

THIS!!!

In God We Trust



THE LOCAL NEWS - 34 CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF GOOD NEWS, ASSISTING NONPROFITS AND CELEBRATING LIFE!

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THE LOCAL NEWS

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Local News / Area Happenings / Opinion / Entertainment / Common Sense & Humor

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Letter to the editor

To the Editor,

Credit should be given where credit is due. The World Cup has created an extraordinary economic and cultural moment for America. Independent projections estimate the 2026 FIFA World Cup could generate approximately \$17 billion in U.S. GDP impact, \$30 billion in economic output, and support more than 185,000 jobs through tourism, hospitality, transportation, and local business activity. (Inside FIFA)

But the impact goes beyond dollars and cents. Restaurants are filled, families and communities are gathering, and millions of Americans are sharing the excitement of global competition. Regardless of political party or viewpoint, leadership means recognizing opportunities that unite people. The World Cup reminds us that America's greatest strength remains our ability to welcome the world and bring diverse communities together through shared experiences.

Respectfully,
Dave Garofalo

LETTERS

Mr. President: Please Make the American Dream Affordable Again

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

I'm 81 years old. I've been self-employed for 40 years. I've lived the American Dream, and I'm writing to you because I don't want to see it disappear for the next generation.

Right now, young Americans are being priced out of homeownership—not because they don't work hard, but because the cost of borrowing money has made the monthly payment impossible.

I believe the solution is simple and powerful:

Create a two-tier mortgage system that gives qualified American homebuyers access to substantially lower interest rates for primary residences.

Not a giveaway. Not a handout. Not a government dependency program.

An opportunity to own.

Make the monthly payment affordable again for working Americans who want to own a home, build equity and create a future for their families.

And Mr. President, the impact would go far beyond the individual homeowner.

More homebuyers means more homes being built.

More homes means more construction jobs.

More jobs means more paychecks.

More paychecks means more spending, more businesses and more economic growth.

It becomes an economic engine powered by the American Dream itself.

At the same time, America is entering an extraordinary new era of artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing and technology. We should not be fighting that transformation. We should be making sure American workers and American families share in the prosperity it creates.

That is where this idea becomes even bigger.

We can build the factories of tomorrow while building the homeowners of tomorrow.

Mr. President, you have always understood that the biggest opportunities are often the ones other people say cannot be done.

This is one of them.

For decades, homeownership gave ordinary Americans a stake in their country. It gave families stability, gave children a stronger foundation and gave parents something they could eventually pass to the next generation.

We cannot allow that ladder to disappear.

I believe you have an opportunity to put homeownership at the center of America's economic revival.

Make homeownership affordable again.

Create a two-tier mortgage system for qualified American buyers of primary residences, with responsible underwriting and safeguards for taxpayers.

Give working Americans a path to ownership.

Give young families a reason to believe again.

Give the next generation something more powerful than a government promise:

Give them the opportunity to own a piece of America.

Mr. President, I have lived the American Dream.

At 81, I don't need another house.

I want the next generation to have the same opportunity I had.

Please consider this idea. I believe it could become one of the most important economic initiatives of your presidency.

Respectfully,
Dave Garofalo
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Dave Garofalo
Publisher

INSPIRATION

*"The most difficult thing is the decision to act,
the rest is merely tenacity."
~ Amelia Earhart*

sad truth

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

— Alfred Russel Wallace

DID YOU KNOW

Wearing a **tie** can
reduce blood
flow to the **brain**
by **7.5** percent

Surprising Sports Facts That You Never Would've Guessed



SPORTS

- The first ever game of Basketball was played with a football.
- The fastest volleyball serve is 83.8 mph.
- A cricket ball has between 65 and 70 stitches.
- Since 1896, the beginning of the modern Olympics, only Greece and Australia have participated in every Games.

PRIVILEGE/CAREER!

To the Editor, The Sacramento Bee

California does not have a shortage of politicians. What we desperately need is a greater supply of public servants.

The presidency—and every elected office—carries a fundamental responsibility that goes beyond party, personality or political ambition. **The integrity of the person holding the office must be genuine.** It cannot be manufactured for television, a campaign speech or a ballot statement. It must be demonstrated by conduct, honesty and respect for the public trust.

Public office is a privilege, not a career.

That distinction matters. When elected office becomes a lifetime profession, politics can become more about protecting power than serving people. The Constitution never envisioned government as a permanent employment program for politicians. It envisioned citizens stepping forward, serving their communities, and ultimately returning to private life.

California voters should demand nothing less.

We should judge candidates not simply by their promises or party labels, but by their character, their record and their willingness to put the public interest ahead of personal ambition.

At the end of the day, democracy depends on something no law can manufacture: **integrity in the person entrusted with the office.**

That is the standard we should demand—and the standard every elected official should willingly accept.

Dave Garofalo
Orange County, California



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



DID YOU KNOW?

Cows have best friends and get stressed when they are separated.

If Animals Could Talk



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People don't land on their feet...

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This is essential in building good will, encouraging growth and above all staying connected in our backyard*

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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!

“Path to democracy: the mailbox, the ballot box–
and only if needed ...the ammo box if the
ultimate Court House fails!”

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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PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

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

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	Mandic Motors	\$20 Off ANY Automotive Repair or Tow	18881 Gothard St	HB	714.536.6585
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	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
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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
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	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
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	Paolo's Ristoronte	4-course dinner \$16.95	17561 Center Ave #37	HB	714.373.5399
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	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.



Steve N./Yelp

The Greatest Breakfast Sandwich in Every State



Zingerman's Delicatessen Ann Arbor, Michigan

This Ann Arbor institution is a bakery, a creamery, a coffeehouse, a candy manufactory and the source of a popular national food catalogue. But above all else, Zingerman's is and always will be known as a destination for excellent Jewish deli fare. Just ask the Ann Arbor locals who have enjoyed the fresh sesame bagels since the early 1980s. Founded by long-time restaurant professionals Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig, Zingerman's has grown into a gourmet food empire with several divisions across the state of Michigan. Still, the deli holds claim over its original site at the intersection of Detroit and Kingsley. According to Weinzweig, "The parking is still bad, the location [is] still hard to find, but the neighborhood is now considered a great place to live." And, as loyal customers will tell you, Renee's Kitchen Magic is still a great sandwich to order up in the morning. It stars a glorious trio of applewood-smoked bacon, two eggs and Vermont cheddar on one of Zingerman's signature sesame bagels

Schwabl's-Buffalo, New York What to order: Roast beef sandwich on kummelweck

Beef on weck is Buffalo's version of the roast beef sandwich. It's served on a kummelweck roll, a German hard roll with caraway and coarse salt on top, giving the sandwich a distinct flavor and savoriness. No one knows who sold the first beef on weck, but Schwabl's is a good contender, considering it's been around since 1837. The beef is carved by hand and mounded in half-pound portions on the kummelweck roll. Traditional sides here are pickled beets and a vinegar-based, mustard-seed specked German potato salad.

Celebrity Chef Recipes

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



Delectable roast chicken doesn't need extra seasoning or toppings

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.

Entrées

If you find yourself scratching your head for a meal plan or main course, look no further. We've tested baked potatoes, hamburgers, corn on the cob, roast chicken, and pasta to find the best options for your next dinner.

Thomas Keller's chicken took minimal effort. Tiffany Leigh for Insider

Leigh made roast chicken using recipes from Thomas Keller, Daniel Boulud, and Garten. Leigh found Keller's technique to be a breeze — and it only uses a handful of ingredients.

After defrosting the chicken, patting off the moisture, and sprinkling pepper and salt on the skin, she cooked it in a cast-iron skillet for 50 minutes. The result was crispy, golden brown, and juicy.

Read more about the winning recipe and full battle here: I made roast chicken using 3 famous chefs' recipes, and the best took the least amount of time and work.

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

Crivello Ristorante Italiano



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The Most Iconic Scenic Views in Every State



Image Credit: Gagliardi Photography

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.

Florida: Seven Mile Bridge The Florida Keys, Florida

Drive across the Seven Mile Bridge in the Florida Keys for a breathtaking view of turquoise waters stretching as far as the eye can see. The sunsets here are legendary, making it an unbeatable spot to experience Florida's natural beauty.

Rare Historical Photos Reveal More Than Immediately Meets The Eye

Take a load off with this carved wood skeleton rocking chair made in Russia in the 19th century.

You know, there are some pieces of furniture that sound cool in your head but when you see them in person it's like... oh yeah that's what a giant wooden rocking chair that in the shape of a skeleton looks like. The chair doesn't just feature a skeletal body and a wide skull at the top of the chair, it's also got an ornate set of feet that are connected the skeleton's actual feet. IT's a pretty weird chair. We don't know how much this rocking chair went for, but it must have fetched more than a pretty penny at auction.



Source: Pinterest

Vintage Photograph



About 100 People Participate In A Lottery To Divide A 12 Acre Plot Of Sand Dunes, That Would Later Become The City Of Tel Aviv, 1909

Biggest Boomtowns in Every State



Sean Pavone / Getty Images/iStockphoto

GoBankingRates / JORDAN ROSENFELD

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

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

Maine: Portland

Change in population:

1 year: 2.03%

5 years: 2.12%

8 years: 2.77%

Change in occupied housing units:

1 year: 2.34%

5 years: 2.39%

8 years: 2.86%

Change in owner-occupied housing units:

1 year: 5.57%

5 years: 14.68%

8 years: 11.10%

Celebrating 57 Years THANKS!

