

**NEXT ISSUE  
WILL APPEAR  
FEBRUARY 7**

**County parks  
improvements &  
other park news**

SEE PAGES 10-11

## Bombs away, as weather reporting turns drama queen

By Peter Funt

Special to *The Bulletin*

It hard to tell what's changing faster, the weather or words used to describe it.

I've lived on the Central California coast for some time and have endured many winter storms that line up in the Pacific and swirl across our state. We used to refer to such weather as the Pineapple Express, a playful non-meteorological term reflecting the fact that heavy rain sometimes originates as far away as Hawaii.

There was no confusion. When the forecast mentioned a Pineapple Express we knew we were in for a lengthy drenching.

Recently, forecasters and journalists, apparently eager for more drama, have taken to describing these storms as "atmospheric rivers." According to Geophys-

(See **DRAMA** on Page 8)



# The Weekly Bulletin

January 24, 2023  
Our 29th Year of Publishing

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## Trahan trains dogs to save lives, find drugs, explosives



Rocky Trahan trains and trusts his four-legged partners.

By Ernie Williamson

*The Bulletin*

He was asked by U.S. marshals to help search a Louisiana house for a murder suspect.

So, Rocky Trahan and his canine partner - also named Rocky - joined the search.

The marshals initially found nothing, but the dog was barking, a sure signal that the marshals were missing something.

But further searching by the marshals again found nothing. They prepared to leave empty-handed.

Trahan, however, insisted that the suspect must be somewhere in the house. He trusted his four-legged partner. Trahan, after all, had trained Rocky.

(See **TRAHAN** on Page 6)

## So long winter, if only for a few Caribbean days

By John Toth

*The Bulletin*

When Sharon and I returned from our very first cruise last year, we decided that this was our new way of travel. Give us a cabin and take us somewhere warm while we're being dined and entertained.

Then I had what I would call a great idea. Why don't we do it again during the coldest time of the year? That would give us a chance to warm up and enjoy summer when it's traditionally very cold here.

I don't mean like freezing cold

### John's Ramblings

- although that did happen in February 2021 and again this Christmas - but cold enough to put on socks and layers of clothing.

I have mentioned before that I am a cold disliker, if not hater. I grew up in areas where winters were tough. We heated our home with a coal stove. It took a while to warm up, and by morning we were back to being cold.

I decided later in life that living like this for months at a time was not for me, not even with central heating. I'm not a winter sports person and don't enjoy wading through piles of snow to get to the mailbox.

Once I had the resources, I focused on living somewhere where if there is cold weather, it's only for a short period. For the rest of the time, I want to be in warm to fairly warm weather. Hence, I finished college and moved to the Texas Gulf Coast.

When we prepared for our first cruise in August, questions remained whether we would even like it. Would we get sea sick? Would a cruise ship vacation be

(See **CRUISING** on Page 5)

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## I made a big mistake by taking husband with me to COSTCO



By Lori Borgman

*Tribune News Service (TNS)*

I don't want to point fingers or name names, but you-know-who is the reason I shop Costco alone. If this certain someone goes along, we are likely to be pushing a cart so loaded you can't see over the top of it.

I remind him that the reason we joined Costco was because prices at the pharmacy were good when we self-insured.

Well, that and for the rotisserie chickens.

If I had to choose between prescription meds and rotisserie chicken, I'd choose the chicken.

(See **COSTCO** on Page 9)

## Money may not buy happiness, but laughter, family does

By Tom Purcell

Special to *The Bulletin*

What makes us happy and fulfilled?

According to the directors of the Harvard Study of Adult Development, the longest scientific study of happiness ever conducted, the answer is very simple: our relation-

ships.

"The stronger our relationships, the more likely we are to live happy, satisfying and overall healthier lives," according to the book "The Good Life," which recounts lessons from the Harvard study.

"Relationships in all their forms - friendships, romantic partnerships,

families, coworkers, tennis partners, book club members, Bible study groups - all contribute to a happier, healthier life."

Most of us know this to be true, yet too often we pursue the shallow and material things that do not make us happy.

(See **LAUGHING** on Page 7)

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**WEATHER HISTORY ON THIS DAY**

- Jan 25, 1821 - The Hudson River was frozen solid during the midst of the coldest winter in 41 years. Thousands of persons crossed the ice from New York City to New Jersey, and refreshment taverns were set up in the middle of the river to warm pedestrians.
- Jan. 26, 1983 - The California coast was battered by a storm that produced record high tides, 32-foot waves and mudslides, causing millions of dollars damage.
- Jan. 27, 1772 - The "Washington and Jefferson Snowstorm" occurred. George Washington reported three feet of snow at Mount Vernon, and Thomas Jefferson recorded about three feet at Monticello.
- Jan. 28, 1963 - The low of -34F at Cynthiana, KY, equaled the state record established just four days earlier at Bonnierville.
- Jan. 29, 1780 - A severe winter the mercury dipped to -16F at New York City. New York Harbor was frozen for five weeks, allowing a heavy cannon to be taken across the ice to fortify the British on Staten Island.
- Jan. 30, 1989 - The temperature at McGrath, AK., dipped to -62F and Fairbanks reported a reading of -51F, with unofficial readings in the area as cold as -75F. The massive dome of bitterly cold air began to slide down western Canada toward the north central U.S. Strong southwest winds ahead of the arctic front pushed the temperature at Great Falls, MT. to 62 degrees, and gusted to 124 mph at Choteau, MT.

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**The Bulletin**

**7-Day Local Forecast**

<b>JANUARY 25</b> Wednesday	<b>JANUARY 26</b> Thursday	<b>JANUARY 27</b> Friday	<b>JANUARY 28</b> Saturday	<b>JANUARY 29</b> Sunday	<b>JANUARY 30</b> Monday	<b>JANUARY 31</b> Tuesday
Sunny 58 / 48	Cloudy 57 / 46	Cloudy 55 / 47	Cloudy 54 / 43	Few Showers 50 / 41	Sunny 52 / 40	Partly Cloudy 54 / 45

**Local UV Index**

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

**State Cities**

City	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		City	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx		Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Amarillo	45/30	s	43/27	mc	40/26	s	Odessa	53/43	s	51/40	cl	50/41	cl
Beaumont	58/47	s	57/45	mc	56/46	cl	San Antonio	61/46	s	59/43	cl	58/44	cl
Dallas	53/45	s	52/44	cl	50/43	cl	Waco	56/43	s	55/41	mc	53/42	cl
Houston	58/51	s	59/50	mc	58/52	cl	Wichita Falls	53/40	s	49/35	mc	47/36	pc

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

**Weather Trivia**

In which direction do tornadoes usually move? **?**

**Answer:** Southwest to Northeast.

**Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week**

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Wed	2:49-4:49	3:14-5:14	Sun	5:56-7:56	6:19-8:19
Thu	3:37-5:37	4:00-6:00	Mon	6:44-8:44	7:08-9:08
Fri	4:23-6:23	4:46-6:46	Tue	7:33-9:33	7:59-9:59
Sat	5:09-7:09	5:32-7:32			

**Weather History**

**Jan. 25, 1837** - At 7 p.m., a display of the northern lights danced above Burlington, Vt. Its light was equal to the full moon. Snow and other objects reflecting the light were deeply tinged with a blood red hue. Blue, yellow and white streamers were also noted.

