

THIS!!!

THE LOCAL NEWS - 31 CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF GOOD NEWS, ASSISTING NONPROFITS AND CELEBRATING LIFE!

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THE LOCAL NEWS

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Oil Price Surge-#1 Threat

CNN Business / MATT EGAN, CNN

The US jobs market is on fire. Consumer spending is strong. And the economy is growing at a brisk pace.

But there is a growing threat to that sunny economic backdrop: surging oil prices.

US oil prices are rapidly approaching \$90 a barrel. Global oil prices are flirting with \$92 a barrel amid worries about a wider war in the Middle East. And this has lifted gasoline prices to their highest levels in five months.

The risk is oil prices keep climbing, hurting consumer spending and undoing the meaningful progress on inflation. That could cause the Federal Reserve to delay interest rate cuts and spook investors on Wall Street.

"It's the most serious threat to the economy," Moody's chief economist Mark Zandi told CNN in a phone interview. "Nothing does more damage to the economy more quickly than higher oil prices."

Not only that, but enormous political consequences could follow if gasoline prices spike above \$4 a gallon and stay there.

Moody's published a model earlier this year that showed gas prices are a key variable in the November election, one that could tip the scales in the favor of former President Donald Trump.

"If they go above \$4 a gallon for more than two or three months, Trump will win," Zandi said.

US oil prices surged above \$87 a barrel late last week for the first time since late October, leaving them up about 21% this year.

"We can digest \$85 or \$90 oil. If we go over \$90 and closer to \$100, that's a problem," Zandi said. "Consumers are going to get nailed – especially lower-income households. And it undermines confidence. People look at the price of gas as a litmus test for their own financial situation."

IRAN FEARS RATTLE ENERGY MARKETS

This oil price rally has been driven in large part by war.

First, drone attacks on oil refineries deep inside Russia helped lift oil prices last month.

Now, the focus is on the Middle East and how Iran will respond to last week's deadly airstrike on its embassy complex in Syria.

Iranian officials have vowed to retaliate against Israel, which hasn't claimed responsibility for the attack but has argued that the target was a "military building of Quds forces" — a unit of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards responsible for foreign operations.

"The probability of a supply disruption is rising.

There is a fear of a retaliatory strike that could lead to a disruption," said Andy Lipow, president of Lipow Oil Associates. "It's very easy to see \$95 Brent. If another geopolitical event occurs in the Middle East, \$100 Brent is not out of the question."

Helima Croft, a former CIA analyst who is now global head of commodity strategy at RBC Capital Markets, told clients in a note that there is a risk that this "tit-for-tat cycle expands into a wider conflict than what some of the key stakeholders are seeking."

GAS PRICES NEAR \$3.60 NATIONALLY

Joe Brusuelas, chief economist at , said the "greatest external risk to the US economy is geopolitical tensions in the Middle East" because they would boost oil and gasoline prices.

"Combined they are the only thing in the near term that could cause an end to the current business cycle," Brusuelas said.

However, Brusuelas said oil prices would have to spike much higher – to around \$115 to \$130 per barrel – before it raises the specter of a recession.

Gas prices climbed to \$3.58 a gallon on average nationally on Friday, according to AAA. That's up four cents in a week and 21 cents in a month.

Beyond the Middle East tensions, oil and gas prices have been boosted by OPEC and its allies, which continue to restrain supply.

Strong seasonal factors also are at play. Gasoline prices typically rise in the spring as refin-

Ways the White House Could Lower Prices

Kelly Anne Smith, Lisa Rowan, Lead Editor, Growth Projects, Forbes Advisor Staff
Korrena Bailie, Editorial Director, Growth Projects

Gas prices have skyrocketed this spring, with the national average topping \$4.30 last month. And while prices have fallen slightly in the last few weeks, experts fear it's a temporary reprieve.



The Russian invasion of Ukraine has resulted in heavy sanctions on Russia from most western countries, including a complete ban on Russian oil imports in the U.S. This shock to the world's oil supply—compounded with an already-struggling supply due to Covid—means higher gas prices aren't going away any time soon.

For consumers, that means continuing to feel the financial burden of filling up at the gas pump. The White House is pledging to help—and has three strategies it's exploring to help lower prices.

4 Strategies the White House May Use to Lower Gas Prices

1. Authorize E15 Gasoline Sales This Summer

The White House announced on April 12 that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will grant an emergency waiver to allow E15 gas to be sold this summer.

E15—gasoline that includes a 15% ethanol blend—typically can't be sold between June 1 and September 15 because it contributes to emissions (essentially, smog) more during warmer months.

The White House says that if a consumer purchases E15 gas during the summer, they can save an average of 10 cents per gallon of gas.

But Andrew Gross, spokesperson for AAA, says the move doesn't make a huge difference for con-



Brandon Bell/Getty Images



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WATCH: Mount Etna Puffs Giant Smoke Rings in 'Extraordinary' Phenomenon

The Telegraph / GIOVANNI LEGORANO

Mount Etna, Europe's largest active volcano, is delighting tourists and locals by blowing almost perfect circles of smoke into the blue skies over Sicily.

The smoke circles, known as volcanic vortex rings, are actually made of condensed gases and water vapour. They form when gases rise up from deep below the earth and escape inside the crater of a volcano.

Mount Etna is one of a handful of volcanoes around the world that produces the rings, and does so prolifically, but the latest emissions are exceptional, scientists say.

"No volcano on earth produces so many rings of steam as Etna. We have known this for quite some time. But now it is beating all previous records," said Boris Behncke, a volcanologist at the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology of Catania. He has been studying the volcano and living close to it for the past 25 years.

He said that on late Tuesday a small vent opened on the north-east edge of the south-east crater, which had emitted puffs of incandescent gas.

The following morning, it became clear that these puffs were creating "an impressive quantity" of vortex rings, he said.

The volcano has emitted hundreds, perhaps thousands, of the spectacular rings since then, added Mr Behncke, who can see the volcano from his house in Tremestieri Etneo, near Catania.

Locals have dubbed the volcano Lady of the Rings due to the circles of vapour it has been emitting.

"I thought I had hallucinations. I had never seen anything so spectacular and beautiful," said Angela Intruglio, from Mascali, a town at the foot of Mount Etna that had to be rebuilt after it was destroyed completely in an eruption in 1928.

Experts say the unusual rings are harmless and aren't necessarily a prelude to an imminent eruption.

"It's only an open conduit, of a circular

shape, through which the gas is shot in a pulsing way," said Mr Behncke. "It's really something extraordinary and completely innocuous."

The previous time it happened at Mount Etna was last December, said Giuseppe Barbagallo, a guide at the South Etna Alpine Guides Group. Other major emissions of rings occurred in 2000 and 2023.

At 11,000 feet, Mount Etna is the tallest volcano in Europe. Eruptions have been ongoing for half a million years, according to Mr Behncke's institute, but the volcano only acquired its characteristic conical shape in the last 100,000 years.

Magma climbs up Mount Etna through a central open conduit which constantly releases gas, meaning smoke is almost always emanating from its top.

The last major eruption was in May 2023, which forced airport authorities to halt all flights at the nearby airport of Catania, which is a popular tourist destination.

At the time, the eruption of lava from its southeast crater produced a cloud of black volcanic ash that fell on the city, causing disruption not only to air traffic but also vehicles on the ground.

The same happened because of the eruptions of 2001 and the following two years, when a layer of lapilli and ashes formed on streets and motorways endangering car circulation. The same applied when they fell on the airport runway.

The Institute also said that thin volcanic dust can irritate people's eyes, skin and throats, while crops can suffer irreversible damage due to the ashes and lapilli transported by the wind, in case of eruptions.

Many major eruptions have occurred over the last 100 years. In 1971, several villages were threatened by lava flows, which destroyed some orchards and vineyards. Over the following decade, the volcano's activity was almost continuous. In 1983, authorities set off dynamite in an attempt to divert lava flows, following an eruption which lasted four months.



Volcanic vortex rings emerge from a new pit crater on the north side of the southeast crater of Mount Etna in Sicily - Giuseppe Di Stefano/AP

click here to see



The volcanic vortex rings form when gases rise up from deep below the earth and escape inside the crater of a volcano - Giuseppe Di Stefano/AP



Locals have described the almost perfect circles of smoke as 'spectacular and beautiful' - Fabrizio Villa/Getty Images

Huntington Beach, 1 OF 2 LOCAL CITIES Among Healthiest

BY OC TRIBUNE STAFFON

Huntington Beach and Garden Grove rank among the healthiest cities in the United States, according to a report from the wallethub.com website.

In a survey of the 180 most populous cities in

GOOD NEWS

the U.S., Huntington Beach ranked 14th and Garden Grove was 30th. The only other Orange County city in the top 50 was Irvine, which was rated 10th, Anaheim came in at 52nd and Santa Ana at 90th.

Cities were ranked on such factors as access to high-quality health care, green space, recreation centers and access to healthy food. A total of 41 factors were used.

Earlier, wallethub.com ranked Huntington Beach and Garden Grove as among the "happiest" cities in the nation.

For more details, go to www.wallethub.com.



Downtown and Aroundtown

DAVE GAROFALO **BOB TERRY**

HEATHER GRAHAM SHOWS OFF HER STUNNING BIKINI BODY AT 54 DURING MEXICO BEACH VACATION

People, GABRIELLE ROCKSON

Graham shared a carousel of photos from her sun-drenched trip to Mexico

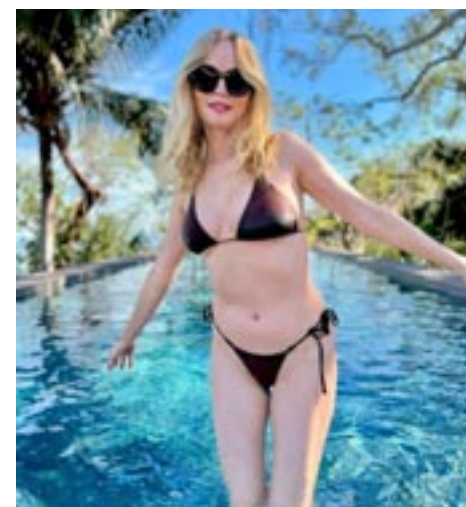
On Sunday, April 7, the actress, 54, shared a carousel of snaps from her Mexico vacation which showed her wearing a cream-colored bikini while smiling and walking on the beach surrounded by the ocean and a collection of large stones.

Graham also looked stylish in a brown two-piece in a second snap, while standing in the middle of a blue swimming pool — which was followed by posts of her sporting a black bikini while resting on a wooden patio, and a photo of her wearing a white summer dress and sun hat bearing the initials "HG."

"Celebrating spring south of the border! 🌺🇲🇽💕💕," her caption read as she tagged her snowboarder boyfriend John de Neufville.

The pair's Mexico trip this year comes after the duo went on an Italian getaway last year.

Sharing pictures in October 2023, Graham was pictured enjoying a chocolate ice cream in a Yumi Kim blue floral playsuit, while de Neufville planted a kiss on The Hangover star's cheek in the second photo.



Graham and de Neufville were first linked in 2022. Meanwhile, in April 2023, she exclusively opened up to PEOPLE about dating someone outside of Hollywood.

"Of course, you want someone to understand your crazy schedule, which is different than a normal job, but I like dating someone who's not in the business,"

she said.

"It puts it in perspective. Sometimes your job becomes so important to you, and then you realize there's so many other things in life that are happening. It's not all about the movie business."

Read the original article on People. Heather Graham/Instagram

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www.HBLocalNews.com

\$1.326 BILLION POWERBALL JACKPOT WON IN PORTLAND, OREGON, LOTTERY SAYS

ABC News

MEREDITH DELISO, RILEY HOFFMAN AND JESSICA GORMAN

A single ticket sold in Portland, Oregon, won Saturday's \$1.326 billion Powerball jackpot, the lottery said.

The numbers drawn for Saturday night's jackpot were 22, 27, 44, 52 and 69, with a Powerball of 9, the lottery said.

The winner will have the option to take a cash payment of \$621 million, Powerball said.

On Sunday, Oregon Lottery director Mike Wells released a statement, announcing it was the fourth-largest Powerball jackpot in the game's history and the largest jackpot to be won in the state.

"I want to congratulate the winner on this life-changing moment," Wells said. "No one in Oregon has ever won a prize on this scale, and it's a very exciting for our staff and players."

The winner has a year to come forward and claim their prize.

Ahead of the win, the drawing had been delayed, due to a participating lottery needing to "complete required pre-draw procedures," Powerball said earlier.

"Powerball game rules require that every single

ticket sold nationwide be checked and verified against two different computer systems before the winning numbers are drawn. This is done to ensure that every ticket sold for the Powerball drawing has been accounted for and has an equal chance to win. Tonight, we have one jurisdiction that needs extra time to com-

plete that pre-draw process," a statement from Powerball read.

after a record-tying streak with no jackpot winner. The Powerball jackpot hasn't been won since Jan. 1, when a ticket sold in Michigan claimed a \$842.4 million jackpot.

Saturday sees the 41st drawing in the current jackpot run -- which ties the lottery game's record for most consecutive drawings without a jackpot winner. Only two other previous Powerball jackpot runs have reached 41 drawings, before someone won the grand prize, according to Powerball.

The estimated \$1.3 billion jackpot is the fourth-largest jackpot in Powerball history and the eighth-largest overall when factoring in Mega Millions jackpots.

If a player wins the Powerball jackpot Saturday night, they can choose between an estimated lump-sum, pre-tax payment of \$608.9 million or annual payouts of the \$1.3 billion, also pre-tax -- starting with one immediate payment followed by 29 annual payments that increase by 5% each year.

The odds of winning the jackpot are 1 in 292.2 million, according to Powerball.

