

Sky, bugs, trucks are bigger in Texas



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

By B.A. Belthoff
 The Bulletin

One of the first things visitors have remarked to us upon visiting Texas for the first time is, "Wow I can't believe how big the sky is here!"

While we all know the sky is the same size everywhere, it's the flatness of our terrain and lack of tall trees and buildings that give the

azure blue its expansive appearance. At first, it felt like it enveloped me, making me feel tall, yet at the same time, like a tiny speck on the planet. It's similar to the feeling you get when you stand on the shoreline looking out at the ocean.

The sky is bigger, the bugs are

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Transplanted in Texas

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fake news

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reading program
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We're going to send some lucky Bulletin readers to Schlitterbahn Waterpark in Galveston again this year. But this time, we'll send more than ever. We plan to give away a set of two tickets (\$100+ value) to 10 winners. All you have to do is fill out this entry blank completely and mail it to The Bulletin, P.O. Box 2426, Angleton, TX 77516. If you want to save a stamp, you can fax it to us toll-free at 1-866-844-5288, or email the completed entry form to john.bulletin@gmail.com. One entry per person, please. Entry deadline is May 28. Winners will be announced on June 4, 2019.

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Why do you want to enter? _____

I protested my appraisal

There was no line, and I received an informal hearing right away

There are certain things I really don't look forward to, like going to the dentist, getting a colonoscopy, or heading down to the Brazoria County Appraisal District offices to try to bring my property appraisal back down to Earth.

My dentist is really nice, and I overcame that fear a long time ago. I'm not going to make any comments on colonoscopies. People

Ramblings

By John Toth
 Editor and Publisher

my age know what that is all about. But I try to put off going down to the appraisal office, using every excuse available to me. Then I start running out of time, and there I go.

The last time I was there a few years ago, the place was packed. It took about three hours to see an appraiser. It took about an hour and a half to get my driver's license renewed in person in Angleton last year, so you see why I was trying to find any excuse not to go to the appraisal offices this year.

But my assessed property value was just crazy high, and the visit could not be put off any longer. They didn't single me out. Residential property values have been shooting up for a while with all that industrial expansion down here and the housing market lagging behind the demand.

When it's a lopsided seller's market, like today, that's what property values do – they shoot up. I understand that part. But there has

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Perfect fishing plans turn into picking up others' trash

By Janice R. Edwards
 The Bulletin

The sun rose all yellow and pink filling the morning with color. The river was cool green and glass calm. There was a tantalizing breeze beckoning the fishermen to "come hither" to their favorite fishing hole. They had bait, tackle and time – so off they went, expecting to find the peace that comes from being with Mother Nature and

enjoying her bounty.

The fishermen motored into their "secret" fishing hole silently, using their trolling motor. Perfect! No one else was in sight! It was shaping up to be a perfect day – just the fishermen and their quarry.

But then the day took a turn for the worst - a glint of red bobbing along the shoreline reflecting the morning sunlight – someone's discarded Coke can. Oh well, it must

have just flown out of someone's boat as they went zipping along the water's surface. No big deal – or was it?

One fisherman cast out along the shoreline and started to reel back in - only to get hung up on something on the bottom. After some tugging and a few choice words, he reeled in a small log completely enmeshed in discarded fishing line. His buddy

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Apollo 11's not so Tranquility Base

By Roger Simmons

Orlando Sentinel (TNS)

After landing on the moon, taking one small step for man and a couple of giant leaps for mankind, it was finally time for Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to wind down and get some sleep. The problem was where?

Their tiny Lunar Excursion

Module, nicknamed Eagle, was designed to land them on the moon's Sea of Tranquility — it was not designed to give them a tranquil night's sleep.

With just 160 cubic feet of space inside, the LEM had no beds for the weary Apollo 11 astronauts. It had no seats, either.

The reason was weight. There

MIKE PINGREE'S

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS



BACK AGAIN SO SOON? After being released from jail in Fort Pierce, Fla., where he had been confined for grand theft, a man walked out into the parking lot and proceeded to break into cars while waiting for his girlfriend to pick him up. He was filmed doing this by the jail's surveillance camera, which, for some reason, he was unaware of. He was a free man for about 15 minutes.

NO FEMININE MYSTIQUE HERE: A woman showed up at the wedding of her former boyfriend in the Hunan Province of China wearing a wedding dress and begging him to take her back. She grabbed him by the hand and tried to pull him away from the altar, while saying "I was wrong" and "Come back to me," before collapsing to the floor. The groom declined her request.

CAN'T WE OUTFRAN THEM? A man who yelled obscenities and caused disturbances in a number of businesses in Indialantic, Fla., told arresting officers that he is a super villain called "the saint," and threatened to release his turtle army to destroy the people of the town.

THAT'S IT, PAL, A ZERO STAR RATING FOR YOU: An Uber driver drove a couple to the airport and then returned to their home in San Mateo, Calif., and burglarized the place. He fled when an alarm went off, but he was filmed by the couple's doorbell camera.

IT LOOKS LIKE WE WERE RIGHT ABOUT HIM: A man who was fired from a company in Seminole, Fla., for creating a "hostile work environment," sent multiple emails to his employment attorney threatening to slaughter everyone in the building in a mass shooting. He told arresting officers, "I would have slaughtered that place, turn it into a bloodbath."

AND IT WAS JUST TOO FAR TO WALK: A woman who left a Walmart in Crossville, Tenn., in a mobility scooter belonging to the store was spotted by police driving it in the slow lane of Highway 127 at 5 o'clock in the morning. She told the officers that she was headed to the Waffle House for a cup of coffee.

REJECT ME, WILL YOU!!? A woman set fire to her boyfriend's apartment building in Woodbury, N.J., after she engaged in a tryst with him and another woman, and he subsequently sent her home in a taxi while he remained at his apartment with the other lady.

NO, YOU CAN'T SEE MY BADGE: An off-duty police officer entered a sauna in Rinkeby, Sweden, and encountered a fugitive who had dodged a jail sentence for aggravated assault. The two undressed men recognized each other immediately. The cop calmly told the guy that he should consider himself arrested. The suspect went quietly.

IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD DEAL AT THE TIME: A man in Memphis, Tenn., gave his car to a drug dealer in exchange for meth, and then reported that the vehicle had been carjacked. The cops figured this one out after observing "inconsistencies" in his version of events.

was a limit to how many pounds of instruments and gear the Eagle could carry for its moon landing and subsequent liftoff to bring the astronauts back to their orbiting command module.

"Quickly discarded were stools for the pilots," noted a 1969 Orlando Sentinel story about the LEM's weight issues. "It was decided the astronauts could stand, with the aid of harnesses."

In the early hours of July 21, 1969, after wrapping up a thrilling but grueling period of astronauting on the lunar surface, it was time for Armstrong and Aldrin to go to sleep. Their mission of becoming the first humans to walk on the moon was more successful than becoming the first to sleep on it.

Neither was able to fall asleep.

"Neil has been lying on the engine cover and I curled up on the floor," Aldrin reported when the astronauts received their "wake-up" call from Mission Control.

A 2014 story posted on NASA.com offered greater detail on the sleeping problems the Apollo 11 astronauts faced:

The Eagle was not a sleepy place. The tiny cabin was noisy with pumps and bright with warning lights that couldn't be dimmed. Even the window shades were glowing, illuminated by intense sunshine outside.

"After I got into my sleep stage and all settled down, I realized there was something else (bothering me)," said Armstrong. The Eagle had an optical telescope sticking out periscope-style. "Earth was shining right through the telescope into my eye. It was like a light bulb."

To get some relief, they closed the helmets of their spacesuits. It was quiet inside and they "wouldn't be breathing all the dust" they had tramped in after the moon walk, said Aldrin. Alas, it didn't work.

"The suit's cooling systems, so

necessary out on the scorching lunar surface, were too cold for sleeping inside the Eagle. The best Aldrin managed was a "couple hours of mentally fitful drowsing." Armstrong simply stayed awake.

When the wake-up call finally came, "Tranquility Base, Tranquility Base, Houston. Over."