**Sun & Moon**

First	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Last
1/28	Wednesday	7:14 a.m.	5:54 p.m.	10:11 a.m.	10:24 p.m.	2/13
	Thursday	7:13 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	10:43 a.m.	11:26 p.m.	
	Friday	7:13 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	11:14 a.m.	Next Day	
	Saturday	7:12 a.m.	5:56 p.m.	11:46 a.m.	12:26 a.m.	
Full 2/5	Sunday	7:12 a.m.	5:57 p.m.	12:21 p.m.	1:25 a.m.	New 2/20
	Monday	7:11 a.m.	5:58 p.m.	12:59 p.m.	2:25 a.m.	
	Tuesday	7:11 a.m.	5:59 p.m.	1:41 p.m.	3:23 a.m.	

**Surfside Beach Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
1/25	4:49 a	12:50 a	7:02 p	12:02 p
1/26	6:25 a	1:20 a	7:16 p	1:08 p
1/27	8:47 a	2:01 a	7:22 p	2:48 p
1/28	10:57 a	2:46 a	None	None
1/29	12:51 p	3:32 a	None	None
1/30	1:55 p	4:23 a	None	None
1/31	2:45 p	5:20 a	None	None

**Local Almanac Last Week**

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days					
1/12	67	51	63/43	0.02"	1/12	9	1/16	20
1/13	64	38	63/43	0.00"	1/13	1	1/17	22
1/14	64	35	63/44	0.00"	1/14	0	1/18	14
1/15	76	61	63/44	0.00"	1/15	19		
1/16	76	63	63/44	0.00"				
1/17	79	65	63/44	0.00"				
1/18	77	51	63/44	0.07"				

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.

### How the body handles agonizing pain

**Q.** *A person snatched up into the jaws of a lion and shaken about would have to be in agonizing pain, wouldn't you say?*

**A.** That's not the way Scottish explorer David Livingstone tells it in his 1857 "Missionary Travels," where he recounts being attacked by a big cat: "Growling horribly close to my ear, he shook me as a terrier does a rat. The shock produced a stupor similar to that which seems to be felt by a mouse after the first shake of the cat. It caused a sort of dreaminess, in which there was no sense of pain nor feeling of terror, though [I was] quite conscious of all that was happening."

Then a friend fired a gun and scared the lion off, saving the badly injured Livingstone.

In "The Medusa and the Snail," noted author Lewis Thomas describes witnessing a jeep accident during World War II where two young MPs were trapped inside the crushed steel, both mortally injured. "We had a conversation while people with the right tools were prying them free. Sorry about the accident, they said. No, they said, they felt fine. Is everyone else okay, one of them said. Well, the other

one said, no hurry now. And then they died."

Such stories are common where people encounter sudden, violent life-threatening circumstances. In many grave situations where pain would seem to serve no biological purpose, the brain apparently shuts it off with natural stress chemicals called endorphins (for "endogenous morphine").

### Was it real or imagined?

**Q.** *If kidnapped before the age of two, would you remember it later? What if you weren't kidnapped?*

**A.** You still might remember it. The famous Swiss psychologist Jean Piaget recounted how for many years he had a vivid recollection of being pushed in a baby carriage by his nursemaid when a man came up and tried to kidnap him. Piaget was less than two years old at the time, according to accounts by the family.

"I was held in by the strap fastened round me while my nurse bravely tried to stand between me and the thief (quoted by memory researcher Elizabeth Loftus).

She received various scratches, and I can still see vaguely those on her face. Then a crowd gathered, a policeman with a short cloak and a white baton came up, and the man took to his heels. I can still see the whole scene, and can even place it

near the tube station."

Then when Piaget was about 15, his parents received a letter from the former nursemaid saying she had undergone a religious conversion and wanted to make a confession, and to return the watch they had given her at the time: She had made up the whole story, she said, faking the scratches. Piaget was shocked. He realized that he had constructed the entire account based on his parents' tellings, and then projected the story into the past "as a visual memory."

What's important to understand, sums up Hope College psychologist Dr. David G. Myers, is that memory is reconstruction as well as reproduction. "You therefore can't be sure whether a memory is real by how real it feels. Unreal memories feel like real memories."

### How many random numbers can a person recite from memory?

**Q.** *Most of us are lucky to remember a 10-digit phone number. Do you think you could recall 36 random digits, or 36,000? Is this humanly possible?*

**A.** Rajan Mahadevan made "The Guinness Book of Records" for reciting the first 99,000 digits of pi, a mathematical number most of us know simply as 3.14, or maybe 3.1416. Ask him what is the 3,832nd digit or give him any string of 10 digits and ask for the digits that follow, and he can reel them off.

Call out 50 random digits that you just dreamed up and he can repeat them forward or backward.

Mahadevan said his secret is "chunking" the numbers into manageable units. For example, explains Rod Plotnik in "Introduction to Psychology," here's how Mahadevan broke up one substring of 14 digits-11131217351802: "He chunked 111 and named it 'Nelson' because Admiral Nelson had one eye, one arm and one leg; he chunked 312 and named it the 'area code of Chicago'; he chunked 1735 and named it '29' because Ben Franklin was 29 in 1735; and he chunked 1802 as 'plus 2' because John Adams occupied the White House in 1800." Then, to recite the number, he recalled his string of associations: Nelson, Chicago area code, Ben Franklin, John Adams.

## Early Bird



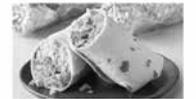
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**MIKE PINGREE'S  
 THROUGH THE  
 LOOKING GLASS**



**OH, SORRY, I HOPE THIS DOESN'T AFFECT OUR RELATIONSHIP:** A woman, who had dated a man for only a month, burned down his home in Bexar County, Texas, after she called his number and a woman answered. After seeing the woman on the FaceTime call, she broke in to the house and lit the couch on fire, which spread throughout the residence, thinking he was cheating on her. Turns out, the other woman was actually a relative of the guy.  
**HEY, DO YOU HEAR A WHIRRING SOUND?:** A man stole a surveillance camera from the backyard of a home in Tullahoma, Tenn., but was unaware that the camera was still rolling as he unknowingly captured himself on video from the moment he took it to the time that he sold it to another guy.  
**YOU'D BETTER RUN AND PASS GO ... KA-BLAM!:** A family was drinking and playing a game of Monopoly at a home in Tulsa, Okla., when a fight broke out between a man and his stepfather. They knocked over the game board and

turned over furniture before taking their battle outside. Once there, the man chased his stepfather and stepsister down the street with a gun, and fired one shot - he later claimed to police - "at the ground."  
**I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE, HONEST:** A grandfather, who destroyed a room at the Heritage Hotel in Porthcawl, Wales, causing almost \$60,000 in damage, was found naked and incoherent in the room, and he appeared to be under the influence of booze and drugs. He denied responsibility for the damage, describing the room as being in "perfect condition" the previous night. He has 36 previous convictions including damage to property and burglary.  
**DADDY'S A SUPERHERO:** A thief abandoned one car that he had stolen in a Minneapolis neighborhood and then stole another car that had four children under the age of 5 inside. In response, the kids' father jumped into the abandoned stolen vehicle and gave chase, rear-ending his own car and causing the thief to run away.