Powerball tickets are \$2 per play. Tickets are sold in 45 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



A Powerball multi-state lottery ticket is shown at a retailer in Washington, D.C., April 2, 2024. (Will Oliver/EPA via Shutterstock)

Continued from pg 1

Oil Price Surge-#1 Threat

eries switch over to more expensive summer fuel and as more people hit the roads, boosting demand.

FED RATE CUTS AT STAKE

The higher gas prices go, the worse upcoming inflation readings will look. Fed officials will be combing through the next few inflation reports very closely as they debate whether to cut interest rates in June.

Vincent Reinhart, a former Fed economist who is now chief economist at Dreyfus and Mellon, told CNN the risk to inflation is on the upside because of goods prices, including commodities.

"Commodity prices matter a lot. That could dislodge the favorable goods price developments," Reinhart said. "Oil prices in particular really resonate with households. They oversample with that."

Reinhart thinks the Fed will cut interest rates in June, in part because officials will want to get ahead of the election

season when their strategy will be subject to more intense political scrutiny.

"The election season is going to just get more toxic," he said. "For the Fed to change the course of policy right in the runup to the election after the national conventions is just going to call a lot of attention to it and call into question its policy intent."

The good news is that despite the growing risks, some energy market veterans are standing by their cautiously optimistic forecasts.

Lipow expects the national average to climb toward \$3.70 a gallon in the coming weeks, but he's still not calling for \$4 a gallon.

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, told CNN that he is still expecting gas prices to average in the upper-\$3 range unless a major hurricane damages US refineries.

"I still don't think a \$4 a gallon national average is imminent," De Haan said.

Maybe money can't buy happiness, but i think it's only fair to give me some and let me learn that lesson myself.



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MOST EXPENSIVE Cars Owned by Richest Celebrities Will Numb Your Head

Besides being the most incredible Catwoman in the 'Batman' franchise, Zoe Kravitz is well known for her fantastic collection of cars. During her fifteen years in show business, she's made quite a name for herself as a bankable star and amassed \$37 million in net worth. Like any celebrity with so much cash, she spends them on things she wishes to own.

Her love for cars has to be seen to be believed. Among various vehicles Zoe owns, her Range Rover pickup is our favorite for so many reasons. Estimated at over \$150k, the car boasts an emergency brake assistant, laser headlights, and state-of-the-art infotainment touchscreens. We understand why this expensive car is her special one.

Zoë Kravitz
Range Rover, Estimated at \$150K



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The Weak That Was America: Home of the Free because of the Brave



Dave Garofalo
Publisher

INSPIRATION

"BE COURAGEOUS. CHALLENGE ORTHODOXY. STAND UP FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN. WHEN YOU ARE IN YOUR ROCKING CHAIR TALKING TO YOUR GRANDCHILDREN MANY YEARS FROM NOW, BE SURE YOU HAVE A GOOD STORY TO TELL."
- AMAL CLOONEY

sad truth

I offered my opponents a deal:
"If they stop telling lies about me, I will stop telling the truth about them".
~Adlai Stevenson, campaign speech, 1952..

DID YOU KNOW

there's a 3,400-year-old song?

Sports Pictures from the PAST



John Bazemore/AP

DESHAUN WATSON AND CLEMSON TAKE DOWN ALABAMA IN A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOTOUT

Date: January 9, 2017

What made the moment: Alabama and Clemson faced off four times in the college football playoff throughout the decade, but no game was more thrilling than their bout for the national championship in 2017.

Despite a perfect season from the Crimson Tide, Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson led the Tigers to victory, throwing for 420 yards and three touchdowns, including the game-winning score to Hunter Renfrow with just one second remaining on the clock.

HOW OLD IS GRANDPA?

Stay with this -- the answer is at the end. It may blow you away.

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events.

The grandson asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general.

The Grandfather replied, "Well, let me think a minute. I was born before:

- ' penicillin
- ' polio shots
- ' frozen foods
- ' Xerox
- ' contact lenses
- ' Frisbees and the pill

There were no:

- ' credit cards
- ' laser beams or ball-point pens

Man had not invented

- ' pantyhose
- ' air conditioners
- ' dishwashers
- ' clothes dryers
- ' the clothes were

hung out to dry in the fresh air, and

- ' space

travel was only in Flash Gordon books.

Your Grandmother and I got married first ... and then lived together.

Every family had a father and a mother. Until I was 25, I called every woman older than me, "ma'am". And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir".

We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers, day-care centers, and group therapy.

Our lives were governed by the Bible, good judgment, and common sense. We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions.

Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege... We thought fast food was eating half a biscuit while running to catch the school bus. (Or running to school)

Having a meaningful relationship meant having a good relationship with your cousins.

Draft dodgers were those who closed front doors

as the evening breeze started.

Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends-not purchasing condominiums.

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings.

We listened to Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan' on it, it was junk.

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam....

Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of.

We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel. And if you didn't want to

splurge, you could

spend your nickel on

enough stamps to mail 1

letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Ford Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? Too bad because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day:

- ' "grass" was mowed,
- ' "coke" was a cold drink,
- ' "pot" was something your mother cooked in and

"rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby.

"Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office,

"chip" meant a piece of wood,

"hardware" was found in a hardware store and

"software" wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby.

How old do you think I am?

I bet you have this really old man in mind..... you are in for a shock!

Read on to see -- pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.

Are you ready ??????

This man would be 77 years old today. (2024) GIVES YOU SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

PASS THIS ON TO THE OLD ONES (The younger generation might not understand.

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discoveries

U.S. National Park:

The words “For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People” stretch across the northern entrance of our nation’s first national park, Yellowstone.

According to the Department of Interior, the goal of the National Park Service is, and has always been, to keep our wild places protected and unimpaired for future generations. To that end, more than 400 areas and 84 million acres spanning all 50 states and several unincorporated territories of the United States, protect America’s greatest natural treasures. With 61 of those wilderness areas toting National Park designation, it can be tricky trying to pick which park to visit.

So, to help you determine which parks should be higher on your bucket list, we ranked each park based on their overall accessibility, facilities and accommodations, trails and attractions, crowds, and, of course, overall ‘wow’ factor, which we measured by photo ops and stunning scenery.

Keep in mind, it’s almost impossible to say that one is better than the next — there’s truly something special about each one of our national parks.



Credit: RobertWaltman/iStock

Guadalupe Mountains National Park, TEXAS

From the flat, arid desert floor, the Guadalupe Mountains can be seen jutting dramatically to the top of Guadalupe Peak, the highest peak in the Lone Star State. This park isn’t home to just one, but four of the highest peaks in Texas. Known by locals as a place of extremes, Guadalupe Mountains is imposing and environmentally diverse.

Over 80 miles of trail zigzag through the mountains and desert below. Major trails, like Guadalupe Peak and El Capitan, are steep and strenuous but offer sweeping views of the surrounding landscape. If you’re not up for the climb, you can also take a short walk to Manzanita Spring or take in views of West Dog Canyon from the Marcus Overlook. Although there aren’t any lodges or hotels in the park, there are two first-come-first-serve campgrounds open year-round and 10 designated backcountry campsites.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park isn’t necessarily as scenic as some of the alpine or subtropical parks on the list, but you don’t have to worry about crowds, and these high-altitude peaks can be the perfect reprieve from the Texas heat.

Interesting and Fascinating



“The largest creature to ever exist, the blue whale, beside a tourist boat.”

Presidential Facts

George Washington’s original ancestral name was de Wessyngton, from a certain William de Hertburn, a twelfth-century noble knight of the manor and village of Wessyngton who later changed his name to de Wessyngton (which is the Norman spelling of Washington).



Wikipedia.com

UNKNOWN celeb FACTS



Bethmann via Getty Images

Whether it's Marilyn Monroe or Katharine Hepburn, Paul Newman or Humphrey Bogart, the classic faces of the silver screen are familiar and beloved — but how much do you really know about them? For example, which starlet's first job involved building drones? What famously raven-haired performer was really a blond? Which leading man apologized for his first film role? Read on for some of our favorite facts about the sparkling stars of yesteryear.

Marilyn Monroe Had a Close Friendship With Singer Ella Fitzgerald

At the recommendation of a music coach, Marilyn Monroe spent hours listening to Ella Fitzgerald recordings while trying to train her own voice. After Monroe first saw Fitzgerald perform live in 1954, the pair rapidly became friends, sharing a common bond through their life experiences. A year later, when the "First Lady of Song" had trouble booking a gig at legendary L.A. nightclub Mocambo — the owners thought Fitzgerald wasn't svelte and glamorous enough to draw a crowd — Monroe used her star power to step in.

"She personally called the owner of the Mocambo, and told him she wanted me booked immediately, and if he would do it, she would take a front table every night," recalled Fitzgerald. "She told him — and it was true, due to Marilyn's superstar status — that the press would go wild. The owner said yes, and Marilyn was there, front table, every night. The press went overboard. After that, I never had to play a small jazz club again."

Rare Historical Photos Reveal More Than Immediately Meets The Eye

The Futuristic-Looking 1938 Dymaxion Is More Boat Than Car

So we've got some questions about the Dymaxion: namely, how does it actually maneuver? Can it take a hard turn or is this strictly a vehicle made for high tailing it down straight and wide lanes? This whale of a car was designed by American inventor Buckminster Fuller during the Great Depression and at the time it was believed that the aerodynamic body would be great for fuel efficiency. Unfortunately the car never made it past the prototype phase with only three original Dymaxions available along with two replicas. As unwieldy as this car looks, it looks exactly how Fuller thought the future would be. Imagine a world where everyone was driving around in one of these, traffic would certainly be interesting.



Source: Pinterest

Vintage Photograph



Institute for Contemporary History and Wiener Library Report

A Jewish Woman Who Is Concealing Her Face Sits On A Park Bench Marked "Only For Jews", Austria, 1938

Biggest Boomtowns in Every State



SWInsider / Getty Images/iStockphoto

GoBankingRates / JORDAN ROSENFELD

Boomtown. The word sounds like it's describing an explosion — and in a way, it is. Boomtowns are considered the fastest-growing cities in America due to rapid business and population growth. An example of such a place is Woodbridge, Virginia, which saw massive five- and eight-year percentage changes in population at 863.35% and 840.66%, respectively.

But Woodbridge isn't the only boomtown out there. GOBankingRates found one in every state by looking at the one-, five- and eight-year changes in population, occupied housing units and owner-occupied housing units of cities with a population of more than 25,000 but less than 500,000. Find out if you're living in one of America's most thriving cities, and see if your city makes the list.

New Mexico: Las Cruces

Change in population:

1 year: 6.78%

5 years: 8.35%

8 years: 10.84%

Change in occupied housing units:

1 year: 6.80%

5 years: 8.82%

8 years: 12.50%

Change in owner-occupied housing units:

1 year: 9.41%

5 years: 21.24%

8 years: 15.41%

A Veteran Owned Business

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People and Their Issues - Our Business...

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NATURAL Wonders OF THE WORLD

HARBOR OF RIO DE JANEIRO

Brazil's most famous city fills in the spaces between the surrounding mountains and the ocean, making it one of the most beautiful cities on Earth. Above it all, it's watched over by the Christ the Redeemer statue — one of the regularly cited man-made wonders of the world.



Photo: marchello74/Shutterstock

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Continued from pg 1

Ways the White House Could Lower Prices

sumers. E15—sometimes marketed as Unleaded 88—is only available at about 2,300 gas stations, a fraction of the estimated 145,000 fueling stations in the U.S. While drivers who already fill up with E15 may continue to use it, “I’m not sure how many people will seek it out,” he says.

E15 fuel can’t be used in cars made prior to 2001, and it can’t be used in motorcycles, lawnmowers or boats, Gross says. And if your car requires premium fuel, you can’t switch to E15—the lower octane level could damage the engine.

Check your vehicle’s owner’s manual to verify whether you can use E15 if available in your area.

2. Implement a Gas Tax Holiday

In February, a group of Senate Democrats introduced a bill last week that would create a federal gas tax “holiday” that would suspend the tax, which is 18.4 cents per gallon, until January 2023. The proposal has not gained much traction since being introduced, largely because the federal gas tax is a key source of funding for federal roads and bridges.

Connecticut, Georgia and Maryland have temporarily suspended their state gas taxes, and several others are considering similar measures.

Tax policy analysts warn that a suspension of the federal gas tax wouldn’t do much to actually help consumers.

“Do the math—it’s about \$100 bucks a year in savings, or about 30 cents a day,” said Howard Gleckman, senior fellow at the Tax Policy Center, in an interview with Marketplace. “What’s more likely to happen is that oil companies will simply keep some of the tax cut themselves.”

Alex Muresianu, a federal policy analyst at the Tax Foundation, argues that low gas supply, combined with the eliminated gas tax, could even have the opposite effect on gas prices.

“Reducing taxes on gasoline could spur further increased demand for gas, and in turn, higher prices,” Muresianu writes.

3. Release Oil From the Strategic Reserves

The country created a strategic petroleum reserve (SPR), which consists of storage sites full of barrels of crude oil across the country, in the 1970s to mitigate the effects of oil supply reductions.

On March 1, President Joe Biden authorized 30 million barrels to be released from the reserve, about 6% of the 580 million barrels of crude oil it held as of February 25.

During his State of the Union address, Biden said the release will help “blunt gas prices here at home.” But 30 million is a tiny fraction of what is needed to push gas prices down; in 2021, the United States consumed an average of close to 20 million barrels of petroleum per day. The 30 million barrels released from the reserve amount to a day and a half’s worth of oil consumption.

Releasing oil from the strategic reserves isn’t a new strategy—and historically, it hasn’t done much to lower gas prices over the long term. The gesture is purely symbolic, says David Sacco, a practitioner in residence at the finance program at the University of New Haven, with a hope that it’ll calm oil markets and cause prices to drop.

