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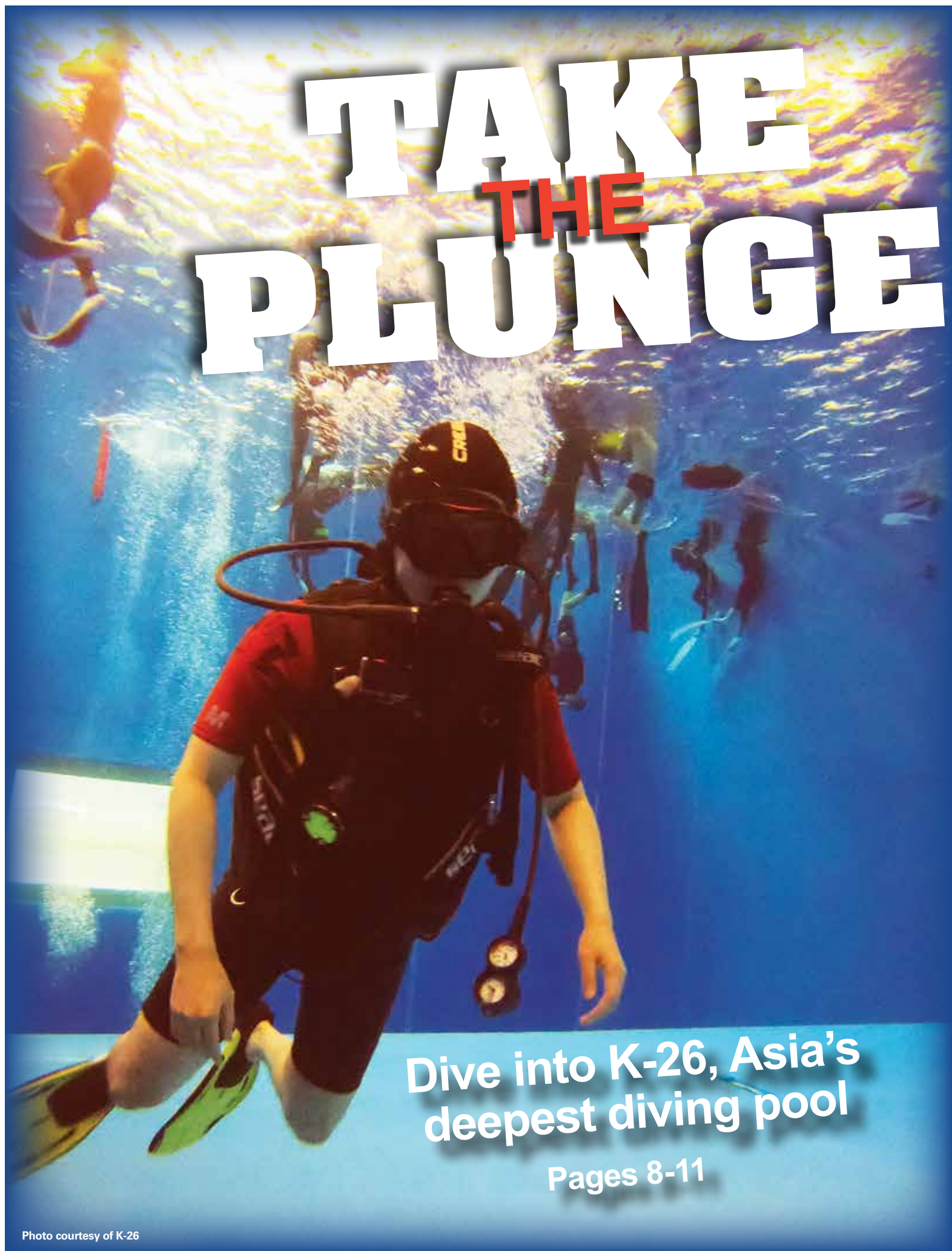


KOREA TIP OF THE DAY
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 PAGE 2

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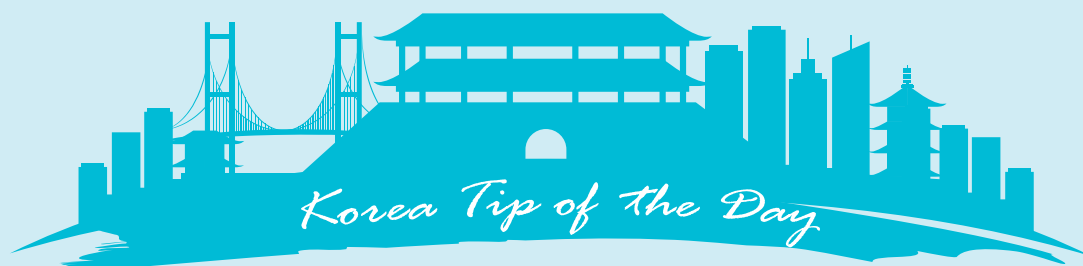
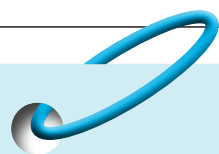
Pages 8-11

Photo courtesy of K-26

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Train travel made easy with useful app

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPE KOREA

Public transportation in Korea is abundant and on the cheap side when you are looking to get off base and explore. Of course, there is always the language barrier. But don't worry, if you are traveling on the train, there is a handy mobile app that will help you navigate the rail system in English.



KorailTalk is used by many foreigners, so you should give it a try. Just type in “Korail” in the app store and KorailTalk will pop up. Set the app to English and off you go. You can book a ticket on the app and just show your reservation info from the phone if the train employee asks for your tickets.