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**WELL, THAT DOES SOUND LIKE FUN:** A man in France was fired for refusing to participate in his company's "fun" approach to team building, which included going out for drinks after work with his colleagues in France. He filed a lawsuit and won, mentioning in court that these "fun" nights sometimes included sharing a bed with each other and "simulated sexual acts."  
**A SHORTCUT TO NIRVANA:** All four monks at a Buddhist temple in central Thailand were defrocked after every single one of them tested positive for methamphetamine.  
**I SWEAR I DON'T KNOW**

**HOW THEY GOT HERE:** Police searched the Middletown, Ohio, property of a man they suspected of being a thief, and they found trailers that had been stolen from the City of Middletown, the City of Monroe, the City of Mason, and Liberty Township.  
**SOMETIMES YOU GET BUZZED WHILE FIREFIGHTING, DUDE:** A fire broke out at a marijuana grow house in Oakland Park, Fla. Firefighters, who doused the blaze, found cannabis plants in one of the bedrooms of the duplex along with electrical lines running across the home.

**DID YOU KNOW ?**

- When you empty your computer's trash folder, you accept the illusion that the files have really been deleted. They have not.
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John and Sharon Toth in August 2022 on the Carnival Breeze - both first-time cruisers.

## CRUISING

(From Page 1)

a good alternative to flying somewhere and checking into a hotel?

The answer is, yes; we had a great time. Then we decided to do it again when traditionally it's the coldest time of the year here. We booked another cruise to the Western Caribbean for a week in the middle of winter and plan to spend some time by the beach and in the Mayan jungles, sweating as if it were still summer.

After the Christmas freeze, it became clear that heat and humidity are not as bad as subfreezing temperatures. I don't know how people in the northern and eastern states can take that month after month each winter. They must love it, or they would not stay there. But that's them, and not us. Give me some

sunshine and heat, and I'll be happy for a while.

I'm really excited about cutting a small chunk out of winter and replacing it with summer. I'll be writing columns, posting on Facebook and Instagram, as well as putting together some travel videos for our YouTube channel.

It will be like a working vacation. It's a hard job, but I volunteered myself and Sharon to do it. Last time we sailed on Carnival. This time we'll go on Royal Caribbean. I'll also be comparing the two cruising experiences and accommodations.

But most of all, we won't be cold.

For those of you who have been skeptical of cruising because of Covid, the last I heard, there is no more testing or proof of vaccina-

tion requirements. Just pay your money, grab your passport or birth certificate, and you're on-board.

I will be doing a few things differently this time than in August. I'll venture into the casino and play a little blackjack or the slots - maybe risk \$50. I'm such a high roller.

The last time I lost \$50 in a casino, I regretted playing the slots. I was hoping to win the jackpot and leave with a few thousand dollars, like in "Las Vegas Vacation." In the movie, the kid won cars, but I'd be satisfied with just cash. What would I do with a new car in the middle of the Gulf of Mexico, anyway?

Cold weather, I don't like you. I can't beat you, so I'm running away from you.

Watch, it will be in the 80s here while I'm sweating in the Mayan jungle. So be it. It's a gamble I'm willing to take.

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## TRAHAN (From Page 1)

Finally, the marshals found the suspect hiding in a cleverly designed hideaway. Team Rocky had been right.

This is just one episode in Trahan's 20 years of training dogs to fight crime, uncover drugs and detect explosives.

Trahan estimates he has averaged training 50-60 dogs a year, acquiring a resume that makes him a master K9 trainer.

It is impossible to know, of

course, but you have to wonder how many people have been saved from addiction and how many terrorists have been denied explosives by these trained dogs.

These days Trahan is operation manager and master K9 trainer at FOCUSS Service Group, a multidimensional safety and security company in Angleton.

In addition to training dogs, the company provides security guards, construction site safety managers and even private investigators.

Much of the current work with

dogs involves homeland security projects, training dogs to detect drugs or explosives at ports, borders and airports. The company is federally licensed to train dogs for both drug and explosives detection.

Trahan says the key to training these working dogs is selecting the right dogs for training in the first place.

Trahan wants dogs that are driven.

"If I hide a ball, I want a dog that won't be distracted. I want a dog that won't give up until the ball is

found," Trahan explains.

Once selected it takes two or three months to train a dog for these projects. A fully-trained working dog will sell for between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

German Shepherds and Belgian Malinois are the most popular breeds for drug and explosives detection.

Belgians are gaining in popularity because of what Trahan calls their "intensity." Also, they are suited to states like Texas because they tolerate heat better than other breeds.

Surprisingly, most of the dogs selected for training are imported from Europe. Trahan explains that is because Europeans breed their dogs for strength while breeders in the U.S. are more concerned with appearance.

Training dogs for detection of explosives is different than training drug dogs.

Because of the risky nature of the work, dogs being trained for detecting explosives are taught to be more careful where they walk or jump.

Trahan admits it is sometimes

difficult to give up a dog that he has trained.

"I do get attached," he says. "To some more than others. But if I know I won't be keeping it, I avoid getting to the point that I can't say goodbye. Sometimes it can be difficult."

Even more difficult is learning that a dog you trained has been killed. Trahan has had two dogs killed in the line of duty.

One was shot chasing a suspect in the woods. Another was found dead in a police cruiser after a gunman opened fire on a police officer.

Trahan has a picture of that dog on his desk.

FOCUSS and Trahan do provide obedience training for pet dogs. But Trahan cautions that most of the time, the dog isn't the problem.

"It's usually about communication," Trahan says. "The owner needs to learn to communicate in a way the dog understands."

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



Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay  
Coastal Storm Risk Management Program

### Freeport Project Public Open House Scheduled for February 2023

The Freeport Project, a component of the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Program (S2G Program), will host a public open house on February 2, 2023, to provide the public with information about project progress.

The Freeport Project is one of three projects included in the S2G Program and focuses on improvements to the existing hurricane flood protection system in the Freeport area. These improvements will reduce the risk of flooding from coastal storm surge, while not inducing adverse impacts to area residents and businesses within the Freeport area. The Freeport Project is a partnership of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and its non-Federal sponsor, the Velasco Drainage District.

Date, time, and location information for the public open house is as follows:

**Thursday, February 2, 2023**  
**4 p.m. – 7 p.m.**  
**Lake Jackson Civic Center**  
**333 TX-332**  
**Lake Jackson, Texas 77566**

Informational displays will be available for public viewing and project team representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions.

Public feedback and participation are encouraged. The public open house is intended to inform and provide opportunities for the public to participate in the Freeport Project. **The public open house is not part of the formal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, which was completed in 2017.**

Comments received during this time will be taken into consideration by the Freeport Project Team but will not be documented as part of a NEPA-required public comment period. Written comments will be accepted during the public open houses and may be emailed to [S2GFreeport@usace.army.mil](mailto:S2GFreeport@usace.army.mil).

To learn more about the Freeport Project, visit the project website and StoryMap:

- Project website – [www.swg.usace.army.mil/S2G/Freeport/](http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/S2G/Freeport/)
- Project StoryMap – <https://bit.ly/FreeportStoryMap>

Project Website



Project StoryMap



Rocky Trahan is shown working with one of the dogs he has trained.

# LAUGHING

(From Page 1)

On one hand, we want wealth and fame. We want people to recognize us when we walk into a public place.

On the other hand, we know wealth and fame are bogus.

You never know who your real friends really are. You're surrounded by people looking for a handout.

I enjoy talking with older people, who are a treasure trove of experience and wisdom.

I still remember the conversation I had 20 years ago with my brother-in-law's dad, who told me what it was like to grow up during the Great Depression.

He said his family had no money, but he had no idea they were financially poor because they were otherwise wealthy beyond belief.

His city neighborhood was filled

with characters, people watching out for them and lots of friends to play with. He said it took forever to walk to the store and back because of all the people stopping him to say hello.

