

THIS!!!



THE LOCAL NEWS

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TRUMP ENDORSES STEVE HILTON IN CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S RACE

NBC Universal / MEGAN LEBOWITZ

President Donald Trump endorsed former Fox News host Steve Hilton for governor of California in an overnight Truth Social post, potentially shaking up a crowded primary race that will see the top two vote getters advance to the general election, regardless of their political party.

"Steve can turn it around, before it is too late, and, as President, I will help him to do so!" Trump wrote, referring

Trump's endorsement could coalesce the Republican vote around one major candidate, while the Democratic vote still appears to be fragmented among the more than half dozen significant candidates.

The Democratic candidates include Rep. Eric Swalwell, former Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, former Rep. Katie Porter, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, billionaire Tom Steyer, state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, former state Controller Betty Yee and San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan.

Polling indicates that there is not a clear frontrunner in the race. A poll last month by the Institute of Governmental Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, found that no candidate received more than 17% of voter preferences, and several candidates received similar voter preferences that were within the margin of error.

Hilton and Bianco led the poll, with 17% and 16% of voters preferring them, respectively. Swalwell was the preference of 14% of voters, followed by Porter at 13%, according to the poll.

In March, California Democratic Party Chair Rusty Hicks called on candidates who "do not have a viable path to make it to the General Election" not to run in the primary.

"Despite the ongoing chatter, the likelihood of two Republicans effectively 'locking out' California Democrats from the contest for Governor in the General Election is relatively low," Hicks said in an open letter to the Democratic candidates. "However, while it is implausible, it is not impossible and I know we are collectively committed to taking the steps required to avoid that possibility."

Hilton has listed some of his priorities as reducing taxes for workers, improving the possibility of home ownership, and helping students meet state math and English standards.

During his time advising Cameron, Hilton was a driving force in Conservatives' switch to green issues and an ecological focus, as well as the concept of "the big society," which aimed to shift power from the state to local communities.



Laure Andrillon / AP file

to what he has characterized as the poor leadership of Gov. Gavin Newsom and other Democrats running the state.

"With Federal help, and a Great Governor, like Steve Hilton, California can be better than ever before!" the president continued. "Steve Hilton has my COMPLETE & TOTAL ENDORSEMENT. He will be a GREAT Governor and, importantly, WILL NEVER LET YOU DOWN!!!"

The race to replace the term-limited Newsom features eight prominent Democratic candidates and two prominent Republicans. Trump's endorsement of Hilton, an ex-aide to former British Prime Minister David Cameron, comes at the expense of the other major GOP candidate, Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco. But all candidates will appear on the same primary ballot in what's known as California's "jungle" primary on June 2.

Nobibi Expanding to Huntington Beach With Plans for Newport Beach and Laguna Beach

The company's new location comes from RoseJano Investment Group LLC, led by partners Ralph Anjim and Michael Assale

Written By Joey Reams / Senior Regional Reporter

Nobibi, a fast-growing dessert brand known for its soft-serve creations and specialty drinks, is getting ready to open a new location in Huntington Beach at a site yet to be publicly disclosed.

The company's new location will mark its first in

Huntington Beach under RoseJano Investment Group LLC, led by partners Ralph Anjim and Michael Assale, with immediate plans to expand into Newport Beach and Laguna Beach, according to a press release. While an exact opening date has yet to be announced, the Huntington Beach store is expected to serve as a flag-



Image credit: Nobibi



Minimum Wage Hikes Benefit Taxes, Not Workers

California's minimum wage increases are really about boosting state revenue, not helping struggling employees, says Huntington Beach City Council member.

According to Andrew Gruel, a chef, TV host, and Huntington Beach City Council member, minimum wage hikes in California are less about supporting workers and more about increasing tax revenue for the state. Gruel argues that while restaurants want to pay employees more, the math doesn't work - higher wages lead to higher payroll taxes, which forces businesses to cut hours, raise prices, or shut down entirely. He says the simplest solution would be to cut payroll taxes, which would put more money directly into workers' pockets without burdening small businesses.

Huntington Beach Today



WHY IT MATTERS

This story highlights the complex political and economic dynamics behind minimum wage debates. While the narrative often portrays it as a battle between greedy business owners and struggling workers, Gruel argues the reality is more nuanced. He suggests the true motivation for minimum wage hikes may be increasing state tax revenue rather than truly helping employees. This raises questions about the effectiveness of current minimum wage policies and whether alternative approaches like payroll tax cuts could be more beneficial for workers.

THE DETAILS

Gruel explains that when wages go up, payroll tax collections rise automatically for Social Security, Medicare, state disability insurance, and unemployment insurance. He says that in high-tax states like California, these increases compound quickly. Gruel argues that if the goal was truly to help workers, the simplest solution would be to cut payroll taxes, which would put more money directly into workers' pockets without pressuring small businesses. However, he says this approach is rarely discussed because it doesn't generate new revenue for the state.

California has raised its minimum wage multiple times in recent years.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

"If the true goal were to help workers, the simplest and most effective solution would be obvious: to cut payroll taxes."

— Andrew Gruel, Huntington Beach City Council member

"Workers understand this better than anyone. Ask servers and line cooks what would actually help them financially. You won't hear 'raise the minimum wage!' You'll hear: 'Give me more shifts.' 'Keep the restaurant busy.' 'Let me keep more of my tips.' That's where their income really comes from."

— Andrew Gruel, Huntington Beach City Council member

Continued on pg 14

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Earth dips beyond the lunar horizon in this photo from the far side of the moon captured from Orion. (NASA)

NBC Universal / DENISE CHOW

For the first time, humans have glimpsed the entire far side of the moon with their own eyes — and their photos are beginning to come in.

In what was the most highly anticipated moment of the Artemis II mission, four astronauts flew around the moon Monday, snapping photos and making detailed observations from the window of their Orion spacecraft.

NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover and Christina Koch and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen captured a slew of photos of the moon's rugged terrain, sprawling impact craters and vast, dark plains.

The first newly released photo, shared Tuesday morning by the White House on X, shows "Earthset," a moment captured from the lunar far side as Earth dipped out of view on the opposite edge of the moon.

The new image is a kind of re-creation of the iconic "Earthrise" photo taken during the Apollo 8 mission in 1968. The Apollo 8 photo, however, showed Earth reemerging into view, rather than disappearing, as astronauts Bill Anders, Frank Borman and Jim Lovell circumnavigated the moon.

The White House also shared a spectacular new photo that the Artemis II astronauts snapped of a solar eclipse from space. The eclipse occurred Monday evening, toward the end of the mission's hourslong lunar flyby, when the sun slipped behind the moon.

The astronauts became the first people to view a solar eclipse from the moon. The new image shows a darkened moon with the sun's outermost atmosphere, the corona, glowing around the edges.

Wiseman, Glover, Koch and Hansen spent around seven hours taking photographs and gathering notes about surface features on the moon during the flyby. They became the first people to see the entire lunar far side, which is not visible from Earth because that part of the moon permanently faces away from our planet.

Even during the Apollo missions, astronauts couldn't view much of the moon's far side because of the paths and timing of their flights.

The Artemis II crew's early observations elicited celebrations from the mission's lunar science team throughout the flyby. Glover, for instance, was particularly captivated by the jagged topography along the moon's terminator, the dividing line between its illuminated side and the side cloaked in darkness.

"Boy, I am loving the terminator," he radioed to Mission Control. "There's just so much magic in the terminator — the islands of light, the valleys that look like black holes. You'd fall straight to the center of the moon if you stepped in some of those. It's just so visually captivating."

Throughout the day, the astronauts spoke about how moving it was to see the moon up close.

When we have that perspective and we compare it to our home of Earth, it just reminds us how much we have in common," Koch said. "Everything we need, Earth provides. And that is somewhat of a miracle and one that you can't truly know until you've had the perspective of the other."

The four crew members spent hours marveling over the moon's brightness, colors and surface features, radioing vivid descriptions in real time to mission controllers in Houston.

They reported seeing brown and green hues on the near side of the moon and noted the brightness of small, new craters that were most likely created by recent meteorite impacts.

Those observations will be important for lunar and planetary scientists. NASA has said the Artemis II images of craters, ridges and ancient lava flows on the lunar surface could help researchers better understand how the moon — and the solar system — formed.

During the flyby, the Artemis II astronauts set a record for venturing farther from Earth than any other humans. As they swung around the moon, they flew 252,756 miles from our home planet, more than 4,100 miles farther than the Apollo 13 astronauts did in 1970 on their emergency return home.

NASA plans to publicly release the full set of moon photos taken by the Artemis II astronauts, but because of downlink limitations, the bulk will not be retrieved and processed until after the astronauts return to Earth.

Wiseman, Koch, Glover and Hansen are on their journey home. They are scheduled to re-enter Earth's atmosphere and splash down in the Pacific Ocean off San Diego on Friday.

See the first close-up photos of the moon from NASA's Artemis II mission



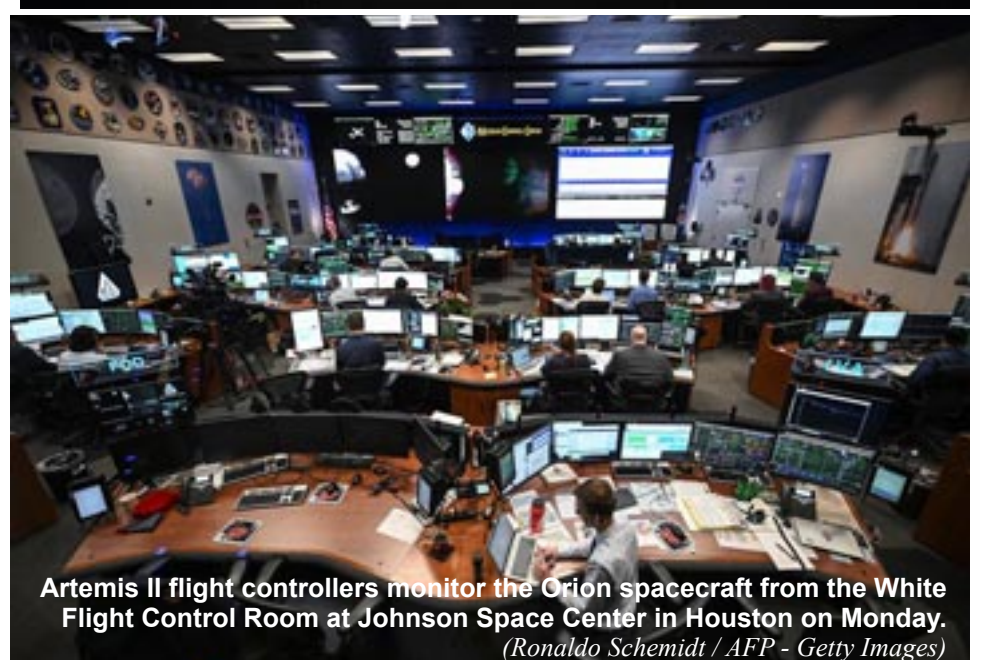
In this fully illuminated view of the moon, the near side (the hemisphere visible from Earth) is seen on the right. The large crater at the lower left is Orientale basin. (NASA)



The iconic "Earthrise" photo taken Dec. 24, 1968 during the Apollo 8 mission. (William Anders / NASA)



The moon eclipses the sun in a view captured from lunar orbit Monday. (NASA)



Artemis II flight controllers monitor the Orion spacecraft from the White Flight Control Room at Johnson Space Center in Houston on Monday. (Ronaldo Schemidt / AFP - Getty Images)

There are four boxes to be used in defense of liberty: soap, ballot, jury, and ammo. Please use in that order.

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



Dave Garofalo
Publisher

INSPIRATION

"Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only. Fashion is in the sky, in the street, fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening."

— Coco Chanel

sad truth

"Truth is born into this world only with pangs and tribulations, and every fresh truth is received unwillingly."

— Alfred Russel Wallace

TRUMP - WHY - WHY NOT?

A balanced perspective on Donald Trump invites people to acknowledge both strengths and shortcomings while maintaining hope for unity and progress. Supporters often point to his focus on economic growth, deregulation, and assertive foreign policy as evidence of leadership that resonated with many Americans. At the same time, critics highlight areas of division and controversy

that remain important to address. By recognizing what worked well while constructively engaging with what did not, citizens can foster a more productive national dialogue. Hope lies in the ability of individuals and communities to learn from past leadership, encourage accountability, and move forward with a shared commitment to improving the country for everyone.

