2019 Dementia Conference in Lake Jackson

On Jan. 25, the Brazoria County Alzheimer’s Awareness Project (BCAAP), the Alzheimer’s Association Houston & Southeast Texas Chapter, CHI St. Luke’s Health Brazosport, and the City of Lake Jackson will present the 2019 Brazoria County Dementia Conference from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lake Jackson Civic Center, 333 TX-332 E. in Lake Jackson.

The event is free (lunch provided) and open to the public, but pre-registration is required (call 800-272-3900, 979-236-5393, or visit bit.ly/bcdemcon).

“We are very excited to be partnering with the Alzheimer’s Association to host another program which provides CEUs for nurses and social workers like we did in Angleton in 2017,” Dale Libby, BCAAP Coordinator and CEO of the Gathering Place (Continued on Page 4)

Early forecast calls for a less-active hurricane season

By Brett Clarkson

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — It’s very early and things could change, but storm experts at Colorado State University are already looking ahead to the 2019 Atlantic hurricane season.

In a report issued recently, they’re tentatively anticipating a lower probability of the heavy storm activity that characterized the past three years. The 2016, 2017 and 2018 hurricane seasons were marked by an onslaught of catastrophic storms including Matthew, Harvey, Irma, Maria, Florence and Michael.

Storm experts Phil Klotzbach and Michael Bell assessed five possible scenarios for 2019, based on climate factors like the possibility of an El Niño emerging and sea surface temperatures in the Atlantic.

El Niño is typically associated with fewer Atlantic hurricanes.

(Continued on Page 5)

Before Alexa, we clapped

By John Toth

“Alexa, change the channel to ESPN.”

“Alexa, dim the lights.”

“Alexa, turn up the A/C a little.”

Alexa is the new Clapper. “Clap on ... clap off ... clap on, clap off, the Clapper.”

I had that tune memorized after watching the Clapper commercials decades ago. I never bought one. I can do my own turning on and off. But, I do see how it can be useful in some cases.

I didn’t go for The Clapper then, and I am not doing the Alexa wired house now. I don’t even like that Amazon chose Alexa as the name for its ... whatever it is, some smart program. Women named Alexa are probably not too pleased about it, either.

Google had the right idea. All you have to say is “O.K., Google,” and a nice voice comes on to assist you." Apple’s Siri is another misfire, although I have not known any girls or women in my lifetime named Siri.

But my concern is that we are becoming too dependent on these gadgets and less active. Not that it takes these gadgets to make us become less active. We can do that well enough on our own. But they don’t help.

I hate to bring the news to all the millenials, but there was a time when we had to change the TV channels by hand. We actually had to get up and turn a knob on the set, and then go back to our seats.

You were little children when we (Continued on Page 6)
JA helps Lanier students explore entrepreneurial pursuits

According to Gallup, nearly two-thirds of adults are financially illiterate. Given the prominence of financial illiteracy and the evolving global economy, Junior Achievement believes that people must be equipped with the knowledge and money-management skills to make smart financial decisions.

That’s why Junior Achievement of Brazoria County was proud to partner with Brazosport ISD and local business leaders to introduce the JA “More than Money” program to the entire Lanier 6th grade. The program introduces students to financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and focuses on social studies learning objectives centered on money-management skills, goods and services, and global markets.

Through hands-on activities and a new cast of characters serving as symbols for financial literacy and entrepreneurship concepts, students learn a practical approach to starting a business and making smart decisions about managing money, managing a bank account, developing positive work ethics, exploring job skills and identifying jobs they can do now and are all touched upon.

The JA More than Money curriculum fosters aspirations of positively impacting a community by introducing the foundations of entrepreneurship to students at an early age, including why businesses are important and what their impact is on society.

JA partnered with volunteers:

Cindy Barber-Dignity Memorial;
Jaime Morales-BASF;
Demetrus Morgan-Regions Bank;
Matthew Falls-BASF;
Ed Smolen-Dow Chemical;
Anthony Mason-BASF;
Amanda Freedomrict-Woodforest Bank; Krystal Webb-Woodforest Bank;
Clarissa Johncan-TDEC;
Tova Heimeyer-Junior Achievement;
Jennifer Haagensen-TDECU;
Anne Allstott-TDECU;
Janie Shaw-TDECU;
Kim Effenberger-Junior Achievement;
Jerald Shaffer-ATC Appraisal Services;
Diego Eguo-ATC Appraisal Services and Tim Rowe-BASF.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Passengers on flight NH106 took off from Japan in 2019 and landed in the US in 2018.
- You’ll be able to reuse your 2018 calendar in the years 2029, 2035 and 2046.
- Lonely and depressed people are more likely to binge-watch tv, according to a study from the University of Texas.
- People who consider their romantic partner to be their best friend tend to be in the happiest relationships.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

MIKE PINGREE

THEY’LL NEVER CATCH US NOW ... DO YOU HEAR SIRENS? Two thugs stormed into the T-Mobile store in Norman, Okla., forced the two young employees into a back room, and ordered them to fill a garbage bag with the store’s priciest merchandise. They put about $30,000 worth of phones into the trash bag, but made sure to activate the GPS tracker in one of them. The cops caught up with the thieves in short order.

ALL I KNOW IS I’M STARTING TO FEEL UNATTRACTIVE! An intoxicated woman was charged with domestic battery after she attacked her live-in boyfriend at their Tampa, Fla., home on Thanksgiving night after he refused to have an intimate relationship with her. Police said she was also arrested in September 2017 for punching a man for the same reason. They were unsure if it was the same guy.

THAT’S WHAT YOU GET FOR DOING THAT: Three people were getting high on meth in a stolen car in the parking lot of the Walmart in Vancouver, Wash., when one of them became paranoid and claimed he was missing drugs and money, so he took the other two hostages at gunpoint. Then he sent one of his hostages into the store to steal jumper cables because the car’s battery was dead. The hostage instead informed workers of the situation, and they called the cops.

OOGH, DESSERT! A bear, roaming a suburban neighborhood with her three cubs, opened the door of an unlocked car parked in a driveway in Asheville, N.C., and they ate 49 candy bars on the front seat while ripping up the interior of the vehicle.

HELLO, MA’AM, CAN I HELP YOU? A man broke into a home in Limestone County, Ala., washed his clothes, took a bath, clipped his toenails and made a ham and egg sandwich which he was about to eat when the woman who lived there returned home. An awkward confrontation ensued. Deputies believe the guy was under the influence of narcotics.

