The Weekly BULLETIN

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November 11, 2014

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Dickens on the Strand
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Look inside for entry forms

Lake Jackson Festival of Lights complete schedule on Page 9

GEE-WHIZ!
A dealer and his dog
Edward Melvin Henderson thought he evaded the cops when he fled into the woods near his home in Prattville. Police had a warrant for his arrest on drug charges. They couldn't find him until Bo, the pit bull mix dog and Henderson's pet, showed up, and with tail wagging, led police to his location. Moral of the story: Never run from police at feeding time.

The diet didn't work
It might have worked for Jared, but the Subway diet apparently is not for everyone. Zachary Rapheal Torrance is accused of robbing a Subway sandwich restaurant at gunpoint because, as he told police, the Subway diet did not work, and he wanted his money back. Torrance also is suspected in three other Subway store robberies. Zachary, wouldn't it have been simpler to write a letter to the editor? This armed robbery thing was probably not a good idea.

Mediterranean Shipping Company arrives at Port Freeport
Port Freeport reached two milestones recently. The Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC) arrived and utilized the recently purchased Post Panamax ship-to-shore cranes for the first time. The purchase of the cranes allowed Port Freeport to secure MSC's new "Banana Express" and retain Chiquita Brands International.

"We are expecting a sizeable increase in volumes from all of the petrochemical companies in the Freeport region. These companies will benefit from reduced inland expense by utilizing Port Freeport and will be able to further reduce these logistical costs by utilizing the "Heavy Lift" corridor," said Port Freeport Executive Port Director/CEO Glenn Carlson.

Colon Cancer
Colonoscopy: This awkward topic can save your life, like it did mine
By John Toth
Editor and Publisher

Last week, I wrote about a subject that makes a lot of people uncomfortable. People don't like to talk about colonoscopies. They don't want to be the brunt of jokes, but it is a very important topic. Getting one can make the difference between a quality lifestyle in our later years and fighting for our lives.

So, at the age of 58, I decided to undergo this procedure on the advice of my physician. The preparation is a hassle, but the procedure itself is short and simple. I was put to sleep and woke up 45 minutes later, all done.

I didn't want to be one of the 50,000 people who die each year because polyps inside their colon develop into cancer. I also didn't want to be one of the 120,000 each year who are diagnosed with colon cancer and face a long struggle with treatment.

Colon cancer occurs when polyps in the colon are allowed to grow...

(Continued on Page 5)

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Freeport LNG awards $1 Million to Brazosport College for workforce-training Crafts Academy

In support of training qualified and skilled workers in high-demand fields, Freeport LNG Development, L.P., announced today a gift of $1 million to the Brazosport College Foundation.

The contribution, which was announced during an event on Oct. 30 at Brazosport College, will be used to further the College’s Crafts Academy, which will be renamed the Freeport LNG Crafts Academy.

“We are excited about Freeport LNG’s announcement - it marks a great day for our partnership and working together to provide a skilled workforce,” said Brazosport College President Dr. Millicent Valek.

“This level of financial commitment makes it possible for Brazosport College to have the labs and facilities necessary to deliver quality programs. It is a true honor to announce that we will have the Freeport LNG name on a prominent building within the Science Technology corridor on the BC campus.”

“The development of our gas liquefaction and LNG export project in Southern Brazoria County will mean the need for a highly-skilled workforce,” said Michael S. Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Freeport LNG.

“I am pleased that we are able to provide a gift to the College that will assist in providing the training and education necessary to help us staff our new facility.”

The Freeport LNG expansion is expected to employ more than 3,500 workers during the four- to five-year construction period. In addition, the terminal will add more than 150 full-time positions for operators, maintenance technicians, administrative support and engineers.

The Freeport LNG Crafts Academy area will encompass a variety of workforce programs, including welding technology, pipefitting, construction management, electrical, HVAC, automotive, process technology, drafting and millwright training, among other programs.

MIKE PINGREE’S THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

REMEMBER: GUN LICENSE FIRST, THEN GUN: A man came to the police station in Richmond, Ind., to apply for a license to carry a gun. He was arrested for carrying a gun without a license, because he was armed when he got there. He also had some marijuana.

