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Weekly

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Special of the day in small town USA: good hearts, helping hands

By Edward A. Forbes
The Bulletin

I was on my way home from visiting my son, a daunting 1.5-mile journey, when I saw a woman on a zero-turn lawn mower stuck half-way up the curb while attempting to mow the median at the entrance of a subdivision.

I pulled over to see if I could assist. She told me that she had gotten lazy and didn't take the boards off her mower and place them in front of the curb to gain access to the median. This is how she got stuck.

I lifted the front of the mower but couldn't push it back. I told her she needed to put it in reverse or neutral, so it would roll back, and that didn't work.

Two other gentlemen had been at the intersection, and they pulled up behind me and offered their more able-bodied assistance. We finally had her start the mower (blades NOT turning, please), and lifted the front and the deck. She had evidently put the mower in reverse, because it moved off rather rapidly. She thanked us, and we loaded into our individual vehicles and drove off.

(See **HELPING** on Page 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
The Alliance economic news luncheon photos

SEE PAGE 15

Grandpa tried to keep up with bike speedster

SEE PAGE 8



Diary of a dad of three daughters while vacationing in NOLA

By Jase Graves
Special to The Bulletin

It's time for another installment of "Places You Should Visit While You Can Still Bend Down to Tie Your Shoes without Making Involuntary Bodily Noises!"

This summer, my family decided to forgo our traditional swim-suit-rash beach trip in favor of a long weekend in New Orleans, Louisiana, also known as The Big Easy, The Crescent City and the Birthplace of Indigestion. My wife and I figured that our three teenage daughters were finally old enough to appreciate the history and culture of an iconic American city best known for unbridled debauchery.

Seriously, though, this was my second visit to New Orleans. The first was a business trip that resulted in a column prompting one unimpressed New Orleanian reader to describe me as a "poor man's Dave Barry." Of course, I thanked him for

the compliment.

During our six-hour road trip through the bowels of the Bayou State, our desperation for snacks led us to share a large bag of Wavy Migos "Bar-B-Quin' with My Honey" (See **VACATION** on Page 7)

Why summer jobs are good for teens

Tom Purcell
Special to The Bulletin

Here's a trend that may not bode well for the future of our country: According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 40 percent of 16- to 19-year-olds have summer jobs - down from 75 percent of teens a generation ago.

As it goes, according to the NerdWallet website, teen summer employment has been declining for decades. Why?

One reason is that jobs typically tailored for teens are either shrinking or being taken by older folks. Another is that more teens are

(See **WORK** on Page 14)

Drill, baby, drill; Texas oil and gas producers set new record in July

AUSTIN – Texas oil and natural gas producers continue to pay record amounts in production taxes to the State of Texas, reaching all-time highs in July.

According to Texas Comptroller Glen Hegar's data, in July, Texas oil producers paid \$694 million in

production taxes to the state, the highest monthly collection on record and up 84 percent from July 2021.

Natural gas production taxes paid also reached a record high in July at \$532 million, up 185 percent from last July. These monthly amounts are remarkable in that they surpass

average annual revenues from just a few short decades ago.

Only two years ago in fiscal year 2020, Texas' natural gas production tax generated \$925 million, and in fiscal year 2023, which began Sept. 1, it is expected to generate \$4.69

(See **OIL & GAS** on Page 14)

Road trip plans changed after we added up miles

By John Toth
The Bulletin

We plotted out a road trip to Colorado, only to change our minds at the last minute and redirect our plans toward a less ambitious task - driving to South Padre Island.

In other words, we chickened out. The original decision was made on the basis that we have driven long distances before, like in Europe after crossing the Atlantic in economy class and not being able to sleep a wink on the plane.

John's Ramblings

What we didn't take into consideration was that we did that in 1990.

Two days before our Colorado excursion would begin, we plotted out the trip with the help of Google Maps (my new best friend) and driving 7-9 hours per day began to look less enticing.

"Where else would you want to go," I asked Sharon.

After a brief discussion, we agreed on South Padre Island, less than a five-hour drive from our hideaway. We hadn't been there in more than two decades. Let's do it, we decided.

What about all the reservations we have already made in Colorado? What about the cool mornings and the 80-ish temperatures in the afternoons? The trip would also double as our escape from the heat.

I couldn't order up 50-60 degree temperatures in the mornings for South Padre, but according to AccuWeather, the daily highs would not be as brutal as inland. It took about 20 minutes to cancel all reservations, with full refunds (except for the

(See **ROAD TRIP** on Page 5)

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WEATHER HISTORY ON THIS DAY

August 10, 1856 - The Isle Derniere (Last Island) disaster occurred off the coast of Louisiana. A storm tide drowned 140 vacationers as a 5-ft wave swept over Low Island during a hurricane.

August 11, 1988 - Moisture from what remained of Tropical Storm Beryl resulted in torrential rains across eastern Texas. Twelve and a half inches of rain deluged Enterprise TX, which was more than the amount received there during the previous eight months.

August 12, 1933 - The temperature at Greenland Ranch in Death Valley, CA, hit 127F to establish a U.S. record for the month of August.

August 13, 1831 - A blue sun was widely observed in the southern states. The phenomena was believed to have pre-staged Nat Turner's slave uprising.

August 14, 1936 - Temperatures across much of eastern Kansas soared above 110F. Kansas City MO hit an all-time record high of 113F. It was one of 16 consecutive days of 100F heat for Kansas City.

August 15, 1988 - Pierre SD was the hot spot in the nation with a high of 114F. Bluefield WV.

August 16, 1777 - The Battle of Bennington, delayed a day by rain, was fought. The rain delayed British reinforcements, and allowed the Vermont Militia to arrive in time, enabling the Americans to win a victory by defeating two enemy forces, one at a time.

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The Bulletin

7-Day Local Forecast

AUGUST 10 Wednesday	AUGUST 11 Thursday	AUGUST 12 Friday	AUGUST 13 Saturday	AUGUST 14 Sunday	AUGUST 15 Monday	AUGUST 16 Tuesday
Scattered T-storms 92 / 77	Partly Cloudy 97 / 81	Mostly Cloudy 98 / 84	Mostly Cloudy 100 / 83	Mostly Cloudy 102 / 88	Sunny 101 / 85	Mostly Cloudy 99 / 86

Local UV Index

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
Amarillo	92/75	s	93/74	pc	94/78	s	Odessa
Beaumont . . .	90/77	sh	94/80	s	97/85	s	San Antonio . .
Dallas	98/82	pc	99/81	s	100/85	pc	Waco
Houston	94/81	t	98/84	pc	99/87	pc	Wichita Falls .

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

Weather Trivia

Are thunderstorms the only source of lightning?

Answer: Lightning is also produced by steam clouds from volcanoes.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

	Day	AM	PM		Day	AM	PM
	Wed	--	11:14-1:14		Sun	2:30-4:30	2:55-4:55
	Thu	11:45-1:45	12:16-2:16		Mon	3:18-5:18	3:41-5:41
	Fri	12:45-2:45	1:13-3:13		Tue	4:04-6:04	4:26-6:26
	Sat	1:40-3:40	2:06-4:06				

Weather History

Aug. 10, 1980 - Hurricane Allen came ashore above Brownsville, Texas, dropping 15 inches of rain near San Antonio and up to 20 inches in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Tidal flooding occurred along the south Texas coast. Hurricane Allen packed winds to 150 mph.

Sun & Moon

	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
Full 8/11	Wednesday	6:47 a.m.	8:06 p.m.	7:31 p.m.	4:51 a.m.	New 8/27
	Thursday	6:48 a.m.	8:05 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	6:04 a.m.	
	Friday	6:48 a.m.	8:04 p.m.	9:01 p.m.	7:16 a.m.	
	Saturday	6:49 a.m.	8:03 p.m.	9:38 p.m.	8:25 a.m.	
Last 8/19	Sunday	6:49 a.m.	8:02 p.m.	10:11 p.m.	9:30 a.m.	First 9/3
	Monday	6:50 a.m.	8:01 p.m.	10:42 p.m.	10:32 a.m.	
	Tuesday	6:50 a.m.	8:00 p.m.	11:13 p.m.	11:32 a.m.	