He said he felt sorry for kids today who have material wealth but will never know the warmth of being surrounded by so many people who cared for you.

But we know all this. We know that the happiest moments in our own lives involve friends and family.

These are the people who affect the deeper part of our nature, our spirits and souls, where true happiness resides.

These are the people who help us when we're down, or engage us in deeply satisfying conversations, or make us laugh so hard our guts hurt.

Perhaps that's why laughter and

a sense of humor are key components of happiness, according to The Atlantic.

"Consuming humor brings joy and relieves suffering," the magazine reports.

"In a 2010 study from the Journal of Aging Research, the researchers gave one group of senior citizens "humor therapy" - daily jokes, laughter exercises, funny stories and the like - for eight weeks. A control group did not receive this therapy.

At the end of the experiment, the people in the first group reported feeling 42 percent happier than they had at the beginning.

They were 35 percent happier than the second group and experienced decreases in pain and loneliness."

The evidence is clear that engaging and laughing with family and friends are the keys to human happiness and fulfillment.

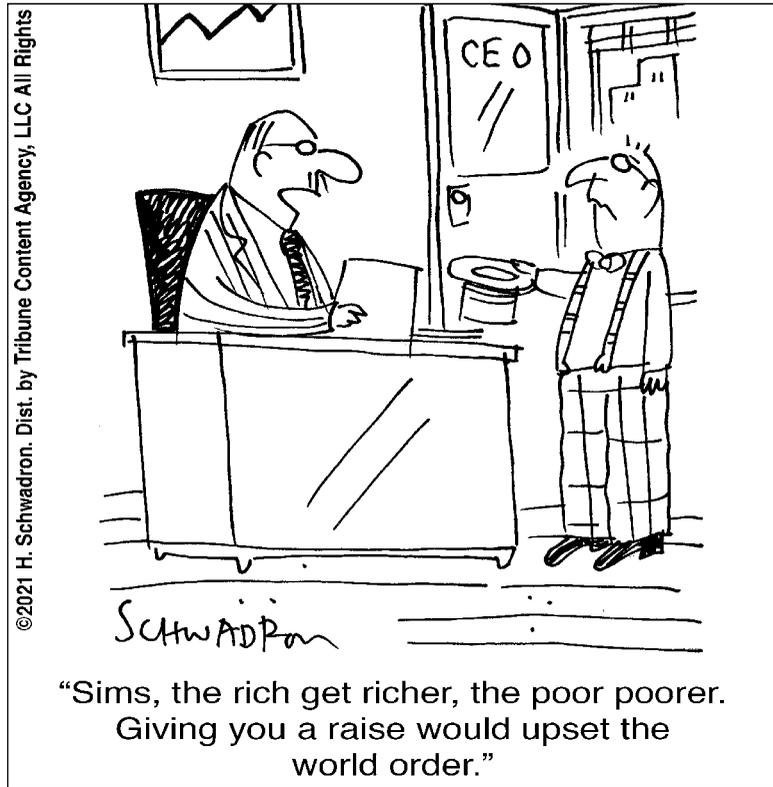
But sadly, rather than create more connections with other human beings, the U.S. Census reveals that Americans - especially elderly Americans - are increasingly becoming isolated and lonely, reports PBS.

The solution to unhappiness and loneliness is clear to me: Make more friends, engage and visit those who are isolated and tell more silly

jokes like this one:

"Where is happiness made? At the satisfactory."

(Copyright 2023 Tom Purcell. Purcell, creator of the infotainment site *ThurbersTail.com*, which features pet advice he's learning from his beloved Labrador, *Thurber*, is a *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* humor columnist. Email him at [Tom@Tom-Purcell.com](mailto:Tom@Tom-Purcell.com).)



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# How did G.I. Joe figure become a popular toy for boys?

The first G.I. Joe action figure was initially referred to simply as an "action soldier" and debuted in 1964.

In 1975, the toy series was renamed the G.I. Joe Adventure Team to downplay associations with the Vietnam War, but for many children, G.I. Joe remained a soldier.

The origins of G.I. Joe's name have been debated, but the most commonly accepted explanation is that during World War I, American soldiers were referred to as "G.I.'s." Cartoonist and draftee Dave Breger is credited with first using the name "G.I. Joe" in a 1942 comic strip that appeared in Yank, the Army Weekly during

World War II.

It's thought that Hasbro later adopted the name for their action figure. Interestingly, a World War II war bonds poster that appealed to children featured the words "Help Equip G.I. Joe" along with cutouts that could be used to give the soldier depicted accessories, much like a paper doll.

It came out just two years after

Breger's cartoon did, suggesting that the term "G.I. Joe" had already gained widespread usage.

Over the years, the design of

G.I. Joe has gone through various updates, but the toy series still remains a favorite of many children today.

## Back Then History



One of the many popular action G.I. Joe figures is shown.

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Space is limited so please submit your registration form soon. Must be an Angleton resident or business owner.

The registration form is available at [angleton.tx.us/CivicAlerts](http://angleton.tx.us/CivicAlerts).

Scroll to Angleton University. You may also contact Patty Swords at [pswords@angleton.tx.us](mailto:pswords@angleton.tx.us) or 979-849-4364 x2139



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## DRAMA

(From Page 1)

ical Research Letters the term describes "long, meandering plumes of water vapor often originating over the tropical oceans that bring sustained, heavy precipitation to the west coasts of North America and northern Europe."

Now that the phrasing has gone public, pretty much every forecast that includes rain calls it an atmospheric river.

The current rainy season has been marked by an even more frightening term, producing headlines like this one from AccuWeather on Jan. 6: "Deadly combination of bomb cyclone, atmospheric river drenches West Coast."

Bomb cyclone? This term of weather art is actually rooted in a basic but unwieldy scientific phenomenon, bombogenesis, which refers to a rapid drop in pressure. Plucking "bomb" from the word seems more alarmist than informative.

The Weather Channel adds to the fright by giving winter storms names — even though neither the National Weather Service nor any other reputable news outlet uses them.

According to Paul Gross, a veteran meteorologist based in Detroit, "There is no need whatsoever to name winter storms." Yet, The Weather Channel has come up with

a list of names for this season's storms, including Fernando, Xar and — my personal favorite — Iggy.

"Naming winter storms instills unnecessary fear into some people," explains Mr. Gross, "because you are assigning a perceived similar level of risk to that winter storm as you might a hurricane."

We've had some nasty weather this season, causing real damage and hardship. But ginning up terms that shed more heat — or, depending on the season, cold — than light doesn't help the situation.

I'm waiting for folks at The Weather Channel to achieve even greater tension by naming their next bomb cyclone "Vladimir."

(Copyright 2023 Peter Funt. Peter Funt's new memoir, "Self-Amused," is now available at [CandidCamera.com](http://CandidCamera.com).)

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## BC staff, faculty members honored for excellence in education

Brazosport College employees David Sysma and Corrina Bickham were recently honored by the college's students, faculty and staff as representatives for the League for Innovation in Community Colleges 2022-23 John & Suanne Roueche Staff and Faculty Excellence awards.

Sysma, an assistant professor of history, was selected for the John & Suanne Roueche Teaching Excellence Award, while Bickham, a senior administrative office assistant for the counseling and testing department, was the recipient of the John & Suanne Roueche Staff Excellence Award. As the 2022 teaching excellence recipient, Sysma also becomes BC's Minnie Stevens Piper Professor Award nominee.

