

2011 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew featuring a VMI Northstar Conversion. 10 in. lowered floor, auto. kneel, in-floor ramp, and side door. Removable driver and front passenger seats. 4 pt. tie downs and lap belts with multi mounting plates. 33 miles. Call for a demo today! 800-420-6470 SEPT V19



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2007 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT. Braun Entervan conversion, remote entry, 10 in. lowered floor, power kneel, door, ramp. Removable driver and passenger seat. 4 way restraint system. 800-420-6470. SEPT V16



2005 Dodge Grand Caravan with Braun Rampvan Conversion, 10in lowered floor, power kneel, ramp, and door. Removable driver & front passenger seats. Multiple mounting plates and retractable tie downs. Fully automatic chassis. 540-932-7300 SEPT V15



2002 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport. With Braun Entervan II Conversion, 8 in lowered floor, Power kneel/door/ramp with hand held remote operation. Removable driver and front passenger seats. Multiple mounting strips, tie downs, and lap belts. 800-420-6470 SEPT V14



2000 Dodge Grand Caravan with VMI's Northstar Conversion: in floor ramp, 10" lowered floor, tie down mounting plates, Q Straints and lap belts. Removable driver and front passenger seats. 3mo/3k mi Drive train/Mobility warranty available for an additional charge. 800-420-6470 SEPT V13



2000 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport. Braun Entervan conversion. Lowered floor, power sliding door, power kneel & power ramp. 800-420-6470 SEPT V12



1996 Dodge Grand Caravan IMS Handicap Accessible Van Conversion. 8 in. lowered floor, 4 pt tie downs. Power door/ramp/kneel system. Removable passenger seat. Driver 6 way transfer seat. MPD handcontrols. On board trickle battery charger. 800-420-6470 SEPT V11

2001 Chrysler Town & Country Lxi. Braun Entervan II Conversion, 8" lowered floor, remote entry, power kneel, door, and ramp. Removable driver & front passenger seats. 800-420-6470



1995 Dodge Grand Caravan with Braun Entervan Side Entry Conversion. 10" lowered floor, removable driver & front passenger seats. Automatic sliding side door, ramp, kneel. External key switch entry. 4 way wheelchair restraints and lap belts. 540-932-7300 SEPT V9



1994 Plymouth Grand Voyager SE with an IMS Rampvan conversion. 10" lowered floor, removable driver and front passenger seats. Automatic sliding door, kneel and ramp. External key switch entry. 4 pt. tie downs and lap belts. 540-932-7300 SEPT V8

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to bring people with disabilities and the elderly complete access to new and pre-owned adaptive equipment, services, resources and events throughout Virginia and West Virginia

About The Founders:

Rob Smith, has been a quadriplegic since 1980 as a result of a diving accident. Robert served eight years in the armed forces and retired as an E-6 Staff Sergeant.

Stella Smith, an RN, has been APRried to Robert since 1991. She brings her five years experience in Spinal Cord injury to Disabled Dealer Magazine. Since the V.A. she has worked as a Community Health Nurse with the Governors Healthy Start Program. She now dedicates 100% of her time to Disabled Dealer.

Oliver O'Riordan, serves the Disabled Dealer organization in a number of ways. His mainstay is overseeing general management duties for DDM Graphics. He also assists Disabled Dealer Enterprises, Inc. in the sales and Graphics sector of the initial training process. "Our mission is to bring people with disabilities and the elderly complete access to new and pre-owned adaptive equipment, services, resources, and events throughout the country."

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Publisher's Note

Welcome to the September 12 issue of Disabled Dealer Magazine, we have lots of vans to choose from this month, as well as transport vehicles on pages 12-13. Also, this month we have some new DME shown. Remember, if your looking for something more then you're finding in the Disabled Dealer Magazine, give us a call! We are here to solve YOUR Mobility Needs!



About the Cover

Orange County brothers GW and Ben Plumb are semifinalists in a national contest for a handicapped-accessible vehicle. More than 1 million people submitted names of their local heroes and voted online during the first National Mobility Awareness Month. When the voting ended, the Plumbs were among the top 10 percent of entries with the most votes. See Page 14.

