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Mega Brain is back at Brain Fair, page 13.

Columnist Alexandra Paskhaver writes on page 9 how she butchered "Julius Caesar".

# The Weekly Bulletin

March 18, 2025

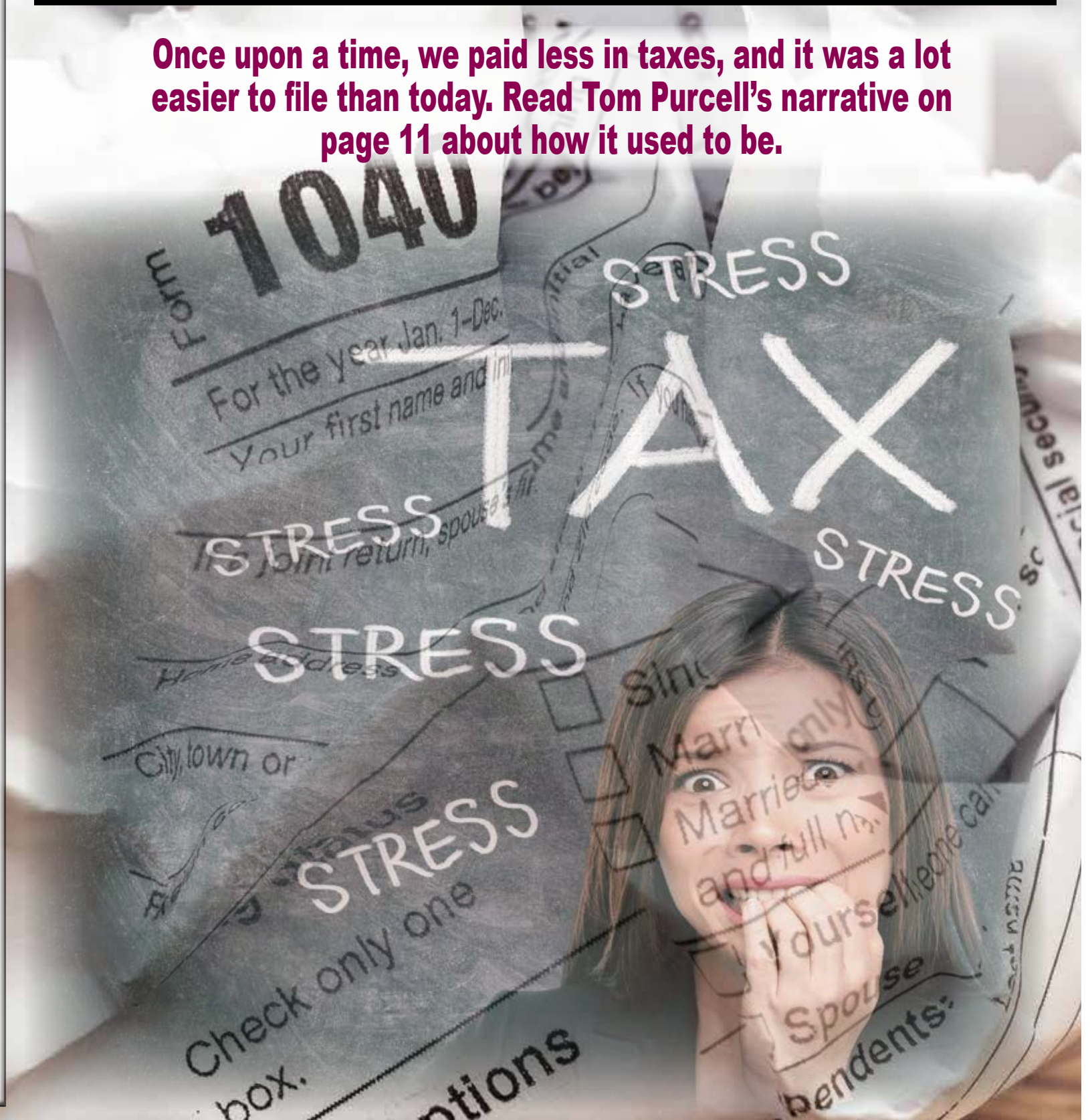
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**Once upon a time, we paid less in taxes, and it was a lot easier to file than today. Read Tom Purcell's narrative on page 11 about how it used to be.**



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**WEATHER HISTORY ON THIS DAY**

**March 19, 1988** - Five cities in south central Texas reported record lows, including El Paso, with a reading of 22 degrees.

**March 20, 2005** - An F1 tornado hit South San Francisco. Trees are uprooted. At least 20 homes and 20 businesses were damaged, including the city's new fire station.

**March 21, 1932** - A tornado swarm occurred in the Deep South. Severe thunderstorms spawned 31 tornadoes in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Tennessee. The tornadoes killed 334 persons and injured 1784 others. Tornadoes in Alabama killed 286 persons and caused \$5 million dollars in damage.

**March 22, 1920** - A spectacular display of the Northern Lights was visible as far south as Bradenton, FL., El Paso, TX., and Fresno, CA. At Detroit, MI., the display was described so brilliant as to blot out all stars below first magnitude.

**March 23, 2007** - A trailer was thrown through a bowling alley as a tornado moved through Clovis, N.M. About 100 homes and businesses were destroyed, at least three schools damaged, and telephone poles snapped.

**March 24, 1988** - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather from Minnesota to northeastern Texas.

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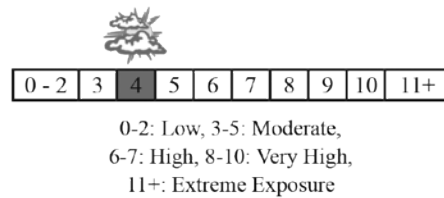
**Business Hours**  
Monday - Wednesday  
11am - 2pm  
Thursday - Saturday  
11am - 8pm

**The Bulletin**

**7-Day Local Forecast**

March 19 <b>Wednesday</b>	March 20 <b>Thursday</b>	March 21 <b>Friday</b>	March 22 <b>Saturday</b>	March 23 <b>Sunday</b>	March 24 <b>Monday</b>	March 25 <b>Tuesday</b>
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Sunny	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
<b>79 / 52</b>	<b>70 / 48</b>	<b>71 / 55</b>	<b>79 / 60</b>	<b>78 / 62</b>	<b>79 / 62</b>	<b>78 / 54</b>

**Local UV Index**



**State Cities**

City	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		City	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx		Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx	Hi/Lo	Wx
Amarillo	54/36	s	55/35	s	57/40	pc	Odessa	65/36	s	70/40	pc	71/43	s
Beaumont	78/48	mc	76/45	mc	74/46	mc	San Antonio	83/45	pc	81/42	mc	82/45	s
Dallas	74/48	pc	72/45	mc	71/46	s	Waco	75/40	pc	73/37	mc	74/40	s
Houston	80/52	mc	78/49	cl	79/51	mc	Wichita Falls	67/40	s	71/43	s	66/40	pc

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

**Weather Trivia**

*How strong have thunderstorm winds ever been without evidence of a tornado?*

**Answer:** The highest recorded thunderstorm wind ever clocked was 149.5 mph.

**Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week**

Peak Times			Peak Times		
Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM
Wed	3:58-5:58	4:22-6:22	Sun	7:27-9:27	7:55-9:55
Thu	4:46-6:46	5:12-7:12	Mon	8:22-10:22	8:49-10:49
Fri	5:38-7:38	6:05-8:05	Tue	9:16-11:16	9:42-11:42
Sat	6:32-8:32	7:00-9:00			

**Weather History**

**March 19, 1935** - Suffocating dust storms occurred frequently in southeastern Colorado between the 12th and the 25th of the month. Six people died and many animals starved or suffocated. Up to six feet of dust covered the ground.

**Sun & Moon**

Last	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	First
3/22	Wednesday	7:26 a.m.	7:32 p.m.	Prev Day	10:10 a.m.	4/4
	Thursday	7:25 a.m.	7:33 p.m.	12:39 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	
	Friday	7:23 a.m.	7:33 p.m.	1:37 a.m.	11:38 a.m.	
	Saturday	7:22 a.m.	7:34 p.m.	2:33 a.m.	12:32 p.m.	
New	Sunday	7:21 a.m.	7:35 p.m.	3:25 a.m.	1:32 p.m.	Full
3/29	Monday	7:20 a.m.	7:35 p.m.	4:13 a.m.	2:36 p.m.	4/12
	Tuesday	7:19 a.m.	7:36 p.m.	4:56 a.m.	3:42 p.m.	

