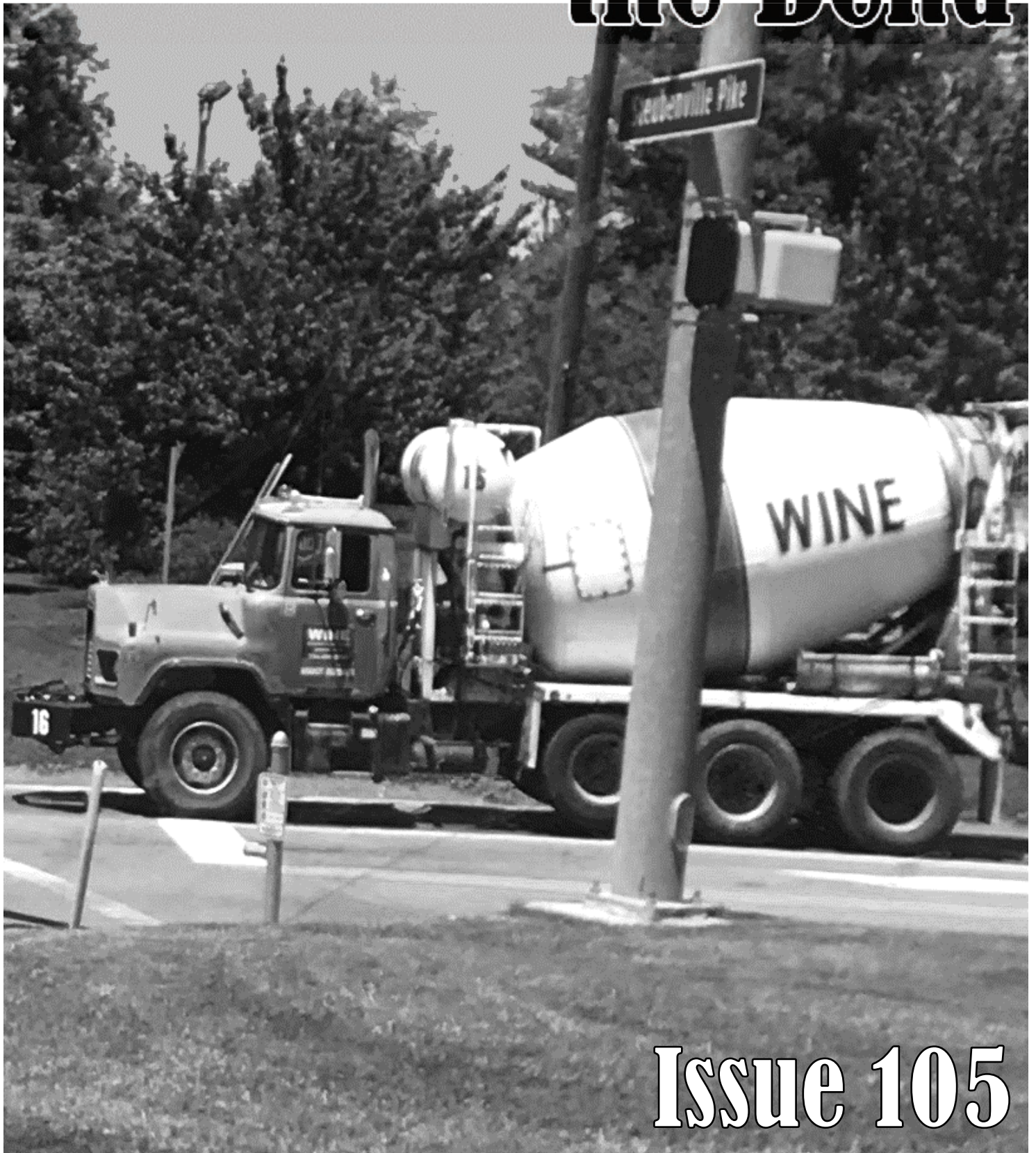
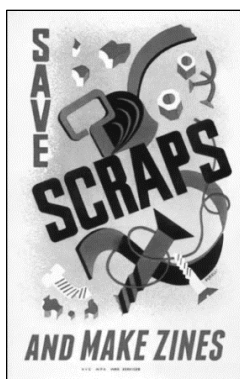


News From Around the Bend



Issue 105



NEWS FROM AROUND THE BEND

ERRATA, EPHEMERA, ET CETERA.

ISSUE #105

AUGUST 2020

A periodical brought to you periodically by
The Northcraft Entertainment Organization

Cover: The hero we need AND deserve. (photo by Gail Knarr)

Publisher/Editor for Life
ACOUSTIC ROSS

Known & Suspected Contributors To Your Delinquency This Month

SHAWN BRETT
JENNIFER COLLINS
GINNY GREENAWALT
The JOHNSONS

The KNARRS
The MASONs
GLORIA SHADE
THE YUNGKURTHS

send links & clippings
to ross@nfatb.com

This Month's Cartoons

War and Peas (warandpeas.com) by Elizabeth Pich & Jonathan Kunz (p. 4)

Shannon Wheeler for **The New Yorker** (p. 5)

Nathan W. Pyle (www.nathanwpyle.art) (p. 7)

Wrong Hands (wronghands.com) by John Atkinson (p. 8)

Luci Gutierrez for **The New Yorker** (p. 9)

Rose Wong for **The New Yorker** (p. 11)

Jaane Ivonon for **The New York Times** (p. 12)

Drew Dernavich for **The New Yorker** (p. 13)

Bizarro (bizarro.com) by Dan Piraro (p. 14)

João Pazenda for **The New Yorker** (p. 15)

NOTES FROM THE SKEPTIC TANK

If you've heard this story before, don't stop me, because I'd like to hear it again. — Groucho Marx



Early this year, in putting together Issue 104, I pulled a *ton* of new content to use. Once I had all the piles put together, I realized I had more than I needed for a single issue, which is about thirteen pages' worth of clippings. I had started with a page and a half already in the can, left over from the *previous* issue, and after adding in all the new stuff I'd pulled for #104, instead of the 13 pages I needed, I had... 27.

So here we are, a few months later*, with an all-new issue assembled simultaneously with the previous one: #105 in name, #104 Part 2 in spirit.

I hope this issue finds you and yours well. It's been a rough year for us all, but it would be so much worse without you in it. Whether you're at home Zoom-calling with extended family and friends... binge-watching your favorite shows and movies... finally reading that novel... finally *writing* that novel... playing games of the board, video, card, or trivia variety... honing your organizing skills... taking to the streets to protest injustice... baking bread**... tending a home garden***... I hope you're all staying safe and healthy out there.

And by **out there** I mostly mean **in there**.

There are a lot of *us*, but there's only the one of *you*. Take care of it, whatever way you feel is right, as long as taking care of your *You* doesn't interfere with someone else's taking care of their *Them*.

See you again soon. (I'll be the one in the mask, keeping his distance.)

- RmG3, NFATB CEO, August 4, 2020 -

* feels more like 60 months, yes?

** judging by the baking aisles, everyone is baking bread

*** judging by the garden centers, everyone not baking bread is growing vegetables

**It ain't what they call you,
it's what you answer to.**

W.C. FIELDS



70

Approximate number of stray cats that Svetlana Logunova cares for as the new official guardian of homeless felines in Zelenogradsk, Russia; her monthly budget for the task is about \$85

Claw Machine Now Crucial Part of Infrastructure

(Stonie Williams for Oddee) – Rob Braddick, owner of an arcade in England, decided that with the coronavirus outbreak it would be funny to put sanitary products in the claw machines. Braddick was struck with the inspiration when toilet paper started going low at his local store. As the owner of Devon's Ho! Barts Amusement Arcade, he swapped out the toys that fill the claw machines with the toilet paper and hand sanitizer.

"We also have a large machine that used to have a Spider-Man doll, but now there is a large Curex [hand sanitizer] in there," Braddick told reporters. "It's been a bit quiet so far... There are still some toilet rolls on the shelves around here, so I guess people aren't that desperate yet."