LET’S OBSERVE A BIT LONGER JUST TO MAKE SURE: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police broke up a magazine’s naked photo shoot on Knox Mountain in Kelowna, British Columbia. The filming had been going on for about three hours before anyone complained.

SUSPICION CONFIRMED: Cops pulled over a man on suspicion of drunken driving at 2 a.m. on State Road 64 in Bradenton, Fla. After the stop, the man accidentally backed his pickup truck into the police cruiser.

OH DEATH, WHERE IS THY STING: A man laid down on the railroad tracks in Lodi, Calif., intending to commit suicide. The train soon came, but it was going only 15 mph and was fitted with a cow-catcher on the front. So it just pushed him gently off the tracks. He will be turned over to mental health professionals.

MMM, FOOD, IS THAT FOR ME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN “NO!” A 60-year-old woman bought a bag of monkey food during her tour of China’s Chengdu Wildlife Park, but, when she refused to give up the whole bag to one monkey, the animal flew into a rage and pushed her off a 20-foot cliff. She is OK.

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

Shoplifting suspect arrested after running out of gas during chase

By Fran Jeffries
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (MCT)
ATLANTA — Snellville police nabbed a suspected serial shoplifter recently after a harrowing chase through five jurisdictions that ended when the suspect ran out of gas.

Carl Ashley Thompson, 30, of Ball Ground, was taken into custody. He faces a slew of traffic violation charges, along with three counts of felony theft by shoplifting, fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, criminal trespass and for possessing drug-related objects.

No one was injured during the chase, which began when an officer tried to stop Thompson around 3:40 a.m. for speeding — going 51 mph in a 35 mph zone. The officer also noticed that the car had no license plate.

According to an incident report, the officer tried to pull Thompson over near a Waffle House in Snellville. Thompson didn’t stop, driving his green 2009 Nissan Titan in excess of 110 mph, according to police. The chase continued for about six miles, ending when Thompson ran out of gas inside the city of Loganville.

He surrendered at gunpoint. Police said they found a pipe and a hypodermic needle in the car, which tested positive for methamphetamine.

Snellville police then identified Thompson as a suspect in a recent similar theft in Gainesville, Flowery Branch, Hall and Gwinnett counties.

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**STRANGE BUT TRUE**

By Bill Sones
and Rich Sones, Ph.D.

**Are you a speciesist?**

Q. We know all too well about sexists, nationalists, racists -- now we have “confessions of a speciesist.” What’s this guy’s bias?

A. He’s “Scientific American” magazine columnist and book author Michael Shermer, who admits to being a “speciesist,” or someone who presumes that nonhuman animals’ interests are less important than those of our own species. “I find few foods more pleasurable than a lean cut of meat,” Shermer confesses. “I relish the feel of leather.”

Yet Shermer has sympathy with animal rights activists who equate “factory farms with concentration camps” and describes “the saddest slaughterhouse footage ever, showing a bull waiting in line to die.” Hearing his mates in front of him being killed, he backs up into the rear wall of the metal chute and turns his head around, seeking an escape. A worker prods the bull along until the final death wall comes down behind him and down he goes in a heap. When an undercover USDA inspector inquired about the waste stench, one meat plant worker replied: “They’re scared. They don’t want to die.”

**Monumental sounds**

Q. When a launched firecracker explodes in front of Southern Jiangsu Victory Monument at Mount Maoshan in Jiangsu, China, six bugle-like notes can be distinctly heard, amazing and delighting visitors. Some locals have attributed this “mystery of the Maoshan bugle” to “… a legendary young trumpeter who was sacrificed 70 years ago in a battle nearby, and whose heroic spirit is awakened by the sound of ‘gunfire’ produced by the firecrackers.” What is the more scientific explanation?

A. The monument is fronted by a huge stone staircase (317 stairs total) in six flights or subsections. According to analysis by Xu Chen and colleagues, as reported in the “American Journal of Physics,” the eerie sounds are simply echoes from the stairs, with constructive and destructive interference yielding crisp bugle-like toots, one for each subsection. (The Guinness Book of World Records recognizes the structure as “giving out the most notes stimulated by a pulse sound.”)

**Punt, or go for it?**

Q. So your dream has come true: You’re an NFL coach with a tie game in the first quarter, fourth down and three yards to go on your own 30-yard line. Your team is sputtering. So do you punt, or go for it?