DID YOU KNOW

The **smallest bones** in your **body** are found in the **ear**

Surprising Sports Facts That You Never Would've Guessed



SPORTS

Volleyball was introduced to Europe by American troops during WWI.

When boxers go back to their corner during the round break, it is crucial for them to have their arms down in order to let the blood run back into the limbs, boosting their recovery.

Yellow tennis balls were used for the first time in 1986



History.com

These crazy, ridiculous, and almost unbelievable statistics will make you question everything

DID YOU KNOW?



CRACKING YOUR KNUCKLES DOES NOT HURT YOUR BONES, THE SOUND YOU HEAR IS JUST GAS BUBBLES BURSTING.

If Animals Could Talk

TODAY IS THE DAY, I CAN FEEL IT

TODAY I WILL CATCH THAT TAIL.

We believe and practice being fully involved with the communities we serve. This is essential in building good will, encouraging growth and above all staying connected in our backyard

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People and Their Issues - Our Business...

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The Local News are distributed to residents and businesses in our circulation area. (Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley, Westminster, Seal and Sunset Beaches).

We encourage your support and participation.

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Inform, Entertain and Challenge
all aspects of our lives resulting in our efforts
to continue to help build a safe and
prosperous and healthy Region to live, work
and play in and among our neighborhood,
commercial and industrial centers.

God Bless America!

Newspaper Publication Policy: The Local News is a bi-monthly digital publication. Generally, we try to publish on the 1st & 15th of each month. We publish approximately 24 times per year not including Special Editions. The only exceptions are those months with 5 weeks. We distribute a 12-month production schedule each January showing exact dates for news, ads, digital and distribution dates.

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This space is created for all area non-profit organizations to be listed as a LIVE link to the following organizations...

ORGANIZATION NAME For Live Web Site Click below

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

City of Huntington Beach, California - Home (huntingtonbeachca.gov)

KIWANIS OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Kiwanis Club of Huntington Beach (kiwanishb.org)

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Assistance League - Huntington Beach

GREATER HB INTERFAITH COUNCIL

Interfaith | The Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council | Huntington Beach (ghbic1.org)

HB COMMUNITY POLICE FOUNDATION

Huntington Beach Police Community Foundation | Our Programs (hbpcf.org)

HB FIRE OUTREACH FOUNDATION

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Huntington Beach Police and Community Foundation | Our Programs (hbpcf.org)

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The City of Fountain Valley | Official Website

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Fountain Valley - Kiwanis International (kiwanisfv.org)

FOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Home - Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce, CA (fvchamber.com)

HUNTINGTON BEACH HOST LIONS CLUB

www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/huntingtonbeachca/

ROBYNE'S NEST

www.robynesnest.org

BOLSA CHICA CONSERVANCY

<https://bolsachica.org/>

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF HUNTINGTON VALLEY

<https://bgchv.com>

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www.afscenter.org

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

<https://soroptimisthuntingtonbeach.org/>

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	Norm Reeves Honda	10% off parts and labor, \$300 discount on any new or pre-owned vehicle	19131 Beach Blvd	HB	800.306.6472
	Surf City Nissan	Check with Merchant	17331 Beach Blvd	HB	800.615.9640
	Toyota of HB	15% off Parts & Service, • \$300 off New Car	18881 Beach Blvd	HB	888.433.1447
	Hyundai	Check out our Local Deals	16751 Beach Blvd	HB	714.594.1000
		DeLillo Chevrolet	\$300 off New Car • 15% off Parts & Service, up to a max of \$50 for any single service	18211 Beach Blvd	HB
Electronic/TV	Time Warner Cable	Save \$500 on a Commercial Production	Bell Terra Center	HB	888.892.2253
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Hair & Beauty	Red Beauty Salon	20% off all Services (Limited Time Offer)	16511 Goldenwest #103	HB	714.375.0327
Liquor & Beer	My Keg	\$5 off any size Keg	17871 Beach Blvd	HB	714.847.0799
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	Yates X-Ray Company	FREE Digital Consultation Values at over \$250	9051 Mediterranean Dr	HB	714.599.0399
	Yoga Works	20% off 1st retail purchase and 2 wks of unlimited Yoga new students \$30	301 Main St	HB	714.960.9740
Newspaper & Media	The Local News	25% Off any size ad	5901 Warner Ave #429	HB	714.914.9797
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	Cucina Alessá	10% Off: Tues & Sun. Happy Hour: M-F, 3-6 Special Select, \$3.50-\$4 Wines & Cocktails	520 Main St	HB	714.969.2148
	Don Jose	10% off your entire food Bill	9093 Adams	HB	714.962.7911
	Gallaghers Pub & Grill	\$3 Domestic pints & Well Drinks, \$4 Import Pints	300 PCH	HB	714.536.4222
	Hurricanes Bar & Grill	50% Off Up To \$20 with card- food only	200 Main St	HB	714.374.0500
	Nonna Lucci's	10% off entire bill	19913 Beach Blvd	HB	714.536.1368
	Olive Pit Grill	\$5 off any bill over \$30 10% off anything else	16365 Bolsa Chica St	HB	714.316.5000
	Thai Wave	20% Off All Appetizers (Dine In) from 3pm to 6 pm M-F. Singha Beer 11 oz; \$2.00	522 Main St.	HB	714.960.0219
Sushi on Fire	20% off Food Bill M-F 2-5pm	301 Main St	HB	714.374.8885	
Paolo's Ristoronte	4-course dinner \$16.95	17561 Center Ave #37	HB	714.373.5399	
Services	SeaShore Pest Control	\$100 Off any Local Treatment. \$200 off any tenting	16562 Gothard St #G	HB	714.842.8003
	AIM Mail Center #64	15% off on All Services/Products	19051 Goldenwest St	HB	714.698.9900
	Beauty Supply Zone	10% off products and 25% off hair services Brian, Jillian or Kristen	16277 Bolsa Chica St	HB	714.840.0159
	Surf City Debt Relief	15% off total fees with enrollment into one of our Debt Relief programs	5267 Warner Ave #183	HB	657.464.9683
	Bella Vita Salon Boutique & Spa	\$45 Hydrating Aromatherapy Steam Facial	301 Main St#108	HB	714.960.8100

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America's Best Roast Beef Sandwiches

Cheapism/Lacey Muszynski

When you're in need of comfort food, classic roast beef sandwiches are a satisfying solution. While they appear all over the United States, there are plenty of regional variations and famous renditions worth exploring. In the

Midwest, pot-roast-style beef is served open-face on bread covered in gravy, and roast beef po'boys are popular on the Gulf Coast. From Baltimore pit beef to California tri-tip, here are some drool-worthy roast beef sandwiches lauded by critics and reviewers.



Chuck M./Yelp

The Greatest Breakfast Sandwich in Every State



Mike C./Yelp

New York: Absolute Bagels New York City

This is sure to be controversial, because New York is arguably the birthplace of breakfast sandwiches. That's why we have two nominations — the first being the breakfast sandwich at any corner bodega. But the bacon and egg bagel at Absolute, a bagel mecca with a constant line out the door, takes the prize for price-to-deliciousness ratio for just a few bucks.

Bump's Family Restaurant Glencoe, Minnesota

What to order: Hot beef commercial

If you've never heard of a beef commercial sandwich, don't worry, because it's only called that in parts of Minnesota and the Dakotas. It's made up of roasted beef sandwiched between two slices of bread, served with mashed potatoes and topped with gravy. You can find a great version at Bump's, where the beef is pot-roast-style, and the mashed potatoes and gravy are homemade. Each plate gets 12 ounces of that gravy, so you'll never have to complain about a dry sandwich. This is the ultimate comfort food, and it's a sandwich you must eat with a fork.

Celebrity Chef Recipes

We've made 165 recipes from celebrity chefs to find the best ones. Here are the winners in each category.



Bennett's favorite pasta salad featured Miracle Whip for a salty and sweet flavor

The cheese in Sunny Anderson's dish was a welcome addition

Paige Bennett for Insider

- Business Insider put over 160 recipes from celebrity chefs to the test to find the tastiest winners.
- We've tried everything from breakfasts and dinners to desserts and specialty bread.
- Some winning recipes came from Guy Fieri, Ree Drummond, Carla Hall, Ina Garten, and more.

Business Insider put the best recipes from celebrity chefs head-to-head to find the most delicious salads, desserts, bread, beverages, and more. Here are some of the winners, from hearty breakfasts to refreshing cocktails.

Side Dishes

Sunny Anderson's recipe for pasta salad calls for peas, cheddar, bacon, and Miracle Whip.

Bennett found it to be easy to make. She simply mixed anchovy-free Worcestershire sauce, red onion, apple-cider vinegar, sugar, salt, and pepper with cooked noodles. The sweet replacement for mayonnaise added a tangy kick.

Read more about the winning recipe and full battle here: I tried 3 celebrity chefs' recipes for pasta salad, and the best doesn't use any mayonnaise.

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

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The Most Iconic Scenic Views in Every State



Martin M303/Adobe

From national parks to city skylines, you can find views that'll take your breath away in every corner of the U.S.

If you're planning a cross-country road trip or simply want to get the most out of a visit to a new state, we compiled a list of some of the more stunning views in each state.

So grab your best travel credit cards and enjoy these scenic spots with beautiful views, which are popular among locals and tourists alike and accessible to most visitors.

California: Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco)

There's nothing quite like seeing the famed Golden Gate Bridge on a clear, sunny day.

While there are many stunning views around California, from the Hollywood sign to the breathtaking blues of Big Sur, the Golden Gate Bridge and surrounding recreation area are perhaps the most iconic.

Rare Historical Photos Reveal More Than Immediately Meets The Eye

Betty Robinson was the first Olympic Gold Medalist for the Women's 100m dash in 1928 - she was only 16 years old

At the tender age of 16 Betty Robinson was faster than most grown men who'd been training their whole lives. Born in the small town of Riverdale, just south of Chicago, Robinson was destined for greatness from a young age although at the time that she was running she wasn't even aware that women were allowed to run competitively. She told the LA Times that at that age she was "a hick." Even so, she was fast enough to earn a spot on the American team for the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. She later described what it was like to be the first winner of the women's 100m dash:

I can remember breaking the tape, but I wasn't sure that I'd won. It was so close. But my friends in the stands jumped over the railing and came down and put their arms around me, and then I knew I'd won. Then, when they raised the flag, I cried.



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Vintage Photograph

www.HBLocalNews.com



Report

Painting The Eiffel Tower, 1932

Biggest Boomtowns in Every State



Stone s Throwe Photo / Shutterstock.com

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.

Iowa: Ankeny

Change in population:

1 year: 2.47%

5 years: 24.21%

8 years: 39.42%

Change in occupied housing units:

1 year: 2.58%

5 years: 24.60%

8 years: 39.71%

Change in owner-occupied housing units:

1 year: 1.55%

5 years: 26.04%

8 years: 35.25%



Charles Hewlett of Seapointe Properties helped us sell our home during the spring of 2025. We could not have been happier with the service and care we received from Charles. He was extremely knowledgeable about the neighborhood and local market and made the whole process stress free. He guided us through each step of the process, making sure we understood all the details each step of the way.

Charles was extremely effective in helping us prepare the home for listing; he put us into contact with several contractors that were responsive, efficient, and charged a fair price. Charles also devised a sensible strategy for listing the house that led to a rapid sale. Finally, Charles found an excellent buyer and negotiated a good price for the home.

On a personal note, Charles is a kind and thoughtful individual who responds quickly to calls and questions and is eager to help whenever needed. He is highly professional and experienced, and the most helpful broker we have worked with.

We cannot recommend Charles Hewlett and Seapointe Properties highly enough.

During this uncertain time in the real estate market, we are very grateful for Charles's hard work and dedication. His professionalism, knowledge, and kindness made the whole experience a joy. He went above and beyond and exceeded our expectations.

Thank you!
Julianne and Erik Altenbernd

Wishing that I could help more nice folks like these. It always makes us feel good when I know I have done a good job for someone that needed my help selling or buying a home.

At Seapointe Properties we make every effort to ensure that our clients are always happy with the results of their real estate transaction. Repeat and word of mouth business is the primary part of our success. We love living in Orange County and feel blessed to have so many great friends to share gatherings and meals together.

Thank you for your continuing support and confidence.