Armstrong answered with alacrity, "Good morning, Houston. Tranquility Base. Over."

The long day was done. It was time to go home, to Earth, for a good night's sleep.

Since the nearest motel was more than 238,000 miles away, NASA needed to find a way for Apollo astronauts to sleep on future moon missions.

By Apollo 12's launch in November 1969, the space agency had a sleep solution that was lightweight and would allow astronauts to lie down horizontally in the LEM: moon hammocks.

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Strange but True

By Bill Sones
and Rich Sones, Ph.D.

SUPER NOSE NURSE

Q. Retired nurse Joy Milne is a super-smeller, with an almost supernatural ability to sense odors that most people can't perceive. And her gift is now being utilized for the betterment of humanity. How so?

A. At one point in their marriage, Joy's husband Les developed a strange musky scent she didn't like, reports Alison George in "New Scientist" magazine. It was not an issue of hygiene, and no one else picked up on the smell, so Joy let the matter lie. "It was only 12 years later, when Les was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, that she realized the magnitude of what she had noticed." And she confirmed her hunch by discretely sniffing other Parkinson's patients.

The medical community was skeptical. Joy was given identical T-shirts to smell and asked to determine which had been worn by people with Parkinson's. She misclassified only one, claiming it smelled of Parkinson's even though the wearer had no such diagnosis. Eight months later, that person was diagnosed with the disease!

Joy is now working with researchers to help identify chemical biomarkers which could permit early

detection of Parkinson's and make treatments more effective. Preliminary results are promising. And she has been recruited to help with other diseases. "Almost every disease has a unique odor," she says. "We humans have turned our back on our sense of smell. We should be using it more."

SMART CLOTHES

Q. How might nanotechnology be used to keep your baby dressed comfortably year-round and you in sportswear that adjusts to how much you're sweating?

A. "Someday, the same shirt could be part of your summer and winter wardrobe, using fabric that alternates between being breathable and insulating," says Maria Temming in "Science News" magazine. Carbon nanotubes coat the polymer fibers used to make the yarn, and the closer the nanotubes, the better the fabric conducts a person's body heat. Under cool, dry conditions, the fibers become loosely wound, and the fabric traps much of that heat. But sweating causes the fibers to move closer to nearby fibers, "opening spaces to boost breathability."

Added bonus: This new dual-use fabric does not need to be flipped inside out to switch from warm to cool, like other heat-accommodating cloth. Now how cool is that?

THEY LAY EGGS AND THEN STARVE

Q. The females of this clever, resourceful species are active predators but after mating and laying their eggs, they quit eating, and by the time the eggs hatch, they will have starved to death. Can you name these creatures, and what might explain such an ignominious end?

A. They're octopuses, and over the last 40 years, researchers have focused their attention on the optic gland between the eyes of the two-spot octopus, says Matt Wood in "The University of Chicago Magazine." (The gland is functionally similar to the pituitary gland of most land animals.) Now, using modern genetic sequencing tools, university neuroscientists have been able to link molecular signals produced by the optic gland to four separate phases of adult female behavior: active predators; mated and brooding over her eggs "like a deep-sea hen"; ceasing to eat altogether; and finally, some 10 days later, becoming pale and listless, losing muscle tone and dying.

The scientific jury is still out on why this happens, but two theories have emerged: One, since female octopuses regularly kill and eat males during mating, "a biologically programmed death spiral may be a way to keep mothers from eating their young." Two, octopuses can grow indefinitely until death, "so eliminating hungry adults keeps the octopus ecosystem from being dominated by a few massive elders."

(Send STRANGE questions to brothers Bill and Rich at sbtcolumn@gmail.com)



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Source: nationalgarlicday.com
Graphic: Staff, TNS

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Sure'nuff, just what's bigger, smaller, narrower in Texas?

(Continued from Page 1)

bigger, and so are the trucks that everyone is driving so rapidly – on wide highways with the skinniest lanes – while texting.

What immediately stood out to all of us in the Belthoff household was if everyone is driving big trucks, why are the parking spots, driveways and garages so darn narrow? There is so much open land here. That's also something that took a bit to get used to.

Where I come from, natural real estate doesn't exist. Land is either occupied with a building or the building was just torn down to be replaced by another, probably a bigger and taller building. And where parking can sometimes be challenging up north, parking lots here are huge.

It took weeks of me holding my breath while pulling the car in the garage before I became comfortable doing it. I'm considering it a supreme win that both cars still have their side view mirrors intact! We won't talk about the ruts in the ground along the sides of the driveway.

The parking lots may be huge, but the spots are super narrow. I liken parking your car between two trucks in a parking lot to be like driving down a narrow calle in Venice. Backing up when your car is flanked

by trucks is even harder, because you can't see anything until you've already hit it. I've made a mental note to not park behind them, either. When these big trucks are backed up, they come within inches of hitting your car if you're parked opposite them in the parking lot.

What is really perplexing is seeing so many trucks on the road, but few are hauling anything. And they're all spotless!

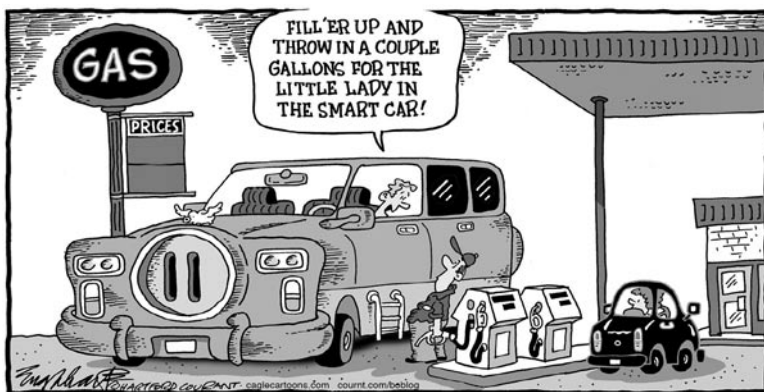
Not only is the truck bed empty, and the vehicle clean, some of them are so big, you can't even fit the darn thing in the garage! I'm still trying to find out what those sharp spikes are that protrude from the front hubcaps. Are they spurs for the truck?

My husband, Alan, and I have become friends with a couple from England. They moved to Texas at

almost the exact same day as we did. Julian is enamored with American's patriotism and not only wishes he were an American, but a Texan – to boot. (pun totally intended.) He's learning how to smoke brisket, got himself a pair of cowboy boots and a nice hat to go with them. And wait for it . . . he's just purchased a big new truck. Really, it's big. I need a step stool in order to get into it. In fact, the last time we went to dinner, I fell getting out of it!

He's not a builder or in the construction industry. The truck is always clean and no, it doesn't fit in his garage. When I asked him, "What made you choose the color?" He smiled and said, "It reminds me of the Texas sky."

Newish Texan B.A. Belthoff welcomes your comments. You can reach her at babelthoff@gmail.com.



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Brazoria County airport selected as 'Best of the Year'

Texas Department of Transportation officials selected Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport as the 2019 General Aviation Airport of the Year.

This Award recognizes an airport that has distinguished itself through its outstanding facilities and operations and that has become essential to the regional transportation system.

The Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport provides outstanding customer service, community support and outstanding facilities for its tenants, TxDOT concluded.

"Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport is a thriving county airport and is a valuable resource to our local economy", said Brazoria County Judge Matt Sebesta.

The award was presented at the 37th Annual Texas Aviation Con-

ference in April. Nancy Wollam, District Director for Speaker Dennis Bonnen, was present at the awards banquet and read a congratulatory letter from Speaker Bonnen. Ms. Wollam also announced the airport would be receiving a Resolution from the Texas House of Representatives recognizing the airport's accomplishments.

Over the years, the airport has undergone improvements, such as the reconstruction of a runway, a new terminal building, the installation of wildlife fencing, the renovation of aprons and ramps, and the building of fixed-based operator hangars.

"These improvements are part of the updated Master Plan to keep Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport a viable and valuable economic

resource", said Airport Manager, Jeff Bilyeu.