**Surfside Beach Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low
3/19	8:44 a	None	None	None
3/20	10:04 a	12:14 a	None	None
3/21	11:29 a	1:06 a	None	None
3/22	12:38 p	2:11 a	None	None
3/23	1:21 p	3:17 a	None	None
3/24	1:50 p	4:23 a	None	None
3/25	2:09 p	5:35 a	None	None

**Local Almanac Last Week**

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days					
3/6	NA	NA	70/50	0.00"	3/6	0	3/10	0
3/7	NA	NA	70/50	0.00"	3/7	0	3/11	12
3/8	NA	NA	70/51	0.00"	3/8	0	3/12	13
3/9	NA	NA	70/51	0.00"	3/9	0		
3/10	NA	NA	71/51	0.00"				
3/11	75	49	71/51	0.00"				
3/12	77	49	71/51	0.00"				

Growing degree days are calculated by subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the day's average temperature.

## Strange but True

By Bill Sones  
and Rich Sones, Ph.D.

### Water costs that are out of this world

**Q.** Where might you find the world's most expensive glasses of water, and who are the drinkers?

**A.** \$3,000 per glass is roughly the price of fresh water ferried up to the International Space Station, says Hazel Muir in "New Scientist." Each astronaut uses about 4.4 liters a day for drinking, washing, etc., which costs around \$11,000 per liter to ship up. So NASA is looking to trim this price in favor of a "vile cocktail" of recycled astronauts' urine, sweat, and even lab rats' liquid waste.

Storing fresh water takes up too much room, which makes recycling essential. A key part of the "water recovery" program is to recoup about 85% of the H2O in urine, leaving behind a "brine" that is then checked for other particles and compounds.

A catalytic reaction is used, with oxygen injected to kill off bacteria, fungi or viruses. Iodine is added to prevent microbial colonization.

Said NASA engineer Layne

Castor, once the murky water is ready, there's no hint of sewage, just a slight medicinal tang from the iodine. The remaining organic compounds are less than 2% of what's in typical U.S. tap water.

Finally, a filter mops up the iodine to avert iodine overdosing during long stays on the Station. "When astronauts set foot on the moon once again," says Muir, "their pee may - quite literally - be worth its weight in gold."

### Why do onions make you tear up?

**Q.** Why are onions such tear-jerkers? Is it because of all the misinformation about them?

**A.** Misinformation, yes, such as that pyruvic acid is the lachrymator (tear-producer), that this comes from sulfur in the soil, that the same compound that gets to the eyes gives the onions their pungent flavor, that the really pungent ones are the culprits, or that the cook can minimize the problem by clamping a piece of bread or a match between the teeth, says Robert Wolke in "What Einstein Told his Cook."

These last won't work, but chilling the onions in the refrigerator for a few hours before cutting them just might. This slows

down the chemical reaction that produces the "tear gas" - a sulfur-containing compound called thiopropanal sulfoxide - and lowers its vapor pressure.

Actually, the pungency compounds don't form until the onion cells are broken open by cutting or chewing.

So it's best to use a sharp knife, dice the onion quickly and efficiently as the chefs do, and "there won't be time for the irritating vapors to bother your eyes very much."

### Part of the brain political debates don't require

**Q.** When 30 males with strong party identification watched a political debate, their fMRI brain-scans showed high activation in the orbital frontal cortex (emotions), anterior cingulate (conflict resolution), posterior cingulate (conflicts of moral accountability) and afterward, the ventral striatum (reward/pleasure). Can you guess what part of their brains didn't register at all?

**A.** The dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, most associated with reasoning, says Michael Shermer in "Scientific American." "It appears as if partisans work to get the conclusion they want, then massively reinforce themselves for doing so," summed up lead researcher Drew Westen. The implications for law, politics, business are of great concern.

Even scientific research can be undercut by ardent theory-holders, in spite of double-blind studies, replication and peer review.

The villain here is "confirmation bias," where we all judiciously seek out confirming evidence in support of our already existing beliefs while ignoring or reinterpreting disconfirming facts and findings, thus allowing unconscious emotionality to masquerade as inner debate.

Shermer's advice: "Skepticism is the antidote."

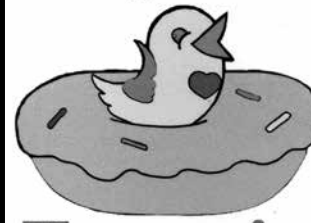
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## MIKE PINGREE'S THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS



### OH REALLY? SO DOES ROBIN HAVE THE NIGHT OFF?

A neighbor called the cops when he saw a suspicious man coming out of a home in Panama City Beach, Fla., while the residents were away. The cops confronted the man in his truck nearby, and a search of the vehicle uncovered tools which burglars find to come in very handy. But he explained to the policemen that he was not a burglar but was "like Batman ... a vigilante" who was on the side of the law. The officers did not believe him.

### IT'S A MIRACLE! I'M ALIVE!:

As he was about to go on trial for rape, a man tried to fake illness and seemingly lapsed into a coma in his jail cell in Fujian, China. A doctor sensed it was a ruse, and he loudly announced that he was going to give him a rather unpleasant injection with an extra-long needle. The man quickly regained consciousness.

### IT JUST FEELS LIKE WE'RE

### DRIFTING APART, HONEY:

A couple engaged in a violent, four-hour, cocaine-fueled, argument in the nude in their Sarnia, Ont., home over the wife's many infidelities. It continued through several rooms of the house, including the kitchen, where they both pulled knives on each other. Finally, she broke a beer bottle over his head and ran out the front door with him in hot pursuit. A neighbor saw them fighting on their front lawn and called the cops.

**OF COURSE, IT'S MY CAR, OFFICER:** A man stole a car in Lapeer, Mich., then later, while he was trying to buy some crack cocaine, someone stole the car from him. Even though he had stolen the car in the first place, he called the police and reported it stolen. He is currently in residence at the Genesee County Jail.

**AS THE COPS LIKE TO SAY: EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, YOU GET A GROUND BALL:** A man

stole a bottle of Schnapps from a liquor store in Riverton, Wyo., ran outside, and ducked into a nearby building. It turned out to be the local police station.

**MAYBE THIS WILL CONVINCE YOU TO GET BACK WITH ME ... KA-BLAM!:** After her boyfriend broke up with her, a woman in Hamilton, Mont., got very drunk then went to his cabin, where she had a blistering argument with him. He fled to a friend's house a few miles away. She shot up his cabin and then followed him. Once there, she demanded he come outside as he cowered in a bedroom. She fired a couple of shots into his truck then stormed inside, where she was finally overpowered.

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## Junior Achievement receives \$8,000 grant from Phillips 66 for the economic empowerment of West Brazos youth

Junior Achievement of Brazoria County (JA) announced today that it has received an \$8,000 grant from Phillips 66 to support financial literacy, entrepreneurship and career readiness programs for West Brazos youth.

These essential skills will help young people become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

Junior Achievement delivers these programs in classrooms, at offsite events like JA INSPIRE at Brazosport College, and through afterschool and summer programs in partnership with other non-profits and community organizations. JA's K-12 curriculum emphasizes the importance of staying in school and making informed decisions to achieve life goals. The hands-on, real-world programs provide age-appropriate experiential learning to entire classrooms, ensuring access for all students.

JA's mission aligns with the Phillips 66 commitment to educational equity, equipping students with practical skills for a sustainable future.

"Junior Achievement is dedicated to promoting economic opportunity and skill acquisition for the youth we serve," said Kim Effenberger, President of Junior Achievement of Brazoria County. "Financial literacy education is a crucial tool in empowering students to reach their full potential as adults. Phillips 66 has been a strong community partner throughout nearly all of JA's 68-year history, and we deeply appreciate their continued investment in our efforts to foster self-sufficiency among young people."

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# What's up with eggs, and why are they so expensive?