If you are not into apps, here's a helpful



How to do it

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The truth about men and dogs

From a plastic chair beside a burbling aquarium tank occupied by one lonely suckerfish, I relayed our dog's recent behavior to the veterinarian. "Moby's been acting ... well, funny. He's walking stiffly, favoring his left side, whining a lot, and he won't get up for anything — except meals, of course. He is a lab, after all."

The assistant distracted Moby with treats while the vet did several tests and drew a vial of blood. While pumping antibacterial gel into her hand from an enormous jug sitting near the examining room sink, she broke the news. "Mrs. Molinari, your big guy here has cervical disc inflammation that is causing him pretty severe pain. This kind of condition warrants aggressive treatment, so we'll put him on steroids, Gabapentin, muscle relaxers and strict bed rest. Next week, once the pain subsides a bit, we'll do X-rays and start physical therapy."

Before we were released to wait for medications and paperwork in

the lobby, the veterinarian's assistant wheeled a suitcase-sized machine into the examining room. She explained that laser therapy could help to reduce Moby's disc inflammation. We all donned protective glasses to protect our eyes, and she flipped the switch. Moby sat obediently, looking somewhat humiliated by the dog goggles that made him look like something out of a Snoopy the Flying Ace comic strip, while the assistant ran the humming laser wand up and down his stout neck.

After being given instructions on home care, we went out to the lobby. I sat on a bench with two old ladies stroking a cat with cataracts, listening to surprisingly loud baritone squeals emanating from a crate containing a tiny pink and gray pig, when a sudden wave of déjà vu washed over me like a lukewarm flea shampoo.

"He got a laser treatment?" he asked incredulously. "How

The Meat and Potatoes of Life

Lisa Smith Molinari



Just like Moby, Francis acted strangely. He walked with a limp, favoring his left side. He groaned, moaned, winced and whined at the slightest movement, especially if others were watching.

come I can't get lasered? For criminy's sake, I got diagnosed with bulging discs at the VA two years ago and I can't even get a shot of cortisone without making a federal case! I'm still waiting on the PT referral

I requested weeks ago. But our dog had laser therapy ten minutes after arriving at the vet? Something is wrong here!"

I shrugged nonchalantly and went back to scribbling my holiday To Do list, accustomed to Francis griping about his sciatica. But then it hit me.

Just like Moby, Francis acted strangely. He walked with a limp, favoring his left side. He groaned, moaned, winced and whined at the slightest movement, especially if others were watching. A look of self-pity had taken up permanent residence on his face. He was prescribed — you guessed it — Gabapentin, among other medications. And he only got up from his lounge chair for meals.

Come to think of it, even without spinal ailments, Francis and Moby had become kindred spirits. They both lived for every

meal, shed body hair around the house, yawned too much, scratched inappropriately, and were driven by their bodily functions.

How had I missed the obvious parallels?

Despite my husband's tendency toward narcissism, the sight of our people-pleasing lab, in a drugged stupor, tugged Francis' attention away from his favorite subject — himself — for a moment.

"Poor guy. What else did the vet tell you to do?"

"She said we need to make sure he sleeps a lot. He should only get up for meals and quick potty breaks. If he's feeling better in a week or two, we'll start physical therapy, which entails some kind of massage and exercises with treats for rewards," I told Francis.

He stared intently at Moby, snoring softly from his cozy kitchen nest. "Sheesh," he said after several beats of silence, "I want those doctor's orders."

I glanced at my lengthy holiday to-do list, and thought, "Don't we all."

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: themeatandpotatoesoflife.com
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15 sightseeing spots in Korea to check out

HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

Fifteen local spots in Busan, Ulsan, and South Gyeongsang Province made the list for recommended places for Koreans and tourists to visit this year.

2 Gamcheon Culture Village, Busan – The site of the residence of refugees during the Korean War began to call attention when the students of Dong-A University drew murals in the Village as a part of their voluntary service activities in 2008 which has now become bustling with cafes and small museums.

3 Taehwagang Bamboo Forest, Ulsan – Only an hour out of Busan, the stunning scenery of the ecological park alongside the Taehwa River is a perfect place to take a respite in the city as well as a destination for those in need of nature's healing hands.

4 Hapcheon Haeinsa, Gayasan National Park, South Gyeongsang Province – Located on Gayasan, Haeinsa Temple is home to the famed Tripitaka Koreana, the most complete collection of Buddhist texts, which was engraved on 80,000 woodblocks between 1237 and 1248.

1 Marine City, Busan – The first time to make the recommended list, spectacular day and night views, massive high rise buildings and fine dining are what make a worthwhile trip just down the road from Haeundae beach.



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6 Tongyeong Skyline Luge, Tongyeong – Skyline Luge Tongyeong sits directly below the Hallyeosudo Cable Car which takes visitors to Mt Mireuksan and offers stunning views across Tongyeong City, the sea and surrounding islands.

5 Songdo Beach, Busan – Songdo's revitalization continues, and a visit on the cable car to see the views of the western part of the city are a definite must.



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7 Jagalchi Market, Busan – Three words — Oiso (Come), Boiso (See), Saiso (Enjoy) are the trademark of the fish market formed in the late 19th century which distributes almost half of the total seafood (both dried and fresh) sold in all of Korea.

8 Namhae German Village, Namhae – A small piece of Germany in Korea, the small village is home to former Korean residents who lived in Germany in the 1960s. An additional bonus is the nearby Windbreak forest, and Mulmi Coastal Road, arguably the most beautiful coastal drive in the country.

9 Haeundae Beach, Busan – The tourist mecca of the city for its long swaths of sand, there's always something happening along arguably the country's most famous beach.

