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Dickens on the Strand free ticket winners
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Your Christmas trees can save our beaches
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Tipflation: Is tipping culture out of control?

By Ernie Williamson

The Bulletin

"It's a mess," read a headline in the Washington Post.

These days the headline could have referred to almost anything. The war in Ukraine. The war in the Middle East. Our dysfunctional Congress.

But the headline was referring to a story on the American culture of tipping. The story was based on a Pew Research survey.

The survey points out that when it comes to when, where and how much to tip, confusion and consternation reign.

The View from My Seat

And part of the consternation arises from a trend being called "tipflation."

According to the Pew study, 72 percent of us say tipping is expected in more places today than five years ago.

And, according to the survey, even as we say we are being asked to tip more often, relatively few of us have much confidence in how and when to do so.

Only 34 percent of us say it is easy to know when to tip for different services, and only 33 percent say it is easy to determine how much to pay.

"Tipflation" certainly does not rival all the other "messes" out there, but it does impact our wallets. And I must admit, it does seem increasingly hard to know how much to tip these days, even in restaurants.

While 15 percent used to be the restaurant standard, these days 20 percent is largely viewed as most acceptable.

Some restaurants will automatically add a gratuity, which is often done to guarantee

(See **TIPFLATION** on Page 6)

The Weekly Bulletin

November 28, 2023

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My possum encounters lack grace, but I tried to be a good neighbor

By Jase Graves
Special to The Bulletin

According to my extensive research (approximately five minutes on Google when I should have been folding underwear), the Chinese zodiac system assigns an animal symbol to each year.

It is believed that people born in a given year

have the personality of that year's animal. For example, based on the placemats at my favorite Chinese buffet, I was born in the Year of the Dog, which means I am loyal, honest and difficult to housebreak.

Although it has absolutely nothing to do with the Chinese zodiac

What's Wrong with Daddy?

system, I am hereby declaring this year to be the Year of the Possum! The common possum (also known as the "opossum," "roadkill" or "hissing rat-kitty") is actually a marsupial, meaning that when possums feel threatened, they hiss with a strong Australian accent. They vaguely

resemble a small house cat who spent a drunken night on the town with a set of malfunctioning Norelco clippers.

"So why this sudden interest in possums?" you probably aren't asking. Within the past two months, I've had two encounters with these repulsive, yet somehow endearing creatures.

(See **POSSUM** on Page 7)



I went to search for a tape recorder without any tape

Then I found that my smartphone already has an app for that

By John Toth

The Bulletin

I went to shop for a sound recorder. We called them tape recorders back in the days when I last used one.

While I pride myself with keeping up, for the most part, with technol-

John's Ramblings

ogy, I admit that I slacked off in this department. Since I quit the Houston Chronicle to become co-owner of The Bulletin, I have never needed one.

I still have my bulky shoe box Panasonic tape recorder I used to lug along to Brazoria County Commissioners Court meetings, and my smaller mini Sony cassette tape recorder, which was less of a

(See **RECORD** on Page 5)

Baseball has history of betting, throwing-games scandals

How Hall-of-Famer Ty Cobb participated in the 1926 scandal that was hush-hush

By Joe Guzzardi

Special to The Bulletin

World Series 2023 had the lowest television ratings in history. There's no need to belabor the whys and wherefores. Instead of listening to the ceaseless chatter of announcer John Smoltz, fans would be better off acquainting themselves with the game's rich history.

A good start: Read Dan Taylor's "Baseball at the Abyss," which takes a deep dive into the forgotten 1926 scandal that involved Hall-of-Fame greats Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker, as the principal scoundrels.

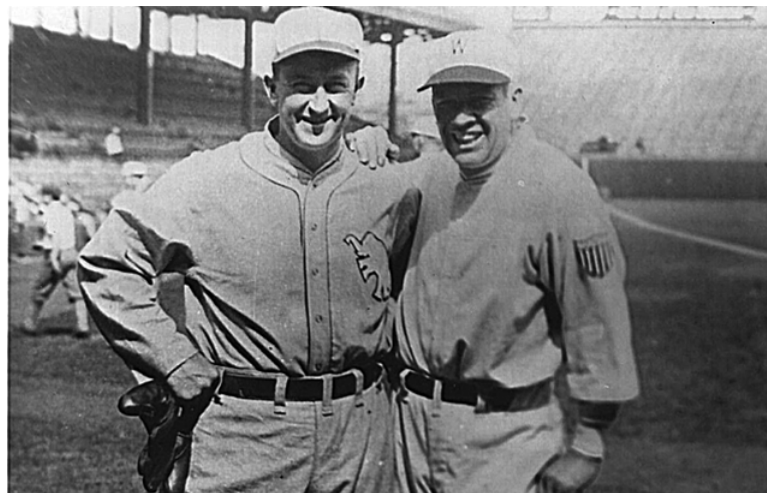
Baseball has a long, unhappy gambling history that dates back before the 1919 Chicago Black Sox scandal. In baseball's early days, bookmakers plied their trade in the open, working the ballpark areas inside and outside, taking wagers. The 1919 World Series may have, in the words

of F. Scott Fitzgerald, destroyed the faith of 50 million people, about half the U.S. population then, but throwing baseball games was commonplace. As Emil "Happy" Felsch, a White Sox fixer, said, "Playing rotten ain't that hard to do."

Author Taylor explains that the dirty deeds had their inception in 1919, when the Cleveland Indians were in Detroit to face the Tigers. Neither the Indians nor the

Tigers were going to win the pennant, but the Tigers were in a tight scrum with the Yankees for third place. In the dead-ball era, a third-place finish meant a small share of the post-season loot for every Tigers' member. The Indians had second place locked up. Cobb and Speaker, the respective managers of the Tigers and Indians, huddled prior to the September 25 game to

(See **SCANDAL** on Page 6)



Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker immersed in the 1926 baseball-betting scandal.



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WEATHER HISTORY
•ON THIS DAY•

Nov. 29, 1969 - Dense fog along the Jersey Turnpike resulted in a chain reaction of vehicle collisions during the morning rush hour. A propane truck jackknifed and was struck by a trailer truck, and other vehicles piled into the fiery mass.

Nov. 30, 1957 - Lee slope winds enhanced by Hurricane Nina gusted to 82 mph at Honolulu, Hawaii, a record wind gust for that location. Wainiha, on the island of Kauai, was deluged with 20.42 inches of rain, and 35 foot waves pounded some Kauai beaches.

Dec. 1, 1913 - A six-day front range snowstorm began. It produced a record total of 46 inches at Denver, CO.

Dec. 2, 1982 - A tornado destroyed a home four miles south of Eastwood, MO. The owners were not injured in that tornado, but ironically one was killed Christmas Eve when another tornado hit the replacement mobile home on the same site.

Dec. 3, 1983 - Birmingham, AL., was drenched with 9.22 inches of rain in 24 hours. The rains caused severe flash flooding, which literally submerged traffic.

Dec. 4, 1972 - Winds gusting to 70 mph sent the temperature at Livingston, MT., plunging from 52 degrees to 18 degrees in just 20 minutes.