MOMMY ISN’T FEELING WELL: A heavily intoxicated woman crashed into two parked cars just before arriving at her home in Johnstown, Pa. When police arrived, they found her and her three children – who had been with her in the car – in the upstairs bathroom. She was throwing up in the sink while one of her kids held her hair out of the way.

JUST TAKE THE CHICKEN AND GO, MISS: A woman demanded free fried chicken at a takeout restaurant in Manchester, England, became verbally abusive when she was refused, and then offered to go on a date with a worker in exchange for the food. Finally, they gave her four free chicken wings in hopes that she would just leave. But she didn’t. She continued to be aggressive, so they called the cops.

LESSON LEARNED: A teacher at Guanying Middle School in Xixiang City, China, caught a student using her cell phone during class, so he forced her to smash it with a hammer in front of her classmates.

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN IT: A man got out of his car, disrobed, and tried to jump through the window of a diner in Lancaster, Pa. Police said he was under the influence of an unknown substance.

MIKE PINGREE’S

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

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Our 25th year of publishing!
Strange but True

By Bill Sones
and Rich Sones, Ph.D.

VITAMIN G

Q. Have you had your “Vitamin G” today? Studies have linked it to fewer aches and pains and to better sleep. But what, you ask, is vitamin G?

A. “Making gratitude a daily practice is like taking a vitamin,” making your body work better, says psychologist David DeSteno, as reported by Jennifer King Lindley in “Prevention” magazine. More than a simple “Thank you,” gratitude is affirming the goodness in one’s life and recognizing that its source lies outside the self,” adds psychologist Robert Emmons. In one early study, volunteers were divided into two groups: one wrote down five things they were grateful for once a week for 10 weeks; the other group recorded neutral daily events or small hassles. Not only did the blessing-counters report feeling 25% happier, but they also spent 30% more time exercising and had fewer health complaints.

Further research confirmed other benefits: after just two weeks, better sleep and lower blood pressure readings; after two months, a 40% drop in daily smoking rates. Even older adults with early-stage heart failure had more constant heart rates and lower levels of disease-causing inflammation when they kept gratitude journals.

Call it the powerful connection between our minds and our bodies. As Emmons explains, “Feelings of gratitude trigger the parasympathetic, or calming, branch of the nervous system.” Also, they make us value the future, increasing our self-control and helping reduce impulsive behavior. As we affirm our bodies, we may come to take better care of ourselves as well.

DR. ROBOT

Q. In what medical field is artificial intelligence on a par with the best doctors?

A. “DEEPMIND’s artificial intelligence (AI) can spot key signs of eye disease as well as the world’s top consultants,” reports “New Scientist” magazine. The system learned how to spot 10 key features of eye disease, drawing on anonymous diagnostic data from some 15,000 patients as it analyzed complex retinal scans. In over 94% of cases, it correctly identified more than 50 eye conditions (“Nature Medicine”).

Though the AI doesn’t make an actual diagnosis, it “recommends which patients should be seen urgently by a specialist or simply placed under observation.” Within a few years, it may be at a hospital near you.

FUN WITH WORDS

Q. Are you ready for a little fun with words? We’re not trying to bamboozle you, since the following are all real English words, some dating back hundreds of years. Can you define “bamboozle,” “flapdoodle,” “metagrobolize,” “quaquaversal” and “whigmaleerie”?

A. We don’t know who, when, or where they were coined, but the why might have been to fill a gap in the language or just to have some fun, says Anu Garg on his “A.Word.A.Day” website. “Bamboozle” means “to deceive” or “to confuse,” with earliest documented use in 1703. “Flapdoodle” (1834) is a colorful synonym for “nonsense.” And “metagrobolize (1635) comes from Middle French, meaning “to puzzle” or “to mystify.”

Combining the Latin “quaqua” (in all directions) and “vertere” (to turn) gives us “quaquaversal” (1691), defined as “sloping down from a center in all directions.” Finally, one of the most whimsical is the Scots term “whigmaleerie” (1730), meaning “a whim” or “a fanciful contrivance.” Here is Jane Duncan writing in “My Friend Madame Zora” in 2015: “There was nothing of the wispy character of the whigmaleerie about Granny Gilmour when she opened her neat front door to us.”

Are you ready to add some fun to your discourse?

(Looking forward to taking care of your florals needs in 2019)

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DID YOU KNOW?

• Humans have more empathy for dogs than they do for other humans.
• Some very gifted children suffer from depression because they’ve already realized that “death is inevitable and life is meaningless.”
News flash: Celebrities we’ll lose in 2019

By Danny Tyree

Special to The Bulletin

Okay, maybe it’s a little misleading for me to headline a column “Celebrities We’ll Lose In 2019.” I’m not in possession of a crystal ball to tell me which SPECIFIC 70s sitcom stars, retired politicians, faded athletes, backup singers, daredevilish adrenaline-junkies or award-winning authors are going to kick the bucket in the new year.

I’ve simply observed human nature and the media long enough to know the sort of trends to watch for as notable people pass away.

For instance, absolutely no later than Valentine’s Day, we’ll be seeing the first inescapable “Celebrities We’ve Tragically Already Lost This Year” clickbait. As each obituary brings water cooler reactions of “I thought he was already dead,” “I had such a crush on him” and “Hey, isn’t this the brand of water that KILLED him?”

Invariably, someone will have created a genre, revolutionized a process, raised the bar, inspired billions, left an unmatchable legacy and then some after her SECOND cup of coffee.

Some of the celebrities we say goodbye to in 2019 will have been on the “National Enquirer” death watch for years, while other passages will be a surprise, both to the adoring public and to those who knew the deceased best. I cringe at the way we take once-hot creative personnel for granted until the Grim Reaper arrives on the scene. Then the internet nearly crashes when all the “fair weather fans” suddenly start streaming their music, movies or books like there’s no tomorrow.

Because, you know, nothing makes a love song more soul-stirringly romantic than knowing that the coroner was blown to smithereens when a terrorist planted a bomb at the STD clinic he was frequenting.

As always, we’ll see the unequal treatment of the famous and the behind-the-scenes “fame-adjacent.” Newspapers will still print blurs such as “Although most knew Johnson only as the third husband of the famous industrialist, he was an accomplished composer and worked tirelessly for charities such as...Whoa! Gotta save room for the horoscope and Sudoku!”

Will most of the celebrity deaths in 2019 be short-attention-span news items, or will there be more prolonged mourning periods, as with Aretha Franklin and John McCain? TV programmers and publishers of commemorative magazines are certainly hoping for the latter.

