LONG ISLAND ICED TEA "BREWHHAHA"

NOT YOUR GUYS

NOT Y'ALL'S

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INTERACTIVE MURDER MYSTERY
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Monday
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Tuesday 7pm
DJ Trivia – Kids eat FREE

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Thursday, June 14th
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Let's Get Social!

your week's line-up

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Founder: Bill Williams

Let’s Get Social!
LONG ISLAND ICED TEA “BREWHAAHA”

LONG ISLAND ICED TEA “BREWHAAHA” BETWEEN NEW YORK AND KINGSPORT, TENN. BEGINS JUNE 27

Battle lines have been drawn in the Long Island Iced Tea war. It’s Y’all vs. Yous Guys as the Southern Long Islanders are set to take on the Northern Long Islanders for bragging rights in what is sure to be an epic Showdown.

In early May, Visit Kingsport (Tenn.) distributed a nationwide press release reclaiming its place in history as home of the Original Long Island Iced Tea. The city’s tourism officials say the drink was first concocted in the 1920s by Charlie “Old Man” Bishop, a well-known illegal liquor distributor who lived on the Kingsport’s Long Island.

That proclamation didn’t sit well with Butch Yamali, owner of Hudson’s on the Mile, a popular bar in Long Island, N.Y. Yamali sent a letter to Kingsport Mayor John Clark and Visit Kingsport, disputing Kingsport’s claim, declaring that Robert “Rosebud” Butt of Long Island, N.Y. invented the Long Island Iced Tea in 1972. The bar owner also challenged Kingsport to a duel with bragging rights over the popular drink on the line.

Anxious to defend its drink, history and honor, Kingsport gladly accepted the challenge. Both parties subsequently agreed to a Showdown that will feature two contests. the first slated for June 27 at 4 p.m. in New York at Hudson’s on the Mile, the second set for July 13 at 2 p.m. in Kingsport during its annual Fun Fest celebration.

The rules for the contest are as follows:

- Contest gives the winner the right to call its recipe for the drink the “Best Long Island Iced Tea”
- Each city will bring their best bartender to each meeting
- The contest will feature a Blind Taste Test involving five tasters who will choose between Drink A and Drink B
- The host city will provide two tasters and the remaining three spots will be chosen from a lottery of attendees at that event’s tasting
- The winning city of each round will get to participate in a flag raising ceremony -and will also clean the opposing team’s bar

For more information, contact Lori Worley at 423-900-8417 or lori@thehighroadagency.com

THE PERFECT USE FOR A LONG ISLAND ICED TEA

By Paul Kavanaugh

NO MATTER WHO WINS THE CONTEST, A LONG ISLAND ICE TEA IS A GREAT DRINK.

I have the perfect idea for consuming one or more of these. Sunday, Father’s Day, is the final round of the US Open, arguably the most important golf tournament of the year. It is always Father’s Day weekend, a complete joy to us golf fans, maybe not so much for non-golfing wives! When I am asked, “Hey Dad, what do you want for Father’s Day?”, my standard reply is “Just leave me alone on Sunday afternoon to sit in my easy chair and watch the US Open.”

Well, naturally, a delicious cold beverage is a perfect accompaniment, and that’s where a Long Island Ice Tea comes in quite handy. They tend to be rather strong, so better drinking more than one in the comfort of your own home! Obviously, the drink one selects to watch the Open can vary widely from beer to wine to your favorite cocktail. You can’t really make a bad decision! But after all the hubbub about these Long Island Ice Teas, it seems to me that this is the absolute perfect golf-watching beverage. Join me, won’t you? And Go Tiger!
Interactive murder mystery dinner theatre hosted by contact 211 supports a good cause, creates enjoyable evening.

If you’re a fan of Sherlock Holmes or Agatha Christie, then you’re in for a treat – and a good cause.

Contact 211 of Northeast Tennessee is hosting an interactive murder mystery titled “Murder at the Hi Skool Reunion”, scripted and directed by Judy Womack, to benefit the helpline with its operations expenses.

The dinner theatre will be held Friday, June 15, at 6 p.m. at the St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Parish Hall, located at 161 E. Ravine St. in Kingsport.

The play is performed by the Off Broad Street Players, and gives the audience an opportunity to participate and help solve the murder. This fun evening includes the play, dinner and wine. Tickets cost $50 and are available by calling 211 or 423-530-6335.

Tickets are also available online at https://contact211dinnertheatre.eventbrite.com.

“This will be a fun, entertaining evening with a good meal for a great cause,” said Margaret Counts, executive director of Contact 211. “Contact 211 is here to support anyone in need or in crisis in our area with information and referrals to hundreds of community services. And all of our services are free and confidential, and are available to anyone in the 8 counties of upper East Tennessee.”

Contact 211 connects people in need with local organizations that provide services such as food, financial assistance for utilities, free or low-cost medical care, area shelters, counseling services, support groups, battered women’s shelters and addiction prevention or treatment. Contact 211 also provides daily reassurance calls for the elderly and homebound residents of Northeast Tennessee.