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2012 Minivan with Braun Entervan side entry conversion (File photo) Call 1-800-420-6470 for complete details. SEPT V36 $\,$



2007 Ford E250 Nor-Cal/Tuscany Conversion. Raised roof, 9in cut drop floor, 56.5in door opening. Braun UVL Lift, Power door opener w/ remote, dual battery. Magnetic outside switches. Quick release seat bases driver/passenger. EZ Lock driver's position. EMC Driver Controls. Call Richard Baldwin. 800-420-6470 SEPT V7



2001 Ford E 150 with a Braun Vangater II Lift. 6" lowered floor, Automatic doors with dash mounted, exterior magnetic, and hand held remote entry. 8 way driver transfer seat and EZ out passenger seat. 4 point tie downs and lap belts. Call 1-800-420-6470 for details. SEPT V6



1998 Ford E 150 Eclipse Shadow Conversion. Ricon Clearway Lift with 6" lowered floor and a raised roof for 54" door clearance. 40K Mi. Ask about a warranty on this vehicle. 800-420-6470 SEPT V5

Mobile MAdvisor

Need answers to your mobility questions?? Want to know the latest in Assistive Technology? Would

you like to learn money saving tips on how to purchase your next van, scooter or lift? Get these answers and more from "The Mobile Lifestyle Advisor" brought to you by Disabled Dealer of Virginia and West Virginia. This monthly column might make you roll with laughter, cringe with fear, or jump for joy, but it guarantees to produce solutions that you can take to the bank. So "Let's Get Rolling".

Q. I continue to receive notices by email that my vehicle warranty is about to expire and that I can renew at a special price. When I emailed back the information on my Braun van they said that they could cover only the Dodge part of it. I want to cover the wheelchair Braun conversion. Where should I go?? Emma T.-Va.

A. Emma, it is a good thing you did not buy the warranty for your chassis. I have heard of all sorts of problems from customers who have purchased aftermarket warranties for their converted van. It seems that the vendors, who support the warranties, immediately caution the owner that the claim may not be covered because of the aftermarket conversion. So what did you buy?? Now, my first suggestion is that you visit the Braun Mobility site to see if they have options on extended warranty for the conversion. Next, go to your dealer to see if they might carry extended warranties that apply to your van. If you did not buy thru a dealer, go to the NMEDA website and call current dealers in and around your area. I know that this type of warranty is difficult to purchase, but I am told that MITS of Virginia has a very competent plan that can cover your chassis and your conversion, even if you did not buy it from them. Your contact there is Rick Hicklin at 1-800-906-6487. Be sure you are familiar with everything that is and is not covered and are satisfied with the handling of issues. Better to know in advance than after you have mechanical problems.

Q. I have had repeated problems with my door automatically opening and the ramp unfolding while I am sitting with my van "in park" with the engine running. I enjoy coffee in the mornings at McDonald's and usually leave my van running for A/C or heat when I am doing your Suduko puzzle. I have contacted the Braun dealer that sold me the unit and they said it was very unusual that this could happen, and they asked me to check and see if I may have mistakenly hit the open button on the spare key F.O.P. I carry in my fanny pack. So, I took the battery out of that spare F.O.B. and the door automatically opened and the ramp deployed again at the ice cream stand. I explained to the dealer this was a safety hazard of immense proportions and it should be fixed ASAP. Is there a site that I can check on to see if this is a reoccurring problem with Braun vans, I may have missed a recall? Frank S.-Va.

A. Great question about recalls and common conversion issues. We are always aware when the big three auto makers have issues that require recalls but to my knowledge I have never seen a public recall

of wheelchair conversion vans. My first guess would be to check with Braun's website for recalls or service bulletins and then follow up with a call to your dealer that you reported the problem to. I have seen service bulletins that have asked dealers to look out for potential problems, especially with wheelchair lifts, and several occasions where mobility dealers were asked to contact customers to have them come in for an evaluation on potential problems with lowered floor minivans. Nothing, that I am aware of that mentioned mysterious deployment like you are describing. Your dealer should do a thorough electrical check of all the switches, and also the main "brain" control box mechanism. Something is sending a signal for the van to open. Don't drive the van anymore than you have to before getting it back to the dealer, as you mentioned it is a hazard to you and other cars around you. Let me know what the fix was, ghost operations are very uncommon.

Q. I noticed big discounts available from Honda on their conversion vans. I am interested in trading in my van and visited the local Braun dealer that sold it to me. Everything sounds good however he tells me they are sold as "USED" vans not "NEW". What is the catch and how does this affect the warranty?? Bob J.-VA.