Workplace productivity will suffer as each obituary brings water cooler

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2019 Dementia Conference set in LJ

(Continued from Page 1)

“Are there are any necrophiliacs in the royal family? We could really clean up with a royal marriage to a dead president. Dam that heterosexual Duke of Fahrvergnugen!”

The average news consumer is amazed at how rapidly a comprehensive obituary can be put together. But major news operations are proactive about composing life histories for certain prominent public figures years in advance, needing merely to insert the details of the actual demise.

Some news outlets do a better job of keeping the biographies updated than others. And I’ve detected just a whiff of a political slant. In 90 percent of the still-unused files I examined, the person’s dying words are already recorded as “Stop Trump in 2016,” “Stop Romney in 2012” or (in the case of Keith Richards) “Stop Coolidge in ’24!”

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2019 Dementia Conference set in LJ

(Continued from Page 1)

“We are also happy to be working with two other partners to host our first conference in Lake Jackson since 2016. The St. Luke’s Health Brazosport is sponsoring the lunch, and the City of Lake Jackson is providing the Civic Center as our conference location,” Libby added.

The keynote speaker for the conference will be Dr. L. Forbes Barnwell, M.D., Total Neurology of the Gulf Coast. Dr. Barnwell will present “Update on Alzheimer’s Disease Research.”

Also, Steve Andriko, Alzheimer’s Association Speaker's Bureau representative, will present “Effective Communication Strategies” and “Understanding & Responding to Dementia Related Behavior.”

“In addition to these two outstanding speakers, we will have 20 vendors and non-profits covering topics such as medications, hospice, funeral planning, assisted living, and home healthcare,” Libby added.

“Caring for someone with Alzheimer’s creates demands and opportunities of an entirely different order of magnitude than anything else you have ever encountered - because Alzheimer’s is a disease like no other. We hope that by raising awareness of Alzheimer’s in Brazoria County with our conferences, more people will take advantage of the services provided by the Gathering Place and BCAAP,” Libby concluded.

Sponsors of the Brazoria County Alzheimer’s Awareness Project are the Brazoria County Health Department and the Gathering Place.

For more information, call (979)236-5393 or visit gatheringplacebraziota.org
How did we ever survive before Alexa? Clap on, clap off...

(Continued from Page 1)

did that, before the smart TVs came along. You probably don’t remember. It wasn’t a lot of hassle and was over in a few seconds. We didn’t even think about it much.

“But I want to get an Alexa compatible TV so I can just tell it what to do,” came the answer after I asked a question about the high price of some TV sets. I usually buy mine on sale and don’t really care about whether it has Alexa.

“Why can’t you just put the remote control in your hand and push some buttons on it?” I asked.

“I’m not suggesting that anyone should get off the couch and manually change the TV channel. Only that the wrist be elevated a little and the fingers push the buttons.

Even The Clapper required some physical action — clapping at least once or twice. I wonder what would happen if there was a lot of clapping in the room. Would the Clapper go crazy and start strobing the lights? I’m asking for a friend.

I’m not anti-Alexa, though. I use my Amazon Dot to play all kinds of music and find out when football or baseball games are on.

“Alexa, when are the Texans playing?” And in a matter of seconds, I get my answer. It is an amazing tool. “Alexa, play light classical music.” And it will play until I say stop.

“Alexa, when does baseball season start?”

“The 2019 major league baseball season starts on March 20, 2019.” I don’t know how she does it, but I am impressed.

Early forecast calls for a less active hurricane season

(Continued from Page 1)

“Most models predict that a weak to moderate El Niño will develop over the next few months,” the Klotzbach-Bell outlook says.

“There is considerable uncertainty as to whether any El Niño does develop [and if it] will persist through next year’s hurricane season.”

An average Atlantic hurricane season brings 12 named storms, six hurricanes and three major hurricanes.

The five scenarios use a metric called Accumulated Cyclone Energy, or ACE, which is essentially a measurement of the total tropical activity in a season. Here are Klotzbach and Bell’s five scenarios and their likelihood of occurring:

• 14 to 17 named storms, 9 to 11 hurricanes and 4 to 5 major hurricanes (ACE total of 170). Probability: 10 percent.
• 12 to 15 named storms, 6 to 8 hurricanes and 2 to 3 major hurricanes (ACE total of 130). Probability: 25 percent.
• 8 to 11 named storms, 3 to 5 hurricanes, 1 to 2 major hurricanes (ACE total of 80). Probability: 20 percent.
• Slightly different climate factors but the same range of storms as #3: 8 to 11 named storms, 3 to 5 hurricanes, 1 to 2 major hurricanes (ACE total of 80). Probability: 30 percent.
• 5 to 7 named storms, 2 to 3 hurricanes, with between 0 and 1 major hurricane (ACE total of 50). Probability: 15 percent.

Klotzbach and Bell cautioned against putting too much stock into the outlook, though, citing the “considerable uncertainty” of predicting Atlantic hurricane activity “at such a long forecast lead time.”

The Colorado State University researchers say they will issue an updated and more comprehensive seasonal outlook for 2019 April 4.
other Democrats announce they are
Newsom, Kamala Harris and 14
Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden, Gavin
Conference,” Bernie Sanders,
raising the price of its Sunday edi-
Decade.”
Tweets Over the Last One-Fifth of a
ping retrospective on “Presidential
Peter Funt’s foresighted 2019 precap
(Continued from Page 1)
Association dinner, author Ron
Chernow entertains with a grip-
ern ‘Phony religion’, but trust in God
Q: I’m in prison, and I’m fed
up with people here who claim
they’ve gotten religion. They’re just
trying to impress the parole board
and get out earlier. I suppose
you’ll say I need God, and maybe I
do, but I don’t want anything to do
with phony religion. - L.T.
A: Let me ask you a question:
Do you think God approves of
what you call “phony religion”?
No, of course He doesn’t. Some
of Jesus’ strongest words were
directed at those who claimed to
believe in God and do His will, but
in reality didn’t.
But does this mean all religion is
fake, and everyone who claims to
follow Jesus is a phony? No, abso-
lutely not. God is real - and He’s
not only real, but He made you,
and He is concerned about you.
And more than anything, He wants
to come into your life to forgive
you and begin to change you from
within. And He will as you turn to
Christ, repenting of your sins and
committing your life to Him.
How do I know this? I know it
because I’ve seen it happen in
countless lives over the years
- including my own. But I know
it most of all because of Jesus
Christ. He was God in human
flesh, who came down from
Heaven to save us and change us.
Because of Him, the Bible says,
“we have redemption, the forgive-
ness of sins” (Colossians 1:14).
Don’t let pride, or doubt, or sin,
or anything else keep you from
Christ. He alone can free you from
the chains of bitterness and guilt,
and He alone can give you hope
for the future - both now, and for
eternity. Ask Christ to come into
your life today. Then ask Him
to use you to help others discover
the joy of genuine faith.