Dec. 5, 1941 - The temperature at Enosburg Falls soared to 72 degrees to establish a state record for Vermont for the month of December.

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The Bulletin

7-Day Local Forecast

 November 29 Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 64 / 55	 November 30 Thursday Partly Cloudy 63 / 53	 December 1 Friday Mostly Cloudy 64 / 56	 December 2 Saturday Mostly Cloudy 66 / 55	 December 3 Sunday Cloudy 67 / 59	 December 4 Monday Few Showers 68 / 58	 December 5 Tuesday Sunny 66 / 59
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Local UV Index

0-2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
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0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

State Cities

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday						
City	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx					
Amarillo	56/37	s	55/35	cl	57/39	cl	Odesa	57/43	pc	54/39	cl	58/45	cl
Beaumont . . .	62/51	pc	64/52	pc	65/55	mc	San Antonio .	63/53	mc	61/50	cl	60/51	cl
Dallas	61/49	pc	60/47	cl	61/49	cl	Waco	61/48	pc	60/47	mc	61/49	cl
Houston	62/56	mc	64/57	pc	68/63	cl	Wichita Falls .	60/44	s	59/43	cl	58/44	cl

Weather (Wx): cl/cloudy; mc/mostly cloudy; pc/partly cloudy; r/rain; s/sunny; sh/showers; t/thunderstorms

Weather Trivia

What is a fulgerite?

Answer: It is a glassy substance created when lightning strikes soil.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

	Day	AM	PM		Day	AM	PM
	Wed	12:52-2:52	1:20-3:20		Sun	4:16-6:16	4:38-6:38
	Thu	1:48-3:48	2:15-4:15		Mon	4:59-6:59	5:19-7:19
	Fri	2:41-4:41	3:06-5:06		Tue	5:39-7:39	5:59-7:59
	Sat	3:30-5:30	3:54-5:54				

Weather History

Nov. 29, 1969 - Dense fog along the Jersey Turnpike resulted in a chain reaction of vehicle collisions during the morning rush hour. A propane truck jackknifed and was struck by a trailer truck. Other vehicles continued to pile into the fiery mass.

Sun & Moon

	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
Last 12/5	Wednesday	6:56 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	7:23 p.m.	9:18 a.m.	First 12/19
	Thursday	6:57 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	8:21 p.m.	10:10 a.m.	
	Friday	6:58 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	9:20 p.m.	10:55 a.m.	
	Saturday	6:58 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	10:18 p.m.	11:34 a.m.	
New 12/12	Sunday	6:59 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	11:13 p.m.	12:08 p.m.	Full 12/26
	Monday	7:00 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	Prev Day	12:37 p.m.	
	Tuesday	7:01 a.m.	5:23 p.m.	12:07 a.m.	1:04 p.m.	

Surfside Beach Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
11/29	7:01 p	9:39 a	None	None
11/30	8:04 p	10:25 a	None	None
12/1	8:56 p	11:10 a	None	None
12/2	9:35 p	11:55 a	None	None
12/3	10:06 p	12:42 p	None	None
12/4	10:29 p	1:38 p	None	None
12/5	8:35 a	6:25 a	10:40 p	2:44 p

Local Almanac Last Week

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip
11/16	63	59	73/51	0.00"
11/17	79	52	72/51	0.00"
11/18	74	53	72/51	0.00"
11/19	74	54	72/51	0.00"
11/20	83	66	71/50	0.03"
11/21	60	48	71/50	0.00"
11/22	57	43	71/50	0.00"

Farmer's Growing Degree Days

Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
11/16	11	11/20	25
11/17	16	11/21	4
11/18	14	11/22	0
11/19	14		

Growing degree days are calculated by subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the day's average temperature.

Strange but True

By Bill Sones
and Rich Sones, Ph.D.

Why an earthquake switch may not be such a good idea

Q. News is that scientists have learned how to switch earthquakes "off" and "on." So, why not switch off the fault that might bring the Big One to San Francisco?

A. The largest recorded quake was in Chile in 1960, where a slab of rock 800 x 200 kms slipped 21 meters past the adjacent rock, magnitude 9.5, says Nigel Calder in "Magic Universe." Micro-earthquakes, with rock slippage or "creep" measured in mms, rank at magnitude 2 - undetectable by people or distant seismometers. But the little ones can grow into big ones, reasoned Hiroo Kanamori, at Tokyo University and Caltech.

Since there are 100,000 times more quakes of magnitude 2 than 7, predicting the big ones is bound to be uncertain, as when forecasters failed to warn of the deadly Kobe earthquake in Japan in 1995.

Scientists can now switch earthquakes on by using water under pressure pumped in through boreholes close to fault lines, raising the possibility of "stage-managing" a lot of small quakes to relieve the San Andreas fault strain buildup, thus saving San Francisco. Some 500 boreholes 4,000 meters deep might

be needed to do this. An intriguing idea, yes, but politically explosive, says Calder. "Since every earthquake in California would be blamed on this, whether it was really responsible or not, litigation against the government would continue for centuries."

And who knows? The little ones just might backfire and trigger the dreaded Big One. Kanamori's caution: "Better not pull the tiger's tail."

How does a relationship effect how long you live?

Q. "People who need people are the luckiest people in the world," the old song says. Might your doctor agree?

A. If she's up on the research, she would. While close relationships can be stressors in life, causing some of our greatest heartaches, more often they provide us with our greatest joys, contributing to our health and overall happiness, says David G. Myers in "Social Psychology."

People are good for us! In 80+ studies, social support has been linked with healthier hearts and immune systems. People in close relationships eat better, exercise more, smoke and drink less.

Moreover, in one five-year study of 423 elderly married couples, those who GAVE the most social support (running errands for

friends, emotionally supporting their spouse, etc.) enjoyed the greatest longevity. On the other hand, lonely people have been shown to sleep less well, experience more stress, and fall into depressions. "With few social ties with friends, kin or other members of close-knit religious or community groups, all of us are more likely to die prematurely."

Sorry, gotta go now.

Put that cash away before a copy machine sees you

Q. How do photocopiers work and under what surprising conditions are they programmed NOT to work?

A. They're similar to a camera but instead of a negative image on a photosensitive film, they create a real image from a pattern of positive charges after exposure to light, says Jennifer Ouellette in "Black Bodies and Quantum Cats." A rotating drum is covered with photoconductive material; a light-bulb flashes, and the image of the original document is projected onto the drum. The positively charged dark areas not exposed to light attract the negatively charged dry ink (toner).

An unforeseen consequence of excellent color copiers - xerographic counterfeit currencies! So, since 1993, Xerox has made photocopiers with built-in software able to detect when currency is being copied. One model automatically colors the entire page cyan blue, i.e., the copy's useless. "Another has a blue screen come up on the user interface, warning that reproduction of currency is forbidden, and the copier automatically shuts down."

Did you know?

• During Eminem's sentencing for a weapons charge in 2001, the judge said, "Mr. Mathers. Now is the time for you to please stand up."