Don José

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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
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TREMEC Electric GT, gaining a permanent US base in Huntington Beach, California

British EV technology company Electrogenic has acquired TREMEC Electric GT, gaining a permanent US base in Huntington Beach, California, and accelerating its North American powertrain and conversion-kit expansion

British EV technology company Electrogenic has acquired the business of TREMEC Electric GT, establishing a permanent United States base at the California firm’s Huntington Beach site. TREMEC Electric GT, founded in 2014, designs and integrates electric vehicle powertrain systems and supplies the aftermarket conversion sector with e-Crate “swap” packages. Oxford, UK-based Electrogenic develops, designs, and manufactures proprietary EV powertrain technology for automakers, defense applications, and the re-powering of classic cars, with in-house software and control systems at the core of its product line. The company says the deal accelerates its North American expansion and brings its technology closer to customers across the region.

additional support to our U.S. partners, as well as establishing a strategic base in California as part of our ongoing SDV software development program. It will enable us to accelerate new products, extend our manufacturing options and further elevate our service offering for new and existing customers across North America.” The SDV reference is to software-defined vehicle architecture. In a second statement, Drummond said: “The teams have been working together for some time and the acquisition seemed a natural evolution for both TREMEC, Electrogenic and the Huntington Beach team. Electrogenic gains a technical centre of expertise on the USA West coast and the Huntington Beach specialists get lots of new tech toys

opment team of automotive engineers, programmers, and high-voltage electrical specialists. The proprietary elements include vehicle control software, microprocessor design for the driver interface and vehicle body control, and digital dashboards. On the mechanical side, the company says its conversions use a system for building high-density battery packs and compact in-line and transverse reduction gearboxes manufactured in the UK. The packaging is designed to preserve the donor vehicle’s structure without cutting or drilling, and all conversions are fully reversible. **Impact on North American Installers** Electrogenic’s drop-in conversion kits are sold

 HAGMAN SEARCH

ELEVATE YOUR TALENT STRATEGY

Highlights
Electrogenic acquires the business of TREMEC Electric GT, gaining its first permanent US footprint in Huntington Beach, California
TREMEC Electric GT, founded in 2014, builds turn-key EV powertrains for low-volume manufacturers and e-Crate swap systems for the aftermarket
Electrogenic and TREMEC will collaborate on next-generation EV powertrain development and manufacturing
North American partner installers gain technical support on Pacific Time in addition to GMT
Why Did Electrogenic Buy TREMEC Electric GT?
The acquisition adds a US operation alongside Electrogenic’s Oxford headquarters and its network of partner installers. According to Electrogenic, the deal follows years of sustained growth in the North American market and gives the company a platform to scale its regional operations with a higher level of local service.
Steve Drummond, CEO of Electrogenic, said: “It’s an exciting business underpinned by a talented and like-minded team. The USA is our most important market and we wanted to provide

to play with. Electrogenic and TREMEC will continue to explore future mutual opportunities in advanced technology and manufacturing.”
What TREMEC Electric GT Brings
TREMEC Electric GT specializes in electric vehicle powertrain system design and integration. The company built its business developing turn-key EV powertrains for low-volume manufacturers, supporting specialist vehicle builders with integration work, and supplying the aftermarket with e-Crate swap systems — complete, plug-and-play packages that electrify vehicles using the existing frame, body, driveline, and suspension. Prior projects range from classic Porsches to American muscle cars.
Electrogenic states that TREMEC Electric GT’s growth had been constrained by a need for more sophisticated vehicle software and control systems to complement its powertrains, and positions its own control technology as the answer.
Software and Control Systems
Electrogenic’s powertrains are developed in-house by a research and devel-

internationally through its network of approved partner installers, with current options covering the Land Rover Defender, Series Land Rovers, classic Porsche 911, Jaguar E-Type, and DeLorean DMC-12. Those partners will now have access to technical support on Pacific Time as well as GMT.

As you get older, you’ve got to stay positive. For example, the other day I fell down the stairs. Instead of getting upset, I just thought, “Wow, that’s the fastest I’ve moved in years!”



Behind the Tap: Protecting Water Quality in Orange County



Water plays an essential role in our everyday lives, but we don't often think much about where our water comes from and how local water agencies ensure that our water is safe and reliable every day.

Since August is National Water Quality Month, it provides the perfect opportunity to learn about your drinking water supply and how it is constantly monitored to ensure that high-quality water flows into your homes when you turn the faucet on.

Most of north and central Orange County gets their water from the Orange County Groundwater Basin – a precious local water supply that is located right beneath our feet. Managed by the Orange County Water District (OCWD), the groundwater basin is filled with many different water sources – including water from the Santa Ana River, stormwater capture behind Prado Dam, purified recycled water from the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), rainfall, and imported water from northern California and the Colorado River when needed. Nineteen cities and retail water districts pump water from the groundwater basin to distribute to 2.5 million people in the region.

Ensuring the quality of our water is just as important as maintaining a sufficient and reliable water supply. The state of California has some of the strictest drinking water regulations in the nation. Orange County water providers ensure that water is carefully monitored and tested to meet all federal and state drinking water regulations set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

OCWD's Water Quality Department and Philip L. Anthony Water Quality Laboratory play a crucial role in this process by managing comprehensive water quality monitoring, sampling and testing programs. Water quality staff collect samples and track groundwater and surface water conditions, while laboratory

Water providers such as the city of Fountain Valley and city of Huntington Beach produce an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), detailing the results of the extensive water quality tests done on groundwater wells and the water distribution system. Think of it like an ingredient label for your tap water. It tells you exactly what is inside your water and where it comes from.

This extensive monitoring and testing provide an important layer of protection for Orange County's drinking water supply. While much of this work takes place behind the scenes, it helps ensure that groundwater remains a safe, reliable and high-quality resource for the communities that depend on it. Residents are encouraged to review their local water provider's annual Consumer Confidence Report to learn more about their drinking water and the results of water quality testing conducted throughout the year.

To learn more about OCWD's water quality programs, please visit www.ocwd.com/what-we-do/water-quality.

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

Happy National Water Quality Month! The Orange County Water District (OCWD) collects and analyzes thousands of water samples each year to protect the quality of Orange County's groundwater supply.



specialists analyze samples for more than 500 compounds – far more than what is required by state and federal agencies.

Each year, approximately 20,000 samples are collected, and more than 400,000 analytical results are reported. The laboratory can detect contaminants at concentrations as low as parts per trillion – that's like finding one grain of salt in an Olympic-sized swimming pool!

Most Iconic Moments in History



Dolly Parton And Mick Jagger Backstage At The Bottom Line, 1977

You know what wasn't happening in New York City in 1977? Country music. Punk rock was happening, disco was happening, and early hip hop was happening -- all cutting-edge stuff. Country music was as far from the cutting edge as could be. But Dolly Parton didn't much care, as you might expect. Big hair, big voice, big smile -- big, you know, everything -- Dolly Parton has never given the impression that she frets too much about what other people think.

And so in May 1977, Dolly was booked for three performances at New York City's Bottom Line. (Though she was a fish out of water in New York, she wasn't totally without fans -- like Barbra Streisand and Bette Midler, she was a favorite of urban gay communities.) On this occasion, some boldface names of the nightlife scene came to the 400-seat venue to see her. After all, she was Dolly. Mick Jagger, Bruce Springsteen and John Belushi -- all of whom had respect for country music -- were all in the crowd that night, and Dolly blew the doors off the place.

Photograph by Allan Tannenbaum. Source: Reddit

On the Vine or Nearby

By Dylan Garret

Few modern spirits may initially come across as intimidating as Scotch whisky. Between its storied history, the subtleties between expressions, age statements, and the often highly opinionated connoisseurs who favor it, it can be hard for even some established whiskey lovers to find a foothold in which bottles are worth the effort to seek out.

Strict rules regarding its production add to scotch's daunting perception. The Scotch Whisky Regulations of 2009 were the last major codification of these rules, replacing the Scotch Whisky Act of 1988 and Scotch Whisky Order of 1990. These regulations govern everything from the various official categories of scotch to permitted production techniques and ingredients and legally protected geographical indications, as well as bottling, labeling, packaging, and even the types of wood the spirit may be aged in.

Within this system, 141 distilleries currently operate across Scotland, grouped into five official regions: Highland, Lowland, Speyside, Islay, and Campbeltown. While there is variation within each based on style and blends, each region has certain hallmarks that drinkers have come to expect, be it Islay's typical peat influences or the softer profile of Lowland scotch.

Scotch also must be produced within one of five distinct styles—single malt, single grain, blended malt, blended grain, or blended scotch whisky. The first two are parent categories that denote the distillery and ingredients used to create the scotch, while the others indicate the type of blends that may be created from the combination of single malt and/or single grain scotch whiskies. None is inherently “better” than another, though many drinkers hold strong preferences.

This is to say, even for a category as exacting as

scotch, so much variation can make it hard to specify what constitutes an essential bottle. But while certain flagship brands have come to dominate shelves at whisky bars and home bars alike, scotch is a spirit that has long begged whisky lovers to taste across the spectrum of regions and styles to fully appreciate its characteristics.

These are the eight bottles that Scotch whisky experts feel should be on every scotch aficionado's bar cart.

Bruichladdich Octomore

Bruichladdich is an Islay producer that has made waves for producing some of the most heavily peated whiskies in the world, often as a counterpart to its flagship Classic Laddie line of unpeated whiskies. Chief among these is Octomore, which releases annual limited-edition bottlings, no two of which are alike, that many scotch lovers have come to eagerly await.

“Bruichladdich's Octomore is a must for those who love peat,” says Jamie Boudreau, the proprietor of Canon, a whiskey-focused bar in Seattle that houses one of the world's largest collections of spirits. “While there are other great, easier-to-find expressions that celebrate smoky brine, like Ardbeg, Laphroaig, or Laguvulin, this neighbor to those more popular distilleries creates some of the biggest smoke bombs on the planet.”

Beyond simply aiming for in-your-face peat, Bruichladdich's head distiller takes pains to tame these increased levels and shape them into an array of aromas and flavors that demonstrate why scotch lovers should look beyond simple ppm (phenol parts per million) statements on bottles. “Think about burning the heck out of a marshmallow over a smoky seaside campfire on a rainy night, dousing the flames in single malt, and then devouring the whole thing while it's still smoking,” says Boudreau. “Welcome to Octomore.”

Compass Box Glasgow Blend

Compass Box burst onto the whisky scene in 2000, and its creative approach to blending, maturation, and consumer transparency has led to a resurgence of innovation in blended Scotch whisky. Not a distiller itself, the company sources component whiskies from other distillers and then blends these whiskies and matures them further until a specific desired profile is reached.

THE ESSENTIAL SCOTCH WHISKY BOTTLES FOR YOUR HOME BAR EXPERTS SHARE THEIR TOP PICKS.

The Glasgow Blend leans into a style of scotch said to be historically preferred by Glaswegians, which means fuller bodied, with an emphasis on heavy flavors and a classic sherry finish. The result is a whisky that comes in at the value end of the cost-to-quality spectrum, but more importantly, has a profile that is tailor-made for use in mixed drinks. “This is my go-to for scotch cocktails,” says Cory Atkinson, the owner of Elemental Spirits Co. in Atlanta. “It's bold enough in its flavor profile to really punch above its weight in a cocktail, and with a touch of smoke it reminds you unmistakably that it's a Scotch whisky.”