My Answer by Billy Graham

No room for ‘Phony religion’, but trust in God

By Joan Morris
The Mercury News

Dear Joan: Whenever I pet our
loving tabby cat, she immediately
cleans herself in the area where I
petted her.

Should I be offended because
she doesn’t like my scent and is
trying to remove it, or flattered
because she likes my scent and is
enjoying it? — Rebecca

Dear Rebecca: As with a lot of
things involving those wonderfully
mysterious and perplexing felines,
there’s more than one answer.

The first, frankly, is the most
positive for our egos. Your cat is not
trying to rub away your strokes in
the same way a young child wipes
away your kisses. Far from it.
Cats regard us as other cats.
Large, strange-looking cats, but
catlike beings that are neither above
nor below themselves. When you
pet your cat, and she then licks the
same spot, it could be her way of
performing mutual grooming, an
act that occurs between close and
loving cats.

In this scenario, you are another
grooming your cat. Just be
thankful you don’t have to use your
tongue.

Another possibility is that you
are petting her in a place that isn’t
as easy for her to get at, and she’s
trying to help you reach the sweet
spot. This happens most often
near the base of a cat’s tail, where
she can’t quite reach. It’s akin to
scratching a dog and having it start
gyrating its rear leg. The cat often
will lick at the air, as if she is licking
the hard-to-reach spot.

Why does my cat lick her fur where I just petted her?

By Disney offers winter 4-park, 4-day ticket discount plan

By Dewayne Bevil
Orlando Sentinel

Walt Disney World will start
selling a ticket that allows buyers
to enter each of its theme parks for
one day each. Its total price of $340
breaks down to $85 per day.

The deal – dubbed the 4-Park
Magic Value Ticket – will go on sale
Jan. 18, and the tickets must be
used by March 1. It works for one
day of admission to Magic King-
dom, one day at Epcot, one day at
Disney’s Hollywood Studios and one
day at Disney’s Animal Kingdom.

Tickets can be used to enter each
theme park only once.

Earlier this year, Disney changed
its park pricing to a date-based
system, under which the cost of
admission varies from day to day.
They have a one-day ticket in
January or February ranging
between $104 and $129 for Florida
residents.

However, purchasing a four-day
ticket for that span can push the
per-day price down as low as $53;
however, those come with tighter
restrictions about when they can be
used than the Magic Value Tickets
do.

There will also be versions of the
new 4-Park pass for specific time
periods later in 2019. The 4-Park
Magic Select Tickets cost $356 ($99
day); while the 4-Park Magic
Summer Ticket is $380 ($95 day).

For more information and exact
dates for the 4-Park Magic Value
Ticket, go to disneyworld.com/park-
magic. To explore other them-
park admission options, go to
disneyworld.com/tickets.

The IRS wants help scouring social media for clues on tax cheats

By McClatchy Washington Bureau (TNS)

Entrepreneurs who cheat on
taxes with online stores, beware:
The Internal Revenue Service is
looking for new ways to catch sus-
ppected cheats using social media.

The IRS wants a tool to help it
check public social media feeds
and websites for details on people
already suspected of not complying
with the tax code, the agency said
in a request for information from
vendors.

Social media could provide
investigators with a trove of data,
showing where taxpayers live, what
they drive and what they’re selling
online. That data could be useful to
the IRS as it tries to catch people
cheating on their taxes — if the
agency can figure out how to collect
and use it without running afoul of
its internal rules.

The IRS said it doesn’t want to
comb through every taxpayer’s
social media — just those they’re
already investigating, according to
the request for information.

The IRS estimates that U.S.
businesses pay $125 billion less in
taxes each year than they should,
according to Quartz, the news site
that first reported the IRS request.
The year in review of important events, minus politics

By Jase Graves
Special to The Bulletin

With the smells of the holidays (among other things) still hanging in the air, it’s time for another one of those annoying “Year in Review” segments that make you want to drown yourself in leftover Rotel dip. But this time, there will be no mention of politics. Instead, I’ll focus on the truly important events of this past year – to me, anyway.

I’ll begin with my eldest and most expensive daughter, who, like thousands of teenagers all over the country, extracted her face from her cell phone screen just long enough to earn her learner’s driving permit this past year. Because she also managed to participate in another activity that expended enormous quantities of my time and money, she drove us across town at 6:30 each morning for her high school dance/drill team practice. The upside to this parental abuse was that there are few things more effective at bringing your nervous system (especially the part that controls involuntary buttck clenching) fully awake at that time of day than a novice teenage driver.

Speaking of nervous system trauma, my middle daughter also achieved a common teenager milestone in 2018 – her first boyfriend. Despite my offering to make her the sole heir of whatever her older sister doesn’t spend if she would wait until I’ve been embalmed to acknowledge the existence of all non-relative males, she became a victim of puppy love. Unfortunately, the only similarities to puppies I could see were lots of whimpering, drooling and worries about bacterial transmission. I also warned the young man in question that my daughter hadn’t been wormed lately. (She still isn’t talking to me – unless she needs cash.)

While we’re on the topic of puppies, my youngest daughter, who rarely asks for anything, requested a puppy for her birthday. Against my better judgement, I began the search for an addition to our domestic animal reserve. My only requirements were that the droppings from said puppy (fully grown) must not exceed the size of a Tootsie Roll Snack Bar. Within a couple of weeks, I was able to procure what appeared to be a wad of white dryer lint with eyeballs. In addition to taking the cuteness factor to cosmic levels, the puppy’s only other purpose in life seems to be finding creative ways to soil the carpet, usually when we have company.

In the 2018 world of sports, I was cajoled into playing in an annual kickball game at work, ostensibly for the sake of team building and camaraderie. I soon discovered the true purpose of this event was to provide amusement for my colleagues in the audience – who laughed so hard that they risked damage to their internal organs when I showed up in a tank top and a pair of Nike training pants that fit better in 2010. The announcer of the contest accused me of wearing “skinny britches” like some millennial hipster fresh from an artisanal oatmeal tasting. I had a good mind to pull on my slouchy beanie and ride away on my unicycle. I swallowed my pride, though, and went on with the game. Luckily, I was able to walk normally again within about two weeks.

Although there were many other important events that shaped 2018, like Travel and Leisure’s report of a Transavia Airlines flight that was forced to make an emergency landing in Vienna due to a passenger’s incessant and brazen wind breaking, I hope this retrospect has at least captured some of the other essences of the year that was.