Surfside Beach Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
8/10	4:41 a	8:35 p	None	None
8/11	5:22 a	9:30 p	None	None
8/12	5:55 a	12:27 p	2:31 p	10:29 p
8/13	6:21 a	12:30 p	3:56 p	11:29 p
8/14	6:42 a	12:44 p	5:22 p	None
8/15	6:57 a	12:26 a	6:48 p	1:08 p
8/16	7:07 a	1:27 a	8:47 p	1:42 p

Local Almanac Last Week

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip		Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
					Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days	
7/28	95	77	92/73	0.03"	7/28	36	8/1	36	
7/29	96	78	92/73	0.00"	7/29	37	8/2	38	
7/30	95	78	92/73	0.00"	7/30	37	8/3	38	
7/31	95	75	92/73	0.00"	7/31	35			
8/1	94	77	92/73	0.33"					
8/2	97	79	92/73	0.00"					
8/3	96	79	92/73	0.00"					

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.

The not-so-mighty Irish Giant

Q. Who was the "Irish Giant", Charles Byrne, and how does his story cast modern light on the defeat of huge Goliath by diminutive David?

A. Born in 1761 of normal parents, he "grew like a cornstalk" in youth, which village gossipers attributed to his being born atop a high haystack, says Jan Bondeson in "A Cabinet of Medical Curiosities." He grew to roughly 7 feet, 10 inches, a "modern Living Colossus." "Tall men walk considerably under his arm," it was written, "but he stoops, is not well shaped, and his appearance is far from whole-some."

When he died, his body fell into the hands of a museum schemer,

and the skeleton was put on display.

The question of the etiology of the Irish Giant's growth was not resolved until 1909, when radiographic examination of the skeleton confirmed a pituitary adenoma producing the growth hormone. Typical of this condition, he was weak and sickly in spite of his great stature. "Some have speculated that Goliath also was a sufferer and that the weakness associated with the disease accounts for his ignominious defeat at the hands of David."

Had Byrne lived today, says Bondeson, surgery could have been performed at an early age. "He might never have gained immortality in a museum. "Instead, he might have led a longer and happier life."

Let's see if you're suffering from aibohphobia

Q. Are you afflicted with "aibohphobia"? Then better stop reading this and skip to the next question.

A. Since you're still reading, you obviously aren't afraid of palindromes, words that are spelled the same backwards as forwards, like aibohphobia, meaning "fear of palindromes." This phobic word is an artificially constructed one since "aiboh" is not an existing or meaningful root, says the online encyclopedia "Wikipedia." Some genuine word palindromes: noon,

madam, radar, deified, racecar. The longest palindrome in the Oxford English Dictionary is the 12-letter "tattarrattat," a nonce word by James Joyce in "Ulysses." Guinness World Records lists the longest known palindrome in any language as the Finnish 19-letter word "saippuakivikauppias," meaning "a dealer in lye" (or a seller of soap stone). That one's enough to throw a little aibohphobia into just about anybody.

What causes delays of live TV broadcasts?

Q. Bring a TV to a football game or other televised sports event, and how much delay will you notice between real-time and TV-time?

A. Satellite transmission delays are about 0.25 second for each up and down link, plus time for video compression, says Mark Fischetti in "Scientific American." For a football game, add in another 0.1 second, processing for "the yellow line" that marks off for viewers where the offensive team must advance to gain a first down, and TV-time will lag by about 1.5 seconds.

This popular golden apparition, appearing out of nowhere on the screen, is a techno tour-de-force by Sportvision of Chicago. The line seems painted on the field, widening or narrowing as the camera pans in or out and disappearing in the proper spots as players run over it. None of this, of course, is visible to fans at the stadium.

Before each game, the gridiron must be digitally mapped, and the three main game cameras calibrated at the 25, 50 and 25 yard lines. A half-rack of computers and a single operator working out of the network's regular broadcast truck suffice. The line is keyed to the physical first-down marker that officials stake at the sideline.

This system, says "Scientific American," also makes possible the outlined baseball strike zone and the transient corporate logos appearing on walls and fields.

DID YOU KNOW?

•The original quote "A jack of all trades is a master of none" goes on to say "...but often times better than a master of one." It had no negative connotation and meant the opposite of what it does today.

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If you have any questions, please call (979) 849-5407, or email us at stephanie.bulletin@gmail.com.

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MIKE PINGREE'S THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS



OPEN UP, DRIVER, I'M IN A HURRY!: A man, who took his own shopping cart into a supermarket in Seattle and shoplifted 11 cases of beer, was arrested across the street as he attempted to make his getaway in a city bus.

WHAT!? MY CAR TURNED ME IN?! A drunk driver, who crashed his Mercedes into a lamppost in Edinburgh, Scotland, was arrested when the ultra-fancy vehicle's onboard "vehicle safety computer" reported the accident to police. The cops sped to the scene, where they heard an "incoherent" male voice in an adjacent field. A short time later, they spotted the "visibly intoxicated" driver walking down the road.

IT DID SOUND TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE: A man went to a hotel room in Ebensburg, Pa., after being lured there by a woman who promised him a good time and \$450 cash, but that's where her boyfriend, armed with a rifle, was waiting to rob him. The victim fled and called the cops.

UP YOU GO, LADY!: A woman, who broke into a home in

Brisbane, Australia, took a shower and stole some clothes, was stopped from stealing the homeowner's car when he arrived and used a forklift to lift the vehicle off the ground while she was inside.

HE NEVER MENTIONED THAT: An American woman living in Shenzhen, China, got worried when her British boyfriend went back to England for a visit and didn't return to the Orient. So, she posted inquiries on Facebook and found out that he has a wife and three children. A friend of the wife replied that the situation was "not funny" and revealed that the man also has "another girlfriend in China, it seems."

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?: A woman with green hair threw a fit when she was confronted by store employees as she tried to walk out of a Walmart in Winter Haven, Fla., with a shopping cart of goods that she had not paid for. She screamed at workers, "Get the manager - Kim! I have an employee discount, and I get my groceries for free." The store has no manager named Kim. The woman then threw a Barbie doll at a

worker and stormed out.

YOU SEEM AGITATED, SIR: A man stopped his GMC Sierra in the middle of Interstate 75 in Hillsborough County, Fla., jumped onto the hood of a passing woman's car and threatened her

with a handgun. When the driver of an 18-wheeler stopped to help her, the guy tried to steal his truck. But he was unable to change gears or release the air brake. Deputies soon arrived on the scene and put an end to it.



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ROAD TRIP (From Page 1)

historical train ride, which deducted a \$14 handling fee from each one of us).

We got off cheap. We just saved ourselves about 23 hours of driving.

"Our next Colorado trip will include flying there," I said. This was agreed upon by the second party. We're not the same age anymore as we were in 1990.

The change of plans also came with a caveat - Sharon would return to Harlingen, since it was on the way, and we would visit the places where she grew up and went to school. It would be a trip down memory lane before we reached the causeway and left the mainland behind for a while.

Now, the trip had a second purpose. The primary purpose was to serve as a 40th wedding anniversary celebration. We planned to drive because we didn't feel

comfortable flying yet, with all those "sky is falling" reports about airlines canceling or delaying flights.

We wanted to be in control of our destiny and bring more clothes than we'd need to stay for six months. What can I say? We're not good travelers anymore. We need to ease into it and regain our traveling ways.

Planning a road trip to Colorado would not have been the ideal way of easing into it. Ignoring the doomsday reports about flying would have been a better choice. I did one thing right. I booked only hotels and excursions that guaranteed a full refund - minus \$28 from the train company. That saved the day.

So, we headed on our new outing on a hot summer day (that could have actually been any day), and also started on the road of reliving Sharon's childhood and teen years. We visited the house where she

lived and even managed to take pictures without the current occupants calling the law on us.

The elementary and high school photos were less risky. The walk down memory lane was a big hit. Sharon detailed all the activities she and her brother used to do, which places they went to eat, to which park they rode their bikes as kids.

It was non-stop retro Sharon. Now I was really glad that we changed plans. Colorado would not have offered this. And, after driving all day, all we would have wanted to do is get to the hotel and crash.

There was one big loss. We were going to stop at Roswell, N.M., on our way to Colorado, and planned to visit all the UFO-related sites there. I may have even stumbled into what really happened there in 1947. Was it Martians or just a malfunctioning weather balloon?

We can always do that another time. Now it was time to make one more stop before we hit the causeway to the Island. We had to climb up to the top of the Port Isabel Lighthouse.

The last time we did that was more than two decades ago. After walking all the way to the top, I concluded that it got a lot taller.