10 Jinju, South Gyeongsang Province – Historical Jinju is a beautiful city with vibrant festivals and lovely natural surroundings.

11 Changnyeong Upo Swamp, Changnyeong County – Located near the Nakdong River, Upo wetlands are the largest in the region and are great for eco-tourism.

12 Windy Hill, Geoje – A popular shooting location for Korean dramas, it became a popular tourist site for its views of the sea and the nearby Hakdong village.

13 Oedo, Geoje – Dubbed 'Korea's Paradise,' Oedo Botania is an island treasure that is an absolute must-visit on any itinerary to the country.

14 Yeongnam Alps, Ulsan – Stretching from Ulsan to Milyang, the mountainous region of the Yeongnam Alps include Tongdosa and Pyochungsa Temples, various hot springs and waterfalls, and beautiful nature.

15 Taejongdae, Busan – The spectacular views of the sea, local seafood and the suicide rocks are just a few of the reasons to head to this landmark park.



Haeundae Beach



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Plunge into the deep

BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

Scuba diving in an indoor pool might sound boring. There are no tropical fish or coral reefs to admire below the surface, only tiled flooring. But before you swear off indoor diving, consider a dive into Gapyeong's K-26 pool— the deepest in Asia.

Ranking in at around 26 meters deep (the second deepest is in Taiwan at 21 meters), K-26 challenges experienced divers and first-timers alike. It is a great spot to practice freediving and scuba diving without having to deal with freezing cold weather outside. The temperature of the pool's clean water is maintained at 29 degrees Celsius year-round, making it a cozy experience.

As an ideal training spot for any level of diver, the pool increases gradually in depth from around the 1.3-meter mark, up to the 2.5-meter, 5-meter, 10-meter mark until finally opening up to the 26-meter depth. Inexperienced divers are only allowed up to the 10-meter mark, but the facility offers certification lessons to build up to the max depth.

From the outside, the modern, grey recreational building hides the 26-meter-deep marvel it houses inside. However, as soon as I entered the front, two enormous windows gave me a view of the clear blue water and divers immersed deep inside. I couldn't wait to dive in!

Diving right in

I filled out paperwork at the reservation desk and then received a short safety and basic diving skills lesson. I chose the Diving Experience program (120,000 won or \$102.78 including equipment), which doesn't require prior certification or for you to be an experienced diver to try it out.

During this course, participants learn diving physiology, proper equipment use and scuba hand signals inside a small classroom on the second floor with knowledgeable PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors)-certified instructors. The hand signals are essential to learn as they help avoid miscommunication during risky situations that may come up underwater. Unfortunately, this course is taught in Korean, so you'll need to have a

guide or friend who can translate for you.

After the short lesson, I walked up to the third floor where the deck of the pool sits. The closer I got, the faster my heart started to beat. Excitement and, I admit, slight fear swept over me. I stretched and hastily slipped into my skin-tight wetsuit to learn basic diving skills and techniques in the 1.3-meter-deep area of the pool.

The 1.3-meter-deep area of the pool was safe enough for me, but I needed to bend my knees in the water to get fully underwater. In this portion of the program I learned essential skills for diving safely, clearing my mask if water got in, purging water from the regulator, recovering the regulator if it fell, controlling buoyancy and equalizing my ears to re-balance the water pressure. At first, breathing from my mouth instead of my nose was a challenge, which led me to breathe in water many times during the practice session, a concern for when I'd dive deeper.

Overcoming fear

Soon, the thrill I felt at the beginning was overshadowed by more fear. My instructor Park, Jaesun could sense it and read it on my face. "You look very nervous, never hold your breath, just breathe through your mouth slowly - inhale and exhale deeply, but comfortably," he advised.

The first dive on the deepest end is the same height as a 10-story building. "What if something bad happens to me," I thought to myself. Having an instructor to guide me through it helped me push those fearful thoughts away.

"It's going to be a wonderful experience. I think you're going to make it," Park, reassured me. "Just do it!" I screamed at myself and sank into the water as Park gave me the thumbs-down hand signal, which means "go down" underwater.

Participants are allowed to explore the pool and try different depths at their own pace. My instructor checked on me at every depth and he

encouraged me to go at my own pace.

When I reached the bottom, I felt a sharp pain in my ears. It was the first time I experienced this before. I refilled my ears and equalized my ears again.

From that depth, I started to feel a signaling me to head back up. I knew where there is a window, but I was nervous to go to the bottom. It was the tunnel that I couldn't even see the end of.

"Just do it!" I screamed at myself and kicked my legs! However, I was so fast when I looked up, I saw a hole. My breath was shallow. I had to reach the window to see a clear view of Cheongju. I was floating in the sky and many people love to see this.

While I was enjoying the view, my diving director gave me a scuba tank, signaling me to go back to the surface. I marked 50, a minute to return to the surface of water rapidly. I was experiencing pressure sickness. So I had to ascend to the surface of the water.

K-26



OKAY



STOP



GO UP

/ END THE DIVE NOW

File photo

*Where to grab
a bite to eat
and a coffee*

Pages 10-11

Best pool in Asia!

...o deeper at a slow and steady

...the 5-meter depth mark, I felt
...was like nothing I'd ever expe-
...ferred back to my training and
...and the pain subsided.

...I could see my instructor
...ad toward the 10-meter mark
...ndow to the outside world. I
...that point because right below
...at leads to the 26-meter-depth.
...the bottom of the pool from this

...reamed at myself again as I
...wever, I felt my heart beating
...down the deep blue vertical
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...gyeong Lake! I felt as if I was
...nd it made me realize why so
...scuba dive.