So as we careen into 2019 with hope and anticipation, let's all heat up some Rotel dip and turn on the news. Don’t forget your snorkel.

Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas.
Super blood wolf moon eclipse on Jan. 20

There will be a ‘super blood wolf moon eclipse’ on Jan. 20. The first full moon of the year will be closest to earth in its orbit, all while a lunar eclipse is happening. It will reach its peak at 11:16 p.m. CST and will last about 3 hours and 17 minutes.

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ANGUS BEEF BURGERS

Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAN BURGER ANGUS BEEF</td>
<td>3.96</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARGE RIB EYE, PURE ANGUS BEEF</td>
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<tr>
<td>JR. TEXAS BURGER (Mega)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEESEBURGER (Angus, 1/4 Lb)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOUBLE BURGER (Angus, 1/2 Lb)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOUBLE CHEESEBURGER (Angus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>JALAPENO BURGER (Mega, with Cheese)</td>
<td>5.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHILI BURGER (Angus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FISH SANDWICH</td>
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<td>HAM SANDWICH</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; CHEESE</td>
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<tr>
<td>BACON LETTUCE TOMATO</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRILLED CHEESE</td>
<td>2.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOT DOG (Viennese and Onion)</td>
<td>2.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHILI DOG</td>
<td>2.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>KORN DOG (Jumbo)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TACOS (2)</td>
<td>4.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>BURRITO</td>
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<td>BURRITO DELUXE</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRITO PIE</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENCHILADAS (8)</td>
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Side Orders/Salads

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TATER TOTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRENCH FRIES</td>
<td>2.25 / 2.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEABRIZED FRIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONION RINGS (Fresh Made)</td>
<td>2.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>NACHOS</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/ JALAPenos</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN NUGGETS</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS BURGER COMBO</td>
<td>100% GRILLE with Fries, Medium Drink</td>
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<tr>
<td>WINGS AND RINGS</td>
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<td>TACO SALAD</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRILLED CHICKEN SALAD</td>
<td>1.95</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Baskets

STEAK FINGER                          | 5.99 |
FISH                                  | 6.55 |
CHICKEN (with chicken dressing)       | 6.55 |
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK                    | 6.55 |

Kid’s Meals

With Fries (1.50 each)
- GRILLED CHEESE
- HOT DOG
- KORN DOG
- NUGGETS (w/ Gravy)
- JUNIOR BURGER (with ground beef, cheese, lettuce, tomatoes)

Drinks

SOFT DRINKS                             | 1.50 / 2.75 / 3.25 / 3.75 |
- TEA                                   | 1.50 / 3.50 / 1.85 |
- COFFEE                                | .65 |
- MILK                                  | 1.65 |

Desserts

SHAKES & MALTS                          | 3.00 |
- FLOATS                                | 2.75 |
- FROSTEDS                              | 3.00 |
- BANANA SPLIT                          | 4.50 |
- SUNDae                                | 2.70 |
- CONES SPECIAL PRICE                   | 5.85 |
- DIPS COMES                            | 1.00 / 1.50 |
- ICE CREAM CUP                         | 1.95 |
- ARCTIC SWIRL                          | 3.99 / 3.99 |

Toppings

- CHOCOLATE - VANILLA - STRAWBERRY
- PINEAPPLE - HOT FUDGE
- FRIED PUNCHES                        | 3.45 |
- FUNNEL CAKE FRIES                    | 3.45 |

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<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clute</td>
<td>265-2220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>871-9035</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Mr. BEES FURNITURE**

**8" Memory Foam Queen Mattress**  
**$189**

**Find Your Perfect Mattress At A Perfect Price**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mattress Type</th>
<th>Queen</th>
<th>King</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The Dallas Pillow Top Collection  
  5-Yr. Warranty | Reg. $822 NOW $274 | Reg. $1095 NOW $365 |
| Galveston 15" Pillow Top  
  With Gel/Viscos | Reg. $1392 NOW $624 | Reg. $1872 NOW $646 |
| Bella Euro Top 14" Comfort Top Firm  
  8-Yr. Warranty | Reg. $1437 NOW $476 | Reg. $1797 NOW $599 |
| The Houston Double Pillow Top Collection  
  20-Yr. Warranty | Reg. $1272 NOW $424 | Reg. $1341 NOW $447 | Reg. $1797 NOW $559 |
| Victoria 11" Euro Pillow Top  
  5-Yr. Warranty | Reg. $810 NOW $270 | Reg. $942 NOW $299 | Reg. $1230 NOW $399 |

*Pictures for Illustration purposes only. Mr. B’s Furniture has the right to change prices for misprinting.*

---

**6-12 MONTHS NO INTEREST Layaway Available**

**13" Memory Foam Queen Mattress**  
**$399**

**Check Out Our Deals of the Week!**
AT&T 5G network ready in Houston, but cell phones are not

By Melissa Repko
The Dallas Morning News

AT&T has announced recently that its 5G network is live in parts of a dozen cities. And it said its first 5G-compatible device – a mobile hotspot – will soon be in the hands of some customers.

It marks the Dallas-based carrier's latest steps toward a nationwide rollout of the next-generation mobile network that's expected to bring faster, more reliable cellphone service and support emerging tech like autonomous cars, virtual reality and widespread use of robotics in manufacturing.

AT&T's mobile 5G network is live in four Texas cities: Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Waco. It's also in areas of Atlanta; Charlotte and Raleigh, N.C.; Indianapolis; Jacksonville, Fla.; Louisville, Ky.; Oklahoma City; and New Orleans.

In the first half of 2019, AT&T said it will go live with 5G in parts of seven more cities: Las Vegas; Los Angeles; Nashville, Tenn.; Orlando, Fla.; and San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose, Calif.

But there's a hitch: You can't use the mobile network for your phones yet. Smartphones that connect to the mobile network will start hitting the market in 2019. AT&T has said it will offer a 5G-compatible smartphone from Samsung in the first half of 2019 and will add another one to its lineup in the second half of next year.

Apple is expected to hold off on launching an iPhone for the 5G network until at least 2020. With the launch of 3G and 4G, it similarly waited to launch an iPhone until up to a year after the technology's deployment and the debut of rival smartphones.

While customers wait for the smartphones, they'll be able to buy AT&T's first 5G-compatible device: a mobile hotspot that connects to their devices, such as laptops and tablets.

Starting on Dec. 21, the Netgear Nighthawk 5G Mobile Hotspot will be available to a select group of businesses and customers chosen by AT&T as its early adopters.