(Send comments to john.bulletin@gmail.com. Or write to: The Bulletin, PO Box 2426, Angleton, Tx. 77516.)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Stan Lee wanted to create a hero with a personality no one should like and force people to like him. He came up with Tony Stark.
- Smelling your partner's clothes can help reduce stress and loneliness. But it is not recommended that you do it in public to a stranger.
- Not only do insects feel pain, they also suffer from chronic pain after recovering from an injury, according to researchers from the University of Sydney in Australia.
- People who were not born blind but later lost their eyesight are still able to 'see' in their dreams. However, people who were born blind cannot.

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HELPING
 (From Page 1)

The purpose of this small tale is not about my helping the lady but rather about us helping the lady. I don't know how many times I've seen people stopping whatever they are doing to help someone in need. Small towns still turn out to benefit people in need. It seems to me that those with the least are the first to respond when a person asks for help. They

understand what it means to be over-your-head in trouble needing assistance with day-to-day expenses and those medical bills. It's not hard to find stories about shootings, car-jackings, robberies, and other forms of mayhem. Social media's only redeeming quality is that mixed in with all the trolls and bad people with bad attitudes are all the stories of people looking for help, thanking people for offering help and unsolicited stories of

people anonymously helping others in need. Many of the stories we see are about these things happening in our galaxy of small towns. The next time you complain about your town not having a Chick-fil-A or HEB Superstore, think about your neighbor who picks up your trash can from the street, who loaned you his weed-eater because yours was broken, or the neighbor who gave you a jump start when your car battery was dead. Small-town neighbors are the best. They don't have to know you, but they might, and your parents, too. They will offer aid because they feel it's the right thing to do. (Email Edward at eforbes1946@gmail.com or send comments by mail to The Bulletin, PO Box 2426, Angleton TX. 77516.)



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Source: U.S. National Institutes of Health, TNS Photo Service

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VACATION

(From Page 1)

Rap Snacks potato chips that my middle daughter purchased from a gas station convenience store in Lecompte, Louisiana. (I'm now considering the addition of Rap Snacks shares to my stock portfolio.)

When we finally checked in at the charming and historical St. James Hotel, just outside the French Quarter, we all needed to use the historical bathroom. When my eldest and most expensive daughter finished her turn, the historical door handle fell off of the historical bathroom door, trapping her inside.

I eventually got the door open in

an act of fatherly heroism, but only after I made her promise to limit her souvenir purchases to items that wouldn't require long-term financing.

We then headed out for our first evening on the town, and, naturally, we were starving, so we stopped by the famous French Quarter Gumbo Shop for several scrumptious Creole dishes we couldn't pronounce. We were also served appetizers of gumbo and desserts of pecan pie à la mode, which I'm pretty sure is a New Orleans city ordinance.

To prove to ourselves that we were still semi-mobile, we decided to waddle up to the riverfront across Decatur Street from Jackson

Square, where we encountered a street performer singing an anthem of my teenage years, "Don't Stop Believin'", by the 1980s rock powerhouse, Journey. Although I was thoroughly enjoying the show, my wife and daughters finally convinced me to leave when the performer offered me a dollar if I'd stop trying to sing along.

We caught a magnificent sunset view of Jackson Square and St. Louis Cathedral from the river, and we took turns taking photos with a couple of passersby – my daughters making sure to position me so that my enormous melon could be easily cropped out of their Snapchat pics.

Our next adventure involved a harrowing stroll through boisterous Bourbon Street so that our daughters could see what all of the hubbub was about and understand what happens when girl children don't follow their dad's advice about

drinking, drugs, dressing modestly and snoozing in public walkways.

We topped off the evening with a glucose smack down at legendary Café Du Monde for some golden-fried beignets buried in a tsunami of powdered sugar. Since we were still a little hung over from the gumbo and pie, we shared the beignets, meaning I basically ate all but one of them.

Our first night in vibrant New

Orleans was only the beginning of a terrific vacation full of excitement for our family and digestive systems.

Most of all, it gave us a chance to share some fun and laughter together, especially when I bent down to tie my shoes.

Copyright 2022 Jase Graves. Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.

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Granddaughter's bike wheels keep turning; I keep running

By Jerry Zezima

Tribune News Service (TNS)

Young people who have found the balance in life know that you never forget how to ride a bike. Old guys who are unbalanced know that you never forget how to run after a bike.

That's the lesson I learned when I huffed, puffed, sprinted and stumbled while trying to keep up with my granddaughter, Chloe, as she whizzed down the street on her shiny new bicycle.

I had a bike as a kid and fell on my head before helmets were mandatory, which I use as a feeble excuse for why I still act like a kid. But unlike Chloe, who's 9, my riding these days is done on a stationary bike at the gym.

"Does this thing have training wheels?" I asked personal trainer Samantha Saper.

"No," Samantha replied. "It doesn't even have real wheels."

"No wonder I'm not going anywhere," I said, after pedaling furiously but not moving.

"It says on the screen that you've gone half a mile," Samantha



pointed out. "And you've burned 12 calories."

"At this rate," I said, "I'll be in tip-top shape just before I'm dead."

"Stationary bikes are great exercise," Samantha told me. "And they're low impact."

"Unless I fall off and have an impact with the floor," I said.

"On a bike like this," Samantha noted, "there's not as much pressure on your knees as there would be on a treadmill, where you have to walk or run."

"Speaking of running," I said, "my granddaughter just got a new bike.

It's not stationary. And I don't have a bike of my own, so I'll have to run after her."

"You sound like my father," said Samantha. "He has eight grandchildren, and he chases after all of them on their bikes."

It helps that Samantha's dad, Bruce Saper, is in good shape.

"He's 72. And like you," she told me, "he's very immature."

"I'm 68," I said, "and my grandchildren are more grown-up than I am."

"You and my dad would hit it off," said Samantha, 33. "When he

chases his grandchildren on their bikes, we always say, 'Don't hurt yourself!' So far, he hasn't."

I was hoping not to end up in the back of an ambulance when Chloe and I set off on our journey down the street - she, on her slick, colorful bike - I, on my huge, lumbering feet.

"I can't reach the pedals, Poppie," Chloe said after she had put on her helmet, which sported a big "C" (for her name, though for me it could have stood for "coronary,") and she tried to get comfortable on the high perch.

The bike was a little too tall for her, so I lowered the seat to a more manageable height.

"Thanks, Poppie," Chloe said.

"Let's go!"

She took off.

"Come on, Poppie!" Chloe exclaimed when I had the delayed reaction of a cartoon character who, with silly sound effects, spins his feet and kicks up a cloud of dust for a full five seconds before taking off. "You're a slowpoke!"

I worked up a head of steam and caught up. Chloe slowed down so I could keep pace without needing a pacemaker.

"Are you getting tired, Poppie?" she asked.

"Of course not," I answered, trying not to let my rapid breathing sound, like we were going through a wind tunnel, be audible.

"I don't want you to get hit by a car," Chloe said.

"Don't worry, I won't," I assured her.

"And I don't want to run over your feet," Chloe added.

"I'll be careful," I said.

"Don't fall down, Poppie," Chloe said.

I jogged the rest of the way after we turned around and headed back.

When we got to the house, Chloe dismounted and said, "Thank you, Poppie. You're kind of slow, but it was fun."

"You're welcome, honey," I replied. "This was one bike ride I'll never forget."

(Jerry Zezima writes a humor column for Tribune News Service and is the author of six books. His latest is "One for the Ageless: How to Stay Young and Immature Even If You're Really Old." Email: JerryZ111@optonline.net. Blog: jerryzezima.blogspot.com.)



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France tourism benefiting greatly from American travelers

TravelPulse (TNS)

The headline in a local French newspaper blared the good news recently, according to a CNN reporter embedded in the country: "The Americans Have Returned!"

Have they ever.

American tourists, in full "revenge travel" mode after basically sitting on the sidelines for the last two

years due to COVID-19 and its myriad protocols and restrictions, have swarmed France with their tourism dollars - to the point where even the usually standoffish French are welcoming Americans with open arms.

It's true. American tourism is saving France, and it's not just the usual spots like the Louvre, or the

Eiffel Tower, or the haute couture of Paris. It's the wine country and the beaches and other less-known places.

And the return is especially welcome and appreciated this year by the French, due to the lack of high-spending, freewheeling Russian tourists who have been restricted from traveling due to

sanctions imposed by numerous countries over Russia's invasion and ongoing war with Ukraine.