Sysma is beginning his 16th year at Brazosport College. He earned an M.A. in history in 1999 from Southwest Texas State University and a B.G.S. from the University of Maryland/College Park. He began teaching history at Brazosport College in the Spring of 2007 and became a full-time instructor in Autumn, 2009. During the 1990s, while serving in the United States Air Force, he earned Air Education and Training Command Master Instructor status.

"It's an honor to be selected for this, but it's not an individual distinction. I share it with many people," Sysma said. "The students here at BC, my BC colleagues, and my family - particularly my spouse, Sherri - who has sacrificed so much so that I could have the time and energy to be a teacher."

As for Bickham, she has been at BC for 20 years, beginning as a student worker in 2002 through 2004. From there, she became the front desk receptionist in the Counseling and Testing department, where she was the first line of contact for BC students. She then moved into her current position with the Assessment Center years later.

"I am so honored and humbled to receive this award," Bickham said. "Working in Student Services, I see every day the hard work and dedication that my colleagues put in day-in and day-out to making our students' educational journey a smooth and successful process."

"I've had a lot of great mentors here who set a great foundation for me and who have believed in me," she added. "I thoroughly love what I do here at Brazosport College, and I love my BC family. I'd also like to thank my husband, Ryan, for being my No. 1 supporter."

The John & Suanne Roueche Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards celebrate outstanding contributions and leadership by community college staff and faculty. Each academic year, member colleges are invited to select and submit names of individuals to be recognized as recipients of these prestigious awards.

For more information about the League for Innovation in Community Colleges John & Suanne Roueche Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards, visit its Web site at [www.league.org](http://www.league.org). To learn more about Brazosport College, go online to [www.brazosport.edu](http://www.brazosport.edu) or call (979) 230-3000.

### DID YOU KNOW ?

- Richard Nixon ordered a nuclear strike on North Korea while he was drunk. The National Security Advisor at the time got on the phone and told the Joint Chiefs of Staff to stand down on the order until Nixon woke up sober the next morning. Then the strike was canceled.
- People who grow up in warmer climates tend to be friendlier than those who grow up in colder climates.
- Astronauts grow taller in space.

## COSTCO

(From Page 1)

I'd die happy.

He reminds me that we also go for cheap gasoline.

We do. Except that gasoline can be costly, as in, "Since we're here for gas, why not run in and pick up a few things?"

The last time we went in for a "few things," the gasoline came out to \$17 a gallon. We can't afford to keep saving money.

In a recent lapse of sanity, we went to Costco together.

I explained that when you shop at a warehouse store you have a list and stick to it. You do not wander around and browse. Browsing is how you wind up with 12 pounds of cashews, evergreen shrubs and a seven-piece sectional sofa.

He said he couldn't hear me. I said in that case he should go directly to the hearing department.

We got what we came for and

then began browsing. Not just browsing; it was full-on meandering. Wandering. Drifting. Roaming. Strolling. From giant HD televisions to vitamins in gallon-size bottles.

"Look! Lime jalapeno tortilla chips!" he exclaims.

It was a bag the size you would take to a family reunion.

"Ghiradelli brownie mix!"

We'd need a forklift to get the box into the cart.

Then came the samples. Garlic kielbasa. "You can't say no to garlic kielbasa," he says.

"No, but our doctor would."

"Deep dish pizza!"

He says it with the excitement of remote tribes the first time they saw a Polaroid picture.

"Pretzel crisps!"

It's an enormous bag — a bag the size mulch comes in.

"Ask yourself this," I say. "Will I live long enough?"

Pretzel crisps are in the cart. His

father lived to be 97. Apparently, he plans on outliving him.

"Tiramisu!" He's a kid in the candy store.

I freeze. It looks delectable.

"When was the last time you made tiramisu?" he asks.

I take the fifth.

"Six individual servings," he notes.

I put my foot down - the one with the running shoe. "No."

We check out, and I calculate the cost of gasoline per gallon.

We get home, unpack and open the fridge to scrounge something up for lunch. He joins me as we stare at a smattering of leftovers staring back.

"You know what sounds good?" I muse. "Tiramisu."

(Lori Borgman is a columnist, author and speaker. Her new book, "What Happens at Grandma's Stays at Grandma's" is now available. Email her at [lori@loriborgman.com](mailto:lori@loriborgman.com).)



Brazosport College staff members David Sysma, left, and Corrina Bickham were recently named recipients of the League for Innovation in Community Colleges 2022-23 John & Suanne Roueche Staff and Faculty Excellence awards. Bickham was selected for the staff excellence award, while Sysma was the recipient of the teaching excellence award.

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- ♦Year-round special events.

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*We also thank the many volunteers who help clean the beaches, stake out trees, do sand fencing, lend a hand with programs and add so much to the county's parks and to our communities. To become a sponsor, or to volunteer in our programs, call (979) 864-1541, or email Mike Mullenweg at mikem@brazoria-county.com.*



## Hanson hosts Ultra Grit Fitness Challenge

The 3rd Annual GRIT Ultra extreme fitness run was held at Hanson Riverside and Beal Park for the third consecutive year.

Thirty-seven brave and tenacious runners representing more than two dozen teams turned out to compete. Spectacular weather made for ideal conditions for the cross-country run that meanders a 4.23-mile trail course through towering oaks, dwarf palmettos, prairies, creeks and other scenic views.

Participants ran the course once per hour for 24 consecutive hours, beginning at noon on New Year's Eve and ending at noon on New Year's Day. Participants taking more than 60 minutes to finish the 4.23-mile course were disqualified from the run.

Hanson Riverside Park provided the perfect space, amenities and trail system to host the event. The starting line was located by the main entrance to the park, near the public washroom.

Runners were spotted taking short breaks in overnight tents located in the adjacent field flanking the large pavilion.

For more park information, please visit [www.brazoriacountyparks.org](http://www.brazoriacountyparks.org) or call (979) 849-1541.

## Albert Finkle Memorial County Park, Camp Mohawk receive improvements

Improving park grounds and guest amenities continues to be Brazoria County Parks' ongoing priority.

The Albert Finkle Memorial

County Park pavilion received a near total renovation composed of the complete replacement of the roof with interior wood slatted accented ceiling, reinforced

columns, and new paint throughout. Before major flooding in the area, located toward the kayak launch accessing Chocolate Bayou, a new walkover bridge provides access to a peaceful sitting area with a panoramic view of the on-site pond, Chocolate Bayou and entire park grounds.

Only a short eight-minute drive west of Albert Finkle Park, you will find yourself along four beautiful log cabins nestled within 56-acre grounds of Camp Mohawk County Park.

The vision for this expanding park is continuously evolving with park guests in mind. Complete surround decking along Lake Mohawk providing open lake access that is ADA compliant.

Private decking for all four log cabins is also underway. The cabin decking will provide safer and easier access to fishing and water front activities.