A. Contrary to conventional wisdom, go for it. In analyzing NFL play-by-play data from the 1998-2000 seasons, mathematical economist David Romer looked at thousands of plays as well as data on punts, kickoffs and field goals. He then used a technique called dynamic programming to reach the stunning conclusion: Actual play in the NFL is way too conservative, with teams punting or going for a field goal far more than they should. ("Journal of Political Economy").

Corroborating Romer’s analysis were statistician Benjamin Baumer and economist Andrew Zimbalist, who in their book, “The Sabermetrics Revolution,” wrote: “The risk-averse coaches seem to prefer making the call that is anticipated by football convention rather than the call that maximizes expected point value. The potential praise for being aggressive and right apparently is more than offset psychically by the scorn that would rain down on the coach if the aggressive play did not pan out.”

(Send STRANGE questions to brothers Bill and Rich at strangetrue@cs.com)

**Did you know?**

- Donkey Kong got his name because creator Shigeru Miyamoto thought “donkey” meant “Stupid” in English
- Residents of South Africa can legally attach small flamethrowers to cars to repel car jacking.
- Falling in love has similar neurological effects as the high produced from taking cocaine.
Pot legalization spreads through the West, D.C.

By Evan Halper
Tribune Washington Bureau (MCT)

Joints, pot brownies, cannabis-dosed sodas and other marijuana products will soon be sold in retail shops to any adult who wants them throughout a large chunk of the West, after voters in Oregon and Alaska approved legalization measures Tuesday.

And an initiative approved overwhelmingly by Washington, D.C., voters legalizes the use and cultivation of marijuana there, but stops short of allowing retail sales.

The states join Colorado and Washington, which legalized recreational pot sales only two years ago, in a remarkable change of fortune for legalization advocates who had been toiling for decades to lift the prohibition on the drug.

Proponents this week overcame voter concerns surrounding the bumpy roll out of the taxing and regulatory plans for cannabis in the states where it was legalized in 2012 – as well as many unwelcome headlines – in a sign that voter unease with the drug is rapidly fading.

The outcome also was a clear sign that opinions on marijuana no longer fall neatly along partisan lines. The narrow passage of legalization in GOP-dominated Alaska, where 52 percent of voters cast ballots in favor, was considered a symbolic victory among cannabis advocates.

The vote in the capital also had political significance, playing out in the backyard of federal government as advocates try to persuade Congress to soften drug laws.

The Washington, D.C., measure was driven in large part by racial justice concerns, in a city where African-Americans accounted for 91 percent of those arrested for drug possession, even though statistics show they are no more likely to use the drug than whites.
to grow. Once they develop, the only way to get rid of them is a colonoscopy. The simple procedure includes cutting out the polyps, which are later examined in a laboratory to determine whether they are benign or malignant.

There is no other way to know whether someone has colon polyps. By the time you feel any symptoms, the polyps have turned cancerous. If they go untreated, the cancer spreads to other parts of the body.

- Charles Schulz, creator of “Peanuts,” died at age 77, 60 days after diagnosis.
- Vince Lombardi, coach of the Green Bay Packers, died of metastatic colon cancer.
- Elizabeth Montgomery, who is best known for “Bewitched” TV series, died at age 62, eight weeks after diagnosis.

Rod Roddy, previous announcer for “The Price Is Right,” died at age 66, two years after diagnosis. This is a very short list. There have been many other famous people who have succumbed to colon cancer. Being a famous does not make the polyps go away.

My procedure took a little longer than normal. When I woke up, the surgeon was there and explained what he found.

There were five polyps. That’s a lot. After three, it is recommended that the individual undergo another colonoscopy in five years.

I don’t eat red meat, and I eat a lot of fiber, fruits and vegetables. I exercise regularly. I fully expected the doctor to announce that I had no polyps, and I won’t have to have another procedure for 10 years. But as it turns out, I had five.

“Don’t lose any sleep over them,” the doctor said. “They were very little. I don’t expect them to be cancerous.”

Yes, but five? And what if he is wrong, and one of them already is? The clinic supplied me with a complete report, and I jumped on the Internet machine to do my own research.

Each polyp was less than 5mm in size. My research indicated that under 10mm there is little to worry about. But remember, little polyps grow into bigger ones without any warning.