Tourism levels in France are just about at 2019 pre-pandemic levels.

"The Americans are doing the job," Frédéric Hocquard, Paris deputy mayor for tourism, told CNN,

"meaning that they are coming back en masse and with a lot of money to spend."

According to CNN, American tourists spend an average of \$402 per day while in France, and most spend more than \$760 per day over a typical 10-day stay.

Delta testing free Wi-Fi on some flights

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (TNS)

ATLANTA — Delta Air Lines is testing free Wi-Fi on some flights, part of a years-long effort to eventually launch free wireless internet service across many of its flights.

Atlanta-based Delta will offer complimentary Wi-Fi on "a select number of flights this summer," according to Glenn Latta, the airline's managing director of in-flight connectivity.

The airline's fees for Wi-Fi normally start at \$5 per flight.

Latta added that it's an effort to test the technology and gain insights to eventually offer Wi-Fi that is "as fast and reliable as possible."

Slow and spotty in-flight Wi-Fi has vexed passengers on Delta for years, and the company has been

working to increase bandwidth and reliability by expanding satellite-based Wi-Fi with a new provider.

Ekrem Dimbiloglu, Delta's managing director of brand experience, said the company has made "significant investments" over the last two years to eventually make onboard Wi-Fi free, fast and reliable. But he added that testing is important.

ThriftyTraveler.com reported that Delta in an internal memo said it plans to launch complimentary Wi-Fi on all domestic flights "soon," and would expand free Wi-Fi to international routes by the end of 2024.

It's unclear what "soon" means. Delta's efforts on free Wi-Fi date back years, with CEO Ed Bastian in 2018 saying that he wanted to eventually make the service free.

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APPLICATION FOR ADMINISTRATION AND DETERMINATION
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ADMINISTRATION

Said application will be heard and acted on by the court at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, in County Court At Law #2 and Probate Court in the County Courthouse in Angleton, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of the law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Angleton, Texas this the 28th day of July, 2022.

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Teacher supplies giveaway on FB

By Stephanie Johnson
The Bulletin

Teachers are helping our future generation to learn.

Almost everyone has had an influential teacher who they can look back on and remember having made a large impact on their life.

That's why teachers are so special. They are like the parents that look over your children while they are in school; they are teaching not only education, but life lessons as well. They are helping kids become their future self and molding them into strong leaders.

Teachers put a lot of their own time and money into their classrooms. According to savings.com, the average teacher spends \$560 on out-of-pocket supplies.

Almost one-in-five teachers are

spending \$1000+ to make sure their students have essential supplies.

This isn't the case for all of them, but teaching is already a job of many trades, so teachers shouldn't have to worry about their supplies.

The Bulletin was able to help out a couple of teachers that had an Amazon shopping list.

We did a Facebook promotion and asked teachers to post their list, and we would buy an item or two from it.

This promotion is still live on our Facebook page - if you know a teacher that still needs supplies or has a list, go to our Facebook page or send us an email so that we can help them out with an item or two. Email stephanie.bulletin@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/thebulletinbrazoriacounty.

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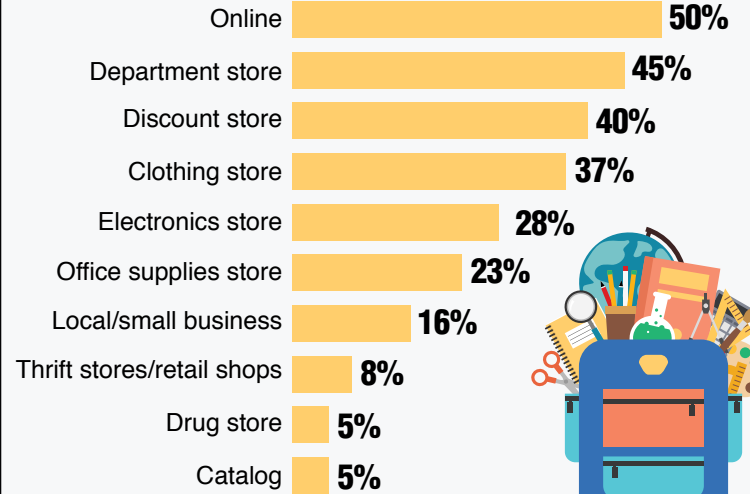
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Back-to school shopping

The top places consumers plan to shop for back-to-school items



Source: National Retail Federation
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

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No kid goes hungry with Backpack Buddies at BCDC

By Ernie Williamson
The Bulletin

When she was a kid, Terri Willis went to school in Lake Jackson hungry and without needed supplies.

Her teacher one day asked why Terri wasn't in proper attire. Willis replied that her family didn't have the money.

Days later, the teacher bought Terri a new pair of tennis shoes.

Willis has never forgotten that kindness. She knows poverty.

Now, as CEO and executive director of the Brazoria County Dream Center, Willis directs programs to help low-income families.

Backpack Buddies, a program to feed needy students, is close to her heart because it helps children. Willis gets emotional talking about the success of Backpack Buddies.

"What my elementary school teacher did, spoke volumes to me," she says.

Begun in 2009, the Backpack Buddies program provides nutritional food and snacks to children who are hungry for food over the weekend. The program fills in the gap where school programs end.

That first year as a pilot program Backpack Buddies served 17 kids in 1 school.

This past school year Backpack Buddies served 550 students in 31 schools across six Brazoria County districts.

Students must be referred by a teacher or counselor to qualify for the weekend food program.

School officials are given information on how to spot a child who might be hungry.

A child may hoard food, ask friends for food or even dig through trash cans.

The child may suffer headaches, miss lots of school, be extremely irritable or unable to concentrate.

Children whose parents lose jobs or have a death in the family are always worth watching carefully.

The food for the program comes from the Houston Food Bank, corporate donations, grants and food drives in schools.

Each Thursday morning during the school year, volunteers deliver bags of food to school counselors. The food is then distributed to waiting students Friday morning.

Each 8-10-pound bag contains enough food to give the student six meals for the weekend.

"I have had a teacher tell me she has seen parents cry when their child is referred into our program," Willis says.

The upcoming school year presents a new challenge for Willis and the program.

For the last two years, most students in local districts have received free meals from Covid funds. That funding is scheduled to stop this year, so parents whose children haven't had to pay for meals for two years will have to start paying, possibly putting more of a burden on the Backpack Buddies program.

Not content with the success of the Backpack Buddies weekend program, Willis and the Dream Center have started a summer feeding program.

For all this, we can thank a kind teacher who helped a kid out years ago.

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

Our Backpack Buddies program provides

3750

MEALS WEEKLY

to school children facing food insecurity

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BCDC
Brazoria County
DREAM CENTER

Education the way it used to be 100 years ago

- Only 78% of children between the age of 5 and 17 were enrolled in school.
- The median number of years of schooling an adult was 8.7.
- In adults 25 and over, only 26 out of every 1,000 people had a bachelor's degree.
- For every bachelor's degree earned by a woman, more than two were earned by men.
- While the school year was 162 days, the average pupil only attended 122 days.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Back To School

B.I.N.G.O

I found my nametag	I know where to put my backpack	I found my desk	I made a new friend	I am a walker
I am a car rider	I visited the classroom library	I go to aftercare	I colored a picture	I know the class rules
I wrote my name	I am a bus rider	I said "Hi" to my teacher	I know where the restroom is	I am happy to be here

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Safety first when heading to school

From National Safety Council

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions.

Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walking to school

Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.

- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic.

- Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming

- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections.

- Stay alert and avoid distracted walking.

Riding a bicycle to school

Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child.

- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in single file.
- Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street.

- Stay alert and avoid being distracted. Always wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing.

Riding the bus to school

Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.

- Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus.

- Teach your children to stand six feet (or 3 giant steps) away

from the curb.

- If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other.

Driving your child to school

Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.

- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure.

- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street.

School Safety

Many school-related injuries are completely preventable.

Follow these steps to ensure your child's safety at school:

Preventing backpack-related injuries

Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.

- Ask your child to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders.

- Don't over-stuff a backpack; it should weigh no more than 5 to 10 percent of your child's body weight.

Don't mess with school buses

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- Never pass a bus from behind - or from either direction if you're on an undivided road - if it is stopped to load or unload children

- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop.

- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks.

Back-to-school shopping

This year, back-to-school and back-to-college shoppers alike are implementing savings-focused shopping behaviors because of the current state of the U.S. economy.

