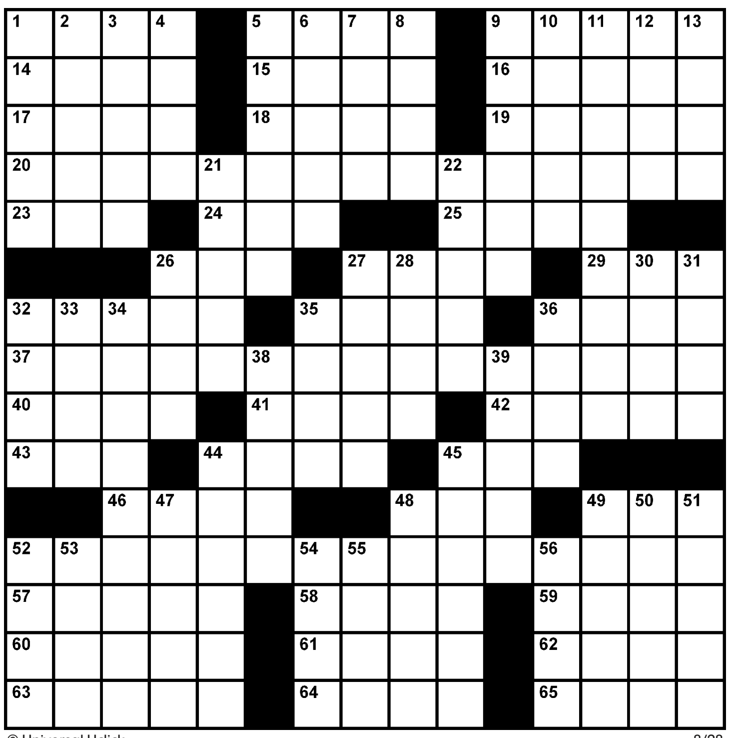
EDITED Timothy Parker
BY Gary Cooper

ONE FINE ...



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ACROSS
1 Serve tables
5 Member of Indian royalty
9 Aesthetic judgment
14 Saarinen's St. Louis design
15 Spiritedness
16 Mutual of ___
17 Forest creature
18 Disrespect verbally
19 Dog treats
20 Time for swearing?
23 Coltrane's instrument
24 Tree type
25 Yuletide beverages
26 Option for demolishers
27 Half of a one-two
29 Treasury bill
32 Very, in music
35 Eye product
36 Cards taken with a pat hand
37 Hawaii doesn't observe it (var.)
40 Ultimatum word
41 Ill-gotten gains
42 Shout "heads up!"
43 Human cannonball catcher
44 Flowerless plant
45 Greyhound, e.g.
46 Merit
48 Benign growth
49 It's seen briefly at the end of a list?
52 Celebration for former British colonies
57 Mary-Kate or Ashley
58 Like a good villain
59 Something unseen about you
60 Bring forth
61 The L of L-dopa
62 Object of devotion
63 Social pariahs
64 Took a straw
65 Allows

DOWN
1 Dry riverbeds
2 Gladiator's spot
3 Mountaineer's tool
4 "No ___ Traffic"
5 Test outcome
6 Kind of clock
7 Cape Canaveral acronym
8 Tech. school
9 In addition
10 Mingling with
11 Construction rock
12 Duke Ellington's "Take ___ Train"
13 Like some puzzles
21 Bottled spirits
22 Red starter
26 It may be spun at sea
27 Tell a secret
28 One way to go
30 Casey Jones was one (Abbr.)
31 Bird's building
32 Yemen city on its own gulf
33 Discount time
34 7-Down phrase (with "All")
35 Thunderous god
36 Guitarist Lofgren
38 Close of Hollywood
39 Speak boastfully
44 Storm pushers
45 Elephant's sound
47 Eastern potentate (var.)
48 Forgo, as one's rights
49 Draw, as conclusions
50 Psychic's card
51 Shades of blue
52 Ty of the Baseball Hall of Fame
53 Low-cholesterol spread
54 Do the work of a pipefitter
55 Penultimate fairy tale word
56 It can be golf-ball sized

Wednesday's Answer

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

8/27

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WORD ROUNDUP

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek 8/28

Find and Circle:
Johnny ____ ☑□□□□
NYSE: ____ ____ ____ ____ □□□□
Three basketball positions □□□
Your home galaxy: ____ ____ □□
Two opposing directions □□