**Charles Hewlett Broker BRE # 01250371
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CBS Reveals its Replacement for Stephen Colbert's 'Late Show'

BRENDAN MORROW, USA TODAY

CBS has revealed the future of its nightly time slot after the end of "The Late Show."

The network announced on April 6 that "Comics Unleashed with Byron Allen" will move into its 11:35 p.m. slot after "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" concludes on May 21.

The comedy talk show, which premiered in syndication in 2006, is hosted by Byron Allen and features a rotating panel of comedians performing their material. It currently airs on CBS immediately after "The Late Show."

Starting May 22, CBS will air back-to-back, half-hour episodes of "Comics Unleashed" Monday through Friday, the network said. This will be followed by back-to-back episodes of the comedy game show "Funny You Should Ask," which is also produced by Allen, in the 12:37 a.m. time slot.

"I created and launched 'Comics Unleashed' 20 years ago so my fellow comedians could have a platform to do what we all love — make people laugh," Allen said in a statement. "I truly appreciate CBS' confidence in me by picking up our two-hour comedy block of 'Comics Unleashed' and 'Funny You Should Ask,' because the world can never have enough laughter."

CBS canceled "The Late Show" in July, ending the long-running late-night comedy institution previously hosted by David Letterman. But the network had until now not revealed what it planned to air in the show's time slot.

Paramount, the parent company of CBS, pre-

pointed political humor, Allen told The Los Angeles Times last year that he wants comedians to bring non-political material to "Comics Unleashed."

"I tell the comedians we're shooting 'I Love Lucy,'" Allen said. "Something that's evergreen. So I don't want to hear any political humor. Just be funny, family-friendly and advertiser-friendly."

CBS briefly replaced James Corden's "The Late Late Show" with "Comics Unleashed" starting in 2023 after Corden stepped away from late-night. This time slot after "The Late Show" was later occupied by the comedy game show "After Midnight," which was canceled in 2025 and replaced by "Comics Unleashed" again.

Colbert's final episode of "The Late Show" is scheduled for May 21. He has not revealed his final guests. The comedian recently announced his next major gig after the show ends: He will write a new "Lord of the Rings" film with his son.

This article originally appeared on USA TODAY: CBS reveals Stephen Colbert 'Late Show' replacement



viously said that canceling "The Late Show" was "purely a financial decision against a challenging backdrop in late night" and was "not related in any way to the show's performance, content, or other matters happening at Paramount."

Though Colbert's "Late Show" is known for its

Savannah Guthrie's 'Today' Show Colleagues Were Reportedly Given These Instructions Ahead of Her Return

THE GIST

- Savannah Guthrie returned to the Today show on April 6 after stepping back from her role amid the disappearance of her mother, Nancy.
- Her colleagues were reportedly told to act "totally normal" during her first show back.
- Nancy was reported missing on February 1.

InStyle / MEG WALTERS

Savannah Guthrie made her return as co-anchor on Today on April 6. It was her first time back hosting the show since she stepped away from her role on February 1 following the disappearance of her mother, Nancy Guthrie. According to a new source, her fellow anchors and reporters at NBC were instructed to treat her return as "business as usual."

"It was supposed to be business as usual, [producers] said to act totally normal," the source told Page Six. "Move forward is the vibe. It's been a hard year and a draining time."

Ahead of Savannah's April 6 appearance, insiders spoke to Variety about how the network was approaching her return. They were reportedly planning to "play it by ear." Over the following weeks, they will also reportedly be "trying to work segments around their suitability to Guthrie."

During her first show back, Savannah wore a symbolic shade of sunshine yellow. She took a moment to

address her return. "Pretty shot of the sun coming up," she said. "Good morning, welcome to Today on this Monday morning. We are so glad you started your week with us and it's good to be home."



She later thanked fans for their support, saying, "some beautiful signs out there. I'm excited to see them, give them all a hug. I've been really feeling the love so much." At one point, she stepped outside where she tearfully greeted her supporters.

Nancy was reported missing on February 1, and investigators soon declared her disappearance a suspected abduction. On February 24, Savannah shared a video announcing that she and her family would offer a reward of up to \$1 million for information.

Read the original article on InStyle



Protecting Our Water Supply on Earth Day, and Every Day



As we celebrate Earth Day this month, I am reminded that ensuring a more sustainable future starts with safeguarding the natural resources we depend on every day. At the Orange County Water District (OCWD), it is our mission to manage one of our region's most vital natural resources – the Orange County Groundwater Basin, which provides about 85% of the drinking water supply for 2.5 million people in north and central Orange County.

For OCWD, protecting this essential resource means maintaining a diverse water supply portfolio, ensuring water quality and investing in infrastructure that strengthens water reliability in an environmentally responsible way. The District replenishes the basin with a variety of sources, including local rainfall, Santa Ana River flows, recycled water from the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), and imported water from

northern California and the Colorado River as needed. One of the major sources of replenishment for the basin comes from the GWRS – the world's largest advanced recycled water purification system of its kind. Located in Fountain Valley, it produces up to 130 million gallons of water per day, enough to meet the needs of one million people and on average accounts for nearly 40% of the annual basin replenishment. The GWRS purifies 100% of the Orange County Sanita-

tion District's reclaimable wastewater flows through a multi-step advanced treatment process, creating high-quality water that meets or is superior to all state and federal drinking water standards. By recycling treated wastewater that would otherwise be discharged to the ocean, the GWRS also helps protect our coastline.

OCWD also plays a key role in protecting the Santa

stream into the Orange County Groundwater Basin, while also providing space for critical habitat and endangered species.

OCWD's least Bell's vireo monitoring program in Prado Basin has been one of California's great environmental success stories. When it began in 1986, there were only 19 vireo territories in the area. Through

habitat restoration and parasitism management, OCWD brought the species back from the brink of extinction and successfully helped the vireo to flourish, recording more than 700 territories in recent years.

Earth Day also highlights the importance of helping the next generation become environmental stewards. Through the annual Children's Water Education Festival, a free field trip focused on hands-on water and science education, elementary school students learn about where their water comes from and how local water management helps protect both

public health and the environment.

Learn more about these programs, and more, by visiting www.ocwd.com.

This article was provided by Cathy Green, who represents Division 6 of the Orange County Water District. Division 6 includes Huntington Beach and parts of Fountain Valley. Contact Director Green at cgreen@ocwd.com.



The Orange County Water District (OCWD) maintains a diverse water supply portfolio, ensures water quality and invests in infrastructure that strengthens water reliability in an environmentally responsible way.

Ana River Watershed by removing nonnative invasive species, restoring habitat, and supporting wildlife management. That work is especially visible in the Prado Basin near Corona, where OCWD owns approximately 2,100 acres, including 465 acres of constructed wetlands behind Prado Dam – the largest constructed wetlands on the West Coast. These wetlands serve as a natural pre-treatment system, improving water quality in the Santa Ana River before it is recharged down-

Most Iconic Moments in History



A Police Officer Guards A Pharmacy During The Massive Flood That Hit Cambridge, Ontario, In 1974

On May 16, 1974, torrential rains struck Cambridge, Ontario and the surrounding area, overflowing the Grand River and sending flood water into the low-lying parts of the city. The flood caused approximately \$5 million in damage to the city, which went on to spend \$24.7 million to installing flood walls and to flood-proof buildings.

The police officer in this picture, Constable John Shuttleworth, was one of many deployed to the Galt area, which saw waist-high flooding that ruined storefronts. Those who lived through the flood recall goods and merchandise floating out through broken windows, and a real threat of looting. Shuttleworth is guarding a drug store against potential looting.

Photograph by Mike Hanley. Source: Reddit

On the Vine or Nearby

THE RIGHT WAY TO ORDER A MARTINI

FIRST LESSON: THERE ISN'T ONE.

By Audrey Morgan

Let's get this out of the way: No matter how you order your Martini, you may get a strikingly different cocktail at two different bars. The drink is heavily based on personal preference, technique, and the skill of the person making it—that's going to be the case whether you ask for it "bone-dry" or "filthy."

To understand what makes the combination of spirit and dry vermouth so versatile, it's helpful to think about the Martini's history. Although its exact origins are murky, the traditionally gin-based cocktail originated as a much sweeter drink in the late 1800s, when sweet Italian vermouth was used. By the turn of the century, dry vermouth had replaced sweet, and by 1905, a "Dry Martini" may have included equal parts gin and dry vermouth.

Over the years, the Martini called for less and less vermouth. As cocktail historian David Wondrich writes in *The Oxford Companion to Spirits and Cocktails*, Martini aficionados could expect a ratio of at least 5:1 gin-to-vermouth by 1954. Fast-forward to the '60s, and vodka's rise in popularity made it the preferred spirit for the cocktail. Then there are the fruity and espresso-laden 'Tinis of the '90s that aren't really Martinis but served to muddle the terminology even further.

In short, there's no one-size-fits-all Martini, which is why the drink's dedicated fans have developed highly specific orders tailored to individual preferences. Here are common questions that arise, and tips to help you find your perfect Martini.

How to Pick Gin or Vodka for a Martini

"Gin or vodka?" may be the most common Martini question. To be clear, there's no wrong answer. Gin makes the most classic version of a Martini, but your choice ultimately comes down to personal preference. A Gin Martini will feature more prominent botanical notes, while you may find that a Vodka Martini has a cleaner, more neutral profile.

When ordering a Gin Martini, Jessi Pollak, the bar manager at Spoon & Stable in Minneapolis, recommends a London Dry (popular examples include Tanqueray, Bee-feater, and Bombay Sapphire), which offers more classical gin juniper notes.

"New American gins can be delicious, but they often have bold botanical components like lavender or rose petal that can throw off the balance of a classic Martini," says Pollak. Her favorite choices for Gin Martinis include Tanqueray London Dry, Ford's Gin, and Hayman's London Dry.

Adam Pomajzl, the head bartender at Swift & Sons Steakhouse in Chicago, also prefers a London Dry for a classic Martini. He points to Sipsmith as a great option that pairs well with the cocktail's dry vermouth. "They're kind of like Lego pieces, they fit really nicely together," says Pomajzl.

However, he notes that New American gins such as Colorado's Woody Creek may be more approachable for newcomers. "[They're] much more floral and not as sharp," says Pomajzl. He also likes Roku Japanese Gin for its "wonderfully clean" profile and softness. "It's not gin in capital letters," he adds.

Picking a vodka is "a little trickier," acknowledges Pollak. "I like Ketel One and Absolut for Martinis and other cocktails where you want something crisp, neutral, and high-quality," she says. "It's also fun to try something made locally. Ask your bartender if they have anything local."

Casuga asserts that it all comes down to quality. "Both of these spirits, to me, should drink 'clean,' especially vodka, and what I mean by that is [it has] a smooth finish that doesn't taste like rubbing alcohol," she says. "I prefer the more neutral styles of vodka, and a classic London Dry-style gin."

How to Pick The Right Amount of Vermouth in a Martini

Dry vermouth is a fortified wine that adds gentle aromatics to a Martini. "It's a very subtle thing but it goes a long way," says Pomajzl.

The amount of vermouth used can vary widely. When ordering a Gin Martini, you can typically expect a spirit-to-vermouth ratio that ranges anywhere from a classic 2:1 (as at Spoon & Stable, Swift & Sons, and Temple Bar) to 5:1 (as it's made at Bernie's Restaurant in Brooklyn, New York). However, the house recipe at some establishments, particularly older bars or steakhouses, may lean even drier.

At Bemelmans Bar in New York City, which makes more than 1,000 Martinis a night, the ratio is 7:1, according



Liquor.com / Laura Sant

to bar manager Dimitrios Michalopoulos. The legendary Musso & Frank Grill in Los Angeles takes it a step further. There, a standard Martini order will get you a dry gin or vodka cocktail without a touch of vermouth, says general manager and wine director Andrea Scuto.

Vodka Martinis and Dirty Martinis may also omit the vermouth, as at Spoon & Stable. "Generally, we have found that the folks ordering those styles of drinks prefer no or little vermouth," says Pollak.

If you're not sure what you prefer, Pollak recommends that newcomers start with a 50/50 Martini, which contains equal parts spirit and dry vermouth, or a Dirty Martini if you enjoy olives. "The saltiness of the brine softens the burn of the alcohol, so it feels less spirit-forward and a little more entry-level," she says.