By Sono Motoyama

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (TNS)

The theft this month of 100,000 eggs with a street value of \$40,000 from a trailer in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, has attracted national attention and a few too many pun-laced articles. Whether the theft was related to the current high price of the commodity is unknown and the crime remains ... uncracked.

However, it is true that the short answer to the question "What's up with eggs?" is obvious - the price. Shortages have led to hoarding behavior across the country, and some empty

shelves. Especially with Easter on the way, concerns about egg availability and safety are in the air.

## Why are prices high?

Both inflation and the infection of chickens with the H5N1 virus, bird flu, have had an effect on egg prices. About 10% of the country's egg-laying chickens had to be killed in the last three months to prevent the spread of the disease - more than 30 million birds.

It will take a while for farmers to replenish the egg-laying birds and to stabilize egg production; meanwhile, the progression of the virus continues.

## Will prices keep rising?

The USDA predicts that because of bird flu, the price of eggs will rise 20% this year.

Though you may be paying \$5 and more for a dozen eggs at your local grocery store, it may surprise you to find out that the wholesale price of cartoned eggs, which restaurant and grocers pay, is actually much more - about \$8 a dozen, a record level.

Grocery stores often sell eggs as "loss leaders," pricing them at a loss to bring in customers.

Indeed, Giant Eagle issued a statement to that effect, also stating it requests customers to limit the number they buy.

Giant Eagle said it could not predict how future egg prices

could evolve.

## Are eggs safe to eat?

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the health risk from consuming eggs is low. Eggs are sanitized before they are packaged, and it is unlikely that contaminated eggs would be sold. (The virus kills birds quickly, so a sick bird is not likely to have time to produce eggs.)

However, experts caution that the virus can probably be transmitted through food. Cats have died, for example, after drinking infected, unpasteurized milk.

If you want to eliminate as much risk as possible, buy pasteurized egg whites - the processing inactivates the virus. And the CDC recommends you cook eggs to an internal temperature of 165 degrees, when the yolks are firm.

## How is this affecting restaurant prices?

This month, Waffle House announced that it would add a 50-cent charge per egg because of rising prices. Restaurants, already operating on thin margins, have had to make difficult choices. Breakfast spots, especially, have had to nudge their prices higher.

## Should I get an egg-laying chicken?

Chickens are living things, so they require food, housing, medication and health maintenance. It adds up and requires time. And because of inflation, some of the costs of maintaining a chicken have gone up recently.

If you plan to have only a handful of hens, it will be more expensive than buying eggs and will probably even put you in the hole.

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## County museum hosts time capsule event Saturday

Brazoria County is inviting families and residents to a special event that will celebrate the past 50 years and look forward to the next 50 years with "Imagining the Future: A Time Capsule Event."

The event will take place on Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Brazoria County Historical Museum, 100 East Cedar in Angleton.

This family friendly event offers a fun and meaningful opportunity to contribute to Brazoria County's time capsule, which will be opened in 2075 - 50 years from now. Residents are encouraged to bring items that reflect their lives and experiences today, such as photographs, written memories, and small artifacts. These items will be sealed in the capsule, giving future generations a glimpse into life in Brazoria County in 2025.

The celebration will also feature a variety of engaging activities for all ages, including games and crafts for the whole family, as well as a video station that offers residents a chance to leave a personal message for the future, sharing their

thoughts, hopes and dreams for the next 50 years.

Participating groups and organizations include the Office of County Judge Matt Sebesta, the Brazoria County Historical Museum, the Brazoria County Library System, the Freeport Historical Museum and The Center for Arts and Sciences, to name a few.

This event is free and open to the public. Families are welcome to enjoy the festivities, share memories and contribute to the legacy that will be revealed half a century from now.

For more information about the "Imagining the Future: A Time Capsule Event," including

how to contribute to the time capsule, please contact the Brazoria County Historical Museum at (979) 864-1208.

### March, 1974

- A grand jury indicted seven former Nixon White House officials for conspiring to obstruct the Watergate investigation.

This included former chief of staff H.R. Haldeman and former attorney general John Mitchell.

- No. 1 song on the pop charts in early March 1974 was "Season in the Sun."

- The big movie in March 1974 was "The Great Gatsby."

- Mariner 10 became the first Earth spacecraft to reach the planet Mercury.



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## Höegh Aurora makes its inaugural call to Port Freeport



From left to right are: Emily Henderson, Amanda Veliz, Jesse Hibbetts, and Commissioner Kim Kincannon from Port Freeport; Manuel Salerno Abad, Consulate of Panama; Captain Victor C. Escamilla, Master of the Höegh Aurora; Ambassador Juan B. Sosa, President of the U.S.-Panama Business Council; and Jordan Mansker and David Caramante of Höegh Autoliners.

Port Freeport recently welcomed the Höegh Aurora during its inaugural visit. The Höegh Aurora is the world's largest and most environmentally friendly car carrier.

This event highlights Port Freeport's strategic growth and with partners that have a shared commitment to sustainability, as well as its ongoing investments in infrastructure to support next-generation vessels.

The Höegh Aurora is a state-of-the-art roll-on/roll-off (RORO) vessel with advanced sustainability features, including a fuel-efficient hull and emissions-reducing technology. This design supports the global shift toward greener shipping solutions. The Freeport Harbor Channel Improvement Project facilitated the vessel's arrival, which deepened and widened the channel to enhance navigational safety and accommodate larger vessels.

Port Freeport and Höegh Autoliners established their RORO partnership in 2015, and since then, Höegh has played a crucial role in supporting the region's automotive supply chain. The arrival of Höegh Aurora further strengthens this collaboration, expanding trade opportunities and reinforcing Port Freeport's position as a key hub for global commerce.

Port Freeport's ongoing investment in infrastructure, including the Freeport Harbor Channel Improvement Project, has positioned the port as a premier destination for large-scale vessels.

"With the deepening and widening of the Freeport Harbor Channel, we are enhancing operational efficiency and reinforcing our commitment to sustainable growth and economic prosperity," said Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport Executive Director & CEO.

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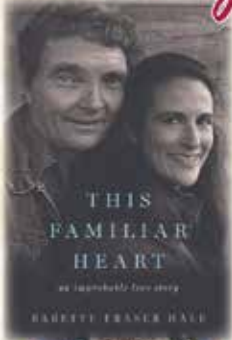


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The Brazoria County Library System Foundation  
presents their 13th Annual

## Evening with the Author



### BABETTE FRASER HALE

*THIS FAMILIAR HEART* is an intimate rendering of the turbulent courtship and deep personal connection between the late, beloved Houston columnist Leon Hale and his wife, Babette Fraser Hale.

Join us to meet Babette, who has been a magazine feature writer, columnist, contributing editor, book editor and publisher, as she shares with us the story of her marriage and her own writing process.

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# The Brazoria County Library System

## A Bulletin Monthly Special Feature

Brazoria County Library System utilizes volunteers as a welcome addition to a branch's workforce. They assist a branch's staff in performing work of a non-professional nature, and they do not supplant or replace the paid staff. Volunteers are accepted and scheduled at the discretion of the branch lead, and their duties are performed under the supervision of the staff member in charge.

Potential volunteer duties include: Assisting staff with programs, projects and community outreach; Shelving returned materials; Basic organizing. If you're interested, call (979) 864-1505.

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# How I butchered 'Julius Ceasar'

By Alexandra Paskhaver

Special to The Bulletin

When your old professor asks you to perform a bit from "Julius Caesar" in front of his fourth graders, you start to wonder if you were a favorite student or a hated one.

I am to dramatic acting what Mozart was to golf.

If I were in the audience when Shakespeare asked for volunteers to play Cassius, the Bard of Avon would've taken one look at me and never written another play.

For those who don't know, in "Julius Caesar," Cassius is the guy who comes up to Brutus and says something along the lines of, "Have you considered chopping up our dictator like a salad?"

And Brutus replies to the tune of "But I despise Caesar salads. Besides, they would wreak havoc on Rome, or, uh, its digestion."

And Cassius says something like "Please, pretty please, with a cherry on top?"

And Brutus goes, "Okiedokie!" And they stab Caesar 23 times.

I say "along the lines of" because I don't actually remember what Brutus or Cassius is supposed to say.

It turns out that real actors actually memorize about two hours' worth of deep Shakespearean doo-doo whenever they perform "Julius Caesar."