• Adolf Hitler was convicted of High Treason in 1924, for which the penalty could have been death. The judges sentenced him to five years, holding sympathy for his 'patriotic' motives.

Hitler was released after serving just nine months and became a dictator within eight years.



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MIKE PINGREE'S THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS



I SWEAR, OFFICER, HE OFFERED TO TRADE: A man was denied entry to a nightclub in Helsingborg, Sweden, because he was wearing sweatpants. So he went out, beat up a guy and took his jeans. He offered the guy his sweats, but then the cops showed up. They arrested the perpetrator

after he and his victim told conflicting stories about the "exchange."

HELLO, I AM A VICTIM OF A GREAT INJUSTICE: An intoxicated man called 911 in Jacksonville, Fla., to complain that his family had hidden all of his alcohol.

JUST WHEN I THINK I'M OUT, THEY PULL ME BACK IN: A member of the Australian chapter of the Nomads motorcycle gang, who was wanted by police, changed his name to make detection more difficult. His new alias: that of fictional television mob boss Tony Soprano.

BUT I'M SURE HE MUST HAVE MISSED ME LAST NIGHT: A heavily intoxicated bride in Cologne, Germany, still in her wedding dress, passed out in a car on her wedding night and was pulled out, still unconscious, by police the next day. She told officers she had no idea where her husband was.

DON'T MESS WITH ME; I KNOW MY RIGHTS: A man was arrested for indecent exposure after

he was found lying nude in a park in Hopkins, Minn. He told officers that it was his right to be naked in public. He was turned over to mental health professionals.

SEE? I TOLD YOU IT WOULD PAY OFF: A Kansas man won a \$96,000 prize from a scratch-off lottery ticket while he was on trial for embezzling from his employer. He had embezzled the money to satisfy his addiction to scratch-off lottery tickets.

OK, KEYS, COMB, CHANGE, WEED ... HEY, HOLD ON THERE!

A man, coming into the Taylor County Courthouse in Texas, was ordered to empty out his pockets into a container before going through the metal detector. He was arrested because one of the things he put in there was a bag of marijuana.

AGGRESSIVE!? WHO YOU CALLING AGGRESSIVE? After drinking heavily at her boyfriend's home in Fort Pierce, Fla., a woman ran out of beer and demanded that her man go out and buy her some more. He refused, telling her that she became "aggressive" when intoxicated. She responded by trying to choke him, then going outside, breaking a leg off a table and throwing it through his window.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Peter J. Marsh, Deceased, were issued on the 17th day of October 2023 in Brazoria County, Texas, under Cause No. PR43960 pending in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Brazoria County, Texas, to Kimberly Stephens.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney of the Estate addressed as follows:

Independent Executor Kimberly Stephens,
Estate of Peter J. Marsh, Deceased,
c/o Bradley W. Hoover P.C.
937 E. Mulberry Street
Angleton, Texas 77515

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 21st day of November, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
BRADLEY W. HOOVER P.C.

By: /s/ Bradley W. Hoover
Bradley W. Hoover
State Bar No. 09965700
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If you have any questions, please call (979) 849-5407, or email us at stephanie.bulletin@gmail.com.

ABOUT US

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RECORD

(From Page 1)

hassle, although the sound pickup on it wasn't all that great.

Then I bought a micro-cassette, because it was smaller and less conspicuous. Those little tapes were so cute, but they didn't last long. I had to do the interviews fast or change cassettes in mid-process. That's where I stopped with tape recorders; they're all somewhere in a closet.

But recently, I realized that it would be really convenient to just tape a speech I was interested in at a recent Angleton Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

I started looking in local stores, but I didn't find a good selection. They were too big and too expensive. I didn't want to spend that much on a recorder I was not going to use that often.

I turned to Amazon, where I found dozens of them, in all different sizes and price ranges. I picked one out small enough, cheap enough and had enough memory to record for hours. I didn't need all that, but the price was right, and I ordered it.

The luncheon was three days away. The recorder was scheduled to arrive in two days. Perfect.

I excitedly tore into the package, like a kid on Christmas Day. My excitement, however, quickly abated when the recorder turned out to be DOA (dead on arrival).

I easily got my money back from Amazon, but a replacement would not get here on time.

Then I realized that my cellphone has a recorder app. I never opened it because I never needed it.

I started playing around with it. This is great, I thought. Why are they still making sound recorders? They should be on the shelves by now, like the GPS boxes. Google knocked them out. I still have a couple collecting dust.

I used my cell phone to record the speech and also took notes, just in case I did something wrong, and nothing was recorded. Or maybe the tape jammed. Sorry, I forgot, no tape.

Since I don't know shorthand, my note-taking is more of a summary of what was said than a word for word account. It's better than nothing - in case the cell phone didn't work out.

My worries were groundless. The cell phone did its job well, and I started to pick out quotes that

I needed for the column. Then I thought, what the heck, I'll buy a recorder, anyway.

I chose and ordered the cheapest one I could find - \$22.99, including shipping. It had four stars, lots of good reviews and not many bad.

Two days later, when I really didn't need a recorder anymore, it arrived - a 3-inch-tall gadget that looks like a plastic toy. The instructions were educational. I actually /read them - out of desperation.

This tiny recorder is a powerhouse. What have I been missing out on? This thing has more memory than dozens of cassettes put together. It even tells me what time it is. It is a Chinese brand that I have never heard of. I would have bought a brand made in a USA-friendly country, but the Chinese seem to make all of these.

Will I ever use it? The cellphone is so much more convenient, plus it has a transcribe function. But, yes, probably, if I don't lose it first.

What are the odds that we'll win the lottery?

Statistically, you're more likely to die in a vending-machine accident than win the Powerball.

Aside from purchasing multiple lottery tickets with different number combinations, there is no way to increase your chance of winning the lottery with one ticket. However, it can help to let the computer pick

your numbers instead of choosing them.

If you're playing a single-state lottery, your odds increase - to 1 in 42 million. While on paper that might seem like a major increase in your odds, 42 million to 1 is still awfully close to zero.

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SCANDAL (From Page 1)

iron out the details.

Speaker assured Cobb that he "wouldn't have to worry" about the game's outcome. The Cleveland team preferred, Speaker insisted, that Detroit finish in third. By virtue of that finish, the Tigers were likely to make about \$500 for each player. Cobb, Speaker, Tigers pitcher Dutch Leonard and Indians pitcher Smoky Joe Wood all agreed to conspire in the fix.

Years later, Leonard confessed the four had agreed that since their post-season share would be small, they might as well wager on the game.

The Tigers won the game 9-5, plating four runs in the first two innings. The

Indians committed three costly errors, and Cleveland starter Elmer Myers – perhaps tipped off to the fix or maybe acting on his own whimsy – floated pitches to the plate for the Detroit batters. Speaker banged out three hits, all of them well after the Tigers had control of the game and the outcome was clear.

No one is certain whether Cobb, Speaker or anyone else actually received money from their bets. The scant remaining evidence indicates that the wrongdoers may not have been able to place all the bets they hoped to.