The “puck” will be available to the public in the spring. The device will cost $499, with a 15 gigabyte data plan running $70 a month.

In a statement, Andre Fuetsch, AT&T's chief technology officer and president of AT&T Labs, called the device "the first taste of the mobile 5G era."

Texas has been one of AT&T's 5G testing hubs.

The company launched a 5G pilot in Waco at Magnolia Market at The Silos, a retail complex owned by HGTV stars Chip and Joanna Gaines that attracts about 5,000 tourists a day.

It also opened a new lab in Austin this spring to simulate how the mobile 5G network will be used by customers. And it is working with Samsung's semiconductor facility in Austin to test how 5G could be used in manufacturing.

Verizon launched its 5G network earlier this year, but it's a broadband replacement instead of a standards-based mobile service.

Verizon 5G Home, which went live in October, uses a device that resembles a home broadband router to deliver Wi-Fi. It costs $70 a month, or $50 a month for Verizon customers. It's available in only one Texas city: Houston. It's also available in Indianapolis, Los Angeles and Sacramento, Calif.

The rival carrier also plans to release a 5G smartphone with Samsung in the first half of 2019.

---

In tense regions ...

Nations can block GPS signals that their rivals use for military navigation and weapon control.

Jamming can shut down civilian air and sea navigation when powerful jamming transmitters go into action.

Source: www.gps.gov; NASA; Gizmodo; GPS World

Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

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Science Matters

GPS is jammed for many reasons

As GPS satellite navigation ties our world closer and closer – and privacy shrinks – many people have reasons, malicious or trivial, to interfere with the GPS signals.

The signals that jammers attack

1 GPS satellite transmits its location and exact time (from onboard atomic clock)
2 GPS device receives signal, uses the exact time to calculate distance to satellite
3 Using three different GPS satellites' signals, receiver calculates its position on the Earth

Teenage mischief ... and military advantage

Simple jammers may be able to prevent parents from monitoring family members' location.

Employees can block GPS to keep their employers from tracking their movement.

Truckers can jam GPS in an attempt to avoid paying highway tolls.

Simple illegal jammer plugs into car's power outlet, generates radio signal blocking GPS within radius of about 15 feet (3 m).

ILLEGAL

Governments impose heavy fines and imprisonment for interfering with GPS; jammers can be detected easily.

Baltic Sea
North Korea
Middle East
Persian Gulf

In tense regions ...

Nations can block GPS signals that their rivals use for military navigation and weapon control.

Jamming can shut down civilian air and sea navigation when powerful jamming transmitters go into action.

On May 20, the international metrology community will change the definitions of four basic units of measurement: the kilogram (mass), the Kelvin (temperature), the mole (amount) and the ampere (electrical current).

These changes won’t immediately affect your life – a pound of coffee will remain the same – but scientists at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md., say the shift represents a “turning point for humanity.”

From that day forward, these four components of the International System of Units, better known as the metric system, will be based on fundamental properties of physics that are constant throughout the cosmos.

The precedent was set in 1967, when the definition of a second was changed to the length of time required for a cesium-133 atom to complete 9,192,631,770 oscillations. The meter followed in 1983, becoming the distance traveled by light in one 299,792,458th of a second. Anywhere in the universe, these two units of measurement would remain the same.

The new definitions coming in 2019 are based on similar principles. The kilogram will be defined using Planck’s constant, and an ampere will be a measure of how many electrons pass through a single point in one second.

“The idea is to build a measurement system for all civilizations,” said institute physicist Stephan Schlamminger, “even extra-terrestrial ones.”

Most historians agree that Gabriel Mouton, the vicar of St. Paul’s Church in Lyons, France, is the “founding father” of the metric system.

He proposed a decimal system of measurement in 1670.
Boeing readies first 777X to fly

By Dominic Gates
The Seattle Times

While most airplanes look much the same to harried air travelers, early next year Boeing’s newest jet may manage to catch and arrest even the casual eye.

Passengers about to board will see its long, long carbon-fiber wings arc up and away from low on the fuselage, gull-like, then curve downward to the tips. There the wings will end in what will surely be the iconic image of this plane: scythe-like wingtips painted with a 777X and folded upward so the jet fits at the airport gate.

Hanging from the wings will be the most gigantic jet engines anyone has ever seen.

Behind the big doors of Boeing’s Everett assembly plant, Jason Clark, vice president of operations for the 777, gestured toward the all-but-complete 777X flight-test plane, the first of its two engines newly hung on the left wing, the tips folded up so as not to hit the factory walls.

“That’s the first airplane we’ll take into the sky,” said Clark. “In the next few weeks, we’ll be bringing the airplane to life.”

Engineers and mechanics are preparing to roll out this majestic jet for its public debut as early as February. It’ll fly for the first time a month or two later. Days before Christmas, Clark gave The Seattle Times an advance look.

This first plane, a 777-9X model, is 252 feet long. When those 11-footlong tips are unfolded for flight, it has a wingspan of 235 feet. That makes it longer and with a larger wingspan than the latest 747 jumbo jet.

Already, the power is on. Its giant airframe is complete. The primary systems are installed. The second of its immense GE-9X engines will be hung early in the New Year.

Now it’s mostly in the hands of the flight-test engineers and mechanics, busily installing the water barrels used for ballast during flight tests and the computer racks and special wiring unique to the test planes that will record every data point during the tests.

“The first of any new airplane model comes together slowly, and usually with lots of teething problems. When Boeing joined together the first big fuselage sections of the 787 Dreamliner in 2007, the fit was so out of alignment in places that employees could stick their fingers through the gaps.

But Boeing seems to have absorbed the hard lessons of the early 787 production nightmare and that jet’s more than three years of delays. The 777X is on schedule, and Clark is beaming.

Construction of the two planes for ground testing and the four flight-test planes is well advanced. The wings of the follow-on 777Xs, the first to go to airline customers, are under assembly.

“We’re through all the big teething elements,” he said. “This airplane is coming together very well.”

TSA to deploy more floppy-ear dogs because they’re less scary

Los Angeles Times (TNS)

In its effort to make the airport security screening process faster, the Transportation Security Administration is employing new high-tech baggage scanners, facial-recognition cameras and “automated lanes” to eliminate passenger gridlock.

But TSA Administrator David Pekoske said the agency is also making at least one new change to reduce traveler stress: deploying more floppy-ear dogs, rather than pointy-ear dogs, to sniff out explosives in public areas.