Should a Martini be Stirred or Shaken? It's Not That Simple

As a rule of thumb, cocktails with only spirits and liqueurs, like the Martini or Manhattan, are stirred rather than shaken, for several reasons. These drinks don't include ingredients that require aeration, like fruit juices or egg whites. Stirring also dilutes the cocktail less than shaking, and in a more controlled way, which "maintains the rich texture of the spirit," says Pollak.

It's Time To Learn How to Make One of the World's Most Famous Cocktails

Composed of just whiskey, sweet vermouth and bitters, the Manhattan has changed very little since its inception ...

However, stirred Martinis aren't gospel. Shaking ultimately produces a colder cocktail more quickly, which you may find to be the most important factor if your base spirit has a neutral profile.

"We shake our vodka because it doesn't really have too much of a flavor profile—sorry, I had to say it—and I think the colder the vodka, the better it tastes," says Rachel Napoleon, a manager at Bernie's.

Dirty Martinis often go in the shaker, too, as at Swift & Sons. Pomajzl explains that making a colder cocktail helps to tamp down the taste of alcohol. "It's putting the 'dirt' [in the Dirty Martini] first," he says.

How to Pick Your Martini Garnish

Most bars or restaurants will ask which garnish you'd prefer: a lemon twist or an olive. Like the spirit, it's a decision that comes down to personal preference.

"Gin with lemon is just a great combination," says Pomajzl.

There's also no shame in asking for both. Both Casuga and Pollak opt for an olive and a lemon twist when they're drinking Martinis. "The twist adds a lovely bright aroma over the cocktail and livens it up, while an olive adds a touch of salinity and it's a satisfying little treat to enjoy as you sip your Martini," says Pollak.

Decoding Common Martini Styles

With so much variation to the drink, a veritable dictionary of shorthand has emerged to help answer the age-old Martini question, "How would you like it?" Here are some of the most common Martini terms—though bear in mind that exact specifications will vary from establishment to

establishment.

50/50

This style, which is what many Martinis looked like in the early 1900s, is made in equal parts. It consists of 50% spirit mixed with 50%

dry vermouth.

Bone-dry

This order will generally get you a Martini with no vermouth.

Dirty

In its most classic form, a Dirty Martini adds olive brine to the standard Martini recipe. Some places, such as Bemelmans and Musso & Frank's, will split the dry vermouth and olive brine, substituting a portion of the vermouth with an equal amount of brine. Other bars, including Spoon & Stable and Temple Bar, replace the vermouth entirely with brine. Dirty Martinis are often (but not always) made with vodka as the primary spirit, and shaken.

Dry

A Dry Martini contains less dry vermouth than a standard Martini. Ratios can vary wildly, but you can generally expect your bartender to decrease the amount of vermouth and sometimes increase the spirit, resulting in a ratio of anywhere from 5:1 to 8:1 spirit-to-vermouth.

Extra-dirty (or filthy)

This Martini style simply has more olive brine than a Dirty Martini, often in a ratio that surpasses a classic Martini's specifications for the amount of dry vermouth. You can expect anywhere from an ounce to a half-ounce of brine. Temple Bar takes it a step further, with a house recipe that calls for equal parts spirit and brine.

Extra-dry

An Extra-dry Martini will have an even smaller proportion of dry vermouth than a Dry Martini. At most places, you can expect your bartender to only rinse the glass with vermouth, or swirl a small amount of dry vermouth to coat the interior of the glass before tossing out any excess.

Gibson

A Gibson is simply a Martini garnished with a cocktail onion, rather than an olive or lemon twist. It will likely be made according to the same specs as a standard Martini, so if you'd like further tweaks, make sure to specify according to your preferred Martini ratios and style.

On the rocks

It's not a sin to order your Martini on the rocks, or served over fresh ice. This style may be ideal if you prefer a version of the drink that will last longer, since it maintains its cold temperature and dilutes over time, allowing the flavors to evolve. Be sure to specify this order, as Martinis are generally served up by default, and most bartenders won't ask.

Perfect

A Perfect Martini is generally made in a 2:1 spirit-to-vermouth ratio. However, the vermouth is further split into equal parts sweet and dry vermouth. The resulting drink is sweeter and more aromatic than a standard Martini. Pomajzl says the sweet vermouth gives the drink more body and notes of spice.

Reverse

A Reverse Martini flips the usual specs and typically contains two parts vermouth to one part gin or vodka. It's a good option if you're a fan of vermouths or are experimenting with artisanal vermouths whose flavors you'd like to give more prominence. It can also be a fantastic order for a less boozy drink, as in a lunch Martini.

Straight up

This term can vary, and is best to avoid in the context of Martinis. Some bartenders may take it to mean no vermouth, while others may interpret it as another way of saying "up." If you'd like your Martini with no vermouth, you're better off simply asking for no vermouth.

Up

"Up" means that the drink has been strained into a cocktail glass without ice. Martinis are almost always served up, so you generally don't need to specify this in your order.

Wet

A Wet Martini is heavier on the dry vermouth, meaning your bartender may bump the vermouth up by half an ounce or more. However, at places where Dry Martinis are the default, the specs for a Wet Martini may be the same as those of a standard Martini at other bars. At Spoon & Stable, the house Wet Martini employs Old Tom gin and blanc vermouth to produce a richer and slightly sweeter drink.

With a twist

Ordering your Martini with a twist will ensure that you receive a lemon peel as garnish, and indicates to the bartender that they should skip the olive.

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The Finest Vintage Cars of the 1960's Golden Age



Cobra 289 and 427

Carroll Shelby's idea of putting an American V-8 in a British roadster wasn't unique, but the AC Ace was arguably the best possible platform for such a heart transplant – and Ford gave him all the tools he needed to shine. As a narrow-bodied 289, the Cobra was a brilliant road racer; as a flared-out 427, it was desirable enough to spawn a permanent industry of replicas and wannabes. Just as importantly, the success of the Cobra made it certain that Ford would both support the Shelby Mustangs and take the fight to Ferrari at LeMans.

I simply asked AI for their opinion on the future of the automobile:

The future of the automobile is poised to undergo a profound transformation, blending advanced technology with sustainability and user-centered design. Leading innovators such as Tesla and Toyota are already shaping a world where electric and hybrid vehicles dominate the roads, reducing emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. As battery technology improves, cars will travel farther, charge faster, and become more affordable for everyday consumers.

Autonomous driving is another defining feature of the future. Self-driving systems will allow vehicles to communicate with each other and with infrastructure, reducing traffic congestion and significantly lowering accident rates. Commuting could become productive or relaxing time, as drivers transition into passengers in fully automated environments.

Visually, automobiles may look radically different from today's models. Expect smooth, aerodynamic shells with no visible engines or exhaust systems. Interiors could resemble personalized lounges, featuring swivel seating, immersive screens, and voice-activated controls. Vehicles may even adapt their shape depending on use—expanding for families or contracting for solo travel.

Beyond personal cars, mobility ecosystems will evolve. Shared autonomous fleets, flying vehicles, and smart public transit could integrate seamlessly within cities. Ultimately, the automobile will shift from a simple mode of transportation to an intelligent, sustainable, and connected extension of daily life.



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Details at Dealers

Continued from pg 1

Nobibi Expanding to Huntington Beach With Plans for Newport Beach and Laguna Beach

ship for future coastal growth. Customers can expect a menu centered around soft serve, specialty beverages, and visually driven desserts designed for a modern retail setting.

RoseJano Investment Group brings a mix of construction and real estate experience to the project. Anjim has worked across Orange County supporting franchise development and buildouts, while Assale has developed and managed hospitality assets internationally, including hotels in Sweden. Together, the partners are focused on scaling Nobibi across high-traffic coastal markets that align with the brand's concept and customer base.

Nobibi has been steadily expanding across California, with existing locations in cities such as San Diego, Fullerton, Santa Ana, and West Covina, along with several new shops that recently opened or are in development. The brand continues to grow through partnerships with experienced operators, contributing to its increasing presence throughout Southern California and beyond.

The menu features a range of soft-serve options, including signature items like the D'or, Magic Lamp, and Dream Cloud, as well as egg puff ice cream combinations. Customers can also choose from a variety of drinks, including the Dalgona series with flavors such as matcha, caramel, and cocoa, as well as fruit-based beverages like Lychee Dragon Fruit and Sakura Blossom.

Nobibi's concept centers on handcrafted frozen desserts made with fresh ingredients and presented in a modern setting. The brand emphasizes creative flavor combinations and a strong visual identity, which has helped drive its growth across multiple markets.

"Nobibi is exactly the kind of concept that thrives in Orange County—modern, visually engaging, and built for today's consumer," Anjim said in a press release. "We've worked with many franchise brands over the years, and Nobibi stands out. Huntington Beach is just the beginning—we see tremendous opportunity to scale this across Newport and Laguna Beach."

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.

Strawberry Ice Cream

Company: Various

Market Share: \$79 billion global ice cream market*

Ingredient: Beaver butt (aka castoreum)

The wonderful world of food innovation often requires chefs to come up with new things, but did you know that there's a good chance you've consumed beaver butt in your life? Also known as castoreum, the substance is actually secreted from a beaver's behind and supposedly adds flavor to things like ice cream.

Most of the time, manufacturers simply dub it "natural ingredients" on the packaging, as they're not legally required to reveal the fact it's essentially butt juice. Let's face it, if we knew what was in it, we wouldn't buy it.

©USAN ZIDAR/Shutterstock.com

Raspberry Flavored Lollipop

Company: Various

Market Share: \$240 billion total candy market*

Ingredient: Beaver butt (aka castoreum)

Lollipops come in many different flavors, but raspberry ones might have an extra added ingredient that could have you retching in no time. You wouldn't think it from the taste, but raspberry lollipops could actually have a very natural, very odd ingredient in them.

Yep, we're talking about beaver butt juice, aka castoreum. This "natural ingredient" is in far more things

than you realize. Seeing as it's totally natural and not harmful, manufacturers don't have to put exactly what it is on the box. Let this be a lesson to you – you never really know what you're consuming.

©virtualpictures.com/Adobe

Pringles

Company: Pringles

Market Share: \$2.35 billion company valuation in 2012*

Ingredient: Sodium Bisulfate

Most of us wouldn't make a link between Pringles and toilet cleaner, would we? The two products are so vastly different that it seems impossible to draw any comparisons between them. In actuality, there's a big link between them that most people just don't recognize.

Sodium bisulfate is an ingredient used in Pringles, but it's also used in household cleaners like toilet cleaner, dishwasher tablets, and more. While these products have a lot more in them than Pringles do, it's interesting to think you're ingesting something used to scrub limescale.

©Mehaniq / Shutterstock.com

White Flour

Company: Various

Market Share: \$161 billion*

Ingredient: Chlorine Dioxide

White flour that we use to bake cakes looks fairly innocent on the outside, doesn't it? The fluffy, soft white substance seems natural enough, but it's not exactly what it says on the tin. Some brands actually use chlorine dioxide gas to make the flour whiter.

Breathing in this substance has actually been known to cause health problems such as lung issues and even pulmonary edema. The more you breathe in, the worse it gets. So, next time you pick some up, make sure to double-check the ingredients list twice. Chlorine dioxide gas is also used in labs to sterilize equipment.

©Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com



Quinn Minute - Have People Improved?

By Rix Quinn

Have people evolved much?

We humans possess remarkable powers. We can walk, run, swim, and even fly (if we hold a boarding pass). Other creatures aren't so adaptable.

Fish can swim, but walk poorly. Birds can fly, but often misjudge altitude, and end up as hood ornaments.

Some snakes can squeeze you to death...but who wants an affectionate reptile? Bears possess power, but hibernate all winter, and miss some great parties.

Rabbits multiply quickly, but can't understand other math. Amoebas divide, but separate from their better halves.

Beavers build constantly, but live a damn hard life. Wild pigs are unpredictable, and can boar you senseless. Turtles appear gentle, but rarely come out of their shells.