The arcade employees are following a strict handwashing schedule in hopes of keeping the virus at bay. "We've put in measures where people have to wash their hands every half hour," Braddick said.

■ A Bolivian monastery has added a furry, four-legged brother to its ranks. The dog, Friar Bigotón, whose name



Brotherly love

means Friar Mustache in English, was a stray living on the streets of Cochabamba until the monks adopted him four months ago. Hoping to inspire other monasteries to take in stray animals, the monks shared photos of the schnauzer on social media, dressed in a tiny Franciscan habit alongside his brothers. One monk, Friar Jorge Hernandez, says Friar Bigotón enjoys dipping his snout in the pond to "preach to the fish" and running around the monastery's grounds. "He is a creature of God," he says.

CSI: Poop Patrol

(Annapolis, Maryland) – Fed up with dog poop being left around, board members at a Maryland condominium complex are now relying on DNA samples to police unscooped feces.

Jeanne Fisher, the general manager for The Residence at Park Place Condominium, tells The Capital newspaper that she came across "doggie DNA" as an option when residents began complaining about unscooped poop. The Annapolis complex had tried emails, dog meetings, fines and a security camera in the dog park.

The condo association spent about \$2,500 on pet DNA kits and about 20 owners began providing samples. Fisher says a sample is taken if someone hasn't cleaned up after their pet. If matched, a fine will be levied along with about \$90 in costs if the association decides to send a specimen to a lab for testing.



**Nobody realizes that some people expend
tremendous energy merely to be normal.**

ALBERT CAMUS



Perhaps Not the Most Well-Thought-Out Heist

Harahan, LA (AP) – A Louisiana couple is accused of attempting to rob an Uber driver that the woman distracted by being topless. Police Chief Tim Walker say Anthony Kennedy, 24, and Rayna Fillios, 22, were arrested. The victim told officers he gave his telephone number to Fillios when she hailed a ride. Fillios called and asked him to come over. He said Fillios was topless when she opened the front door. Fillios grabbed his arms, pulled him into her chest, kissed him and bit his tongue to distract him. When Fillios let go, Kennedy brandished a knife and told the victim to hand over his money. The victim refused and Kennedy punched him. The couple was charged with several offenses, including armed robbery.

You Wanna Get Haunted? This Is How You Get Haunted

East Brookfield, MA (AP) – Police say a Massachusetts woman skipped her own mother's funeral so she could break into the dead woman's house and steal a safe filled with items worth \$90,000. The Telegram & Gazette reports that 30-year-old Alyce Davenport was held on \$15,000 bail after pleading not guilty to seven charges. An alleged accomplice was held without bail on a warrant. Police say Davenport and her accomplice went to the mother's home on Friday during the funeral. Police say she did not attend her mother's funeral and was not answering calls from relatives. Police were tipped off about the alleged theft by the boyfriend of Davenport's mother.



Bryant Johnson of Casper, Wyoming, was on a mission on Oct. 2 when police responded to a call about a man warning citizens of an alien invasion coming next year. KTWO Radio in Casper reported that Johnson told police he had traveled back in time from 2048, explaining that the aliens filled his body with alcohol and had him stand on a giant pad that transported him back to 2017 — although he was supposed to arrive in 2018. He also asked to speak with the “president of the town.” Instead, Bryant was arrested for public intoxication.



War and Peace

Slugging It Out at Snail Racing Championship

Congham, England (Patrick Johnston for Reuters) – The race starter stood up and shouted: “Ready, steady, slow!” The crowd cheered, but the competitors remained stuck at the start line. Welcome to the world snail racing championship.

More than 150 snails took part in the annual event, held at a summer fete in Norfolk, eastern England, where a silver tankard stuffed with lettuce leaves was the prize.

The snails are placed on a special damp cloth marked with three concentric circles and the creatures race 13 inches (33 cm) to the outer ring.

“We take this seriously,” snail racer John McClean said. “We have got training slopes. We look at diet, we are drug compliant as well. It is the whole thing when you look at elite sports.”

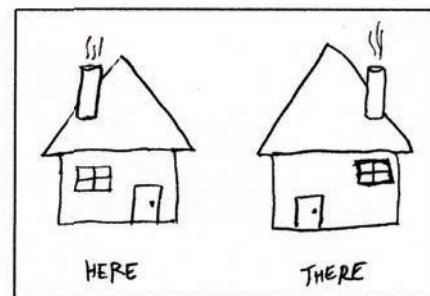
The competition has been held since the 1960s with each race lasting several minutes. Competitors may select a snail from the organizers’ stash or bring their own.

Jo Waterfield from the nearby village of Grimston found the eventual winner among her plants. “I pulled him out this morning and told him if he didn’t win I would squash him.”

Compelling Explanations

In Madison, Wisconsin, an unidentified 19-year-old driver flipped his car after over-correcting in traffic on July 3. The Wisconsin State Journal reported that the man left the scene and removed some clothing, then pretended to be a jogger who happened by when police questioned him. Police said he was not impaired; he was later charged with leaving a crash scene and driving without a license. A 62-year-old security guard named Ramdin in the city of Kanpur, India, told doctors he was robbed in June of about \$722 (proceeds

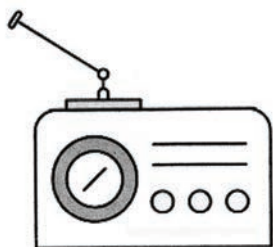
from the sale of his motorbike) by muggers who attacked him and knocked him out. When he woke up, Ramdin was suffering from severe abdominal pain, which brought him, 10 days later, to Rama Hospital, where a scan revealed a steel cup lodged in his abdomen. Senior surgeon Dr. Dinesh Kumar told Metro News: “It seems that the metal cup was inserted into Ramdin’s rectum by the goons, and it got stuck near the intestines.” Doctors couldn’t remove the cup using the route it went in, so they had to operate. Ramdin was discharged from the hospital on July 4.



Proposal Best Seen From Above

related: NFATB Editor Removes a Lot of Snow Puns

Nevis, MN (AP) – An aviation student in northern Minnesota pulled off a sky-high marriage proposal by writing “Marry Me” in the snow, then flying his long-time girlfriend over his handiwork. Gavin Becker enlisted his family’s help to pen the life-changing question using a snow blower on the frozen Eight Crow Wing Lake near Nevis. Gavin’s father Ed tells KARE-TV that it took about 4½ hours to create the 25-foot-tall (7.5-meter) letters and a huge heart. Gavin, a University of North Dakota aviation student, then rented a plane and took his high-school sweetheart, Olivia Toft, for a trip over the lake. (By the way, Toft said “yes.”)



WORTH THE TRIP

If you're known to hesitate while approaching the bar, McSorley's Ale House offers a simple solution: light or dark. The more-than-century-old alehouse in New York's Lower East Side offers only two drafts, originally brewed in the basement and kept secret during Prohibition. While the brews are now bottled and sold around the country, the alehouse (and one of the last "Men Only" pubs in the country, forced by law to admit women in 1970) is a sight to see. Old memorabilia decks the walls, sawdust covers the floors, and old-school New York oozes from the barstools.

Sorry for the Snark, "Grandmother of the Year"

Warwick, RI (AP) – A Rhode Island police chief is apologizing for a Facebook post that labeled a woman "2017 Grandmother of the Year" after she was caught on camera swiping what police say was a \$100 bill, then shushing a little boy to keep it quiet. Warwick Police Chief Stephen McCartney made the apology on WPRO-AM. The department put out the video in an attempt to find the woman. A 76-year-old woman was later identified and arrested. McCartney says the post was wrong and the woman in it should not have been characterized that way. He says the department should be factual and professional on social media, and says they "dropped the ball" in this case.

Jazz will endure as long as people hear it through their feet instead of their brains.

JOHN PHILLIP SOUSA

Eight-Year-Old Boy Wins \$200 Worth of Pot Products

(Emily Rokke for Oddee.com) – Keith Redl was outraged once he found out that his eight-year-old grandson had won some unsavory prizes from a hockey tournament. He said the boy had won about \$200 worth of pot products.