How will the state of the U.S. economy impact your back-to-class purchases?

2019 2020 2021 2022

Back-to-school



Back-to-college



SIGNS OF MALNUTRITION

Behaviors

- Rushing to the food line due to extreme hunger
- Extreme hunger on Monday morning
- Quickly eating all of the food served and asking for more
- Regularly asking their teacher for food
- Saving/hoarding/stealing food to take home for themselves and/or a sibling
- Linger around for or asking for seconds
- Comments about not having enough food at home
- Asking classmates for food they do not want

Physical Appearance

- Extreme thinness, chronically dry/cracked lips
- Puffy / swollen skin, chronically dry & itchy eyes
- Spoon shaped fingernails, frequent headaches

School Performance

- Excessive absences and/or tardiness, repetition of a grade
- Short attention span/inability to concentrate, chronic sickness
- Falls asleep in class, poor social interaction
- Chronic behavioral problems (fidgety, irritable, anxious, withdrawn, etc.)

Home Environment

- Moves frequently, parent has loss of wages
- Family Crisis

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The Bizzare History Of...

from backthenhistory.com

Dog collars

Dog collars were first used by royalty. It's believed that dog collars originated in ancient Egypt specifically, and ancient Egyptian artistic depictions of dogs wearing collars date back to 3500 - 3000 BC.

Dogs also enjoyed special status in ancient China, and the official dogs of the Imperial Palace (Pekingese) likely wore ornate collars.

The ancient Greeks gave dog collars a more practical purpose when farmers created spiked dog collars as a way of protecting their dogs' throats during wolf attacks. During the Middle Ages, dog collars were used to identify a dog's social role and job (pampered pets of the elite often wore jeweled collars while hunting dogs wore simple leather collars).

The middle class began keeping dogs as pets during the Renaissance, and most of these dog

collars were made from affordable leather and often included a padlock as a way of proving ownership (if you had the key, the dog was presumed to be your pet).

By the 1700s, dog collars had begun to include tags with the owner's name or a witty saying. Materials like leather, silver, brass, and gold were often used in the making of dog collars. Today, dog collars are made of more comfortable materials, such as nylon, and there are even specially treated collars available that help repel fleas and ticks.

Velcro

Velcro was created in the 1950s. Georges de Mestral, a Swiss engineer, went for a walk in the woods in 1941 and was inspired by the burrs that stuck to his trousers.

In 1955, he patented his burr-mimicking invention: two strips of fabric, one with thousands of tiny hooks and one with thousands of tiny loops. He named it Velcro, a

combination of the words "velvet" and "crochet." The first version was made out of cotton, but Mestral quickly realized the nylon worked better because it didn't wear with use.

Early reports described the revolutionary product as a "zipperless zipper."

In the early 1960s, Apollo astronauts used Velcro to secure items that they didn't want to float away. It also showed up in cars, on airplanes, on home décor, and even hospitals put the product into heavy rotation.

In 1968, Puma became the first major shoe company to offer sneakers with Velcro fasteners. Other brands soon followed, and by the 1980s, Velcro sneakers had become a staple of children's footwear.

Around the same time, Velcro's patent expired, and companies began making their own hook-and-loop fasteners. (It's worth

noting that Velcro is the name of a company, not a generic term for a product, although it is often used that way colloquially, making it one of the most common examples of metonymy.)

In the 1980s and early 1990s, Velcro jumping became popular, especially after David Letterman did

it on TV.

In 2004, Velcro was added to the Army Combat Uniform, but it was removed a few years later due to frequent soldier complaints.

Today, these fasteners have become essentials in our lives and are used in cars, toys, household items, clothing, and more.

WORK

(From Page 1)

attending summer school, participating in extracurricular activities and volunteering.

But a third reason is the most troubling: Fewer teens are willing to flip burgers or work manual labor during their summer vacation, according to recruiting firm Challenger, Gray and Christmas.

Which is a shame, because work is good for teens. It exposes them to how industry works. It teaches them the value of a dollar. It gives them the dignity of exchanging their labor for money that they can use to support their education or maybe buy their first junker car.

But most of all, teens who don't work are missing out on some incredible growth experiences.

I got my very first job in the summer before I became an eighth-grader. I persuaded a neighbor to hire me to cut her lawn for five bucks. She had an electric mower with a long extension cord, which I promptly ran over and destroyed. I got canned before I finished the job.

The next few summers, I worked at a driving range. I had to wake up at 5 a.m., ride my bike 2 miles up a hill, then pick up a couple of acres of golf balls with an aluminum picker. Sometimes, I worked the evening shift. I wore a metal cage as I worked - as dozens of people tried to hit me with golf balls. I was paid \$1.25 an hour for this honor.

The summer before 10th grade, I built up a decent business mowing lawns, but the summer before my junior year - when I had my driver's license, finally - I hit the mother lode. I put ads in the paper offering a service to rebuild stone and block retaining walls.

After a few months of mistakes

and mishaps, I learned how to bid the jobs. I hired two or three others to help me run the jobs. I slowly began to master the art of cutting and placing stones. And the cash came rolling in. I was doing mighty fine for a 17-year-old and had earned enough in a few months to pay for my first year of college.

I worked a series of jobs in college: dishwasher, janitor, handyman, grass cutter. I worked as a bouncer, too, which involved kicking drunk people out of bars and mopping up that which some patrons couldn't keep down - the most respect I ever got, then or now.

In any event, these jobs helped me learn how to socialize and work with others. I learned how to sell, bid jobs and manage money. I learned self-reliance and the joy that comes with a job well done.

As more of today's teens miss out on such experiences, how might that affect their future? How might it affect America's future?

Are we encouraging more kids to rely on the government, rather than themselves, to meet their basic needs in their adult years? The Congressional Budget Office recently reported that big-government programs like ObamaCare will discourage people from working.

A strong work ethic is what built America. We need to maintain our work ethic to keep our country going and produce our needed tax revenue.

That's why I'm troubled that fewer teens want to work these days.

(Copyright 2022 Tom Purcell. Tom Purcell, creator of the infotainment site *ThurbersTail.com*, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.)

History Matters: Babe Ruth was a star in NY, curse in Boston

On June 2, 1935, there was "no joy in Mudville" when the "Sultan of Swat" - Babe Ruth - retired.

At 19, George Herman Ruth had signed with Jack Dunn, owner of the Baltimore Orioles. The team, enamored with his abilities, nicknamed him "Jack's newest babe," a moniker that stuck for the rest of his life.

History.com notes that he "made his Major League debut as a left-

handed pitcher with the Red Sox in July 1914 and pitched 89 winning games for the team before 1920, when he was traded to the New York Yankees.

After Ruth left Boston, in what became known as "the curse of the Bambino," the Red Sox didn't win another World Series until 2004.

Ruth was a huge star in New York and attracted so many fans that

the team was able to open a new stadium in 1923, Yankee Stadium, dubbed The House That Ruth Built. His career slugging percentage of .690 remains the highest in Major League history.

For more about "the greatest baseball player ever," the *Grateful American Book Prize* recommends "Babe Ruth (Up Close)," by Wilborn Hampton.

OIL & GAS

(From Page 1)

billion, an increase of 407%, while oil for the same period is expected to grow from \$3.23 billion to \$6.58 billion, an increase of 104%.

"Texas' all-time monthly records for oil and natural gas production tax collections were shattered again in July, reminding Texans of the vast benefits our state enjoys as the top oil and natural gas producing state in the nation," said Todd Staples, president of the Texas Oil and Gas

Association. "These benefits extend beyond Texas' borders though as our nation and world enjoy the advantages of homegrown, clean, American energy that is meeting our energy needs and environmental goals here at home and across the globe."

Production taxes are only one of the many taxes that the Texas oil and natural gas industry pays. The industry also pays billions in property taxes on all assets from producing minerals properties to

pipelines to refineries and gas stations. State and local sales taxes also apply to many purchases made by the industry, raising billions more. There are further taxes, including the state's franchise tax and gross receipts taxes imposed on natural gas utilities and pipelines and millions of dollars in fees imposed by state government.

Founded in 1919, TXOGA is the oldest and largest oil and gas trade association in Texas representing every facet of the industry.

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TERMITES?!

Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County Update Luncheon



Brent Bowles, iAD Architects, left, was Master of Ceremonies at The Alliance's Annual Industry Update on July 26. Speakers included, from left, Brian Bence with SI Group; Scott Van Wagener, Ascend Performance Materials; Paul Spinks, Shintech, and Sharon Hulgan, Dow. They are shown with County Judge Matt Sebesta and Alliance President & CEO Patti Worfe.



Kristi Griffith, center, corporate director of sales support for Prism Hotels and Resorts, is shown with Blair Bugg, vice-president of the Angleton Chamber of Commerce, left, and Michele Allison, president & CEO of the Angleton Chamber of Commerce.



Brazoria County Commissioner Dude Payne, right, was among the county officials attending the Industry Update.



Elizabeth (Liz) Brooks, Edward Jones/Angleton, Patti Easterling Worfe, President & CEO of The Alliance, and Sharon Allen Toth, Bulletin Co-Publisher, pose for a picture after the Alliance luncheon meeting, which sold out. Alliance staff sent an email out the day of the event that there were no walk-in seats available.



Donald Payne Jr., fills Bulletin publisher John Toth in on economic indicators for the county. He is with Brazosport College's Economic Forecasting Center, and the outlook is good at this time, he said, with "employment, sales tax receipts and building permits at record highs."



Jennifer Finney, executive director of Brazosport College's Small Business Development Center, front left, speaks with Lake Jackson Mayor Gerald Roznovsky.



The smiling Alliance staff, including Beau Jurek, Gabe Williams, center, and Debbie Pennington, vice-president of operations, greets luncheon guests and checks them in as they enter and bids them goodbye as they leave.

Weekly Bulletin horoscope

By Magi Helena

Tribune Content Agency

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Opportunities are looming on the horizon. If you ignore them, you might not have another chance. Your tribe may prove their loyalty in the upcoming week. If or when things break, fix them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Avoid problems in the week ahead by treating every person and task with extra mindfulness. Someone may seem hard to please, and/or your work may be scrutinized, so issues could be magnified.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An opportunity to better yourself may be just what is needed to achieve your goals. Friends might share powerful insights in the week to come that create a beneficial chain reaction. Make sure you note valuable ideas.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): There may be times in the week ahead when harmless flirtations could be misconstrued by others and lead to a misunderstanding. Money, possessions and values could be an important part of your motivations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Next week, you may dare the unusual rather than settle for the ordinary. Your energies and enthusiasms are probably firing on all cylinders, so upgrade your reputation and make headway with creative projects and studies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make promises cautiously and honor them scrupulously. You'll need to follow through on your obligations and do your duty. Thinking outside the box can make you appear brilliant in the week ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may be inspired or enlightened by someone's reactions in the coming week. Grand ambitions are forming, so you may pivot at some point. For right now, you will be wise to be content with your present position.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You might sacrifice personal pleasures to get ahead in the upcoming week. You can make the most progress if you remain firm about upholding the highest principles. Try to understand what might seem like criticism.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This is a week when having faith in your fellow man should work out to your advantage. You could receive favorable publicity for a creative project or meet someone who introduces you to a fascinating new hobby.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may realize that your social life is in the hands of others as the week unfolds. Bills and other financial obligations could cramp your style. Take concrete steps and be diligent to reach your career goals.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be a trusted supporter of a loved one and a steadfast confidante to friends. A partner could receive extra recognition this week. Good things can come to those who wait so remain patient with difficult people.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the week ahead, you may be motivated to do better at your job or become better acquainted with your coworkers. Someone's engaging ideas can help you make more money or share in the rewards for good work.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Giraffes are facing a "silent extinction." Their population has shrunk by nearly 40% over the last 30 years.
- Woolly Mammoths were still alive by the time construction finished on the Great Pyramids at Giza. The last mammoths died around 4,000 years ago, leaving several centuries where the pyramids and mammoths coexisted.
- In Japanese folklore, there is a strange beast named Ijuu, who lives in the forest. While he appears scary, the tale says hikers shouldn't be frightened if they run into him. Simply offer to split your lunch, and he'll likely repay you by carrying your heavy backpack.
- Relaxing for just 10 minutes can effectively reduce stress.

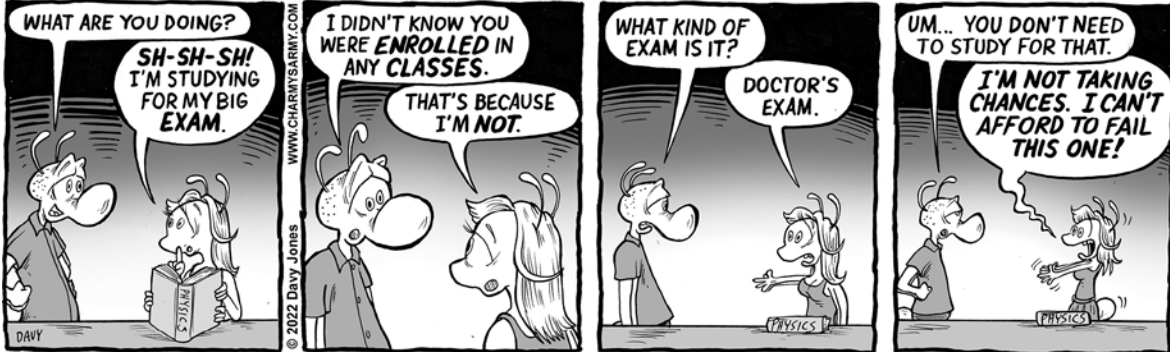
MR. MORRIS

By Rick Brooks



CHARMY'S ARMY

By Davey Jones



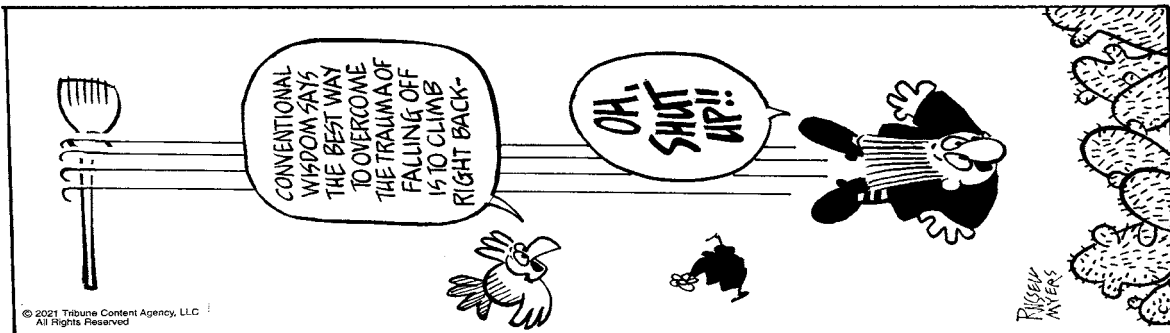
SOUR GRAPES

By Tim Jones



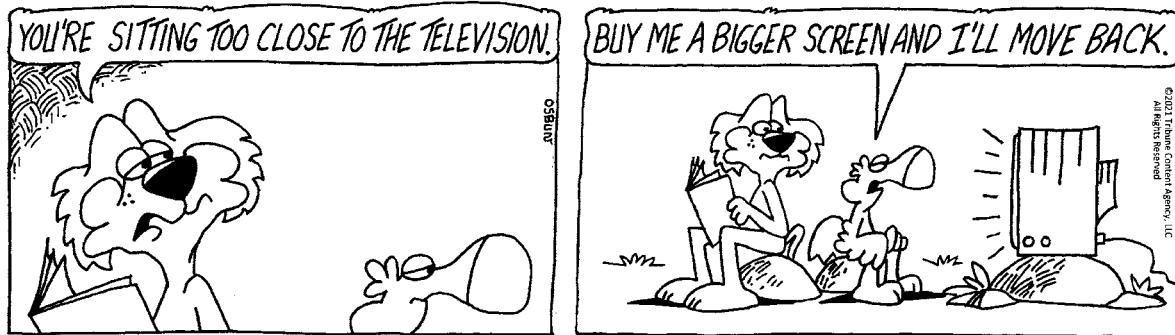
BROOM HILDA

By Russel Myers



ANIMAL CRACKERS

By Fred Wagner



THE MIDDLETONS

By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers



History of the World On This Day

August 9

1831 - The first steam locomotive began its first trip between Schenectady and Albany, NY.

1892 - Thomas Edison received a patent for a two-way telegraph.

1930 - Betty Boop had her beginning in "Dizzy Dishes", created by Max Fleischer.