The last president to tap into the reserves was Bill Clinton; in 2000, he released 30 million barrels of oil from the nation’s strategic reserve, and it only lowered gas prices for two weeks before they spiked again.

“No serious president would ever release enough of the strategic oil reserve to make it have an impact on our non-wartime oil needs,” Secco says. “The amount of oil you’d have to release [for an impact] would decimate the reserve.”

4. Lift Sanctions on Venezuela

After cutting Russia off from exporting oil to the U.S., the White House considered a controversial strategy to increase oil imports from Venezuela.

The Biden administration discussed lifting sanctions on Venezuela to reopen the oil trade between the two countries, and U.S. officials met with Venezuelan officials in early March.

The United States placed sanctions on Venezuela in 2019 after President Nicolas Maduro claimed to win re-election, but it’s widely believed that fraud and corruption enabled him to stay in office.

Lifting those sanctions would allow the U.S. to invest in Venezuela’s oil industry, which was battered by the 2019 sanctions, and help raise the country’s oil production from its current levels of around 800,000 barrels per day, as reported by the Wall Street Journal. Venezuela also claims to have the largest strategic oil reserve in the world.

The strategy is not without consequence. There is bipartisan opposition from American lawmakers to working directly with Maduro, who’s an authoritarian leader. Some claim that doing so would insult Venezuelans aspiring to live in a democratic state.

“I would strongly oppose any action that fills the pockets of regime oligarchs with oil profits while Maduro continues to deprive Venezuelans of basic human rights, freedoms, and even food,” Sen. Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) said in a statement.

Even if the United States did take this route, it would be costly and time-intensive.

Venezuelan oil production has been severely impacted by sanctions over time; at its peak, the country was producing more than 3 million barrels per day but plummeted to around 300,000 in 2020 and has only rebounded to around 800,000 barrels per day, according to the Wall Street Journal. Necessary infrastructure to ramp up production would require billions in investment and restructuring, which could take months, if not years, to come to fruition.

What Will Be the Best Way to Lower Gas Prices?

As of now, only two of the four proposed plans—releasing oil from the strategic reserves and authorizing summer sales of E15 gasoline—have actually been implemented.

But experts agree that none of them will do much to alleviate gas prices in the short term.

There are some suggestions for the U.S. to ramp up its own oil production, something that Democrats typically oppose, to make up for what’s been lost in the world’s supply. Others argue that current events could push the western world toward renewable energy incentives and investment, which Americans are largely in favor of.

Regardless, the country is now facing a new reality in terms of how it will acquire energy commodities—and at what price, both literal and human, in the case of Venezuela.

“Even if Russia were to stop tomorrow, there’s a lot of long-term issues that have been opened up here,” Secco says. “A lot of the people that have the biggest capacity to supply oil around the world have questionable records when it comes to the way they behave, so I think there’s going to be a little bit of a rethinking of that and what it means for domestic U.S. energy policy.”

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JON COUPAL:

POLITICAL

ULA TAX NUMBERS EXPOSE ECONOMIC IGNORANCE

By JON COUPAL | PUBLISHED

California would be a far better state if politicians and progressive activists were required to take a course in basic economic principles. If they did, they might not blindly pursue economic policies that not only damage people's lives generally, but also fail to accomplish their intended goals.

Examples of this are numerous. In fact, here are a few from media reports just this past week.

First on the list of policy choices exposing the lack of critical thinking by those on the left is the story out of Los Angeles regarding the ULA tax.

As noted by Susan Shelley, this month is the one-year anniversary of Measure ULA, a punishing real estate transfer tax on the sale of all properties valued over \$5 million. Deceptively called a "mansion tax," proponents didn't limit it to just mansions. Virtually all income-producing properties, including new affordable housing projects, are swept into its reach.

When Measure ULA passed – based on the well-documented deception – the proponents were giddy with anticipation for a flood of new revenue for their favorite projects. This includes an infusion of money to sustain L.A.'s Homeless Industrial Complex. According to the city's projections, ULA would raise \$600 million to \$1.1 billion annually. However, the tax take has fallen way short of the projections, bringing in just \$173.6 million in its first year.

Second, California's fast-food \$20 minimum wage just kicked in and, according to most rational economists, will result in reduced employment. This is especially bad timing given that California has the

highest unemployment rate in the nation. While promising to lift families out of poverty, the \$20 minimum wage will fall short of that goal according to econ-



Los Angeles City Councilmember Nithya Raman speaks during a rally outside City Hall on Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023, ahead of a City Council vote to authorize spending the first \$150 million generated from Measure ULA to support affordable housing and homeless prevention programs.

Photo by Linh Tat, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG

omist David Neumarkat the University of California, Irvine. And to add insult to injury, the price increases on fast food will hit low-income families the hardest.

When it comes to minimum wage laws, progressives forget that the real minimum wage is zero. If your employer lays you off to reduce overall costs associated with the new law, your paycheck disappears.

Why do progressive politicians think that businesses and taxpayers won't change their behavior in response to higher taxes or heavy regulations? One would think that repeatedly seeing pie-in-the-sky revenue projections from big tax hikes that fall way short of reality would be a wakeup call.

In trying to project the impact of any government policy that restricts market forces, the failure to account for predictable changes in behavior is called "static scoring." Static scoring is different from "dynamic scoring." Dynamic scoring simply means taking into account predictable changes in behavior that result from tax increases or business mandates to accurately project the amount of money that will be raised.

Applying this to the two examples above, if the ULA tax was not 4% but 100%, how much money would that raise? Not much. There is no reason to sell a property if there will be no financial benefit from the sale. And if a \$20 minimum wage is good for workers, why not \$100 per hour? Obviously because raising the minimum wage to \$100 per hour does not create the revenue to pay a wage of \$100 per hour, and that will mean the end of the job, if not the entire enterprise.

Conservative economists, including the late Milton Friedman, have always stated that if you want more of something, tax it less, and if you want less of something, tax it more. It is doubtful that any government entity sets out to reduce economic growth, but that is precisely what they get if they increase taxes on those who generate economic growth.

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

SUPERMAN'S FIRST APPEARANCE SELLS FOR \$6 MILLION, BECOMING WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE COMIC

NBC Universal / ROB WILE

A comic book featuring Superman's first-ever appearance has sold for \$6 million, making it the most valuable comic edition in existence.

Texas-based Heritage Auctions said Thursday that the Action Comics No. 1 print from 1938 surpassed the previous record comic sale, held by a copy of a Superman No. 1 sold privately for \$5.3 million in 2022.

The previous record for a comic sold at auction was \$3.6 million for a copy of "Amazing Fantasy No. 15," featuring the debut of Spider-Man, also held at Heritage.

The Action Comics version that sold this week is part of a collection known as the Kansas City Pedigree that emerged in the late 1960s and which consists of almost 250 first-run issues published from 1937 into the 1940s.

No information about the buyer was immediately available. Other famous holders of Action Comics No. 1 have included actor Nicolas Cage,

who had his copy stolen in 2000; and Lebanese billionaire Ayman Hariri.

Superman was created by writer Jerry Siegel and illustrator Joe Shuster in the early 1930s, and appeared in several early semblances until Action Comics published the version most familiar with audiences today in June 1938. Action Comics No. 1 sold for 10 cents — equivalent to about \$2 today — in a run of about 200,000. Publisher National Allied Publications was a predecessor to DC Comics, which owns the rights to Superman today.

Heritage's auction took place in Dallas, though online bidding was incorporated. A total of more than \$25 million worth of comics had been sold through Saturday; the auction ends Sunday.



Just Married

Don Lemon, Tim Malone Share Wedding Pics

KIM WILLIS, USA TODAY

They're married!

Don Lemon and Tim Malone made it Instagram official, sharing a "Just married!" photo on Saturday night, five years to the day after their engagement. In it, the two tuxedo-clad grooms are exiting a church, wearing big smiles and holding their three dogs, who wear tux-like, bow-tied collars.

Video shared in Lemon's and Malone's Instagram Stories shows guests forming a second line behind the couple and waving blue handkerchiefs as they head to a wedding reception at Ralph Lauren's Polo Bar.

Former CNN news anchor Lemon, 58, and his real-estate broker husband wed in New York City in a ceremony attended by 140 guests, according to People. The wedding at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in Manhattan was officiated by Linda Thomas-Greenfield, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The couple had a "beautiful wedding," Lemon's representative, Allison Gollust, told USA TODAY on Sunday. "They are thrilled."

"I never thought that I would get married," "The Don Lemon Show" host told People, which published exclusive photos from the event. "For so many years of my growing up and hiding things, I never thought it could happen legally."

The grooms wore marching velvet tuxedos – green for Lemon and blue for Malone – and in African-American tradition,



Tim Malone and Don Lemon attend the 2023 Center Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street on April 13, 2023 in New York City.

NEW FEATURE

The Greatest Breakfast Sandwich in Every State



Alabama: Cahawba House Montgomery

Cheapism / JAKUB PIVEN

The classic sandwich at Cahawba House couldn't get more Southern: It features pimento cheese, fried green tomatoes, and bacon, and it is served on a fresh biscuit. But if you are looking for something heartier, you can go for the Smothered Pig, which adds local Conecuh sausage.

jumped a broom at the end of the wedding, People reported. Celebrity guests included Matt Lauer, Clive Davis, Joy Behar, Tamron Hall, Dana Bash and Alec and Hilaria Baldwin.

"We wanted to make a public statement, and we wanted to involve our loved ones," Malone told People. "For a lot of them it's going to be their first gay wedding."

The couple have been engaged since 2019, when Malone popped the question by putting tags on their dogs' collars that read: "Daddy will you marry Papa?"

"He gave me a present on his birthday," Lemon wrote when he announced their engagement on social media. "How could I say no?"

Contributing: Sara M. Moniuszko

Most Iconic Moments in History



Ava Gardner At Age 15 In 1937

Ava Gardner was a glamorous Hollywood star known for such films as The Killers (1946), Show Boat (1951), Mogambo (1953), and Night Of The Iguana (1964). She was also a media favorite thanks to her relationships with celebrity men, including husbands Mickey Rooney, Artie Shaw, and Frank Sinatra. She came a long way from her roots in rural North Carolina.

Source: Reddit

Gardner was the youngest of seven children born to poor tobacco sharecroppers in Grabtown, North Carolina. When she was nine years old, her family moved to Newport News, Virginia, where her mother found work managing a boarding house for shipworkers. Her father died from bronchitis when she was 15 years old, as she is in this picture. The family returned to North Carolina, where Ava finished high school and attended secretarial school for a year.

Then, in the summer of 1940, she visited her older sister Beatrice in New York City, and Beatrice's husband, a photographer, took her portrait. That's when things started to happen. A year later, she was in Hollywood, and the year after that, she had her first movie role.

On the Vine or Nearby

A Dozen Grapefruit Cocktails to Try Right Now

This citrus fruit shines in any season.

By Naren Young
Liquor.com / Tim Nusog

To the many cocktail aficionados reading this, the humble grapefruit might seem like a rudimentary, even boring, piece of fruit. Drinks that tend to garner attention these days contain all kinds of exciting ingredients, like jackfruit, dragonfruit, passion fruit, or my all-time favorite, Ugli fruit. But while the terms "unusual" and "esoteric" have become part of cocktail vernacular, there's no shame in keeping things simple. Enter the grapefruit.

Known technically as *Citrus x paradisi*, grapefruit is most likely a cross between the Southeast Asian pummelo and the standard sweet orange. It's one of the newer fruits on Earth, having been first discovered on the island of Barbados in the mid-18th century. The name comes from the fact that fruit clusters on the tree look somewhat similar to a bunch of grapes. While lemon and lime are our preferred bartending citrus, the grapefruit has lent its own unique charms to a wide variety of wonderful and timeless drinks.

One only has to turn to the Hemingway Daiquiri—an august libation, to be sure—to see what a delightful ingredient grapefruit juice can be. While the history of this recipe is far from certain, it's about as cooling as drinks come and perfect for parties.

Right now, grapefruits are in season, and their color, especially in the highly coveted Ruby Red type, is deep and inviting. While the ruby is a little sweeter and a favorite of bartenders, the yellow variety (also known as white grapefruit) has more acid and can actually work better in balancing out sugary components.

A case in point is the Brown Derby, which was perhaps created at the famous hat-shaped Los Angeles restaurant of the same name. I'm a big fan of the simplicity of this drink, but it can err on the sweet side if made with pink grapefruit juice.

That also goes for a rather unknown but delicious cocktail called the Blinker. The drink was first mentioned in Patrick Gavin Duffy's 1934 *The Official Mixer's Manual* and was resurrected in Ted Haigh's wonderful *Vintage Spirits & Forgotten Cocktails*. It is another simple and elegant concoction, calling for rye whiskey, grapefruit, and either grenadine or, even better, fresh raspberry syrup. Again, use a yellow variety here for balance.

Blinker -1

A slight variation on the most classic form of this cocktail, this version from Naren Young keeps the traditional rye whiskey and yellow grapefruit juice, but swaps out the usual grenadine in favor of a raspberry syrup—a welcome switch that adds lovely depth and nuance to the simple yet elegant drink.

Brown Derby -2

This Los Angeles classic unites three ingredients: bourbon, grapefruit juice, and honey. The result is sweet and zesty. The Brown Derby is sure to please the bourbon lovers in the room, but is also an excellent gateway drink for that one friend who "doesn't like whiskey."

High Noon -3

From the innovative minds at NYC's now-shuttered Empellon Cocina, this drink calls for combining mezcal, Campari, Combier, and pink grapefruit juice, producing a unique and unusual cocktail with a vibrant hue.