As with all its blends, Compass Box publishes a full breakdown of component whiskies and percentages in the Glasgow Blend, which include those from Laphroaig, Clynelish, Cameronbridge, and Aberlour, among others. The result is a scotch that offers plenty of smoke, spice, and sherry notes that hold up in cocktails, managing to complement additional ingredients rather than overpower or be overshadowed by them. “Seriously, have Compass Box shift your paradigm and prejudices towards non-single malt scotch,” says Boudreau, who favors the brand's Hedonism line. “Its lineup is amazing, with whiskies in everyone's price range that will teach newcomers and holdouts alike that the words ‘blended’ and ‘grain’ are no longer a bad word in scotch's arena.”

Glen Scotia Victoriana

From Campbeltown, Glen Scotia is one of only three distilleries that remain in operation there. This makes it a fantastic entry point to those who seek to explore the regional diversity of scotch, or as an alternative to the often hard-to-find Springbank. “Glen Scotia is like the Scottie Pippen of Campbeltown,” says Brett Adams, the education manager and spirits curator at Multnomah Whiskey Library. “We'd all be talking about how great it was if it wasn't for the fact that it was excelling in the shadow of Michael Jordan—a.k.a. Springbank.”

This full-bodied whisky is a faithful expression of many of the region's archetypal qualities. Robust and bottled at a cask strength of 54.2% ABV, it features notes of caramelized fruit and crème brûlée that meet Campbeltown's signature maritime influence, evoking saline and sea spray.

“The Victoriana is a fantastic introduction not only to the brand, but also to the category of scotch, particularly for those who normally drink bourbon,” says Adams. “Finished in pedro ximénez and heavily charred American ex-whiskey casks, there's a strong sweetness and subtle smoke from said barrels, layered on top of a lot of body thanks to wide stills with little reflux, all kept lively due to the higher-than-average proof.”

Glenfarclas 12 Year

This Highland distillery specializes in single malt Scotch whisky in the classic Speyside style and has remained family owned and operated since 1865. The region generally produces clean, fruit-forward, and floral whiskies that still possess ample body. “[The Glenfarclas 12 year] is my everyday sipper,” says Atkinson. “It's one of the last independently owned distilleries in Scotland and is as classic Speyside as you can be—rich, bold, fruity, and finished in exclusively ex-sherry barrels. It's a distillery that hasn't really messed around with anything since they got it right in the mid-1800s.”

Glenfarclas continues to age its scotch, distilled twice in direct-fire stills, in European oak casks sourced from a single sherry producer in Spain and previously used to mature oloroso. “You won't see any port or bourbon cask finishes here,” says Atkinson. “It's a sherry-lover's dream, and is a great reminder to those who think scotch is too smoky that whiskies from Scotland can be quite balanced and fruit-forward.”

Highland Park 12 Year

“Up on Orkney Island, where they make Highland Park, they use a different peat to smoke their barley than they do on Islay,” says Atkinson. “Highland Park's smoke level is what I would consider ‘medium,’ certainly not Laphroaig levels, but the smoke is actually more rich, earthy, and organic than Islay smoke, which tends to be acidic, chemical, and mineral-driven.”

Researchers have found regional differences in peat composition between the two regions, with Orkney peat featuring higher levels of heather. In Highland Park, the result of this heather is a more floral and aromatic smoke that integrates with the scotch's notes of heather honey and

baking spices. It's a fantastic choice for those seeking to understand the terroir of scotch and peat in particular, and can be a great experience for scotch drinkers who are more familiar with bottles from Islay. “[Highland Park] is like campfire versus [Islay's] iodine tablet,” says Atkinson. “The Orkney smoke tends to integrate into the flavors of the whisky better and makes for a more well-rounded dram.”

Tamdhu Batch Strength

Matured exclusively in oloroso sherry casks, Tamdhu, which Adams describes as “a big, unpeated Speyside malt,” offers a quintessential taste of Speyside, and is a welcome alternative for those looking to expand beyond the other powerhouse producers of the region. “As Macallan gets more and more expensive and hard to get, I'm always on the hunt for great sherried scotches to fill the gap,” says Adams. “And if you're looking for a substitute for Macallan, why not look at distilleries its owner also used to run?” Tamdhu was owned by Edrington for years and played a crucial role in its blends, says Adams, and also benefited from its access to quality sherry casks.

Tamdhu's line ranges from single cask expressions to a rich and deep 12 year that showcases much of Speyside's signature fruit notes. But Adams recommends the Batch Strength series as an offering that fully brings out the potential of the distillery's whiskies. “I love the batch proof, as I feel the higher alcohol helps invigorate the dense spirit and push the dried fruit notes from the sherry to the fore,” says Adams. “It's really well done and very underrated.”

Loch Lomond 18

This distillery, located just northwest of Glasgow and founded in 1965, is notable for its use of a unique malt still design that incorporates a cooling tray in the neck, which increases the contact area for the cooling alcohol vapors. The distillers claim that in addition to creating a more efficient process, it allows them to create different flavor notes by capturing alcohol through a wider range of strength.

“Whereas it seems like the rest of the scotch world is focusing on barrel finishing right now, Loch Lomond is all about what you can do to manipulate the flavor and texture of a whisky before it goes into the barrel,” says Adams. “Utilizing multiple yeast strains, peat levels, and still shapes, the producers create myriad different flavors and textures that they then rest in ex-bourbon casks, then blend to [produce] really impressively complex and layered single malts.”

Loch Lomond also claims to be one of only four producers left in Scotland with a cooperage onsite. This allows not only for regular repairs to staves and barrel ends, but also the ability to re-char barrels at the distillery before use. The result is a range of whiskies that encapsulates the best of Highlands scotch, represented perfectly in its Loch Lomond 18 single malt offering. Peat and smoke are present, but subtle in their impact, allowing fruit aromas to shine at the forefront before finishing with tobacco and tea-like tannins, says Adams.

Springbank 10

Hailing from the smallest of Scotland's official whisky-producing regions, Campbeltown, Springbank once felt like a secret among in-the-know scotch cognoscenti. Though it's since rocketed in recognition and price, it remains a must-try for whisky lovers. “Springbank is a distillery you can't go wrong with,” says Boudreau. “The only Scottish distillery that is doing everything on-site, this once-obscure distillery has become very popular amongst those in the know as of late, making bottles a bit more difficult to find than even just a few years ago.”

Springbank's 10 Year remains the producer's flagship introduction to its range of whiskies, but drinkers willing to splurge for some of its rarer bottlings will find a wealth of depth in the producer's lineup, which includes 12-, 15-, 18-, 21-, 25-, and 30-year expressions. “While you can't go wrong with any bottling they produce, I've always had a soft spot for the 18 year,” says Boudreau. “Apples, cinnamon with a bit of funky smoke, this whisky has always been a delight with a finish that just won't quit.”



Liquor.com / Laura Sant

SPECIAL
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The Finest Vintage Cars of the
1960's Golden Age



A perennial resident of “World’s Most Valuable Car” lists, the GTO had its roots in international sports-car racing and was originally conceived as simply a way to utilize new aerodynamic knowledge. The combination of new body and existing V-12 engine was an immediate hit. Very few cars can boast as storied a competitive history – and fewer still have looks to match

Ferrari 250GTO

WHY TRAUMA DOCTORS ARE WORRIED
ABOUT KIDS ON E-BIKES

Emergency physicians say the growing popularity of high-speed electric bikes is fueling a rise in serious pediatric injuries.

BY JIM MOTAVALLI

Doctors are sounding the alarm about e-bike safety, especially when it comes to kids showing up in emergency rooms with increasingly serious injuries. Seniors are also at risk, but generally ride more cautiously.

Dr. Brian Blackwood, a trauma surgeon at Saint Anthony Hospital in Lakewood, Colorado, treats children in e-bike accidents regularly, and he says that the bikes’ speed—up to 28 mph (and even higher with some bikes that can be “jailbroken”)—plus their heavy weight results in much more severe bodily trauma than falls from typical non-powered bikes. The problem, he said, is that parents buy e-bikes thinking they’re toys, and the kids ride them like scooters, often without head protection.

The most common injuries, Dr. Blackwood told Autoweek, “typically involve broken bones in the arms and legs. However, with higher-speed crashes we are seeing facial fractures and traumatic brain injuries. I have also seen spine injuries and internal organ injuries involving life-threatening bleeding.”

Often, Dr. Blackwood said, “people lose control of the e-bike at higher speeds. This leads to them falling off at higher speeds or crashing into stationary objects.”

According to a American College of Surgeons report, “Higher e-bike speeds reduce reaction time for riders to avoid potential collisions. Special caution should be exercised in traffic and when traveling downhill, as the heavier battery can lead to faster acceleration and loss of control.”

Just such an accident claimed the life of 12-year-old Molly Steinsapir in 2021, when she and a friend—wearing helmets—were riding down a steep hill near their home in Pacific Palisades, California, lost control, and were thrown to the pavement. The family has since filed suit against the e-bike manufacturer.

According to Dr. Emily Greenwald, a pediatric emergency medicine specialist at Duke Children’s Hospital and Health Center (the former co-owner of a bike shop), “Many e-bikes, but not all of them, are terrifying,” she said. “Putting a kid on a bike that can produce speeds of 28 mph, especially if it also has a throttle, is scary. What we’re seeing every day in the pediatric emergency department is a huge, huge problem. E-bike riders are 2.4 times more likely to

be admitted to the ICU than regular bike riders.”

“With e-bikes we’re not only seeing an astronomical increase in number of incidents, but also injuries that are far, far worse.”

She added, “We’ve always had injuries from regular bicycles—it’s part of risky play—but with e-bikes we’re not only seeing an astronomical increase in number of incidents, but also injuries that are far, far worse.”

Jeremy Brittain, who owns the CYCL CRFT bicycle store in Fairfield, Connecticut, said that “parents sometimes come in with their kids’ e-bikes and ask us to make them go faster—so they can keep up with their friends. Many of these parents are ignorant of the capabilities of these bikes. Their kids are 13- and 14-year-olds, and they want to go 50 mph. The parents buy these bikes as toys and hope they’ll be safe. But faster e-bikes are supposed to be registered and insured, as well as ridden by someone with a driver’s license.”