I always assumed they just had really large stacks of cue cards.

Not that I had to perform the whole play. I only had to do a scene alongside five fourth-graders.

I cannot for the life of me play a convincing conspirator.

A convincing nervous wreck, maybe. A calm, cool, collected conspirator? As the Romans might say, "No dice." If they could speak English, that is.

Besides, given the first few rehearsals, I began to think these fourth-grade conspirators were more interested in stab-

bing me than the guy playing Julius.

The night before the big scene, my performance troupe decided we needed to have togas.

Do I own a toga? No. Have I ever owned a toga? No. Can you just walk into a store and buy a toga? Absolutely not.

If you came into a T. J. Maxx and asked if they had anything in the imperial dictator style, they'd throw you out on your gluteus maximus, if you get my drift.

But togas had to be had. I ended up sewing the ends of several bath towels together.

Then of course I needed to make laurel wreaths for everyone, which necessitated raiding my neighbor's garden.

My neighbor is the sort of guy who could've easily led the Roman legions to thrash the barbarian tribes, and a few other tribes, too, just for good measure.

When I say that not only did I trim his laurel bushes, but actually fashioned wreaths out of them with pipe cleaners and a hot glue gun, you must understand my deep commitment to children's education.

Add the fact that I had spent two whole weeks memorizing my part, and if I didn't get to play Cassius, I would stab someone, even if it was only with a foam sword.

The day of the performance, the only line I remember saying was "Good morrow, Brutus."

Everything else was a blur. I blinked, and the audience was throwing bits of laurel at us. That was it.

Maybe I really just inhabited my character for two minutes. Or maybe I completely blanked. I couldn't tell you.

On the positive side, I was probably more entertaining than Mozart.

(Alexandra Paskhaver is a software engineer and writer. For more information, check out her website at <https://apaskhaver.github.io>.)

## Science Matters

# Steppe herders into a mixing bowl

Diverse people met and fused in the Caucasus region between the Black and the Caspian Seas in the ancient period when hunter-gatherers were evolving into settled culture.

"Kurgan" burial mound, about 5,000 years BCE

## Milk: From sheep

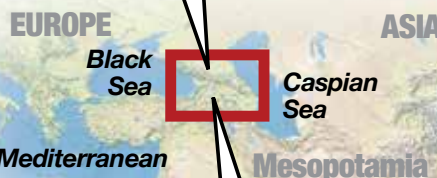
Sheep's milk was the mainstay of Bronze Age herding cultures

It could be turned into stable foods such as cheese

Bronze Age herding cultures of the Caucasus transferred that technology – and methods of transport – to settled societies



**Steppe zone** extending to plains of eastern Europe, Asia, Mongolia



**Mountainous highlands** of today's Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Iran



**Nomads of the Asian steppes** domesticated horses and developed wheeled wagons

## Greater Caucasus region

Tall mountains and wide grasslands connect Europe, the Midast and Asia

New genetic studies of the modern and ancient people of the Caucasus are revealing these cultural and agricultural exchanges

Source: Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology; German Archaeological Institute (Berlin)  
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service  
© 2024 TNS

## More information about Steppe herders

- Steppe herders, also known as nomadic pastoralists, were groups of people who herded animals across the Eurasian Steppe for thousands of years.
- The Yamnaya were a group of steppe herders who entered Europe from the eastern Steppe around 5,000 years ago.
- The Yamnaya may have invented the wheel and were among the first to domesticate and ride horses.
- The Yamnaya are thought to have brought

Indo-European languages with them, which are now spoken by most Europeans.

- Steppe herders were mobile, moving their settlements between seasonal grazing sites.
- They built temporary tent communities in walled settlements in river valleys.
- They traded goods and ideas with agricultural civilizations
- They ate horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and hunted antelope and other animals.

# The train ride: How my mother and I escaped from behind the Iron Curtain to the West

By John Toth  
*The Bulletin*

It was a busy day on March 6 while I was working on *The Bulletin*, when I realized that this was not just another day.

On March 6, 1966, a 40-year-old woman did what nobody thought was possible - she escaped from a Communist Soviet Bloc country with her 10-year-old son. The woman was my mother.

We were going to visit Vienna, Austria, for two weeks on Spring Break. It was a shallow cover story, and the plan took more than a year to put in place before we could even purchase train tickets to the West.

Many were surprised that this quiet, mild-mannered woman would even try it. But she did, and it worked.

I wrote a few sentences on my Facebook page commemorating this day 59 years ago and went back to work. Then the post started getting likes and comments. I was touched. My friends wanted to read more.

I have written about this subject before. If you are an avid *Bulletin* reader, you already know part of the story. But I always like to take a trip back in time to relive the moments as a woman and her son slipped through the Iron Curtain and headed West.

I can't remember eating any breakfast that morning. I probably got really nervous after waking up. It started to sink in that we were leaving the country, even though I thought it was just for Spring Break. I had barely made it out of Budapest since I was born, and now I would go to a totally different country, where they speak a different language.

I was caught up by all of the excitement. I was a kid about to embark on the biggest trip of my young life. The train station

itself was a magnificent structure that I had not seen all that often. I looked up. The glass cover of the station towered way above me. The cars were clean and shiny. They put the best trains on the Western routes.

My father stood below our window until the train started rolling. He walked alongside for a while, then he stopped. He stood there and waved. I waved back. My mother did not. I had a smile on my face. My mother did not. I saw him getting smaller and smaller as the train pulled out of the station. We cleared the big roof above. My father was just a little dot now, and then he was gone.

After all the planning, my mother had to be worried that the whole thing would fall apart in a matter of minutes. The reason for the trip, after all, was pretty shallow. Maybe some of the people she paid off to get the needed documents sold her out. Maybe the authorities were onto us and were letting us go through with the plan, only to be nabbed as we tried to cross the border.

About a half hour into the trip, a soldier entered the cabin very politely, to check our papers again. He was looking through everything. My mother had it all in a neat package. It was all there - permission slips, visa, passport. He kept looking at them, and asked her why we were traveling to Vienna. "We're taking a little vacation. My son has never been out of the country. I want him to learn a little about other places ... No, we are not visiting anyone ... Yes, we are staying



John Toth and his mom, Gizella Toth, in Vienna, Austria, after their escape from communist Hungary in 1966.

in Vienna for the whole time, planning to sightsee and visit museums ... Yes, I am looking forward to returning. I have all my family here and my job."

The soldier wrote something down, gave her the papers back and went to the next cabin. My mother's face was white as snow.

The next stop was at Hegyeshalom-Nickelsdorf. Hegyeshalom was on the Hungarian side and Nickelsdorf on the Austrian side. My parents mentioned Hegyeshalom many times.

The train would leave Hungarian territory there. That's the area where tall high-voltage fences, landmines and guards with machine guns and German shepherd dogs kept Hungarians in Hungary. Many tried to overcome these barriers and failed. A few succeeded.

The train came to a stop, and my mother said that it was as far as the Hungarian diesel locomotive would pull us. A few yards away, the railroad cars would be attached to an Austrian engine that would take us to Vienna.

All Hungarian border guards and soldiers on the train would leave, and the Austrians would board and check everything again. To me, it was all very interesting, but I didn't comprehend the significance. Who cares who drove the train, right?

But this stop was the most dangerous for us. Everything could have fallen apart right there.

Another Hungarian border guard entered our cabin. He questioned my mother, then turned towards me. I even answered questions that weren't asked. I talked about soccer, swimming and riding once to Debrecen in a steam locomotive. I think he got tired of hearing my voice. He went through all the paperwork and started writing on it. My mother looked normal to me, like she always looked. Her voice was normal. The guard was through with me. I think if I said another word he would have arrested me for disturbing the peace.

In a few minutes, the train started moving, but just far enough to get to the neutral zone, where the locomotives were changed out. That's when the Austrians would board the train, and the Hungarians would leave. The train slowly

rolled out of Hungary. All of our papers were in order. All of our answers were satisfactory.

Years later, when we talked about this, my mother asked me why I said that I could not wait to go home and tell my friends about all I had seen.

It was the truth. I was going to be the big shot in the class. I said exactly what was on my mind as a 10-year-old. It was perfect, she told me. That was what the guard needed to hear.