In 2016 and 2017, Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport was affected by major flood events. With both of these historic flood events, the airport had to close to all but helicopter traffic, due to lack of access to the airport for more than a week. Airport staff relied on local officials to ferry personnel via airboat and special vehicles, to assess damage to the airport.

Airport management and staff worked tirelessly to keep tenants apprised of the airport's status during each of these flood events. Continuous updates, photos and video were posted daily so tenants could receive updates and important information on the airport's condition and status.

Pick trash up; leave footprints only

(Continued from Page 1)

cast in another direction, and reeling in, he felt a dead tug on the end of his line. He "landed" in a plastic bag full of what was left of someone's lunch, rotten bait and used baby diapers.

They looked around the shoreline of their favorite fishing hole then, to notice all sorts of trash left behind – empty beer bottles and cans, remnants of cigarettes, someone's lost red flip-flop, empty bait containers, plastic bags, assorted plastic beverage bottles, more discarded monofilament. Their perfect day in nature's beauty was ruined.

They did not get in any fishing that day – but they reverently

cleaned up other "sportsmen's" trash out of their "secret" fishing hole. They left the bags of trash in the trash receptacles at the boat ramp. When they left the water that day, they left it with the satisfaction of knowing they had done the right thing.

As our fishermen left the boat ramp, the guys taking their boat out behind them were busy cleaning out that boat before they left the water.

Empty bait containers, beverage bottles and cans, plastic bags, and what lunch was wrapped in - into the water.

They couldn't make it a couple of feet further to put the trash in the receptacles.

Decomposition rates for some common trash found along the Texas Coast



Glass bottle: 1 million years
Monofilament fishing line: 600 years

Plastic beverage bottle: 450 years
Disposable diapers: 450 years
Aluminum cans: 80 to 200 years
Leather: 50 years
Nylon fabric: 30 to 50 years

Plastic bag: 10 to 20 years
Cigarette filter: 1 to 5 years
Plywood: 1 to 3 years

The information on decomposition comes from Bill E. Mills article "Legacy of Litter Sends Challenge to Outdoors Sportsmen" in the June 2009 Saltwater Texas.

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Consequences of getting my young son a pet alligator

By Elizabeth Orendorff

Special to The Bulletin

On a trip to New Orleans, I decided to make my five-year-old son's dream come true, and bought him a small alligator.

The drive home was nerve wracking. Every time my hand got near the glass container, the long-tailed creature snapped at me. But, Chuck would know how to handle him.

My late night arrival was eagerly greeted by my son. He took the new pet to his room, and they fell in love with each other. The next morning I cautiously entered the bedroom to

wake my son and found the alligator asleep on Chuck's stomach. No way was I going to try to move it. "Wake up," I whispered so as not to disturb the reptile.

That didn't work. So I tried louder, and yes, they both woke. Chuck picked it up, gave it a kiss - ugh, then put it in the container.

The neighborhood children came over to view his new friend. An older boy kept teasing the alligator until it caught his finger with its sharp teeth. He vowed revenge.

I got used to it sleeping with my son, and two huge containers of

water blocking the floor in Chuck's bedroom.

One day, returning home from the grocery store, we found our door open. The house had been broken into. While in my room checking to see if my jewelry had been stolen, I heard a loud scream. It was my son, and he sounded like he was dying.

I rushed to his room. The alligator was alive, but barely. Someone had taken one of the bricks in his container and broke his neck. When death came, my son couldn't be consoled.

Thinking to take his mind off the immediate loss, I came up with the bright idea of an alligator funeral. Chuck thought it appropriate and invited the neighborhood.

After lining a shoebox with satin material and digging a grave in one of the flower beds, Chuck placed the reptile in its coffin. Everyone stood around while he talked about his pet and how sad he was to lose him. He ended with: "I know God loves him and will take him to heaven." He placed the box in the hole and said

a prayer.

I covered the grave. We served cookies and Kool Aid for the wake, and all enjoyed reminiscing about Chuck and his alligator.

I thought that's that, but, oh, no. The next morning I found it was far from over.

First thing upon waking up, Chuck went outside and dug the make-shift coffin up to see if God had taken the alligator. He hadn't. After burying him again, I spent the day trying to answer the question, "Why didn't God take him?"

The next morning, we went through the same routine. My explanation remained that God took the spirit, not the physical body, but Chuck was too upset and too young to understand. He kept asking, "Doesn't God love everything?"

Of course, my answer was, yes. What else could a mother say? I didn't know how to convince him to allow the body to rot and be happy that its soul went to God.

A slow learner maybe, but I caught on after the third day. When Chuck went to sleep, I slipped out to the grave and dug up the alligator - again. After disposing of it, I buried

the empty coffin.

The next morning when Chuck woke he rushed outside and opened the grave. He said, "Mom, mom, God took him to heaven to live." We were both happy.

Lesson learned. Don't get a preschooler an alligator.

WalletHub rates 2019's best airlines

With the busy summer travel season making its approach and Boeing under fire after two fatal crashes, WalletHub today released its report on 2019's Best Airlines. WalletHub's study focuses not just on price but also many other aspects of the air travel experience, such as safety, delays, baggage issues, animal incidents, passenger complaints and more.

Best Overall - Alaska Airlines earned the highest overall WalletHub Score (63.52) for the third year in a row, followed by Delta Air Lines (59.69).

Most Reliable - Delta Air Lines has the lowest overall rate of cancellations, delays, mishandled luggage and denied boardings. The next most reliable company is Hawaiian Airlines.

Safety - Alaska Airlines is the safest, having a low number of

incidents and accidents per 100,000 flight operations, no fatalities, under 15 persons injured in the last 6 years and a relatively new fleet of aircrafts. The safety runner-up is Spirit Airlines.

Most Pet-Friendly - Two airlines tied for being most pet-friendly, ExpressJet and Envoy Air, with no incidents.

Most Comfortable - JetBlue Airways leads the pack in terms of in-flight experience, offering free amenities such as Wi-Fi, extra legroom, and complimentary snacks and beverages. Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, Southwest Airlines & Delta Air Lines are tied for the second position for this category.

Tony Jannus conducted the U.S.'s first scheduled commercial airline flight on Jan. 11, 1914 for the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line.



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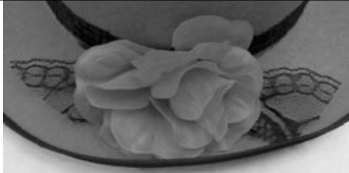
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Red Hat Society

Created in the 1998 among a circle of friends, Red Hat Society Day has blossomed into an international organization intent on celebrating the mature woman.

Source: checkiday.com
Graphic: Staff, TNS

If you like reading The Bulletin each week, pick up an extra copy for a friend.

Farm Bureau program offers grants to youth

The Texas Farm Bureau's Learning from the Ground Up program is helping prepare local students for success in whatever field they choose.

Grants of up to \$500 are awarded through the program to help schools and organizations that work with youth start new gardens or greenhouses or make improvements to existing gardening spaces.

Brazoria County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program and Brazoria County Master Gardeners are two Texas organizations to receive grant funding through the program.

At the JJAEP facility, the funds will be used to grow their garden and expand their agriculture education program. Brazoria County Master Gardeners will use the funds they received to help area schools attend their "Be Something at BEES" field trip program.

The program is designed to give Texas schoolchildren the opportunity to forge a connection between growing their own gardens and what farmers and ranchers do to provide food on a much larger scale.

Additional information on the grant program can be found at www.texasfarmbureau.org/youth.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Koalas have fingerprints so similar to human ones; a forensic scientist might not know the difference if they unknowingly checked.
- John Krasinski once saved a woman from drowning at a beach when he was 17-years-old. A current had swept her 150-yards into the ocean. John's mother was a life-guard and taught him how to swim at an early age, so he was able to swim out and get her.
- According to NASA, optimal naps last between 20 and 30 minutes. However, the perfect nap is 26 minutes long.
- Sixty-four percent of Americans have never left the country.
- Dutch electric trains have been 100 percent powered by wind energy since January of 2017.
- Cows have best friends. They also get stressed when they're apart.