That winter, Cobb, Speaker, Wood and Leonard went home, but the four men exchanged letters about the incident, sharing their regret that they were unable to get

their bets down in time and that their shared proposition fizzled. The letters came back to haunt the four.

Several years later, the stench from the fixing incident wafted out. A vengeful Leonard wanted to settle a score with his former teammate, Cobb, now the Tigers manager. Once, Cobb kept Leonard in a 1925 game in which the southpaw surrendered 20 runs, and the manager mocked the idea that he yank his humiliated starter. Leonard never forgot, and the memory ate at him.

Cobb released Leonard, and insiders said Ty discouraged other American League teams from signing the lefty. Dutch stewed, and in May 1926, he presented the letters he received from Cobb, Speaker and Wood – the evidence – to Tigers owner Frank Navin, who turned them over to American League President Ban Johnson. To keep a lid on the percolating scandal, Johnson paid Leonard \$20,000 to go back to Fresno,

where he owned a farm, and focus on his raisin growing. At the season's end, Johnson forced Cobb and Speaker to resign.

Eventually, the superstars appealed their cases to Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis who, sensing that the public and the baseball writers were solidly behind the diamond, absolved Speaker and Cobb, facts be damned.

Landis read the room correctly. Baseball bugs were fed up with scandal. At least five World Series – 1905, 1912, 1914, 1918 and 1919 – were rumored to have been influenced by game-fixers. And the 1923 Teapot Dome Scandal that implicated President Warren G. Harding – considered the greatest presidential scandal until Watergate – was still reverberating among the citizenry.

Cobb and Speaker played until 1928, Speaker for one year with the Washington Senators and one year with the Philadelphia A's, and Cobb two years with the A's.

Better to remember Cobb as one of baseball's all-time greats, .366 career batting average with nine consecutive titles, and Speaker, the "Gray Eagle", who holds outfielder records for assists, double plays and unassisted double plays. Balls hit to center field where Speaker patrolled were considered the place where triples go to die.

Cobb, Speaker, Wood and Leonard got off the hook, and played into their 40s. Pete Rose, however, who holds MLB career records for 4,256 career hits, 3,215 career singles, 3,562 career games played, 14,053 career at-bats and 15,890 career plate appearances, was permanently banned for his gambling infractions.

In life, good timing is invaluable.

(Joe Guzzardi is a Society for American Baseball Research and Internet Baseball Writers' Association member. Contact him at guzzjoe@yahoo.com.)



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TIPFLATION (From Page 1)

servers a living wage.

But it seems the added gratuity has spilled over into other businesses. In those cases, it is called "a mandatory service fee," but it really is a forced tip.

How did "tipflation" happen? Sara Bregel, in an article at fastcompany.com, says the pandemic is partly to blame.

Because of Covid, it became commonplace to tip delivery drivers and others who kept the country going.

And restaurants that shifted from sit-down to takeout were being strained. So, we started tipping when we picked up a burger and fries. That had never been standard practice, but it became one.

Technology also has contributed to "tipflation." Digital payment technology has made it easy to add an option for tipping. We can pretty much tip anywhere we go.

Besides "tipflation," the Pew Survey of 12,000 adults also found:

- More Americans (40 percent) oppose than favor (24 percent) businesses suggesting tip amounts to customers.
- Americans broadly oppose (72 percent) businesses including automatic service charges or - tips on customer bills.

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- At a sit-down restaurant, 92 percent of us say we always or often leave a tip.

- How much? Most Americans (57 percent) say they would tip 15 percent or less for an average meal at a sit-down restaurant.

- Relatively few of us (25 percent) tip when buying coffee, and 12 percent tip at a

fast casual restaurant.

What else do we tip for? Haircut (78 percent), food delivery (76 percent) and a drink at a bar (70 percent).

(Contact Ernie at williamsonernie@gmail.com. Or, send letters in care of The Bulletin, P.O. Box 2426, Angleton, TX. 77516).

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POSSUM

(From Page 1)

The first occurred one evening last month while my wife and I were taking our evening geriatric power stroll. As we walked past our house, we noticed an unidentified hairy object on our front lawn. At first, we thought it might be a bunny, a kitten or even one of our family doglets who had escaped to the front yard to kill the rest of our grass.

Upon closer inspection (I made my wife go look), we discovered that it was a young possum – probably a teenager based on all of the sighing and eye rolling. Because East Texas was experiencing record heat and a drought at the time (and because I feel a kindred connection to all creatures with bad hair), I decided to prepare the possum a small dish of water and a handful of kibble dog food.

When I returned with the food

and water, the possum gave me a half-hearted hiss and revealed in its clutches the carcass of a half-eaten rodent. In other words, I was like one of those restaurant servers who try to force a dessert on me after I've already stuffed myself. (I usually agree to the dessert.)

My next possum encounter happened a month later when my wife interrupted my slumber to inform me that there was a possum in our swimming pool / liquid cash vortex. When I asked her if she got it out, she said that she thought I should do it since she basically does everything else except breathe for me. (I'm still trying to figure out how to turn that over to her, too.)

When I went outside, the possum was sitting just inside one of the skimmer intake thingies – judging me because he didn't like my bathrobe. There was no time to reconsider my leisurewear, though,

as I sprang into action, using the pole end of my dip net to gouge the possum out of the skimmer and then skillfully twirling the pole to scoop him in the net and deposit him over the back fence – while cold possum water streamed down my arm and into my robe.

Although these experiences were not altogether pleasant, it's nice to know that our neighborhood has a healthy ecosystem that supports the local wildlife – even if it has no taste in bathrobes.

(Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.)

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A night photograph of the Pyramids of Giza in Egypt. The Great Pyramid is on the left, illuminated with green and blue lights. The other two pyramids are on the right, illuminated with orange and yellow lights. The lights are reflected in the water in the foreground. A small boat is visible on the water. The background shows some city lights and a building.



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You're never too young or old to learn more about cooking

By Edward A. Forbes

The Bulletin

Have you washed a banana today?

I've been busy on the Internet looking at all the cooking sites and have read about a lot of things I do routinely that seem to be against all the common sense and disease prevention advice.

If you eat bananas, watermelon, cantaloupe, or any other fruit or vegetable that requires peeling, it is advised that you wash it before peeling it. It seems you could contaminate the food by touching the exterior and then peeling it.

Those dratted dirty hands are the culprit. Washing bananas is doable, but the watermelon, if its like the large ones I buy during the summer, are more of a challenge. They are too large for my double kitchen sink.

It's either the bathtub or outside and the water hose. But wait there's more.

It seems that butter can only be kept at room temperature for three to four days. I keep mine on the kitchen counter for up to three weeks before it is all used. I use unsalted butter, and the claim is salted butter will last a few days longer, but I'm not adding an unknown amount of salt to any of my recipes. Where do you store your prepared mustard?

I keep my mustard in the refrigerator. The cooking gurus said that is a "no, no." They spoke of altered taste and absorbing odor from the refrigerator's contents. I don't keep my mustard in a bowl but rather in their original container and to date haven't noticed any ill effects on the product as a matter of fact it says on

the container to "keep refrigerated after opening." I will trust the maker of the mustard.