When we rolled into neutral territory, we were officially out of Hungary, a first for both of us. The train stopped, and there were a few pulls and pushes on the railroad cars.

We were now in Austrian hands. There was nobody left on the train to arrest my mother. We were rolling into Nickelsdorf. We just escaped with forged documents from behind the Iron Curtain.

Today, there is no border checkpoint between Hungary and Austria, both being European Union members. You can just drive through like driving between states in the USA. But in 1966, it was a different world, a much harsher, controlled world in Hungary.

This 40-year-old woman with a 10-year-old child pulled off what few, if anyone, thought was possible.

She leaned back in her seat, relieved that the ordeal was over. But only one part was over, the first part. There were many more parts to come as we rolled on those tracks of uncertainty towards the Austrian capital. We breathed "free" air and marveled at the Austrian countryside. It was The West - and we were looking at it for the first time.

*(I have a book in the works and will keep you updated on how it's progressing. Until then, enjoy snippets from time to time of my not-so-ordinary childhood.)*

# Once upon a time when taxes were less, simpler

By Tom Purcell  
Special to the Bulletin

I can't help but dream this time of the year.

It's the thick of winter, you see, which means I'm spending hours huddled in my home office, getting a million tax details in order for my CPA.

And I'm dreaming of tax simplification.

President Trump has shared a bold vision to potentially replace the income tax entirely in favor of tariffs.

Though I can't imagine that ever happening, he has also promised to simplify tax filing to such a degree that "nine out of 10 Americans will be able to file their taxes on a single, little, beautiful sheet of paper."

Could tax filing become as simple as it was for my father in 1959?

My dad kept a work draft of his return that he filled out in pencil, then completed the final version in ink before sending it to the IRS.

I still can't believe how simple his tax form was.

In 1959, he paid a measly 5 percent in federal taxes.

Though the top income tax rate was 91 percent that year - President Kennedy would slash rates a few years later - deductions were many.

Even middle-class people, like my dad, enjoyed their share of perks.

A heavy smoker then - who wasn't? - he was able to deduct his cigarette taxes.

He deducted every penny he paid in gasoline taxes, too.

Were I able to do that now, with gasoline federal and state taxes totaling 77 cents a gallon in Pennsylvania, I'd be able to write off about \$800 on the 1,000 or so gallons I use every year.

He took a \$600 tax deduction, or \$1,200 total, for each of his two dependents, my sisters Kathy and Krissy - that would be \$10,000 in today's dollars.

However, since 1997, the deduction for dependents was replaced with a child tax credit of \$2,000 per child.

A deduction of \$10,000 off of your taxes - say you are in the 22-percent tax bracket - would save you \$2,200, but a tax credit would net you a tax savings of

\$4,000.

Incidentally, Vice President J.D. Vance is proposing that the tax credit per child be increased to \$5,000.

For the most part, however, my dad paid significantly lower taxes than we pay now.

Here's another item that caught my attention: In 1959, he paid only 1.25 percent of his income toward FICA (then, Social Security only, but now Social Security and Medicare), and his employer also paid 1.25 percent for a total FICA tax of 2.5%.

Today, the average working American pays 7.65 percent in FICA taxes, and his or her employer kicks in another 7.65 percent (15.3 percent total).

I, being self-employed, have the pleasure of paying the full 15.3 percent myself.

If one makes \$175,700 in income - the point at which only the 2.9 percent Medicare tax continues to apply because the Social Security tax is capped - he ends up paying nearly \$27,000 in FICA taxes, not including federal, state and local taxes.

In any event, my father had his fair share of simple deductions in 1959, which helped offset his federal taxes.

That is how he was able to keep his total federal tax tab at a measly 5 percent.

Better yet, his tax form was one sheet of paper printed on both sides.

He had no calculator, nor did he need one. He always got a refund.

Then again, the federal tax code was about 15,000 pages then.

Today, it is more than 70,000 pages, which is why I dream of the tax simplicity my dad enjoyed way back in 1959.

(See Tom Purcell's syndicated column, humor books and funny videos featuring his dog, Thurber, at TomPurcell.com. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.)



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## Columbia Christian Senior Citizens Center Menu

629 E. Bernard, West Columbia, TX, (979) 345-5955

Meals served at 11:30 a.m. Menu subject to change. Meals-on-wheels available - call before 9:30 a.m. Low salt/low sugar meals available - call before 8 a.m. Take-out orders also available, call by 10:30 a.m. for pick-up at 11 a.m. Transportation to the center available - call by 8:30 a.m.

**Thursday, Feb. 20:** Oven-fried chicken, rice pilaf, hominy, green beans, tossed salad, garlic toast, dessert.

**Friday, Feb. 21:** Hamburgers, baked beans, corn on the cob, potato salad, bun, dessert.

**Monday, Feb. 24:** BBQ Sausage, chili beans, carrots, peaches, sliced bread, dessert.

**Tuesday, Feb. 25:** Chicken in pasta sauce, buttered noodles, green beans, hominy, tossed salad, garlic sticks, dessert.

**Wednesday, Feb. 26:** Fried fish, seasoned fries, pinto beans, carrots, slaw, hush puppies, dessert.

# Weekly Bulletin Horoscope

By Magi Helena

Tribune Content Agency

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): An idea stuck just in your head may turn out to be a wasted resource. Write down your flashes of inspiration today; you might find them useful later. Your zeal could be attractive to others, and you might attract someone worth knowing.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Be a supportive partner. A close friend or loved one might need your help to see their plans to fruition. Consider offering your assistance and joining in their journey; people often feel more secure with some company as they move forward.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Bring others into your circle. Sharing your vision of the future could rally the support needed to turn dreams into reality. This week, be generous with praise and lend a helping hand to others and your bank account might fill to the brim.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You may be the cinnamon in someone's applesauce, perfectly complementing your significant other while maintaining your own flair. In the coming week, think of ways to add some zest and spice to the lives of those you cherish most.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't just sit idle; activity is as vital for your wellbeing as clear thinking. Whether it's a walk, a gym session, or even housework, getting your heart rate up could prime your mind and prepare your body for tackling any event in the week

ahead.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Avoid getting caught with your hand in the cookie jar – early this week, don't be tempted by impulsive desires. Your situation could improve if you're selective about your friendships and communicate thoroughly with partners.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may overcome obstacles with kindness. If you find yourself harshly judging others, consider that you might be projecting parts of yourself onto someone else. Casting stones upon others may result in them being cast back.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Just a little encouragement can make a difference. Consider accepting that invitation or joining the crowd at group events. Physical activity, be it tasks or leisure, may brighten your week. Agreements and promises could likely be kept.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Time is of the essence. Whether you're fully prepared or not, you may need to act soon, or you might miss your chance of success. Don't go it alone when friends may be eager to assist you and could be generous about cooperating.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You might overcome envy by focusing on happiness and contentment. The happiest people aren't those with the most, but those who make the most of what they have. Count your blessings

and focus on what's going well.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Go out and socialize. Events and gatherings could introduce you to fascinating new people and potentially beneficial connections

this week. You might thrive more in group settings than by yourself. Some plans may suddenly backfire.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Life is like a rodeo; you may

thrive on seizing opportunities head-on and taking the bull by the horns. Your energetic approach to tasks could catch the eye of your superiors. Be ready to make some executive decisions on the fly.