Redl's grandson plays in a youth hockey league and he had entered to win some prizes. "Each team is usually responsible for putting a gift basket or prize package together with a minimum value of \$50," Redl said. "And then what they do is they have a big setup and they have a paper bag taped in front of each of these prizes."

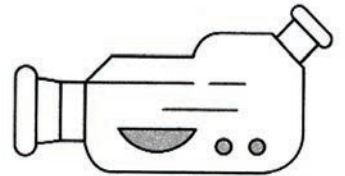
Usually the prizes are geared towards children, it being a youth function and all. Redl's grandson put his raffle tickets into a specific bag. After, his family was notified that the boy had won, "\$200 worth of pot." A picture taken of the winnings show cannabis paraphernalia, edibles, a lighter, and a smoking apparatus. "My grandson thought he won a great prize," Redl said. He was excited to tell his father about it.

"Dad, I won chocolate! No, son, there's bad drugs in the chocolate." How do you explain that to a kid? A statement issued but the Dawson Creek Minor Hockey Association explained that the prize was meant for adults and never for the children. "The products did not appear on the donation table, only a photo and list of the items contained in the basket," according to the statement.

The raffle winner was given the option not to accept the prize. Redl has been a policeman for 32 years and referred to the situation as ridiculous. "There is no place for drugs at a child's hockey tournament," he said. The association says they are updating their policies to "ensure going forward out charitable events are in keeping with out policies and government policies."

The burden of punk is originality.

MIKE WATT



Mortar Shell = Traffic Snarl

Yulee, FL (AP) – Authorities say a construction crew found a rusted mortar shell while doing road work in Florida. The Florida Times-Union reports that the discovery caused a shutdown on Florida A1A in Yulee. The Nassau County Sheriff's Office says traffic was detoured until military experts safely removed it. Officials say the 60-mm shell was similar to those used by infantry soldiers from World War II through the Vietnam War. Staff from Georgia's Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base bomb squad checked the shell and declared it safe.



"My one-man band is breaking up."

The Adair family of Deerfield Beach, Florida, were startled awake on July 15 by the sound of something meaty crashing onto their roof. When they investigated, they found two packages of Italian pork sausage in the side yard, and three more packages still on the roof. The sausages were in bags marked with the name of a land-clearing company in Alabama. Austin Adair called the company to inquire about the wayward sausages, but "the guy had no idea what I was talking about and probably thought I was crazy," he said, and the mystery remains unsolved. "I would love to know what really happened," said Jennie Adair, "because it's just so, so odd."

The sky is falling

A large metal cylinder, thought to be a part of a Chinese rocket, crashed into the jade-mining area in northern Burma on Nov. 10. The 15-ft. drum is just the latest piece of space junk to come crashing down to earth. —Tara John

U.S.

A woman in Tulsa, Okla., felt something brush her shoulder while on a walk in 1997. It was a part of the Delta II rocket, launched in 1996. The woman was unhurt and is thought to be the only person ever hit by re-entering debris.

CANADA

The Soviet satellite Kosmos 954, which sported a tiny nuclear reactor, crashed into the Canadian Arctic in 1978, scattering radioactive waste across thousands of square miles. Only 0.1% of the debris was ever recovered.

AUSTRALIA

When a titanium sphere was found in western Australia in 1965, it was initially thought to be a UFO phenomenon and labeled the "Merkanooka ball." The sphere was later found to be a water tank from the Gemini 5 spacecraft.



Doctors thought a 47-year-old postman in Preston, Lancashire, England, who complained of a persistent cough might have cancer, as he was a long-term smoker whose X-rays showed a spot on his lung. But when they removed the mass, the BBC reported, they found the "long-lost Playmobil traffic cone" the patient had received as a gift on his seventh birthday. He told doctors he had regularly swallowed the small pieces as a child and believed he had inhaled the tiny cone. Happy ending: After the toy was removed, the man's cough almost disappeared and his other symptoms improved.

HOW'S THAT AGAIN? DEPARTMENT

Headline in the *Boston Globe*.

AS KILLINGS RISE IN CITY,
VIOLENT CRIMES SHARPLY DECLINE

Florida Man vs. Florida Bear

Naples, FL (AP) — A man says he was letting his dog outside in Florida when a large bear attacked him. Andrew Meunier tells news outlets that he let his dog out of his home about 11pm one night and spotted the 4-foot (1-meter) bear standing next to him when he stepped outside. Meunier said he struggled to get away and managed to get back through his front door. A 911 call revealed that Meunier suffered a minor facial laceration from the bear attack. He sought treatment at a local hospital and received 41 stitches.

Toronto police determined pranksters might have been behind their discovery on May 2 of a blue Honda Civic hanging from a rope under the Millwood Overpass Bridge, missing its windows, windshield and engine. Originally officials thought the burned-out car might be part of a movie shoot, but further research didn't turn up any authorized filming in Toronto. "I've never seen anything like that before," a passing cyclist told CTV News. "This is hilarious." However, officers warned that if caught, the culprits could face charges.

Gritty Cleared of Charges

(Emily Rokke for Oddee.com) — Gritty, the Philadelphia Flyers mascot, was accused of punching a 13-year-old boy in the back at a season ticket holder event in November 2019, but has since been cleared of the charge. "That investigation, which has been completed and is no longer active, determined that the actions of the individual portraying the Flyers' mascot did not constitute physical assault as alleged," police said in a statement.

Chris Greenwell claimed that Gritty punched his 13-year-old son and the investigation was launched on December 21st. The incident was said to have taken place during a holiday photo shoot for season ticket holders. The Flyers hosted an event where fans could meet the eccentric mascot, who has become increasingly popular since being introduced in 2018.

Greenwell claims that after his son patted Gritty on the head, Gritty got up from his chair, ran toward the child, then "...punched my son as hard as he could. Gritty gets up out of his chair, makes a lunging motion, and punches my son in the lower right side of his back." His son was later diagnosed with a back bruise according to the father.

Officials from the Comcast Spectacor, the company who owns the Flyers, told Greenwell there was no evidence that Gritty struck the boy, because "cameras in that area of the center are focused on other locations." Greenwell says they then attempted to "fix" the problem with Flyers players autographs and a chance to sit on the bench during the team's warmup before a game.

Life Imitates 'Friends' Episode

Lincoln, NE (AP) — It seems this love was too hot to handle. Police in Lincoln say a 19-year-old woman sparked an apartment fire by burning love letters from her ex in her bedroom. Police say the woman used a butane torch to burn the letters and left some of them of the floor. She then went to another room to take a nap. Police say she awoke a short time later to find the carpet on fire. Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire within minutes. Officials say the fire caused an estimated \$4000 in damage to the building.

*Don't play what's there, play
what's not there.*

—Miles Davis
American jazz trumpeter

Attention Turkeys: Pardon Me

Rocky River, OH (AP) — For three weeks in 2019, a rafter of aggressive wild turkeys prevented postal carriers from delivering mail to more than two dozen homes in a Cleveland suburb. Cleveland.com reports residents on a number of streets in Rocky River had to pick up their mail at the post office because the turkeys created unsafe conditions for carriers to deliver to their homes. Rocky River Mayor Pam Bobst said city ordinances don't allow for the turkeys to be eradicated. The city instead sent letters to people asking them to stop putting out bird feed, in the hope the turkeys will go elsewhere. A U.S. Postal Service spokesman says some carriers were pecked but none were injured.



WORST U.S. HURRICANES SINCE 1967

Deadliest	Strongest	Costliest
MARIA 2017 2,975 DEATHS	CAMILLE 1969 175 M.P.H.	KATRINA 2005 \$160 BILLION
KATRINA 2005 1,833 DEATHS	ANDREW 1992 165 M.P.H.	HARVEY 2017 \$125 BILLION
CAMILLE 1969 256 DEATHS	MARIA 2017 155 M.P.H.	MARIA 2017 \$90 BILLION

NOTES: THE WORST HURRICANES INCLUDE THE TOP THREE ATLANTIC STORMS THAT MADE U.S. LANDFALL FROM 1967 TO 2017. WINDSPEEDS ARE AT LANDFALL. DEADLIEST STORMS ARE ESTIMATES OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT DEATHS ON U.S. SOIL.