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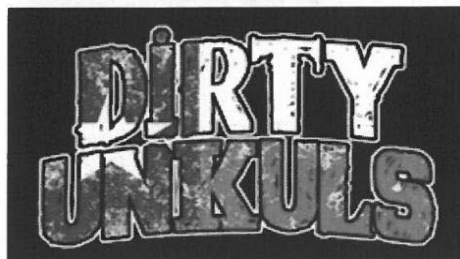
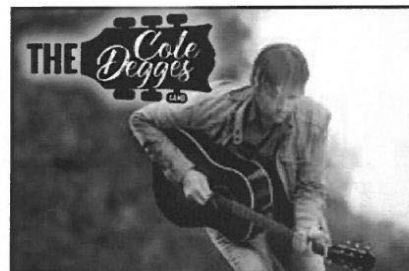
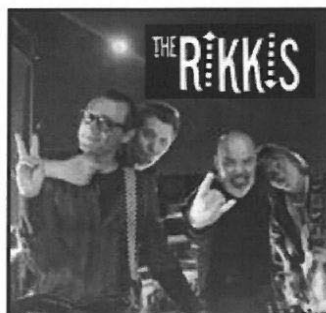
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JUST A REMINDER THAT
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7:30-10:30PM

Friday, May 3	Cole Degges
Friday, May 10	Already Gone
Friday, May 17	Intercoastal Pirates
Friday, May 24	The Rikki's
Friday, May 31	Dirty Unkuls
Friday, June 7	Shotgun Road
Friday, June 14	Checkered Past
Friday, June 21	Hysterimania
Friday, June 28	Slags
Thursday, July 4*	Cole Degges (6pm-9pm)

*This event will have water slides and food trucks



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Brazoria County Library System



..awaits you at a BCLS Library near you !

Explore a universe of stories and genres this summer as part of the 2019 Summer Reading program. Fun begins on June 1 and runs through July 31 with clubs for kids, teens and adults. Online pre-registration begins on May 15, at bcls.lib.tx.us. You can sign

up as a family to make it easier or register individual members. You can also sign up at your local Brazoria County Library branch beginning June 1.

Everyone has the opportunity to earn prizes for reading. Many branch prizes have been donated by area businesses. Kids and teens are eligible to win County Grand Prizes, which include Digiland tablets, LEGO building sets, and a beginner's telescope kit.

The Grand Prizes will be awarded live on Facebook Live on Friday, August 2nd. Tune in to see if you've won!

Each of the system's 12 libraries offer great programs and events throughout the summer. Learn about area reptiles from Texas Master Naturalists. Discover various ships throughout time with the Brazoria County Historical Museum. Learn about Tesla coils and the electricity they create. Participate in crafting, gaming, teen parties and much more.

Each library posts a calendar of summer events on their individual webpages and at the library. All programs are free to the public, however seating and materials for each program is limited. Contact your local library for more information about programs,

events, and activities.

Brazoria County Library System's Summer Reading Clubs will help you and your family discover whole new worlds! Join us this summer at a BCLS library near you!

Sponsors for our Summer Reading Clubs include: Brazoria County Library System Foundation, Crocodile Encounter of Angleton, Plantation Quilting Guild, Whataburger, the Houston Zoo and the Friends of the Library organization at each branch. Blast off into the Universe of Stories!

Visit our webpage for more info:

<http://bcls.lib.tx.us>

Summer Lunch Program Continues at BCLS

Beginning in June, the Houston Food Bank Kids Café Program will provide free lunches to kids 18 and under in the following libraries.

Alvin Branch: Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00— 1:00 p.m. and at the Angleton Library: Monday – Friday from 12:00—1:00 p.m.



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How to distinguish fake news from the real thing

By Ernie Williamson
The Bulletin

Let me say this upfront: This column is biased in support of newspapers.

Whether struggling big-city dailies or thriving community weeklies like this one, whether online or in print, it is my opinion newspapers are vital to democracy and a force for social good.

But I am worried about the future of “news” in this country. I am worried too many Americans now see newspapers as old news. Instead, they get their news from dark places on the Internet and spread it on Facebook and Twitter. Facts get ignored, conspiracy theories take hold.

Since I have spent almost my entire life working for newspapers, would you expect me to think any other way?

My journalism career began when I complained to my hometown newspaper that it was ignoring the local high school basketball team. I just happened to play on that team. The publisher asked me to cover it myself. Not yet versed in journalism ethics, I would play a game, go home and write a story. So much for Friday night dates. I was hooked.

It has been quite a journey. I have taken notes while sitting in a fire truck in New Franklin, Mo. while the city council, meeting in the fire house, discussed a dog leash law.

I have interviewed Gen. William Westmoreland in Vietnam about the war and Debbie Reynolds in Beverly Hills about her remembrances of being elected Miss Burbank of 1950.

Most of my career was spent as a senior editor at the defunct Houston Post and later at the Houston Chronicle. I have dealt with wars, hurricanes, shuttle disasters, political upheaval and more murders than I can remember.

Now, in retirement, it is time to vent.

As mentioned, I am angered and appalled that some Americans disparage newspapers while at the same time promoting material on social networks that is not only false, but often intentionally false.

This is not to say newspapers don't make mistakes. They do ... and I have. But I have never written or edited anything that I knew to be inaccurate or unfair. And I don't personally know any journalists who have.

Unfortunately, I don't think we can say that about many of the items posted on websites and social

The View from My Seat

networks. The question is what to do about it without weakening the First Amendment.

Facebook recently banned seven of its most controversial users – many of whom are conservatives – immediately inflaming the debate about the power and accountability of large technology companies.

While I won't shed many tears that Alex Jones and Louis Farrakhan have been evicted by Facebook, I think another option is for us all to become better consumers of news. We need to arm ourselves with the knowledge of what makes a credible news source.

Here is my simple checklist to help you tell whether a news source is trying to be fair:

1. Does your news source include responses from the accused in articles? Subjects of stories deserve a chance to respond whether they are public officials or private citizens.
2. Does the headline reflect the essence of the story? Headlines are often written by someone other

than the reporter. They are written to entice readers into the story. Online sites often go overboard because they need the clicks.

3. Does the story rely on anonymous sources? Granting anonymity isn't bad as long as the rules are obeyed. The New York Times, for example, requires anonymous sources be used only for information it thinks is newsworthy and credible and can't be reported any other way. Besides the reporter, at least one editor must know the identity of the source. Usually the story will offer a hint as to why the source is anonymous.

4. Does it use loaded words? A simple adjective can get even the best reporters in trouble. Buzz words like right-wing and left-wing, or liberal and conservative, are often used carelessly.

5. How does a news source handle corrections and mistakes? Everyone makes errors. Correcting them is important. The Chronicle reported last year that a reporter resigned after being accused of making up quotes. I am glad the newspaper came clean, launched an independent investigation and retracted eight stories and corrected 64 others.

6. Does your news source separate news from opinion? That is important, and that is why I have told you this is my opinion. Thanks for hearing me out.
(Ernie Williamson welcomes reader input. Please contact Ernie at williamsonernie@gmail.com)

Jarrold D. Smith to speak at B'port College commencement ceremonies

Brazosport College has invited local attorney and professional auctioneer Jarrod D. Smith as its 2018-19 Spring Commencement speaker.

It is scheduled for Saturday,

May 11, at the Dow Academic Center. Two commencement ceremonies will be held, the first at 10 a.m. followed by another ceremony at 2 p.m.



Smith

The 10 a.m. commencement is for Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS) and Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) graduates, while the 2 p.m. commencement will be for Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT), Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and Associate of Applied Science (AAS) graduates.

Smith is a lifelong resident of Brazoria County. He was raised in Danbury and attended the University of Houston-Clear Lake and Texas Southern University-School of Law. Smith was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 2007 and began his law practice the same year, focusing on a wide range of legal issues, including real estate transactions.

In 2008, Smith began working in the title insurance industry and now owns the fee attorney offices of Alamo Title in Angleton, Lake Jackson and Alvin.

Smith has used his talents as a professional auctioneer to help raise millions of dollars for local churches, schools, foundations and other non-profit organizations throughout the state.