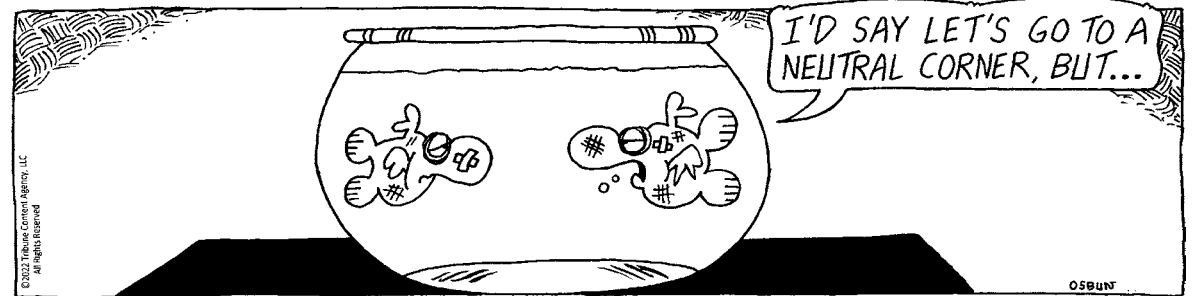
## BROOM HILDA

By Russel Myers



## ANIMAL CRACKERS

By Fred Wagner



## MR. MORRIS

By Rick Brooks



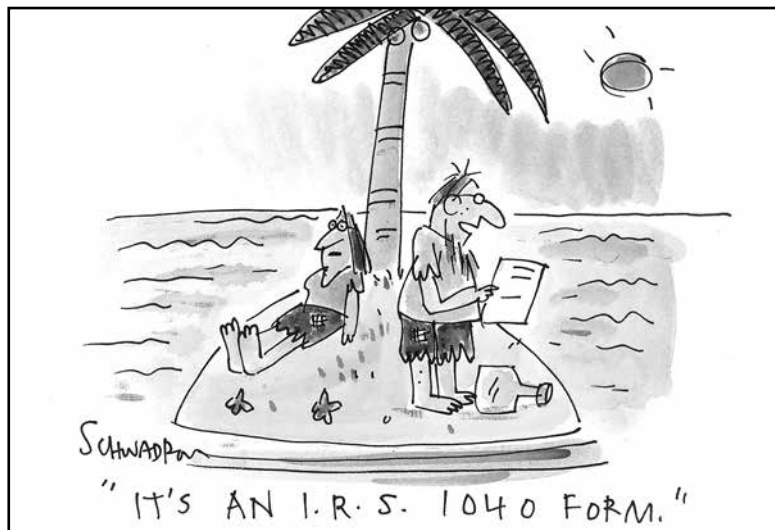
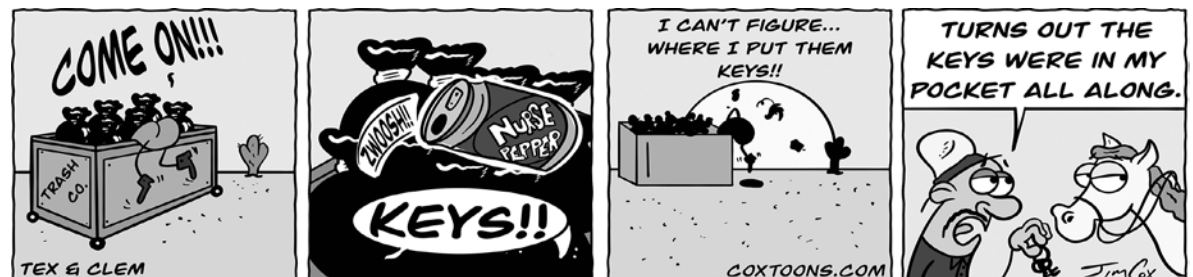
## CHARMY'S ARMY

By Davey Jones

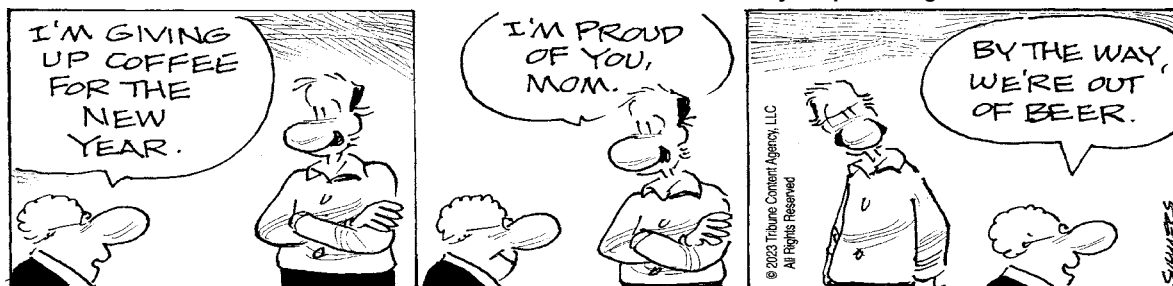


## TEX AND CLEM

By Jim Cox



**THE MIDDLETONS**



By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers

**SOUR GRAPES**



By Tim Jones

## On This Day In History

**March 19**

1628 - The Massachusetts colony was founded by Englishmen.

1687 - French explorer La Salle was murdered by his own men while searching for the mouth of the Mississippi River, in the Gulf of Mexico.

1915 - Pluto was photographed for the first time. However, it was not known at the time.

1994 - The largest omelet in history was made with 160,000 eggs in Yokohama, Japan.

**March 20**

1852 - Harriet Beecher Stowe's book "Uncle Tom's Cabin," subtitled "Life Among the Lowly," was first published.

1965 - U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered 4,000 troops to protect the Selma-Montgomery civil rights marchers.

1969 - John Lennon and Yoko Ono were married in Gibraltar.

1990 - The Los Angeles Lakers retired Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's #33.

**March 21**

1788 - Almost the entire city of New Orleans, LA., was destroyed by fire with 856 buildings being destroyed.

1857 - An earthquake hit

Tokyo, killing about 107,000.

1928 - U.S. President Calvin Coolidge gave the Congressional Medal of Honor to Charles Lindbergh for his first trans-Atlantic flight.

1970 - Faces, with new lead singer Rod Stewart, released their first LP, "First Step."

1980 - U.S. President Jimmy Carter announced to the U.S. Olympic Team that they would not participate in the 1980 Summer Games in Moscow as a boycott against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

**March 22**

1733 - Joseph Priestly invented carbonated water (seltzer).

1903 - Niagara Falls ran out of water due to a drought.

1904 - The first color photograph was published in the London Daily Illustrated Mirror.

1988 - The Congress overrode U.S. President Reagan's veto of a sweeping civil rights bill.

**March 23**

1775 - American revolutionary Patrick Henry declared, "give me liberty, or give me death!"

1839 - The first recorded printed use of "O.K." [oll korrekt] occurred in Boston's Morning Post.

1912 - The Dixie Cup was

invented.

1998 - The movie, "Titanic", won 11 Oscars at the Academy Awards.

**March 24**

1765 - Britain passed the Quartering Act that required the American colonies to house 10,000 British troops in public and private buildings.

1883 - The first telephone call between New York and Chicago took place.

1938 - The U.S. asked that all countries help refugees fleeing from the Nazis.

1980 - "Nightline" with Ted Koppel premiered.

**March 25**

0421 - The city of Venice was founded.

1776 - The Continental Congress authorized a medal for General George Washington.

1857 - Frederick Laggenheim took the first photo of a solar eclipse.

1965 - Martin Luther King Jr. led a group of 25,000 to the state capital in Montgomery, AL.

1982 - Wayne Gretzky became the first player in the NHL to score 200 points in a season.

1995 - Boxer Mike Tyson was released from jail after serving three years.

## Inflatable Mega Brain is back for 10th annual Brain Fair March 29

Mega Brain, the 12-ft. by 18-ft. walk-through inflatable brain, will make an appearance at the 10th annual Brain Fair on March 29 from 9 a.m. to noon at the County Fairgrounds in Angleton.

Pastor Craig King, a former Alvin Gathering Place Team Leader, will accompany the huge inflatable to visit with friends and Brain Fair volunteers.

Drs. Forbes Barnwell and Blair Krell, Lake Jackson neurologists, will appear from 10 a.m. to noon to chat with fairgoers. Neurologists treat Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, but they also treat migraines, movement disorders, dystonias, ALS, neuropathies, restless leg syndrome, cerebral palsy, stroke, epilepsy, brain tumors and brain and spinal cord injuries.

Appearing for their 10th year is a group of Catholic Daughters that will be hosting their famous bake sale and offering a sandwich, chips and a beverage for \$5. Catholic Daughters District 17 includes Alvin's Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church and courts at churches in Houston, Texas City and Galveston.

Participants ages 14 and older may compete for a \$100 gift card by answering questions about Gathering Place programs. Contestants can find answers at fair exhibit tables. The winner of the gift card will be drawn from all the correct entries. Inquire at registration to get an entry form.