A non-profit United Way agency, Contact 211 is entirely supported by generous donations from people and organizations in the community. Counts said additional financial support is needed for the program to expand and provide additional services.

For more information, please call Ms. Counts at 423-530-6335 or margaret@contactconcern.org.
Fairies Make Their Home in Historic Downtown Bristol with New Public Art Project

Bristol, VA-TN (June 4, 2018) – Believe in Bristol, along with several participating small businesses, are excited to introduce a new public art project in Historic Downtown Bristol: Fairy Doors.

What is a fairy door, you ask? It is exactly what you would expect: a miniature door designed for fairies to come and go as they please. The fairy door art project came to the Believe in Bristol Promotions Committee after a team member saw a story on the success of a similar public art project in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Coordinated through Believe in Bristol, the Main Street program for the downtown district, businesses were encouraged to get creative and design a door to be installed on the exterior of their business. The committee wanted the downtown businesses to have a say in the personality of their fairy doors, and those who have participated have embraced the project – from a musically-inspired cottage entrance at the Birthplace of Country Music Museum to a hand-fired pottery fairy door at Kil’n Time. What might sound like a silly idea is actually an integral piece of community engagement, one that will encourage locals and visitors to explore our downtown. The fairy doors project is also part of a year-long public art series in Historic Downtown Bristol TN/VA with other projects planned for later in the year.

“Arts and culture are proving their power as economic and social catalysts,” says Maggie Bishop, Executive Director for Believe in Bristol. “Arts-based placemaking is an integrative approach to urban planning and community building. Plus, it’s a fun, and unexpected, addition to our arts and entertainment focused downtown.”

Doors will continue to be installed by Believe in Bristol through-out the summer months. For more information, please contact Maggie Bishop at Believe in Bristol at 423-573-2201, info@believeinbristol.org, or visit the website at www.believeinbristol.org
I wrote this original letter to my father to be printed in a 1995 issue of The Loafer on Father’s Day. I found it only appropriate to reprint this in honor of my father, Charles Gosnell.

Fathers and sons share a special bond - one that goes far beyond mere genetics. They’re Guys. Sure, one’s a Big Guy and one’s a Little Guy, but they’re still Guys. That means that right from the start, they can talk Guy Talk (“Whatdya think, boxers or briefs?” or “Women!”, usually accompanied by a rolling of the eyes and shrugging of the shoulders), and do Guy things (i.e. grow hair on their faces and pee standing up). Moreover, simply by virtue of being Guys they are privy to a whole mindset, an entire way of thinking that will, forever and always, be beyond the comprehension of any and all females, or Non-Guys.

From the time he is very young, Little Guys will look to their Father or Father-figure to learn the complicated art of being a Guy. Mom, being a Non-Guy, is pretty unessential in this necessary process ... except, perhaps, as he grows, to test and judge his grasp of Guyness by her level of exasperation.

Fathers and sons. Big Guys and Little Guys. Sharing not only a genetic and emotional bond, but the infamous Guy Bond. The combination makes for a unique closeness that is rivaled by none.

Wеееееееелл almost none.

Fathers and daughters.

Their’s, too, is a bond that goes beyond DNA ... waaay beyond, albeit in an entirely different direction.

There is, perhaps, no greater trust than that found in the eyes of a little girl looking at her daddy. It’s not that she doesn’t trust Mom, it’s just, well, different with Dad. In infancy, it’s probably based on nothing more than superficial things - usually, his voice is deeper and more authoritative, he’s bigger and has a more commanding presence; and yet because these qualities are tempered with that incredible gentleness that little girls babies seem to bring out in their fathers, instead of being intimidating they tend to inspire a complete and total trust, mingled with more than a little awe.

And don’t think for a moment that Dad doesn’t sense that trust, especially as she leaves infancy and begins to grow. A pretty overwhelming responsibility, that - she doesn’t see the flaws that to him are blatantly obvious; she’s oblivious to any self-perceived imperfections in his character; she doesn’t care how much money he makes and even if she did know what a corporate ladder is, her concern over which rung Dad is on would be nonexistent. He is, simply, her Prince. His is the face her imagination places on the shoulders of every hero in every fairy tale she hears. He is her protector and, in her child’s mind, he would slay dragons for her, conquer kingdoms for her, and fight off every imaginable villain that dared venture unto her world.

And he would.

The feeling of warmth and security that his love inspires in her at that age will stay with her always. Later, even as her mind and emotions mature and her picture of Dad becomes tempered with reality, her heart will always hold on to the memory of that feeling. It is the memory against which all other men in her life will even, if not on a conscious level, be judged. Not that she will necessarily search for a man who is like her father. She will search for a man who inspires that same feeling in her heart.

An exact match doesn’t exist.

Fathers and Daughters. Their’s is a formidable bond that can withstand discourse and diversity, distance and disagreement, even forced separation. Other loves and other bonds, may come to be just as strong, just as powerful, just as wonderful….but, none will be the same. It is to be listed among life’s truest treasures.