...oying swimming underwater,
...pointed to the air gauge of his
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...surface. If you swim up to the
...oidly, you will develop decomp-
...o, my instructor made me as-
...of the pool at a very slow pace.



See Video!



SEE PLUNGE ON PAGE 11



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Say good-bye to hunger pangs at Geumgang makguksu

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

As anyone who has ever spent a few hours swimming will know, the hunger pangs experienced after can be intense! To appease my hunger, I headed to the closest restaurant serving up dak galbi, or spicy stir-fried chicken that is a must-eat local dish in the Gapyeong and Chuncheon area.

Based on a quick search, my phone led me to the Gapyeong's famous Seorak Makguksu Chuncheon Dakgalbi restaurant. Much like the diving pool won't allow solo divers, Seorak Makguksu Chuncheon Dakgalbi also doesn't serve solo diners like me. The reason is that for their dishes, the staff heats up a tabletop grill, which is a lot of work for only one person and one entrée.



You can, instead, opt to take out some of their famous chicken, but it is a two-order minimum.

I was disappointed that I would have to remove the mouth-watering dak galbi I had put on my wish list for this trip. But, to make up for it, I headed to try a different local specialty – makguksu, or buckwheat noodles. This is a specialty of Gangwon Province, which Gapyeong shares a border with.

For this dish, I drove about 20 minutes from the K-26 to Geumgang Makguksu, a restaurant housed in a traditional home which serves as a good example of northeastern Korea's early architectural style. Tucked away on a country town road and surrounded by mountains,

the restaurant's courtyard is enclosed to keep out the winter chill.

Many dak galbi restaurants

also have makguksu on their menu, but normally the star of the show in their eateries is the spicy stir-fried chicken. Geumgang Makguksu's focus, on the other hand, is firmly on the buckwheat noodles.

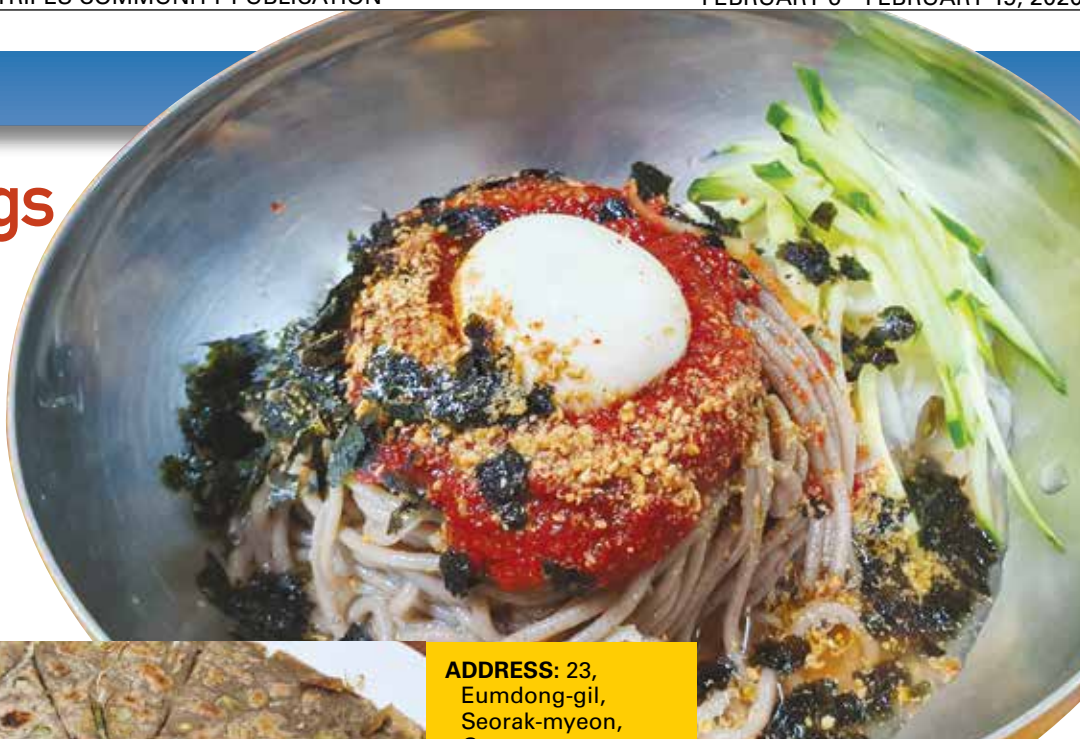
I ordered makguksu and buckwheat pancakes (Korean Memil Jeon), both for 7,000 won

each (or about \$6.08). Before my order arrived, I was served a bowl of hot beef broth which soothed my empty stomach and warmed my body.

A sign on the wall demonstrated a "delicious way to eat makguksu" involving adding vinegar, mustard and shredded radish to the cold chicken broth.



ADDRESS: 23, Eumdong-gil, Seorak-myeon, Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do
PHONE: 031-584-8387 (KOR only)
HOURS: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



I decided to follow the gentle suggestion of the sign when my meal arrived. Makguksu has always been a favorite of mine and this eatery's offering did not disappoint.

In addition, the homemade kimchi that came with my order wasn't overpowering or too salty. The buckwheat pancake had a light taste and an unforgettable mugwort scent. I recommend you pair the pancake with makgeolli, if you have a designated driver.

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Located in the Stay HEALING PARK, the 9 BLOCK café is known in the neighborhood for its high-quality coffee. While many tourists use this spot as a caffeine fix break, the park is also home to a spa, swimming pool, bakery, fitness center, art gallery, and therapy room. There is also a nice strolling path around the building.