Hemingway Daiquiri -4

This cocktail is inspired, not created, by Ernest Hemingway. The author's original request for a Daiquiri made with no sugar and double the booze was an unbalanced drink, but bartenders eventually perfected the recipe with the addition of maraschino liqueur and grapefruit juice.

Banker's Lunch -5

Despite the name, there's an argument to be made for having this cocktail with any meal. Braced by a crisp vodka backbone, the Banker's Lunch nods to the dinnertime Martini with a half-ounce of dry vermouth, but ultimately circles back to breakfast with the inclusion of orange liqueur and grapefruit juice. Shake one up and enjoy any time of day.

Shifting Sands -6

Sasha Petraske created this gin-and-citrus highball, a sort of mash-up between a Paloma and a Hemingway Daiquiri with its use of gin, maraschino liqueur, and grapefruit and lemon juices, topped with club soda. It's a hybrid highball we'll hoist all day.

Green Deacon -7

Absinthe and two kinds of gin may seem unlikely accompaniments to grapefruit, but they work beautifully in this cocktail by bar legend Jim Meehan. The Green Deacon will have you preaching the boundless virtues of this citrus fruit, like its namesake clergyman might.

Grapefruit Collins -8

Never mind its name: This cocktail from Attaboy's Sam Ross is actually a member of the fizz family rather than a true collins. Whatever you call it, the mix of scotch whisky, grapefruit and lemon juices, simple syrup, Peychaud's bitters, and an egg white, all shaken and topped with club soda, produces a cocktail as delicious as it is unusual.

Ruby -9

It's right there in the name: Ruby red grapefruit juice is one of the primary flavors in this fruit-forward cocktail from bartender Tony Abou-Ganim. The grapefruit is joined by vodka, Aperol, St-Germain, lemon juice, and an egg white.

Upper Cut -10

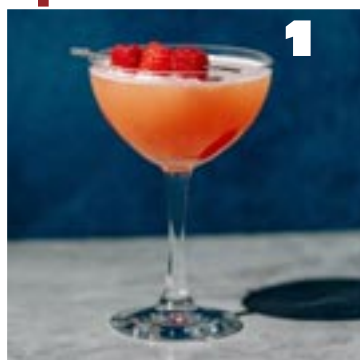
Ivy Mix of Leyenda in Brooklyn created this fruity blend of Cointreau, cachaca, grapefruit and lemon juices, and Angostura bitters. It's unusually heavy on the liqueur, letting its orange flavors carry the cocktail with the sugar cane spirit in a supporting role, making for an interesting layering of citrus.

Dorchester -11

Falling somewhere between a Hemingway Daiquiri and a Last Word, this combination of gin, maraschino liqueur, lime and grapefruit juices, and simple syrup by San Francisco bar pro Erik Adkins combines the best elements of both classic cocktails.

Frenchie -12

A simple mix of gin, elderflower-flavored St-Germain liqueur, and grapefruit juice, this three-ingredient cocktail from Los Angeles bartender Somer Perez couldn't be easier to make—which is good, since you'll certainly want to hae more than one.



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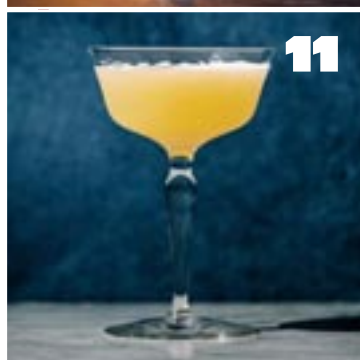
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12

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AUTO

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The Finest Vintage Cars of the 1960's Golden Age



Alamy Stock Photo by PA Images

1964 Rolls-Royce Mulliner Park Ward Phantom V

The 1964 Rolls Royce Mulliner Park Ward Phantom V is not only the vehicle with the longest name in car history, but was also the preferred car by the royal family for many decades. Both the queen and the queen mother had once. However, many years later, another famous, yet less royal British icon would own a Phantom V: The legendary Beatles member, John Lennon.

The regal-looking Phantom V was a large, four-door limousine that was produced by the Rolls-Royce company between 1959 and 1968. This exclusive luxury vehicle had a V8 engine and a Hydra-Matic automatic gearbox made by General Motors. The Phantom V's low gear gave the car a walking speed that was ideal for ceremonies, which is probably why it was the British monarchy's vehicle of choice for so many years.

Buttigieg Butts Into Auto Market That Doesn't Want His Meddling

In a single argument in favor of government subsidies and mandates for electric vehicles, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg evinced a vast lack of logic that, alas, is all too typical from the political Left.

The logic stems from a willful refusal to distinguish between free-market demand and government compulsion. First, the background: In an April 2 interview, Fox News host John Roberts cited a major drop in EV sales by Tesla and massive layoffs at Ford's EV truck plant as a prelude to asking why the Biden administration is throwing so much taxpayer money at EVs while issuing mandates for their sales and use. Indeed, Roberts could have cited numerous other statistics and reports troubling the EV industry.

Buttigieg, whose record as a mediocre mayor of a small town combined with his embarrassing Cabinet performance hasn't dimmed his self-assurance at all, insisted that leftist government commissars are right: "The automotive sector is moving to EVs, and we can't pretend otherwise." This is true only in the sense that with taxpayer subsidies enticing them and government mandates threatening them, automakers and feeder industries have made big investments in EV production. In the past six months, though, they have regretted those investments, shutting down plants or production lines all across the country.

Buttigieg's astonishingly ludicrous remark, though, came after his boilerplate about where the automotive sector is moving.

"Sometimes, when these debates happen," he said, "I feel like it's the early 2000s, and I'm talking to some people who think that we can just have landline phones forever." Later, he compared EVs to the market for regular automobiles in the 1910s.

What?!?

On phones, Buttigieg is comparing apples (or eventually Apples) to vehicles the public considers to be lemons. And he's comparing an organically developed market for cellphones with an EV market that still barely exists despite hugely costly government attempts to create one artificially.

The government didn't spend the 1980s and 1990s giving massive taxpayer subsidies to cellphone manufacturers. Cell towers were built by private companies with no government help. When "car phones" first appeared, the public of its own free will, enticed by their convenience and mobility, demanded more and more of them, even at comparatively high prices. And no bureaucrat or president issued orders that landline production must be phased out. Landlines are fading away because consumers have chosen to abandon them, without the nanny state bossing the consumers around.

Likewise with automobiles in the 1910s: They became popular without any government handouts, and without the government ordering that sales of horse-drawn buggies be limited.

EVs, contrarily, aren't proving popular. Sales repeatedly fall behind government projections. The cars take far, far too long to charge and often won't charge at all in cold weather. And they save far less power or carbon emissions than the Left likes to admit while requiring big batteries composed of minerals whose mining causes its own significant environmental problems, while giving profits and strategic advantages to foreign adversaries such as China.

Meanwhile, as Buttigieg and President Joe Biden continue, in Roberts's words, "to shove [EVs] down consumers' throats," people are gagging at the EVs while, by choice, bolstering the market for gas-electric hybrid vehicles. Hybrids provide almost as many environmental benefits (emissions) while creating fewer environmental hazards (mineral mining) at a comparable or better cost, without major government subsidies or mandates, while providing far, far better convenience.

And that's not to mention the strain that pure EVs will put on the nation's already strained electric grid.

Alas, the Left loves command and control. Instead, government meddlers such as Buttigieg should just get out of the way.



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FOODS YOU'LL NEVER EAT AGAIN AFTER YOU KNOW THE INGREDIENTS. OR MAYBE SHOULD NOT EAT AGAIN SCARY...

The food market continues to expand at an accelerated rate, with manufacturers and brands adding new products every day. Business is booming, with grocery store sales having more than doubled in the last 30 years in the US alone.

Consumers love to consume products that are tasty and cost-effective, but have we ever stopped to look behind the veil and investigate exactly what's in our foods? From beaver butt secretion to sheep sebum in our chewing gum, there's a lot out there that you won't find advertised at Walmart.

French Fries

Company: McDonald's

Market Share: \$15.87 billion*

Ingredient: Additives, preservatives

When McDonald's released a list of the ingredients in its French fries a few years ago, people were surprised. French fries should technically just have three ingredients: potatoes, oil, and salt. However, the list the fast food chain released had a diorama of twenty-plus ingredients, including a ton of preservatives.

The fries are fried in a bunch of different oils, and they're chock-full of preservatives like tertiary butylhydroquinone (always a bad sign if you can't pronounce an ingredient) and citric acid, as well as dimethylpolysiloxane, which is an anti-foaming agent that keeps the oil from splattering. Looks like a crispy, crunchy fry isn't quite as simple as we thought it was.

©Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com

Yoghurt

Company: Dannon, Yoplait, and others

Market Share: \$171.83 billion by 2031*

Ingredient: Aspartame

It's a lose-lose situation when it comes to yogurt. On the one hand, yogurt with no artificial sweeteners is often high in sugar and carbs, which can wreak havoc on the body, particularly if you're prediabetic or diabetic. On the other hand, when yogurt is sugar free, it has artificial sweeteners like aspartame.

As discussed above, aspartame is gross and can cause a myriad of health problems. So, what's a yogurt-lover to

do? One suggestion for those looking for something sweet is to buy unsweetened Greek yogurt and add a bit of honey to it. It'll be healthy yet tasty.

©Madele / Shutterstock.com

Toaster Pastries

Company: Pop Tarts

Market Share: \$1 billion in Pop Tart sales per year

Ingredient: Trans fats, sugar

Healthline took a shot at Pop Tarts in 2017, calling them one of the fifteen "unhealthiest junk foods in America." Pop Tarts are convenient and delicious. You pop them in the toaster, wait a couple of minutes, and then voila! You have a warm, gooey pastry that is a sweet start to your day.

Though that sounds nice, the reality behind toaster pastries like Pop Tarts is that they're full of sugar and carbs. A couple of Frosted Strawberry Pop Tarts contain seventy-six carbs, the majority of which comes from sugar. When you're thinking of a healthy start to the day, sadly, toaster pastries shouldn't make your list.

©Brent Hofacker / Shutterstock.com

Sugary Coffee Drinks

Company: Starbucks, Dunkin' Donuts, etc.

Market Share: \$26.58 billion annual revenue for Starbucks*

Ingredient: Sugar, dairy fat, artificial flavoring

Take a step back before you order that white chocolate mocha with whole milk and whipped cream from Starbucks. Eat This Not That described that exact drink as one of the eight "worst coffee drinks in America." Though we all like a sweet pick-me-up every now and again, sugary coffee drinks are filled with, well, sugar.

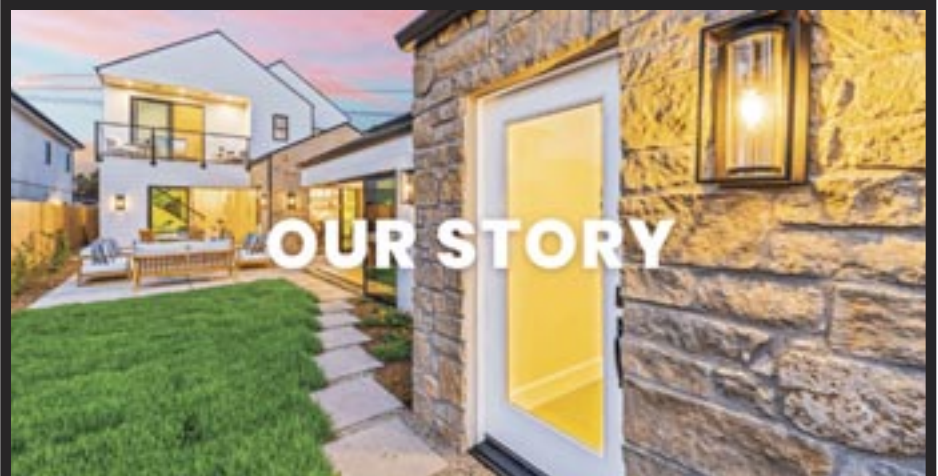
The Au Bon Pain Mocha Latte, Tim Hortons Mocha Iced Capp, Dunkin' Butter Caramel Swirl Frozen Coffee with Whole Milk (come on, that last one just sounds unhealthy), and more can throw your blood sugar way out of whack. According to Business Insider, a scientific study of over 118,000 people showed that the more sugar they drink, the more likely they are to die from illnesses like heart disease.

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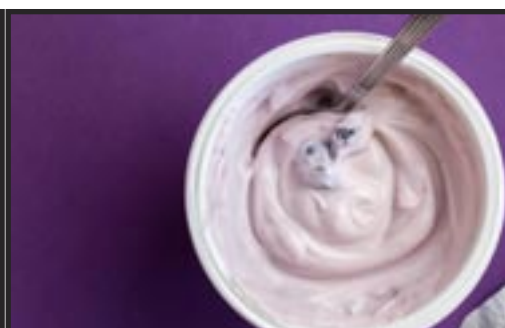
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Bob S.
 and The Local News!

The American Companies That Aren't Actually American Anymore

By Kate Prince/Business

Many brilliant companies – from Apple to Starbucks – have been founded in the United States, starting out as small ventures to become international leaders in their fields. However, the world of business isn't always as straightforward as it looks. Regardless of how well-rooted a company's American history is, it doesn't mean that it will always belong to Uncle Sam.

In fact, many quintessentially American brands are no longer American-owned at all. From Ben and Jerry's to IBM and Holiday Inn, overseas investors have played a big part in keeping these companies moving forward. Without them stepping in, some of them may have ceased to exist altogether.