A. Bob, great question that has been addressed in previous months but well worth discussing again. Yes, you are right the Honda discounts that I have seen are fabulous on both the VMI and Braun conversions. You are also correct in that the dealer you are talking to is selling the vehicles as "used", in other words they have been titled once before. You will notice that on most of these vans the odometer reads 10-20 miles, so they are "new" but the title does not reflect that. Honda corporate has allowed mobility dealers to sell new converted Honda vans but the chassis has been titled to the converter either Braun or VMI, before it was converted for wheelchair use. Thus, it becomes "USED" or "Pre Owned" by DMV standards. VMI and Braun are not recognized as the "first retail sale". This means that you will be the first retail owner and all implied warranties that come with a new Honda will be recognized. Check however the time the van was ready for sale and the date you bought it. Shelf life of the warranty is limited in that the dealer has only so many months to sell the unit before time starts to tick. At present I am told that both VMI and Braun add 6 months to the OEM warranty to cover shelf time on dealer's lots. Make sure you are thoroughly briefed on HOW to submit a warranty claim; it may not be as easy as driving into your local Honda dealer. Great question worth repeating.

You can now catch the "Mobile Lifestyle Advisor" column on the popular blog site Disaboom.com. This email version makes it even easier for you to talk about your individual mobility questions. Check us out.

Keep those questions coming in and keep those wheels rolling on! Send your questions and comments and receive a "free gift" from "The Mobile Lifestyle Advisor", c/o Richard Baldwin, 2075 W. Main St. Waynesboro Va. or email to mobility@ntelos.net.

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2005 Dodge Grand Caravan w/ Vision Auto. rear entry Mobility package Power Door, Ramp, Lowered Floor and Kneeling System, Remote Entry, Aftermarket Mid-Ship Jump Seats, Only 77,400 Miles NICE VAN! To see more pictures go to www.iLifestyles.net ONLY \$ 19,900.00 SEPT V43

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Ask for Tom. SEPT M6



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1998 Dodge Ram with a Braun Millennium L950SE. Raised Roof, Raised Doors, 56" Door Clearance, Power Side Door, Remote Entry. Front and rear air conditioning/heat. 5.2L V-8. Call 1-800-420-6470 for more details. SEPT V4



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2006 Dodge Caravan SXT with a Bruno Joey Backpacker lift in rear hatch and Bruno Turny Seat in the front passenger position. Auto. transmission, all power chassis. 75K miles. 800-420-6470. SEPT V44



1990 Chevrolet 20 with a Ricon Clearway Lift and Raised Roof. 5.7L V-8. Call 540-932-7636. SEPT V2

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SEPT V1

Bruno ASL 210 Scooter Power Lift to 300 lbs. Like new 2" receiver. \$695.00 540-539-5965 SEPT S2

The following calendar of events, support groups, and re- Roanoke, Virginia 24012 sources is provided free as a service to our readers. Disabled Dealer of Virginia & W. Virginia cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information given. Please be sure to verify dates and locations with the contact or organization listed. You can have your event included in the section by mailing, faxing, e-mail, or calling in the information at least 6-8 weeks before the event if possible. Our address, phone/fax numbers and e-mail address is located on page 3

VIRGINIA RESOURCES

Waynesboro Disability Services Board

540-942-6718 For information on housing and disability services in Waynesboro, VA. Spirit Roller Ministries www.spiritrollerministries.org

Granting Freedom

Virginia's Military Home Modification Grant Program

Grant program that pays for modifications to make living spaces more accessible for servicemen or women who sustained injury during service in a combat theatre of operations. www.vhda.com

Search keywords: Granting Freedom Program 877-VHDA-123

The Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) works to reduce the communication barriers between persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and those who are hearing, including family members, service providers, and the general public. 804-662-9502 (V/TTY)

800-552-7917 (V/TTY) Email: ddhhinfo@ddhh.state.va.us

Website: http://www.vddhh.org

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AARP Virginia State Office

707 East Main Street, Suite 910 Richmond, VA 23219

Phone: (804) 819-1902 Fax: (804) 819-1923

TTY: (877) 434-7598

Web Site: http://www.aarp.org/statepages/va.html

Alzheimer's Association:

Northern Virginia Chapter

10201 Lee Hwy. Suite 210 Fairfax, VA 22030 (703) 359-4440

Central VA/Lynchburg Chapter

P O Box 823 Lynchburg, VA 24506 (804) 845-8540

Charlottesville/Piedmont Chapter

PO Box 4634 Charlottesville, VA 22906 (804) 973-6122

Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority 1602 Rolling Hills Drive, Suite 107

Richmond Va 23229 866-835-5976

www.atlfa.org

As of July 1, 2012 the NewWell Fund reverted to their original name of, Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority (ATLFA). Their contact information will remain the same. Same great Staff doing the same Great job! "Providing help for a better tomorrow" for Virginians with disabilities!

Blue Ridge Independent

Page 10

Living Center Main Office 1502 B Williamson Road, N.E.

540-342-1231

Brain Injury Support Group-Greater Shenandoah Valley Support Group. Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in Room 221 of Rockingham Memorial Hospital. Call Pat Wilkins (daytime) at (540) 879-2833.