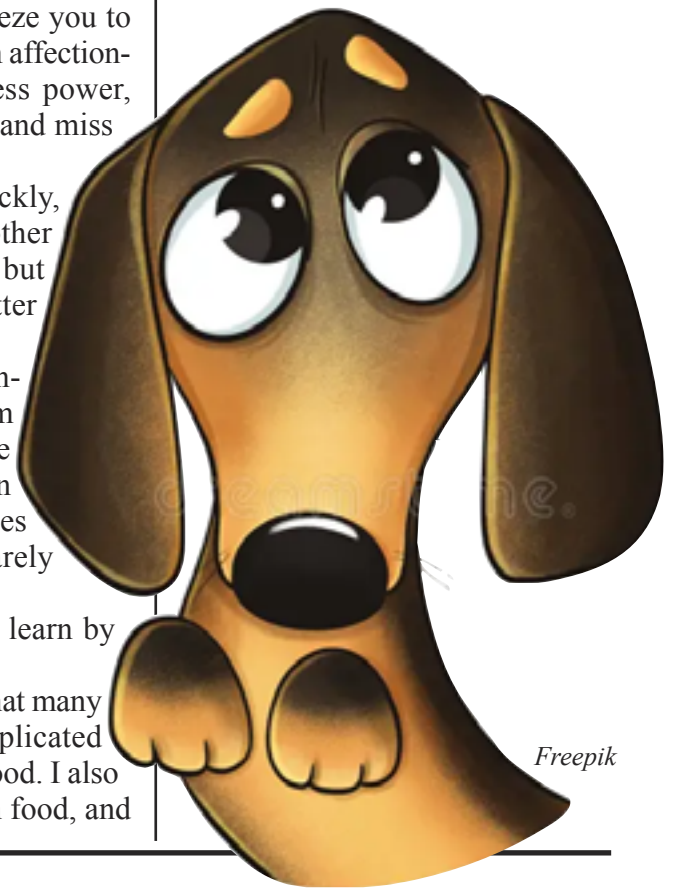
However, animals can learn by trial-and-error.

Scientists discovered that many beasts can master complicated tricks if rewarded with food. I also love to be rewarded with food, and

have personally mastered many complicated recipes.

Over the centuries, folks have survived with intellect, ingenuity, and improvisation.

And when cornered – unlike animals – some folks can talk their way out of trouble. That's a skill I have not yet mastered.



Freepik

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: Forbes



Rafaela Aponte-Diamant

Net Worth: \$33.1 Billion | Age: 79 | Source of Wealth: Shipping | Citizenship: Switzerland and Italy

Aponte-Diamant and her husband Gianluigi Aponte, co-founders of MSC, each own a 50% stake in the company they started in 1970, which has since become the world's largest shipping line. She is responsible for decorating the ships for the company's MSC Cruises. She and her husband entered the industry using a \$200,000 loan to buy a ship.

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.

Riot Games Inc
Original Headquarters: Los Angeles, CA
Purchased By: Tencent Holdings Ltd
Country: China

Riot Games is best known as the creator of League of Legends, a multiplayer online battle extravaganza that pits users against each other. The game debuted in 2009 and gained a lot of traction, becoming the company's best-known product. Although Tencent and Riot had been partners for many years, Tencent upped the ante in 2015.

The company bought the rest of the stakes that it didn't own, making it Riot's parent company and giving it full creative control. Prior to that, Tencent still owned 93% of the business, so it seemed like a natural progression. Riot Games is worth \$6 billion.

©Piotr Swat / Shutterstock.com



Oakley Sunglasses
Original Headquarters: Lake Forest, CA
Purchased By: Italy
Country: China

Oakley was founded by entrepreneur James Jannard, who used an investment of \$300 to start what would later become one of the most iconic sunglasses fashion brands in the world. Oakley is a subsidiary of



Luxottica, a Milan-based company, but Oakley itself is based in Lake Forest, California.

The company was founded in 1975, and, twenty years later, it had its first IPO and raised \$230 million. It expanded into selling chin guards and ski goggles, growing its product line. Its founder, after selling Oakley to Luxottica, went on to create the company, Red Digital Cinema, in 2007.

@Oakley / Facebook.com

Baby Trend Inc
Original Headquarters: Fontana, CA
Purchased By: Alpha Group
Country: China

Baby Trend Inc specializes in all things baby, from highchairs and car seats to travel systems and diaper pails. The business continues to grow, especially after the 2016 purchase made by Canton's Alpha Group.

"We are excited to offer safe, educational, and entertaining solutions to infants and their caregivers around the world," said Wang Jing, the VP of Alpha. "Acquiring Baby Trend will allow us to bring our innovative technology and outstanding intellectual properties into a whole new category, while showcasing our existing expertise in the baby and infant market globally."

@babymobilestore / Facebook.com

Uber Technologies Inc
Original Headquarters: San Francisco, CA
Purchased By: Baidu Inc
Country: China

Grabbing a cab was made even easier when Uber rolled around, allowing users to book a ride with just a touch of a button. It was created by Garrett Camp and Travis Kalanick in 2009, before

going on to become a multi-billion-dollar business and a household name across the world.

In 2014, Chinese internet-search titan Baidu Inc. made a big investment of over \$600 million to help Uber expand into China. The partnership was mutually beneficial, as Baidu wanted to use Uber to grow its mobile payment service. It was a match made in heaven.

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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.

The Thames Torso Murders



Wikimedia Commons

The first part of the first body, the left half of a woman's torso, was pulled from the river on September 5, 1873. Over the next few days, police found the right half, parts of the lungs, a right thigh, right shoulder, left foot, right arm — you get the idea. It got worse when a scalp with a face still attached turned up. The skull was never found. The body was reconstructed as best as possible, the face was displayed on a butcher block, and the public was asked to help identify the victim (via the University of Leicester). One man believed it might have been his daughter, but he couldn't make a positive ID. (Talk about being haunted for the rest of your days.)

The London Times stayed on top of the so-called Thames Torso Murders, reporting on new batches of body parts in June 1874, May 1887, and September 1888. According to Casebook, one piece of that victim ended up thrown over the fence into an estate belonging to the family of Mary Shelley, the by-then-deceased author of "Frankenstein." An acknowledgment, perhaps? A thank-you for the inspiration? It's unclear just how many different killers were dismembering women during this stretch of London's history, but University of Leicester researchers believe it was at least three.

Grandpa's Favorite Ground Beef Recipes

Southern Living / MARY ALICE RUSSELL

Comforting and dependable. These are two words that can be used to describe your grandfather or other treasured family member in your life, but these words can also be used to describe a meal-time staple: ground beef. These recipes, nostalgic as well as filling, are like a walk down memory lane with every bite. We've pulled together ground beef recipes that are bound to be family favorites.

Beef Tamale Pie

Greg DuPree; Prop Styling: Heather Chaddock Hillegas; Food Styling: Emily Nabors Hall

Skillet suppers always hit the spot, and our Beef Tamale Pie is something special. We use cornbread mix to create a tender topping that perfectly compliments the hearty beef.



Don't Let "Mis-information" Ruin the Best Years of Your Life!

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MYTH THREE:

"There are restrictions on how reverse mortgage proceeds may be used."

MYTH FOUR:

"Only low-income seniors get reverse mortgages."

MYTH FIVE:

"If I outlive my life expectancy, the lender will evict me."

MYTH SIX

"A reverse mortgage will affect my government benefits."

MYTH SEVEN:

"There are no objective advisors available to seniors trying to decide if a reverse mortgage suits their needs."

MYTH EIGHT:

"My children will be responsible for the repayment of the loan."

MYTH NINE

"Reverse mortgage lenders take advantage of seniors."

MYTH TEN:

"I cannot get a reverse mortgage if I have an existing mortgage."

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5 Expenses You Can Still Deduct in 2026 — Even If You Take the Standard Deduction

GOBankingRates
JORDAN ROSENFELD

With the standard deduction higher than ever — \$32,200 for married couples filing jointly and \$16,100 for single filers — most Americans no longer itemize. But that does not mean your opportunity to reduce taxable income disappears.

Many taxpayers assume that choosing the standard deduction eliminates any additional write-offs. That misconception costs money, according to Randall Brody, an IRS enrolled agent and founder of Tax Samaritan.

“The standard deduction simply replaces itemized deductions such as mortgage interest or state taxes. It does not eliminate adjustments that reduce income before taxable income is even calculated,” he explained.

While above-the-line adjustments are available to both those who itemize and those who take the standard deduction, there are potential limitations for certain taxpayers, such as high earners, said John A. Madison, CPA. Here are five deductions to consider.

1. Retirement Contributions That Reduce AGI in 2026

Retirement savings remain one of the most powerful ways to lower income even if you take the standard deduction, according to Gene Bott, a CPA and partner at Kevin O’Leary’s Tax Hive.

This includes employer-funded IRAs, self-employment retirement plans and 401(k) plans. The exception is Roth retirement accounts, which don’t reduce your AGI, Bott said.

Brody said it’s common for taxpayers to delay retirement contributions until year-end without realizing they still have time to fund certain accounts and reduce prior-year taxable income. For higher earners, this can mean the difference between staying within a tax bracket or spilling into the next.

2. HSA Contributions

If you have a high-deductible health plan, a health savings account (HSA) remains one of the most efficient tax tools to reduce your AGI, Brody said. That reduction can then make you eligible for other deductions or tax credits.

Madison said HSAs offer “a triple tax benefit: The contribution is deductible, the growth is tax-deferred and qualified withdrawals are tax-free.”

If you use the funds for qualifying healthcare expenses, the funds come out tax-free, as well.

3. Student Loan Interest and Education Credits

Standard deduction filers can also deduct student loan interest. According to the IRS, taxpayers can deduct “the lesser of \$2,500 or the amount of interest you actually paid during the year.” It does phase out at certain income levels, however.

Bott added that taxpayers who are in school should be aware of the American Opportunity Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit. Credits can be even more powerful than deductions, Brody added, “because they reduce tax liability dollar for dollar.”

4. New in 2026 — Charitable Cash Deduction for Non-Itemizers

While charitable deductions typically require itemizing, 2026 introduces a new deduction for charitable contributions made in cash for non-itemizers. “This deduction is limited to \$1,000 for single taxpayers and \$2,000 for joint filers,” Madison said.

This creates an additional opportunity for taxpayers who previously saw no benefit from smaller annual gifts.

ENTERTAIN IN STYLE WITH A SATISFYING SIDE

Cheesy Chicken in a One-Pan Solution

Family Features

On those nights when you’re just too busy to think about cooking, let a one-pan dish do the work for you. Customize this Cheesy Spinach Chicken Bake to your family’s liking

with broccoli or cauliflower in place of spinach, if desired, and let it bake while finishing homework with the kids or prepping for the day ahead.

Find more quick dinner ideas at Culinary.net.



PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECIPE



Cheesy Spinach Chicken Bake

Recipe courtesy of “Cookin’ Savvy”

Servings: 4-6

2 cups chopped rotisserie chicken

10 ounces frozen spinach, thawed and drained

15 ounces ricotta cheese

2 cups mozzarella cheese

1 cup Parmesan cheese

1 tablespoon Italian seasoning

1 tablespoon garlic powder

1 tablespoon onion powder

1 tablespoon lemon thyme

INSTRUCTIONS:

Heat oven to 375 F.

Cut rotisserie chicken and spinach into bite-sized pieces. In baking dish, mix chicken and spinach with ricotta cheese.

Add mozzarella, Parmesan, Italian seasoning, garlic powder, onion powder and lemon thyme. Mix well then bake 30 minutes.

5. Self-Employed Taxpayers Have Additional Adjustments

Business owners and freelancers have even more flexibility because they can deduct one-half of self-employment tax, health insurance premiums paid for themselves and their families and certain business-related adjustments that reduce overall taxable income before the standard deduction is even applied, Madison said.

Qualified business income deductions may also

apply for eligible taxpayers.

The Biggest Mistake Standard Deduction Filers Make

The biggest mistake, Madison said, is to automatically assume that there are no additional deductions. “Always review the eligible above-the-line deductions that are available to see if you qualify. The standard deduction simplifies filing, but it does not eliminate opportunity.”



LAST CALL: These Chain Stores Are Closed 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?

Levi Strauss
Year Established: 1853
Store Closures: Unknown

Back in March, Levi made the difficult decision to shutter all of its US and Canada locations in order to ride out what everyone hoped was the worst part of the pandemic. While most locations opened again, the retailer is still feeling the effects that could impact its operations in 2022.

Levi laid off 15% of its corporate workforce (equating to around 700 employees) in order to try and level out the damage. It hasn't been a good financial year for the 170-year-old brand, but as it's so well-established it has a better fighting chance at recovery than many others.