1973 - The U.S. Senate committee investigating the Watergate affair filed suit against President Richard Nixon.

August 10

1792 - King Louis XVI was taken into custody by mobs during the French Revolution. He was executed the following January after being put on trial for treason.

1869 - The motion picture projector was patented by O.B. Brown.

1927 - Mount Rushmore was formally dedicated. The individual faces of the presidents were dedicated later.

1948 - On ABC, "Candid Camera" made its TV debut. The original title was "Candid Microphone."

August 11

1896 - Harvey Hubbell received a patent for the electric light bulb socket with a pull-chain.

1924 - Newsreel pictures were taken of U.S. presidential candidates for the first time.

1951 - The first major league

baseball game to be televised in color was broadcast. The Brooklyn Dodgers defeated the Boston Braves 8-1.

1984 - The Cincinnati Reds honored major league All-Star and Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench by retiring his uniform (#5).

August 12

1851 - Isaac Singer was issued a patent on the double-headed sewing machine.

1877 - Thomas Edison invented the phonograph and made the first sound recording.

1939 - "The Wizard of Oz" premiered in Oconomowoc, WI. Judy Garland became famous for the movie's song, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." The movie premiered in Hollywood on August 15.

1969 - The Boston Celtics were sold for \$6 million. At the time, it was the highest price paid for a pro basketball team.

August 13

1521 - Present-day Mexico City was captured by Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez from the Aztec Indians.

1912 - The first experimental radio license was issued to St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, PA.

1942 - Walt Disney's "Bambi" opened at Radio City Music Hall in

New York City, N.Y.

1986 - United States Football League standout Herschel Walker signed to play with the Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League.

August 14

1880 - The Cologne Cathedral in Cologne, Germany, was completed after 632 years of rebuilding.

1935 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law. The act created unemployment insurance and pension plans for the elderly.

1936 - The first basketball competition was held at the Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany. The U.S. defeated Canada, 19-8.

August 15

1848 - The dental chair was patented by M. Waldo Hanchett.

1935 - Will Rogers and Wiley Post were killed in an airplane crash in near Point Barrow, AK.

1944 - The Allied forces of World War II landed in southern France.

1947 - India became independent from Britain and was divided into the countries of India and Pakistan. India had been under British rule about 200 years.

1971 - U.S. President Nixon announced a 90-day freeze on wages, rents and prices. When it was over, they both increased.



JUMBLE

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

PRUNS



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SATEE



LNAFEL



YUSANE

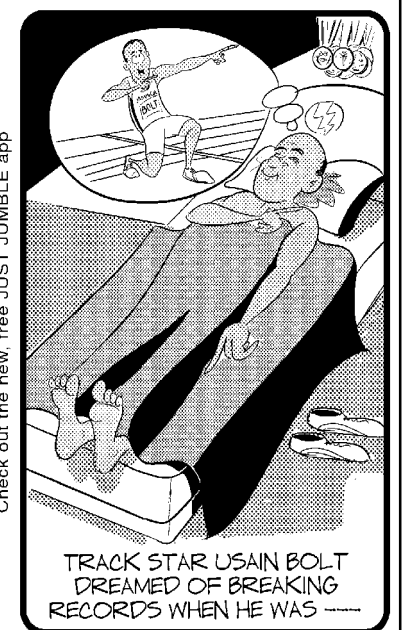


Answer here:



THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



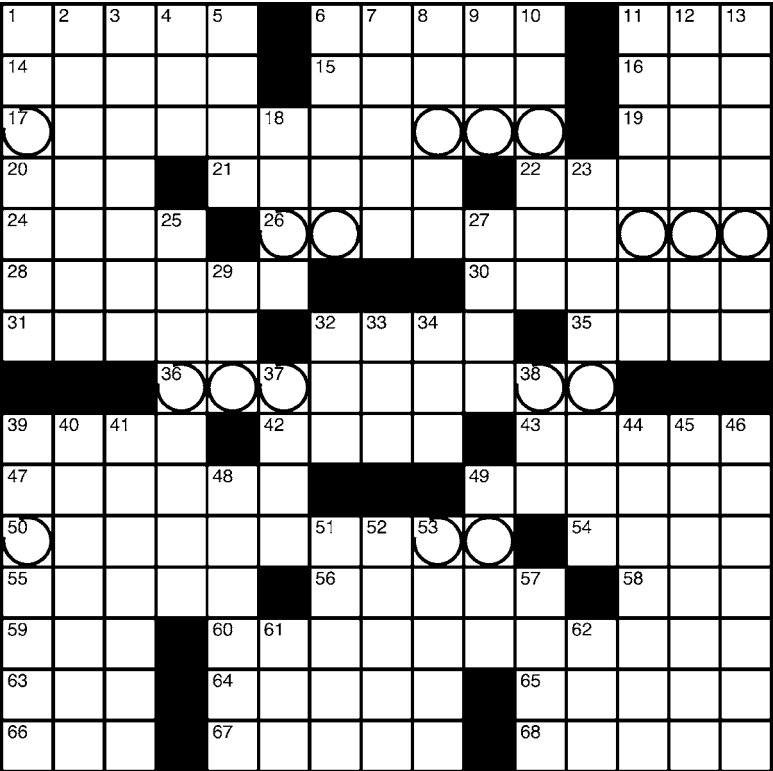
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



Answers: Track star Usain Bolt dreamed of breaking records when he was -- FAST ASLEEP
Jumbles: SPURN TEASE FALLEN UNEASY

Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

- Across**
 1 Is sporting
 6 Bobby who lost to Billie Jean King in tennis' "Battle of the Sexes"
 11 Place to unwind
 14 Grenoble's river
 15 Sign up, in Sussex
 16 Reliever's asset
 17 "ABC" group, with "The"
 19 USN clerk
- 20 Hot state
 21 Heat unit
 22 Ruhr Valley city
 24 Art class subject
 26 Part-plant DC Comics superhero
 28 Compulsive thief, for short
 30 Thoughts spoken onstage
 31 Prefix with comic
 32 "Not for me"
 35 Left on a liner



Solutions on the right side of this page

In memory of Greg Wilkinson

VocabPower!

The 2006 "Word of the Year" chosen by the American Dialect Society is "plutoed," meaning "to demote or devalue someone/thing." That, of course, is what has happened to ex-planet Pluto. May it never happen to you! Now for a plethora of "pl's":

1. plethora
 A. attitude
 B. plague
 C. abundance
 D. conniving

2. plenitude
 A. breadth
 B. muchness
 C. plainness
 D. haughtiness

3. plicate
 A. bribe
 B. pry open
 C. pleated
 D. seamed

4. placate
 A. appease
 B. tease
 C. fold in
 D. raise offspring

5. plover
 A. raid
 B. inquire
 C. farm tool
 D. wading bird

6. plutocracy
 A. kingship
 B. domain
 C. rule by few
 D. rule by rich

7. planar
 A. flat
 B. orbiting
 C. wood tool
 D. weed type

8. plebeian
 A. on course
 B. servant
 C. commoner
 D. duck

9. pluvial
 A. grooved
 B. enriched
 C. outer space
 D. rainy

10. plutoed
 A. left out
 B. devalued
 C. exploded
 D. marooned

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

— Greg Wilkinson

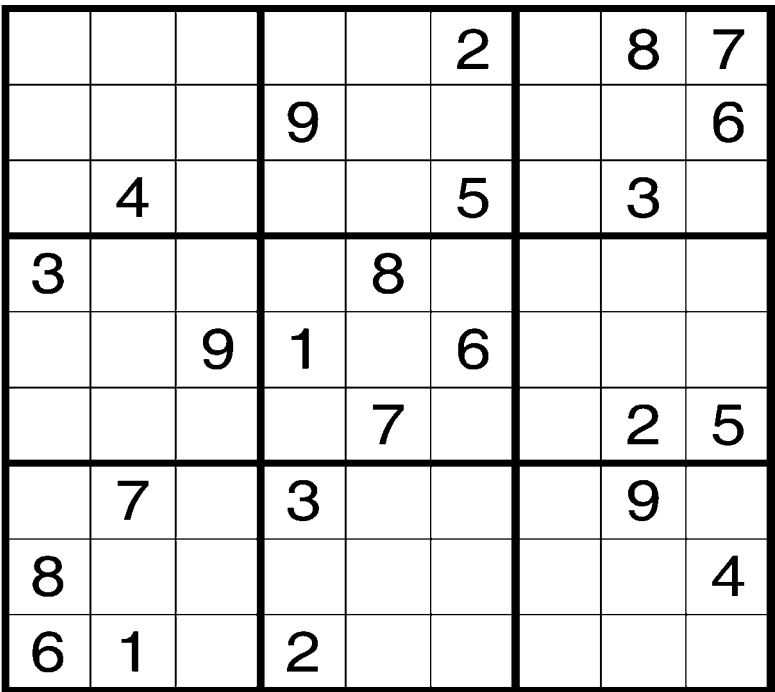
- 36 Pioneer's wagon with an upward-curved floor
 39 Popular side
 42 Sore
 43 Makeshift knives
 47 More minute
 49 Without a musical key
 50 Weight loss guru
 54 New Haven Ivy
 55 Stream of insults, say
 56 "It's ___ to you"
 58 Given a meal
 59 Printemps month
 60 Skirt, as an issue ... or a hint to the puzzle's circles
 63 Outer: Prefix
 64 Slices in a pie, often
 65 Gold unit
 66 Blue shade
 67 Designer fragrance
 68 Prepared for a TV interview