Leftovers are another bone of contention. The educated chefs and authors of the food websites advise keeping leftovers for three to four days. I routinely keep for seven to ten days, and I have survived! I at least assume, since I'm still here as I sit at the computer keyboard.

I routinely cook one to two pounds of pinto beans or make six to eight quarts of chili at a time all for a family of one. If I don't share with friends and family, I find myself eating leftovers frequently and for sometime longer than ten days.

I'm not totally incompetent. I can freeze chili in individual serving sizes and freeze for the next cold snap. I haven't tried to freeze beans yet, but I don't see why I couldn't; further investigation is required.

I have never been forced to discard leftovers, as I have enough family to prevent that from happening. The only meals I can restrict quantities on are the occasional steak and Sunday morning breakfast.

For Sunday morning breakfast, I have one egg (over easy) and four pieces of bacon, two or three pieces of toast, and jelly. Don't panic! I only have two pieces of bacon, but I cut my bacon in half when I buy it and convince myself I am truly being decadent and having four pieces of bacon, when in reality, it's only two. Of course, there is a pot of coffee to accompany that breakfast.

The truth is I enjoy cooking, especially now that I can when I really want to as being opposed to, I really need to. I cooked for my two children and myself for several years. I had some quick dishes that could cook while I checked homework or do other things. Chicken, rice, and cream of chicken and mushroom soup was a frequent quick supper. My daughter now has an aversion to cream of mushroom soup. Bless her heart.

If you enjoy reading The Bulletin, please share your copy with a friend, and let them know where you picked it up. Thank you for all the reader and advertiser support we have received for over 29 years of publishing.



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11:00am - 12:00pm - Holiday Market (Heritage Hall)

12:00pm - 1:00pm - Santa's Workshop (Heritage Hall)

1:00pm - 2:00pm - Serving Tree (Heritage Hall)

2:00pm - 3:00pm - Holiday Market (Heritage Hall)

3:00pm - 4:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

4:00pm - 5:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

5:00pm - 6:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

6:00pm - 7:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

7:00pm - 8:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

8:00pm - 9:00pm - Christmas Dinner (Heritage Hall)

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For more information, please visit the West Columbia Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page.

Event times and/or locations subject to change.

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Brazoria County Parks is grateful for the tremendous support provided by volunteers, partners, donors and sponsors who help in countless ways, giving generously of their time, money and resources. Organizations such as Freeport LNG, Olin, the Town of Quintana, the Brazoria County Petrochemical Council, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Conservation and Reclamation District 3, Ocean Village Hotel, The SFA 500, Friends of the River, Texas Master Naturalists, The Bulletin, Cradle of Texas Conservancy, and many others provide much-needed and much-appreciated help and support. Their efforts make all of our lives better.

Bass Pro Shop, county parks team up for successful KidFish

About 800 people came out to Bass Pro Shop in Pearland on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Kids (and adults) could borrow a pole, and Bass Pro Shop provided bait. The pond at Bass Pro Shop is stocked with channel catfish, sunfish and largemouth bass. Most guests were catching bluegill or other variations of sunfish, but there were also a few good-sized catfish.

Once everyone was done trying their luck at fishing, they could visit the Bass Pro Shop KidFish vendor tents. There was a reptile zoo, where guests could feed the sulcata tortoise or hold a large boa constrictor. There was also a craft area, where the kids could stop by to color a pumpkin, get a temporary tattoo or color using rub plates. Guests were able to talk to our local game warden, Carter Rangel, to learn about Texas Parks and Wildlife's (TPWD) mission and methods.

TPWD Angler Educators were on hand as well, teaching kids how to cast their poles and talking to them about what they might catch.

Special thanks to County Com-



missioner Stacy Adams; Lizeth Sitta; Constable David Crawford; Brazoria County Precinct 1; Pearland Fire Department; Game Warden Carter Rangel; TPWD Angler Education; Slayer Reptile Ranch; and Texas Master Naturalists Cradle of Texas Chapter.

Keep in shape by visiting a county park

Students, faculty and staff from the Up School in West Columbia took advantage of the spectacular autumn weather to partner with GRIT Fitness for a 1K and 5K Fun Run at Hanson Park on Oct. 20. Some 40 folks in all ran the scenic bottom-land hardwood trails near the San Bernard River at the park and its accompanying Harris Beal Unit.

Brazoria County Parks are great venues that are free and open to the public, whether you are looking to be a part of an event, or you just want to enjoy a spur-of-the-moment leisurely family hike and bike trip.



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Bring Christmas trees, help restore sand dunes

If you like to visit county beaches, you may want to get involved to help save them on Dunes Day 2024

Are you debating on a real tree for Christmas? Are you concerned about disposal once the festivities are over? Don't fret, because the Brazoria County Parks Department will have its annual Dunes Day event on Jan. 20.

Donations will start on Dec. 26 and continue until Jan. 19. Volunteers and county employees will take used Christmas trees - free of ornaments, tinsel, and lights - and re-plant them in the sand dunes on Follett's Island.

This helps stabilize the dunes and provides an excellent habitat for unique flora and fauna.

Not getting a real tree this year? The Parks Department also offers the opportunity to volunteer on Jan. 20 to help "plant" the Christmas trees.

Join in this special event and help create and stabilize a unique and important feature on the gulf coast shoreline.



Drop Off Locations Dunes Day

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Manvel Substation 7313 Corporate Drive, Manvel, TX 77578	Stella Roberts Recycling Center 5800 Magnolia, Pearland, TX 77584

BRAZORIA COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

Schedule of Events

Saturday, Dec. 16, 9 a.m. – noon Winter Paddling Event. Come join the Brazoria Paddlers Club as it holds a paddling event on one of the waterways in Brazoria County. Bring your own boat or borrow one of ours. Location: TBD. For more information or to register, contact the park interpreter at nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov or (979) 864-1152.

Monday, Jan. 1, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. First Day Walk. Start off the New Year by getting back out in nature and exploring our new trail system at Hanson Riverside Park near West Columbia. The park interpreter will lead the hike pointing out the natural and cultural high points on the trail as we travel past the new pavilion and wetland observation area. After the hike, we will sit and reflect as we compose a Haiku to commemorate the past year and our finished hike. For more information or to register, contact the park interpreter at nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov or (979) 864-1152.