During a recent tour of Washington Dulles International Airport, Pekoske told the Washington Examiner that his agency believes floppy-ear dogs are less intimidating to travelers than dogs with pointy ears.

“We find the passenger acceptance of floppy-ear dogs is just better,” he said. “It presents just a little bit less of a concern. Doesn’t scare children.”

The TSA has more than 900 teams of officers and explosive-sniffing dogs either screening passengers at airports or sniffing cargo and baggage behind the scenes. About a third of those dogs interact with passengers in airports, according to the TSA.

The agency says it trains seven breeds of dogs: German shepherds (pointy ears), Labrador retrievers (floppy ears), German shorthaired pointers (floppy ears), wirehaired pointers (floppy ears), Vizslas (floppy ears), Belgian Malinois (pointy ears) and golden retrievers (floppy ears).

“Because of the federal shutdown, TSA representatives could not be reached to comment on how the agency will transition to more floppy-ear dogs.

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SIDELINE CHATTER

**Who needs The Grinch when you have Bill Belichick?**

The Patriots’ curmudgeonly coach softened up beat reporters by asking if they’d finished their holiday shopping, then quickly let slip that “Christmas comes at an inconvenient time, right in the middle of the football season.”

Responded Frank Schwab of Yahoo Sports: “There might not be a better Belichick quote, unless he has one somewhere telling Santa Claus, ‘Do your job.’ ”

**Flush with ideas**

Just wondering: Shouldn’t American Standard be sponsoring a bowl?

**That’s the Rx**

The St. Louis College of Pharmacy men’s basketball team snapped its four-year, 107-game losing streak by beating Lindenwood University-Belleville, 77-66, on Nov. 29. The only ones happier than the Eutectics were the Washington Generals, last seen popping Champagne corks in Don Shula’s basement.

**Caught again**

The NFL has suspended Patriots receiver Josh Gordon yet again for violating the league’s drug policy. In other words, upon further review, they’ve ruled he was in possession.

**Sailing out of bounds**

That comet that missed Earth by 7.1 million miles on Christmas Day was given the name Wirtanen. Wirtanen? Astronomers must not have seen Jared Goff try to complete a pass this month.

**On the move**

According to AAA, 112.5 million Americans traveled during the holidays.

**Pass it around**

Saints QB Drew Brees, after breaking the record for NFL career passing yardage, mailed out commemorative footballs to every player who caught a pass, lineman who blocked for him, coaches, etc. — 174 in all.

Brett Favre, not to be outdone, is having a souvenir ball shipped to every opponent who recovered his record 166 lost fumbles.

**Monopoly lives!**

---

**SPORTS STORIES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED**

The Boston Red Sox, baseball’s highest-spending team, owe $11,951,091 in luxury tax.

That’s what they get for having a payroll somewhere between Boardwalk and Park Place.

**Penalty of the Year**

Washington receiver Josh Doctson was penalized 15 yards for taunting against the Giants — with his team trailing 40-16.

**Air chordin’**

The Lakers’ Lance Stephenson got hit with a technical foul for taunting after he hit a 3-pointer to give his team a 32-point lead — and celebrated by strumming an air guitar — en route to a 28-point blowout win in Charlotte.

Hey, don’t laugh: It’s certainly easier on the nerves than close but no guitar.

**Deal or no deal?**

A three-team NBA trade got scuttled by confusion over whether one of the players involved was Dillon Brooks or MarShon Brooks. Sounds like something right out of Mel Brooks.

---

**GOREN BRIDGE**

**BREAKING THE RULES**

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<td>♦ 9</td>
<td>♦ 3</td>
<td>♦ 4</td>
<td>♦ K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The bidding:

**SOUTH**  **WEST**  **NORTH**  **EAST**

1♣  Pass  2NT  Pass
3♠  Pass  4♠  Pass

*Game-forcing spade raise*

Opening lead: ?

New players are given a lot of rules to learn. Their ability to play is dependent on their ability to remember these rules at the table. In the process of gaining experience, players begin to understand the reasons for these rules. They learn that these are not really rules at all, just logical guidelines. When they reach that level, they can identify situations that provide a good opportunity to break one of the rules.

One of these rules refers to opening leads. We are taught to lead “fourth from our longest and strongest” suit. Should that suit be headed by the ace, however, we can only lead that suit against a no trump contract. Defending against no trump, we are trying to develop our long cards in the suit as tricks. Declarer cannot stop these tricks from cashing by ruffing them. Against a suit contract, however, where long cards in our suit rarely take tricks, it is considered too dangerous to lead away from an ace. Not only might the lead give away a trick, but you might never get to take your ace.

In today’s deal, West listened carefully to the auction. South was not able to show a control in diamonds, the only unbid suit. With no standout lead, West tried the deceptive effect of leading a low diamond. South, believing that a player was most unlikely to undermine an ace, played dummy’s jack. East won with the queen and led a heart to West’s ace. Another low diamond put declarer on the spot. He played low from dummy as East scooped up his 10 and led a diamond to partner’s ace. Call the cops!
**ANIMAL CRACKERS**

**By Fred Wagner**

**YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF EXCUSES, LYLE!**

**IT'S A QUESTION OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND.**

**THE MIDDLETONS**

**By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers**

**WHAT ADVICE DID YOU GIVE TO ERNEST ABOUT AGING?**

**CHARMY'S ARMY**

**By Davey Jones**

**WHOA! HOW'D YOU GET THAT BLACK EYE?**

**DID YOU TRIP AND LAND ON SOMEONE'S KNUCKLE SANDWICH?**

**SOMEONE LEFT A JUMP ROPE IN THE MESS HALL AND I TRIPPED OVER IT.**

**SO, YOU ADMIT THIS WAS YOUR FAULT!**

- Babies sometimes smile, not because they're happy, but because they know it makes their parents happy.
- An Alabama man spent a year losing 70 lbs. to get healthy enough for surgery, so he could donate his kidney to his wife and save her life.
- People who receive a transfusion of the wrong blood type often report feeling a 'sense of impending doom' moments later.
- Left-handed people tend to be better at sports that require good spatial judgment and fast reaction, compared to right-handed individuals.
- Taking a walk three times a week can increase the size of your hippocampus; the area in your brain responsible for memory and learning.
- A 2011 study found that the first two years of college are basically useless.
Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