Thank you for being my rock dad. Happy Father’s Day
You’re youngest (and favorite) daughter,
Luci Tate
The film stars Gabrielle Union (“Bring It On”) as Shaun Russell, a mother of two kids, who after learning about the death of her estranged father Isaac, heads to his home in order to list his expansive home and grounds for sale. The plot reveals Shaun grew up on the estate, but later fell out with her father due to his unscrupulous business activities. When Shaun and her two kids, Jasmine (Ajiona Alexus) and Glover (Seth Carr) arrive at Isaac’s house, even though the security is next to that of Ft. Knox, something seems off. Not long after the Shaun and her kids enter the house, they discover four criminals, led by a guy named Peter (Mark Furze), are inside the home. The criminals are in search of Isaac’s safe which they know to contain $4 million. The bad guys have 90 minutes to find the safe and collect the money before the security company will contact the police. The unexpected arrival of Shaun and her kids further complicates matters, and the criminals are not happy. Of course, the bad guys use Shaun’s kids as a threat in order to force her to help them find the safe. Mother is not happy. The actions of the criminals lead Shaun to change into Wonder Woman mode, and despite taking bodily hits, rolling down a hill and falling on top of a car, she trudges on. This mother is not to be trifled with. Meanwhile, Shaun’s daughter, despite being the typical “leave me alone” teenager, steps up to the plate when the families life is at risk, and helps protect her younger brother while her mom is dealing with their rescue. The bad guys in the film are of the stereotypical variety. The bleach blonde air head, the tattooed and ruthless guy, who apparently left all sense of morality at the curb, the supposedly “intelligent” leader, and the one with glasses who has the biggest fights with Shaun.

The performances in the film are on par with the script, and Union gives it all she has without going over-the-top. Her character could have easily shouted “Jasmine bring me the axe!”; but thankfully we are spared cheeky dialogue. Despite all the intense action, the well fortified house in the film nearly overshadows the actors. Never fear, however, as Union and the bad guys provide enough melodrama to nearly bring down the walls of the house. Director James McTeigue (“The Matrix”) keeps the film moving briskly, and there is barely time to catch your breath after the film begins. There are many unbelievable moments in this film, so if you suspend your disbelief and just sit back and enjoy the intense action you may find yourself on the edge of your seat. I don’t see any reason to venture to the theater to see this film, so you can wait to view via Redbox, Netflix or HBO. After much thought, I have decided to christen “Breaking In” a “bad movie we love.”

(Rated PG-13) 2 1/2 stars
Facebook Review: ★★★★★

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Play Golf This Week
Barter Theatre, which was founded on the principle of bartering crops and other goods for tickets to a show, continues tradition this summer with the return of “Barter Days” by once again, allowing patrons to trade canned and dried goods for admission to the theatre.

Barter Theatre will be hosting three “Barter Days” on June 13, 14 and 15. On these days, Feeding America Southwest Virginia will partner with Barter to allow patrons an opportunity to see a show at no cost while helping those in need in the community.

“Barter” performances will include: “Steel Magnolias” on Wednesday, June 13, at 7:30 p.m.; “The Lemonade Stand” on Thursday, June 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and “Billy, Goat, Gruff: The Musical” on Friday, June 15, at 10:00 a.m. Each of these shows is deemed appropriate for attendance by all ages.

In 1933, during the Great Depression, Robert Porterfield founded Barter Theatre on the idea that “with vegetables you cannot sell, you can buy a good laugh.” Porterfield’s concept caught on quickly and by the end of the first season, the Barter Company cleared $4.35 in cash, two barrels of jelly and a collective weight gain of over 300 pounds.

On “Barter Days” no advanced reservations can be made for tickets that will be purchased with goods. Tickets are distributed on a first-come-first-serve basis with a limited number of seats available. For further information about ‘Barter Day’ policies or shows, patrons can visit bartertheatre.com or call the Barter Theatre box office at 276-628-3991.

Robert Porterfield barters with a patron in the early days of Barter Theatre.

Barter Theatre is funded in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.
NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals

Enjoy an action-packed Father’s Day weekend at Bristol Dragway.

Extreme machines roar into Bristol Dragway June 15-17 for the Fitzgerald USA NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals, treating guests to one of the most electrifying weekends in all of motorsports.

Scheduled for Father’s Day weekend, the event has become a can’t-miss on the NHRA calendar and Bristol Dragway creates an action-packed weekend guaranteed to not only celebrate Dad but entertain the entire family!

Visit Bristoldragway.com for more information and tickets.