Indeed, the law in Connecticut, and many other states, requires that a bike capable of 50 mph be viewed as a motorcycle, requiring insurance, state registration and a license with motorcycle endorsement.

Brittain added that the parents often trust their kids to also assemble the bikes (which come broken down in boxes), which often results in parts being dangerously loose or not torqued down correctly.

The scientific literature comes to varying conclusions about e-bikes. A 2026 study from Norway, “Relative Injury Risk of E-Bikes and Conventional Bikes,” found overall injury risk in Norway was actually lower for e-bikes than for conventional bikes, but in Europe motor assistance is limited to 15.5 miles per hour, which results in safer and lighter bikes than in the U.S., where Class Two allows assist

A child riding an e-bike without a helmet near the Huntington Beach Pier.



up to 20 mph with a throttle, and Class Three up to 28 mph. The weight of e-bikes sold in the U.S. can be more than 100 pounds, and speeds are up to 40 mph.

A 2026 report, “Is Panic Over E-Bike Safety Justified” in Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives found that e-bikes crash less frequently than regular bicycles, but “when medical attention was required, e-bike riders more often sustained severe injuries....E-bike riders face higher injury severity and hospitalization than bicycles.”

Dr. Blackwood noted that there are age restrictions on Class 3 e-bikes, but not on Class 1 and 2. “Even though the Class 1 and 2 bikes have lower top speeds, we are still seeing significant injuries. I think overall more education about the potential risks of significant injury with any e-bike is warranted, as we are seeing significant injuries across all age groups. Additionally, I feel that age restrictions on Class 1 and 2 e-bikes could be beneficial in preventing injury in pediatric patients.”

For seniors, relatively brittle bones are an issue, but it’s countered by more cautious riding. A 2022 study in the National Library of Medicine found, however, that being older than 51 “is not associated with a significantly increased probability of severe injury in E-bike and P-scooter riders.”

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

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

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

Instant Powder Soup
Company: Campbell's and others
Market Share: \$21 billion by 2027* (Total Soup Market)
Ingredient: Sand

Grabbing a packet of instant soup for lunch can seem like an easy fix when you're caught out, but don't be fooled. That gritty texture you're chugging down isn't just seasoning that hasn't dissolved well. Apparently, it's sand.

Sand is often thrown into the mix to stop it from clumping together. It's not a huge amount, but it's still odd to think that the FDA approved this as safe to consume, especially if you eat it every day. This could be another reason to cook fresh every day instead of going for a quick fix, but let's face it, who has time for that?

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Salad Dressing
Company: Various
Market Share: \$23.5 billion by 2026*
Ingredient: Paint chemicals

There's no better way to elevate your salad game than by buying a good dressing, but all may not be as it seems. Some salad dressings actually have titanium dioxide in them, which is actually a chemical found in paints and sunscreens to give them a whiter sheen.

That's not the only secret lurking beneath the appealing exterior, either. Propylene glycol can also be found in it. If you haven't heard of it before, that's because it's anti-freeze. It's not something you want

unless you're trying to get your car on the road in the middle of winter, so why would you eat it? It's a thickening agent, apparently.

@Chris LayKK/Shutterstock.com

Microwave Popcorn
Company: Various
Market Share: \$5.2 billion total popcorn market*
Ingredient: Non-stick chemicals

There's nothing better than popping some microwavable popcorn and settling down to watch a movie. It's quick, it smells great, and it's not messy. However, there's a catch. The inside of popcorn bags is usually coated with nonstick to stop the kernels from getting attached to the bag.

It works great, but nonstick coatings have been connected to health problems for decades now, so it might be time to turn to the stove instead of the microwave. No one wants to wake up one day and realize their popcorn habit gave them a serious illness, do they? While you're at it, ditch the nonstick pans, too.

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Caviar
Company: Various overseas shipments
Market Share: \$496.3 million by 2025*
Ingredient: Borax

It doesn't take a scientist to know that Borax shouldn't be consumed. Even the FDA knows it, which is why it's banned from a lot of foods made and sold in America. That being said, there are some things that sneak their way through to shelves, including caviar.

A lot of brands across the world use Borax to preserve the fish eggs, although it's listed as E285 on the ingredients label. Next time you decide to splash the cash on something fancy for your dinner party, take a look at where it comes from and see if there's anything unsavory lurking inside.

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Quinn Simple Scenes -
Scenes -
Drive-in movies

by Rix Quinn

There's nothing like a cool night, a warm date, and a cold drink at a drive-in movie.

It's sad to read that this sunset entertainment is declining. In the 1960s, there were about 4000 nationwide. Today there are reportedly under 200.

Drive-ins were places that welcomed children (many had playgrounds), several teenagers piled into one car, young romantics, and older people who enjoyed an open-air event.

At our neighborhood drive-in, they sold admission tickets "by the carload." For \$5, teens could bring in as many bodies as they could squeeze into a vehicle. This made the kid who owned a pick-up truck a really popular guy.

But some teen couples – and young adults too – didn't want company. They wanted darkness and privacy, and they

didn't even care if the car speaker worked.

What about the movies? My favorite drive-in carried mostly older films, and ran them as multiple features. These started around sundown, and stayed onscreen until past midnight.

One evening near Halloween was really special. They showed a triple horror feature of The Birds, King Kong, and Dracula.

They called it "The Birds, The Ape, and the Guy with the Cape."



istock

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.



Wikipedia

Françoise Bettencourt Meyers & family
Net Worth: \$99.5 Billion | **Age:** 70 |
Source of Wealth: L'Oréal | **Citizenship:** France

The granddaughter of the L'Oréal founder and heir to the family fortune is the world's richest woman for the fourth consecutive year. The majority of her wealth is tied to her nearly 35% stake in cosmetics giant L'Oréal Group, which has \$45 billion in revenue and marquee brands like Maybelline, Kiehl's and Lancôme. Bettencourt Meyers, who inherited her fortune from her mother, Liliane Bettencourt (d. 2017) first appeared on Forbes' billionaires list in 2018 worth \$42.2 billion

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.

Levi's
Original Headquarters: San Francisco, CA
Purchased By: N/A
Country: Italy, Japan, China, USA

Levi's Jeans are one of America's biggest denim retailers, selling jeans and jackets by the millions. According to the company, Levi has \$5.76 billion in net sales each year. The company became popular in the sixties, as its consumer base expanded from cowboys, farmers, and factory workers to other buyers.

The company went public in the early seventies, and, at that point, it had operations in 50 countries. Levi's makes over 99% of their jeans in Japan, Italy, and China, as well as other non-American countries. They do have a small line, their 501 Jeans, made in a factory in North Carolina.

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American Girl
Original Headquarters: El Segundo, CA
Purchased By: Mattel
Country: China

American Girl dolls are super popular in America, and they are worth thousands of dollars today if you have the old, antique variations. American Girl dolls were made by Pleasant Company, a business founded in 1986 by Pleasant Rowland. The dolls were, initially, only available via mail order.



The Chevy Silverado, for example, has 46% American-made parts. The Chevy Colorado has 51% American-made parts. Chevy sells cars in all but nine countries. In South Korea, Chevy cars are especially popular, though they retailed under the brand "Daewoo Motors" until 2011. The most "American-made" car on Chevy's roster is the Corvette.

@EVNetCanada / Twitter.com

Radio Flyer
Original Headquarters: Chicago, IL
Purchased By: Hasbro
Country: China

Radio Flyer is a toy company headquartered in Chicago. It is most famous for its red toy wagon, though it also makes toy horses, bikes, trikes, and ride-ons. The company has been around for over a century, and it has kept its founding location as its headquarters since its inception.

The toy company said in a 2004 interview that it was "a Chicago brand." Radio Flyer makes its scooters, tri-cycles, and most of its other toys in China. The exception is its plastic red wagon, which is made in Wisconsin. Radio Flyer also made the world's biggest wagon to celebrate its eightieth anniversary.

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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.

Elizabeth Jackson



A warning: this is about as grisly as it gets. Three boys poking around the Thames in Battersea on June 4, 1889, came across a human thigh, severed at the hip and knee. They wrapped it up and took it to the police, because ... well, who can tell? Almost immediately, news came in that the lower part of a woman's body had been found 5 miles down the Thames.

According to reports compiled by Casebook, police were debating how much of a body was actually needed to open an official inquiry when more parts started turning up. A Battersea Park gardener found a package containing some flesh, an empty torso was found in the Thames, an arm wrapped in a skirt showed up at Covington's Wharf, a right leg and foot were found wrapped in pieces of a tweed coat ... you get the idea. Over the next week, organs, pieces of organs, a left arm, hands, an empty pelvis, a bladder, and a right thigh turned up. The last piece was found on June 11, and on June 12, a male fetus, estimated to be around 5 or 6 months of gestation, was found in the Thames, too.

The reassembled body was identified as Elizabeth Jackson. Her family reported her missing in May, and a few major theories developed, including that Jackson was attacked and murdered in Battersea Park, that she died after a botched abortion, or that she was another of Jack the Ripper's victims. No one knows.

20 Slow Cooker Recipes for Sundays After Church

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.



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Why is a Major General below a Lieutenant General?

10 military ranks

Published on August 7, 2026 / Image: Bumble Dee

The structure of the United States military relies on a hierarchy designed to maintain operational discipline and distribute leadership across every level of command. Examining 10 main U.S. Military ranks in sequential order reveals the language behind the names.

1 Private

The rank of Private represents the entry-level enlisted tier in the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps. At this level, service members focus on basic training, mastering tactical skills, and executing orders issued by superior officers.

Etymologically, "private" is short for "private soldier", designating an individual without public office or independent military command. Historical records note that some of the earliest documented uses of the term in the American military context appear in the personal correspondence of George Washington.

2 Corporal

A Corporal is responsible for leading small tactical units, such as fireteams or squads. Corporals oversee the daily discipline, appearance, and fundamental skills training of junior soldiers.

The word derives from the French corporal, which stems from the Latin caput (meaning "head"). Over time, the term was influenced by the Latin corpus ("body") and the French military term corps, blending roots for "head" and "body" into the modern word corporal.