Saturday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. – noon Discover Archery. Native Americans had to become very skilled at archery to be able to survive. They learned at an early age to rely on their bows and arrows for food and protection. The staff at Camp Mohawk County Park will show you how modern-day bows and arrows are used to have a great time. Topics covered will be safety, equipment, shooting skills and shooting practice. After the class, try out your skill on our archery range. Bows and arrows will be provided. For more information or to register, contact the park interpreter at nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov or (979) 864-1152.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 9 a.m. – noon – Dunes Day. Starting December 26, Brazoria County Parks will start accepting used Christmas trees. Volunteers meet on Surfside Beach to rebuild, restore, and strengthen our dunes. For information or reservations, call (979) 864-1152 or email nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024, 9 a.m. – noon Winter Paddling Event. Come join the Brazoria Paddlers Club as it holds a paddling event on one of the waterways in Brazoria County. Bring your own boat or borrow one of ours. Great for families and first-time paddlers. Location TBA. For information or reservations, call (979) 864-1152 or email nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov

Saturday, Feb. 17, 9 a.m. – noon – Winter Paddling Event. Come join the Brazoria Paddlers Club as members participate in Texas Parks and Wildlife's Crab Trap Cleanup. The group will launch from San Luis Pass County Park and paddle north to look for abandoned crab traps



to help clean up the environment. Bring your own boat or borrow one of ours. Location is San Luis Pass County Park. For information or reservations, call (979) 864-1152 or email nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov

Saturday, Feb. 24, 10 a.m. – noon Discover Archery. Native Americans had to become very skilled at archery to be able to survive. They learned at an early age to rely on their bows and arrows for food and protection. The staff at Camp Mohawk County Park will show you how modern-day bows and arrows are used to have a great time. Topics covered will be safety, equipment, shooting skills and shooting practice. After the class, try out your skill on our archery range. Bows and arrows will be provided. For more information or to register, contact the park interpreter at nathanm@brazoriacountytx.gov or (979) 864-1152.



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Weekly Bulletin horoscope

By Magi Helena

Tribune Content Agency

ARIES (March 21-April 19): There may be an emotional situation you must face that could leave you feeling a bit helpless. Do your best to avoid letting a misunderstanding sidetrack your relationships. You might be able to find a new way to make a friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A shift in your perspective can radically change the way you see the world. Do your best to see things from a better vantage point instead of getting stuck looking at any barriers to discover the possibilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In some situations, words may not be enough to show true forgiveness. Show someone your sincerity by including them in some activities they could enjoy with you or inviting them out for a nice meal with friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Bringing together a collection of ideas can help; people may not always know if some parts are missing from an equation. When you bring people together they might be able to reach new heights of understanding.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This may be an excellent time to fill your social circle with some influential contacts or visualize and explore a variety of plans. Greet people with a friendly smile whenever possible; you might be pleasantly surprised by the outcomes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Experimenting with something unique could help expand your horizon and bring you in contact with some interesting people. You might be excited by a change in your plans or enjoy mingling with a new and exciting group.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your best-laid financial decisions may be shifted due to some unexpected family dynamics. It might be wise to hold off on making any decisions or giving a definite answer for now. Focus on your friendships.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You might find that you could have more friends than adversaries than you initially thought. Your communications skills may be helpful in conquering some problems with the assistance of a helpful sound board.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Friends could be happy to share their advice or offer you a safety net if you find yourself struggling. You might be recruited to help a loved one or partner manage a community service project.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A family member may offer you unsolicited input. When dealing with the details of some financial matters you could run into a situation out of your depth. Take time to think things over before you make a crucial decision.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Show a friend or partner the faith you have in them by giving their sincere and heartfelt apology a real chance. Let them know you still believe in them, and you could move past a rough patch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Intel from your casual acquaintances could help to open your eyes to new interests or exciting hobbies. If you are willing to participate, you may find yourself received with a warm welcome. Balance quiet time with social pursuits.

Did you know about Eratosthenes?

Eratosthenes, the Greek philosopher, was the first known person to calculate the circumference of the Earth. He died at 82 by voluntarily starving himself to death because he was going blind.

Eratosthenes sent a man to Syene from Alexandria on foot to measure the distance between Alexandria and Syene. Thus, Eratosthenes measured the distance between the two cities is 800 km. He multiplied by 800 km to 50 and calculated that the Earth's circumference is 40,000 km.

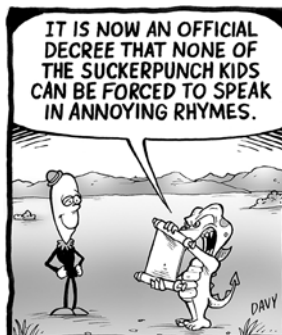
Eratosthenes was one of those ancient Greeks who changed the world. He was a polymath, someone with expert knowledge of a range of topics - a mathematician, geographer, astronomer, philosopher, poet, and music theorist.

MR. MORRIS



By Rick Brooks

CHARMY'S ARMY



By Davey Jones

Fun facts about The Beatles

From the time he was five years old and all but abandoned by his parents, John Lennon lived with his aunt and uncle, Mimi and George Smith, in Woolton, England.

One of his favorite spots to explore with his childhood friends was the garden of the nearby Salvation Army orphanage, which was known as Strawberry Fields.

The Beatles recorded most of their debut album in one day.

No four people on Earth were more productive on Feb. 11, 1963, than The Beatles. On that momentous day, the lads from Liverpool recorded 10 songs that would appear on their debut album, "Please Please Me." At the very end of the 12-hour session, they tackled "Twist and Shout," a raucous number that required an already-hoarse John Lennon to completely shred what remained of his voice.

Richard Starkey (Ringo Starr), called "Ritchie" by his doting mother, was born in Liverpool in 1940.

He began playing the drums in a hospital band at the age of 13 while recuperating from a bout of tuberculosis, and by 17, he had helped to found the Eddie Clayton Skiffle Band.

He joined the Beatles in 1962, replacing their first drummer, Pete Best.

Civic Center Fun Timers present

A Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

The Murder Mystery Company's "The Most Wonderful Crime of the Year"

Dinner provided by White Apron Catering BYOB

Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

\$40 per person

The Murder Mystery Co. will perform a two-hour interactive murder mystery in which someone will die in a comedic way: because it is a comedy. The great thing is that everyone will get to be in the show! MMC will choose a number of guest from the audience who will get to play suspects. Costumes will be provided and you will get to perform alongside the professional actors. Everyone else gets to play, too, as a detective. Nobody will know who the killer is till the end of the show.

For more information or to purchase tickets contact:

Doris Williams Civic Center
979-415-2600
333 Hwy 332 E
Lake Jackson, Tx 77566

History of the World On This Day

November 29

1890 - Navy defeated Army by a score of 24-0 in the first Army-Navy football game. The game was played at West Point, N.Y.

1939 - The USSR broke off diplomatic relations with Finland prior to a Soviet attack. Then it suffered a devastating defeat.

1975 - Bill Gates adopted the name Microsoft for the company he and Paul Allen had formed to write the BASIC computer language for the Altair.

1981 - Actress Natalie Wood drowned in a boating accident off Santa Catalina Island, CA., at the age 43.

November 30

1700 - 8,000 Swedish troops under King Charles XII defeated an army of at least 50,000 Russians at

the Battle of Narva. King Charles XII died on this day.

1897 - Thomas Edison's own motion picture projector had its first commercial exhibition.

1986 - Time magazine published an interview with U.S. President Reagan. In the article, Reagan described fired national security staffer Oliver North as a "national hero."

December 1

1512 - Michelangelo's paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel were first exhibited to the public.

1611 - "The Tempest," Shakespeare's romantic comedy, was first presented at Whitehall Palace in London.