Detailed Event Schedule:
NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals Detailed Schedule
Friday, June 15
Gates Open 9:00AM
Sportsman Qualifying 10:00AM
Factory Stock Showdown Qualifying
Pro Mod Qualifying 3:45PM
Pro Stock Qualifying 4:30PM
Nitro Qualifying (Funny Car/Top Fuel) 5:00PM
Nitro Harley Qualifying 6:00PM
Factory Stock Showdown Qualifying 6:15PM
Pro Mod Qualifying 6:45PM
Pro Stock Qualifying 7:30PM
Nitro Qualifying (Funny Car/Top Fuel) 8:00PM
Fireworks to Follow

Saturday, June 16
Gates Open 7:30AM
Sportsman Eliminations 8:00AM
Nitro Harley Qualifying 12:00PM
Pro Mod Qualifying 12:15PM
Pro Stock Qualifying 1:00PM
Nitro Qualifying (Funny Car/Top Fuel) 1:30PM
Nitro Harley Qualifying 2:30PM
Factory Stock Showdown Eliminations 2:40PM
Pro Mod Eliminations 2:45PM
Pro Stock Qualifying 3:30PM
Nitro Qualifying (Funny Car/Top Fuel) 4:00PM

To Follow: Fan Fest located in Nitro Alley 30 minutes after last Nitro Qualifying Round

Sunday, June 17
Gates Open 8:30AM
Track Walk 10:30AM
Pre-Race Ceremonies 11:00AM
Eliminations 12:00PM
THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER MUSIC SERIES TAKES THE STAGE

In historic downtown Bristol at the Downtown Center where each Tuesday and Thursday evening live music will fill the air, as it has for years. The newly branded Sounds of Summer music series, formerly known as the Full Moon Jam, just began its 22nd summer of providing the same great bluegrass, rock, and tribute music for which the venue is known. The concerts begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public as always. The series runs from June through September, with the bluegrass concerts ending in August. The Downtown Center venue is known for its secure family friendly atmosphere, with plenty of food and drink and clean on-site public restrooms. Some of the familiar bands, who are considered as stalwarts of the concerts series, will again be featured. These bands include Samantha Gray, Shooter, Duty Free, Thomas Taylor, Glen Harlow and Friends, Ken Morrell and Family, Billy Crawford Band, Retroville, WyldeHeart, and of course, James Meadows. New acts to the Downtown Center stage will also be performing like Phantom, Frontier, Northfork, and Shades of Refinement. The tribute concerts will feature Sons of Sailors- a Jimmy Buffett tribute, Sail On- a Beach Boys tribute, and finishing out the season, Head Games- a Foreigner tribute. “The Sounds of Summer concert series is a tradition in many families and has been for the last 21 years. Bristol is, without a doubt, a great place to enjoy live music,” said Angie Rutherford, Recreation Programmer for the city’s Parks and Recreation Department. “The award winning concert series is loaded with great music in a festival atmosphere.”

For more information on the music series, please contact Angie Rutherford at 423-764-3463 or by email at arutherford@bristoltn.org.

Hairspary – the musical
Winner of eight Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Original Score, Best Direction and Best Male and Female Lead to name a few, it’s “Hairspary!” The year’s ’62 and Baltimore’s Tracy Turnblad is going to do whatever it takes to dance her way onto TV’s most popular show. Can a big girl with big dreams—and even bigger hair—turn the whole town around and still have time to win the boy she loves? Don’t miss this dancing, romancing musical-comedy treat based on John Waters’ 1988 film classic, with a book by Mark O’Donnell and two-time Tony Award-winner Thomas Meehan and a brand-new score by five-time Oscar-nominee Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman. Purchase your tickets now for Hairspray – The Musical at Johnson City Community Theatre, 600 E Maple Street Johnson City. Performance dates are June 14-17 at 7:30pm, June 17 at 2pm, June 21 – 23 at 7:30pm nightly. Tickets can be purchased at tickets.vendini.com
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Two women forever to be remembered achieved an important Space Age “first” for their countries in the month of June. It was 55 years ago that Russia’s national hero Valentina Tereshkova was launched June 16, 1963 on the 7th human spaceflight and the first woman in outer space. She orbited the Earth 48 times for three days in the Vostok 6 spacecraft, slightly larger than America’s one-man Mercury spaceship. Twenty years later, June 18, 1983, Sally Ride became the first American woman to blast off into space, her historic mission being aboard Space Shuttle Challenger. Ride was the first woman to use the robotic arm in space and retrieve a satellite.

Ride made a second trip to Earth orbit in 1984 also aboard Challenger giving her 14 days in space. An inspiration to thousands of girls dreaming of outer space, she became a great ambassador for NASA as well as a physics professor at University of California, San Diego. Sadly, Sally Ride died in 2012 at age 61 of pancreatic cancer. Still strong at age 80, Tereshkova is truly a space pioneer when at just age 25 she flew to fame in the primitive spaceship for three days that required of her, after a fiery reentry, to eject and parachute separately from the spacecraft. She is still the only female to fly solo in space.

Since her historic space flight that made her a national hero, the highly decorated Tereshkova has led a life of a political puppet for the Communist nation. Her mission was demanded by then Soviet Union Premier Nikita Khrushchev to show the world the superiority of Russian women. She was even told to marry the third man in space, Andrian Nikolayev, and they even had the first “space baby,” daughter Yelena. They divorced in 1982.

It would be 19 years before the second Russian woman would be in space. That female cosmonaut, Svetlana Savitskaya was blasted off to the Salyut 7 space station in July 1982 and performed the first spacewalk by a lady. Both Tereshkova and Ride have postage stamps printed in their honor, Sally’s coming just this past March when a U.S. Postal Service “Forever” stamp was issued.