Though there were many customers in the café when I visited, the spacious location, music, lighting, and artwork combine to create a comforting atmosphere. While there, I made a stop at the bakery for some of their naturally fermented bread but all of them were sold out, so plan ahead if you're interested in the special baked goods served here.

Though I knew this place is known for their coffee, I opted against



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a caffeine jolt and ordered the lemon tea. I settled into a comfy seat and waited for the cozy tea. At first sip, the lemon tea was disappointing. The hot tea was only lukewarm and because of this the tea powder had not melted and was instead floating at the top. That's what I get for ordering a tea at a coffee joint, I suppose.

But, don't let my mistake discourage you from making a stop at 9 BLOCK. The café area is nice and is a good place for a break during your travels solo or with your family and friends.

– ChiHon Kim



Photos by ChiHon Kim

PLUNGE: Dive in!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

A sense of accomplishment

Once above the surface and from the safety of the deck, I felt a sense of accomplishment. I made my first dive and once again overcame my old phobia of nearly-drowning as a child. I felt comfortable using my regulator to breathe and the worry I had about breathing in water through my nose was no longer an issue.

This experience has inspired me to try to get my scuba certification at K-26. The pool offers PADI-based scuba diving and freediving certification for open-water and professional diving, which is recognized globally. The license sessions split into a few days, allowing you to master the basic diving skills that will enable you to safely embark on all your future diving adventures.

The lessons are probably not as expensive as building your own dive pool, but they're not cheap either. The courses start at around 700,000-800,000 won and are only taught in Korean. If you're interested in English-friendly certification courses, Aquatic Frontier Korea in Suwon offers those classes.

If you're already certified, get to K-26 and get some practice in. Solo dives at K-26 are prohibited and all divers are required to have a certified buddy with you. If you're an open water diver, then your dive buddy must have a higher experience level.

I'm already looking forward to getting my certification, going beyond the pool and exploring the open sea!



Photo courtesy of K-26

Entry fees for certified divers

- Weekday: 33,000 won (3hrs), Day ticket for 1 day: 53,000 won (available until 7 p.m.)
- Holiday: 55,000 won (3hrs)

Entry fees for Test dive

- Diving Experience program (open to everyone): 120,000 won

Note

- Only certified divers can access the diving pool (Exception: Diving Experience Program with instructor)
- All necessary diving equipment, including tank, mask, fins, buoyancy compensator, regulator, gauge, weights and wet suit for any session is free. You can also bring your own equipment. All you are required to bring is a swimsuit, swim hat, towel and license if you have one. (One extra scuba tank is 10,000 won)
- Online booking is necessary for your diving session.

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LOCATION: Jangheung Recreational Forest in Yangju-si, Gyeonggi-do

INTRODUCTION:

Operated by Crown Haetae Art Valley under Crown Haetae Confectionary, Yangju Snow Festival is held throughout the area of the Art Valley featuring one of the top stunning natural sceneries in Yangju-si themed on the beauty of snow.

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus

Gupabal Station (Seoul Subway Line 3), Exit 2.

- Go straight for approx. 58m and take Bus No.15-1 to Silver Culture Center Bus Stop (approx. 1 hr).

- Head right for about 263m to arrive the festival venue.

Or

- Take Bus No. 704 and get off at Bugok-ri Jongjeom (last stop) Bus Stop (approx. 46min).

- Call +82-80-233-7766 for the shuttle bus.

HOMEPAGE: www.fes-artvalley.com (Korean only)

Pyeongchang Trout Festival



DATE: Until Feb. 16

LOCATION: Areas of Odaechon Stream

INTRODUCTION:

The Pyeongchang Trout Festival takes place during winter in the town of Jinbu-myeon in Pyeongchang-gun district. Visitors to the festival can enjoy a variety of programs including ice and lure fishing for trout, snow programs, ice programs, folk programs, and more. There will also be traditional folk games including sledding and top spinning, and visitors can try out sports such as riding 4-wheel ATVs, snow rafting, and sleigh trains. Any trout caught from ice fishing and lure fishing can be prepared right away at a nearby restaurant.

Trout farming first started in Pyeongchang due to its cold, clear waters. Trout offers plenty of nutrition and offers great taste and texture when prepared raw.

TRANSPORTATION:

From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Jinbu Bus Terminal. From Jinbu Bus Terminal walk for approx. 7 min to Odaechon Stream.

HOMEPAGE: festival700.or.kr (Korean only)

Chilgapsan Ice Fountain Festival



DATE: Until Feb. 16

HAPPENINGS OFF BASE FESTIVALS

LOCATION: Area of Alps Village Festival Ground

INTRODUCTION:

Chilgapsan Ice Fountain Festival features a large-scale ice fountain creating an Alps Castle where fairy tale characters are living together. The ice fountain and sculptures create a splendid ambience during the nighttime opening. This festival serves to create valuable memories for children and a romantic winter dating spot for couples alike. Located 5 minutes away, a suspension bridge over Cheonchangho Lake is famous as a filming location of the popular variety program "Two Days and One Night."

TRANSPORTATION:

Express/Intercity Bus

From Central City Terminal, take an express bus bound for Jeongsan Bus Terminal.

Bus

From Jeongsan Bus Terminal, transfer to a local bus bound for Cheongyang-Jeongsan and get off at Cheonjang-ri Bus Stop.

Walk along the road in the same direction of the bus toward Cheonjangho Lake for 830m.