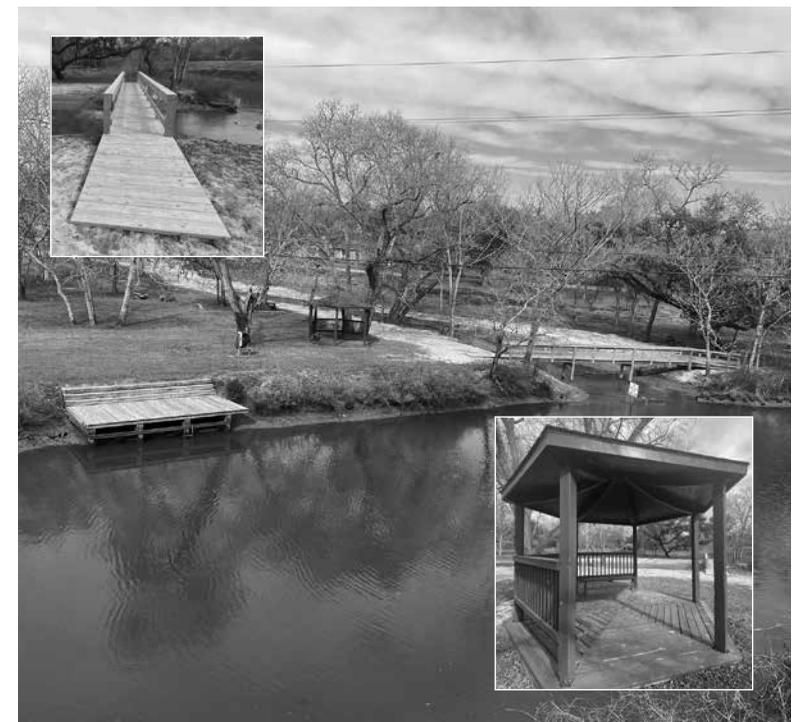
Visit [www.brazoriacountytx.gov](http://www.brazoriacountytx.gov) for a complete overview of Brazoria County's great beaches, 11 parks, and 20+-plus boat ramps.



New decking stretches along Lake Mohawk.



Newly built log cabin and private deck is at Camp Mohawk County Park.



Recent improvements at Albert Finkle Memorial County Park are shown.

## Supply challenges delay, but can't derail county parks' new crane truck

After two and a half years of planning and multiple failed attempts at reserving a new crane truck, Brazoria County Parks Department has finally acquired a 2022 Dodge Ram 5500 Crew Cab 4X4, replacing a 14-year-old crane vehicle with over 200,000 miles.

The global semi-conductor chip shortage, an increase in private-sector demand, supply chain challenges, inflation and other factors all combined to not only delay this purchase, but also add substantive costs.

But, because of the tenacity of Brazoria County's leadership, a crane truck was located at a local Houston dealership, and grant funds were used to ultimately secure this invaluable piece of equipment that is vital to many parks department projects, such as heavy equipment repairs and setting light poles.

A semiconductor chip shortage is the cause of the ongoing global crisis responsible for the delay of this new vehicle production. The truck was purchased with Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) revenue-sharing funds.

Due to the 2.5-year delay, the unit resulted in a hefty 100% price increase of the original price quoted in the summer of 2020.



**From beaches to forests, from rivers to open plains, Brazoria County's parks have something for everyone.**

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## Schedule of Events

• **Saturday, Jan. 28, 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. This is great for families and first-time paddlers. Location TBA. For information or reservations, call (979) 864-1152 or email [mikem@brazoria-county.com](mailto:mikem@brazoria-county.com)

• **Saturday, Feb. 18, 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 regis-

ter, contact the park interpreter at [Mikem@brazoria-county.com](mailto:Mikem@brazoria-county.com) or (979) 864-1152.

• **Saturday, Feb. 25, 9 a.m. to 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 [mikem@brazoria-county.com](mailto:mikem@brazoria-county.com).

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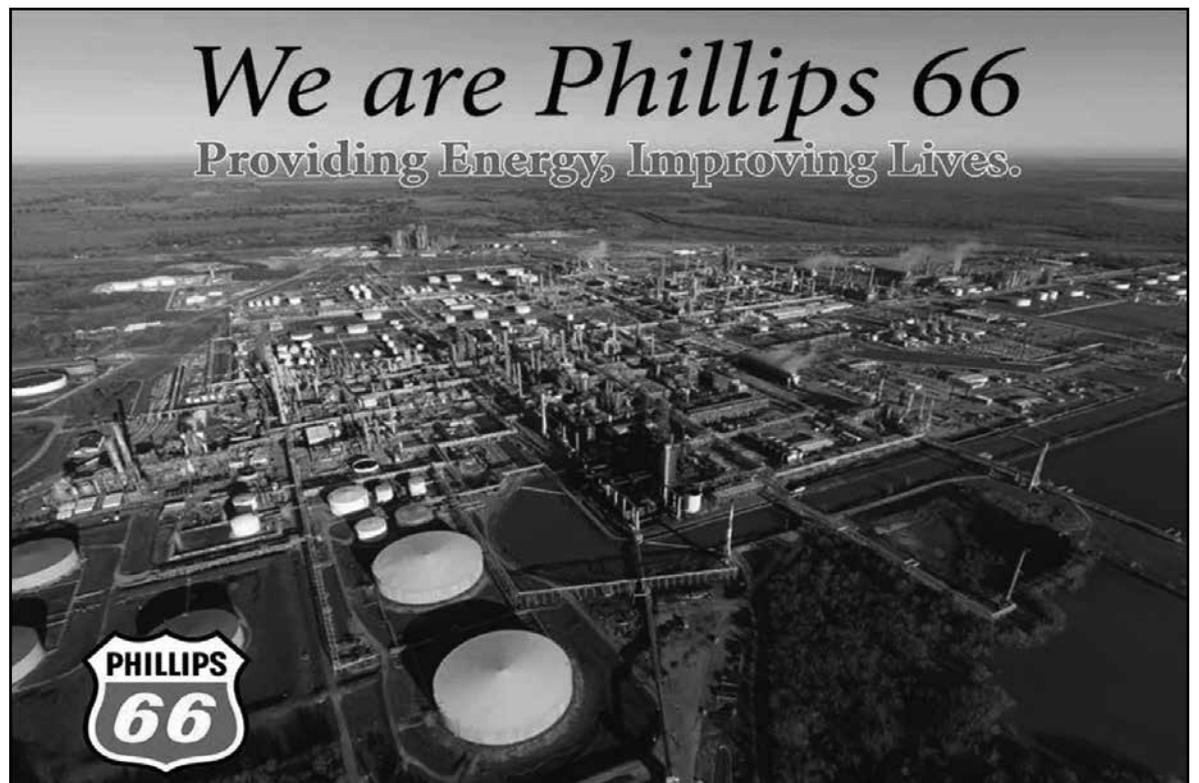


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## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



### NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT

#### PROPOSED PERMIT NO. WQ0005419000

**APPLICATION.** Linde Inc., 1585 Sawdust Road, Suite 300, The Woodlands, Texas 77380, which owns a helium production facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0005419000 (EPA I.D. No. TX0143839) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 5,000 gallons per day. The facility is located at 2362 County Road 690, Freeport, in Brazoria County, Texas 77541. The discharge route is from the plant site to a man-made basin; thence to Velasco Drainage District Levee Road Drainage Canal; thence to Flag Lake Drainage Canal; thence to Velasco Drainage District East Side Pump Station; thence to East Union Bayou; thence to the Intra-coastal Waterway; thence to Old Brazos River Channel Tidal. TCEQ received this application on November 28, 2022. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at Freeport Public Library, 410 North Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport, Texas. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMap-per/?marker=-95.306666,28.986666&level=18>.

The application is subject to the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program and must be consistent with the applicable Coastal Management Program goals and policies.

**ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE.** Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

**ADDITIONAL NOTICE.** TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for request-**

ing reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.**

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material**

water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address, and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Linde Inc. at the address stated above or by calling Sophia Gray, Trinity Consultants, at 737-200-5069.