Coincidently June is also the month anniversary for the first female Chinese “taikonaut” Liu Yang, launched with two men aboard the Shenzhou 9 spaceflight on June 16, 2012, they docked with China’s first space station for 10 days! Because it took 20 years after Russia to put a woman in space, NASA weathered much criticism for being a “good old boys” network of strictly test pilots and mission specialists. But it took those test pilots to shake down all the logistics of living in space in a highly public 1960s race to the Moon with the Soviets.

Following Ride into space were all the five members of the first female astronaut class of NASA in 1978—Rhea Seddon, Anna Fisher, Kathryn Sullivan, Judy Resnik. Resnik was killed on her second flight in the Challenger launch explosion; Sullivan flew 3 times and became the first American woman to walk in space in 1984; Fisher was the first mother in space in 1984 on her lone mission; and Seddon had three spaceflights.

To date, there have been 64 women out of the $38 humans blasted off Earth in the 57 years of manned space travel. They come from 10 countries and include 46 Americans, but just four Russians. Females are clearly part of American space plans, but not so much in Russia—which had touted the equality of women in their country after the 1962 flight of Tereshkova.

The three-day spaceflight of Vostok 6 was every bit the propaganda triumph Khrushchev wish for. And the Premier personally rubbed in the fact that her mission was longer than all six American Mercury manned missions. Indeed, it was—Tereshkova was in space 70 hours to 56 hours for American heroes Shepard, Grissom, Glenn, Carpenter, Schirra and Cooper.

Tereshkova, a textile worker and expert amateur parachutist, was the finalist out of four other woman trainees at the cosmonaut camp, and their presence was controversial to the macho men space pioneers. Yet Khrushchev used the cosmonaut corps as his personal pet, and what he wanted was space spectacles to show the world how the Communist way was superior. Of course, he got what he wanted as the Soviet Premier—and he supplied the money.

Yuri Gagarin’s historic one orbit of Vostok 1 in April 1961 was followed in August by a full day in space by Gherman Titov in Vostok 2. Tereshkova’s future husband, Andrian Nikolayev, was the Vostok 3 Spaceman. He actually was the cosmonaut who trained the four potential women space fliers—and fell for the lucky one. Or did he? Some suspect that Khrushchev played cupid as he gave the bride away in a Moscow wedding that rivaled anything of the time. Russian’s loved their cosmonauts like Americans idolized Hollywood stars, and Khrushchev wanted control, so he would tout Communism superiority as they conquered Outer Space.

Sally Ride grew up in Los Angeles when the Moon Race was in full swing. She was inspired by Tereshkova’s flight and became a physicist before becoming an astronaut. At age 32 she is the youngest American to fly in space. She too married an astronaut, Steven Hawley in 1982, and they divorced in 1987. Though very active in promoting space exploration, Dr. Ride was extremely private about her personal life. When she died in 2012, her obituary acknowledged her gay relationship for 27 years with Tam O’Shaughnessy. She and O’Shaughnessy, and award-winning children’s science writer, co-wrote six highly acclaimed children’s books.

Sally Ride was posthumously given the highest honor of our nation, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Dr. Ride was also unique in being the only person to be appointed to both committees that investigated the Space shuttle disasters of Challenger and Columbia. She has two schools named after her, and has been inducted into the Legacy Walk, an outdoor public display in Chicago that celebrates LGBT history and people.

Both Ride and Tereshkova flew into space not just for women, but for all mankind. The focus on their lives presented the opportunity for them to perform not just as women, but as true pioneers of the Space Age. And each truly excelled.
TUESDAY, JUNE 12
Stemwinder band
20 Beers on tap
16 wines on tap

wednesday, JUNE 13
H.B. Beverly

THURSDAY, JUNE 14
Mark Larkin

3-7PM HAPPY HOUR

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NOON - 8 PM

High Knob Recreation Area

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Adam Graybeal’s
Hillbilly Soul
Young Mister
49 Winchester
Tyler Hughes & Sam Gleave

Free and open to the public
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What’s in A Name?

Initialism: abbreviations which consist of the initial (i.e. first) letters of words and which are pronounced as separate letters when they are spoken. (Oxford Dictionary). Examples include: NASA, FBI, CIA, etc.

I’m sure you view the examples shown above with the utmost respect. Another example of initialism that should gain a high amount of respect is a community that has been an important piece in history for decades. And that is the LGBT community; or, in its entirety, LGBTQQIP2SAA.*

Stonewall Riots: A History

Gay bars: once a sanctuary for the LGBT community was quickly altered into a place of terror on June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn in New York City.

Due to the injustice the LGBT community underwent, a riot ensued during a routine police raid in the early hours of June 28th. The riot and additional protests over the following nights was the milestone for LGBT rights and initiated the assembly of LGBT pride marches thousands of people celebrate every June.