- Down**
 1 Mischief
 2 Ordinarily
 3 Any of 11 1860s states
 4 Sitcom planet
 5 Outdoor home
 6 Agree to more issues
 7 Start to structure
 8 Big name in fairy tales
 9 Federal URL ending
 10 Makes things slippery, in a way
 11 Closes the marital deal
 12 Peacock, e.g.
 13 Surrounded by
 18 Extremely
 23 Shout from the main mast
 25 Momentous victories
 27 Part of UTEP
 29 Excessively
 32 Bench press target, for short
 33 Bat wood
 34 Metaphor for a mess
 37 "Breaking Bad" agent
 38 Prime meridian std.
 39 Place near the Pennsylvania Railroad
 40 Relax
 41 Retirement income source
 44 Down
 45 Chemical bonding number
 46 Tobogganed
 48 Ophthalmologist, for short
 49 Lago filler
 51 Wound up costing
 52 Highway through Whitehorse
 53 ___-France
 57 Senior's highlight
 61 Comic strip cry
 62 Non opposite

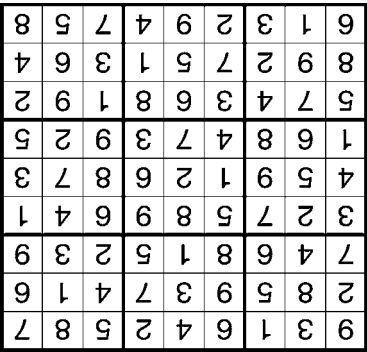
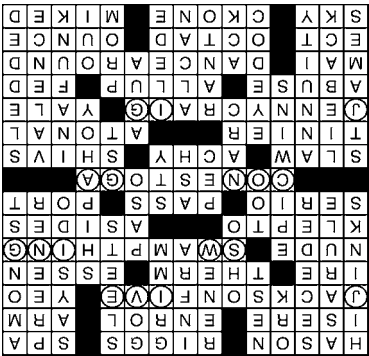
SUDOKU

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



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
 11-20 = 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 BODIES OF WATER in the grid of letters.

SEA COVE POND LAKE INLET OCEAN HARBOR LAGOON

Ask the Lord to ease your burdens

By Shirley Prihoda

The Bulletin

We all carry burdens of one sort or another. Some are so earth-shattering, they tie us to the event, causing a merry-go-round of pain and mental anguish, leading to a disconnection from those who love us. As the pain deepens within us, it frequently manifests in physical ailments.

As a Christian, when we encounter pain, our first

move should be toward Jesus for help. However, too often the first move is more often withdrawal from the very source of our healing. In that position, away from the Healer, we not only question the why of the event, but feel alone and abandoned in carrying the burden.

We are not alone. Jesus Himself said, "Come unto Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11:28-30 NLT

As a Pastor, it is sometimes difficult to openly share my strengths and challenges as I walk out this Emmaus Road journey. With the

intent that my personal battlefield narrative can help others navigate the landmines in theirs, I share my journey, which was born in the pits of pain, affliction, offense and unforgiveness. It is one I carried without question until I traded it for Jesus' easy burden.

In 2019, our family was hit with something that, quite frankly, shook

us to the very core of everything we thought we knew. It never even

crossed my mind that anything like this could happen to our family. It happens to other families, because they are not vigilant with safeguarding their children. But the truth is, what I had always thought, just simply didn't matter. It did happen, and I was devastated.

I felt everything I had placed my hopes in had failed me. The church failed me. God failed me. I was angry with the world, and I was angry with God. Emotions hit me in waves, often taking me to depths of despair I never knew existed. I would like to say that I ran to Jesus for help, but the truth is that I thought I could handle it myself. After all, I didn't need to rely on God because He could have kept it from happening in the first place if He had wanted to do so.

The truth of my thinking that I was above anything like this exploding in my life was rooted in pride. Pride that since I walked with God that my life was somehow immune to heartache. It never crossed my mind that the "other families" may have been walking with God, too. Pride was leading me down a self-destructive path, and I was dying from the inside out. In my arrogance, it was pushing me away from the only One who could save me. Psalms 10:14 spoke directly to where I was: "In his pride the wicked man does not seek Him; in all his thoughts, there is no room for God."

There were moments when I would halfway come to my senses and remember it wasn't God's fault. But then I'd move my thoughts to thinking, "It's their fault. Why should I forgive them? They did this to my family; they need to get what's coming to them." As the days passed, denial would once again set in. I refused to see that I was carrying a burden, or maybe focusing the pain on the offender was easier, since I didn't want to recognize or acknowledge something was being required of me.

My world had stopped, but pain was a constant ringing in my ears.

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, Thursday, Aug. 11 - Italian chicken, rice pilaf, okra & tomatoes, cheese cauliflower, peaches & cottage cheese, garlic sticks, dessert.

Friday, Aug. 12 - Hamburger patty, pickles & onions, beans & weenies, corn on cob, slaw, hamburger bun, dessert.

Monday, Aug. 15 - Chicken fried steak, gravy, corn, peas, peaches & cottage cheese, garlic toast, dessert.

Tuesday, Aug. 16 - BBQ chicken, squash casserole, red beans, collard greens, slaw, cornbread, dessert.

Wednesday, Aug. 17 - Frito pie, pinto beans, vegetable medley, watermelon, cornbread, dessert.

Pride that I could get through this on my own would not allow me to release the burden. I was too proud to ask for help. I could have read Proverbs 16:19 as to where my proud attitude would take me: "It is better to be lowly in spirit along with the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud."

Pride can be blinding. Unforgiveness was in the driver's seat, and I was along for the ride.

The journey hasn't been easy, but today is a new day, and I can freely admit the Lord has lifted my burden

of unforgiveness. Through prayer - a lot of it - and a friend who hugged me until I listened with my heart and not my head, said, "It's O.K. to not be O.K. God has her, and He sees you." I was able to lay down not only my pride but the unforgiveness and exchange my heavy burden for His. The truth was, He had never left me; I had simply made no room for Him to help me.

(To contact Shirley, please send emails to john.bulletin@gmail.com or write to The Bulletin, PO Box 2426, Angleton, Tx. 77516)

Parents' behavior noticed by children

Based on the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Is it important to have a baby christened? This used to be a big deal but not so much anymore. - I.C.

A: More critical than having a child christened is for parents to commit to raising their children according to the Word of God. The Bible says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

It is commendable for parents to want to establish their child's life in the church. How can parents train their children if they don't also train themselves in the truth of the Gospel and live by its provisions and instructions?

When parents belong to Jesus Christ, He will equip them daily for this monumental task if they submit themselves to Him and follow Him in obedience.

A Christ-centered home and foundation is important for children to grow physically, intellectually, and - most important - spiritually. Praying for guidance in finding a church home where the Bible is preached and where Christ is exalted is important.

When parents set an example of consistency in discipline and

guidance, it strengthens children. When parents show a lack of wisdom in choosing right friends for themselves, it will be difficult to help children choose right friends for themselves. If parents say one thing and do another, children will often "tune out." Children can often spot hypocrisy quickly, and it can have devastating results as they grow. Children desperately need the guidance of parents. It is important for moms and dads to be firm and fair and above all, to discipline in a spirit of love. Be an example in word and deed and be consistent in your walk with Christ.

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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