That made me feel better. The polyps are now gone. They were very small.

A week later I met up with the doctor, and he said he had some good news. All the polyps were benign, just like he thought. Hearing that made me feel even better. Here is what this doctor has done for me, and does many times each day.

He made sure that when I turn 68 (or even earlier), I can be hiking, swimming and doing whatever I want instead of undergoing treatment for colon cancer because I am struggling to stay alive.

He has added many quality years to my life, as he has done for many other people. It’s just a daily routine for him and many other doctors who can easily zap those nasty colon polyps and give them zero chance of growing cancerous.

For me, it meant a lot more than that, as you can imagine. I call it a heroic act repeated many times daily.

Those people listed earlier didn’t have to die of colon cancer. It is 100 percent preventable with a colonoscopy.

Because I had five polyps, I’ll have to have another procedure in three years to see what is going on in there and whether anything else needs zapping. I’ll be glad to do it.

Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men and women combined in the United States, fourth in the world.

Over 90% of those diagnosed when the cancer is found at a local stage (confined to colon or rectum) survive more than five years. Once the cancer is diagnosed at a regional stage (spread to surrounding tissue) that rate drops to 70%. And so on.

At Stage IV, the survival rate drops to 11 percent. The simple fact is that a colonoscopy can zap all the polyps before they get a chance to become cancerous. Then, your survival rate jumps to 100 percent.

If you are over 50 and have not had a colonoscopy, schedule one. It may just be the best decision you’ll make in your long, healthy, active life.

Ted Kovacev, MD

General Surgeon Joins Brazosport Regional

Brazosport Regional is excited to have general surgeon, Dr. Ted Kovacev, join its medical team. As a general surgeon, Dr. Kovacev will provide care at Oak Business Park in Lake Jackson.

Dr. Kovacev performs a wide variety of surgeries and operations, mainly focusing on those concerning the abdomen and related organs and structures. He is trained to utilize minimally-invasive surgical techniques, a procedure used to greatly reduce the patients healing time.

Leaving Presbyterian Health System in New Mexico, Dr. Kovacev is returning to his home state of Texas to reestablish his career. In the past, he has provided care as a general surgeon at Fayette Regional Medical Center and Hancock Regional Hospital in Indiana.

Dr. Kovacev graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington and received his Doctor of Medicine from Saint Georges University. He completed his residency program at the Methodist Hospital in Houston and trained at multiple hospitals in the Texas Medical Center.

He is excited to provide general surgery services in the Brazosport Community. Call today to schedule an appointment with Dr. Kovacev.
ACC inducts New Phi Theta Kappa members

The Alvin Community College Mu Upsilon chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society inducted 16 new members during a ceremony on October 27.

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society of two-year colleges. Members follow four hallmarks, including scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. To be eligible for Phi Theta Kappa, students must have completed at least 12 college credit hours at ACC and maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or above.

More than 3,500 ACC students have been inducted into Phi Theta Kappa.

ACC President Dr. Christal M. Albrecht, a former Phi Theta Kappa advisor, said the Mu Epsilon chapter has recently been recognized for several honors at the 2014 statewide conference. Mu Upsilon was honored for Outstanding Officers/Members, Outstanding Advisors among other distinctions. Mu Epsilon also received the Five-Star Chapter distinction, the highest offered by Phi Theta Kappa. It is the first time the college was listed as a Five-Star chapter since 2007.

Members of the honors society have an opportunity to better themselves both as a student and as a member of their community, said Phi Theta Kappa President Ashley Mello, of Pearland.

Members are encouraged to volunteer in their community as part of their participation with the honors society. Phi Theta Kappa members will volunteer to host the first Winter Ball at ACC on Dec. 7. The new Phi Theta Kappa inductees are: Jefferi Adcock, Alex Balmaceda, Randie De Arment, Hannah Dean, Analysa Edmiston, Kristina Eldridge, Melissa Holesovsky, Angelek Jordan, Shemilore Oguntoye, Angela Otoya, Jennifer Parker, Wally Perez, Shea Rapp, Jessica Rucks, Anna Self and Kris Swan.

For more information, call lead advisor Susan Weatherford at (281) 756-3812.
Registration for Brazosport College’s Spring classes is now underway.