Issuance Date: January 12, 2023

## Weekly horoscope

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19):

Using some initiative can make a positive difference. Develop constructive strategies and take practical steps to overcome any family problems.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20):

Dig deep, and you might find that a close friend or cherished partner is a true treasure.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20):

Enjoy the things that you already have rather than hoping for things you don't have.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22):

Postpone taking on extra obligations or commitments until later in the week. Right now, your efforts could be subject to misunderstandings or cause disruptions.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You might not agree on key issues, but you can be tolerant of someone else's point of view.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

Using substandard materials or cutting corners could ruin a project this week. Use a discriminating eye to help you achieve the highest level of quality.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

Consider giving good friends more leeway than business contacts in the upcoming week.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

Your kindness and understanding will likely be needed if a loved one is feeling stressed in the week ahead.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

Focus on creative projects in the week ahead but do not ignore job-related obligations. Got paperwork to do? Get it done and enjoy the relief.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

Don't let dreams and wishful thinking curtail your progress this week. Once you've made a firm decision, go full-speed ahead or you might be stuck in neutral.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Get organized before you begin a new project in the week ahead. Be sure to observe social cues, consider adding more warmth to your approach.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20):

Don't let misunderstandings fester this week; clear the air as soon as possible.

# History of the World On This Day

## January 25

1775 - Britain's King George III stated the American colonies were in a state of "open and avowed rebellion."

1939 - Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a non-aggression treaty.

1959 - In the Peanuts comic strip, Sally debuted as an infant.

1979 - Soviet dancer Alexander Godunov defected while the Bolshoi Ballet was on tour in New York City.

## January 26

788 - The first European settlers in Australia, led by Captain Arthur Phillip, landed in what became known as Sydney. The group had first settled at Botany Bay eight days before. This day is celebrated as Australia Day.

1992 - Russian president Boris Yeltsin announced that his country would stop targeting U.S. cities with nuclear weapons.

2010 - It was announced that James Cameron's movie "Avatar" had become the highest-grossing film worldwide.

## January 27

1927 - United Independent Broadcasters Inc. started a radio network with contracts with 16

stations. The company later became Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS).

1967 - At Cape Kennedy, FL, astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White and Roger B. Chaffee died in a flash fire during a test aboard their Apollo I spacecraft.

1973 - The Vietnam peace accords were signed in Paris.

## January 28

1807 - London's Pall Mall became the first street lit by gaslight.

1878 - The first telephone switchboard was installed in New Haven, CT.

1957 - The Brooklyn Dodgers announced that circus clown Emmett Kelly had been hired to entertain fans at baseball games.

1980 - Six Americans who had fled the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran, on November 4, 1979, left Iran using false Canadian diplomatic passports. The Americans had been hidden at the Canadian embassy in Tehran.

## January 29

1886 - The first successful petrol-driven motorcar, built by Karl Benz, was patented.

1916 - In World War I, Paris was bombed by German zeppelins for

the first time.

1936 - The first members of major league baseball's Hall of Fame were named in Cooperstown, N.Y.

1963 - The first members to the NFL's Hall of Fame were named in Canton, OH.

## January 30

1847 - The town of Yerba Buena was renamed San Francisco.

1933 - "The Lone Ranger" was heard on radio for the first time. The program ran for 2,956 episodes and

ended in 1955.

1962 - Two members of the "Flying Wallendas" high-wire act were killed when their seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance in Detroit, MI.

1968 - The Tet Offensive began as Communist forces launched surprise attacks against South Vietnamese provincial capitals.

## January 31

1747 - The first clinic specializing in the treatment of venereal dis-

eases was opened at London Dock Hospital.

1893 - The trademark "Coca-Cola" was first registered in the United States Patent Office.

1929 - The USSR exiled Leon Trotsky. He found asylum in Mexico.

1958 - Explorer I was put into orbit around the earth. It was the first U.S. earth satellite.

1971 - Telephone service between East and West Berlin was re-established after 19 years.

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Rick Moore has nearly 30 years' experience in the financial services industry. He is the owner & CEO of the Oak Financial Group, LLC, in Angleton, Texas, where he and his 16-member team of seasoned financial professionals have been proudly serving generations of Brazoria County residents for over 20 years.



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—Benjamin Franklin

**All Are Welcome!**

**Upcoming 2023 Seminar Dates**  
7pm Thursdays on :

February 16th	April 27th
March 30th	May 25th

Refreshments Provided.

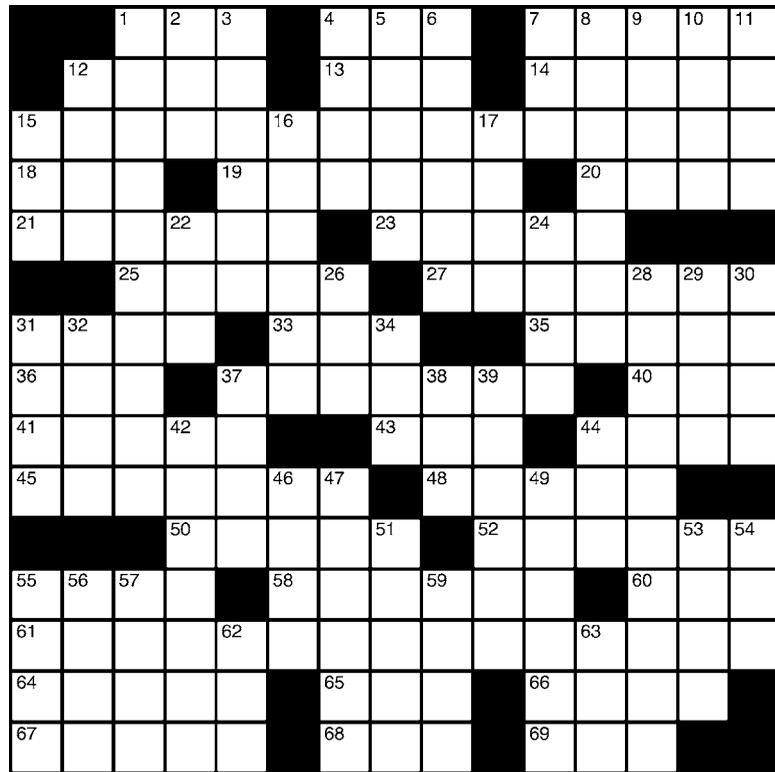
**"Knowledge Shared is Power Multiplied."**

—Robert Boyce

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## Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

- Across**
- 1 Shipwreck signal
  - 4 Stan of Marvel Comics
  - 7 Catch in a trap
  - 12 Time period
  - 13 Off-roader's purchase, for short
  - 14 Quest for intel
  - 15 \*Instant in which emotional decisions are made
  - 18 Middle-earth menace
  - 19 Female surfer
  - 20 Times to remember
  - 21 Got a lift, in a way
  - 23 Popular mints
  - 25 Tea container
  - 27 Gradually come to be
  - 31 Wander about
  - 33 Pasture
  - 35 Where one may be taken to be reprimanded
  - 36 Verb in a recipe
  - 37 Like jobs with no future ... and



Solutions on the right side of this page

In memory of Greg Wilkinson

## VocabPower!

“Not!” — a sentence in itself when vocalized — could be replaced with “Un!” The “un” prefix worked for the “Uncola” campaign and works for reversing the meaning of a multitude of meaningful words. “Un’s” to unravel:

- 1. unabashed**  
A. sober C. unharmed  
B. unspoiled D. unembarrassed
- 2. untoward**  
A. adverse C. flirtatious  
B. apathetic D. opposite way
- 3. unwonted**  
A. defeated C. w/o equal  
B. unusual D. rejected
- 4. unequivocal**  
A. confused C. w/o doubt  
B. unfair D. unbalanced
- 5. unduly**  
A. late C. impromptu  
B. illegally D. excessively
- 6. ungainly**  
A. clumsy C. unjustly  
B. silly D. unprofitable
- 7. uncomely**  
A. slowly C. reluctantly  
B. improper D. meandering
- 8. unrequited**  
A. unpaid C. not stopping  
B. undone D. unreciprocated
- 9. unmitigated**  
A. lacking C. unrelieved  
B. w/gall D. unresolved
- 10. unadulterated**  
A. pure C. absolute  
B. faithful D. childlike

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

- what the start of each answer to a starred clue can be?
- 40 Tennis court divider
- 41 Family gathering attendee
- 43 Pacific Coast st.
- 44 Loch with a legend
- 45 Ties to a post
- 48 Rene of “Get Shorty”
- 50 Show flexibility
- 52 Dampen, as sound
- 55 Help in a bad way?
- 58 Coral named for its shape
- 60 Wheaton who played himself on “The Big Bang Theory”
- 61 \*Defeat soundly
- 64 More despicable
- 65 Talk trash to
- 66 Cork’s country
- 67 Cowboy singer Gene
- 68 Uneaten morsel
- 69 Ship in Genesis

- Down**
- 1 \*Flaky type
  - 2 Cheerios grain
  - 3 Came down in flakes
  - 4 Plastering strip
  - 5 Value system
  - 6 Tied, as a score
  - 7 “Seats all taken” sign
  - 8 Archrivals
  - 9 Asian laptop brand
  - 10 Barrett of gossip
  - 11 Tolkien tree race
  - 12 Macedonian neighbor
  - 15 MLB’s Astros, on scoreboards
  - 16 “Fiddle-\_\_!”
  - 17 Trifling
  - 22 Battering \_\_
  - 24 Spot on the tube
  - 26 Vote of support
  - 28 \*Employment field
  - 29 Keats works
  - 30 Vets’ concerns
  - 31 Rave’s partner
  - 32 Dog in the comics
  - 34 Brouhaha
  - 37 Owner’s document
  - 38 Blunder
  - 39 Mad Magazine mascot Alfred E. \_\_
  - 42 Idle talk
  - 44 Bounced-check letters
  - 46 Reckless
  - 47 Racer’s bathing suit
  - 49 Naturally brewed beverage
  - 51 Animal with a snout
  - 53 Vitality
  - 54 Santa helper
  - 55 Palindromic pop group
  - 56 Steady guy
  - 57 Toward sunrise
  - 59 Speedy
  - 62 “Do or do not. There is no \_\_”:  
Yoda
  - 63 Title for Paul or Ringo

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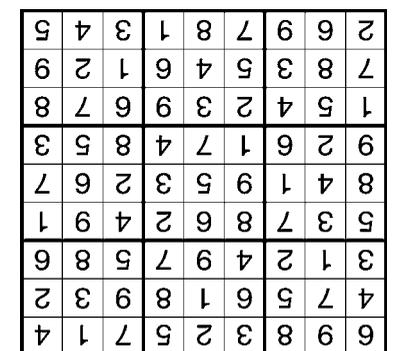
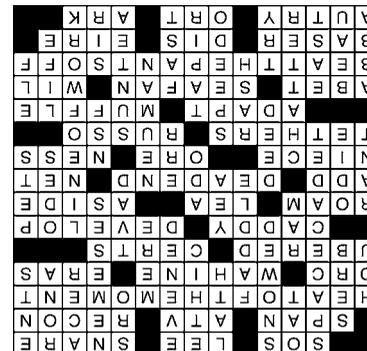
## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham 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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

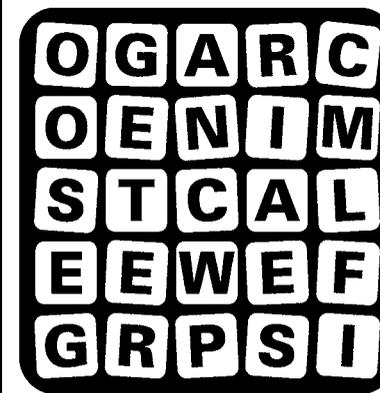


### Solutions



## Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

**BOGGLE POINT SCALE**

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

**YOUR BOGGLE RATING**

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

### Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

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

Find AT LEAST SIX WATER-LOVING BIRDS in the grid of letters.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SWAN GOOSE CRANE EGRET PELICAN

## The first real estate transaction in NYC was for only \$24

In 1624, the Dutch West India Company formed the colony of New Amsterdam. Later, the name was changed to New York to honor the Duke of York. It emerged as America's first capital in 1788.

### History Matters

According to History.com, the Dutch colony "grew to encompass all of present-day New York City and parts of Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey.

A successful Dutch settlement in the colony also grew up on the southern tip of Manhattan Island and was christened New Amsterdam."

An oft repeated tale is that the Dutch purchased Manhattan for \$24 worth of guilders and trinkets in 1646.

But the actual transaction occurred in 1626 between Peter Minuit, a Dutch agent for the West India company, and the Native Americans. The transaction wound up serving as "the birth certificate for New York City,"

*(The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "The Island at the Center of the World: The Epic Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Forgotten Colony That Shaped America," by Russell Shorto.*

### 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, Jan. 26** - Sausage, potatoes & onions, spiced apples, peas, tossed salad, garlic bread, dessert.

**Friday, Jan. 27** - Enchiladas, Spanish rice, red beans, cheese broccoli, slaw, cornbread, dessert.

**Monday, Jan. 30** - BBQ sausage, broccoli, rice casserole, cheese cauliflower, okra & tomatoes, peaches & cottage cheese, garlic toast, dessert.

**Tuesday, Jan. 31**: Baked chicken, dressing/gravy, green beans, creamed potatoes, carrot & raisin salad, rolls, birthday cake.



Artist's rendition of the "Manhattan Purchase" - for about \$24.

## How does the Bible define Antichrist?

Based on the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** I've heard so much talk about someone called the Antichrist, a figure mentioned in the Bible. Is this just a term used to describe anyone who tries to do things against God, or will it be someone that we can identify? - A.C.

**A:** The term Antichrist is found several times in the Bible and refers to a person who will come in the days just before Christ returns to establish His kingdom.

"You have heard that the Antichrist is coming" (1 John 2:18). This person is not Satan, but he will use every evil device of Satan to oppose the work of God.

The Apostle Paul uses the term "the man of lawlessness" to describe this individual (2 Thessalonians 2:3, NIV). He will be the embodiment of evil and will have great power to deceive those who choose to follow him.

When he is revealed, it will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10). The time will come when someone who is totally opposed to Christ will rise to world dominance and achieve great influence. However, in the end, he will

be defeated by the Lord Jesus.

At the same time, the Bible warns that there are many in the world who have the same spirit as the Antichrist and oppose the work of God. "Even now many antichrists have come" (1 John 2:18). This means we need to be discerning and not be misled by those who oppose God's truth. How can we avoid being led astray into falsehood?

The most important thing is to yield our lives to Jesus Christ and then to know more and more the truth God has given us in His Word, the Bible.

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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