Of course I; know how to use a semicolon, how dare you;

🐦 @HOME_HALFWAY (MICHAEL)

Whales: They're Just Like Dogs

Brunswick, ME (AP) – A marine biologist believes a humpback whale shielded her from a 15-foot tiger shark in the South Pacific. Nan Hauser said she didn't understand the actions of the 25-ton whale that she met face-to-face in the Cook Islands. Then she saw the shark. She's heard on a video telling the massive mammal, "I love you!"

Hauser, president of the Center for Cetacean Research and Conservation, tells the Portland Press Herald that whales are "altruistic" and often hide seals from predators, but she has never experienced or read about anything about a whale protecting a human. "If someone told me the story, I wouldn't believe it," she said.

The Brunswick resident said she was oblivious to the shark during the tense, 10-minute encounter. The whale started to nudge her, and appeared to push her with its head. The animal also appeared to shield her with its pectoral fin. Her research companions turned off an underwater video drone, fearing she was going to be mauled to death. But Hauser kept her video rolling. She suffered some bruises and scratches from the encounter, but was otherwise unscathed. She said that after she swam back to her boat, the whale surfaced nearby as if to check on her.

While Hauser credits the whale for protecting her, she acknowledges she can't know what the whale was thinking. James Sulikowski, a marine biologist and professor at the University of New England who has studied tiger sharks, said he's not convinced that the whale saved her life: "The shark could have just been hanging around. There's really no way of knowing the whale's motivation."

Popular Myths That Won't Go Away (LiveScience.com, as reported in *The Week*)

Men think about sex every seven seconds

The facts: Males are driven to reproduce, evolutionarily speaking, but there is no scientific way of measuring to what extent that desire consumes their everyday lives. Thankfully, for world productivity as a whole, seven seconds seems a gross overstatement, as best researchers can tell.

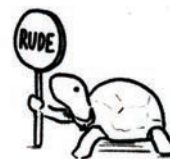


A falling cat will always land on its feet

The facts: Studies have demonstrated that, when dropped from most heights, cats will land gracefully on their feet. Results change only with cats dropped upside-down from a height of 1 foot or less. We're not suggesting you try this at home.

You get less wet by running in the rain

The facts: Actual mathematical equations devoted to this popular question have suggested it is true, though not for the simple reasons you might think. Complexities include factoring in the number of raindrops hitting the walker's head versus smacking the runner's chest.



CAN WE HAVE A WORD?

Experts estimate there may be more than a million words in the English language. We'd like to add six more:

Bangst (BANKST), *n.*
Stress over diminishing funds. Example: "Topher read the ATM printout carefully, filled with bangst. That couldn't be only two zeroes, could it?"

Fidgital
(FIJ-ih-tull), *adj.*
Excessively checking one's devices. Example: "Victoria grew tired of watching her fidgital fiancé glance at his iPhone every five seconds."

Flabsolution
(flab-suh-LOO-shun), *n.*
Pardoning yourself for weight gain.

Example: "There must be a traveler's forgiveness for having clotted cream, roasted chicken, and churros in a single week. Zach felt flabsolution."

Palbatross
(PAL-buh-tross), *n.*
A friend you'd like to drop. Example: "Chuck was convinced that Brea was a palbatross until their mutual friend Zoe showed him that Brea was actually making very funny jokes; she just said them so low, they were hard to hear. But then he got annoyed at that."

Tyrun (TIE-runt), *n.*
Child who bosses everyone around. Example: "Jolene wondered whether it was the long-ago nursing-on-demand or her acceding to Beatrice's wish for a race-car bed that had made Beatrice such a tyrun."

Wordition
(wer-DISH-un), *n.*
Being stuck around people who won't stop talking. Example: "Paula always found faculty parties the worst kind of wordition."

Excerpted from *That Should Be a Word* by Lizzie Skurnick (Workman Publishing). © 2015

Sometimes, online, you can ask questions, and other users - sometimes funny ones - can answer them. As poor Garrek learned when he asked a followup question about taking kids to Tulsa's new park, The Gathering Place. Let's see what happened...

Garrek R

Local Guide · 104 reviews · 463 photos

What if you don't have kids?



Bart F

Local Guide · 40 reviews · 15 photos

Hi Garrek. First, you'll need to find a female partner of child rearing age. It's best to form a committed relationship with this person, though not absolutely necessary. Next, you and her will need have sexual intercourse while she is ovulating. The exact timing may be tricky to figure out, so I suggest trying multiple times over the course of several weeks. Soon she will become pregnant and you are roughly nine months away from having your first kid. In order to have "kids", you just need to repeat the process. Luckily, you can skip the first step if your partner is willing to give it another go. Hope this helps!

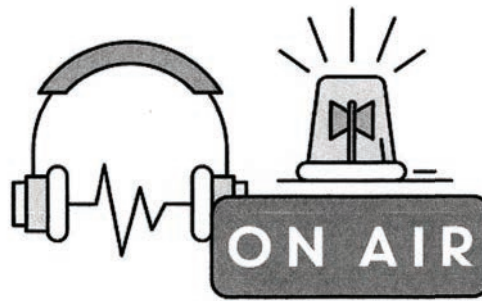


Centennial Birthday Lockup

Roxboro, NC (AP) – For her 100th birthday, Ruth Bryant crossed a significant item off her bucket list: she went to jail.

The Person County Sheriff's Office helped fulfill Bryant's unusual wish when two deputies showed up at her assisted living facility to serve her a warrant charging her with indecent exposure, news outlets reported. The two deputies handcuffed Bryant to her walker and placed her in a patrol car, giving her the full experience with lights and sirens flashing and blaring. Before she got in, the deputies warned her not to put up a fight, and she playfully kicked at them, WRAL reported. "Don't kick me; I've got a bad knee!" said one deputy, to which Bryant replied, "I've got two bad knees!"

The Courier-Times of Roxboro reported that as Bryant tried to get out of the patrol car, she told the deputies they should go after another criminal. "The people who make these low damn seats in all these cars," Bryant said. "You ought to arrest every one of them." Once in the jail, Bryant was treated like, well, a criminal. She had a mugshot taken, spent a few minutes in a jail cell, and left with an orange shirt with the words PERSON COUNTY JAIL on it. "I'm in the jail-house now! I finally got here!" she exclaimed. Before long, Bryant was released. She returned to her assisted living center to a party complete with a birthday cake. No word on whether the cake had a file in it.



Man In Jumpsuit with TV on Head Delivers TVs Buckethead, Devo. The Residents Nod Approvingly

Henrico County, VA, Aug 2019
(David Moye, Huffington Post)

Things are getting weird in Henrico County. Real weird. Many residents have been visited by a strange person wearing a television set on their head who has been leaving vintage TVs on their porches.



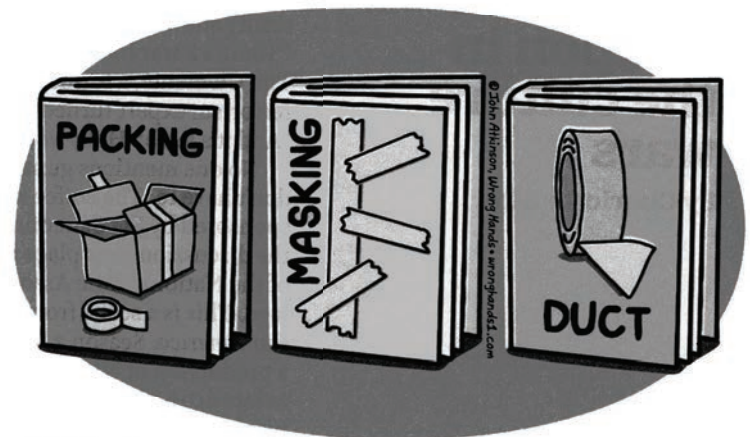
At least 60 people have been subjected to the bizarre antics, which witnesses say are being done by a guy dressed in a jumpsuit with a TV for a head. "It's the weirdest thing. He squats down, puts the TV there and walks off. It's really weird," resident Adrian Garner told Richmond station WWBT. "My first reaction was, 'Did we order this?' Not in an Amazon box, it was just kind of strange."