HOMEPAGE: www.alpsvill.com (Korean only)

Yangpyeong Icefish Festival



DATE: Until Feb. 16

LOCATION: Soomy Village

INTRODUCTION:

Yangpyeong Icefish Festival takes place in Baekdong fishing site and Soomy Village from late-December to early-February. Residents are preparing for the festival to welcome all visitors including families, couples, groups and others. During the festival, visitors can eat warm fish cakes and roasted chestnuts. Aside from ice fishing, other traditional winter games and activities such as kite-flying, top spinning, sledding and jjinbbang-making (steamed bun with red bean filling) will be available.

During lunch, tteokguk (sliced rice cake soup), bingeohoe muchim (seasoned raw smelt salad) and bingeo twigim (deep-fried smelt) are available at the Women's Society of Soomy Land. One special trait of this festival is the offer of an all-inclusive experience package. After making a reservation, families can enjoy a full day of fun experiences from the moment they arrive until the time they head home with no additional fees to worry about. Yangpyeong Icefish Festival can be enjoyed by visitors of all ages: Children will look up to their fathers' as strong

men, pulling their sleds around the snow-covered ice; couples will look back on the festival as a warm winter memory, walking hand in hand; friends and coworkers will remember the delicious food and joyful time they spent together.

To attend the festival, visitors can make a reservation on the festival's official website.

TRANSPORTATION:

From Cheongnyangni Station, take a train to Yongmun Station. From Yongmun Station, take a taxi for approx. 8 min

HOMEPAGE: soomyland.com

Cheongpyeong Snowflake Festival



DATE: Until Feb. 23

LOCATION: Cheongpyeong Recreation Area for Cheongpyeong Snowflake Festival

INTRODUCTION:

Cheongpyeong Snowflake Festival located in Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do includes fun activities such as catching trout with bare hands, ice fishing, riding on tradition sleds and many other hands-on activities. Visitors who had paid admission to the fishing reservoir are also invited to watch the free circus performance offered.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

Cheongpyeong Station (Gyeongui-Jungang Line), Exit 1. The festival venue is about 5-min walking distance away from the station.

Bus

From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus bound for Cheongpyeong.

The festival venue is about 7-min walking distance from Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal.

HOMEPAGE: www.cpfestival.net (Korean only)

Iksan E-World Starlight Festival



DATE: Until Mar. 1

LOCATION: Areas of E-World and 83

Tower

INTRODUCTION:

E-World Starlight Festival is held with ten million lights in a large area around E-World and 83 Tower. Hot-air balloons, roses, and mask light decorations and other events are available at this carnival-like festival. The events start at night and large characteristic trees are decorated along the 200-meter long Light Road, as well as a Umbrella Road, Carnival Road, and photo zone by 1,000 lights. Also, 10,000 LED roses cover the proposal stairs, creating a romantic and special ambience. This festival is beloved by young couples as part of a night dating course.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

Duryu Station (Daegu Subway Line 2), Exit 15.

Turn left and walk straight for approx. 330 m.

Cross the street to E-World.

HOMEPAGE: www.eworld.kr (Korean only)



Lighting Festival at The Garden of Morning Calm



DATE: Until Mar. 22

LOCATION: Main gardens

INTRODUCTION:

Held at the Garden of Morning Calm, the Lighting Festival is the biggest festival of lights in Korea, covering 100 thousand pyeong illuminated by 30,000 lights. The gleaming lights add a festive glow to the garden during the winter season. The main gardens are Hakyung Garden, Hometown House Garden, Bonsai Garden, Moonlight Garden, Sky Path and Garden of Eden, with colorful lights adorning the trees. In the event of inclement weather, lights may be turned off for safety.

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus

From Sangbong Bus Terminal or Dong Seoul Bus Terminal take a bus bound for Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal.

OR,

Take bus No. 1330 at Cheongnyangni Transfer Center (in front of Lotte Department Store).

Get off at the Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal.

From Cheonpyeong Terminal, take a bus bound for The Garden of Morning Calm.

Subway

Cheongpyeong Station (Gyeongchun Line), Exit 1.

Go left until you reach the 3-way intersection and turn right.

Continue straight toward the Cheongpyeong Catholic Church.

Pass by Cheongpyeong Elementary School, turn left, and you will see the Cheonpyeong Bus Terminal.

From the terminal, take a bus bound for

The Garden of Morning Calm.
Alternatively, take the Gapyeong City Tour Bus.
HOMEPAGE: www.morningcalm.co.kr
(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Herb Island Light Festival



DATE: Until Apr. 30
LOCATION: Pocheon Herb Island
INTRODUCTION:
Herb Island Lighting Festival features a romantic ambience created by splendid lighting displays. It is comprised of a pink wish tunnel, sparkling buildings, Santa Village, photo zone and other twinkling places for visitors to enjoy.
TRANSPORTATION:
Bus
Take an express bus to Pocheon Intercity Bus Terminal. Take Bus No. 57 bound for Sinbuk Oncheon (Sinbuk Hot spring) at the local bus stop outside the bus terminal. Get off at Samjeong-ri and go straight on Samcheongol-gil Street to arrive at Herb Island.
OR
Soyosan Station (Seoul Subway Line 1). Take Bus 57, and get off at Samjeong-ri. Go straight on Samcheongol-gil Street to arrive at Herb Island.
HOMEPAGE: www.herbisland.co.kr
(Korean, English, Chinese)

Nonsan Strawberry Festival



DATE: Feb. 19 – Feb. 23
LOCATION: Nonsancheon Stream and Strawberry Field
INTRODUCTION:

Nonsan Strawberry Festival is held in Nonsan, the largest strawberry production region in Korea. Its rich soil and clean water and air give the region a perfect environment for growing excellent quality strawberries. It has been making its mark as a strawberry producer for 90 years, including 50 of which had full-scale production and shipment. The festival here helps elevate the regional economy and also functions to establish better communication among cities. Also, the festival is thought of as one of the most well-known festivals in Chungcheongnam-do, attracting a lot of domestic and overseas visitors. The festival takes place in the vicinity of Nonsancheon Stream and strawberry fields, and features various experiential programs like strawberry picking, strawberry cake baking, strawberry jam making, and other strawberry products events.