Smith is a past commissioner on the Emergency Services District #3 Board and a past member of Angleton's Downtown Revitalization Committee. In 2012, he was named an “Unsung Hero” by “The Facts” newspaper for his efforts to give back to his community and, in 2016, he was recognized as a “Leader Under 40.”

Smith was previously named “Young Philanthropist of the Year” by the Community Foundation of Brazoria County. In 2016, he was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to the Board of Directors for the Brazos River Authority.

Smith is also a founding member of “Demi's Difference,” a 501c3 charitable organization formed in honor of his daughter, Demi Smith, who passed away in 2014.

He is married to his wife of 14 years, Haley, and has twin 10-year-old daughters, Hannah and Madeline, two-year-old Sunny Faith and daughter in Heaven, Demi.

Smith will speak at both Brazosport College Commencement ceremonies.

For more information about Brazosport College's Commencement ceremonies, visit www.brazosport.edu/commencement.

Brazoria museum celebrates Int'l Museum Day May 18

The Brazoria Historical Museum will be celebrating International Museum Day on May 18. Please stop by the museum at 202 West Smith Street, Brazoria, and see the history of our county. A proclamation was read at the Brazoria City Council meeting on May 14 for the museum.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Abraham Lincoln's son, Robert Lincoln, was present for three out of four U.S. presidential assassinations of his lifetime. When asked to attend a presidential event, he declined stating, “there is a certain fatality about presidential functions when I am present.”
- Bugs Bunny had a pretty unhealthy diet. Carrots shouldn't be fed to rabbits often because they don't naturally eat root vegetables. They're high in sugar and should only be an occasional treat.
- Stan Lee was technically the highest-grossing actor in the world. The income from all the Marvel movies he appeared in is greater than \$20 billion.
- Bea Arthur (Dorothy from “The Golden Girls”) was a Marine in WWII before finding fame as an actress and singer.



Property tax protesting is not one of my favorite activities

(Continued from Page 1)

to be some way to keep property assessments reasonable for people who are not flipping houses or moving anywhere in the foreseeable future.

The parking lots around the courthouse and building where the appraisal district offices are were packed. This is going to take a while, I thought. People are probably jammed in the hallway, like last time.

I finally found a spot and headed over to the office, which was, to my surprise, empty.

"Either there is court going on, or the third floor is packed, judging from all the cars," I said to the friendly receptionist.

"It's the courts," she replied, and sent me on my way to the third floor, which was also empty of people – just me, sitting in a chair for a few minutes, waiting to see an appraiser.

Then I got to make my case.

"I know that values around us have been going up," but this is the same house you assessed in 2015 and before that," I started. "I'm not going anywhere, and this year's appraisal is way too high."

What do I base that on? Numbers on the appraisal notice. She didn't ask me anything about surrounding values. She could look that up. I know what has been built around me, but I can't help that. I didn't make the market go crazy. I've been living in the same house since 1989.

There are a lot of memories in that house. We raised a family, celebrated many birthdays, weathered a few hurricanes. We have good neighbors.

The neighborhood is safe and family friendly. There is nothing wrong with it, except for the fact that values in the city are artificially being driven up by high demand and low supply.

The appraiser was looking on her computer screen and stayed busy on the keyboard the whole time I was talking. I better shut up and let her work, I thought, so I stopped talking, even though I was in the middle of commenting about something off-topic. I think it was softball.

The house value came down to almost the same level as last year. I understand that you can't stop progress, and it had to go up some. We agreed. I really didn't want to go through a formal protest. It was a good deal, and I took it – for now.

I have to give credit to the appraisal district employees, who treated me with the utmost courtesy.

"I'm glad we could work it out," said the appraiser.

"I am too. I'll probably come see you next year again," I replied as we shook hands.

That was painless and turned out better than I expected, especially minus the long waiting line.

There is no savings realized yet. That may or may not occur when the taxing entities set their rates later this year for 2020. That's when the new value is applied to the new rate.

If the entity keeps the property tax rate the same or higher, that leads to a tax increase. If they lower it to the effective rate, then your taxes will be the same as this year. The effective rate is the rate that would

generate the same amount of revenue as in the previous year.

I know that government entities need taxes to provide services, and I really don't have any problems with paying my fair share. But taxing entities also have to realize that not all property owners can grow money on trees – oranges, yes, but not money.

If you missed the May 15 protest deadline, dear reader, keep an eye on what your local governments are

doing when the time comes to set a tax rate. They do it in public, and discuss it thoroughly before taking a vote.

If you don't like crowds, those public meetings are a good place to go. Chances are that you'll be one of the few people there to give your opinion on the tax rate.

Even if things don't go your way – all the way – you'll get a good view of how your local government works.



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SIDELINE CHATTER

By Dwight Perry

The Seattle Times (TNS)

Bride-to-be ticked off about NFL draft

Not everybody in Nashville, Tenn., was overjoyed to see the city hosting this year's NFL draft.

One group of women — unaware that the event was booked there — arrived for their bachelorette party, only to discover all the bars and hotels were swamped.

"We come here to listen to coun-

SPORTS STORIES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

try music, not hang out with football boys," the bride-to-be, identified only as Cara, told WZTV.

Added Cyndi, one of her bridesmaids: "I'll tell you who's going to pay for this: my husband. No football next season. No Super Bowl. Because my friend only gets married once; draft happens every year."

Birds take flight

Orioles hurlers yielded 73 home runs through April — 20 more than

any other pitching staff — putting them on pace to yield a record 394 this season.

On the bright side, though, the team just had a new marketing slogan land in its lap: "Every night is Ball Night!"

There's an 'E' in Seattle

The fumble-fingered Mariners, meanwhile, entered May on pace to commit a whopping 187 errors this season.

So if the M's host a Sesame Street Night this season, chances are it'll be brought to you by the letter "E."

Mustn't-see TV

The mayor of Binalonan, a small town in the Philippines, has banned gossiping.

Here's guessing that all those NFL draft shows aren't a big hit there.

Say it ain't Ko, Oh

Golfer Lydia Ko and instructor Ted Oh have parted ways.

Ko and Oh a no-go? So ... where's Abbott and Costello when we really need them?

And ... yer out!

The Red Sox, frustrated by their slow start, have banned "Fortnite" from the clubhouse.

The video game or the first two weeks of the season?

Punching out

Cardinals pitcher Alex Reyes broke a finger slugging a wall in frustration following a bad performance. In other words, one strike and he's out.

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Follow Noah's lead and trust in God

Q: During the Christmas season my family visited the Creation Museum. It was fascinating. The children learned more truth about creation than they will ever learn in school. The question remains, why did Noah find grace in the eyes of the Lord? - C.E.

A: This is an epic story - one that fascinates everyone. God told Noah to "build an ark." Noah was perhaps the most unlikely seaman. He knew nothing about sailing the high seas, and he certainly was at a loss as to how to build a boat. But he believed God.

Noah chopped down trees to build an enormous ark on dry land - far from any ocean - because God was going to send a great flood. Destruction was coming to a godless society. People laughed and mocked Noah, but through his obedience and faith in God, he was the first person in the Bible to

be called righteous.

Centuries after Noah lived Jesus spoke of him. The Bible says that in the days of Noah the world was filled with violence.

People loved sin - they idolized sin; they were immersed in sin. The flood was not a natural catastrophe but a moral tsunami. God brought judgment on people who disbelieved Him.

Noah's building project took 100 years as people heard Noah declare God's warning, but only Noah and his family climbed aboard the great boat with the animals. It had never rained upon the earth. People scoffed, but Noah believed God and survived the greatest catastrophe the world has ever known.

This is a call to those who do not know that Christ wants to save those from drowning in sin. He wants to lift them up out of the turbulent waters and set them on higher ground. Don't delay in accepting His salvation.

Tribune Media Services

(Send your queries to "My Answer," c/o Billy Graham, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, 1 Billy Graham Parkway, Charlotte, N.C., 28201; call 1-(877) 2-GRAHAM, or visit the Web site for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association: www.billygraham.org.)