Jim Brooksbank, who found an old, tube-style, 13-inch TV on his porch, finds the prank "sort of funny," but can't figure out the purpose. "It's just a senseless prank," he told local station WTVR-TV.

Lt. Matt Pecka of the Henrico Police Department said more than one person is doing the TV porch dumps. He said officers picked up most of the TVs already so that citizens wouldn't have to waste time or money dropping off the orphaned TVs at the dump.

This is the second time Henrico has been tormented with TVs: in August 2018, more than 20 TVs were left on the porches of Henrico homes, but it is unknown whether it is connected to the current perpetrators.

Books on tape



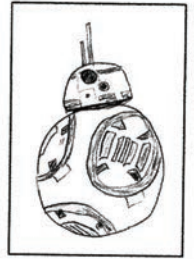
JOHN ATKINSON, WRONG HANDS

**Watching LeBron rule
never gets old**



Hair-Raising Theft

Miami Gardens, FL (AP) – Police in South Florida say thieves stole up to \$80,000 in merchandise from a wig warehouse. The owner of Prime Trading Hair and Wigs told detectives that the alarm at the warehouse had been triggered. Owner Rakib Hossain tells WFOR-TV that some of the products are worth up to \$800 each. Hossain says the thieves appeared to know what they were doing and were in the warehouse for no more than 5 minutes. Video surveillance shows a truck backing up and ramming the warehouse's front door three times. Hossain says he is insured for his losses.



Australians spam politicians for free portrait of queen after legislative quirk surfaces

(Francis Whittaker, NBC) – Australian politicians are being peppered with requests for free portraits of Queen Elizabeth II after a long-forgotten piece of parliamentary code was brought to public attention. Under this legislative quirk, which has its origins in a 1990 parliamentary act, Australian federal lawmakers are able to give away certain pieces of taxpayer-funded “nationhood material” under a “constituents’ request program.” Australia is a former U.K. colony which, like Canada, New Zealand, and a number of other countries, still retains the British monarch as head of state.

The ability to request “nationhood material” – which can also include pictures of the queen’s husband, Prince Philip, flags and recordings of the national anthem – came to light after the publication of a Vice Australia article pointing out the obscure legislation. Speaking to Australia’s ABC News’ radio, Tim Watts, a member of Parliament for the opposition Labor party said, “I can say before the story was published, I had received zero requests for portraits of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and then in the last 24 hours, I would say I’ve had about four dozen. I think 99 percent were made with tongue firmly in cheek.” He’s not alone. Rebekha Sharkie, an MP from the Centre Alliance, tweeted she had received 25 requests for portraits in the space of 12 hours.

Watts – who believes Australia should shed the monarchy and become a republic – added he had taken the opportunity to respond to the “tongue in cheek inquiries” with “a bit nationhood material of my own.” He said he had also put pro-republic literature, portraits of former Labor prime minister Julia Gillard with Aussie rules football hero Bob Murphy, and invitations to a local barbecue into envelopes containing the royal portrait. Another legislator, Terri Butler, joked on Twitter that she had been “talked out of providing a photo of Beyoncé” instead of pictures of the queen, but added the Vice writer who wrote about nationhood materials was “not popular in her office” because of the number of requests she had received.

You can't always choose the path that you walk in life,
but you can always choose the manner in which you walk it.
JOHN O'LEARY



Perspective

An 82-year-old Japanese man who has lived as a naked “hermit” on a deserted island near Taiwan since 1989 has been forced to return to Japan. Masafumi Nagasaki made his way to Sotobanari Island 29 years ago and told Reuters in 2012 that he wished to die there. “Finding a place to die is an important thing to do,” Nagasaki said, “and I’ve decided here is the place for me.” Earlier reports indicated that he at one time had a wife and two children, and he ran a hostess club in Niigata, Ja-

pan. “In civilization people treated me like an idiot and made me feel like one. On this island I don’t feel like that,” he said. Nagasaki explained that at first he wore clothes on the island, but a typhoon destroyed his belongings. Alvaro Cerezo, who documents the stories of island castaways, told News.com/au that in April, authorities removed Nagasaki from the island and placed him in government housing in Ishigaki, Japan, because he was ill and weak. “They took him back to civilization and that’s it,” Cerezo said. “They won’t allow him to return.”

No, That Is Not What “Animal Husbandry” Is

(El Cajon, CA) – From now on, Paul Millhouse has to stay at least 200 yards away from livestock.

He’s pleaded guilty to lewd conduct with horses around Lakeside, California, near San Diego.

The 49-year-old man is also barred from entering the town, and under orders to get some help. He pleaded guilty in a deal that dropped charges of trespassing and sexual assault.

In fact, area ranchers say Millhouse has been a problem for years, sneaking into corrals late at night and... um, *bothering*... the animals.

Still, the defense says the sentence is too harsh. Millhouse’s lawyers said he never hurts the horses.

His mother agreed, telling the judge, “He loves animals.”

BETSY CRONKITE, 1986

when told that her husband, Walter, wished to die on a 60-foot yacht with a 16-year-old mistress at his side:
“He’s more likely to die on a 16-foot yacht with a 60-year-old mistress.”



To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying
to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Pepperoni + Seagulls + Hotel Room = Lifetime Ban

Seventeen years after a series of unfortunate events – specifically, events involving dozens of seagulls, a suitcase full of pepperoni, and a hotel room – earned him a lifetime ban from the property, Nick Burchill has been welcomed back to the Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria, B.C.

In 2001, Burchill checked into the hotel on a business trip, during which he planned to see some Navy buddies. They'd asked him to bring along a delicacy from back home in Nova Scotia: pepperoni from Brothers Meats in Halifax.

He brought a suitcase full of the savory stuff.

"When I showed up at the hotel, I was kind of worried that it would be warm," Burchill says, "so I laid it out on the window ledge on the table in the room."

He thought his pepperoni was safe and well chilled and he left the room. He says that's when things went wrong.

"I remember walking down the long hall and opening the door to my room to find an entire flock of seagulls in my room," Burchill said in a recent letter of apology to the 4-star hotel. "I didn't have time to count, but there must have been 40 of them and they had been in my room, eating pepperoni for a long time."

"They immediately started flying around and crashing into things as they desperately tried to leave the room through the small opening by which they had entered," said Burchill. "The result was a tornado of seagull excrement, feathers, pepperoni chunks and fairly large birds whipping around the room."

And two of the seagulls refused to leave. "One was bouncing around on the windowsill, and I was kind of losing my temper at this point. So I took off one of my shoes, and I threw it in the direction of the seagull. And both the seagull and the shoe went out the window."

That left just one seagull, defiantly holding a big piece of pepperoni in its mouth. Unable to convince the last gull to leave, Burchill says he "went in, and I grabbed a towel, and I jumped the seagull, and I wrapped it in a towel and threw it out the window."

Right, as it seems, into the midst of the hotel's afternoon high tea.

Which is how he earned the lifetime ban from the Fairmont Empress.

Seventeen years later, and older and wiser now, Burchill wrote a letter of apology to the hotel, chalking up the incident to youthful indiscretion.

"I have matured and I admit responsibility for my actions," he said in the letter. "I come to you, hat in hand, to apologize for the damage I had indirectly come to cause and to ask you to reconsider my lifetime ban from the property."

The apology worked. Banned from the hotel since 2001, Burchill is now welcome to return, the Fairmont said.

"Fairmont Empress was as amused as everyone else to read the letter from Mr. Burchill. His series of unfortunate events happened so many years ago, and we were happy to review Mr. Burchill's letter and have since lifted the ban," the hotel said in a statement on Facebook. When the Fairmont got the letter, the hotel staff first thought it was an April Fools' Day prank, according to The Toronto Star, "but a check of the records and Burchill's appearance at the front desk last weekend confirmed the seagull story and the former guest's permanent ban."