The unemployment rate is forecast to have remained at 5.9 percent in October, which is the lowest since mid-2008.

APD said job growth was up sharply in October for midsized companies, defined as those with 50-499 employees. Those firms added 122,000 net new positions last month, more than double the 47,000 added in September.

But companies with more than 500 employees added just 5,000 net new jobs, down from 85,000, APD said.

The well-paying construction industry added 28,000 net new jobs last month, up from 13,000 in September, it said.

Another high-wage sector, manufacturing, saw hiring fall off sharply to 15,000 net new positions in October, down from 33,000 the previous month. But the September figure was the best since 2011.

Overall, goods-producing industries added 48,000 net new jobs last month, down from 50,000 in September. Service-providing companies increased their payrolls by 181,000 in October, up from 176,000 the previous month.

Tom Brokaw’s cellphone becomes highlight of election night

By Patrick Kevin Day
Los Angeles Times (MCT)

Tom Brokaw, the longtime former anchor of “NBC Nightly News” will always be TV journalism royalty, but Tuesday night, Brokaw introduced America to a new star in the Brokaw house: his cellphone.

Brokaw was live on MSNBC on Tuesday discussing midterm election results with Rachel Maddow and Chris Matthews when they were interrupted by a loud, disruptive alert sound. Maddow tried to dismiss it as ambient noise, but Brokaw quickly fessed up: It was the alarm on his cellphone that had begun going off.

“I thought you were on fire,” Maddow joked.

Many anchors would have quickly turned off the alarm and continued about their business, but Brokaw has obviously been taking some improv classes these days, because he chose to turn the cellphone mishap into a “bit.”

Pressing the phone to his ear, Brokaw engaged in a one-sided conversation.

“Yes, I will remember to bring home the milk. ... Don’t worry about it,” Brokaw said. “I’ll feed the dog in the morning. Just sleep in, it’s going to be O.K.”

Many viewers took to Twitter to say that Brokaw’s cellphone shtick was the highlight of the evening.

MSNBC commentator Keith Boykin tweeted, “Guess they didn’t have that problem when he was an anchor in the 90s.”
The Brazosport College Student Veterans Association is hosting a 5K Fun Run and BBQ on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The event, which will be held on the Brazosport College campus, is dedicated to all Service Members, Veterans and their families for the sacrifices they’ve made. All proceeds from the event will go toward the BC Student Veterans Association to assist in providing our community’s veterans the support needed to succeed.

All participants and supporters are encouraged to dress in a fun, military theme.

The event begins at 7:30 a.m. with the raising of the American flag, followed by a free half-mile kids race at 8 a.m.

The 5K race begins at 8:30 a.m., and medals will be given to first- through third-place finishers in age categories throughout the male and female divisions. Top three finishers in the kids run will receive gift cards.

Veterans and those currently serving in the military can run for free. The entry fee for BC students, faculty and staff is $15. Entry for the general public is $20, and T-shirts will be given to all 5K participants.

There is a $2.50 additional registration fee for all participants.

Following the race at 11 a.m. and continuing through 5 p.m., barbecue plates will be served for $10. The price includes the barbecue plate and a beverage. Free facepainting and other local vendors will be on hand throughout the day.

To pre-register for the race, visit thedriven.net, and click on “event list” and select “Veterans 5K and BBQ.” To guarantee a T-shirt commemorating the event, one should pre-register online.

For more information, e-mail sva@brazosport.edu.
A Salute to Our Veterans
Helping Veterans

From The Gulf Coast Center

Thank You
for serving our country and
protecting our freedom!

Our Military Veteran Peer Network assists veterans and their families by connecting them to their peers and veteran service providers. Register at Milvetpeernet
Local craftsmen from around the area will once again be coming together to exhibit and sell their creations at the second annual Santa’s Handcrafted Bazaar.

Scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Lake Jackson Civic Center, this year’s event will host booths selling a wide range of handmade gifts and accessories, including hand carved wooden art, aprons, hand crocheted shawls, hats, jewelry, shabby chic furniture, book marks, picture frames and more. This year’s offerings even include retro toys, such as hand-crocheted finger puppets and more – all for good little boys and girls.