©lev radin / Shutterstock.com

Bose
Year Established: 1964
Store Closures: 119 Branches*

The tech outlet Bose announced that it would be shifting to online shopping, as that is where the company believes the future of retail lies (they do have a point). Bose is shrinking its retail store count dramatically, closing down 119 stores in Japan, North America, Australia, and Europe. The company said its actions were the result of the "dramatic shift" from in-person shopping to digital.

Bose made this announcement in mid-January of 2020 by sending a press release to CNN Business, Business Insider, Fox Business, and all the other major media outlets. China won't see a big change, though—130 stores will remain open there.

©Jonathan Weiss / Shutterstock.com

Burgerim
Year Established: 2011
Store Closures: TBD*

Burgerim was thriving in 2018, with locations and franchises popping up in many different states. It looked like it was a brand on the rise, but the fairytale soon took a turn for the worse. Trouble started brewing in the form of legal issues just in 2019 which has heavily impacted the company.

Now, restaurants are continuously closing leading to a rapid decline in their physical presence. While the company isn't strictly going under, it is trying to recoup on steadier ground after refunding more than \$57 million in franchise fees.

©TonelsonProductions / Shutterstock.com

Goop Lab
Year Established: Store opened in 2019
Store Closures: 1*

Gwyneth Paltrow is just as famous for her lifestyle brand Goop as she is for her acting pursuits these days. Goop as a brand has been around for several years, but in 2019 Paltrow opened up a flagship store called Goop Labs in Pacific Heights, San Francisco.

Paltrow's store didn't exactly become a huge hit with locals and closure was announced in July of 2020. There are still five Goop Labs in operation, but it's likely that more stores will close in the coming years as the brand continues to grow its online presence.

@BestID / Pinterest.com



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ONE MAN'S TRASH, ANOTHER'S JACKPOT: WILD STOOPING DISCOVERIES IN NEW YORK

Bored Panda / GRETA JARUŠEVIČIŪTĒ

New York City is known for many things. It is a haven of diversity, a global hub of finance and arts, and, as a famous popstar once encapsulated it, a "concrete jungle where dreams are made of." It is also where you can take home free stuff from the streets.

For New Yorkers, this practice is known

as "stooping," and fascinatingly enough, people do encounter excellent finds. This trend has taken a life of its own, and there is a dedicated Instagram account for it.

We've collected photos from the page showing discarded furniture, pop culture mementos, and artwork worthy of the centerpiece spot in the living room. Indeed, NYC is a captivating place.



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hblocalnews.com

'Brady Bunch' star Eve Plumb reveals teen date with on-screen brother Christopher Knight

Page Six / NICKI GOSTIN

A very "Brady Bunch" indeed...

Eve Plumb revealed she once went on a failed date with her on-screen "Brady Bunch" brother Christopher Knight.

After the sitcom ended, Plumb, who played middle sister Jan Brady, and Knight, who played middle brother Peter Brady, tried to go on a date, but it

that it started during the COVID-19 pandemic and has continued.

Plumb said she was busy shooting the TV movie, "Dawn: Portrait of a Teenage Runaway." Courtesy Everett Collection

Plumb said she was busy shooting the TV movie, "Dawn: Portrait of a Teenage Runaway." Courtesy Everett Collection

true.

"At the time, I was shooting [the TV movie] 'Dawn: Portrait of a Teenage Runaway,' and decided that I would continue to try other avenues," she revealed.

Although, she did take part in the short-lived sitcom, "The Brady Brides," which saw Jan and Marcia sharing a house, both as newlyweds.



turned into an amorous bungle.

"It was sweet," the actress, 67, told Page Six in a recent exclusive interview. "It was fun, but we were really already by that time just too good of friends to make that transition into being romantic partners."

In her upcoming memoir, "Happiness Included: Jan Brady and Beyond," the actress writes that "any attempts at making out that evening ended with laughter and resignation that we'd always be sister and brother, even in real life."

And that "sibling" bond continues.

"We've stayed friends to this day," she shared.

So much so that Plumb and her husband have a monthly Zoom call with Knight and his wife.

"We're due for one now," Plumb noted, explaining

Plumb was already a seasoned child actress when she won the role of Jan in the sitcom, which ran from 1969 to 1974 and spawned a spate of TV spinoffs, specials and two movies.

Jan's "middle-child" issues, like feeling overshadowed by older sister Marcia (played by Maureen McCormick), which prompted the now-famous whiny, petulant catchphrase, "Marcia, Marcia, Marcia!" made her character maybe the most memorable of the six siblings.

Plumb did not appear in the short-lived spinoff series "The Brady Bunch Hour," which ran for only nine episodes. Geri Reischl filled in for Jan, leading many fans to believe Plumb disliked being associated with the sitcom — something she said is not

Plumb acknowledged that, as a child actress, she was lucky to have a stable home life and parents who encouraged her and meticulously looked after her earnings.

She said she earned "enough" from the sitcom, "but it wasn't ever a lot of money, and so it was invested, and I didn't have to get a day job, which was fortunate."

Plumb has continued working and also has another career as an accomplished painter, which has spawned a lifestyle brand.

The "Brady Brides" alum said she likes painting because "it's something that I have complete control over about when I do it, what I'm doing, how I do it, and it's fun!"

Never Buy Rotisserie Chicken If You See This

Rotisserie chicken is one of those conveniences that makes me glad to live in the modern era. Being able to score a perfectly roasted chicken that can be used in multiple meals for less than \$10 is the definition of a marvel. When I head to Costco, you can bet that I'm throwing one of those conveniently-handled bags with a roasted chicken in my cart every single time.

Most of the time, the rotisserie chickens you see are roasted to perfection, but sometimes, you'll see a bird that looks either past its prime or not yet ready for prime time. If you're a regular rotisserie chicken buyer, these are the visual cues you should note the next time you pick up one.



Credit: Simply Recipes / Getty Images

What a Good Rotisserie Chicken Looks Like

Whether sold hot or cold, a good rotisserie chicken should look like it just came from the oven. It should boast a golden, roasty skin and generally look like a delicious roasted chicken. Depending on how and when the bird was packaged, you may see some juices at the bottom of the bag, which are a natural part of the cooking process—as long as they're dark in color, similar to gravy or chicken stock.

In terms of quality, look for a bird that feels heavy for its size and appears fully intact, not falling apart. A rotisserie chicken that feels light for its size might just be small, or it could be over-cooked, meaning that you'll have dry, rubbery meat instead of the succulent chicken that rotisserie cooking is intended to produce.

How to Tell If a Rotisserie Chicken Isn't Worth Buying

If you're purchasing a fresh chicken, you want to make sure it's served nice and hot. Ideally, the bird has been kept under a warming lamp to help it maintain a safe temperature to ward off bacteria. A key exception to this rule is when rotisserie chickens are sold cold; those should be kept refrigerated at temperatures lower than 40°F to slow down bacterial growth and consumed within two days of purchasing.

Visually, any red juices at the bottom of the bag are a red flag. It's not blood, as many people think; instead, it's myoglobin, and its presence could indicate that your chicken wasn't cooked to the safe temperature of 165°F recommended by the USDA. Pale skin could also indicate undercooking—but even if it is properly cooked, it won't be as pleasant to eat as crisp, properly roasted skin.

Of course, it goes without saying: If you smell any bad or off odors instead of that delicious roasted chicken aroma, skip the rotisserie case and consider another speedy meal instead.

Read the original article on [Simply Recipes](#)

1970 Hit Ranked Among Best Rock Love Songs Took 20 Minutes to Write



Photo by Michael Putland on Getty Images

Parade / WENDY MICHAELS

Elton John's 1970 hit "Your Song" is one of the greatest love songs ever written. The romantic ballad came together in record time, with John composing the melody in just 20 minutes after his songwriting partner Bernie Taupin gave him the lyrics he had scribbled down.

In 2018, Taupin told the Independent, "The original lyric was written very rapidly on the kitchen table of Elton's mother's [house] in Northwood Hills in the suburbs of London, if I recall, on a particularly grubby piece of exercise paper."

The songwriter added, "It's the voice of someone who hasn't experienced love in any way. It's a very virginal song."

Taupin shared, "I think 'Your Song' is a gem. Our classic, I'm not sure. I'll let others decide that. But it's like an old friend, it means so many things on equally as many levels. It's certainly proved its worth, and I've heard it sung a million times."

"It's like a good dog, it's always there," he added.

In a 2013 Rolling Stone interview, John opened up about how Taupin's lyrics inspired him to fill out the melody

of "Your Song" very quickly.

"What can I say, it's a perfect song. It gets better every time I sing it," he shared.

"I remember writing it at my parents' apartment in North London, and Bernie giving me the lyrics, sitting down at the piano and looking at it and going, 'Oh, my God, this is such a great lyric, I can't f**k this one up,'" the singer explained.

John noted, "It came out in about 20 minutes, and when I was done, I called him in and we both knew. I was 22, and he was 19, and it gave us so much confidence."

"Empty Sky [his debut album] was lovely, but it was very naive. We went on to do more esoteric stuff like 'Take Me to the Pilot,' of course, but musically, this was a big step forward," he shared. "And the older I get, the more I sing these lyrics, and the more they resonate with me."

"Your Song" ranked #6 on a 2025 Billboard list of staffer picks for "50 Best Rock Love Songs"

This story was originally published by Parade on Apr 5, 2026, where it first appeared in the News section. Add Parade as a Preferred Source by clicking [here](#).



EarthTalk®

From the Editors of
E/The Environmental
Magazine

Dear EarthTalk:
*Are polar bears
still in decline due to
global warming?*

~ **Patty Finch, Bowie, MD**

Polar bears are a big part of the Arctic ecosystem. However, they are grappling with huge changes to their homes due to the effects of climate change. The bears are now listed as “vulnerable” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This puts them at a high risk of being endangered, which means they are at significant risk of extinction. The global polar bear population is estimated to be around 26,000. Some sub-populations are stable, while others are declining as a result of habitat fragmentation.

Greenhouse gas emissions have driven worldwide temperatures to an all-time high, causing Arctic Sea ice to melt. This is a crisis as polar bears rely on ice for all parts of their routine. Thus, polar bears are losing their habitats. Melting ice also affects the bears’ ability to hunt, since ice serves as a hunting platform. This af-

fects not only adult bears and their survival, but also the cubs. According to Dr. Steven Amstrup, Chief Scientist Emeritus at Polar Bears International, “the longer the sea ice is gone from the productive zone, the tougher it is on the bears.”

Different polar bear populations have been affected in different ways. To wit, the populations in the Western Hudson Bay and Southern Beau-

Polar bears are struggling more than ever as the sea ice they depend on melts away all around them as the world warms.

Credit: Pexels.com.



fort Sea have faced the greatest decline. However, populations in the Barents Sea and Gulf of Boothia are likely to be stable at the moment. It’s important to note that many other regions are data deficient, causing a gap in statistics and information availability. In the late Dr. Ian Sterling’s book, *Polar Bears: The Natural History of a Threatened Species*, he asserts that “it is vital that all humans and their respective governments...help reduce greenhouse gas emissions...to ensure that both sea ice and polar bears persist for our children...”

Challenges in addressing these issues persist. International policy responses are slow, and industrial development continues to encroach on

polar bears’ habitat and territory. Also, since the polar bear population is dispersed across 19 sub-regions, it’s hard to effectively coordinate actions between regions.

That being said, progress has still been made. The 1973 Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears brought together the five nations with the highest polar bear populations (Canada, Greenland, Norway, Russia and the U.S.), all who recognize that polar bears need effective protection. Furthermore, organizations like Polar Bears International and the World Wildlife Fund promote conservation, research, and advocacy. Individuals can support polar bear populations by supporting organizations, educating themselves, and being involved in advocacy. By saving these animals, we commit to taking action on climate change, both for humanity and the world.