TRANSPORTATION:

Express/Intercity Bus

From Seoul Central City Terminal (Honam Line), take a bus to Nonsan.

Bus

From Nonsan Bus Terminal, cross the road. Take Bus 515, 516, 601, 602, 701 or 712 to Daegyodong Bus Stop. From the bus stop, go straight for 100m to arrive at the Nonsan Stream and Strawberry Field.

HOMEPAGE: www.nonsan.go.kr (Korean only)



Jeju Fire Festival



DATE: Mar. 12 – Mar. 15
LOCATION: Saebyeol Oreum
INTRODUCTION:

Jeju Fire Festival is held to pray for good harvest and good health in the new year. Various folk games and hands-on programs are available, and the beautiful natural environment of Jeju Island makes the festival even more enjoyable.

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus

From Jeju International Airport, take Bus 100 to Jeju Intercity Bus Terminal. From Jeju Intercity Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus bound for Pyeonghwaro Road.

Get off at Hwajeon Village .

* Shuttle buses available during the festival period.

* Transportation inquiries:

Tourism Policy Division (+82-2-64-728-2751), Air Traffic Division (+82-2-64-728-3191), Information Officers (+82-2-64-728-2021)

HOMEPAGE: <http://www.jeju.go.kr/buriburi/main.do> (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Yeongam Wangin Culture Festival



DATE: Apr. 2 – Apr. 5
LOCATION: Areas around the Historical Site of Dr. Wangin
INTRODUCTION:
Yeongam Wangin Culture Festival is held in early April when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom to commemorate the achievement of Korea's Dr. Wangin, who traveled to Japan over 1,600 years ago to spread Korean knowledge, culture, and arts. The festival takes place at Historical Site of Dr. Wangin and Sangdaepo Historic Park. Tourists and local residents can enjoy various events during the festival period.

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus

From Seoul Central City Terminal, take an intercity bus bound for Mokpo. From Mokpo Bus Terminal, take a local bus bound for Yeongam and get off at the Historical Site of Dr. Wangin Bus Stop.

KTX

From Yongsan Station, take a train bound for Mokpo Station.

HOMEPAGE: wagin.kr (Korean only)

Yeongju Korea Seonbi Culture Festival



DATE: May 1 – May 4

LOCATION: Seonbichon Village & Areas of Seoecheon Stream

INTRODUCTION:

The Yeongju Seonbi Culture Festival takes place from early to mid May every year at the Seonbichon Village and Korean Seonbi Culture Training Center in Sunheung-myeon, Yeongju-si. Yeongju Seonbi Culture Festival promotes Korea's moral culture through ideology of Seonbi. You will be able to restore your personal character with the knowledge of Seonbi's basic values.

TRANSPORTATION:

Intercity/Express Bus

From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus bound for Yeongju.

From Gangnam Express Bus Terminal, take an express bus bound for Yeonju.

Bus

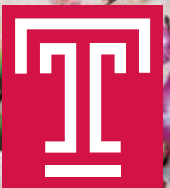
From Yeongju Bus Terminal, take Bus 53 bound for Sosuseowon Confucian Academy.

HOMEPAGE: seonbi.yctf.or.kr (Korean only)




NOTE: Festival dates and info subject to change.

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Concerts

February
2

A.C.E

Seoul, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Muv Hall, 77,000 won.

Kang Sung Hoon

Seoul, Feb. 14, 8 p.m., Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Sejong University DeaYang Hall, 44,000-66,000-77,000 won.

Jung Jaeil

Seoul, Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 99,000 won.

pH1

Seoul, Feb. 15, 7 p.m., YES24 LIVE HALL, 77,000-110,000 won.

Kim Bum Soo

Cheongju, Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Cheongju Arts Center Grand Opera House; Gwangju, Feb. 29, 6 p.m., Main Theater, Gwangju Culture & Art Center, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Noel

Seoul, Feb. 15, 7 p.m., Feb. 16, 2 p.m., Jamsil Arena, 77,000-88,000-99,000-110,000 won.

Jannabi

Seoul, Feb. 15 & 16, 5 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall; Gwangju, Feb. 22, 5 p.m., Kimdaejung Convention Center - Multi-Purpose Auditorium; Daegu, Feb. 29 & Mar. 1, 5 p.m., EXCO Auditorium; Busan, Mar. 14 & 15, 5 p.m., BEXCO Auditorium; Chuncheon, Mar. 21, 5 p.m., Baekryung Art Center in Chuncheon, Kangwon-Do, 110,000-121,000-132,000 won.

Kim Kyung Ho

Seoul, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m., Jamsil Arena, 77,000-88,000-99,000 won.

Kenny G

Seoul, Feb. 21, 4 & 8 p.m., Lotte Concert Hall; Busan, Feb. 23, 2 & 6 p.m., BEXCO Auditorium, 88,000-110,000-132,000-154,000-176,000 won.

Beatbox to World 2020

Seoul, Feb. 22, 5 p.m., Feb. 23, 9 p.m., Muv Hall, 30,000 won (2-day Ticket).

Zico

Seoul, Feb. 22 & 23, 7 p.m., Olympic Park SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium, 110,000 won.

Cho Mingyu

Seoul, Feb. 22, 7 p.m., Feb. 23, 6 p.m., Seongsu Art Hall, 99,000 won.