Sponsored by St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Freeport, the Knights of Columbus will be serving hot sandwiches, coffee, and other drinks to accommodate hungry shoppers, and the ladies of the parish will be offering home-baked goodies to please those with a sweet tooth.

Becki Shawver, bazaar chairperson, shared that she is thrilled to be hosting this event once more. “It’s a great opportunity to have local craftsmen and artisans sell their creations. There is no need to buy “cookie cutter” gifts this year. We’ll have lots of one-of-a-kind gifts and unique options for just about everyone on your holiday shopping list.”

Ms. Shawver also noted that there are still a couple of booth spaces available for vendors interested in joining in on the fun. Please call Steve or Becki Shawver for more information at (979) 297-3187.

Southwest Airlines to make Beats Music available on flights

By Terry Maxon
The Dallas Morning News (MCT)

DALLAS — Southwest Airlines announced Monday that it will offer free music to passengers through the Beats Music service.

Southwest chief marketing officer Kevin Krone said Southwest offers movies, free television, Internet access and text messaging through its onboard Wi-Fi service.

However, “it’s missing one really critical element, and we’re happy today to announce we’ve fixed that missing part of the puzzle,” Krone said.

The service is free. A passenger gets three songs to listen to. If he or she wants to hear more, they must submit their email address to Beats, and then can continue listening.
As part of National Memory Screening Day — an annual initiative of the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America (AFA) — the Brazoria County Alzheimer’s Awareness Project will offer free, confidential memory screenings at Brazoria County Libraries during the week of Nov. 17-22.

The individual library schedules are as follows:

- **ALVIN** (105 S Gordon, Alvin): Nov. 17-22; 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 2-5:30 p.m. each day.
- **ANGLETON** (401 E Cedar, Angleton): Nov. 17-22; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m. daily.
- **BRAZORIA** (620 S Brooks, Brazoria): Nov. 17-22; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m. each day, except Nov. 20, when afternoon shift is 2-3:30 p.m.
- **CLUTE** (215 N Shanks, Clute): Nov. 18-20, in ENGLISH; 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m. Nov. 19-20 in SPANISH; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.
- **DANBURY** (1702 N Main, Danbury): Nov. 18-20; 1-6 p.m.
- **FREEPORT** (410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport): Nov. 18-20 in ENGLISH; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m. Nov. 19-22 in SPANISH; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.
- **LAKE JACKSON** (250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson): Nov. 17-21; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. each day, except Nov. 20, when afternoon shift is 2-3:30 p.m.
- **PEARLAND** (3522 Liberty Drive, Pearland): Nov. 17-19; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.
- **SWEENY** (205 W Ashley Wilson, Sweeny): Nov. 19-20; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.
- **WEST COLUMBIA** (518 E Brazos, West Columbia): Nov. 17-20; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2-5:30 p.m.

Qualified healthcare professionals will administer the memory screenings and provide educational materials about memory concerns, brain health and caregiving. The face-to-face screenings consist of a series of questions and tasks and take five to 10 minutes to administer.

For more information about National Memory Screening Day, call (toll free) 866-232-8484, or visit www.nationalmemoryscreening.org. “This will be our third year to partner with the Brazoria County Library System to offer free memory screenings,” said Dale Libby, Coordinator for the Brazoria County Alzheimer’s Awareness Project. “Last year, we conducted 545 screenings, and we were able to identify 56 persons with severe cognition deficits that we referred to healthcare professionals for more testing.”

AFA suggests memory screenings for anyone concerned about memory loss or experiencing warning signs of dementia; whose family and friends have noticed changes in them; who believe they are at risk due to a family history of dementia; or who want to see how their memory is now and for future comparisons.

Screeners emphasize that results are not a diagnosis and encourage individuals who score poorly as well as those who still have concerns to pursue a full medical examination.

Such screenings are becoming increasingly important as the number of Baby Boomers turning age 65 — the at-risk age group for Alzheimer’s disease — continues to climb. The federal government’s historic “National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease” urges a greater emphasis on both early diagnosis and education.