Brain Injury Association

1608 Spring Hill Road Ste. 110

Vienna, VA 22182 703-761-0750 Toll Free: 1-800-444-6443 www.biausa.org

Brain Injury Association of Virginia

3212 Cutshaw Ave Suite 315 Richmond, VA 23230 804-355-5748/800-334-8443 Web site: www.biav.net

Brain Injury Association of

Staunton-Augusta Support Group Second Monday of each month. 7:00 pm William A. Cashatt Chapel Woodrow Wilson Rehab Center On Hornet Drive near Parking Lot F

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8:30 am - 4:00 pm 6301 Midlothian Trnp. Richmond, VA 23225 804-521-4923 www.goodwillcva.org

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State Chairman-Mike Nicolos 3906 Melvern Place Alexandria, VA 22312-1149

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1791-A South High St..

Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-433-6513 Fax: 540-433-6313

Valley Associates For Independent Living, VAIL, serves planning district 6. VAIL provides an array of services to individuals who have a disability including but not limited to supported employment, independent living skills training advocacy, and information and referral. Call 540-433-6513 for more information.

Paralyzed Vetrans of America Virginia-Mid Atlantic Chapter

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Resources for Independent Living Inc.

The Resources for Independent Living Inc., serves persons with physical and sensory disabilities to live independently in the community and to encourage necessary change within the community so independent living is a possibility. A community based nonprofit and nonresidential agency serving persons in Chesterfield providing case management, peer counseling, housing placement services and technical assistance. Also, provides advocacy for personal and collective rights of persons who are disabled in the areas of accessibility, education, employment, transportation and other areas of equal opportunity. Please call 804-353-6503 for further

Spotsylvania County Public Schools Parent Resource Center

7409 Brock Road Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553 (540) 582-3616 (540) 582-3791

High Hopes Stroke Survivors Support Group of Lynchburg

Lynchburg General Hospital, Private Dinning Room 2end Thursday of ea. mo. 1-3 pm Contact: Carole McCorkle 434-384-7568 Email: carole.highopes@yahoo.com Web: highhopestrokesupport.webs.com
New River Valley Brain Injury Support Group

4th Tuesday of each month Waldron College, Radford Uni-

Call for further information: Jason foundation at (540) 633-

877-599-0990 or go to our website-www.adisource.com.

Easter Seals West Virginia 1305 National Road Wheeling WV 26003-5780 (304) 242-1390 (V/TTY); (800) 677-1390 E-mail: ateaster@stargate.net Web: www.wv.easter-seals.org

PriAPRy Lateral Sclerosis Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia-Support Group.

April 1, 2006 Berkeley Springs WV Contact Ms. Ronnie Grove frogrove@pennswoods.net or 13 Erin Ln. through relay 711 call:

W. Virginia Chapter of Polio Survivors

The 2end Saturday of each month 1 pm – 3 pm Putnam General Hospital-Educational Room Hurricane W. VirginiaContact: Mae Inscoe-Group Leader 304-736-6325

2225

Stroke and Head Injury support Group Montgomery Regional Hospital

Meets the second Tuesday at 6:30 P.M.

Call for further information: Terry Shelor (540) 961-4652

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Richmond, VA 23229 Phone: 804-285-8636 Fax: 804-288-3303 vahc@vahc.org www.vahc.org

Muscular Dystrophy Association

MDA Clinic Roanoke Neurological Center Roanoke, VA

Ahmad Bushirk, MD 540-772-3237

VAIL has a loan closet of durable medical equipment & equipment for those who are deaf or hard of hearing in our Harrisonburg office. Items include: bedside toilets, walkers, crutches wheelchairs, hospital beds, TTY"s, phone or doorbell signalers, and phone amplifiers. Call 433-6513 to see what is available. VAIL and the Waynesboro Disability Services Board cooperatively operate a loan closet for the Wavnesboro area. Items include: bedside toilets, walkers. crutches, wheelchairs, and hospital beds. Call 942-6718.

Wheelin' Sportsmen NWTF of Virginia

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Virginia Board for People with Disabilities www.vaboard.org

Care Connection for Children

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Traumatic Brain Injury & Veterans

P O Box 1485 Bedford VA 24523 434-660-1235

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West Virginia Chapter

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Multiple Sclerosis

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Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group

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Disabilities Peer Support Group Eastern Panhandle Training Center 2000 Aiken Center APRtinburg WV 25401 (304)496-9528

Disability Determination Area Offices: Charleston Area Office Charleston Federal Center, 5th Floor 500 Quarrier Street Charleston, WV 25301 304-353-4249 Fax-304-353-4257

Job Accommodation Network West Virginia University 918 Chestnut Ridge Rd. Suite # 1 P O Box 6080 Morgantown, WV 26506-608 24-0041 or vats@virginia.edu

Brain Injury

Brain Injury Association of West Virginia, Inc. P.O. Box 574 Institute, WV 25112 (304) 766-4892; (800) 356-6443 (in WV) E-mail: BIAWV@aol.com

West Virginia Assistive Technology System 959 Hartman Run Road. Morgantown. WV 26505 800-841-8436 Email: wvats@hsc.wvu.edu

West Virginia University Center for Excellence in Disabilities.