The Ade

Seongnam, Feb. 22, 7 p.m., Seongnam Arts Center, Ensemble Theater; Busan, Mar. 1, 6 p.m., Busan Citizen's Hall - Small Hall, 77,000 won.

March
3

Mika

Seoul, Mar. 4 & 5, 8 p.m., Jamsil Arena, 110,000-121,000-132,000 won.

Soran

Seoul, Mar. 6, 13 & 20, 8 p.m., Mar. 7, 14 & 21, 6 p.m., Mar. 8, 15 & 22, 5 p.m., Seongsu Art Hall, 77,000 won.

Sechskies

Seoul, Mar. 7 & 8, 5 p.m., Kyung-Hee University Grand Peace Palace, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Baek Ji Young

Seoul, Mar. 21, 3 & 7 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall, 88,000-99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Green Day

Seoul, Mar. 22, 6 p.m., Jamsil Arena, 88,000-99,000-110,000 won.

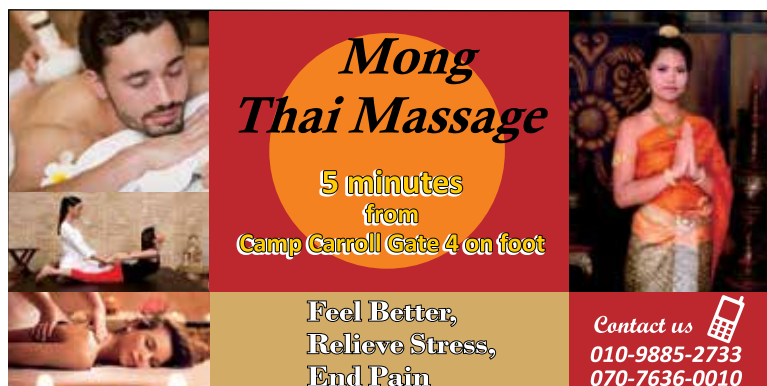
April
4

Khalid

Seoul, Apr. 9, 8 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall, 110,000 won.

Shin Seung Hoon

Seoul, Apr. 11, 7 p.m., Apr. 12, 4 p.m., Sejong Center for the Performing Arts, 77,000-88,000-110,000-132,000-154,000 won.



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Stripes Sports Trivia

How much did CBS charge advertisers to air a 30-second commercial during the 2019 Super Bowl?

Answer

\$5 Million



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For Korean, a scrub down at public baths is very common and you'll see many getting ttaemiri (scrub staff) who scrub down clients at any public bathhouse.

Hangul of the week

감정
gamjeong (emotion)

Language Lesson

Good night.

Jal-ja-yo.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- Throws in
- Rhombus or rectangle
- Yellowstone, for one
- Guitar part
- December ditty
- Medicinal herb
- More than suggestive
- Under construction
- Washington Monument, e.g.
- "The Thorn Birds" novelist McCullough
- Telescope part
- Tapping sound
- Big club?
- Shredded
- Text alternative
- Old what's- name
- Built-out window
- North Pole workers
- Sparkle
- Sub detector
- Hot rock
- Taxi ticker
- Be silent, in music
- URL ending
- Humdinger
- Clock part
- Barley brew
- Nonpoetic writing
- Splinter group
- Create a stir
- Kids' racers
- High spirits
- Medical remedy
- Desertlike
- Ill-gotten gains
- Prayer's end
- Anagram for "user"
- Floor it
- Pundit's piece

DOWN

- Bushy do
- Cheerless
- Slow down
- Fashion sense
- Tailor's tool
- Ketcham of the comics
- Fly ball's path
- Four-legged friend
- "Freaky Deaky" author Leonard
- R.J. Reynolds brand
- Direction at sea
- Memorization method
- Peachy follower
- Feather in one's cap
- Quite fond of
- Like The Who's wasteland
- "Excuse me..."
- Paparazzi target
- Barrel of laughs

30 Donald's first wife

31 Carpenter's device

34 Fancy edging

36 Fill to the gills

38 Ocean current

40 Thought out

43 Like the boondocks

45 Arduous journey

48 Bottom-line figures

52 Sting operation

54 Tree for chocolate

55 A bit cracked

56 Wise one

57 Sacred bird of the Nile

58 Former V.P.

59 Sloth's home

60 Sam Cooke song, "You Me"

62 NHL surface

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Previous Sudoku:

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

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SHUTTLE



What are those 'big marshmallows' on the farms around Camp Humphreys?

STORY AND PHOTO BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

Heading out on the roads of Pyeongtaek, home to Camp Humphreys, you may have stumbled by an unfamiliar sight. There, scattered on some of the surrounding farms, objects resembling giant marshmallows sit in fields of grass.

Pyeongtaek's name means "plain with lots of swamps," so like its name there are many farms in the area— and many of these field marshmallows.

Though they look like marshmallow, they are obviously not the soft and sweet confection used for s'mores or Rice Krispies Treat.

If you've grown up in a rural area in

the States, you may already know what these field marshmallows are really.

Bale Silage are what these large white round objects are actually called. These serve as alternative silage tanks, weigh around 500 kg and are about one meter in diameter. Bale silage holds fodder for livestock made of harvested rice straw.

If you look closely at the silage, it is covered by plastic wrap to keep it at a certain moisture level for ideal fermentation. When the winter is over, well-fermented rice straw is fed to the cattle.

So next time you're driving by one of these, you'll know those aren't giant marshmallows for humans, they're giant marshmallows for cattle!

kim.chihon@stripes.com



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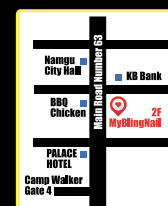
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