Fidelity & Guaranty Life
Original Headquarters:

Des Moines, IA

Purchased By: Anbang Insurance Group (Failed Acquisition)

Country: China

Fidelity and Guaranty Life Insurance Company help millions of people feel more secure in case the worst ever happens. That being said, the future of the company wasn't always so certain. F&G was owned wholly by Harbinger Group until it was opened up to the public in 2013.

Then, Anbang Insurance Group expressed an interest in making the purchase for \$1.57 billion. Everything was set to go until the deal was terminated at the last minute. Instead, F&G was acquired by CF Corp in 2017 for an estimated \$1.84 billion.

Piotr Swat / Shutterstock.com

Universal Music Group

Original Headquarters: Santa Monica, CA

Purchased By: Vivendi/Tencent

Country: France/China

Landing a record deal with Universal is a triumph for any artist. Known as one of the world's "Big Three" record companies (alongside Sony Music and Warner Music Group UMG has a reputation that spans almost a century. The company may be home to many great homegrown bands, but it hasn't been American

Original Headquarters: New York, NY

Purchased By: Legend Holdings Corp

Country: China

In recent years, shared workspaces have become more chic and on-trend than ever, especially for freelancers or companies just starting out. WeWork capitalized on this trend when it was conceived 10 years ago. Now, it manages over 4 million square meters of co-working space.

However, it hasn't always been smooth sailing for the business, who desperately needed some capital in 2016. As a result, Beijing-based company Legend Holdings Corp poured over \$430 million into WeWork as a "new partner." CEO of Legend's Hony Capital John Zhao said, "Our investment in WeWork is both strategic and obvious."

©Mitch Hutchinson / Shutterstock.com

Segway Inc

Original Headquarters: Bedford, NH

Purchased By: Ninebot Inc

Country: China

Standing on two wheels and whizzing around seemed like something out of Back to the Future a couple of decades ago, unless you own a motorbike. Segways became very popular over the past few years, but when Beijing-based company Ninebot bought Segway in 2015 for \$80 million, things got better.

Ninebot was able to push the technology to try and make Segway a bigger presence in the robotics and technology industry. In 2018, plans to move production out of New Hampshire to China were announced, but it was later said that the majority of production would stay in Bedford.

©klook.co



owned for years.

French company Vivendi has owned the majority stake in the company for over a decade, but reached a deal with Chinese company Tencent in early 2020. For \$33.4 billion, the Shenzhen-based media giant got a 10% cut.

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FAMOUS MURDERS THAT REMAIN UNSOLVED

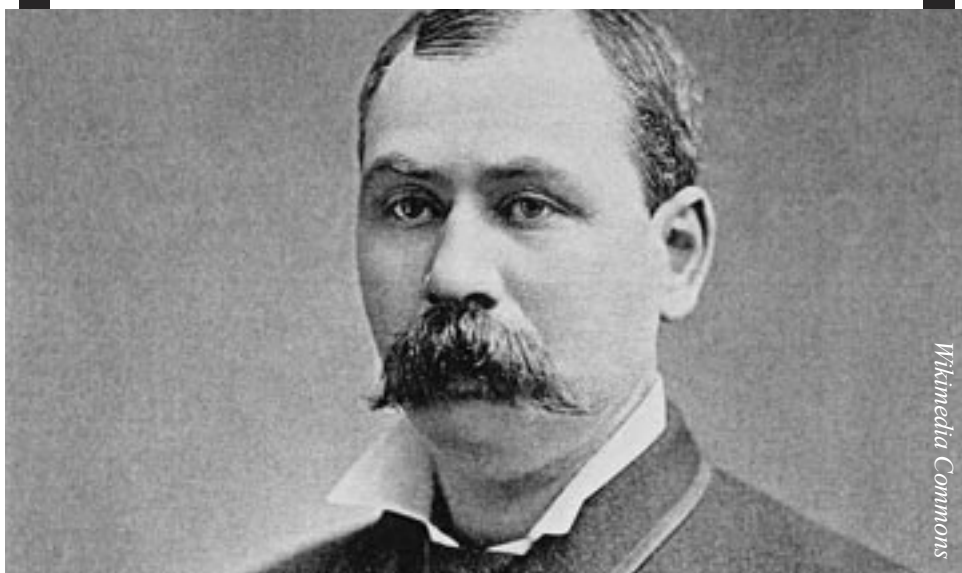
By Thomm Quackenbush

Despite what television would have you believe, not every murder is solved in under an hour. No matter how much effort police put into the cases at the time and amateur sleuths do afterward, some murders will never be solved.

That's not to say that all unsolved murders are created equal. For some, almost everything about the case is unknown: the culprit, the victim's identity, the method, the motive. On occasion, the best the police can tell the public is that someone was definitely killed, but anything after that is nebulous. With other cases, everyone knows who did it, but they managed to get acquitted or gave the police an alibi. In still others, the only reason that witnesses aren't pointing fingers at the culprit is that these fingers will be immediately cut off — along with their heads.

However, for what little good it did for the victims, sometimes being unable to solve a murder drives those left behind to improve the world so that no one else has to suffer the same fate.

CARRIE BROWN



Wikimedia Commons

Carrie Brown has also been connected to Jack the Ripper, but she's a little different. She was murdered on the night of April 23, 1891, and her body was discovered in a Manhattan hotel room. Ameer Ben Ali was arrested for her murder and served 11 years in jail but was ultimately declared innocent, simply the victim of evidence mishandled by investigators. Yay, justice system!

Brown's case itself is a bit odd because, according to Casebook, the press tried to downplay the entire thing — presumably to keep panic from spreading — so there are only a few details known about what happened to her. We know one of the medical examiners wrote someone had tried to gut her, and she was covered with stab wounds. For a while, it was believed she was living near one of many Ripper suspects, although this is now in question, but stranger still is the murder's connection to the New York Police Department.

The New York Times had previously run an article quoting the NYPD's Inspector Thomas F. Byrnes (pictured), saying if Jack the Ripper tried to do his thing in New York, he wouldn't stand a chance. That's obviously not the sort of thing you want to go around saying, and there are theories suggesting Brown was murdered in such a way the NYPD could plant evidence and "catch" Jack the Ripper. Or, maybe was it the Ripper himself, sending a clear message of, "Hey, look what I can do." The jury's still out on this one.

GOP REP. MIKE TURNER: RUSSIAN PROPAGANDA IS 'BEING UTTERED ON THE HOUSE FLOOR'

NBC Universal/Alexandra Marquez

GOP Rep. Mike Turner said Sunday that Russian propaganda has taken hold among some of his House Republican colleagues and is even "being uttered on the House floor."

"We see directly coming from Russia ... communications that are anti-Ukraine and pro-Russia messages, some of which we even hear being uttered on the House floor," Turner, chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, said in an interview on CNN's "State of the Union."

"There are members of Congress today who still incorrectly say that this conflict between Russia and Ukraine is over NATO, which of course it is not," he added.

Turner's office did not immediately respond to NBC News' request for clarification about which members of Congress he was referring to.

His comments come on the heels of remarks House Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Michael McCaul made this week about how Russian propaganda has taken root among the GOP.

McCaul, a Texas Republican, told Puck News that he thinks "Russian propaganda has made its way into the United States, unfortunately, and it's infected a good chunk of my party's base."

Turner and McCaul each tied Russia and its leader, Vladimir Putin, to other authoritarian leaders, including President Xi Jinping of China and Kim Jong Un, the leader of North Korea.

"[The propaganda] makes it more difficult for us to really see this as an authoritarian versus democracy battle, which is what it is," Turner told CNN, adding, "President Xi of China, Vladimir Putin himself have identified as such."

McCaul described explaining to colleagues that the threat of Russian propaganda is similar to threats made by other U.S. adversaries.

"I have to explain to them what's at stake, why Ukraine is in our national security interest," he said. "By the way, you don't like Communist China? Well, guess what? They're aligned [with Russia], along with the ayatollah [of Iran]. So when you explain it that way, they kind of start understanding it."

The committee chairs' remarks about Russian propaganda came as they spoke about the need for Congress to approve more military aid to Ukraine.

"Ukraine needs our help and assis-

tance now, and this is a very critical time for the U.S. Congress to step up and provide that aid," Turner told CNN.

The House in recent months has stalled on efforts to pass Ukraine aid, with Speaker Mike Johnson refusing to put an aid package the Senate passed in February that would provide resources to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan on the House floor.

Last week, Rep. Don Bacon said on NBC News' "Meet the Press" that he had commitments from Johnson and McCaul that they would allow a bipartisan Ukraine military aid package to advance to a vote.

Rep. French Hill echoed this point on CBS' "Face the Nation" Sunday morn-



Greene Sloan

ing, saying he believes Johnson will bring Ukraine aid to the floor "immediately after completing the work on [the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act] and FISA's extension — that deadline of April 19 makes it a priority for the first few days we're back."

"I believe he's fully committed to bringing it up to the floor immediately thereafter," Hill added.

But Bacon, R-Neb., also warned that Johnson could face a vote to oust him from the speakership if he moves forward with Ukraine aid.

On Sunday, Turner downplayed the notion that Johnson's position was at risk over Ukraine aid.

"I don't think he's at any risk," Turner said. "I think that what people have been referring to as the 'chaos caucus,' those individuals who are seeking attention for themselves and trying to stop all of the important work in Congress, are now seen as merely disruptive."

Democrats have signaled that they could join several Republicans in helping to save Johnson's speakership if a motion to vacate, such as the one filed by Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene just before the House left for a two-week Easter recess, were brought to a vote.

BAD PEOPLE

KENTUCKY MAN ADMITS TO FAKING HIS OWN DEATH TO AVOID PAYING OVER \$100K IN CHILD SUPPORT

NBC Universal / MIRNA ALSHARIF

A Kentucky man admitted to faking his own death to avoid paying over \$100,000 in outstanding child support to his ex-wife, according to a plea agreement filed in federal court late last month.

Jesse E. Kipf, 39, pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated identity theft and one count of computer fraud in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky on March 29. According to the plea agreement, Kipf accessed the Hawaii death registry system in January 2023 using the details of a doctor living in another state and created a case for own death. He then "assigned himself as the medical certifier for the case and certified that case," which resulted in Kipf being listed as deceased in many government databases.



"The defendant also infiltrated other states' death registry systems using credentials he stole from other real people," the plea agreement states. "The defendant faked his own death, in part, in order to avoid his outstanding child support obligations to his ex-wife."

In addition, Kipf admitted to hacking into private business, governmental and corporate networks with information he stole from others and attempted to sell the access to the networks to buyers online, the court document states.

His attorney, Thomas Miceli, did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Kipf's crimes resulted in more than \$195,000 in estimated damages, including more than \$79,000 in losses to governmental and corporate networks and more than \$116,000 in losses suffered by his ex-wife. He has

agreed to pay restitution to all parties he wronged, according to the plea agreement.

Kipf was initially indicted by a federal grand jury in November 2023 on five counts of computer fraud and three counts of aggravated identity theft, according to a news release. He was accused of illegally accessing state websites for Arizona, Hawaii and Vermont, as well as businesses GuestTek Interactive Entertainment Ltd. and Milestone Inc.

Kipf was also indicted on two counts of making false statements on applications in connection with federally insured financial institutions for allegedly opening two credit accounts in 2020 and 2023 with a false Social Security number, according to the indictment.

These initial charges carried a prison sentence of over 30 years.

After taking a plea deal, Kipf faces a maximum of seven years in prison and up to \$500,000 in fines, per court records.

His sentencing hearing is scheduled for the afternoon of April 12. **19**

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Running short on time from a busy schedule shouldn't mean skipping out on your favorite desserts. In fact, it should be all the more reason to enjoy a sweet treat as a reward for all that hard work.

When you're due for a bite into dark chocolate goodness, all it takes is a few minutes out of your day to make 5-Minute Dark Chocolate Cereal Bars. This quick and simple dessert makes it easy to celebrate the day's accomplishments without added stress.

As a fun way for little ones to help in the kitchen, you can cook together the butter, marshmallows, peanut butter and cereal then let the kiddos drizzle the key ingredient: melted chocolate. All that's left to do is cut and serve or pack a few off to school and work for an afternoon treat.

Find more seasonal dessert recipes at Culinary.net.

If you made this recipe at home, use #MyCulinaryConnection on your favorite social network to share your work.



CLICK HERE Watch video to see how to make this recipe!

5-Minute Dark Chocolate Cereal Bars

Recipe adapted from ScrummyLane.com

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 10 ounces marshmallows
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 6 cups cereal
- 4 ounces milk chocolate, melted
- 4 ounces dark chocolate, melted

Heat saucepan over low heat. Add butter, marshmallows and peanut butter; stir to combine. Add cereal; mix until coated.

Line 9-by-13-inch pan with parchment paper. Add cereal mixture to pan.

In bowl, mix milk chocolate and dark chocolate. Drizzle chocolate over cereal mixture; spread evenly then allow to cool.

Cut into bars and serve.

"It needs to be emphasized that biological sex and the sociocultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not separated," the new document said.

Transgender activists immediately called the document "hurtful" and devoid of the voices and experiences of real trans people, especially in its distinction between transgender people and intersex people.

"The suggestion that gender-affirming health care — which

has saved the lives of so many wonderful trans people and enabled them to live in harmony with their bodies, their communities and (God) — might risk or diminish trans people's dignity is not only hurtful but dangerously ignorant," said Mara Klein, a nonbinary, transgender activist who has participated in Germany's church reform project.

"Seeing that, in contrast, surgical interventions on intersex people — which if performed without consent especially on

minors often cause immense physical and psychological harm for many intersex people to date — are assessed positively just seems to expose the underlying hypocrisy further," Klein said.

The document comes at a time of some backlash against transgender people, including in the United States where Republican-led state legislatures are considering a new round of bills restricting medical care for transgender youths — and in some cases, adults. In addition, bills to govern youths' pronouns, sports teams and bathrooms at school are also under consideration, as well as some books and school curriculums.