3 Sergeant

A Sergeant is a key frontline leader who typically commands a squad or section and directly supervises daily operations. Sergeants hold direct responsibility for troop welfare, equipment maintenance, and tactical execution.

The word shares its Latin root (serviens, meaning "servant") with the word servant. In medieval times, a "sergeant at arms" served as an armed retainer to a feudal lord. As military structures modernized, the sergeant evolved into the link between commissioned officers and enlisted troops.

4 Lieutenant

The rank of Lieutenant serves as the entry point for commissioned leadership. Lieutenants typically command platoons consisting of 16 to 40 service members alongside an experienced platoon sergeant.

The term comes directly from the French lieu tenant, which literally translates to "place holding". A lieutenant is a placeholder or deputy tasked with standing in for or assisting a superior commander.

5 Captain

A Captain typically commands a company, battery, or troop consisting of 60 to 200 service members. Captains represent one of the oldest military designations in the English language, used as a general term for a military leader since the 1400s. Derived from French and rooted in the Latin caput ("head"), a captain is the "head" of an organized military unit.

6 Major

A Major serves as a field-grade officer, often functioning as a battalion executive officer or primary staff supervisor. Interestingly, the rank of major is a historical abbreviation of sergeant major. During the 16th and 17th centuries, a sergeant major was a commissioned field officer ranking above a captain. As the boundary between non-commissioned officers and commissioned officers solidified in the 1700s, the "sergeant" prefix was dropped, leaving "Major" as a distinct officer rank.

7 Colonel

A Colonel commands brigade-sized formations (1,500 to 3,200 soldiers) or fills critical senior staff positions. The title originates from the Italian colonnello, meaning the leader of

ENTERTAIN IN STYLE

A Bold and Flavorful Al Fresco Favorite

Feature Impact

Warm breezes that linger longer into the evening, wafting appetizing aromas through the air can only mean one thing: it's patio season. From casual porch gatherings to full-fledged backyard dinners, dining al fresco calls for vibrant dishes packed with flavor.

Inspired by the bold flavors of Mexican street corn, or elotes, these Street Corn-Inspired Stuffed Sweetpotatoes can serve as a hearty vegetarian entree, a colorful side dish to pair with grilled fare or the centerpiece of a casual build-your-own dinner spread alongside chilled drinks and easy conversation with loved ones. Providing a naturally creamy base, sweetpotatoes serve as the open-faced

vessel for fresh (or frozen) roasted corn, lime juice, mayo, Greek yogurt, cilantro, jalapeno and Parmesan or cotija cheese.

Different from other potatoes using adjectives like white, red or russet to describe an entirely different vegetable, sweetpotatoes – one word as adopted by the National Sweetpotato Collaborators in 1989 to avoid confusion and make it part of the actual nomenclature rather than an adjective – are rich in vitamins A and C, minerals, antioxidants, fiber and potassium, all of which are good for overall health.

Find more recipes to elevate outdoor dining season at ncsweetpotatoes.com.

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECIPE



Street Corn-Inspired Stuffed Sweetpotatoes

Recipe courtesy of Crissy Carroll of Snacking in Sneakers on behalf of the North Carolina Sweetpotato Commission

- Servings: 2*
- 4 medium sweetpotatoes*
 - 2 tablespoons light or regular mayonnaise*
 - 2 tablespoons plain, nonfat Greek yogurt or light mayonnaise*
 - 1 lime, juice only*
 - 2 green onions, sliced*
 - 1/3 cup chopped cilantro*
 - 1/3 cup fresh shredded Parmesan or cotija cheese*
 - 1 tablespoon butter*
 - 2 ears fresh corn on the cob, husked, corn removed from stalk or about 1 1/2 cups frozen or canned corn*
 - 1 jalapeno, seeds and pith discarded, minced*
 - 1 teaspoon minced garlic*
 - 1/4 teaspoon chili powder*

- 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika*
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt*
- To cook sweetpotatoes: Use fork to poke holes and place on microwave-safe plate. Microwave potatoes 6-9 minutes, depending on size, until tender. Set aside.*
- In medium mixing bowl, mix mayonnaise, Greek yogurt and lime juice until well combined. Add green onions, cilantro and Parmesan; set aside.*
- Heat large skillet over medium heat. Add butter and melt. Add corn then cook 2 minutes. Add jalapeno to skillet with corn, stir and cook 2 minutes.*
- Add garlic, chili powder, smoked paprika and salt. Stir and cook 1-2 minutes, until corn starts to lightly brown.*
- Remove from heat. Add skillet ingredients to bowl with mayo-yogurt mixture. Stir until well combined.*
- Slice cooked sweetpotatoes open and stuff with corn filling*

a column (colonna) of troops. The unusual English pronunciation ("kernel") occurred because English borrowed the word from French, which had adopted the Italian word but altered its pronunciation, while English retained the French spelling.

8 Brigadier General

A Brigadier General is a one-star general officer who commands a brigade or serves as a deputy commander for a division. The title derives directly from brigade, denoting an operational military unit composed of multiple regiments or battalions.

9 Major General

A Major General is a two-star general who typically com-

mands a force of 10,000 to 15,000 personnel. This rank has a historical quirk: despite a Major ranking above a Lieutenant, a Major General ranks below a Lieutenant General. This is because the rank was originally called sergeant major general before the 1700s. Because a "sergeant major general" was subordinate to a "lieutenant general", the order remained intact even after "sergeant" was removed from the title.

10 General

A General is a four-star officer holding the highest operational rank in peacetime. Four-star generals command unified combatant commands, geographic theaters, or serve as service branch chiefs of staff. Rooted in the Latin generalis (meaning "pertaining to all" or "universal"), the title signifies overarching authority across all branches and arms of command.

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?

Earth Fare
Year Established: 1975
Store Closures: 20 Branches*

Earth Fare is a wellness and health supermarket that was founded in the mid-seventies. The company ceased operations in February of 2020 (well before many companies had to close down that year), and it announced that it was going to close down all of its stores.

There are still twenty left in eight states. Though some fans of the organic food chain were hoping that Earth Fare wouldn't go out of business, those hopes will, sadly, be dashed. Earth Fare is still in the process of liquidating its inventory. In February of 2020, it was the third grocer that month to either shut down or seek a sale under Chapter 11.

©Bruce VanLoon / Shutterstock.com

Loft
Year Established: 1998
Store Closures: 30 Branches*

Ann Taylor LOFT is part of the Ann Taylor brand which is, in turn, part of the Ascena Group, which has met quite a hard end as of 2021. LOFT was yet another victim of Ascena's bankruptcy filing, and the parent company announced that thirty of LOFT's 666 outlets and stores would be shutting down.

This announcement came along with the decision that 38 of Ann Taylor's 290+ locations would shut down as

well. These closures were, once again, part of the 1,200-store shut down that Ascena agreed to in order to keep the company from completely going under.

©BCFC / Shutterstock.com

L'Occitane
Year Established: 1976
Store Closures: 23 Branches*

L'Occitane is a high-end lotion and bath product chain. The brand just seems expensive, and it's perfect for a luxury gift (or a present to yourself). Unfortunately, fans of L'Occitane might have to take their business to L'Occitane's online store, as the brand filed for bankruptcy in 2021.

L'Occitane announced in the filing that it was planning to close twenty-three of its 166 American stores. The move was made in an attempt to finalize its "store footprint optimization plan," which is a way to streamline its revenue. The closures came on the heels of a sales drop of 56.5% between April of 2020 and December of 2020. Online sales for the brand, by contrast, rose 72%.

©PippiLongstocking / Shutterstock.com

Microsoft
Year Established: 1975
Store Closures: 83 Branches*

If you've been following tech headlines, then you already know about Microsoft's decision to close all of its eighty-three in-person stores. For a long time, tech bloggers and commentators have pointed out that Microsoft just isn't able to compete with Apple when it comes to the in-store game.

Microsoft apparently agrees, and the tech giant decided to cut its losses after 2020 and shut down all of its stores. The only exceptions will be four stores, which will be re-vamped and, according to Microsoft, "reimagined." Instead of actual stores, these four locations will become "experience centers" to demonstrate new technology.

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

Bored Panda / GRETA JARUŠEVIČIŪTĖ

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.



BLESSING OF THE WAVES

Sorry, I
won’t be
there this
year, but
maybe
next

Sept 13

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Discover 10 Words From The Ancient Whaling Profession

Published on December 4, 2024

Image: Austin Neill

Even though every profession has its own lingo, few are as colorful as the nautical ones. Maybe it has to do with the sea breeze or the adventurous nature of the people who dared to spend a long time at sea at a time when neither medicine nor safety were very advanced. In any case, the sea has always been a treasure trove of specific terms, and the ancient whaling profession had quite a few idioms of its own. In the following list, we embark on a voyage across ten of these terms. So, scroll on and learn a thing or two, sailor!

1 Green Hand

Image: Museums Victoria

Everybody has to start somewhere, and that includes whaling ships. A green hand was the term used to describe an inexperienced crew member of a 19th-century whaler on his first voyage, who would typically have the smallest "lay", or share, in the profits.

Green hands would usually take care of the simplest chores, like mopping the decks, cleaning, and doing the things that the rest of the crew didn't want to do.

2 Boatswain

Image: Maël BALLAND

A very different ranking position, compared to the green hands, was the boatswain, also known as a deck boss or a qualified member of the deck department. This person was the most senior rate of the deck department and was responsible for the components of a ship's hull.

The boatswain supervised the other ship's deck department members, and typically was not a watchstander, except on vessels with small crews. Additional duties varied depending on the ship, crew, and circumstances.

3 Scrimshaw

Image: Vivek Kumar

"Scrimshaw" is the name given to carvings done in bone or ivory, typically created by whalers, and engraved on the byproducts of whales, such as bones or cartilage. It is most commonly made out of the bones and teeth of sperm whales, because of their size.

This art form recreates elaborate engravings of pictures and lettering on the surface of the bone or tooth, with the engraving highlighted using a pigment. Scrimshaw probably began on whaling ships in the late 18th century and survived until the ban on commercial whaling.

4 Crow's Nest

Image: Tanner Mardis

As the name implies, a "Crow's Nest" is something that is high. Originally, it was a barrel lashed at the highest section of the mainmast where a man was stationed to look for whales or ice.

On ships, this position ensured the widest field of view for lookouts to spot approaching hazards, other ships, or land by using the naked eye or optical devices such as telescopes or binoculars.