"We expect that many people may be curious about the exhibit that the pharmaceutical company, Eisai, is bringing," Gathering Place CEO Dale Libby remarked. "We do not know if they will be bringing some of their OTC products, or if they will talk about Leqembi, their drug for Alzheimer's that has been on the market 33 months. It is given by infusion, and it clears 37% of amyloid from the brain in 18 months." The theme is "Spring Flowers."

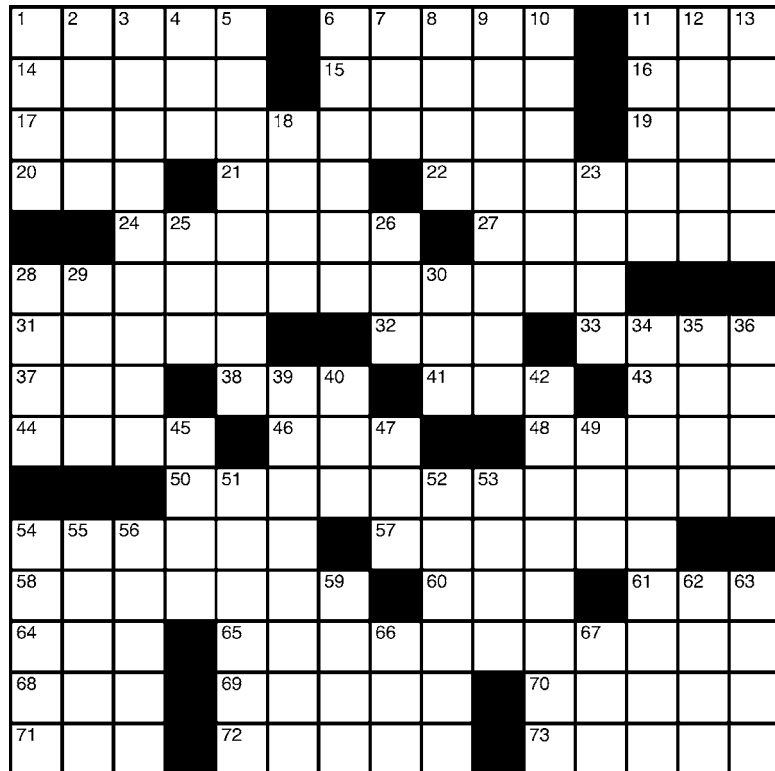
**COMFORTABLY DUMB**

By Bruce Quast



24 Bruce Quast

## Bulletin Crossword Puzzle of the Week



Solutions on the right side of this page

### ACROSS

- 1 Savory jelly made with meat stock  
6 Focus of many HGTV shows  
11 Animal that brays  
14 Animal native to the 54-Down  
15 Produce concern  
16 Deep \_\_\_  
17 Part of a DJ's job description?  
19 Gene messenger  
20 Belt-maker's tool  
21 Pop-folk singer Williams

- 22 Celebrated  
24 Some car deals  
27 Gift to new parents  
28 Part of a matchmaker's job description?  
31 "Look alive!"  
32 Have a life  
33 Snooty sort  
37 Pitching stat  
38 Sport for Amanda Nunes, briefly  
41 Single, for one: Abbr.

- 43 "Hadestown" Tony nominee  
Noblezada  
44 Pitching stat  
46 "Christopher Robin" hopper  
48 Portend  
50 Part of an umpire's job description?  
54 "Mother of Democracy," to Filipinos  
57 Least possible  
58 Tricky soccer moves  
60 "\_\_\_ Mubarak": holiday greeting  
61 L'eau land  
64 "The Chronic" rapper, familiarly  
65 Part of a squire's job description?  
68 Tuner's asset  
69 Elegance  
70 One "She's Gone" vocalist  
71 \_\_\_-Cat  
72 Best Upset and Best Driver, e.g.  
73 Pet \_\_\_

### DOWN

- 1 \_\_\_-Seltzer  
2 Boatload  
3 Redundantly named equipment for a rice-and-seafood dish  
4 Little troublemaker  
5 Spice in many chai mixes  
6 Edict  
7 Fuel-saving mode in some cars  
8 Plank target  
9 Nouveau riche counterpart  
10 On the up and up?  
11 Griffith Park's 4,210+  
12 Largest division of Islam  
13 Condition  
18 Slide (into)  
23 Loch in hoax photos  
25 Tolkien talking tree  
26 Metro stop: Abbr.  
28 "That was close!"  
29 Greiner of "Shark Tank"  
30 Org. to report tax fraud to

- 34 Discuss terms  
35 Certain gamete  
36 Austere  
39 Neighborhood guy  
40 Hunky-dory  
42 Try to impress by association, say  
45 Triathlon part  
47 Switch position  
49 Stumbling blocks?  
51 Jittery  
52 Actor who plays himself in "Always Be My Maybe"  
53 Boo-boo  
54 Chilean range  
55 Sacred text read during Tarawih  
56 In \_\_\_: not yet born  
59 Put (on) hastily  
62 Actor Schreiber  
63 Besides  
66 Needing salt, maybe  
67 Actress Whitman

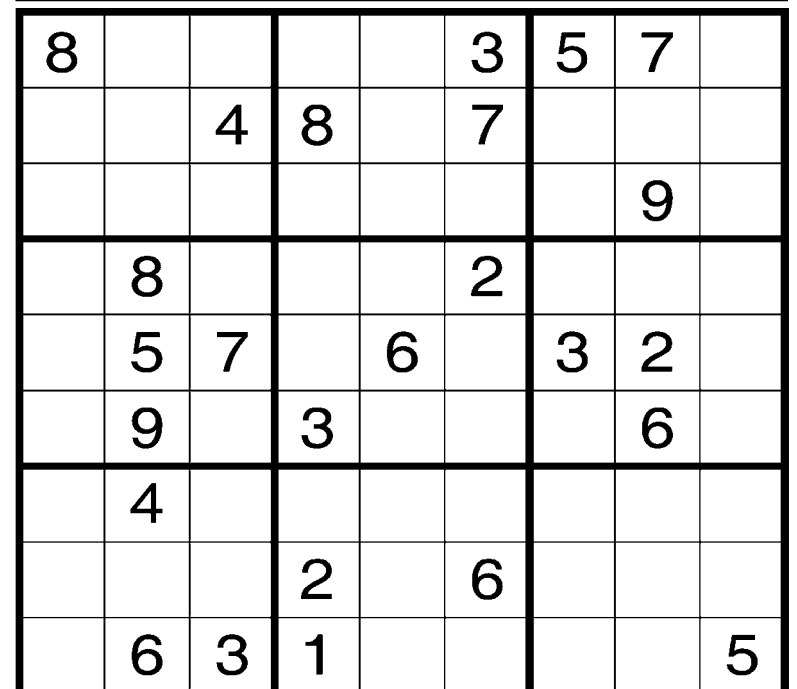
answers: 1b 2d 3c 4b 5d 6a 7a 8c 9c 10c

— Greg Wilkinson

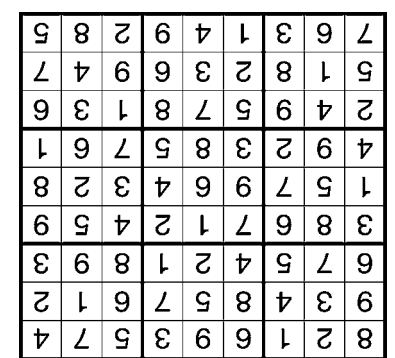
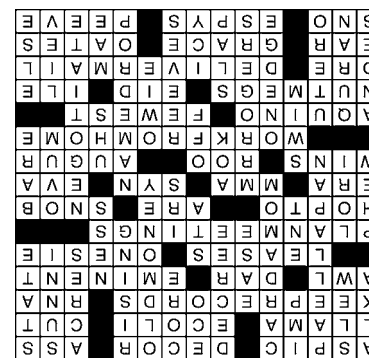
## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).



### Solutions

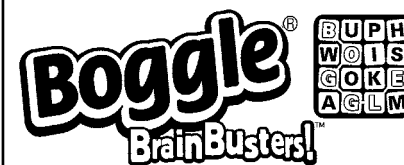


## VocabPower!

Families who play the alphabet game on long-distance drives often hit the "abc" brakes at the 17th letter, then watch for the fast-food drive-in that Dennis the Menace likes where they can quit queuing at "q" and maybe quaff a dairy dessert as well.