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Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, TNS Photo Service



Try This

Stopping the freeze

In this experiment, you will see whether salt has any effect on the way water freezes.

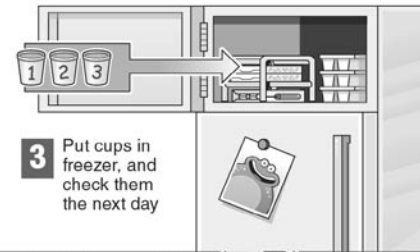
You'll need

- Table salt
- Three clean disposable cups (paper, plastic or foam)
- Spoon • Marker
- Refrigerator

2 Pour water in each cup almost to top; stir 1 and 2 until salt dissolves



3 Put cups in freezer, and check them the next day



1 Put 3 tablespoons of salt in one cup and mark it "1"



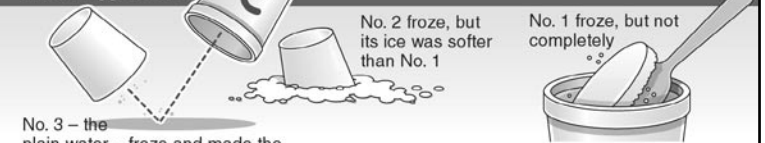
Put 1 tablespoon of salt in another cup and mark it "2"



Mark last cup "3" but don't put any salt in it



What happened?



No. 3 — the plain water — froze and made the hardest, most solid ice

No. 2 froze, but its ice was softer than No. 1

No. 1 froze, but not completely

In No. 1, the water will be extremely salty and the ice much less salty because the water was too salty to freeze

Graphic: Paul Trap and Helen Lee McComas, TNS
Source: University of Western Ontario Hands-On Science

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Bulletin Horoscope

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Everything will turn out fine if you act on your intuitions in the week ahead. Your love life could experience some rocky spots but using honesty and sincerity will overcome any potential misunderstandings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your tough as nails attitude can help with business decisions in the upcoming week. As your ambitions grow, getting ahead in the material world could become a top priority. Focus on being organized to reach your goals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Sometimes the person who gives the best advice might not have the best delivery, listen to the message. In the week ahead focus on money-making activities that have shown a proven profit and accept help when it is offered.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Acting on your fantasies could bring fairy tale endings. Your creative genius may be energized during the week ahead allowing you to turn your ideas into money for your pockets. Always work smart, not just hard.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your career or job could be of primary importance in the upcoming week. You may be expected to comply with high standards or follow a set of specific rules. You will be up to the challenge and prove your value.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your knowledge fresh when it comes to technology, your computer smarts make you extremely marketable. You may struggle to decipher messages this week, keeping current with the latest trends can help communication.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In the upcoming week, you may be more focused on your job and health. Real teamwork is not only more productive, it's more rewarding, too. A partner or loved one could challenge you to up your work ethic.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stay on top of your obligations and don't waste resources when good fortune comes your way. As this week unfolds you might be tempted to take more risks than usual, rely on your good sense to keep you afloat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Every penny counts in the week ahead; be smart with money matters. You might find yourself cashing in those pennies at the bank or a local cash machine right now, but your overall financial picture is getting brighter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Concentrate on making your ambitions a reality. Achieving your goals might require passing up social invitations and putting in some extra work hours. It is possible to enjoy being alone instead of brooding on loneliness.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An opportunity to take a calculated risk with money may appear this week and you should grab it. If you play your cards right, you could create a lasting source of income. A partner will have some practical ideas for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Others might think you are not paying attention to practicalities, but you are more capable than anyone knows. In the week to come, your ideas could fall into place and start something of value, to your surprise and delight.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZIREP

INGAA

BULMET

EEENDL

A:

Answer: He tried to build a working teleporter, but his plans never - MATERIALIZED

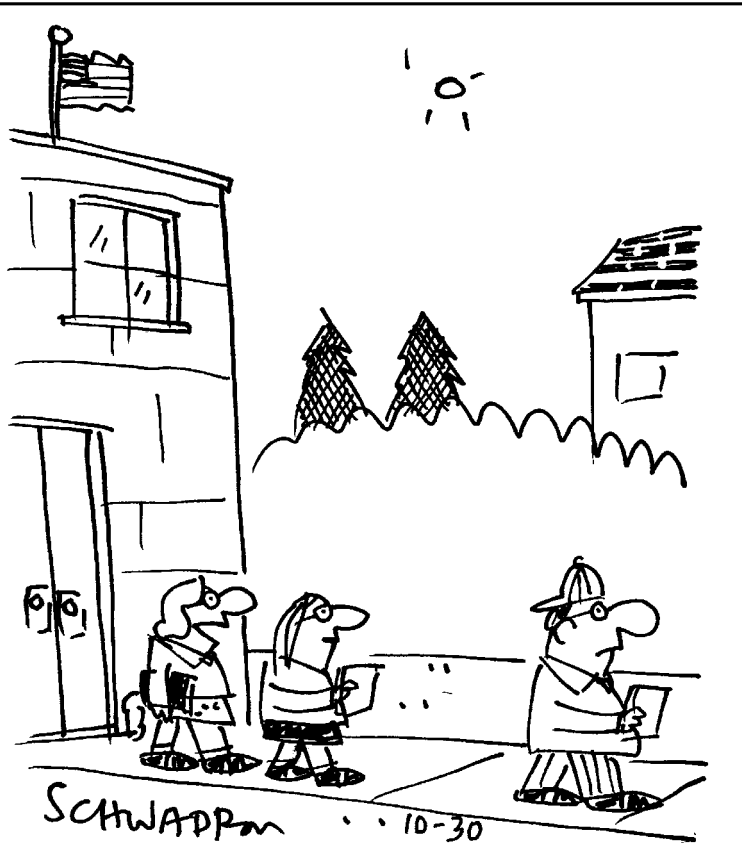


HE TRIED TO BUILD A WORKING TELEPORTER, BUT HIS PLANS NEVER ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

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"Kevin is so boring, no one hacks his data."

History of the World On This Day

MAY 14

1787 - Delegates began gathering in Philadelphia for a convention to draw up the U.S. Constitution.

1796 - The first smallpox vaccination was given by Edward Jenner.

1853 - Gail Borden applied for a patent for condensed milk.

1897 - Guglielmo Marconi made the first communication by wireless telegraph.

MAY 15

1602 - Cape Cod was discovered by Bartholomew Gosnold.

1856 - Lyman Frank Baum, author of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," was born.

1862 - The U.S. Congress created the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

MAY 16

1770 - Marie Antoinette, at age 14, married the future King Louis XVI of France, who was 15.

1866 - The U.S. Congress autho-

rized the first 5-cent piece to be minted.

1868 - U.S. President Andrew Johnson was acquitted during the Senate impeachment, by one vote.

1881 - In Germany, the first electric tram for the public started service.

MAY 17

1792 - The New York Stock Exchange was founded at 70 Wall Street by 24 brokers.

1875 - The first Kentucky Derby was run at Louisville, KY.

1877 - The first telephone switchboard burglar alarm was installed by Edwin T. Holmes.

MAY 18

1506 - In Spain, Christopher Columbus died in poverty.

1774 - Britain's Parliament passed the Coercive Acts to punish the American colonists for their increasingly anti-British behavior

1775 - North Carolina became the first colony to declare its

independence. This is the date that is on the George state flag even though the date of this event has been questioned.

MAY 19

1536 - Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after she was convicted of adultery.

1856 - U.S. Senator Charles Sumner spoke out against slavery.

MAY 20

1775 - North Carolina became the first colony to declare its independence. This is the date that is on the George state flag even though the date of this event has been questioned.

1861 - North Carolina became the eleventh state to secede from the Union.

1899 - Jacob German of New York City became the first driver to be arrested for speeding. The posted speed limit was 12 miles per hour.