ACROSS
1 Pervasive clown
5 You, in Peru
10 ABC drama about plane crash survivors
14 Footnote notation
15 Navy a soul
16 Stuff in a dump
17 Buried the hatchet
20 Leafy Tolkien creature
21 Boomers' kids
22 Round gaskets
23 Steely Dan album pronounced like a continent
24 Move with effort
25 Got on everyone's nerves
33 Let in or let on
34 Man with a code
35 Prohibit
36 They may be black or green
37 __ Waldo Emerson
38 Ask for proof of age
40 __ colony
41 With "en," hot, in sports slang
45 Western trib
53 Type of auto found in the three other longest puzzle answers
58 Fine spray
60 Scintilla
61 Bump on a lid
62 Tony of "Who's the Boss?"
63 Seemingly forever

DOWN
1 Kid's wheels
2 Ruler of the Valkyries
3 Get-up-and-go
4 Mantra sounds
5 Like zombies
6 Rise dramatically
7 Oodies
8 Word with tight or loose
9 Reduce to rubble
10 Pretentious
11 Writing on the wall, so to speak
12 Complacent
13 Bikini parts
14 Joe Namath, notably
15 Came up
16 Without warranty
17 Savory taste
18 Some refrigerators
19 Got money for
20 __ colony
21 Boomers' kids
22 Round gaskets
23 Steely Dan album pronounced like a continent
24 Move with effort
25 Got on everyone's nerves
33 Let in or let on
34 Man with a code
35 Prohibit
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61 Bump on a lid
62 Tony of "Who's the Boss?"
63 Seemingly forever

VocabPower!

A woman married to a man with a 180 IQ understandably complained when during marital alterations he used words she had to look up in a dictionary. Even in the heat of the battle, far better to communicate clearly than pretently.

1. pretentious
   A. rude    C. pompous
   B. phony    D. upright
2. ostentatious
   A. outdated    C. calcified
   B. showy    D. supposed
3. pedantic
   A. tedious    C. on foot
   B. splashy    D. bookish
4. alteration
   A. removal    C. misplacing
   B. quarrel    D. adjustment
5. polemic
   A. agreement    C. entreaty
   B. argument    D. lung illness
6. détente
   A. hospitality    C. secret affair
   B. truce    D. postponement
7. concord
   A. purpose    C. agreement
   B. confusion    D. certainty
8. comity
   A. jesting    C. demeanor
   B. harmony    D. respect
9. urbane
   A. emptiness    C. courtesy
   B. city life    D. smugness
10. deference
    A. choice    C. separation
    B. yielding    D. contention

answers: 901 194 286 48 56 67 78 89 90 1

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BULLETIN Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don’t impose unnecessary limits on yourself. You can achieve any goal through simple willpower. A sustained effort will erode any walls or barriers that stand in your way. Perseverance is the key this week.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Old friends or past problems could be on your mind in the week ahead. You may be more ambitious or focused on completing end of the year tasks. You will have more time for fun and games by next weekend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put on a happy face. No matter how far down in the dumps you feel inside, you should display a cheerful exterior. Go out of your way to please a loved one as this week unfolds and share a sense of adventure.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You won’t see the entire picture until the puzzle is complete. You may not know what you will find early in the week but given adequate time and patience you will piece together the reason for someone’s actions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The work week ahead might challenge you to organize your long list of duties in an efficient way. Time to relax during the recent holidays should help you regain focus and move forward as the week progresses.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pace yourself. You may feel compelled to work hard but remember to take a break when necessary. You’ll shine much brighter as a supporting player than as the star of the show. Manage your time carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can’t let your hair down when you are forced to keep spirits up. Social affairs challenge you to honor professional duties in a formal, strait-laced and diplomatic manner. Be responsible and dutiful in the week ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may be generous to a fault in the week ahead. You may spend money indiscriminately or feel the need to show off. A budding relationship has potential but may be on the back burner for a few days.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Good deeds will be repaid if you extend a helping hand to someone. You may feel a nagging need to economize after holiday excesses. You may benefit from implementing a strict budget in the week ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You might be elected to be designated driver of your gang. If you must paint the town red, be sure you don’t wield a brush at anything you shouldn’t. Don’t push your luck or break the rules and laws this week.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Recharge the batteries. The holiday rush may have left you feeling a bit drained. The week ahead may offer an excellent chance to get back in the swing of things by performing light duty around the house or office.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Pull the proverbial thorn from your side. A nagging situation or problem could put you on edge in the week to come, but a few hours of hard work will eliminate your worries. You will reach your goals despite delays.

History of the World On This Day

JANUARY 8
1642 - Astronomer Galileo Galilei died in Arcetri, Italy.
1675 - The first corporation was chartered in the United States. The company was the New York Fishing Company.
1790 - In the United States, George Washington delivered the first State of the Union address.

JANUARY 9
1793 - Jean-Pierre Blanchard made the first successful balloon flight in the U.S.
1799 - British Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger introduced income tax, at two shillings (10p) in the pound, to raise funds for the Napoleonic Wars.

JANUARY 10
1840 - The penny post, whereby mail was delivered at a standard charge rather than paid for by the recipient, began in Britain.
1861 - Florida seceded from the United States.
1870 - John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.

JANUARY 11
1569 - England’s first state lottery was held.
1861 - Alabama seceded from the United States.
1878 - In New York, milk was delivered in glass bottles for the first time by Alexander Campbell.
1902 - “Popular Mechanics” magazine was published for the first time.
1913 - The first sedan-type car was unveiled at the National Automobile Show in New York City. The car was manufactured by the Hudson Motor Company.

JANUARY 12
1773 - The first public museum in America was established in Charleston, S.C.
1896 - At Davidson College, several students took X-ray photographs. They created the first X-ray photographs to be made in America.
1904 - Henry Ford set a new land speed record when he reached 91.37 miles per hour.

JANUARY 13
1854 - Anthony Faas of Philadelphia, PA., was granted the first U.S. patent for the accordion. He made improvements to the keyboard and enhanced the sound.
1900 - In Austria-Hungary, Emperor Franz Joseph decreed that German would be the language of the imperial army to combat Czech nationalism.
1928 - Ernst F. W. Alexanderson gave the first public demonstration of television.

JANUARY 14
1784 - The United States ratified a peace treaty with England ending the Revolutionary War.
1858 - French emperor Napoleon III escaped an attempt on his life.
1878 - Alexander Graham Bell demonstrated the telephone for Britain’s Queen Victoria.
1951 - The first National Football League Pro Bowl All-Star Game was played in Los Angeles, CA.

Jumble

JUMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

RABNO
SEYMS
UTARIL

That scrambled word game by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Answer: After his plastic surgery, Donald Duck had -- BILL PAYMENTS

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

(Editors Note: The image contains a cartoon and a Jumbled word game.

Answer: After his plastic surgery, Donald Duck had -- BILL PAYMENTS)
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