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Two Courageous Guys

In Orange County, Virginia, live two brothers whom many conkeeps them going. They have their purpose. They have a sider "heros": 26-year-old George "G" and 24-year-old Ben schedule." These two young men were born with Duchenne ease and are confined to motorized wheelchairs.

Their parents, Jane and George Plumb, have provided as nor-most patients are in wheelchairs. That was the case with G, mal lives as possible for their sons. "We have always, always, who can still maneuver the buttons on his wheelchair, but has always treated those guys as if nothing was wrong," Jane said. no other movement. Ben walked until he was 21 and still has "They played T-ball. They walked for a while. They fish and upper-body strength. "I made it through graduation. That was hunt with equipment they've adapted. We always made them the only thing I wanted to do: to walk across the stage," Ben think they have to do everything like everybody else, that they said ."And that was probably because someone told you you have responsibilities and obligations." Both young men work wouldn't be able to do it," John Faulconer said."Yep," Ben rein local retail stores: G at Faulconer Hardware and Ben at Vir- sponded, his blue eyes twinkling. ginia Tractor. To get to work, their mother lifts them out of their newer one at their workplaces. Jane works full time at Dogherd.

Ben works, say the same. Conway's brother, John Faulconer, help, and he appreciates that. is a salesman there, and Ben works in the service department. Fellow staff members modified his scooter. They put wooden A Money Market account has been set up with Virginia Nablocks in the seat and another on the footrest so Ben's chest tional Bank in Orange, Virginia. at the hardware store. Ben is not supposed to reach for items for G and Ben". above his head or lift anything too heavy. Yet, he regularly pulls down lawnmower blades from upper shelves, causing co-workers to fuss at him. Ben just balances the blades on Doris Waugh his lap and maneuvers to the counter, grinning all the while. Fundraiser Chairperson Residents Council When G wanted to go hunting, he designed a stand with PVC Dogwood Village Health & Rehabilitation pipe and camouflage mesh. Folks at the hardware and tractor 120 Dogwood Lane stores built it to his specifications ."He is the designer, and Orange, Virginia 22960 they are his hands," Jane said.

"It's important for the boys to get out and be social," Jane said. "I think their work today.

muscular dystrophy, a rapidly worsening degenerative dis- The Plumb brothers were born with Duchenne, a genetic defect that occurs in about one in 3,600 male births. Symptoms, including muscle weakness and difficulty walking. By age 12,

chairs and into seats in a van. Once at their jobs, they are The Plumbs don't get any disability payments or government again lifted out of the van seat into their chairs. The Plumbs assistance. They pay for their sons' health insurance, and Jane leave an older electric wheelchair at home for each son and a said they're blessed that the bills haven't been astronomical.

wood Village, a nursing home in Orange. Their dad, George, In May, during National Mobility Awareness Month, G and Ben works for Dominion Power and keeps up with the farm's Angus were semifinalists in a national contest for a handicapped-accessible vehicle. They did not win the contest but community interest and support for them was amazing and a fund has G has worked at the hardware store since he was a junior at been started to buy a van for them. At first, they were reluctant Orange County High School. Conway Faulconer, calls G an to agree to the fund raising on their behalf, but Ben said he invaluable member of her staff. Folks at Virginia Tractor, where came to realize that people in the community just wanted to

is even with the service counter. He's able to find things in Contributions are to be made payable to "Virginia National the service department that others can't, just like his brother Bank" P. O. Box 709 Orange, VA 22960. Memo for "Van Fund

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Sudoku Puzzles- Mobility for the Mind!!

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	7						4	
8			6					
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Winner for August 2012 was, Perry Johnson!

Sponsored by M.I.T.S. of VA 2075 W. Main St Waynesboro, VA 22980 800-420-6470 Free Prize to the first correct puzzle returned to our office, one winner per household, winners are not eligible to win prizes for future Sudoku Puzzles in this publication.

How to Solve:
Fill in the 9x9 grid with the missing numbers so that each column, row and 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9 only once.

There is only one correct solution.





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