5 Gam

Image: The Australian National Maritime Museum

A "gam" was a social visit between whaling vessels, whalers, or the crew. It was coined in the 1840s and generally means pulling alongside another whaling vessel and "hopping" aboard to enjoy a social meeting.

Gamming was a way of taking a break from the monotony of the sea, seeing different faces, enjoying a pint of grog, some music, relaxing for a while, and helping boost the crew's morale for all the ships involved

6 Hardtack

Image: Muhammed A. Mustapha

Back in the days when electricity and refrigeration were not around, food conservation was a complex endeavor, especially onboard ships that sailed for years on end. "Hardtack" is a type of dense cracker made from flour, water, and sometimes salt.

Being inexpensive and long-lasting, it was used for sustenance in the absence of perishable foods, commonly during long sea voyages, land migrations, and military campaigns.

7 Hove Down

Image: WEB AGENCY

Whaling vessels were sturdy ships, capable of enduring the hardships of long voyages, and easily fixable, even far away from their home port. The word "hove" is the past tense of "heave", which in a nautical context means to move into a certain direction, position, or situation.

A vessel that is hove down is intentionally laid or tipped onto its side for repair, painting, or cleaning.

8 Cape-Horner

Image: Dimitry B

Even to this day, the Cape Horn is a feared place for sailors due to its terrible weather and conditions that have brought disgrace upon many ships. Back in the whaling days, this route was a common passage required to access the Pacific whaling grounds for whalers coming from Nantucket and New Bedford.

A large, square-rigged ship built to withstand the rigors of a Cape Horn passage was known as a Cape Horner.

9 Schooner

Image: TasfotoNL

A "schooner" is a type of sailing vessel defined by its rig: fore-and-aft rigged on all of two or more masts and, in the case of a two-masted schooner, the foremast generally being shorter than the mainmast. This type of ship was commonly used as a whaling ship.

A topsail schooner also has a square topsail on the foremast, to which may be added a topgallant.

10 Lookout

Image: Drew Darby

Having mentioned the crow's nest in a previous entry, we can complete the description and this whole list with the role that is most usually connected to such a high place on the ship. The lookout is the person at the ship's crow's nest, or also bridge, who maintains a continuous watch of the sea to report the sighting of whales or any kind of hazard that can be an obstacle in the navigation and cause harm to the ship.





Dear Earth-Talk: What is “soil-less” farming and is it better for the planet?
B.R., via email

Farming is far from friendly to the environment. According to Our World in Data, 26 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from food production and 50 percent of the world's habitable land is used for agriculture. The Green Revolution solved the food shortage problem, but now, we humans need a new revolution to preserve and conserve natural resources—a “soil-less” revolution. Three main types of soil-less farming are in practice today: hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics. Hydroponics, like its name suggests, cultivates crops in a nutrient-rich water supported by an inert medium such as perlite, coconut coir or rock wool. In aeroponics, plants are suspended in air and their roots are misted with a nutrient solution. Aqua-

ponics has its roots in ancient China and Babylon. Essentially, it combines hydroponics and aquaculture in a symbiotic relationship. Fish and crops are raised together: fish waste fertilizes plants and plants purify water for fish. A shift to soil-less farming can revert our current environment into a healthier, more balanced one. According to the World Wildlife Fund, “greenhouse hydroponics uses only 10 percent of the

Growing crops without soil is a dream that researchers are turning into a reality. *Credit: Pexels.com.*



water needed for traditional farming.” Additionally, soil-less cultivation yields more crops and produces fresh fruits and vegetables on a year-round basis, thanks to the controlled growing environment. With reduced exposure to pests and diseases, crops require little to no herbicide, lowering the amount of toxic water run-off. Finally, soil-less farming is more compact. Acres of land once used for cultivation can be returned back to nature, increasing biodiversity. However, challenges persist in making the

switch. For one, the initial cost is tremendous. Soil-less farming relies more heavily on technology; in consequence, equipment and set-up costs run in the tens of thousands (\$50k for 500 sq. ft.). Hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics also need more attention and technical expertise. Farmers must learn to manage new high-tech equipment and keep a watchful eye on the delicate nutrition balance. Besides the cost and human capital needed, soil-less farming is a high energy investment, which may offset any environmental gains. One study by World Wildlife Fund shows that the carbon footprint of lettuce grown on a traditional farm in California is less than that of a soil-less agricultural system. With more efficient technology, though, energy input can be reduced. Soil-less cultivation is the future for cleaner and more sustainable agriculture. Curious how plants can grow without soil? Try it yourself! Search up “at home hydroponic systems” and plenty of on-line resources can help you get started to an eco-friendly future.

CONTACTS:

Growing more with less: The sustainable benefits of soilless farming,
internationalscholarsjournals.com/articles/growing-more-with-less-the-sustainable-benefits-of-soilless-farming-103514.html.

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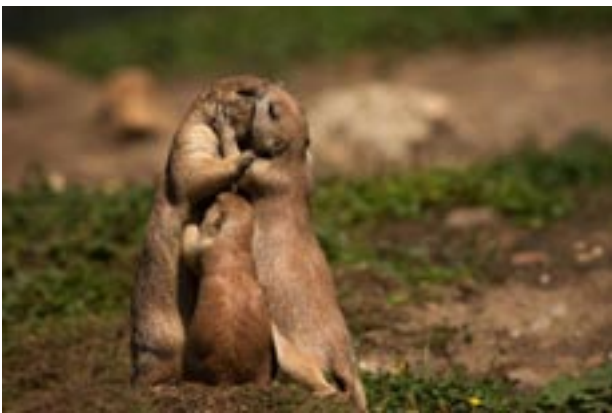
FRIENDSHIP SAID BEST IN PICTURES



Mind Boggling Photos



Parenting in the WILD



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Cocktails & WOMEN

Mezcal Last Word Cocktail

Try this agave-forward riff on the equal-parts classic.

By Audrey Morgan

On paper, the Mezcal Last Word is an odd drink, mixing smoky and earthy mezcal, highly botanical Green Chartreuse, syrupy-sweet maraschino liqueur, and tart lime juice, all in equal parts. But when they come together, the balance and depth is remarkable.

You can riff even further on the classic by infusing mezcal with fresh pineapple, as New York City bar veteran Phil Ward does for his Trato Hecho cocktail. (Find an optional pineapple-infused mezcal recipe below.)

Ingredients

3/4 ounce mezcal
3/4 ounce Green Chartreuse
3/4 ounce maraschino liqueur
3/4 ounce lime juice

Directions

Add all ingredients to a shaker filled with ice.
Shake until well-chilled.
Strain into a chilled coupe glass.

Cocktail Corner



Credit: Liquor.com / Tim Nusog

GRACE KELLY

Grace Kelly was an Oscar-winning American actress who was a major Hollywood star in the 1950s. In 1956, after starring in eleven films, she retired from acting to marry Prince Rainer of Monaco. As Princess consort of Monaco, she fulfilled duties of her Royal position and set up a Foundation to promote the arts and help disadvantaged children. She died on 14 September 1982, aged 52 from a car crash.



Sorry, mom

This kid looks so excited to be at the soccer match that we're not even upset that he lied to his mother.

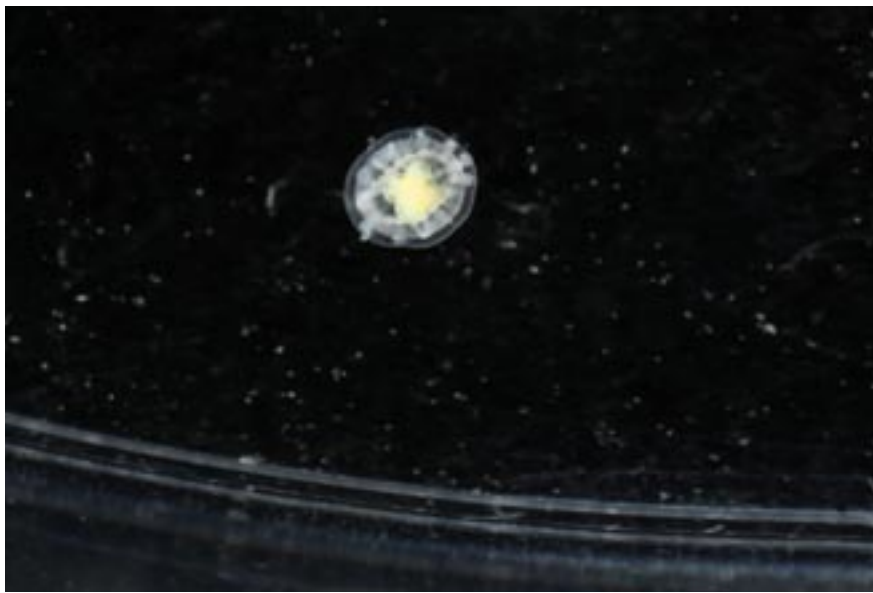
School is important, but every once in a while it's okay to miss a day of school for something truly important, such as the Brazil vs. Switzerland game. We definitely understand this young man's priorities, but next time he should probably be honest with his mom in the first place, since she definitely knows where he really was by now.



What is the oldest living animal on Earth?

The answer will shock you!

Nature doesn't just create beauty, it crafts survival miracles. While most animals have short lives, a rare few have mastered the art of staying alive for centuries, even millennia. These aren't just long-lived creatures; they're nature's ultimate time travelers. From the frozen depths of the oceans to the darkest corners underground, they've developed bizarre, brilliant strategies to cheat death. Get ready to meet the animals whose lifespans will absolutely blow your mind.



Immortal Jellyfish (Turritopsis dohrnii)

Image: Dr. Karen J. Osborn, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

Age: technically... infinite

This tiny jellyfish, no bigger than a fingernail—less than 0.2 inches—is like the ocean's very own Benjamin Button. What makes it truly extraordinary is its ability to rewind its life story, flipping back to a youthful, juvenile stage whenever it wants. While it's not completely invincible (predators and other threats are still very real), if left undisturbed, it can keep hitting the reset button on aging indefinitely, making it one of the most fascinating "time-benders" in nature.

HISTORICAL PHOTOS



A payphone in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood of San Francisco.

I could use \$25.
HUSBAND AND DOG GONE;
JUST WANTS DOG BACK
DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—A woman reported to police that her husband had disappeared with her Chihuahua puppy.