"It is absolutely a true story," Tracey Drake, the hotel's public relations director, told the newspaper. "The hotel followed up with his employer [after the initial incident], saying he's not welcome back at the hotel due to the damage in the room," Drake said. "The lamps were broken. The room was trashed. It's a really funny story to tell 17 years later, but I was sitting here thinking about the housekeeper and what her first reaction must have been when she opened that door."



FAIRMONT EMPRESS



You Have the Right to Remain Silent

Vincente Rodrigues-Ortiz, 22, was arrested on Jan. 24 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, for the assault and murder of Andre Hawkins, 17, the day before. But when Rodrigues-Ortiz appeared in court on Jan. 25 for arraignment, he questioned the judge about his "other murder case." WWMT TV reported that his query led prosecutors to interview and then swiftly charge him with the March 2017 homicide of Laurie Kay Lundeburg, and Rodrigues-Ortiz now awaits arraignment in that case as well.



Evergreen Post

The pre-packaged romaine lettuce and romaine products are not sourced from areas implicated in the recent public health alert.

Quick Hug Before The Handcuffs

Apache Junction, AZ (AP) – A couple got out of an SUV and then embraced before surrendering to pursuing sheriff's deputies after a chase for miles across part of metro Phoenix. Officers converged on the pair and ordered them to the ground after the SUV crashed into a ditch. Thirty-five-year-old Dustin Perkins was jailed on suspicion of criminal damage, unlawful flight and other offenses. The Pinal County Sheriff's Office says the woman was hospitalized with injuries apparently suffered in the crash. She wasn't immediately booked into jail. The chase involving officers from several agencies began a short time after a Mesa police unit spotted a vehicle which another police agency had reported as stolen. Perkins told news crews that the vehicle belongs to his father and that he was trying to return it.

Museum Announces Guard Dog related: NFATB Announces Moratorium on the Phrase "Gone to the Dogs"

Boston (AP) – Boston's venerable Museum of Fine Arts has [cliché removed]. The museum announced the newest addition to its staff, a Weimaraner puppy named Riley that will be trained to sniff out insects or other pests that could potentially damage priceless works of art. Riley will be trained by her owner, Nicki Luongo, the museum's director of protective services. Deputy Director Katie Getchell tells The Boston Globe that insects are an ongoing concern for museums and there already are existing protocols in place to handle potential infestations. Riley will add another layer and help sniff out pests humans can't see. Getchell says she's not aware of another institution using a dog for similar work. Riley will be used behind the scenes and won't be seen by visitors.

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Dream Comes True, But Not in a Good Way

(Khalan Rosenblatt, NBC) – Jenna Evans was on a high-speed train that was racing down the tracks, her fiancé by her side, when some "bad guys" appeared, she said. There was only one way to protect her 2.4 carat diamond engagement ring – swallow it. So that's what Evans did. "I popped that sucker off, put it in my mouth and swallowed it with a glass of water," Evans said in a Facebook post.

Then she woke up.

Evans was relieved that the whole episode had just been a vivid, bizarre dream, that she told "Today" was "very James Bond." That is, until she realized her engagement ring was no longer on her finger. Evans, who has a history of sleepwalking, soon realized that while the "bad guys" and the high-speed train had all been her snoozing subconscious, the consumption of her engagement ring was not.

"When I woke up in the morning, there was no ring on my finger," Evans told "Today." "I couldn't help but laugh at it, and then I had to wake my fiance up and tell him that I had swallowed my engagement ring," Evans said on Facebook she had to google if adults often swallow rings. It turns out children more commonly do it.

Evans went to an urgent care clinic where doctors decided against letting the ring pass naturally through the 29-year-old's system, and instead referred her to a gastroenterologist. The gastroenterologist promptly performed an upper endoscopy, which is the insertion of a small camera and device down someone's throat.

Evans wrote that she began to cry as she signed the release forms for the upper endoscopy, fearing she would die during the procedure and not get to fulfill a different dream – marrying her fiancé, Bobby Howell. "I waited a long time for that damn engagement ring and I WILL marry Bobby Howell DAMNIT," Evans wrote.

Doctors found the engagement ring in Evans' intestines, just beyond her stomach. Evans said her fiancé returned the ring to her a few days later. "Bobby finally gave my ring back this morning - I promised not to swallow it again, we're still getting married and all is right in the world," Evans wrote. Barring any further somnambulist snacking, Evans and Howell plan to get married in May of 2020. "I'm so grateful that everybody can laugh about it, because it truly is a very funny story," she said.

Tattoos Lead to Arrest of 72-Year-Old Gang Member

Thai police have arrested a 72-year-old Japanese fugitive who was recognized when his full-body tattoos were circulated online. A police statement said Shigeharu Shirai was arrested in a province north of Bangkok, where he has been hiding for over 10 years to evade murder charges in Japan in connection with the death of a rival gang member.



His arrest apparently came after photos of him sitting around a checkers table were posted on Facebook by a Thai who was impressed by the man's tattoos. The post was shared over 10,000 times when some users identified the former gang member.

Police Gen. Wirachai Songmetta said that Japanese associates paid visits to Shirai two to three times a year, each time bearing cash gifts at around 10,000 baht (\$312). He's married to a Thai woman and kept a low profile over the past decade, police said.

According to police, Shirai was a member of the Yamaguchi-gumi gang, a faction within Japan's Yakuza. He's implicated, along with seven others, in the killing of Kashihiro Otobe, who was the deputy leader of the rival Kamiya gang. Shirai will face illegal entry charges before he is handed over to Japanese authorities, the police statement said.

Feeling down? Try eating some oatmeal, cereal, salmon, milk, dark chocolate, or bananas. These foods have all been proven to boost mood.

**I think an artist has always
to be out of step with his time.**

ORSON WELLES



**You can't have everything.
Where would you put it?**

STEVEN WRIGHT

May 29, 1953

Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first climbers known to have reached the summit of Mount Everest.

Inexplicable

San Diego photographer Mike Sakasegawa prides himself on seeing the beauty in mundane objects. The Washington Post reports. But something about his latest subject took social media by storm. On July 11, as Sakasegawa returned home from his morning run, he noticed a round, yellow object rolling down the street. "I thought it was a tennis ball or something," he said, but in fact it was a lemon. So he did what any self-respecting photographer

would do: He captured video of the fruit as it continued its journey to the bottom of the hill, then posted his 1.5-minute documentary to Twitter. Within 24 hours the video racked up more than 2.5 million views. "I post stuff that's similar to this all the time," Sakasegawa said. "Most of the time, it floats on by." By the next day, the lemon video had gained more than 100,000 likes, was retweeted tens of thousands of times, and a literary agent had contacted Sakasegawa, wondering if he'd like to make the lemon into a children's book.

Fred Files First Class

(SkyNews) – If you thought flying stallions were purely the stuff of Greek myths and legends, then it's time to think again. Like the divine winged steed Pegasus, a miniature service and support horse named Fred has taken to the skies.



Fred was specially trained by his handler Ronia Froese to join her aboard an American Airlines flight from Michigan, dressed in an outfit befitting of budget superhero film and with a travel bag strapped to his body.

While others have struggled to convince US airlines to allow them to board with peacocks and hamsters, Froese said staff were all too happy to have Fred on board - and he even got to travel in first class. In a gushing Facebook post, Froese thanked the pilots, co-pilots and crew on all four outbound and return flights, saying their excitement to have a "legit service horse on board" was a "breath of fresh air."

She added: "Their kindness and comments about how well-behaved Fred was made me the proudest mommy, handler, and trainer EVER. They were all super respectful." Fred, who has his own Facebook page, was apparently the subject of a few bemused glances from fellow passengers, but he proved the neigh-sayers wrong and provided the in-flight entertainment. One man asked for a selfie with Fred, according to Froese, who was then told that Fred was "the most well-behaved animal he has ever seen on a plane."