"On top of the rising hostility towards our communities, we are faced with a church that does not listen and refuses to see the beauty of creation that can be found in our biographies," Klein said in an email.

VATICAN BLASTS GENDER-AFFIRMING SURGERY, SURROGACY AND GENDER THEORY AS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN DIGNITY

Associated Press / NICOLE WINFIELD

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican on Monday declared gender-affirming surgery and surrogacy as grave violations of human dignity, putting them on par with abortion and euthanasia as practices that reject God's plan for human life.

The Vatican's doctrine office issued "Infinite Dignity," a 20-page declaration that has been in the works for five years. After substantial revision in recent months, it was approved March 25 by Pope Francis, who ordered its publication.

In its most eagerly anticipated section, the Vatican repeated its rejection of "gender theory," or the idea that one's gender can be changed. It said God created man and woman as biologically different, separate beings, and said people must not tinker with that plan or try to "make oneself God."

"It follows that any sex-change intervention, as a rule, risks threatening the unique dignity the person has received from the moment of conception," the document said.

It distinguished between gender-affirming surgeries, which it rejected, and "genital abnormalities" that are present at birth or that develop later. Those abnormalities can be "resolved" with the help of health care professionals, it said.

The document's existence, rumored since 2019, was confirmed in recent weeks by the new prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, Argentine Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, a close Francis confidant.

He had cast it as something of a nod to conservatives after he authored a more explosive document approving blessings for same-sex couples that sparked criticism from conservative bishops around the world, especially in Africa.

And yet, the document takes pointed aim at countries — including many in Africa — that criminalize homosexuality. It echoed Francis' assertion in a 2023 interview with The Associated Press that "being homosexual is not a crime," making the assertion now part of the Vatican's doctrinal teaching.

The new document denounces "as contrary to human dignity the fact that, in some places, not a few people are imprisoned, tortured, and even deprived of the good of life solely because of their sexual orientation."

The document is something of a repackaging of previously articulated Vatican positions, read now through the prism of human dignity. It restates well-known Catholic doctrine opposing abortion and euthanasia, and adds to the list some of Francis' main concerns as pope: the threats to human dignity posed by poverty, war, human trafficking and forced migration.

In a newly articulated position, it says surrogacy violates both the dignity of the surrogate mother and the child. While much attention about surrogacy has focused on possible exploitation of poor women as surrogates, the Vatican document focuses almost more on the resulting child.

"The child has the right to have a fully human (and not artificially induced) origin and to receive the gift of a life that manifests both the dignity of the giver and that of the receiver," the document said. "Considering this, the legitimate desire to have a child cannot be transformed into a 'right to a child' that fails to respect the dignity of that child as the recipient of the gift of life."

The Vatican published its most articulated position on gender in 2019, when the Congregation for Catholic Education rejected the idea that people can choose or change their genders and insisted on the complementarity of biologically male and female sex organs to create new life.

It called gender fluidity a symptom of the "confused concept of freedom" and "momentary desires" that characterize post-modern culture.

The new document from the more authoritative Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith quotes from that 2019 education document, but tempers the tone. Significantly, it doesn't repeat the 1986 language of a previous doctrinal document that said homosexual people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect but that homosexual actions are "intrinsically disordered."

The Rev. James Martin, who has called for the Catholic Church to extend greater outreach to LGBTQ+ Catholics, said the gender terminology was similar to past declarations. But he welcomed the condemnation of legislation and violence against LGBTQ+ people.

"That cannot be repeated too often as an offense against human dignity. The LGBTQ person, like everyone else, has infinite dignity," he said in an email.

Francis has made reaching out to LGBTQ+ people a hallmark of his papacy, ministering to trans Catholics and insisting that the Catholic Church must welcome all children of God.

But he has also denounced "gender theory" as the "worst danger" facing humanity today, an "ugly ideology" that threatens to cancel out God-given differences between man and woman. He has blasted in particular what he calls the "ideological colonization" of the West in the developing world, where development aid is sometimes conditioned on adopting Western ideas about gender and reproductive health.



LAST CALL: These Chain Stores Are Closing Locations in 2023

The retail sector can often be fickle, even when the company is loved and established. Some of the titans in the industry have faced tough times in recent years, with even the seemingly infallible ones shuttering locations for good.

From Aldi to Costco, Walmart, and even designer stores, it looks like no one is safe. Business status can change on a dime, but let's see which household names are closing the doors for good in 2023. Will your local store be next – or has it managed to escape the retail apocalypse?

Perkins

Year Established: 1958

Store Closures: 29 Branches*

Much like Friendly's, Perkins is a family dining chain that has been beloved by its fans. Though Perkins has gotten the reputation as a neighborhood restaurant, it has had its struggles. There are twenty-nine Perkins closing for sure, many of which have already shuttered their doors.

The company that owns Perkins and Marie Callender filed for Chapter 11 in 2019. It has over 400 restaurants in Canada and North America. Apparently, the financial woes of Perkins' parent company were caused by fewer customers and the rising costs of labor and food. The events of 2020 didn't help the already-struggling chain, so it's possible Perkins will have to close more branches.

©Jonathan Weiss / Shutterstock.com

P.F. Chang's

Year Established: 1993

Store Closures: Unknown

P.F. Chang's has closed its restaurants in Chicago, but there is a twist to these closures that might continue in other locations. The Asian-inspired restaurant chain opened its first-ever "to go" kiosks in Chicago in January of 2020, opening two in place of actual dine-in locations.

Brand development Vice President Tana Davila said that the chain was "excited" to try this new offering. The to-go P.F. Chang restaurants have a "curated" menu, which means that only the most popular items are available. It is focused

on catering, takeout, and delivery. If more P.F. Changs close in the future, it's possible to-go restaurants will take their place.

©Raymond C. Eichelberger / Shutterstock.com

Red Robin

Year Established: 1969

Store Closures: 5 Branches*

Red Robin, a popular fast-casual burger chain, has had a tough couple of years. The chain closed down five locations permanently. Though it had closed several dozen temporarily in 2020, these five didn't reopen, and the closures caused Red Robin to lose \$6.5 million.

The locations weren't profitable anymore. Red Robin tried to save its branches from closure by offering curbside pickup and expanding outdoor seating. It even stopped paying the full amount of rent for its HQ. But, these changes weren't enough to stave off the closures, and the five locations have been shut down for good.

©Sharkshock / Shutterstock.com

Subway

Year Established: 1965

Store Closures: Unknown

Rumors have often circulated that Subway is going out of business. These rumors are untrue, and the sandwich chain remains one of the most popular fast-food joints in the world. What is true is that Subway is closing restaurants and experiencing a unit-count decline.

Subway closed ten percent of its stores in 2020. In 2019, it closed 1,000 locations and saw its sales drop \$210 million. Three years before that, Subway closed 359 stores. The steady decline has been well-documented. The problem is that Subway is experiencing declining sales and has too many locations. The fix is to close chains, and this trend of closures will continue in 2022, though the exact count is unknown for now.

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Cookies, Cocktails & WOMEN

This Surprising Ingredient Makes the Fluffiest Eggs, According to a Chef

Allrecipes / PJ O'NEAL

I had to try it to believe it.

Many people may find it hard to believe that I started cooking at six years old. You may be thinking, what parent allows their six year old near a stove? Well my grandmother did. She was old-school, so she practiced the art of tough love. The first thing she ever taught me to make was

scrambled eggs. Making eggs is one of the easiest things to make as a novice cook. Then you go to culinary school and realize you were wrong.

Why You Should Add Mayo to Your Eggs

Mayonnaise is actually made out of eggs (and oil and lemon juice or vinegar), so it's not that weird of an ingredient to add to eggs—you're just mixing egg with egg. Mayonnaise is an emulsion—when you make it, you are whipping the egg yolk with oil and lemon juice or vinegar. As you whip, the oil and lemon or vinegar is being suspended into the tiny water droplets from the yolk. The lecithin protein from the yolk helps bind the two together to form a new airy structure that won't separate. A similar reaction occurs when you mix the mayo with the beaten eggs. The mayo helps to stabilize the mixture and incorporate more egg into the eggs, making them fluffy. Plus, the extra fat can also make them silkier, and more rich.

I knew I had to try this for myself. Once I whisked the two eggs with a teaspoon of mayo, I microwaved it for exactly one minute. You do get a slight mayo scent when you take a whiff, but if you're like me, it's not a deal breaker. Nevertheless, the hack provided a fluffy end result, and I was surprised to see such a good omelet without using the stove. Take that, countless hours of practicing in culinary school!



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

Martina Navratilova (1956–) Czechoslovakian tennis player. She was the dominant female tennis player of the 1980s. Won 18 grand slam titles and 31 major doubles titles. She now lives in the United States.



Wikipedia

Grapefruit Negroni Cocktail

By Liquor.com

The Negroni dates back to the early 20th century, when it was supposedly concocted by an Italian count in Florence. That lengthy history has provided plenty of time for bartenders to experiment with the classic recipe of equal parts gin, sweet vermouth and Campari. Some choose to sub gin for another spirit, while others incorporate different fortified wines and bitter components. Chef and bar pro Kathy Casey makes the drink her own by adding fresh ruby red grapefruit.

Steps

Squeeze the grapefruit segments into a shaker and drop in the fruit (or add fresh juice). Add the gin, sweet vermouth and Campari to the shaker with ice, and shake until well-chilled. Place one large block of ice in a rocks glass and curl the grapefruit peel around the inside of the glass. Strain into the prepared glass.

Ingredients

2 peeled ruby red grapefruit segments (or 1 ounce fresh ruby red grapefruit juice)

1 1/2 ounces gin

1 ounce sweet vermouth

1/2 ounce Campari

Garnish: long, wide swath of grapefruit peel



Cocktail Corner

Tim Nusog

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE THE HOUSES & MANSIONS OF YOUR FAVORITE CELEBRITIES



Robert Redford – Est. \$7 million, Napa Valley, California

Robert Redford has always been a decorated personality in the Hollywood film industry. His acting chops and charismatic persona made him the darling of many a heart. At 82, Redford is well past his prime and has taken retirement from acting, but the way he still continues to inspire the young guns is really admirable. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Out of Africa, and Avengers: Endgame are some of his most popular films.

Robert has always had a penchant for luxury and his mansion in Napa Valley, California testifies to that. The property is surely one of the most spectacular ones in this list and exudes perfection from every angle. He has made up his mind to put it on the market at an approximately \$7 million and that we think is good enough.

HISTORICAL PHOTOS



Human-size chess game with actual soldiers in St. Petersburg, Russia (1924).

Homeless survive winter: Now what?

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Many of those who slept and ate in churches during cold winter months will retreat to the outdoors, joining scattered tent communities, stirring complaints and trying to dodge cities.

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From the Editors of
E/The Environmental
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Dear Earth-Talk: *What's causing the decline in U.S. wild turkey populations?*

—John Groveton, Alexandria, VA

Americans have always loved wild turkeys, perhaps too much. By 1900, we had nearly driven this close relative to the chicken to extinction as a result of unregulated hunting and habitat destruction. But thanks to conservation and relocation efforts, these big birds started making a comeback in the 1940s. Over the next several decades, thanks to a series of reforms and demographic changes, wild turkey numbers grew and the species hit its population peak in 2004 with as many as seven million of them across the U.S. All this made wild turkeys one of the biggest success stories in the history of American wildlife?

But will it last? Since that population peak, wild turkey numbers have fallen, declining some 15 percent between 2004-2014 and another 3 percent between 2014-2019. Biologists are struggling to determine why. Much of this decline has been in

the South and the Midwest. Scientists have been investigating habitat loss, hunting, disease and climate change, as all possible causes of this population downturn.

One of the potential reasons causes for the decline is the rise in turkey-eating predators. Hawks, bobcats, coyotes and raccoons are among wild turkeys' natural predators. Hawks and owls are protected species and have had significant rebounds since the



Wild turkey population numbers are declining across the U.S. in recent years and researchers haven't figured out how to turn the tide.

Credit: Pexels.com.

federal government banned the use of the pesticide DDT. This protection has allowed populations of birds of prey to grow, but they are also key predators of turkeys. This increase in predators could be one of the sources of the turkey decline.

Turkeys have very specific requirements when it comes to their environment, so habitat loss could be another factor of their decline. Turkeys need areas of low, thick vegetation for nesting and raising chicks, and areas with mature trees to provide nuts to eat in the fall. As more natural areas are destroyed, turkeys may be having a harder time finding swatches of land that meets all of their needs.

Climate change is likely another factor. Turkeys

may be experiencing a failure to respond to the environmental shifts of climate change. A study published in the journal *Climate Change Ecology* found that turkeys don't shift nesting times much as temperatures and precipitation change. This has can cause newly hatched turkeys to miss out on plant cover and edible bugs if the spring bloom starts earlier. In turn, this could affect the likelihood that turkey chicks survive into adulthood. We already know that rising temperatures affect over 100 bird species in the Americas; they might be harming turkeys too.

There is more research needed to find a definitive answer to the decline in turkey populations. It is most likely that the answer is the combination of a number of problems. As scientists look for solutions, many states have started to scale back on turkey hunting seasons in hopes of bringing population numbers up again.

CONTACTS

Wild turkey population is declining rapidly, puzzling scientists: 'It may be a bunch of things all adding together'

Wild turkeys are disappearing — but no one is sure why

As the climate changes, wild turkeys aren't keeping up – The Wildlife Society

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Quinn Minute -

A Salute to My Dentist

www.HBLocalNews.com

By Rix Quinn

Every morning when my mirror smiles back, I am grateful to two dentists who have helped me for decades.