IMAGINE A WORLD
WITHOUT
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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.

Chicken Basket (Gaithersburg, Maryland)

The restaurant business is an incredibly difficult, cutthroat one with some serious competition for customers, and 2025 saw a number of beloved restaurants close the doors for good. That makes it even more impressive that 2025 is the year that Gaithersburg's Chicken Basket celebrated its 47th anniversary serving the community not only outstanding fried chicken, but a varied menu that includes subs, wraps, and gyros.

We're here to talk about fried chicken, though, and that's what has customers driving into Gaithersburg for no other reason than to place an order and head home with fried chicken with a deliciously thick and flavorful crust that has just the right amount of crunch and hides some perfectly juicy meat within. White meat or dark, the result is the same.

Another thing to love about this place is that it's also serving a great chicken strip dinner, and it doesn't matter how old you are, there's just something deliciously comforting about sitting down with some chicken strips and fries. They're just as perfectly-seasoned and crispy, and when you can get a ton of great food at a great price, it wins fans for life.



Chicken Basket/Instagram

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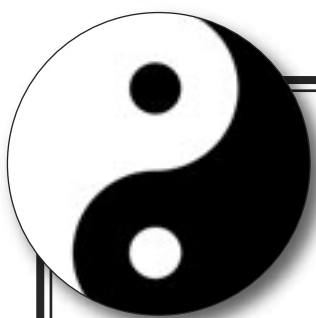
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ON THE DARK SIDE OR MAYBE THE LIGHTER SIDE...

THE 1 HOTEL ROOM ITEM EXPERTS SAY MAY NOT GET WASHED BETWEEN GUESTS

Southern Living / MOLLY BURFORD
Credit: Maskot / Getty Images

While your hotel room may appear to be freshly cleaned, it might not actually be as hygienic as it looks. As it turns out, there are many areas of a hotel room that can be overlooked for cleaning. In fact, Enza Laterrenia, head of housekeeping at Canne Bianche Lifestyle Hotel in Italy, told Travel & Leisure that hotel staff often only take around 30 minutes to tidy and clean each hotel room, and often skip decorative items like throw pillows and runner rugs beside the hotel bed entirely. This makes these items some of the dirtiest in a hotel room.

“If I’m honest, decorative pillows are one item I tend to think twice about,” Ema Silva, founder of Escapes by Ema, a luxury travel consultancy, told Southern Living. “They’re handled frequently but aren’t always part of the regular laundry rotation, so I usually set them aside when I arrive. It’s a small habit that offers a bit of extra reassurance.”

Other Potentially Dirty Hotel Room Items

Beyond decorative items like throw pillows, other areas to consider when it comes to hotel cleanliness include the smaller details. “When I vet hotels for my clients, I look at the full experience—service, comfort,

sustainability, and of course cleanliness. Fresh sheets are expected, but the true signs of care often show up in the smaller details,” shared Silva. “I notice things like baseboards, behind bedside tables, and whether a room feels genuinely fresh rather than heavily fragranced. Those subtle cues usually reveal whether housekeeping is thorough or simply surface-level.”

High-touch surfaces such as light switches, TV remote controls, and phones can also be neglected places for cleaning in a hotel room. You should also be wary of hotel glassware, especially glassware that is tucked away in drawers; these could have been handled by former guests without housekeeping’s knowledge. Yikes.

Silva also recommends looking to the hotel staff and management for accurately judging how well a hotel is cleaned and run. “More than anything, though, I pay attention to the people. When hotel staff are cared for and take pride in their work, you can usually feel it in the room itself. When team members feel supported and engaged, that pride tends to carry through to the property. It’s often the clearest indicator of how well a hotel is truly maintained,” Silva explained.

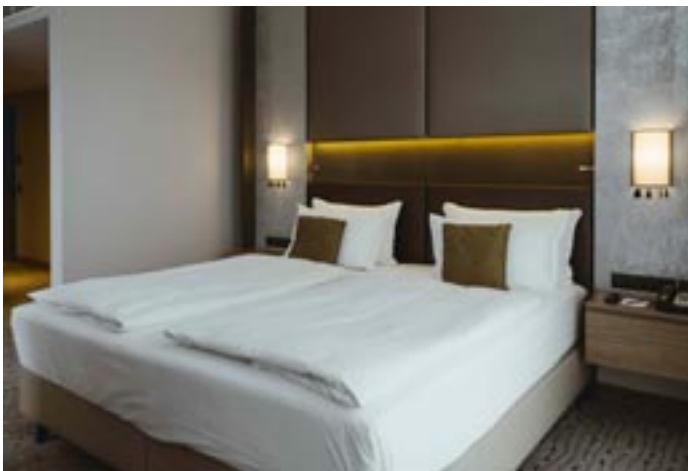
What To Do If Your Room Is Unclean

If you notice anything in your hotel room that isn’t up to your standards for cleanliness, it’s more than okay to bring it up to the front desk. This way, the hotel staff can fix any issues and help your stay feel far more comfortable.

“If something doesn’t feel quite right, I recommend letting the front desk know kindly and promptly. Well-run hotels genuinely want guests to be comfortable and will usually resolve concerns quickly, and how they respond says just as much as the issue itself,” Silva encouraged.

So, the next time you stay at a hotel, keep these tips in mind (and definitely be sure to toss those throw pillows to the side).

Read the original article on Southern Living



JOE BIDEN’S SON HUNTER SHARES RARE UPDATE ON DAD’S “DEBILITATING” AND “PAINFUL” STAGE 4 CANCER BATTLE

InStyle/LARA WALSH/Getty Images
The Gist

Joe Biden’s son Hunter opened up about his father’s ongoing cancer battle in a new interview.

The former president was diagnosed with an “aggressive” form of prostate cancer in May 2025, just months after leaving the White House.

Joe’s wife Jill Biden previously revealed that the White House team “missed” the symptoms of her husband’s cancer while he was in office.

Joe Biden’s son Hunter is sharing a rare update amid his father’s ongoing battle with an “aggressive” form of prostate cancer. In a new interview with BBC Newsnight, Hunter revealed the former president’s stage 4 cancer has spread as he opened up about the progression of the “very painful” disease.

“The only thing I can say about my dad, about his health right now, is that I wish he would complain more because it’s not good,” the 56-year-old frankly told the reporter during the August 8 interview. Hunter revealed that Joe’s cancer—which was diagnosed in May 2025—is getting worse. “The cancer has spread,” he explained, adding, “It’s metastasized into his bones and further. It’s very painful and it’s very debilitating, in many respects.”

However, Hunter shared an optimistic message amid the update, later adding, “He’s still out there. As long as he’s alive, I promise you, he is going to continue to fight.”

Joe’s wife Jill Biden previously told Craig Melvin that the 83-year-old’s cancer had metastasized to his bones during a Today show interview on June 1. “I think if he

had just been diagnosed with prostate cancer, that’s one thing, because that can be cured, but the fact that it metastasized to his bones, that makes it a whole different story,” the former first lady said at the time. She added, “I think Joe will live with cancer till the rest of his life.”

Joe was diagnosed with an “aggressive” form of cancer just six months after leaving the presidency. In a CBS News Sunday Morning on May 31, Jill recounted the “shocking” moment the Biden family got the diagnosis, revealing that Joe’s symptoms of cancer were “missed” despite their “amazing care in the White House.”

The View from the East Wing author also got candid about her role as a caregiver and some of the daily stressors she’s had to deal with during her Today show interview. “It’s so hard to be a caregiver in that you worry every day, ‘Is he eating right? Is he getting enough exercise? Did he have his medications?’” she said at the time.

Read the original article on InStyle



The Unsettling Reason Why Planes Typically Avoid Flying Over The Pacific Ocean



Islands / MINA ELWELL/D. F. Reeves/Shutterstock

If you’re booking one of the longest flights in the world, like New York to Manila, you might find yourself staring at the flight map on the back of the seat in front of you and wishing that your flight was going across the Pacific instead of seemingly taking a detour to fly over the North Pole. However, there are a few very good reasons that flights don’t usually fly right over the vast Pacific Ocean. One of the most important reasons is that, thanks to the curvature of the Earth, flying over the Pacific may not be the shortcut that it seems like it is when you look at the map. There is a more unsettling reason, too, though. Because of ocean weather patterns and distance from anywhere to fuel up or land in an emergency, flying such a long distance over the ocean can be risky.

That doesn’t mean that there aren’t any flights that go over the Pacific Ocean. If you live in the United States and are on your way to a quintessential Australian vacation in Perth, you are probably going to spend a significant amount of the trip flying across the Pacific. It can be done — most flights just avoid it when possible.

Read more: Subtle Airplane Cabin Features Only Frequent Flyers Notice

Why flying over the Pacific isn’t the safest option

Flying is very safe, but that doesn’t mean that airlines don’t have to take precautions and prepare for unlikely emergencies. Just like the plane’s oxygen masks, the routes charted by airplanes are designed to keep passengers safe. In general, routes are planned to have planes fly over as many airports as possible, because if something goes wrong, emergency landings at airports are a lot easier than a water landing in the middle of the ocean.

Even if a plane did successfully land on the ocean, it would be quite difficult to launch a full scale rescue mission for all the crew and passengers way out in the Pacific. In general, planes try to stay within a couple hours of an airport along the coast, just in case. The Pacific is also known for stormy weather, so the chances of turbulence are a lot higher. Thunderstorms with lightning strikes can pose a serious threat to safety.

Fuel is an issue when flying over the Pacific Ocean

While it might look like the shortest route between you and relaxing in Japan’s steamy hot springs with monkeys is a straight line across the ocean when you look at it on a map, when you take the world from three dimensions down to two, the proportions are misleading. Because the Earth is a sphere, a curved flight path can actually be significantly shorter than a straight one. In addition to making your legs more likely to cramp up, longer flights are more expensive and require a lot more fuel.

If your flight is way out in the middle of the ocean, there aren’t any options to refuel, either. Airlines know exactly how much fuel their flights need for different routes (and planes also carry emergency fuel on top of that, just in case the plane has to change routes or it takes more energy to get to their destination than expected) so it’s extremely unlikely that a plane would run out of fuel in the middle of the Pacific — but not flying straight across the ocean is one of the ways that airlines guarantee that won’t be an issue.