Wednesday's answer: WEIGHT TIME DATE AGE / CORVETTE CAMARO MALIBU VOLT / OBVIOUS COHORT OZONE COLOR / JOHN JOAN / FASTER

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

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QUICKCROSS

By John Wilmes 8/28

Performs
Cut back
Uniform
Plant start
"Dawn of the Planet of the ____"
Spelunker's spot
Arboretum feature
Email delivery button

Wednesday's Answer

F	A	C	T
A	C	H	E
T	R	E	E
S	O	T	S

8/27

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QUICKCROSS ON YOUR PHONE
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UP & DOWN WORDS

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt 8/28

1. **PEEPING**
2. ____
3. ____
4. ____
5. ____
6. ____
7. ____ **PROFESSOR**

Clues:
1. Intrusive snoop
2. Certain male bird
3. Pork product alternative
4. Piece of breakfast meat
5. Sean Astin's mother
6. It's located in North Carolina
7. College teacher

Wednesday's Answer

FRIED	CHICKEN
CHICKEN	EGG
EGG	SANDWICH
SANDWICH	MEAT
MEAT	HOOK
HOOK	SHOT
SHOT	PUT

PLAY ONLINE
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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (no repeats).

	5		2	9			7	
				8		2		5
9		7						
1				4	3			
3		9		7		4		2
			8	6				1
						5		6
5		8		1				
	3			5	7		8	

8/28 DIFFICULTY RATING ★★★★☆

SUDOKU FUSION ON YOUR PHONE
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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains the numbers 1 through 6 (no repeats).

		3			1
		6		3	
			4	5	
	3	5			
	1		3		
3			6		

DIFFICULTY RATING ★★★★☆

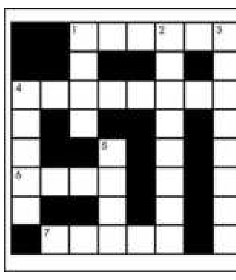
Wednesday's Answers

9	7	8	6	3	2	4	5	1
4	6	1	7	8	5	3	9	2
2	3	5	4	1	9	8	7	6
6	1	4	9	5	7	2	3	8
3	9	7	2	6	8	1	4	5
5	8	2	3	4	1	7	6	9
7	4	9	8	2	6	5	1	3
8	5	6	1	7	3	9	2	4
1	2	3	5	9	4	6	8	7

1	2	4	5	6	3
6	3	5	2	4	1
2	1	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	3	1	2
5	6	2	1	3	4
3	4	1	6	2	5

8/27

TXTPERT



8/28

Across
1. 687228
4. 43574654
6. 6756
7. 77242

Down
1. 6253
2. 22623772
3. 87464323
4. 42664
5. 3642

Today's theme: *Capitals*

Use the phone keypad to decode the clues. For example: 2 could be A, B or C ... and 5678 could be LOST

© USA TODAY and Rich Coulter

Yesterday's solution 8/27

DON'T QUOTE ME®

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Politician Robert F. Kennedy shares his thoughts on tragedy.

Rearrange the words to complete the quote.
FOR GAIN GUIDE LIVE NOT TOOL TRAGEDY WISDOM

" ________ IS A ______ ______ THE LIVING TO ______ ________, ______ A ________ BY WHICH TO ______. "

8/28

Wednesday's Answer: "If you want to tell people the truth, make them laugh, otherwise they'll kill you." - Oscar Wilde

SAMSUNG'S NEW NOTE 4 HAS AN EDGE ... LITERALLY

Curved display on side of screen lets you multitask

Edward C. Baig
@edbaig
ebaig@usatoday.com
USA TODAY

FIRST LOOK

NEW YORK Samsung is relentless when it comes to introducing new products. At the IFA international trade show in Berlin, Samsung expanded its Galaxy Note "phablet" series with new Note 4 and Note Edge models. Samsung also teamed with Oculus on a Gear VR virtual-reality headset that relies on the Note 4. Here are my takeaways after a hands-on first look at a press briefing in Manhattan.

Samsung hopes the 5.7-inch Galaxy Note 4 that is coming next month will help it continue to dominate the large-screen phablet category it pioneered. According to Samsung, phablet users spend more time on their devices than smartphone or tablet customers do, and are more satisfied and loyal.

To keep it that way, the Note 4 incorporates several improvements. The camera has been beefed up. The rear-facing 16-megapixel camera gains optical image stabilization to reduce the shakes when you're capturing video. Samsung says the camera can also extend the exposure time when you're shooting in a dim environment.

