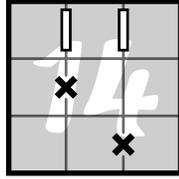


Advent Pieces

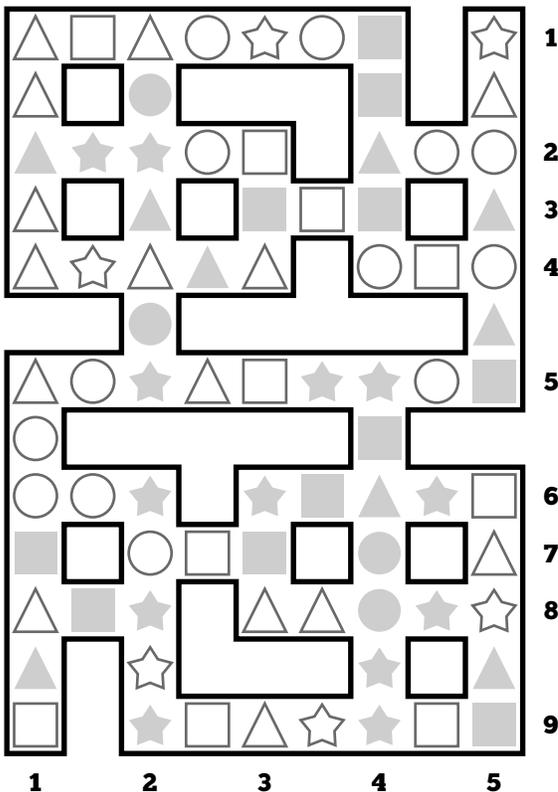
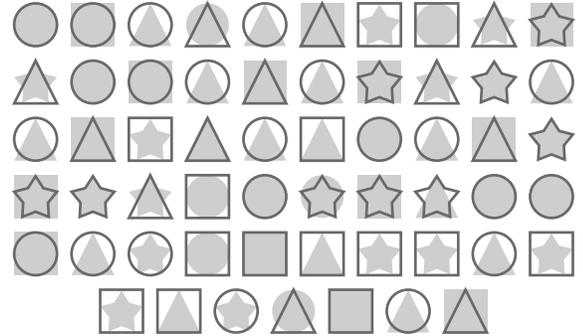
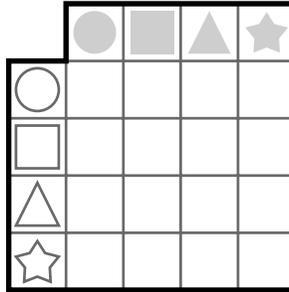
In today's puzzle piece all pairs of adjacent digits that are consecutive have a bar (e.g. 1|2), and those that sum to 10 have an X (e.g. 1X9).



14 This space intentionally left blank.

Sub-Puzzle

This is a shapewords puzzle. The words in the puzzle use a pool of only 16 letters. Use the clues to fill the shapeword grid with words. As you solve, shapes in the grid's cells will help you create a key, and that key will unlock today's story logic clue.



Across

- 1 Me around New Years' Eve
- 2a Chocolate mint brand
- 2b Payment or charge
- 3 My sick rhymes
- 4a NATO digit after 8
- 4b Nightmarish street
- 5 First ____, e.g. an EMT
- 6a Seth McFarlane bear movie
- 6b Ross of The Supremes
- 7 Actor/Director Roth
- 8a Reznor's Band
- 8b A branch or tine
- 9 Spanish actress Pepa Flores

Down

- 1a Large shrimp
- 1b Dealing with part of the eye
- 2a Rats!
- 2b Fabric used for jeans
- 3a Peppermint Patty to Marcie
- 3b Chip's companion
- 4a The R in NRA
- 4b Band 'Imagine ____'
- 5a Pro wrestler Tommy
- 5b Buffy spin-off