- 1. quaff**  
A. halt C. offspring  
B. guzzle D. foolishness
- 2. quibble**  
A. barter C. chicken scratch  
B. wiggle D. finding fault
- 3. quagmire**  
A. sediment C. predicament  
B. pigpen D. corrupt govt.
- 4. qualm**  
A. peace C. courage  
B. unease D. soft feathers
- 5. quetzal**  
A. Ital.coin C. edible clam  
B. bird call D. tropical bird
- 6. quatrain**  
A. stanza C. march style  
B. 4 singers D. 4-car train
- 7. quash**  
A. quell C. squeeze into  
B. mushroom D. hybrid squash
- 8. quasar**  
A. gem stone C. sky object  
B. stun gun D. pulsing light
- 9. quasi**  
A. reed hut C. resembling  
B. universal D. peripheral
- 10. quorum**  
A. referendum C. required number  
B. rock pit D. disagreement

In memory of Greg Wilkinson

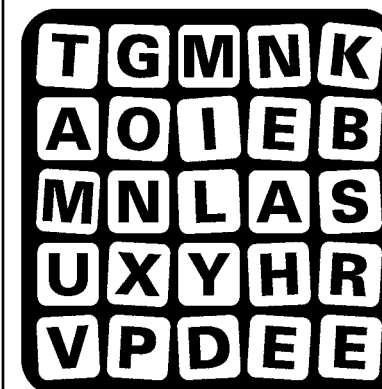


INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

**BOGGLE POINT SCALE**  
3 letters = 1 point  
4 letters = 2 points  
5 letters = 3 points  
6 letters = 4 points  
7 letters = 6 points  
8 letters = 10 points  
9+ letters = 15 points

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

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



### Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

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

Find AT LEAST 10 FOUR-LETTER MAMMALS in the grid of letters.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MOLE LION PUMA SEAL LYNX BEAR GOAT HARE MINK DEER

## Dentists, medical retail businesses popping up at malls

Los Angeles Times (TNS)

Not long ago, dentists were about as welcome as a toothache at shopping centers.

Landlords preferred more conventional retailers in their malls, relegating dentists to out-of-the-way locations - if they would lease space to them at all.

Now, they are prominent tenants in many shopping centers as part of a growing trend of medical-retail businesses joining boutiques and restaurants at neighborhood malls.

Prime spots in malls "used to be reserved for 'better' tenants" than dentists, said Chris Aguon, vice president of real estate at PDS Health, which operates more than 300 dental offices in California, including Alhambra Modern Dentistry at Alhambra

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary in the Estate of Marlene F. Kelley, also known as Frances Marlene Coffey, Frances Marlene Kelley, Marlene Coffey Kelley, Marlene Kelley, Marlene C. Kelley, Marlene Frances Kelley and Frances M. Kelley, Deceased, were issued on February 27, 2025, in Cause No. PR45262 pending in the County Court-at-Law #1 & Probate Court of Brazoria County, Texas to: William Charles Brown.

The address of the Independent Executor of the Estate is as follows:

**William Charles Brown, Independent Executor of the Estate of Marlene F. Kelley, also known as Frances Marlene Coffey, Frances Marlene Kelley, Marlene Coffey Kelley, Marlene Kelley, Marlene C. Kelley, Marlene Frances Kelley and Frances M. Kelley, Deceased, c/o: Berlinger Law Firm, PLLC 907 S. Friendswood Drive, Suite 218 Friendswood, Texas 77546**

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

**DATED** the 27th day of February, 2025.  
BERLINGER LAW FIRM, PLLC  
907 S. Friendswood Drive, Suite 218 Friendswood, Texas 77546  
Phone: 281-993-3779  
Facsimile: 281-993-8021

Place.

The dentist shares the upscale Alhambra shopping center with Sephora and Sprouts Farmers Market, serving patients who might have had to trek to a medical office building in years past to get their teeth cleaned.

It's a sign of how shopping centers have changed since pandemic restrictions caused many small businesses to close and led

retail landlords to embrace a wide range of medical-related tenants, including dentists to fill empty space and coax potential customers to other stores in their malls.

PDS Health likes local shopping centers that people who live nearby visit often, preferably with a big-box draw such as Target, Costco or Walmart.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Calvin Albert Schultz, Deceased, were issued on March 5, 2025 in Cause No. PR-45303, pending in the County Court At Law and Probate Court No. 1, Brazoria County, Texas, to: Lance P. Schultz and Cynthia Schultz-Chumchal. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Don T. Schwartz, Attorney at Law, 1821 Mons Ave, ROSENBERG, TX 77471**

**DATED** the 5th day of March, 2025  
Don T. Schwartz  
Attorney for Lance P. Schultz and Cynthia Schultz-Chumchal

### Notice of Public Sale

RecNation RV and Boat Storage unit contents are being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) from 3/20/2025 12pm to 4/3/2025 12pm. Clean up deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before sale. Unit items sold to highest bidder. All spaces contain household items unless otherwise noted. TXGAL01 - 2651 SH 35, Angleton, TX 77515: G014 - Cherry, Steve - 2022 Coleman 17b camper; 326 - ESTRADA, MORGAN

### LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, (MB) Late Hours Certificate (LH) by Sharkie's Bar & Grill LLC, operating as Sharkie's Bar and Grill to be located at 10 Surf Drive Surfside Beach, Brazoria County, Texas. Michael Roberts Mullis Manager Member and Jennifer Pierson Mullis Manager Member of LLC.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO THE HEIRS AND UNKNOWN  
HEIRS OF **LOTTIE MAE  
CONWELL**  
PROBATE NO **PR45209**,  
COUNTY COURT, BRAZORIA  
COUNTY, TEXAS  
APPLICATION FOR  
LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT  
ADMINISTRATION AND HEIRSHIP  
DETERMINATION

Said application will be heard and acted on by the court at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, in County Court at Law #3 and Probate Court in the County Courthouse in Angleton, Texas.

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

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Angleton,

Texas this the 16th day of January, 2025.  
JOYCE HUDMAN, CLERK  
COUNTY COURT  
BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS  
BY CMATT DEPUTY  
**ATTORNEY'S NAME, ADDRESS  
AND PHONE NUMBER**  
**ROY WASSERMAN**  
**THE JOHNSON FIRM**  
**8144 WALNUT HILL LANE**  
**SUITE 1080**  
**DALLAS TX 75231**  
**T: 214-468-9000**  
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## 12 books of Minor Prophets not minor in message

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

**Q:** I've tried with great diligence to study the Old Testament, but I go into a daze. I desire to learn about the end times but am weighed down with things like the Minor Prophets, the numbers, the difficult names, and genealogies. Why the detail? I'm a Christian and understand the Gospel but to unlock the key to actual "study" is daunting. - B.R.

**A:** Studying names and numbers in Scripture is boring to some, but they carry an interesting significance. Consider the number 12 - an eternal number. From Genesis to Revelation we learn of the 12 patriarchs, 12 sons, 12 tribes of Israel, 12 judges, 12 gates, 12 stones, 12 fruits, 12 angels, 12 apostles, 12 stars, and a heavenly city 12,000 furlongs square.

The Bible also tells us that after Jesus' birth, nothing more is revealed about Him until He reached the age of 12, when His first words on Earth are recorded. Jesus told those who had been looking for Him, "I must be about My Father's business" (Luke 2:49, NKJV). This number is also foreshadowed when 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel will be saved to once again evangelize the world in the last days.

Anticipation builds as the 12 Minor Prophets bring the Old Testament to a close and the New Testament begins revealing the truth that "eternity" is coming to Earth. His Name is Jesus. The 12 books of Minor Prophets are not minor in message, but in terms of brevity only, and they are power-packed messages from prophets whom God appointed and called to deliver His warnings of judgments and His ever-faithful invitation saying, "Return to Me." They provide an important study for those who desire to understand the end times. The Holy Spirit is the teacher and empowers us to comprehend God's truths.

Tribune Media Services

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**(979) 849-8321**

Clute: 705 Dixie Dr.

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**The Lodge At Timbercreek**  
200 Timbercreek Drive, Richwood, TX.  
979-265-3700