Ready to discover more hidden gems and expert travel tips? Subscribe to our free newsletter! You can also add us as a preferred search source or follow us on Google for access to the world’s best-kept travel secrets.

Read the original article on Islands.

MOST EXPENSIVE Cars Owned by Richest Celebrities Will Numb Your Head

Jurgen Klopp – Opel Insignia, Estimated \$47,500K

Jurgen Klopp was born in Germany and is considered among the most effective football supervisors worldwide. He handles the Premier League club Liverpool. Klopp led Liverpool to the Champions League last in 2018. His life has actually had to do with football having bet most of his professional life.

Clearly, he is quite possibly recognized in the world of football and extremely respected. Surprisingly, one would certainly believe that he would be seen driving a Lamborghini, Ferrari, or Maserati. But, as a matter of fact, he drives a white Opel Insignia. Opel has a collaboration with him and he looks more than pleased driving about in his glossy automobile!



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 There are more stars in the observable universe than there are grains of sand on all the beaches in the world.

© Photo: Professional_Wrap_34

#2 The French Secret Service placed a limpet mine on a Greenpeace ship and sunk it to stop it protesting French Nuclear Testing in the Pacific.

They were so incompetent 2 were caught in days and the others only just managed to escape via submarine after sinking their yacht.

Using trade, the French Govt then blackmailed the New Zealand Government into releasing the captives.

England (NZ's founder) refused to support them and then the USA turned against NZ because of NZ's no nukes stand. All this drove NZ to have an in-



dependent foreign policy so they no-longer automatically follow anybody else's lead.

So much for relying your friends and allies and history now repeating with the US giving the finger to the whole world except former enemies!

© Photo: SafariNZ

#3 You can survive without a significant portion of your brain.

© Photo: whitney-whisper_2



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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.

Nike Air Yeezy
Maker: Nike/Kanye West
Original Price: N/A (Sample Shoe)
Worth Today: \$100,000*

This shoe has surfaced for sale a few times, always for a high price. This is the Air Yeezy 1, the first signature Kanye West and Nike collaboration. Rare Pair, an NYC consignment store, put this up for sale on eBay six years ago for \$65,000. They didn't sell the shoe.



A year later, Flight Club, another consignment shop, put it up for \$100,000. The sneaker is a one-of-a-kind size-twelve, and it was the first Air Yeezy sample that Nike ever made. Despite this rarity, the sneaker's appearance doesn't have many changes that set it apart from the retail shoe that dropped in '08.

@leavell13/Pinterest

Vintage Campervans
Maker: Volkswagen and more
Original Price: \$1,000-\$5,000*
Worth Today: \$6,000-\$10,000*

Driving something this cartoonish will certainly get you some looks as you travel down the road, but there are some people who love the "Van Life" and its aesthetic, no matter how road-weary they become. If you have a vintage camper van, you might be able to sell it to this market for a few thousand bucks.

GoDownSize.com estimates that a vintage RV resells for \$6,000 to \$9,000, assuming that the vehicle doesn't need a full restoration and is in decent shape, even if it requires some work to make it habitable. Rather than leave your old camper van to rot in the garage, try reselling it.



@099c84na5beeegh/Pinterest

Thor Pez Dispenser
Maker: Marvel, Pez
Original Price: \$1-\$5*
Worth Today: \$10-\$30*

The God of Thunder is known for lightning bolts, his hammer, and his ruling over the Asgardians, but it appears that he is also known for his memorabilia. Items like a vintage Thor Pez dispenser, complete with Thor's helmeted head at the top, sell for \$10-\$20.

Though this Pez dispenser isn't as pricey as the 1982 World's Fair Astronaut B, which resold for \$32,205, the Thor dispenser should still make you more than what you paid for it. FYI, one in three of these toys, Thor-themed or not, is worth \$100 if it is from the 1960s.

@jamesbregenzer/Pinterest



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.

History of Homes

Jane Kendeigh: The Courageous Flight Nurse Who



Made History On March 4, 1945, Jane Kendeigh made history when she became the first flight nurse to land on an active battlefield. Her plane touched down on the tiny, war-torn island of Iwo Jima, where

American forces were locked in a fierce and deadly battle during World War II. Her mission was both daring and compassionate—to bring comfort and care to the wounded and help evacuate them to safety.

Shades of the Past

In March 1946, a German soldier returned to his home in Frankfurt after World War II. When he arrived, he found his house had been destroyed, and his family was no longer there.



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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."

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TWO TINY STATES CONSUME MORE BOOZE THAN ANY OTHER IN THE US: HERE'S WHY

NY Post/REDA WIGLE

As alcohol consumption continues to decrease, some states are raising a full and defiant glass in the face of sobriety.

A recent poll from the World Population Review found that two small but mighty states take the lead for alcohol consumption.

New Hampshire, which boasts the banner of “live free or die,” tops the list for going bottoms up with a per capita ethanol consumption rate of 4.67 gallons.

Live free, drink mightily. This tiny state boasts the most per capita alcohol consumption in the nation. Jacob Lund – stock.adobe.com

However, Redditors note that the statistics are based on alcohol sales, and New Hampshire famously offers cheaper, tax-free booze, making it a destination for purchase from surrounding states like Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont.

“We put liquor stores all around the borders of our states, along the highway exits, so you can just pop over the border and stock up. We are big drinkers around here for sure, but not nearly what the sales would indicate,” underscored one commenter.

“People from NY always bootleg from NH; it is literally 30% cheaper. A handle of Crown Royal in NH is 29.99; in NY it’s 47.99. Many smaller bars and restaurants will drive a van up and stop at 2 or 3 border stores and save a few thousand a month on liquor,” added another.

Bootlegging notwithstanding, New Hampshire recently ranked 1st in the country for Public Safety, a metric that evaluates the violent crime and property

crime rate in each state, based on data from the FBI, suggesting denizens of the Granite State are celebrating safety and safely.

Number two for booze is Delaware with a consumption rate of 3.52 gallons per capita.

Similar to New Hampshire, Delaware has no state sales tax on goods, including booze, and generally has lower alcohol prices compared to neighboring states like Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Delaware doubles down on the discounts with a plethora of privately run package stores and warehouse outlets.

New Hampshire and Delaware are the two boozesit states. World Population Review

Nevada, home to Sin City, took third place with a rate of 3.42 gallons per capita.

The Wild West showed out for bottoms up, with North Dakota and Montana taking fourth and fifth place.

Interestingly, albeit unsurprisingly, Montana ranks as the state with the highest incidents of drunk driving and alcohol related fatalities.

Utah, home to many a Mormon and some of the strictest alcohol regulations in the country, unsurprisingly came in dead last for boozing, with alcohol

consumption per capita of 1.34 gallons.

On a global scale, the United States ranks 25th for alcohol consumption, with about 8.7 liters of pure alcohol consumed per person per year, a touch, or pint, above the global average of 8.3 liters.

While New York did not crack the top twenty for most booze guzzled, the state is by no means teetotal, as previous research found that twenty-four percent of the adult population of Saratoga Springs drinks excessively, making it the “drunkiest” city in New York state, 7% higher than the NYC average of 17%.



These Are the 10 The Hottest Places to Buy a Home in the U.S. in 2026, According to Realtor.com—and the No. 1 Is a Charming New England Suburb

Travel+Leisure/DOBRINA ZHEKOVA

DenisTangneyJr/Getty Images

Realtor.com released its annual ranking of the hottest ZIP codes in America, and a Boston suburb, which was last in the top 10 in 2021, came out on top.

Peabody, ZIP code 01960, is located about 20 miles north of downtown Boston in Essex County, “offers buyers highway access to the city, a North Shore setting and a blend of small-town character with proximity to a major job center,” the report states. Properties in the town of about 60,000 residents generated over four times more views on Realtor.com than the national average, and remained on the market for an average of 20 days. The ranking relied heavily on both indicators when analyzing the winning 50 ZIPs, as they point to areas with the highest market demand.

The report notes that an overwhelming majority of views in Peabody came from within the Bos-

ton metro area, and those who purchased homes there had a median credit score of 747 and put an average of 14 percent toward a down payment, “suggesting the math works for most buyers without requiring an outsized financial cushion,” Realtor.com concludes. The median listing price in Peabody is \$600,000.

Peabody sits west of Salem and is a historic town, settled by the English in the 17th century. In the 1910s, it became known as “Leather City” and was recognized as the world’s largest producer of leather.

At No. 2 on Realtor.com’s list is Montclair, New Jersey, where homes stayed on average for 18 days on the market and generated 3.3 times more views than the national average. However, the presence of the wealthy enclave in the ranking took even Realtor.com’s experts by surprise. “I was struck to see a ZIP on the list with a median price north of \$1 million: Montclair, New Jersey (07042) posted a median listing price of

\$1.05 million in the first half of the year, with the typical buyer there putting down more than \$300,000,” Hannah Jones, senior economist, Realtor.com, told Travel+Leisure. “In a housing market where affordability has been front and center, it’s notable to see a ZIP that pricey rise all the way to the top.” Montclair has the highest average home value out of

all 50 ZIP codes this year.

And at No. 3 is another New Jersey town. Sewell in Gloucester County, about 15 miles south of Philadelphia, generated 3.8 times more views than the national average. Realtor points out that 48 percent of those views came from Philadelphia, but another almost 27 percent were from New York.

All of the top 10 ZIP codes are located in the Northeast and the Midwest, spanning Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan. Realtor also reports that while nationally homes sell for 2.3 below below list price, residential real estate in those areas sells at or above the asking price.

The newcomers in this year’s ranking are: Lititz, Pennsylvania; North Haven, Connecticut; and New Berlin, Wisconsin. “None of them, or their metro areas, have ever ranked before, which suggests demand is starting to spread beyond the usual big-metro suburbs and into smaller markets within the same Northeast and Midwest corridors that have dominated this ranking for years,” Jones explains.

Below are the top 10 hottest ZIP codes in the country. You can see the full list on Realtor.com.

01960 Peabody, MA
07042 Montclair, NJ
08080 Sewell, NJ
14450 Fairport, NY
01085 Westfield, MA
48154 Livonia, MI
17543 Lititz, PA
06473 North Haven, CT
53151 New Berlin, WI
60187 Wheaton, IL

Read the original article on Travel & Leisure



Peabody city and City Hall in Essex County, Massachusetts.



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