(Revolutionary Trans activist, drag queen and trailblazer Marsha P. Johnson was identified as one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall Riots)
In 1954 MGM released two musicals in the new widescreen CinemaScope format. One was a lavish adaptation of the smash hit Broadway musical "Brigadoon" the other was a musical written especially for the screen, "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." Despite "Seven Brides" having a score that featured lyrics by perhaps the greatest lyricist to ever live, Johnny Mercer, MGM put all their gusto behind "Brigadoon," cutting the budget of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," essentially treating it like a B picture. Despite having an all-star cast that included Gene Kelly and Cyd Charisse, "Brigadoon" flopped when it was released, not recouping its over three million dollar budget at the box office.

"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" on the other hand, was a smash hit, bringing in over nine million on a mere two and a half million dollar budget. Film fans today are still mixed in how to view "Brigadoon," while "Seven Brides" is undeniably a classic and one of MGM's best. Directed by Stanley Donen and starring Jane Powell and Howard Keel, "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" takes place in 1850 in the Oregon Territory. Backwoodsman Adam Pontipee (Keel) comes to town looking for a bride, upon finding one the newlyweds return home, only for Adam's new bride Milly (Powell) she finds that not only has she gotten a husband, but an instant family of his six brothers too.

It's downright impossible not to get swept up in the charms of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" if the film doesn't have you fully hooked by the amazing barn-raising sequence, then maybe musicals just aren't your bag. Warner Archive has brought "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" to blu-ray in a most impressive two-disc set that brings both the original CinemaScope 2.55:1 version of the film to HD, and the little-seen alternate 1.77:1 "flat" version of the film that was shot at the same time as the CinemaScope film, but made of entirely different takes. This was an experiment MGM only did on three films, this one, "Brigadoon," and "The Student Prince." The feeling was that if CinemaScope flopped—or if not enough theaters are equipped to show it, they'd still have a releasable version of the films in the bank.

Both films are presented in new 2K scans, and both look quite good. The CinemaScope version of "Seven Brides" is really quite impressive when you realize how little there is to work with, the film's original CinemaScope negative was badly damaged in the late 1960s, and the film was shot in Ansco color—which faded rapidly over time. The flat version of the film has a slight edge color wise—MGM wound up never releasing it and the negative sat untouched for decades until being made available for the first time on a 1999 deluxe laserdisc set of the film.

This blu-ray set mirrors the bonus material from the 2004 deluxe DVD release of the film, which is perfectly fine as all the extras are quite solid. There's a commentary track from director Donen, a making-of feature, newsreel footage of the film's premiere, and a short subject celebrating MGM's 30th anniversary—also in CinemaScope and in a rich, 5.1 mix. "Seven Brides" was released in four-track stereo, and the CinemaScope version features a DTS-HD MA 5.1 mix created from those original elements, the "flat" version features a mono soundtrack, also in DTS-HD MA. It's a fine release of one of the most beloved movie musicals of all time.

Also out from Warner Archive, making its blu-ray debut, is director Vincente Minnelli's 1957 charmer "Designing Woman" starring Lauren Bacall and Gregory Peck. Bacall plays a fashion designer and Peck a sportswriter. Both meet in Los Angeles and fall in love, marry, then return home to NYC after a weekend romance and begin to realize that they don't actually know each other all that well. This is a fun film and starts off with a great opening scene that has the characters breaking the fourth wall and addressing the camera directly. Bacall and Peck are a fun duo together, and the film breezily moves along thanks to an Oscar-winning screenplay.

This new blu-ray from Warner Archive features a new 1080p transfer of the film made from original CinemaScope elements—it looks terrific! Bonus materials include a mini-documentary with costume designer Helen Rose and the film's theatrical trailer. Both of these films are fine additions to your home video library and another excellent job from Warner Archive. I hope you'll give both of them a look soon. See you next week.
The 2018 High Knob Music Festival will be held on Saturday, June 16, at the High Knob Recreation Area in the Jefferson National Forest, outside of Norton, Virginia. The event will start at 12 noon and go until 8:00 PM. The festival is free to the public. We kindly ask that you bring 3 can food products to donate to the local food bank.

The festival is in its 5th year growing from a small group of musicians playing for and with each other to an all day event featuring both local and regional artist showcasing their talents and unique styles of music. This year lineup offers the following artist.

Opening up the event at 12:00 will be Tyler Hughes & Sam Gleaves, two local artist that have been playing music together for some time. In 2017 they released their first album which features old time country music and newly written songs from the Appalachian mountains. The next band to take the stage on High Knob will be 49 Winchester. A local band that hails from Castleton, Virginia. The five member band describes their style of music as heartfelt Appalachian folk songs meets heavy country blues. Their self titled debut album, came out in 2014, and they recently recorded the closing track from the album “1927 Jubilee: The New Bristol Sessions. Next on the stage will be Waynesville, North Carolina’s own Young Mister. Young Mister is singer/songwriter Steven Fiore, who will be performing as a solo artist for the festival. Steven spent 6 years as a songwriter for Universal Music Publishing Group, before stepping out as Young Mister. He describes his music as melodic slack rock. In 2016 he release his first, self titled, album. On to the next act, Adam Graybeal’s Hillbilly Soul, a Bristol, Virginia based band. Adam Graybeal has been on the music scene since 1998, making his debut at the age of 14 at “The Down Home”. He formed the Hillbilly Soul in 2016 and since has created a blending of bluegrass and blues to create a unique blues/mountain-grass sound that has been described as “blue-eyed mountain soul”. Featuring a full horns section this is a band to see.