They must be darn good, because

worked miracles on two upper front incisors. I call these my "smile teeth." Those are the first things people see when I greet them with a semi-sincere grin.

Problem is, in high school I was in a car wreck. Back then, there were no shoulder seat belts, so my front teeth slammed into the dashboard.

This left me with half an incisor...very noticeable when sipping a milkshake. But my amazing dentist quickly made me a crown, so I looked presentable enough to pose for senior pictures.

That crown held up for over 35 years, but it came off a few years ago when I bit into a sturdy dinner roll. My dentist got me sched-

uled late that day, and crafted a new crown that looks terrific.

Since then, I have taken much better care of my mouth. I bought a new toothbrush, and I have spent more time polishing my ivories.

And - some mornings after brushing -- I'm so impressed I think that if I was single...I would ask myself for a date.



thanks to regular visits I've retained excellent cuspids, bicuspid, plus a host of workable molars.

I am not the best patient. I nearly always brush my teeth at least once a day, and sometimes use toothpaste.

But I am an excellent flosser. I know this, because the hygienist complimented me the last visit when she dug junk food from my molars.

Over the years, dentists have

Most Beautiful Female Billionaires

It takes one several years of hard work in business to become a billionaire. Some of the young women presented in this list were lucky to have inherited billions of dollars while others have accumulated their multi-billion wealth from businesses. Interestingly, some of these women are still young in their early twenties and yet they have a personal net worth higher than budgets of some developing countries. The cash that they possess is enough for them to do whatever they want and more despite being born into very rich families.



Image Courtesy: DailyMail

Sofia Abramovich

The daughter of Roman Abramovich, a Russian oligarch, Sofia Abramovich reportedly makes around \$9.5 billion a year. The 19-year-old competes in global show-jumping championships and she loves horses. She has a stable in London which is full of horses

The Local News, April 15, 2024 hbnews1@aol.com 714.914.9797

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'WORLD'S MOST PUNK ROCK ANT' — AND ITS GOLDEN 'MOHAWK' — SPOTTED IN AUSTRALIA. SEE IT

Miami Herald / ASPEN PFLUGHOEFT

High up on a remote mountain in Australia, a string of ants with mohawk-like hair went about their day. Nearby researchers spotted the “punk-rock conga line” — and snapped some first-of-their-kind photographs.

“Ever since I learnt about the existence of the Punk Ant, I’ve wanted to see one,” naturalist Matthew Connors wrote in a Jan. 14 Facebook post.

Camponotus thadeus, commonly known as the punk ant, is a rare species of ant that lives in mountainous rainforests of Queensland, Australia, nature photographer Caitlin Henderson wrote in a Jan. 14 post to her Facebook page called She’s Got Legs Australian Spider and Insect Photography. The species was discovered in 2005 from preserved specimens.

Punk ants have a “mohawk of bright golden hairs” that “is just amazing,” Connors wrote.

“I just couldn’t resist going to see this ant for myself,” he said. “As you can probably guess from the fact that it’s never been photographed alive before, it’s unfortunately not all that simple.”

Connors put together a small team of re-

searchers, including Henderson and Lewis Roberts, to hike up Mount Finnigan in search of the punk ant.

At an elevation of about 2,600 feet, “we saw the ants,” Henderson told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

“Once you see them all together in a kind of punk-rock conga line, they’re kind of unmistakable,” she told the news outlet.

Close-up photos show the punk ant. It has a jet-black body with a row of bright yellow-orange hair sticking up along its back. Henderson described the insect as “the world’s most punk rock ant.”

“It’s amazing how we have such a stunning species right here in our backyard,” Connors

wrote in a Jan. 19 Facebook post, “even if it isn’t exactly easy to get to.”

Connors and Henderson did not immediately respond to McClatchy News’ Jan. 22 request for comment.

Mount Finnigan is in northern Queensland, about 1,300 miles northwest of Sydney.



A live Camponotus thadeus, or punk ant, found on Mount Finnigan.

She's Got Legs

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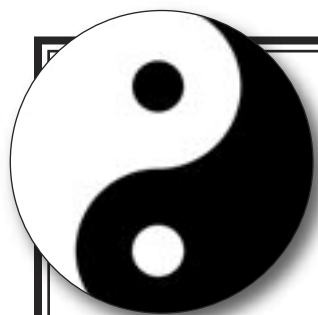
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ON THE DARK SIDE OR MAYBE THE LIGHTER SIDE...

HERE'S WHERE WOMEN VOTERS STAND IN THE BIDEN-TRUMP REMATCH

The Hill / JULIA MANCHESTER

Women voters are set to play a pivotal role in November's general election as both parties court the key demographic and as reproductive rights emerge as a major motivating issue on both sides of the aisle.

Millions more women than men have registered to vote in recent cycles, and they've bested men in turnout numbers in every presidential election since 1964.

However, women voters are not a monolith and can differ in terms of how they vote and their top issues, according to polling.

HERE'S WHERE WOMEN VOTERS STAND AS 2024 HEATS UP:

Women voters of color

Black women are seen by many as the backbone of the Democratic Party, notably helping President Biden and the party flip Georgia from red to blue in 2020.

same, according to a survey roundup from CAWP research.

"Latina and Asian women, who are increasingly a larger and larger proportion of the electorate, [there's] not as much consistency as there is in the Black women's community and their political beliefs and view because there's so much diversity of where they're coming from, where their origins are from, where they live in the United States," Dittmar said.

Cuban Americans, for example, have a "very different" political orientation compared to Mexican Americans, Dittmar noted.

According to a survey from UnidosUS released late last year, 54 percent of Latino voters said inflation and the cost of living were their top issues, followed by the economy at 44 percent and health care at 33 percent. The same poll also found widespread support for abortion rights among Latinos, with 71 percent saying they are against efforts to restrict the procedure.

"As with recent elections, we're seeing that Latina voters are motivated by calls for a fair and prosperous economy, a common-sense approach to immigration that includes a pathway to citizenship for their friends and family members in this country, and by concern about climate change," said Maria Teresa Kumar, Voto Latino founding president and CEO.

"But this election is notable because we have seen Latinas especially energized by the fight for women's right to have a say over their own bodies. In the wake of Roe's reversal, we saw this issue

rank among the top priorities, and now with the increasingly clear trajectory on other reproductive rights, including birth control and IVF, we are seeing this becoming more of a motivating force than ever."

Gen Z women voters

Women have long been more likely than men to identify as Democrats, but the ideological gender divide has become particularly stark between young men and women.

A survey conducted by Change Research last year found nearly two-thirds of women aged 18-34 identified as progressive or liberal — while just more than a third of young men identified the same way.

"It's not that young men are taking, I think, a very direct, sharp, sharp right turn. I think what's happening with young men is that they're beginning to look a lot like older men in American society," said Melissa Deckman, CEO of the nonpartisan research firm PRRI and the author of a forthcoming book on Generation Z women in American politics.

At the same time, young women "have become notably more progressive and liberal than older women."

They're also more likely than any other group to identify as members of the LGBTQ community and will look for candidates who back LGBTQ rights.

"For Gen-Z women, their identities are really important to their thoughts and attitudes about politics and their voting priorities," Deckman said.

Data from CAWP showed around 54 percent of young women aged 18-24 and 66 percent of women aged 25-44 turned out to vote in the 2020 presidential election — compared to 49 percent and 60 percent of men, respectively, in those same age brackets.

However, members of Gen Z in general are increasingly moving away from party labels and voicing their distrust in political institutions. Turner noted that this can be seen among younger Black women.

"Our polling shows Black women voters age 18 to 49 are definitely less trusting of institutions in general and are less likely to feel like they have political power and they're less likely to trust the party system," Turner said.

Suburban women voters

Suburban women voters have been viewed as one of the most critical voting blocs since at least 2018, when the group helped Democrats push back against Trump and Republicans during the midterms.

According to CBS News exit polling from 2018, 53 percent of suburban women voters said they voted for Democrats, up from 47 percent in 2014 and 51 percent in 2016. In 2020, Biden won 54 percent of suburban voters in general, according to the Pew Research Center.

"There's this long history of trying to cut different slices of suburban women, and that's where you get the people talking about soccer moms, the Walmart moms, the security moms. These are basically different types of suburban women," said Michele Swers, a professor of American government at Georgetown University with a focus on Congress, women and politics.

"And women turn out to vote more than men, so suburban women are a particularly attractive group in that way," Swers said.

Democrats have capitalized on abortion as a strategy to win over suburban women, as well as other voting groups, since the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

"Democrats have won based on persuading suburban women in the past on abortion and that will be true again," Williams said.

Former President Trump has clinched the delegates he needs for the GOP nomination, but the Republican has seen warning signs among suburban women — though he insisted at a recent campaign stop that "suburban housewives actually like Donald Trump."

Trump has mocked and made vulgar remarks about women on the campaign trail and in office, with his comments prompting insult trackers during the previous election cycles.

Those slights, coupled with positions on issues like reproductive rights and gun control, could give Biden a leg up with snagging support from women.

"Particularly for moms and grandmas, you just live with a lump in your throat about these acts of violence, gun violence, that are random and terrifying, and deadly, and everywhere. ... That's an issue that doesn't get enough attention for suburban women."

College vs. non-college-educated women voters

There's another growing gender gap in college education: Young women older than 25 were more likely than men of the same age bracket to have a bachelor's degree or more as their highest level of education, according to 2022 data from the U.S. Census.

"College educated voters are now very much trending towards the Democratic Party. There have been more women going to college for a while now and since the pandemic, you're seeing that gap increase," Swers said.

"So I do think that when you combine the gender gap as it exists and then college education ... if you have more college educated females, probably you're gonna see more Democratic voters amongst that group," Swers said.

A Pew Research analysis found that Trump's vote share among women without a college degree went up between the 2016 and 2020 elections, with white women who don't have college education picking the Republican by a margin of 64 percent to 35 percent in 2020.

"These are the people that feel as though no one is fighting for them in Washington and whether it's the economy, or immigration or foreign policy, they feel



"We saw Black women in the last couple of cycles really push the Democratic Party to recognize their value as voters," said Kelly Dittmar, a Rutgers University political scientist and scholar at the school's Center for American Women and Politics, adding that some of that pressure led to Kamala Harris as Biden's 2020 vice presidential pick.

This cycle, Black women say cost and inflation are among their top issues. According to a poll conducted by HIT Strategies on behalf of Higher Heights Leadership Fund, a national organization dedicated to advancing Black women's political power, 71 percent of Black women said they were "very worried" about the cost of living, while 65 percent said they were "very worried" about affordable housing.

Black women also expressed concern over the future of reproductive rights, according to the poll. More than 40 percent of Black women said they are more likely to support a candidate who is "pro-reproductive freedom."

"The economy by far was their biggest concern. People are just trying to make sure they can go to the grocery store, put gas in their tank, pay their rent and their mortgage," said April Turner, vice president of communications at Higher Heights.

"We also saw that abortion rights is very, very important to them and something that we think is definitely going to galvanize Black women as they go to the polls this year," she continued. "The rollback of these rights is a concern to them."

Gallup polling from February found Democrats' lead in Black Americans' party preferences has fallen nearly 20 points in the past three years, and their lead among Hispanic adults is at its lowest point since 2011.

Experts say there isn't evidence of a mass exodus of voters of color from the party; around 7 in 10 Latina women in 2020 voted for Biden over Trump, compared to roughly 6 in 10 Latino men who did the

Continued on pg 30

TRUMP SAYS \$50 MILLION RAISED FROM BIGGEST FUNDRAISER YET

Reuters / By Alexandra Ulmer

(Reuters) - Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's campaign said a major fundraiser in Florida on Saturday raked in a massive \$50.5 million as the former president seeks to replenish diminished coffers in his rematch against Democrat Joe Biden.

The event, his biggest fundraiser yet, is a much-needed boost for Trump, who has been routinely outraced by Biden and is in the midst of a financial squeeze due to ballooning lawyer fees and legal payouts from his criminal and civil court cases.

The dinner, hosted at billionaire hedge fund manager John Paulson's Palm Beach home, will allocate a portion of the money to be raised to a fundraising group that has spent tens of millions of dollars on Trump's legal fees.

While Trump has struggled to get some major traditional Republican donors on board, he retains the support of some heavy hitters. Co-hosts on Saturday, for example, include hedge-fund investor Robert Mercer and his daughter and conservative activist Rebekah, investor Scott Bessent, and casino mogul Phil Ruffin, according to the fundraiser invitation seen by Reuters.

"People are just wanting change. Rich people want it, poor people want it," said Trump in comments ahead of the fundraiser, flanked by his wife Melania Trump, who has largely stayed away from the campaign trail so far.

Biden spokesperson Ammar Moussa said on social media site X that billionaires had flocked to Trump's event due to tax preferences. "The ultra-wealthy are really mad at Joe Biden for making them pay their fair share," he posted.

Paulson has been floated by Trump as a potential Treasury secretary, according to two sources. Bessent has also been floated for the role, one of those sources said.

In a statement on Saturday, Paulson said the "overwhelming support" at the dinner, which 100 guests were expected to attend, was a sign of enthusiasm for Trump.

Trump spoke for roughly 45 minutes, touching on the economy and the southern border with Mexico, fundraiser George Glass, Trump's former ambassador to Portugal, told Reuters. "He also talked a lot about the unification of the party."

The Republican candidate's camp stressed the haul was double what Biden raised last month in an over \$25 million star-studded fundraiser with Democratic former presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

The numbers will not be confirmed until filings are submitted to the Federal Election Commission. Campaigns sometimes exaggerate fundraising hauls to drive momentum.