1950 - Two Puerto Rican nationalists tried to assassinate U.S. President Harry Truman. One of the men was killed when they tried to

force their way into Blair House in Washington, D.C.

1973 - Leon Jaworski was appointed the new Watergate special prosecutor in the Watergate case.

December 2

1917 - During World War I, hostilities were suspended on the eastern front.

1942 - A self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated by Dr. Enrico Fermi and his staff at the University of Chicago.

1969 - The Boeing 747 jumbo jet got its first public preview as 191 people flew from Seattle, WA., to New York City, N.Y. Most of the passengers were reporters and photographers.

December 3

1910 - The neon lamp was displayed for the first time at the Paris Motor Show. The lamp was developed by French physicist Georges Claude.

1950 - Tom Fears (Los Angeles Rams) caught an NFL-record 18 passes against the Green Bay Packers. Terrell Owens (San Francisco 49ers) broke the record with 20 catches for 283 yards and a touchdown against the Chicago Bears on December 17, 2000.

December 4

1812 - Peter Gaillard patented the power mower.

1875 - William Marcy Tweed, the "Boss" of New York City's Tammany Hall political organization, escaped from jail and fled from the U.S.

1991 - Pan American World Airways ceased operations.

December 5

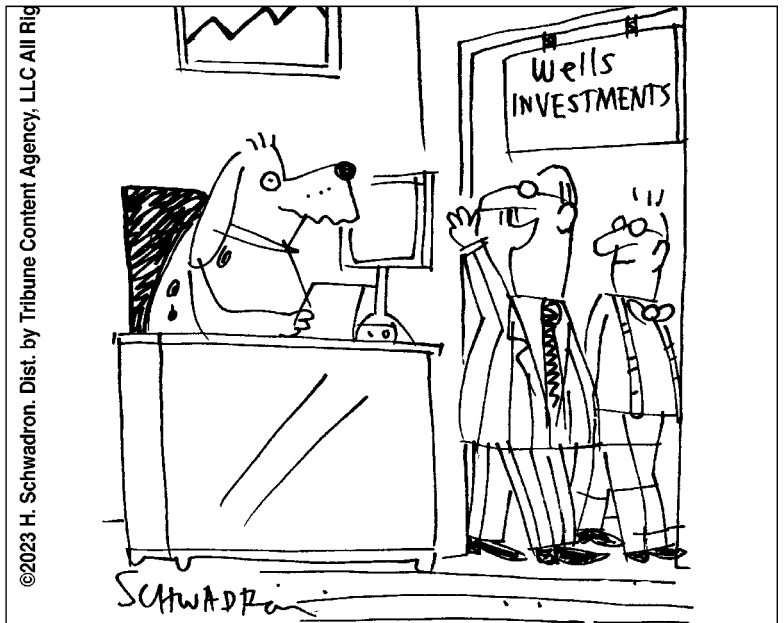
1774 - Austria became the first nation to introduce a state education system.

1877 - Thomas Edison demonstrated the first gramophone, with a recording of himself reciting Mary Had a Little Lamb.

1889 - Jefferson Davis died in New Orleans. He was the first and only president of the Confederate States of America.

1973 - Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as the vice-president of the United States after vice-president Spiro Agnew resigned.

St. Nicholas is getting ready to reward boys and girls who put their shined shoes on the windowsill.



"When it comes to retirement account rollovers, Fido is top dog."

BRAZORIA LIONS CLUB ANNUAL GUN RAFFLE

To be given away
**99 Guns and a \$5,500.00
B.T.E.Voucher**

Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

*Drawing to be held at the
Brazoria Heritage Foundation*

LLOYD THOMAS GYM

Highway 36 at Smith Street
Downtown Brazoria

A meal will be provided at the event while
supplies last.

There will be a Silent & Live Auction and a
Pistol Drawing.

TICKETS ARE \$20.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$100.00

PROCEEDS BENEFIT BRAZORIA LIONS CLUB
PROJECTS AND BUILDING FUND



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YEARS
Celebration**

**FEATURING
ADAM GRANT
A TRIBUTE TO GARTH BROOKS**

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\$25 PER PERSON | \$200 FOR TABLE OF 10
BYOB | SETUPS & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
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GET TICKETS AT LAKEJACKSONTX.GOV/NYE OR CALL 979-415-2600

Doris Williams CIVIC CENTER

Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

- Across**

1 Sarah Spain's network

5 Percussion set

10 Cards

14 "Go on, git!"

15 Tickle

16 __ were

17 Textile machine

18 Nigerian seaport

19 "Ciao"

20 Medic with an office at Fisher-
- man's Wharf?

23 Expert

24 Extremely chill

25 Leaders inclined to work as a group?

31 Extremely cold

32 Channel marker

33 Picked up the tab

35 BYU or NYU

36 Sun screen

37 Strive (for)

40 African country in the Maloti

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
	20				21						22			
		23						24						
25	26				27	28	29	30		31				
32					33				34					
35					36						37	38	39	
			40								41			
42	43	44				45					46			
47					48					49				
50					51	52	53	54				55		
56					57					58			59	
60					61					62				
63					64					65				

Solutions on the right side of this page

In memory of Greg Wilkinson

VocabPower!

Egalitarian has nothing to do with eagles, egos, or eggs, but everything to do with equality. Not just eggheads but everyone has equal opportunity for an exceptional vocabulary — not for an inflated ego, but to soar like an eagle to new word heights.

1. egalitarian

A. reciprocal C. split in half

B. x = y D. equal for all

2. egret

A. heron C. passageway

B. exit D. weasel

3. egest

A. hint C. consume

B. excrete D. digest

4. egis

A. shield C. crown

B. mineral D. tributary

5. egregious

A. reluctant C. sorrowful

B. friendly D. really bad

6. egghead

A. bigot C. intellectual

B. bald guy D. scrambled brain

7. narcissism

A. favoritism C. tale-bearing

B. egotism D. hero worship

8. aquiline

A. greenish C. geometry term

B. of water D. eagle like

9. albumen

A. egg white C. feather tuft

B. chemical D. soup stock

10. e.g.

A. either/or C. for example

B. exact type D. ever grateful

answers: 201 6 9 10c 6 7b 8d 9a 5d 6c 7b 8d 9a 10c — Greg Wilkinson

- Mountains

41 Drains

42 Summits

45 Captain Hook's incredulous assessment of his nemesis?

47 Statue base

49 Melber of MSNBC

50 Puts comfy shoes through rigorous testing?

56 Tropical spot

57 Safari equine

58 Most CFOs

60 Some game

61 "Middlemarch" novelist

62 Bend at a barre

63 Retired boomers

64 Action

65 Blood bank fluids

- Down**

1 Subj. for those wishing to be bilingual

2 Utterly beyond repair

3 Play down

4 Motto for the ruthless

5 Meteorological effect caused by refraction

6 Desktop with an AppleCare option

7 Literary award with a spaceship logo

8 Starting on

9 Lab work

10 Thinned (down)

11 Pulitzer-winning journalist Wilkerson

12 Early ICBM

13 Hung around

21 Play-

22 "Science of Logic" philosopher Georg

25 Small ammo

26 Director Jean-__ Godard

27 LAX postings

28 Superhero once played by Stephen Amell on The CW

29 "__ Comes to Pemberley": P.D. James novel

30 Obama daughter

34 Friendly honk

36 Rats, gnats, and brats

37 Element in an algebraic equation

38 Wall St. event

39 Key that exits full-screen mode

40 Brand of packaged bagels

41 Is extremely frugal

42 Ladybug prey

43 Shuts

44 "The Gleaners" painter Jean-Fran ois

46 River that rises in the Bernese Alps

48 Fuzzy states

51 Move to a warmer state?

52 Drama honor

53 Cut short

54 Ink

55 Place to hibernate

59 "Wide Sargasso __": Jean Rhys novel

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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.