Our final, and headliner band is The Whiskey Gentry. Originally from Atlanta, Georgia. A five piece band that has been on the music scene since 2009. They released their debut album in 2011, Please Make Welcome. Since then they have released 3 additional albums, Holly Grove, Live From Georgia and Dead Ringer. Their music has been described as a “toe-tapping, steam-rolling kind of band, its fingers picking deep into fields of bluegrass…with a punk-inspired kick drum”. You will not want to miss this band!

We hope to see you on the mountain June 16, for a fun filled day of music.
AMUSEMENT PARK ROAD TRIP

My oh my, how time flies! It seems like it was just getting warm enough for us to finally wear short sleeves after that arctic-like winter we endured. Now in just another week or so it will already be summer! That means families are already hitting the highways of America for that annual vacation, whether it be Yellowstone to see the mighty eruptions of Old Faithful, the warm sands of the beautiful beaches which stretch from coast to coast, or even Walt Disney World, everyone’s favorite destination of all.

Summertime is our season of choice to hit up as many of the regional theme parks as we can, and there are a lot to choose from. Millions of other vacationers are having the same idea, and many a fond memory can be attributed to a lazy summer day at the local amusement park or carnival. You can grab a snow cone, cool off in the waterpark, and feel the breeze blow over your feet on the wave swinger.

Dozens of parks dot the U.S. from one end to the other, so even the seasoned traveler can always find something new. Many parks fly under the radar, so to speak, and although they may not have the number or rollercoasters as the bigger parks like Cedar Point, they are still a great place to spend time with family and friends. Below we’ve gathered a list of parks around the region that we’ve found to be great destinations!

Carowinds, Charlotte - This humongous park lies on the border of North and South Carolina (the state line actually splits the main park road in two like State Street in Bristol), and is just a short three hour drive from Johnson City. The rollercoaster mecca is best known as the home of Fury 325, the tallest coaster in the Southeast standing at—you guessed it—325 feet! Other amazing coasters include the NASCAR themed Intimidator and the intense inverted coaster known as Afterburn. Carowinds isn’t just about the thrill rides, however. This year saw the expansion of the Camp Snoopy kids area with six new attractions that the entire family can enjoy together! It’s owned and operated by Cedar Fair, so get a Platinum Pass if you think you’ll hit another one of their parks as it is definitely worth the money. www.carowinds.com

Kings Island, Cincinnati - We’ve covered this park in our past travels, and it continues to be one of our favorites! Although it is a bit farther away (about five to six hours depending on that Kentucky traffic), it is definitely worth the trip. This park is almost very much about the rollercoasters, with the legendary lineup including Banshee, longest inverted coaster in the world, and the Beast, famous for its legendary night rides, and also the longest wooden coaster on the planet. The Racer is a classic ride which sparked the modern coaster frenzy when it opened with the park in 1972. Also included with admission is Soak City, a thirty-three acre waterpark filled with dozens of slides for all ages! The nearby Great Wolf Lodge helps make this park a nice weekend getaway. Remember that Platinum Pass we mentioned a minute ago? It works here at Kings Island too! www.visitkingsisland.com

Six Flags Over Georgia, Atlanta - Within sight of the mini-Manhattan that downtown Atlanta has become, the second Six Flags park sits on the banks of the Chattahoochee River. 2018 is an exciting year for this park, as they just welcomed the addition of Twisted Cyclone, an inversion-filled rollercoaster by Rocky Mountain Coasters. This acclaimed coaster manufacturer also created Dollywood’s record-breaking thrill ride, Lightning Rod, and while Twisted Cyclone is steel instead of wood, it is just as wild of a ride. The park features ten rollercoasters spread out over almost three hundred picturesque acres. www.sixflags.com/overgeorgia

Beech Bend, Bowling Green - Family-owned and operated, this charming park not too far from Mammoth Cave National Park offers activities the entire family can enjoy. The main attraction is the Kentucky Rumbler, a fantastic wooden coaster reminiscent of Thunderhead at Dollywood. The park has an included waterpark, nearby campground, and even a drag-racing strip where races are held on a weekly basis. www.beechbend.com

Kentucky Kingdom, Louisville - Formerly a Six Flags park, this Kentucky icon has seen a stellar comeback since its closure during the chain’s financial hardships in the mid 2000s. Today the park independently operated and has dozens of attractions from thrill rides to waterslides. Lightning Run and Storm Chaser are the park’s two signature coasters, featuring loads of airtime along their twisty layouts. This year the park has an amazing offer for out-of-state visitors: get a single day admission and get the entire next day free along with free drinks! This is a steal and really makes the case to visit this season. shop.kentuckykingdom.com