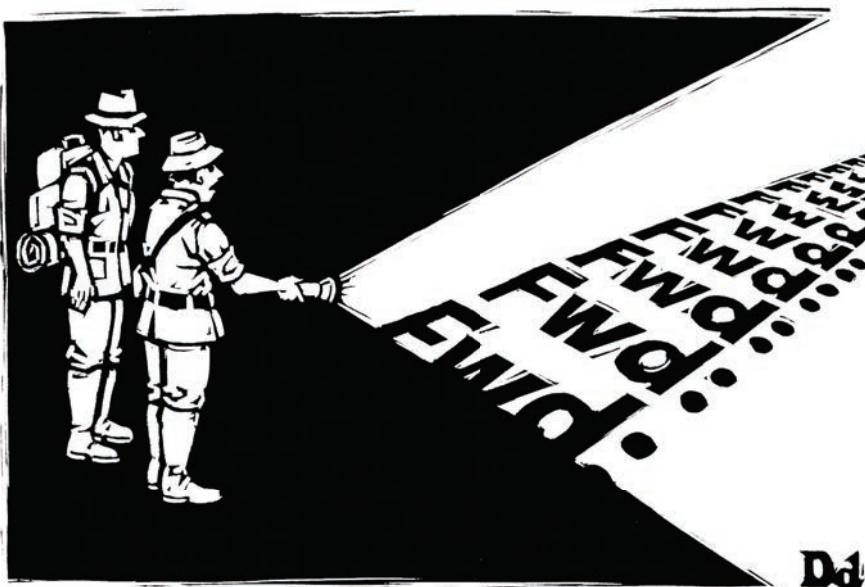
"That truly meant so much to me and I really needed to hear it," Froese said. Now that Fred is back on solid ground, he has returned to his usual routine as a completely house-trained horse. He even has a supersized litter tray at his owner's home in Newaygo County, Michigan.

But it remains to be seen whether Fred will be able to fly again, as the US Department of Transportation considers enforcing tougher rules on animals allowed on planes. Some airlines have already taken matters into their own hands, with Delta having banned emotional support animals aboard flights longer than eight hours after an 84% increase in animal incidents. They included a passenger being attacked by a dog, and animals urinating and defecating while on-board.

(Fred did not get into any such trouble.)



JANNE IIVONEN



"In my experience, there's nothing good at the end of a trail like this."

According to psychologists, coloring is the best alternative to meditation. It helps relieve tension and anxiety. It also unlocks memories of childhood and simpler times.

Lost Mixtape Washes Up on Beach 25 Years Later - And It Still Works

(SkyNews) – A woman has been reunited with a mixtape she lost on holiday after it washed up on a beach 25 years later – 1200 miles from where she last saw it. Stella Wedell was 12 when she took the tape to listen to her favorite songs on her Walkman while in the Costa Brava and Majorca in 1993. The cassette, featuring hits by artists such as Pet Shop Boys, Bob Marley and Shaggy, went missing.

But during a holiday to Stockholm in 2018 she was stunned to spot the mixtape, along with a list of the 20 songs she had recorded on it, on display at a photography exhibition. It had washed up on a beach in Fuerteventura in 2017 and was recovered by UK artist Mandy Barker. Barker sent the tape to a professional audio restorer, who managed to listen to all the tracks, and it was included in her touring exhibition Sea of Artefacts.

"When I was reading the tracklist, it seemed very familiar to me," said Wedell, who lives in Berlin. "So I took a picture of it and compared it with the original CD from 1993, which I still have - and it was exactly the same tracklist, but starting with track three. I remember that I didn't like the first two songs on the CD because I felt they were too old so I wouldn't have included them when I recorded the mixtape aged 12. I also have an association with the Jungle Book song and this was always the third track. I always made tapes from my CDs at this time to listen to them with my Walkman, especially for holidays, and to think that a tape I could have lost more than 20 years ago had been found was incredible."

Barker initially doubted it would play but, after drying it out "on my windowsill" for around 18 months, was able to listen to all the tracks after sending it to the audio restorer and decided to include it in her exhibition. Barker, whose work has been exhibited across the world, who has been examining the issue of plastic pollution in the oceans for around a decade.

"Even after getting the tape to play, it was then an astounding chance for Stella to walk into my exhibition and recognize her tape. She said she was shocked to find it and when I read her email I couldn't believe it either. It was shock all round. The songs at the start were damaged but further in the songs were as clear as they would be today. It shows how long plastic can exist in the sea," she added.

The tape will continue touring as part of Barker's exhibition but will be returned to Wedell afterwards.

Baby Sloth Makes Adorable Debut



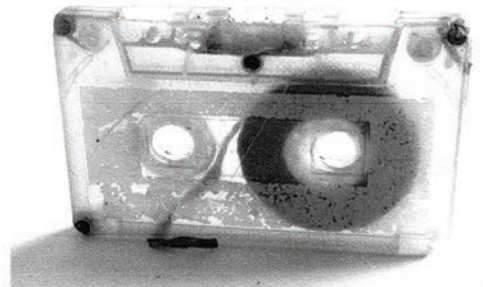
photo: Jamie Greene/National Aviary for AP

Pittsburgh (AP) – Pittsburgh's indoor zoo dedicated to birds has an adorable new member: a baby two-toed sloth. The National Aviary introduced young Vivien Leigh, acquired from a breeder in Florida.

The sloth will be hand-raised by experts so it will be comfortable around humans and well-prepared for its role as an educational ambassador.

Sloths are rainforest animals, but their habitat is rapidly diminishing due to human activity. The aviary hopes Vivien will help teach visitors ways they can help protect rainforests.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to book an encounter with Vivien. They can touch the sloth, take photos and interact with her in a comfortable, private setting. She joins two other sloths at the aviary: Rudolph Valentino and Wookiee.



TRACKLIST:

1. Somebody Dance With Me (Radio Mix) - DJ Bobo
2. Would I Lie To You? - Charles & Eddie
3. The Jungle Book Groove - Disney Cast
4. Rock With You - Inner Circle
5. Do You See The Light - Snap
6. One Love (Radio Version) - Dr Alban
7. More And More - Captain Hollywood Project
8. Oh Carolina (Radio Version) - Shaggy
9. The Key, The Secret (Glamorously Developed Edit) - Urban Cookie Collective
10. It Keeps Raining (Tears From My Eyes) - Bitty McLean
11. Summer Summer (Radio Edit) - Loft
12. Never Let Her Slip Away - Undercover
13. Power Of American Natives - Dance 2 Trance
14. Iron Lion Zion (7'' Mix) - Bob Marley & The Wailers
15. Sweet Harmony - The Beloved
16. Give It Up - Cut 'n' Move
17. Go West - Pet Shop Boys
18. Runaway Train - Soul Asylum
19. (I Can't Help) Falling In Love With You - UB40
20. Mr Vain - Culture Beat

Secret Passage in Parliament

(Laurel Wamsley, NPR) – Within the wood paneling of a hallway in the British House of Commons, there was a small brass keyhole. Members of Parliament and staff walked past the tiny hole each day. The rare person who noticed the hole took it for an electrical cabinet.

Enter a team of historians planning the much-needed restoration of the Palace of Westminster, which is home to the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The oldest part of the estate, Westminster Hall, dates to 1099 and is still in use. The team was at the Historic England Archive poring over some 10,000 uncatalogued documents relating to the palace when they found something interesting: plans for a doorway in the cloister behind Westminster Hall.

Back at the palace, they found that tiny keyhole in the wood paneling – just where the plan suggested it would be. They had a key made so they could open the door – and they discovered a secret passageway 360 years old.

They knew such a passage had once existed, but believed that it had been filled in after the palace was bombed during World War II. Behind the door was a small room, with hinges for a door that would have been more than 11 feet high and that would have opened into Westminster Hall.

It turns out to be a passageway with a rich history. Investigators studied the ceiling timbers in the room and determined that the trees had been harvested in 1659. That corroborated accounts suggesting that the doorway was created around 1660, for the coronation banquet of Charles II, the king who ruled until 1685. Records indicate the route was used by part of the coronation procession as it passed from the former House of Lords into the hall where the king and queen were seated. Afterward, the door was used for coronations, the Speaker's procession and, more commonly, by members of Parliament to access the Commons chamber.

Historians say the entrance was used for centuries, by figures including the diarist Samuel Pepys, Robert Walpole (now regarded as the first British Prime Minister) and William Pitt the Younger.