CONTACTS:

*Polar Bears International
polarbearsinternational.org;*

*World Wildlife Fund
protect.worldwildlife.org;*

*International Union
for the Conservation of Nature
iucn.org/.*

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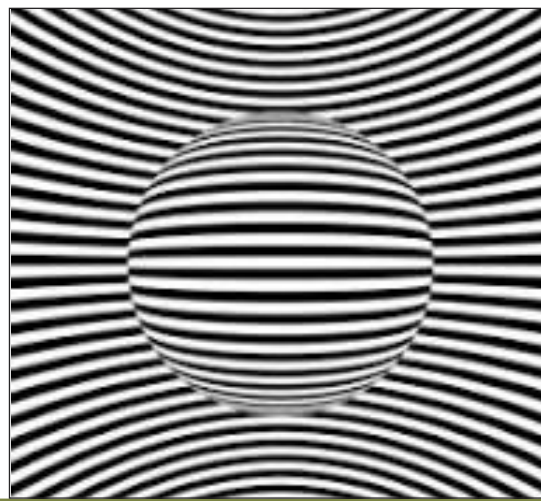
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Mind Boggling Photos



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Cocktails & WOMEN

Mudslide Cocktail

By Liquor.com

The Mudslide—a combination of vodka, coffee liqueur, Irish cream, and heavy cream—is the quintessential boozy milkshake. Sweet, creamy, and rich, its popularity harkens back to a time when we took our cocktail cues from the laminated menus of chain restaurants. Which is to say, the Mudslide is not exactly an exercise in balance and craftsmanship. But it sure is an enjoyable concoction.

Ingredients

- 1 ounce vodka
- 1 ounce coffee liqueur
- 1 ounce Baileys Irish cream
- 1 1/2 ounces heavy cream
- Garnish: chocolate shavings

Steps

- Add the vodka, coffee liqueur, Baileys and cream to a shaker with ice and shake until well-chilled.
- Strain into a chilled fizz glass or coupe.
- Garnish with freshly shaved chocolate.

Cocktail Corner



COCO CHANEL

Coco Chanel was a leading French modernist designer, whose patterns of simplicity and style revolutionised women's clothing. She was the only designer to be listed in the Time 100 most influential people of the Twentieth Century.

Coco Chanel During the 1920s, in particular, Coco Chanel left a lasting mark on women's fashion and design. Up until the First World War, women's clothing had been quite restrictive and tended to involve full-length skirts which were impractical for many activities. Coco Chanel helped create women's clothing that was simpler and more practical. She also introduced trousers and suits for women – something which had not been done before.



PICTURE OF THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY

The future of the newspaper is challenged by digital disruption, declining print revenue, and changing reader habits. Organizations like The New York Times have adapted through digital subscriptions, multimedia storytelling, and data-driven journalism. To survive, the industry must prioritize credible reporting, embrace innovation, and rebuild trust. By focusing on quality content and community engagement, newspapers can remain relevant in a rapidly evolving media landscape.



HISTORICAL PHOTOS



The very first individual to be captured on film. Bet Hannah Stiley wishes she smiled a little.

Forecasters call for weather on Monday

They're hesitant to predict snowstorm here

By Caitlin Cleary
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

shaping up," said Rich Redmond of the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh.

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Moe Kanoudi

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THE BEST HOLE-IN-THE-WALL FRIED CHICKEN IN THE WHOLE WORLD

Restaurants Worth Crowing About

When it comes to restaurants, looks can be deceiving. Great food can come from almost any kitchen, whether the restaurant is fancy or not. It's the unassuming spots that often prepare some of the best fried chicken, maybe because fried chicken is an unassuming dish itself. We examined customer reviews and expert recommendations to find fried chicken joints in every state that offer fantastic chicken in an unpretentious atmosphere. Next time you're in the mood for Southern-style fried chicken, check out these hole-in-the-wall joints, walk-up windows, drive-thrus, truck stops, and gas stations for a bucket of fried goodness — and maybe a side of potatoes while you're at it.

New York: Randy's Restaurant Old Forge

Randy's Restaurant is located in an adorable little shack in upstate New York. It's a little cramped inside (and right now it's takeout only), but it's comfortable and full of interesting signs to look at. They offer all kinds of home-style dinner, including "Randy's Chicken" which is pressure fried to keep the meat juicy. Family meals and buckets are also available for takeout.



Andrew W. Yelp

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

THE TOWN IN ALASKA WHERE THE ENTIRE POPULATION LIVES INSIDE ONE 14-STORY BUILDING

Far & Wide / EDWARD CLARK

Whittier, Alaska, doesn't follow the typical town layout. There's no spread of neighborhoods, no clusters of homes, and no real sense of distance between residents. Instead, nearly the entire population lives inside a single 14-story structure called Begich Towers.

Whittier, located about 60 miles southeast of Anchorage, occupies the edge of the Passage Canal, surrounded by steep mountains and open water. Getting there requires passing through a 2.5-mile tunnel that allows traffic in only one direction at a time and closes overnight. For long periods, reaching the town depended on the weather and limited transport options, so being cut off was simply part of life there.

That isolation is one reason the town functions the way it does today.

One Building, Nearly the Entire Town

Begich Towers rises at the edge of Whittier as the center of daily life. Originally built as a military barracks during the mid-20th century, the structure was designed to house hundreds of military personnel and their families in a harsh, controlled environment.

The U.S. Army developed the area as a secure port by taking advantage of its natural protection from surrounding mountains and frequent cloud cover. After the military left in 1960 and the population dropped, the remaining residents consolidated into this building instead of spreading out across the landscape.

Today, with a population of roughly 200 to 260 people depending on the season, most residents live within its nearly 200 apartments. The building contains far more than housing. Inside, there is a post office, a small grocery store, a laundromat, a church, and a health clinic capable of handling basic care. At one point, even law enforcement operated from within the same structure.

Built Around Climate and Access

Whittier's environment plays a central role in how the town operates. Annual snowfall can reach 22 feet, and winter winds regularly exceed 60 miles per hour. Extended periods of rain and snow make outdoor movement unpredictable, and basic tasks like commuting or running errands can quickly become difficult.

Living in a single building simplifies those challenges. Residents can move

between essential services without exposure to the weather, and many routines happen entirely indoors. In some cases, even school access is integrated into the system.

Students use an underground tunnel connecting the building to Whittier Community School, avoiding the need to step outside during harsh conditions.

Daily Life in Close Quarters

When most of a town shares the same building, everyday routines start to overlap. You run into the same people without planning to, whether you're doing laundry, grabbing groceries, or checking the mail. For some, that builds a sense of connection and support. For others, it takes getting used to having less personal space.

Work and home life can overlap in ways that aren't common elsewhere. Teachers may see their students outside class just by stepping into the hallway. Local businesses operate within the same structure as their customers live. Even basic errands can feel like part of a shared routine rather than separate activities.

Still, the building allows for flexibility. Some residents value the social aspect, while others keep to themselves, using the same setup to maintain distance when needed. The environment doesn't dictate one experience; it accommodates several.

Supply, Movement, and Self-Sufficiency

Most goods are brought in from Anchorage, and local stores stock essentials based on those trips. Storage becomes important, and residents often keep reserves of food and supplies to account for disruptions caused by weather or tunnel closures.

The tunnel itself influences how people schedule their time. Traffic moves in alternating directions at set intervals, and missing the final crossing of the night can mean waiting until morning. While that constraint can be inconvenient, it also reinforces the rhythm of life in the town, where timing and preparation matter more than spontaneity.

Despite these limitations, the building's internal setup reduces the need for constant travel. Many daily needs can be met without leaving, which offsets the challenges of reaching the outside world.



Image via Wikimedia Commons/Enrico Blasutto

Intuition - That Little Voice Inside You

By Bryan Golden

You've had it happen, probably more than once. You make a decision or take some action, but there is that little voice in the back of your mind telling you not to do it. Then later on, if it turns out you made a mistake, you'll readily admit that you knew you shouldn't have done it.

But you proceeded anyway, in spite of your so-called better judgement. Why? Is there something within your subconscious mind that is able to make better decisions than your conscious self? Everyone has that little voice called intuition. Too often, to our detriment, it's ignored.

Surprisingly, there are people who refuse to pay attention to their intuition, even when it's proven that it is correct. Repeatedly, these people ignore their better judgement only to continually make mistakes. There is nothing wrong with making a mistake. Ignoring guidance that could help avoid making the wrong decision is a waste.

Exactly how intuition works is not really known. However, its uncanny accuracy is proven time and time again. Some people develop a highly tuned sensitivity to it. Others block it out to the point that they are not even aware of its existence.

Your intuition is a special internal navigator. Your brain has much more power than you consciously tap into. It's capable of doing things you don't really understand. Whether you call it a gut feeling, a little voice, a nagging inside you, or a bad feeling is irrelevant. It is all the same thing.

Here's another example. Someone you meet for the first time makes you feel uncomfortable. You can't put your finger on anything specific. The person is pleasant yet you don't feel right. Your subconscious mind is picking up something you can't see. If you have enough interaction with the person, the reason for your uneasiness will eventually come to the surface.

You can develop your intuition. First recognize it exists. Next listen to

it. Your intuition works best when you step back and take some time to contemplate your situation while considering various options. Allow your mind to work to bring the best course of action.

Whenever your intention conflicts with your intuition, it's time to pause without taking any action. You first need to resolve why there is a conflict with your inner voice. If you proceed without further thought and analysis, you are increasing the odds for unfavorable results.

Your inner voice is there to serve you. It's your ally, not your adversary. People get into trouble when they act before they think. Often, they behave as if they are in a race with time. This haste is self-imposed causing them to act impulsively rather than prudently.

There is really no rush. It takes relatively little extra time to step back, listen to your inner voice, and fully analyze your various options. A little introspection yields big benefits. You don't want to lament having rushed into something.

If you analyze bad decisions you have made, you will probably find you acted hastily, didn't think first, and ignored your gut feel. This cycle doesn't have to repeat itself. It's easy to break out of it. People who reiterate this pattern invariably complain that they don't understand why problems consistently seek them out.

Everyone has intuition. Some have ignored it so long they don't realize it exists. Others pay attention when those internal alarms go off. You decide which category you want to be in. The more you use your intuition, the better it will get.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2026 Bryan Golden

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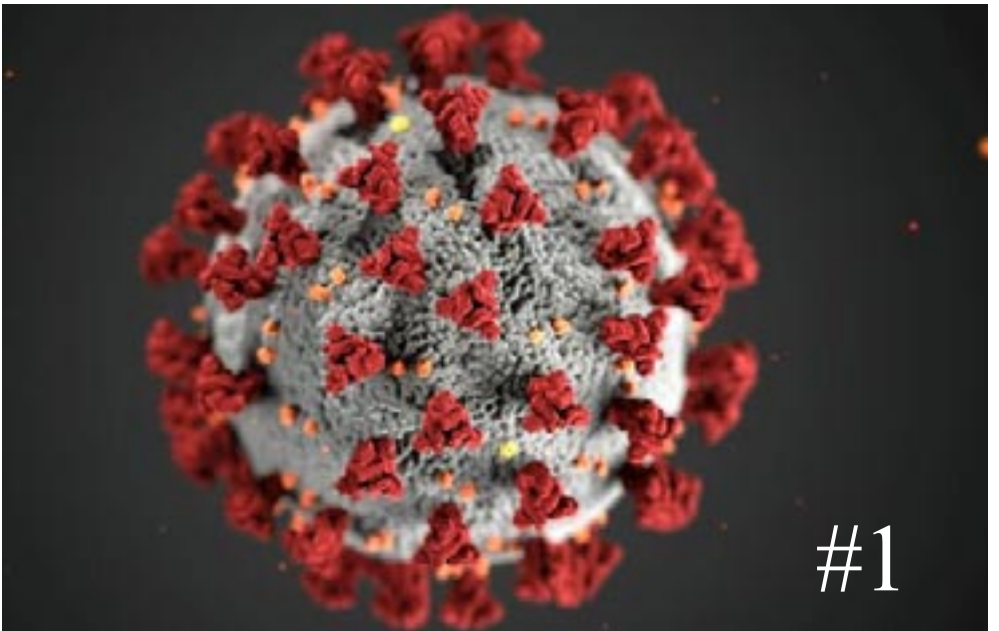
Nonsense-Sounding Statements That Turned Out To Be True

Bored Panda / ROBYN SMITH

Don't believe everything you read on the internet. By now, we can all agree that it's full of fake stuff and AI isn't helping the situation. Misinformation spreads like wildfire and often, it's disguised so well that you might be none the wiser. But sometimes, fact is indeed stranger than fiction and the things that sound like complete and utter rubbish turn out to be true.

Humans glow. The universe is beige. Per capita, the Vatican has the highest crime rate in the world. Those were just some of the statements that popped up when someone recently asked, "What sounds like complete nonsense, but has been proven to be true?"

Bored Panda has put together a captivating and surprising list of the best answers. From biology to geography, psychology to history, and everything under the sun, there's enough here for anyone looking to sound a little more clued up at that next social gathering. Don't forget to upvote your favorites and feel free to share your own "nonsense-sounding" gems in the comments section below.