**Don’t Let Your Dog’s Hygiene Go To The Dogs!**

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See who is waiting for you at SPCA-BC

Come by the SPCA-BC Shelter at 141 Canna Ln., Lake Jackson, or we are at Brazos Mall, Petco and Petsmart every Saturday, to visit with these pets and many of their friends. Kennel sponsorships are now available for large or small kennels. Why not have your company or family recognized with a plaque to show you care? Call (979) 285-2340, ext. 100, or visit www.spca-bc.org for details. Help control the pet population. Have your pet spayed or neutered. Come by the SPCA-BC, and fill out an application today.
TV's hoarding expert predicts more cases as Boomers age

The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

PHILADELPHIA — Looking to get into a growth industry? Two words: hoarding cleanup.

“Grief and time is what causes hoarding,” proclaimed Matt Paxton, during a recent visit to Philadelphia. “The elderly just happen to have more time.”

And, one might argue, more reasons to grieve.

“Not all old people hoard … but the issue is, the population (of elderly) is getting ready to triple. In 30 years, 35 percent of the country will be over 65. We’re gonna have more hoarders.

“In 20 years, I’m gonna have a bunch of Beanie Baby hoarders.”

Paxton knows whereof he speaks. Thanks to his six-season run as star of the A&E reality series, “Hoarders,” the Richmond, Va., native has been as responsible as anyone for putting the mental disorder in the spotlight.

Although his program was canceled last year (stream past episodes at aetv.com/hoarders), Paxton still devotes his life to helping the afflicted to rearrange their lives through his Richmond-based company, Clutter Cleaner.
When playing Facebook quizzes, keep in mind websites may be data-mining your records

By Ronnie Gill
Newsday (MCT)

If you’re a Facebook user, you probably haven’t escaped quizzes appearing in your News Feed, and you’ve probably succumbed to taking one, or more, whether to find out “Which ‘Gone Girl’ Character Are You?” or “How Much Science Do You Know?” Yes, they are fun, as long as you realize the results are totally unscientific and meaningless except to the website the quiz comes from, which, in many cases, is data-mining your answers.

To see what privacy you are about to give up by taking a quiz, read the website’s privacy policy first. For instance, among the things stated by BuzzFeed, which produces highly viral quizzes, such as those above, is, “When you visit our Site or use our mobile applications or other Services, ad networks and other parties may collect information about your online activities over time and across different websites.”

That being said, here are a few of the more popular quiz websites:

Did you know?

- Bathtubs kill more than 300 people every year.
- Watching TV for more than two hours a day can shorten life expectancy by 1.4 years.
- Astraphobia is the fear of thunder and lightning.

My Answer

We all fail, but with Christ there is hope and salvation

By Billy Graham
Tribune Media Services

Q: God must be very disappointed in me because I keep making resolutions to become a better person, and then the next thing I know, I’ve broken them. The harder I try, the more I fail, and then I feel overwhelmed with guilt. Why can’t I change? - S. McC.

A: You aren’t alone; almost everyone has tried to become a better person - and failed. The reason is simple (although we hate to admit it): Within ourselves, we don’t have the moral and spiritual strength we need to become the people we ought to be. We need God’s help - and when we turn in faith to Him, He will help us.

But let me ask you a question: Why do you want to become a better person? Is it simply because you hope your life will be happier, or other people may like you more? Perhaps so, and this isn’t necessarily wrong. When we live the way God wants us to live, our lives are fuller and happier.

But I can’t help but wonder if you have another reason: By becoming a better person, you hope you’ll win a place in heaven. In other words, you hope God will reward you for your good works by letting you into heaven. But listen: No matter how good we are, we will never be good enough - and the reason is because God’s standard is nothing less than perfection.

This is why we need Christ, for by His death on the cross He fully paid the price for our salvation - a price we could never pay ourselves. By a simple prayer of faith, commit your life to Him. The Bible says, “It is by grace you have been saved, through faith... not by works, so that no one can boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9).

(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.)
Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week

Across
1 Lies as a whole? 22 Gets under control
5 King who raged to Edgar on the heath 23 *Ivy League professional school
9 Turbaned Punjabis 26 PC brain
14 Matty or Felipe of baseball 29 Skier’s challenge
15 Puffs additive 30 Tuna holder
16 Pistons great Thomas 31 Sci-fi hybrid
17 Hog product 33 Running or jumping
18 *Madonna’s specialty 36 Mideast flier
20 Leave open-mouthed 37 *Fruity dessert with sweetened crumbs

Solutions on the right side of this page

VocabPower!