Trump's campaign said last month that it would be unable to match Biden's fundraising totals this year. His campaign, together with a joint fundraising committee, pulled in \$20.3 million in February, compared with the more than \$53 million raised by Biden's re-election effort that month.

For Trump, "it will be important to figure out ways to continue this fundraising momentum with a combination of large/small dollar events," said Republican strategist Ron Bonjean.

More money is not always an indication of success, however. Trump beat Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in 2016 after she raised \$769.9 million, far more than the \$433.4 million he raised.

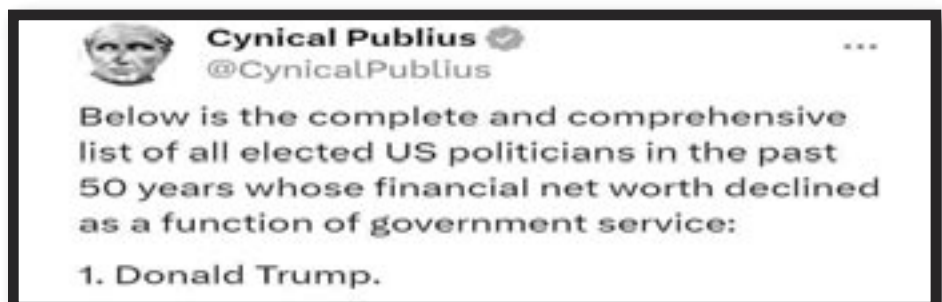
Trump, who clinched the Republican presidential nomination last month, can now raise money with the Republican National Committee (RNC), which his daughter-in-law co-chairs, ahead of the Nov. 5 election.

The Trump 47 Committee, a new fundraising tie-up with the RNC, directs funds to Trump's Save America leadership group before anything goes to the RNC, the invitation shows.

The Trump 47 Committee is asking top donors to contribute up to \$814,600 per person. The first \$6,600 of any person's contribution would go to Trump's presidential campaign, according to the invitation.

A maximum of \$5,000 per person would then be allocated to Save America. After Save America gets its share, the RNC would get a cut of up to \$413,000. In the cases of the biggest contributions, a raft of Republican state parties would get funds too.

(Reporting by Alexandra Ulmer. Additional reporting by Gram Slattery; Editing by Ross Colvin, Hugh Lawson and William Mallard)



Continued from pg 29

HERE'S WHERE WOMEN VOTERS STAND IN THE BIDEN-TRUMP REMATCH

like they are unheard from, unrepresented in Washington and Donald Trump comes along and says I'm here to represent the voice of the voiceless and whether it's true or not, that's the way he made them feel," said Alice Stewart, a Republican strategist.

These Actors Epicly Played Real People in These Films

Erika Burch

When an actor plays a role, he or she does everything in their power to really get into it, to feel as that person would feel, and to portray those feelings on the film. But what happens when an actor lands a role based on a real person?

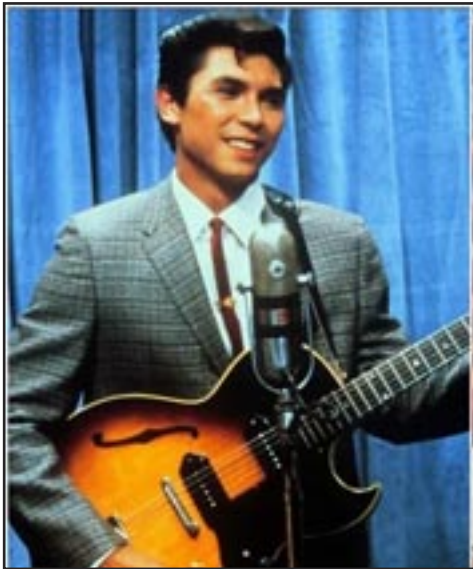


Selena (1997) / Alamy Stock Photo

Selena (1997)

Jennifer Lopez stars in her breakthrough role in this 1997 biographical drama about late popstar, Selena. She was an up-and-coming musician, with a promising future ahead of her. Unfortunately, her life ended in tragedy, when someone very close to her turns on her and ultimately kills her. Selena Quintanilla-Perez was the queen of Latin music and. She rose to fame after his father discovered her amazing vocal and rhythmic talent. She was only 23 at the time of her death.

We had no idea at the time how bright of a star Lopez would be in her own right, but she nailed the role of Selena and was even nominated for the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy.



La Bamba (1987) / Alamy Stock Photo

La Bamba (1987)

This 1987 biography follows Lou diamond Phillips as Chicano rock-star Ritchie Valens. The film follows the stars rise from typical high school boy to Billboard chart-topper, along with his relationship with his girlfriend at the time, who inspired his song, "Donna." The American musician who was of Mexican descent was heavily influenced by Mariachi music and ultimately pioneered the genre of Chicano rock music. His hit "La Bamba" will always be a beloved favorite.

Valens' life, like the movie, ended tragically – in a fiery plane crash that left no survivors. The film grossed more than \$50 million dollars in the US, and received mostly positive reviews, including a 91% approval from critics on Rotten Tomatoes.



Man on the Moon (1999) / Alamy Stock Photo

Man on the Moon (1999)

Jim Carrey stars as the late eccentric entertainer Andy Kaufman in this 1999 biographical dramedy. The story retraces the stars steps from childhood to fame, as he started appearing on major shows like SNL, and Taxi. The comedian was known for his bizarre performances and his criticism of the whole "fake" idea of performance. His most notable performance was when he loaded an entire audience on a bus, gave them milk and cookies, and then continued with the show on the following day on the Staten Island Ferry.

Carrie won the Golden Globe award for Best Actor for his work on the film, which made it his second in a row after acting in The Truman Show. Reviews seem to be a pretty mixed bag, and it only holds a 63% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes, and a 58/100 on Metacritic.

The Most Valuable Collectors' Items in History

By Audrey Kyanova

We've all heard the stories about someone stumbling upon a valuable comic or knick-knack in a Salvation Army, or the family who moves into a new house only to find a wine cellar below the floorboards worth a fortune.

Anything from baseball cards or vintage Coca Cola cans to stuffed toys or even ticket stubs from legendary concerts, could be the items worth millions. You never know what items are lurking in your basement or your local thrift store that could be worth big bucks to a collector.

Read on to discover a list of some of the most valuable collectible items of all time. You never know, it might be time to bring out the stepladder and venture into the attic. You could have been sitting on a dusty goldmine for decades, blissfully unaware.

20-Sided Roman Die

Maker: Ancient Romans/Egyptians

Original Price: Unknown

Worth Today: \$17,925*

A few of these twenty-sided dice survived the Hellenistic and Roman Periods, and their origin is anywhere from the 2nd century B.C. to the 4th century A.D. These polyhedral dice are a bit of a mystery, with the Metropolitan Museum stating that they can only provide "theories built on clues."

The polyhedral dice pictured here uses Greek words, a few of which are similar to those associated with

throwing knucklebones. According to the Met, that means this die might have been used for games or even fortune-telling. Dice like this one have been discovered in Egypt's Dakhleh Oasis, but those Egyptian dice were inscribed with the names of gods on each of their twenty faces.

@metmuseum / Pinterest.com



1917 Palmer Union Oil Co. Stock Certificate

Maker: Palmer Union Oil Company

Original Price: \$5*

Worth Today: \$130 million* (Allegedly)

This piece of paper was the subject of a 2012 lawsuit. This Palmer stock oil certificate is purported to be worth \$130 million.

The Palmer Union Oil Company was founded in California in the early 1900s, and, through a lengthy, complicated financial entanglement, Palmer Oil ended up becoming the Coca-Cola Company.

A man named Tony Marohn bought this oil certificate in 2008 from a garage sale in California. He did a lot of research into the company, and he ended up claiming that this was a \$130 million certificate. He sued Coca-Cola, but, unfortunately, did not become a millionaire. The court ruled that Marohn had no ownership in this obsolete petroleum security.

@Sarah Drum / Pinterest.com



Velvet Underground's "Scepter Studios" Album

Maker: Polydor

Original Price: \$6-\$8*

Worth Today: \$155,000*

The Velvet Underground's Scepter Studio Sessions album was a limited-edition release by the band's label, Polydor. Only 5,000 of these were ever released, and early, acetate-cut versions from 1966 have been known to sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Velvet Underground's early record was recorded the same year it was cut, and it had sold at auction before for \$25,000. Just a few years later, that price had more than quadrupled. Scepter Studio Sessions had nine songs on the acetate cut, though ten were recorded in total. "There She Goes Again" was not included on the record for unspecified reasons.

Youtube.com



4 Things In Your Attic That May Be Worth A Lot Of Money

We've all heard the stories about the kid who stumbles upon a valuable comic in a thrift store, or the family who move into a new house and find a wine cellar below the floorboards worth a fortune. Some of the largest sales in history were generated from the most unexpected items. Anything from sports cards or Coca Cola cans, to stuffed toys or even ticket stubs, could be a big-ticket item worth millions.

You never know what long-forgotten items might secretly be the key to a much brighter (and greener) future. Read on to discover some of the most valuable collectibles of all time. You never know, it might be time to bring out the stepladder and venture into the attic. You could have been sitting on a goldmine for decades, blissfully unaware.

Action Comics No.1 Comic Book

This might be one of the biggest markups in history. A comic book issue that went from costing ten cents to \$3.2 million. But that might not be too surprising when the comic itself is the first to feature Superman on it. The comic was first published in 1938, but people don't collect these old books for reading.



2018-2019 Luka Doncic Basketball Card

Autographed sports memorabilia can go for a ton of money. And this signed rookie card featuring Luka Doncic is no exception. It's a rookie card that features him as the Dallas Mavericks point guard. This card was last sold for \$4.6 million.



Madame Alexander Eloise Doll

There are same-name versions of this doll out there, but they aren't the original. The original creator of this doll, Madame Alexander, only made five of these Eloise dolls. And with such a small supply they're worth a ton of money. Not to mention, it's wearing nine carats worth of diamonds, Oscar de la Renta fur, Katherine Baymann accessories, Christian Dior clothes, and Dwarovski crystals. It's a truly decked out doll, so it's no surprise it's worth \$5 million.



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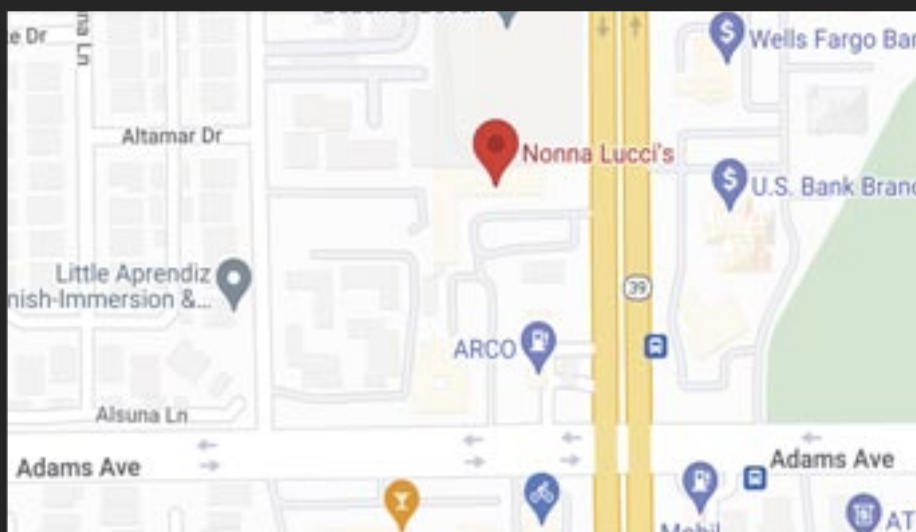
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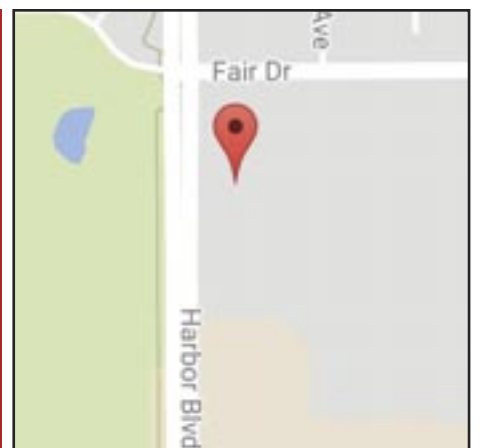
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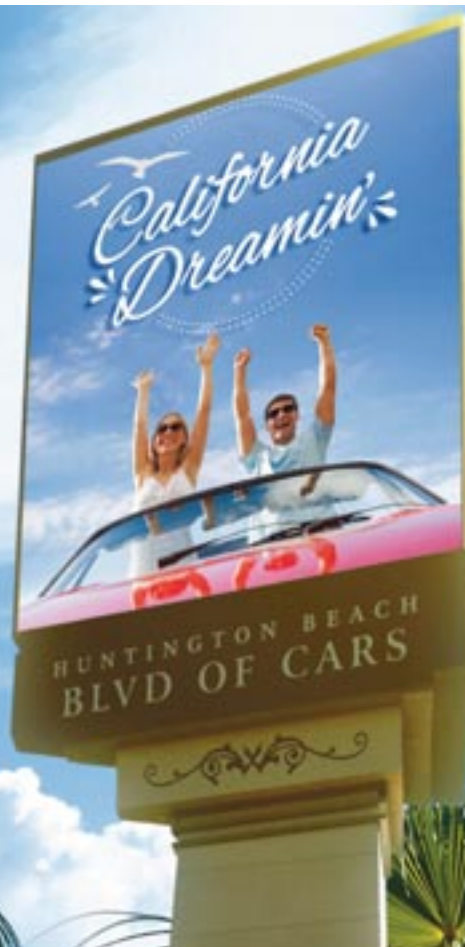
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