#1 If you take a tiny bit of weakened virus, or just the part of it that says "hey I'm such and such virus," and put it in your body it will later protect you (and those around you) from said virus.

Some of the statements on this list are so wild that we did a double-take... and then a deep dive into a world of fascinating but fake-sounding facts.

Many of us have heard of auras, but who knew that humans actually glow? The light we emit apparently fades when we take our last breath. The fact that we glow was already discovered back in 2009. But a new study conducted by scientists from the University of Calgary and published in *The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters*, looked into what happens to that light at the end of the tunnel we call life.

© Photo: roadsideweeds

#2 The platypus.
© Photo: ActafianSeriactas

#3 Oxford University is older than Machu Picchu in Peru. The phenomenon of glowing comes down to the emission of something called biophotons, and it doesn't only occur in humans. The researchers studied mice and revealed that all living things, including plants, emit a faint light up until their last minutes.

"The fact that ultraweak photon emission is a real thing is undeniable at this point," said the study's senior author, Dan Oblak. "This really shows that this is not just an imperfection or caused by other biological processes. It's really something that comes from all living things."

As the *New Scientist* reported, monitoring this signal could one day help track forest health or even detect diseases in people.

© Photo: weekend-climber



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.



Art Deco Clocks
Maker: Vienna, Tiffany & Co., and more
Original Price: Varies
Worth Today: \$200-\$1,000*

Art Deco was a style of design that first showed up in France before World War I. It influenced everything, from the design of buildings and furniture to vacuum cleaners and radios. Clocks even got a remake in Art Deco's image. Art Deco clocks from 1900 to 1940 sell for \$200-\$1,000 on eBay.

The makers vary. Tiffany & Co., Vienna, and Shreve, Crump, & Low are some of the big names in the Art Deco clock business. Obviously, the rarer the clock and materials, the higher the price. If you're not sure whether your clock is Art Deco, take it to an appraiser.

@b_eyda / Pinterest.com

First Edition: A Christmas Carol

Maker: Chapman & Hall

Original Price: \$0.05*

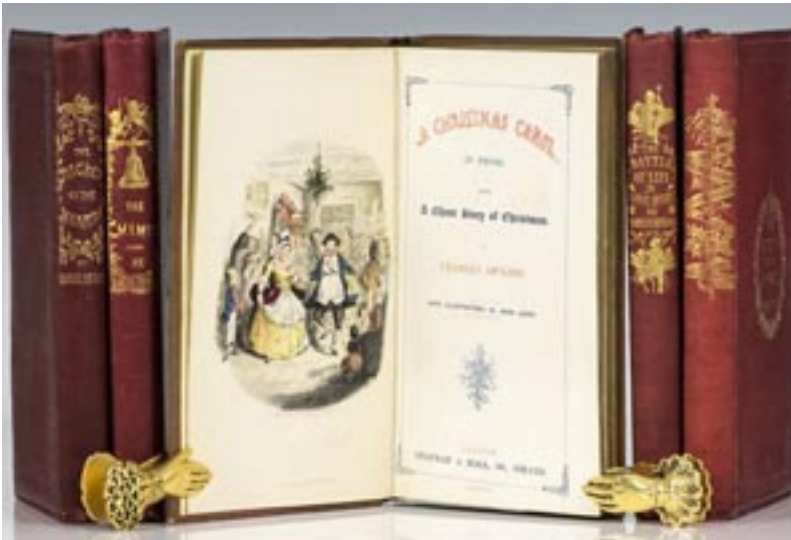
Worth Today: \$75,000*

According to AbeBooks, an antique bookseller, a First Edition copy of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol costs \$75,000—and that's for a used book. The book was published in 1843 by Chapman & Hall.

First editions are incredibly hard to find, especially in good condition. We'd bet that there are less than 100 of these left in the world, which explains the high price.

Dickens published A Christmas Carol nearly two centuries ago, but the tale still is an integral part of Christmas celebrations to this day. The fable has inspired spoofs, remakes, TV shows, and blockbuster hits, proving that a good story never gets old.

@abebooks / Pinterest.com



Ozark Tourist Pottery

Maker: Ozark Pottery Company

Original Price: \$20-\$50*

Worth Today: \$895-\$1,500*

The Ozarks extend across five states, including Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. The majority of the Ozarks lie in Northern Arkansas and Southern Missouri. For a while, the Ozarks were one of the most popular tourist destinations in the U.S.

Ozark Roadside Tourist Pottery is a collection of cement pottery made by Ozark Pottery Company.

The pottery was sold during the 1930s and 1950s, when souvenir, craft, and novelty shops were a common feature of Ozark tourism in the automobile era. Now, these pieces of pottery sell for \$800 and up, if they are authentic from OPC.

@collectorswkly / Pinterest.com



Interesting Old Photos for People who Love History

www.HBLocalNews.com

Bored Panda / ROKAS LAURINAVIČIUS

The world is constantly changing, and eventually, our memory alone isn't enough to portray how things really were. It can distort important details, leaving gaps in our understanding of the past. That's why archives are so valuable.

The Facebook group Old Historical Photos is home to hundreds of images from days gone by. Thanks to the community's dedication to record keeping, we get to see the events, places, and people that might otherwise be lost to time. Previous eras feel much more tangible.



#1 "Patriotism is not enough": The Nurse Who Defied an Empire Edith Cavell was not just a nurse—she was a beacon of moral courage in one of history's darkest hours. Born in 1865 in Norfolk, England, she revolutionized nursing education in Belgium and served as matron of a Brussels training hospital. When World War I erupted and German forces occupied Belgium, Cavell chose to stay behind, continuing to treat all wounded soldiers—Allied or German—with equal care. But her compassion didn't end at the hospital doors. Quietly, she joined a resistance network that helped some 200 Allied troops escape to the safety of the Netherlands.

Her actions eventually drew the attention of German authorities. Arrested in August 1915, Cavell stood trial in a military court and was sentenced despite international protests. She delivered her now-famous final words: "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

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1994 Classic Ranked 'Most Perfect Movie of the Last 50 Years'

Parade / NICOLE MOORE

Over 30 years after its release, the beloved Disney animated film, The Lion King, has just been named the "Most Perfect Movie" of the last five decades.

On March 1, Collider released a list of 10 films, which premiered after 1976, that are considered cinematic triumphs. The list included Academy Award-winning films, Parasite (2019), Schindler's List (1993), and Oppenheimer (2023). Collider's ranking also featured popular films like 1994's Pulp Fiction, 1999's The Matrix, Star Wars: Episode V- The Empire Strikes Back from 1980, Jurassic Park, released in 1993, 2008's The Dark Knight, and 1994's The Shawshank Redemption.

The publication explained that The Lion King ranked as the number one "Most Perfect Movie" since 1976 because of its beautiful animation, emotional, enduring story, Academy Award-winning score, and the iconic voicework from the film's stars, which include Jeremy Irons, James Earl Jones, Matthew Broderick, Nathan Lane, Jonathan Taylor Thomas, Robert Guillaume, and Whoopi Goldberg.

Matthew Broderick and Nathan Lane Have Opened up About Voicing Their Iconic 'Lion King' Characters

In a 1994 interview with Bobbie Wygant, Broderick, who provided the voice of adult Simba, raved about The Lion King, directed by Roger Allers and Rob Minkoff. The actor said that upon first watching the film, he was "thrilled and shocked" by the animation.

"I feel lucky to be a little teeny part of it," said Broderick in the 1994 interview.

He also said that while he enjoyed working on the animated film, recording his lines as Simba was "fussy work." According to Broderick, he would have to record each line multiple times.

"It's very technical so that part of the work is hard. But it's mostly a breeze, I mean it's fun," said Broderick.

He also noted that he recorded his lines as Simba alone and didn't interact with any of his Lion King castmates.

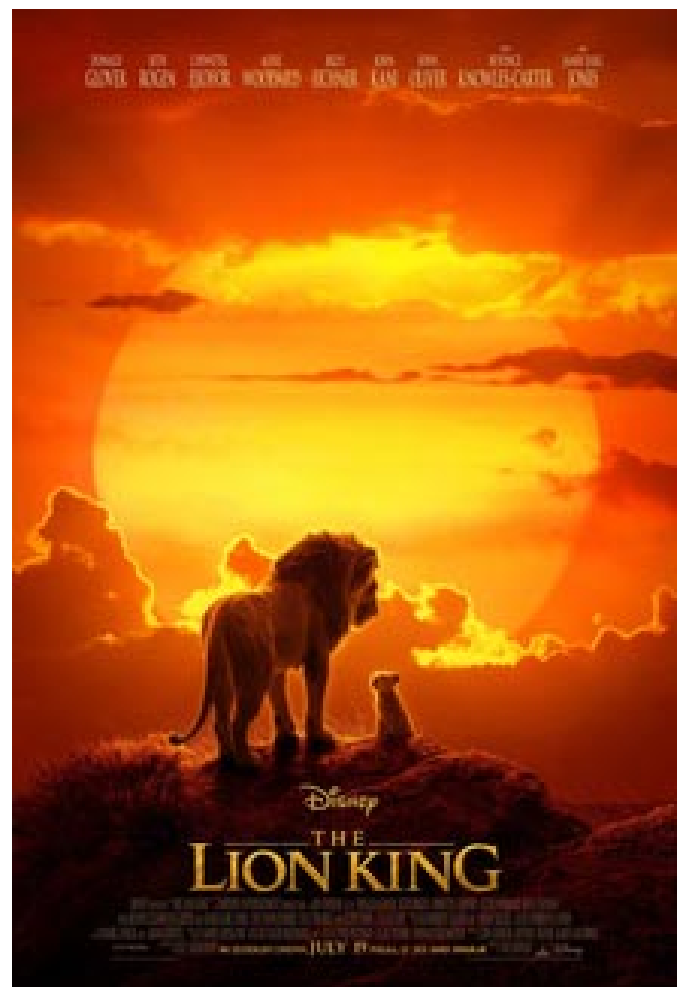
"There's nothing natural about it. It's as far away from doing a scene and a play," said the Ferris Bueller's Day Off star.

Lane, who played meerkat Timon, seemingly had a slightly different experience working on the film. In an April 2025 interview on the Conan O'Brien Needs A Friend podcast, hosted by Conan O'Brien, Lane suggested that he and Ernie Sabella, who played Timon's best friend, warthog Pumbaa, interacted while recording their lines. Lane told O'Brien that Pumbaa's trait of being flatulent was because "Ernie would just start making fart noises" while they were recording lines to get him to laugh.

Lane also said he improvised a line that ended up being a beloved Timon scene.

"Apparently I said 'What do you want me to do? Dress and drag and do the hula?' For some reason. It must have been a long day. And then they made it a song," said Lane on the podcast interview.

This story was originally published by Parade on Mar 2, 2026, where it first appeared in the News section.



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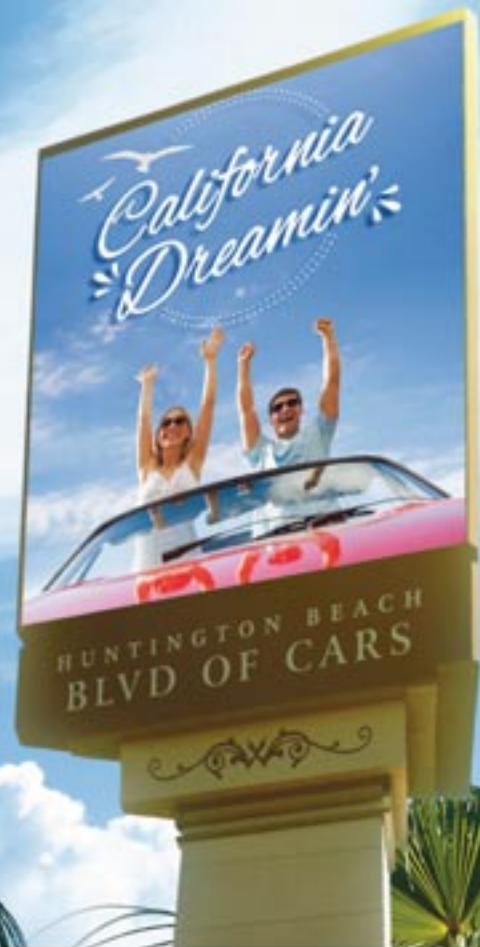
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