In the passage, the team found more-recent artifacts: graffiti from 1851. A bricklayer who was restoring the palace years after an 1834 fire had written on the walls in pencil: "This room was enclosed by Tom Porter who was very fond of Ould Ale." Another bit of graffiti read: "These masons were employed refacing these groines [repairing the cloister] ... August 11th 1851 Real Democrats." The term "Real Democrats" suggests that the masons were supporters of the Chartist movement for universal voting rights for men and to allow for members of Parliament who weren't property owners.

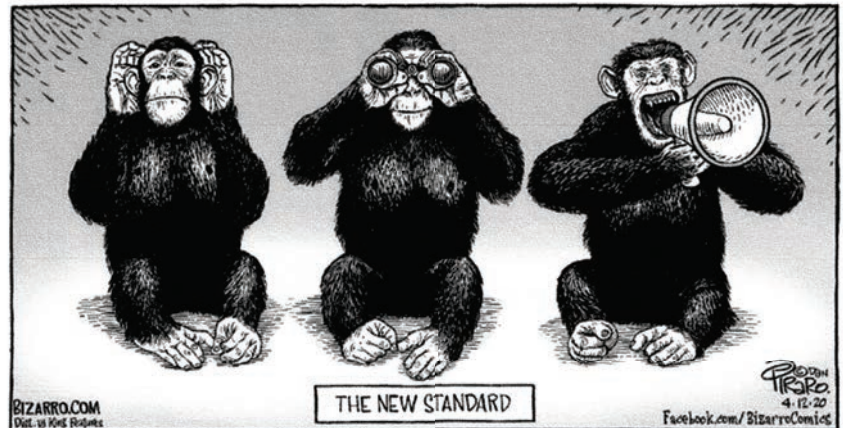
And evidence of more recent history was found in the passage, too: a working light bulb, likely installed in the 1950s.



Speaker of the U.K. House of Commons Lindsay Hoyle emerges from a chamber concealing a 360-year-old passageway that was rediscovered during renovation work in the Houses of Parliament in London. (Daniel Leal-Olivas/AFP via Getty Images)

KNOW YOUR (LATIN) ROOTS

"**B**eer" comes from the Latin *bibere*, which means "to drink." The Romans and Greeks referred to beer as *cerevisia*, which comes from Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture, and *vis*, which means "strength."



Deep breathing for a few minutes a day is like a massage for your internal organs. It will improve your entire body's circulation.

NEATB

STEVE BLASS, 1995

Pittsburgh Pirates broadcaster, analyzing the dismal pitching performance of Bucs replacement player Jimmy Boudreau, who had last been on a mound professionally in 1986:

"He should have been better, pitching on 3,195 days' rest."

Stiff Penalty for Peeping Thomasina

(AP) – Jurors decided a police officer owes \$15,000 in damages to a couple she illegally snooped on more than 100 times over two years. The SunSentinel reports 41-year-old Pembroke Pines Police Officer Melodie Carpio admitted she used her job to look up information about her boyfriend's ex-wife and her new husband on confidential law enforcement databases. Court records showed she snooped 167 times. Attorneys for the couple said they believe the verdict sends a message to law enforcement officers who abuse their power. Pembroke Pines police disciplined Carpio after an investigation in 2016, but she kept her job.

Bait and Switch

Ironman triathlete Jaroslav Bobrowski, 30, of Landshut, Bavaria, was banned Sept. 14 from Running Sushi, an all-you-can-eat restaurant, for eating too much sushi. The Local Germany reported Bobrowski, a former bodybuilder, ate close to 100 plates of sushi, which sent the restaurant into a panic and caused the owner and chef to tell him he was banished "because I'm eating too much." "He eats for five people," the owner complained. "That is not normal."

This Is Why I Wrote the Song 'Win Lottery'

Providence, RI (AP) – A Rhode Island rapper whose songs include “Sell Drugsz” has been sentenced to three years in prison for doing just that. Federal prosecutors say 30-year-old Michael Persaud, of Johnston, was sentenced in federal court in Providence for trafficking heroin and fentanyl. His stage name is Montana Millz. Prosecutors say an East Providence undercover detective bought nearly three-quarters of an ounce (22 grams) of fentanyl and a small amount of heroin from Persaud over a four-month period beginning in October 2016. Authorities also say they seized 1½ ounces (44 grams) of fentanyl from his home. Prosecutors had asked for a six-year prison term. Persaud also awaits sentencing in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, where a jury convicted him of drug charges.

Tanks For the Proposal

Moscow (AFP) – A Russian soldier has pulled out all the stops to propose to his girlfriend, with his fellow officers maneuvering 16 tanks to surround the couple in a heart shape. The high-octane romantic stunt was filmed in a video published by the defence ministry on Valentine's Day. As snow fell, the T-72B3 tanks rolled into position on the Alabino training ground outside Moscow.

Lieutenant Denis Kazantsev led his long-term partner Alexandra Kopytova into the center as she held her hands over her eyes, the defense ministry's TV channel Zvezda reported. Kazantsev went down on bended knee, holding a bunch of red roses. “We've been together a very long time. We've stood the test of time and distance. Marry me!” he said as his girlfriend nodded silently. He then put a ring on her finger.

“I still don't understand what's going on,” Kopytova told a television reporter at the scene. “It's very unexpected.” The tanks used for the romantic maneuver also take part in the annual Victory Parade on Red Square, Zvezda reported.



In December, the American Red Cross celebrates the birthday of its founder Clarissa “Clara” Harlowe Barton. One of the most honored women in American history, Clara was born on Christmas Day in 1821.

Clara's achievements were enough to fill several ordinary lifetimes. She taught school at a time when most teachers were men. When the Civil War began, she risked her life on many occasions to bring supplies and support to soldiers on the

battlefield—earning her the nickname “Angel of the Battlefield.”

An incredible legacy

In 1881, at the age of 60, Clara founded the American Red Cross. She went on to lead the organization for the next 23 years.

Thanks to the generosity of donors like you who follow in Clara Bartons' courageous footsteps, the humanitarian work of the American Red Cross continues for generations to come.



MIKE FLANAGAN, 1992

Baltimore Orioles pitcher:

“You know you're having a bad day when the fifth inning rolls around and they drag the warning track.”



All Reviews Are Good Reviews, Right?

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) – A tourist who was robbed while vacationing in Rio de Janeiro posted a disgusted message online – only to have Brazil's national tourism board post it to its official Instagram account by mistake.

“Rio is such a beautiful city,” begins the message posted by Instagram user @withlai – and that is perhaps as far as the Brazilian Tourist Board's social media department read before clicking “share.” But the message continues: “Beautiful is not enough.” During a three-day stay in Rio, @withlai wrote, “my family and I were robbed and my nine-year-old sister witnessed a violent robbery. I can't recommend a visit to a city where I felt afraid of even leaving the apartment.”

Embratur, as the tourism board is known, shared the message on its own Instagram account Tuesday evening, leaving it up long enough for the gaffe to go viral before deleting the post. “This message was shared by mistake,” Embratur said in a red-faced statement, adding that it was in fact working to “publicize the drop in violent crime (in Brazil) in 2019.”

Rio, the port of entry for many of the millions of tourists who visit Brazil each year, is known for the breathtaking beauty of its sun-soaked beaches and emerald mountains, but also its violent crime. Rio de Janeiro state, of which the city is the capital, registered nearly 4,000 murders and 120,500 muggings last year -- though that was a drop of 19 percent and eight percent, respectively.

繁體中文

故障排除

沒有畫面且 LED 熄滅：

- 檢查顯示器的電源是否已開啓
- 檢查電源線是否已正確連接
- 檢查電源插座
- 在另一台個人電腦上（之前設定為支援的解析度）進行測試

沒有畫面但 LED 亮起：

- 檢查顯示器是否處於省電模式
- 透過 OSD 或控制按鈕調整對比度與亮度
- 檢查個人電腦的電源是否已開啓
- 檢查視訊電纜的接腳沒有彎曲
- 在另一台個人電腦上（之前設定為支援的解析度）進行測試



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