“Therein lies the secret,” said Suzy Smart, “of a 7-letter word containing 10 words in order.” Don’t look too far for that special word since it’s right in front of you (1st word above). Now for ten words of seven letters.

1. therein 6. 00–Seven
   A. within C. in that place A. radio code C. call to arms
   B. therefore D. following B. James Bond D. Mickey Mantle

2. heptads 7. decibel
   A. pillars C. small growths A. a chime C. sound unit
   B. Gk. rulers D. groups of 7 B. 1/10th D. massacre

3. decagon 8. septets
   A. 10 zeroes C. 10-sided figure A. poem form C. 7 babies
   B. 10 cities D. 10 events B. lucky rolls D. 7 singers (pl.)

4. tenuous 9. 10–seven
   A. flimsy C. divide by 10 A. 7th heaven C. seventy
   B. tender D. “ten of us” B. binary code D. 10,000,000

5. Menorah 10. Decalog(u)ne
   A. festival C. 7-arm candlestick A. Hindu god C.10 Commandments
   B. 10-day fast D. 7-headed beast B. Bill of Rights D. 10-word chart

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?
Find EIGHT BODIES OF WATER in the grid of letters. Write your answers below.

answers: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

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BULLETIN HOROSCOPE

Tribune Content Agency

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put the needs of others first. A situation that seems fraught with tension can be healed and might create a golden opportunity for you to succeed through teamwork in the week ahead. You can strengthen benefi-
cial relationships.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): It’s time to mend fences so you can fulfill your dreams. Pay attention to how others see you. Intimacy issues will be resolved if you agree to do better and abide by this decision during the coming week.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make a resolution as firm as your handshake. In the upcoming week, you can join forces to accomplish worthy goals. You may discover that other people are willing to share the knowledge and experience that you need.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Enjoy the good life this week. Money, like water, must be spread around in order to perform its function. Spend generously and the money that circulates will irrigate virtual fields so you can nurture future prosperity and success.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Foster the spirit of give and take. Unresolved issues can be resolved in a blink of an eye this week by offering an apology in a timely manner. Changing someone’s mind will take no more effort than changing a light bulb.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A few minutes of feeling “down” may act as the springboard for you to pursue “upward” mobility. Get an education in areas where you’ve displayed a lack of knowledge and overcome a handicap in the week ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get a new lease on life. Start taking brisk walks over your lunch hour, get a makeover, or join a gym. Find ways to improve your wellbeing and appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your decisiveness and your charm are your best qualities during the week ahead. Go after your goals fearlessly. Friends will admire your boldness, and a significant other is likely to take pride in your tenacity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What goes around comes around. You may make sound decisions during the week ahead, possibly because you’re wiser than usual. But you’ll also receive better advice and guidance than usual from your supporters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Wrap up deals and tie them with a bow. You’re passionate about being successful and not afraid to get your hands dirty. Since you are willing to cooperate, you can make your dreams come true in the week ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Learn to play many roles and bend with the wind during the upcoming week. Keep an open mind when dealing with liberals and honor the traditional when hobnobbing with conservatives.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An aura of popularity surrounds you in the week to come. Focus on ways to circulate and network to make your business and career flourish. New friendships might prove beneficial and can act as stepping-stones.

JUMBLE

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

NIFSI

WARLC

CADAFE

ENBOCK

Answer: NIFSI

ENBOCK

When the ice skater fell, the result was a ---

Jumble Answer: "few cracks"

That was smooth

You need double runners

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MR. MORRIS

By Rick Brooks

THE MIDDLETONS

By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers

BROOM HILDA

By Russel Myers

ANIMAL CRACKERS

By Fred Wagner

THIS SYSTEM NEEDS ADJUSTING.

I’M DIAGNOSING CHINA!

MAYBE I CAN BE THE MAID OF HONOR!

IT SOUNDS SWEET!

YOU’LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH SEVERAL THOUSAND MILES OF SOLID ROCK, NERWIN.

BEFORE I MARRIED!

THEN YOU’D BETTER PACK ME A LUNCH.

GOOD PLACE FOR AN UMBRELLA STAND.

EVERY RAINFOREST SHOULD HAVE ONE.
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