The front 3.7-megapixel camera has a wider angle designed to improve group "selfies."

Samsung adds a rapid battery-charging feature that it says will let you go from a zero charge to 50% in just 30 minutes.

The Quad-HD (2560 x 1440) Super AMOLED display on Note 4 is a looker. The latest design incorporates a new metal frame that complements the removable soft-textured back cover (so you can replace the battery).

As with its previous phablets, the latest Note employs a souped-up stylus called the S Pen, slightly refined this time around, that you can use for notes, handwriting and mouse-like functions.

A CUTTING-EDGE VERSION

One of the advantages of a phablet is the extra screen real estate that lets you multitask by keeping several apps open simultaneously. With the Note 4, you have more flexibility on how to move around and resize windows of open apps

While the Note 4 makes some incremental advancements over predecessors, the new premium Galaxy Note Edge is quite literally on the cutting edge. While all the internal components of the Note Edge are virtually identical to the Note 4, the difference comes in a 5.6-inch screen that devotes a separate curved display that cascades down along the right edge. It's the first potentially helpful use of flexible screen technology that I've seen in a product that's about to be commercially introduced — Samsung hasn't provided a specific date but says Note Edge is coming later this year. There's no detail on pricing yet, but Note Edge will cost more than the Note 4.

ELI BLUMENTHAL

Galaxy Note Edge has a strip of real estate devoted to extra goodies.

The customizable "edge" sliver can house shortcut icons for the apps you summon most often — just tap one of these icons and it takes over the main Note Edge display. Or you might display sports scores or stock quotes along the edge. The edge can also be used for notifications. You can even display the clock on the edge while laying the device, say, flat next to your bed, while the main screen is otherwise dark.

HOW THE EDGE HELPS

If you open certain apps, the edge provides icons and controls in context. For example, all of your camera controls are on the edge when you're taking a picture. Music playback controls reside there when you're listening to tunes.

You can even display a ruler on the edge. Samsung says that the icons and notifications along the edge are not meant to distract from the main screen you are watching.

Perhaps more than any other high-profile tech company, Samsung has sometimes brought out features that have bordered on being gimmicky. But the edge display here is unquestionably cool, and potentially useful, too, especially with Samsung opening things up to developers.

During my hands-on demo, I got to see how you can easily swipe from edge screen to edge screen. But I want to try Note Edge in the "real world" to see if there are times when the placement of these edge icons causes me to inadvertently launch an app that I didn't intend to open. Samsung reps claim that will not occur, and it didn't happen during my demo time.

GEARING UP TO GO VIRTUAL

Ever since Facebook bought Oculus in March, there's been fresh attention focused on virtual reality. Now Samsung is teaming with Oculus on a head-mounted contraption called Gear VR Innovator Edition. You snap in the Note 4 via USB inside a concealed compartment — alas, Gear VR doesn't work with other Samsung devices — and place the supersize goggles over your head. You're now immersed in a three-dimensional, 360-degree virtual-reality world that, as the cliché goes, puts you in the best seat in the house. You can look up, down and all around.

I got to watch and listen to a Coldplay concert, pretend I was intruding upon Tony Stark's lab inside an *Avengers* video game, and take in a bird's-eye virtual tour over New York City.

Though Gear VR has its own touch pad, back button, volume key, accelerometer, compass and gyroscope, it relies on the Note 4 for power, sound (you can wear earbuds or use Bluetooth speakers) and content. The VR hardware is rendered useless without the phablet. Samsung says you'll typically have enough juice on the Note 4 to last through a full-length movie.

When you snap the Note 4 into Gear VR, a VR store where you can grab stuff to watch is launched. Samsung says you'll be able to access virtual-reality content from IMAX, DreamWorks AR, Cirque du Soleil Media, M-Go, Vevo and others.

While the demo was quite compelling and Gear VR comfortable enough to wear, I never could get the screen totally sharp (despite a focus dial), and even got a little nauseated.

But this was not a final device so I'll reserve judgment, and I'm definitely eager to spend more time trying it out when it arrives in the fall.

ANDREW BURTON, GETTY IMAGES

A woman tries out the Samsung Gear, a virtual-reality simulator.

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Missing: Dec 23, 2013
Age Now: 4
Sex: Male
Race: Black
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
From: Laurel, MD

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

1-800-THE-LOST