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

Solutions

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

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

Boggle

BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

11- 30 = Rookie

1- 20 = Amateur

0- 10 = Try again

BOGGLE BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST EIGHT COUNTRIES STARTING WITH A VOWEL in the grid of letters.

IRAO QMAN INDIA ANGOLA ESTONIA ICELAND IRELAND

Book Signing with local author Elisa Noriega at Angleton Library Dec. 2

Local author Elisa Noriega will have a book signing of her work, "Juko's First Day of School," on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Angleton Library.

This event is hosted by the Friends of the Angleton Library, with ten percent of the book sale proceeds going to the Friends group.

"Juko's First Day of School," the first book of the Juko series, highlights a full day in the life of Juko, a young boy with Down Syndrome, on his first day at school.

From the time Juko wakes until his parents pick him up, join Juko as he experiences many firsts as a student with Down Syndrome. Elisa wanted to write a series of books centering on her brother, Juko, who was born with Down Syndrome. The goal is to provide inclusion for all

children in different environments.

Elisa Noriega is a philanthropist and successful real estate entrepreneur. She is a Down Syndrome advocate and the owner and director of the nonprofit organization, Sparkle of Life, which helps parents expecting a newborn with Down Syndrome.

Sparkle of Life offers free mentorship, counseling, and baby supplies to parents expecting a newborn with Down Syndrome. She has a Bach-

elor's of Arts in Spanish Literature, a Master's in Business Administration, and a Master's in Public Administration. She also speaks five languages.

Light refreshments will be pro-

vided to attendees.

The Angleton Library, a branch of the Brazoria County Library System, is located at 401 E. Cedar Street. For more information call the branch at 979-864-1519.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO. 112999-CV 149th District Court
W. R. Nash Ranch, LLC v.
Jean Keutcha, et al

TO: Certain named Defendants and unknown heirs, assignees, transferees, and/or persons claiming any interest in the Property which is the subject of this suit, being the entirety of the H T & B Railroad Co. Survey, Abstract 268, Brazoria County, Texas whether by, through, or under any of the named parties Defendant, or otherwise, including, Vernille Camey, Gary F. Daily, Margaret Pease, Clara Remer, William Vender Laan, Edona J. Ranch, Sarah Hough, Donald Taylor, Amanda J Hough, Mrs. William Jansen, and RJ Manning, and to all whom it may concern:

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the Clerk who issued this Citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this Citation was issued, a Default Judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiffs Original Petition for Perfection of Title by Adverse Possession at or before 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this Citation the same being Monday the 4th day of December, 2023, before the Honorable 149th District Court, Brazoria County Courthouse, Angleton, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 27th day of May, 2021 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, determination and perfection of title to-wit: the entirety of the HT & B Railroad Co. Survey, Abstract 268, Brazoria County, TX as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

If filing Pro Se, said answer may be filed by mailing same to: Brazoria County District Clerk's Office, 111 E. Locust, Suite 500, Angleton, Texas, 77515-4678 or by bringing said answer in person to the aforementioned address.

The name and address of the Attorney for Plaintiff is Wes Griggs, 301 South 17th Street, P. O. Box 517, West Columbia, Texas 77486, 979-345-5188.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter Judgment. Any such Judgment will be binding upon you. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Angleton, Texas, on the 18th day of October, 2023.

CASSANDRA TIGNER, DISTRICT CLERK
Brazoria County, Texas
By: Angela Gray, Deputy

Homemade

Peanut butter made in a food processor has a rich flavor and no added sugars or preservatives.

The recipe

- **For smooth peanut butter**, grind 1-1/2 cups of unsalted roasted peanuts with 1 tablespoon peanut oil in food processor until creamy

- **For chunky style**, chop 1/4 cup of peanuts in processor and set aside; add to processed nuts and oil

The count

- **Two tablespoons** yields 115 calories, 10 grams of fat and 4 grams of protein

Columbia Christian Senior Citizens Center Menu

629 E. Bernard, West Columbia, TX, (979) 345-5955

Meals served at 11:30 a.m. Menu subject to change. Meals-on-wheels available - call before 9:30 a.m. Low salt/ low sugar meals available - call before 8 a.m. Take-out orders also available, call by 10:30 a.m. for pick-up at 11 a.m. Transportation to the center available - call by 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30: Salisbury steak, lima beans, zucchini & tomatoes, pea salad, cornbread, dessert.

Friday, Dec. 1: Beef stew, cauliflower, mixed greens, peaches & cottage cheese, garlic toast, dessert.

Monday, Dec. 4: Chili with beans, rice, carrots, broccoli, slaw, crackers, dessert.

Tuesday, Dec. 5: Happy Birthday! Baked chicken, dressing/gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, carrot & raisin salad, rolls, cake.

Wednesday, Dec. 6: Beef stroganoff, navy beans, okra & tomatoes, peaches / cottage cheese, garlic toast, dessert.



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Angleton

979-848-1400

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First Month's Rent
With This Ad

Will Armageddon bring escape or suffering?

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: *Is it true that the word Armageddon means "battle between good and evil"? I fear that Christians will have to go through this awful time when the world comes to an end, but I fear most for those who go through it not knowing God in a personal way. It doesn't seem that the book of Revelation is clear on the state of the church at that time. - A.F.*

A: There's a cataclysmic time coming known as the Battle of Armageddon, where good and evil collide. The Bible is clear about what mankind should do to make itself ready for the end times: "Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12, KJV). Most important is not to wait until the end to prepare, but settle the matter of the soul today, while there is time. As the world moves relentlessly toward a period of intense tribulation, seek Him in all things - now!

Whether Christians will face the period of tribulation around Armageddon is a matter of debate among equally sincere Bible scholars. But there can be no doubt that suffering in one form or another comes to us all. And we can be certain that God will give us the strength and resources we need to live through any situation in life that He ordains. The will of God will never take us where the grace of God cannot sustain us.

The Bible and the history of the church both demonstrate that God's way for the suffering of His people has not always been the way of escape, but the way of endurance. We must learn to live triumphantly amid the traumas and pressures we face daily and, in doing so, be a light in the present darkness that covers the world, so that others will hear the Gospel and prayerfully humble themselves before God and obey Him.

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BEYOND

YOUR LIMITS.



Registration for Spring is now open!
November 1, 2023 - January 12, 2024