SCRABBLE® G R A M S

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A ₁	I ₁	U ₁	D ₂	R ₁	N ₁	T ₁	RACK 1
A ₁	E ₁	E ₁	I ₁	T ₁	V ₄	D ₂	RACK 2
A ₁	E ₁	U ₁	R ₁	Q ₁₀	T ₁	T ₁	3rd Letter Double RACK 3
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	L ₁	P ₃	D ₂	Triple Word Score RACK 4
A ₁	O ₁	G ₂	H ₄	N ₁	G ₂	D ₂	RACK 5

PAR SCORE 260-270
BEST SCORE 329

FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgams@gmail.com

Scramble solutions: use a mirror to check your answers

NOITUTOLN SOLUTION 2 M A R G SCRABBLE 2

28	= 1	RACK 1 =	D ₂	R ₁	A ₁	T ₁	N ₁	N ₁	U ₁
61	= 2	RACK 2 =	E ₁	T ₁	A ₁	V ₄	E ₁	D ₂	
67	= 3	RACK 3 =	T ₁	E ₁	T ₁	R ₁	A ₁	U ₁	Q ₁₀
80	= 4	RACK 4 =	L ₁	A ₁	P ₃	I ₁	D ₂	E ₁	O ₁
63	= 5	RACK 5 =	G ₂	O ₁	D ₂	G ₂	N ₁	A ₁	H ₄
329	JATOT	PAR SCORE 260-270							

DID YOU KNOW?

- A convicted deer poacher in Missouri has to watch the movie "Bambi" at least once a month during his year-long sentence.
- Pumbaa from "The Lion King" was the first Disney character to ever pass gas on screen.
- People who are overly jealous in relationships may have Othello's syndrome. A primarily neurological disorder, not a psychiatric one.
- If the Earth were scaled down to the size of a golf ball, our sun would be more than 28 feet across.
- Male hippos use their tails to fling their poop and impress females.
- In the television show "I Love Lucy," Lucy Ricardo's maiden name is McGillicuddy.
- Modern-day whales evolved from sea creatures that evolved into land mammals which evolved back into sea creatures.

MR. MORRIS

By Rick Brooks



BROOM HILDA

By Russel Myers



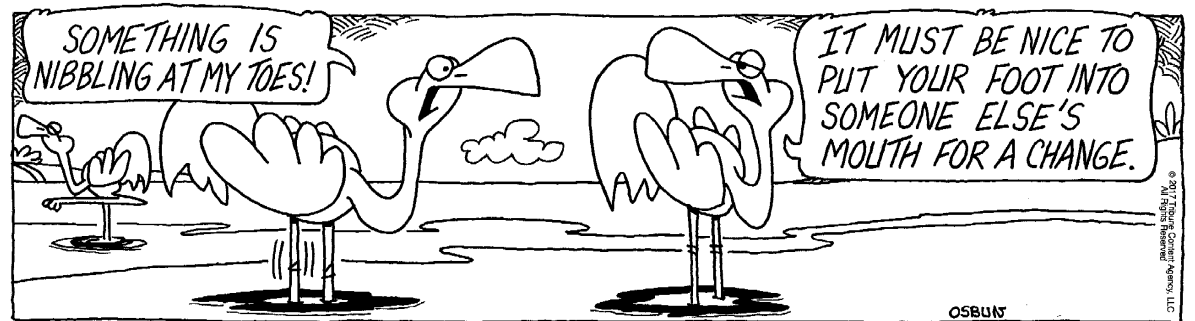
CHARMY'S ARMY

By Davey Jones



ANIMAL CRACKERS

By Fred Wagner



THE MIDDLETONS

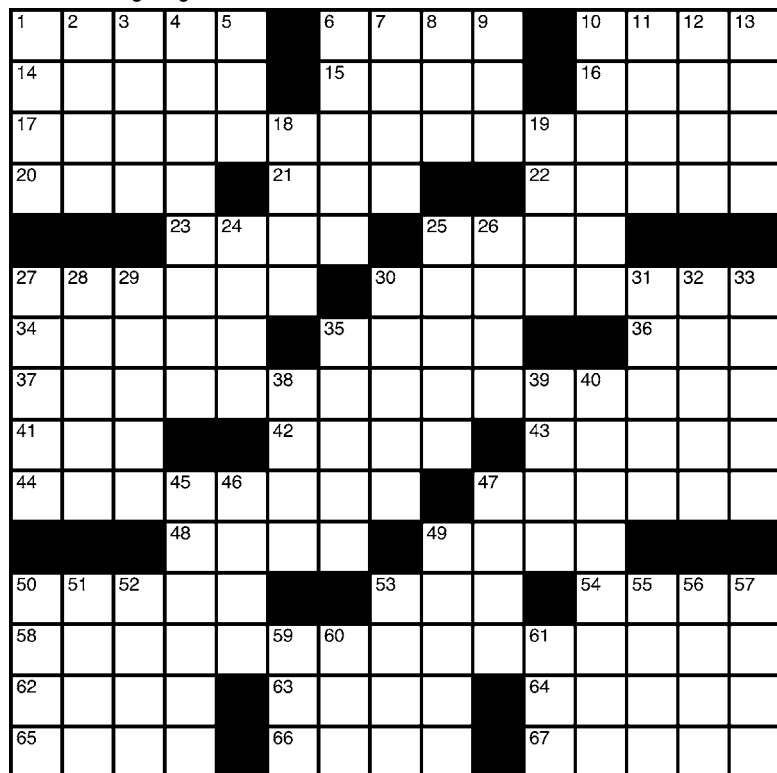
By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers



Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

ACROSS

- 1 First assassin to attack Caesar
- 6 Marvel Comics mutants
- 10 Folk singer Joan
- 14 Arctic or Indian
- 15 Bit of trickery
- 16 In the style of, in ristorantes
- 17 End that "I face," in Sinatra's "My Way"
- 20 Feudal laborer
- 21 Popeye's Olive
- 22 Given to giving orders
- 23 Grounded Aussie birds
- 25 Twirl or whirl
- 27 Gentlemen's partners
- 30 It has 32 pieces and a 64-square board
- 34 Surrounded by
- 35 ___ accompli
- 36 Often rolled-over investment
- 37 Prepare to fly
- 41 Kind
- 42 Self-images
- 43 Gold bar



Solutions on the right side of this page

In memory of Greg Wilkinson

VocabPower!

Some of the most colorful writing today comes from the pen of sportswriters, such as award-winning Gary Smith whose *Sports Illustrated* article birthed the film *Radio*. Words gleaned from another one of his *SI* pieces follow.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. diction
A. meaning C. tendency
B. emphasis D. word choice</p> <p>2. adroitly
A. w/o water C. skillfully
B. secretly D. humanly</p> <p>3. implode
A. collapse C. fill w/air
B. expose D. place w/in</p> <p>4. tenacious
A. peerless C. persevering
B. monstrous D. ending in zero</p> <p>5. exculpatory
A. at blame C. past tense
B. beheaded D. vindicating</p> | <p>6. shards
A. fragments C. shavings
B. robes D. con men</p> <p>7. necrosis
A. cell death C. favoritism
B. oddity D. archenemy</p> <p>8. stenosis
A. stammering C. handwriting
B. bad breath D. constriction</p> <p>9. salvo
A. victory C. ointment
B. discharge D. greeting</p> <p>10. simpatico
A. rhythm C. compatible
B. porch D. in mourning</p> |
|--|---|

answers: 10c 9b 10c 8d 9b 10c 7a 8d 9b 10c 6a 7a 8d 9b 10c 5d 4c 3a 2c 1d — Greg Wilkinson

- 44 Vital phase
- 47 Decadent, as the snobs in a historic Agnew speech
- 48 Blessed
- 49 Get-out-of-jail money
- 50 Drinks with floating ice cream
- 53 Windy City summer hrs.
- 54 Jersey or Guernsey
- 58 Broadway do-or-die philosophy, and a hint to the ends of 17-, 30-, 37- and 44-Across
- 62 Informal negative
- 63 "No ___!": "Easy!"
- 64 Brief
- 65 Activist Parks
- 66 Words meaning the same thing: Abbr.
- 67 Furry swimmer

DOWN

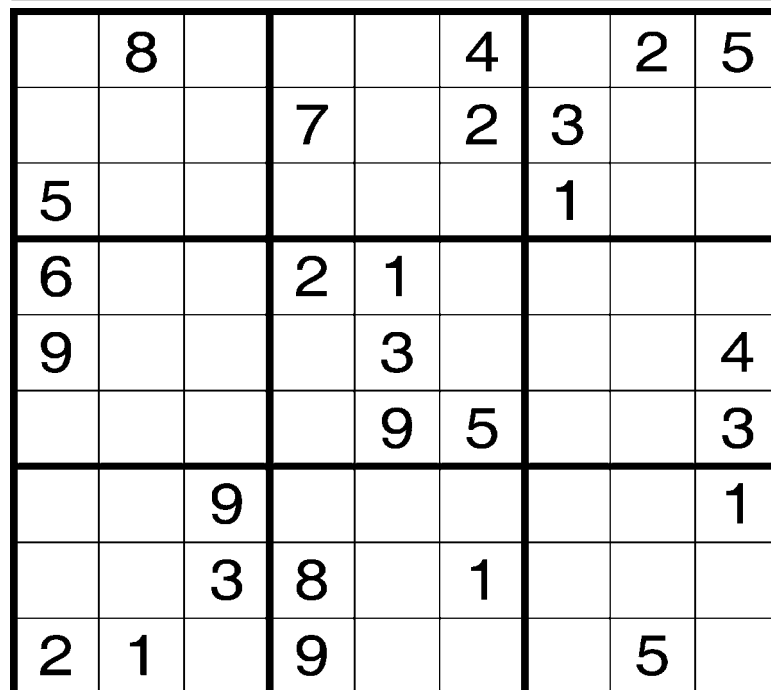
- 1 Emergency shelter beds
- 2 Throb
- 3 Fortuneteller
- 4 The jolt in joe?
- 5 "Give me ___!": start of a Hoosier cheer
- 6 Diagnostic tests
- 7 Ponder (over)
- 8 Top-left PC key
- 9 Modern, in Munich
- 10 Twirled sticks
- 11 "That's a shame"
- 12 Yale alumni
- 13 Madcap
- 18 We, to Henri
- 19 Grand slam homer quartet, briefly
- 24 Prefix with hit or store
- 25 Backs up in fear
- 26 Cats and dogs
- 27 Eye surgery acronym
- 28 More than enough
- 29 Foolish, in slang
- 30 Easily tipped boat
- 31 Burn slightly
- 32 Rye grass disease
- 33 Try, as food
- 35 Swimming in pea soup?
- 38 Hand out cards
- 39 Coffeehouse connection
- 40 Like airplane services
- 45 California peak
- 46 British balderdash
- 47 Food, in diner signs
- 49 Buffalo Wild Wings nickname based on its initials
- 50 Marquee name
- 51 Cincinnati's state
- 52 Family rooms
- 53 "Let's get goin'!"
- 55 Chimney sweep's sweepings
- 56 Passed-down knowledge
- 57 ___'acte: intermission
- 59 Covert or black doings
- 60 Droll
- 61 Chinese menu general

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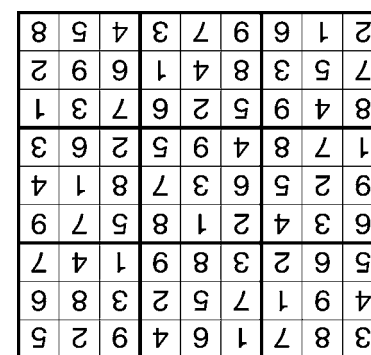
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



Solutions

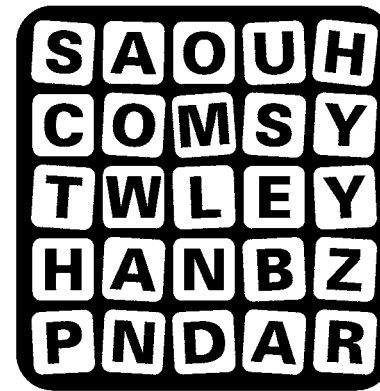


INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE
 3 letters = 1 point
 4 letters = 2 points
 5 letters = 3 points
 6 letters = 4 points
 7 letters = 6 points
 8 letters = 10 points
 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING
 151+ = Champ
 101-150 = Expert
 61-100 = Pro
 31-60 = Gamer
 21-30 = Rookie
 11-20 = Amateur
 0-10 = Try again

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
 We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?
 Find AT LEAST EIGHT FIVE-LETTER MAMMALS in the grid of letters.

BOGGLE is a trademark of Hasbro, Inc. MOOSE MOUSE ZEBRA CAMEL HYENA WHALE PANDA SLOTH

Preventing colon cancer with screening, early detection

Mayo Clinic News Network (TNS)

There are some lifestyle changes that may lower your risk of developing colon cancer. But one of the most important steps you can take at your age is getting the recommended colon cancer screening. Although early-stage colon cancer rarely causes symptoms, screening exams can detect the disease early — sometimes even before it's become cancer — when it often can be treated effectively.

Colon cancer affects about

1 in 20 people. In most cases, symptoms of colon cancer, such as persistent abdominal pain, rectal bleeding or blood in the stool, don't appear until the disease is in its advanced stages.

Age is one of the most significant risk factors for colon cancer. Most cases are diagnosed in people older than 50. Therefore, screening begins at 50 for people with an average risk of developing colon cancer. Some people with an increased risk, such as those with a family history of colon cancer, may

need to start screening sooner.

Colonoscopy is the most common colon cancer screening test. During a colonoscopy, a long, flexible tube, called a colonoscope, is inserted into the rectum. A tiny video camera at the tip of the tube allows your health care provider to detect changes or abnormalities inside the entire colon.

Other colon cancer screening tests are available, too. One is computerized tomography (CT) colonography — sometimes called a virtual colonoscopy. It uses CT imaging to produce a detailed view of the inside of the colon and rectum. It doesn't require insertion of a scope into the colon.

Another alternative is the fecal immunochemical test. This lab test checks stool samples for microscopic amounts of blood shed from colon cancer that may not be visible to the human eye.

The newest screening option is the multitarget stool DNA test. This test looks for DNA molecules that colon cancer and polyps may shed into stool, in addition to hemoglobin.



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How to win the bad breath battle

Mayo Clinic News Network (TNS)

There are many causes of bad breath, also called halitosis. Your mouth may be the source. The breakdown of food particles and other debris by bacteria in and around your teeth can cause a foul odor. If your mouth becomes dry, such as during sleep or after smoking, dead cells can accumulate and decompose on your tongue, gums and cheeks, causing odor. Eating foods containing oils with strong odor, such as onions and garlic, can lead to bad breath. Foul-smelling breath also may be a symptom of illness, such as lung disease, diabetes or liver failure.

To reduce or prevent bad breath, you should:

Brush teeth after eating

Keep a toothbrush at work to use after eating. Brush using a fluoride-containing toothpaste at least twice a day, especially after meals. Toothpaste with antibacterial properties has been shown to reduce bad breath odors.

Floss at least once a day

Proper flossing removes food particles and plaque from between your teeth, helping control bad breath.

Brush your tongue

Your tongue harbors bacteria, so

carefully brushing it may reduce odors. People who have a coated tongue from a significant overgrowth of bacteria, such as smoking or dry mouth may benefit from using a tongue scraper.

Clean dentures or dental appliances

If you wear a bridge or a denture, clean it thoroughly at least once a day or as directed by your dentist. If you have a dental retainer or mouthguard, clean it each time before you put it in your mouth.

Home remedies

Drink plenty of water to avoid dry mouth

To keep your mouth moist, avoid tobacco and drink plenty of water — not coffee, soft drinks or alcohol, which can lead to a drier mouth. Chew gum or suck on candy — preferably sugarless — to stimulate saliva.

Adjust your diet

Avoid foods such as onions and garlic that can cause bad breath. Eating a lot of sugary foods also is linked with bad breath.

Get a new toothbrush

Change your toothbrush when it becomes frayed — about every three to four months. Also, choose a soft-bristled toothbrush.

FARMERS
INSURANCE



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