Wild Adventures, Valdosta - Coasters and tigers and bears, oh my! This sprawling park covers almost two hundred acres in south Georgia near the Florida border. What started out as a small petting zoo has morphed into a full-blown safari! Fields full of elephants sit next to rides such as Cheetah, a thrilling wood coaster the entire family can enjoy. Family is the focus for this park, with the majority of coasters and other attractions being accessible for all ages. They also have a special for second day admission free! www.wildadventures.com

Several other parks include Kings Dominion in Richmond, Virginia, Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Lake Winnepesauka in Chattanooga, and Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri. We’ll have some more in-depth articles on regional parks as we head out on our adventures throughout the summer, so stay tuned!
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Friday & Saturday: 4-11pm
Sunday: 3-8pm

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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

June 14 • 4-9pm
Bingo
Cornhole

AND LIVE MUSIC
from 6-9pm

June 15 • 7-11pm
Acoustifried

June 16 • 7-11pm
Southern Rebellion

June 17 • 5-8pm
Sunday Funday

DJ Marquez

Roan Mountain
Rhododendron Festival 2018

The Rhododendron Festival is a long-standing springtime tradition that hails the blooming of the world-famous Rhododendron Gardens atop Roan Mountain. The festival will be held June 16 at Roan Mountain State Park. The festival features crafters, folkway demonstrators, musicians, and tasty food! Parking is first come first serve and the festival will take place around the Roan Mountain State Park’s amphitheater from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm on both days. This event is sponsored by the Roan Mountain Citizens Club.

For more information visit www.roanmountain.com/citizens-club/ or tnstateparks.com/parks/about/roan-mountain

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**Spotlight**

- **TUESDAY - June 12 -**
  - Stanley Brothers All Star-Band
  - Ralph Stanley Museum and Tradition-al
  - Mountain Music Center
  - Downtown Country
  - Jiggy Ray’s Pizzeria
  - Southern Countrymen Band
  - Jonesborough Days
  - Stemwinder Band
  - Rock’s Wood Fired Pizza & Grill

- **- WEDNESDAY - June 13-**
  - Wry Straw John McCutcheon, Rick Kirby, and Tom Bledsoe
  - McClothin Center for the Arts
  - Open Mic
  - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - Open Bluegrass Jam
  - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - Open Mic
  - Woodstone Deli
  - H.B. Beverly
  - Rock’s Wood Fired Pizza & Grill

- **- THURSDAY - June 14 -**
  - The Diamonds
  - Blackbird Bakery
  - Jam w/ Ellis Waddell
  - Wellington’s Restaurant
  - Best All-Around Performers
  - Country Cabin
  - Cris Jacobs
  - Abingdon Market Pavilion
  - Isaac Gibson / Jake Quillen / Magus
  - Vaughn
  - Bloom Cafe and Listening Room
  - Tim Easton
  - Down Home
  - Lightnin’ Charlie & The Upsetters
  - Winged Deer Park Lakeside Concert Series
  - Hip Gypsy
  - Quaker Steak & Lube
  - Open Mic
  - Bears Bar
  - Rusty Steel
  - Woodstone Deli
  - Acoustified
  - Sonny’s Marina
  - Benny Wilson Band & Ivy Road
  - Twilight Alive Concert Series
  - Jarekus Singleton
  - Wolf Hills Brewing
  - Cha Wa
  - Founders After 5
  - Bicycle
  - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - Bill and the Belles, The Earl White Stringband
  - The Rock School
  - Borderline
  - Quaker Steak & Lube
  - DJ Scorpion
  - Country Club Bar & Grill
  - Victor Lawson & The Boogie Chillin’ Band
  - Lakeview Marina Marker II
  - Halfmoon Trench
  - Painter Creek Marina
  - Alex Baughman
  - Yee Haw Brewing Company

- **- FRIDAY - June 15-**
  - Southern Rebellion
  - Wild Wing Cafe
  - Fritz & Co. w/ Rhythm & the Roosevelt’s
  - Capone’s
  - Railway Express
  - Rain Nightclub
  - Cutthroat Shamrock
  - Sleepy Owl Brewery
  - Heart Society
  - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - HATB / Thrush
  - The Hideaway
  - Lonesome River Band
  - Natural Tunnel State Park
  - Blank
  - at Woodstone Deli
  - Acoustified
  - Sonny’s Marina
  - Trey Hensley & Rob Ickes, Backline Bluegrass
  - Renaissance Arts Center & Theatre
  - The Purple Masquerade
  - Wild Wing Cafe
  - Rusty Steel & Quarter Bounce
  - O’Mainnin’s Pub
  - Acoustifried
  - Kingsport Eagles
  - Aaron “Woody” Wood w/ Jake Quillen
  - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - The Honey Badgers
  - Holston River Brewing Company
  - HATB / Donnie & The Heavers
  - Sleepy Owl Brewery
  - The Rhythm Revue
  - Kingsport Moose Lodge #972
  - Nightshift Band
  - Show Palace
  - Southern Rebellion
  - Sonny’s Cafe
  - Whiskey Bent Balley Boys
  - Carter Family Fold
  - Ron Short & The Possum Playboys
  - Damascus Brewery
  - Daniel Couper
  - High Voltage
  - Folk Soul Revival
  - Wolf Hills Brewing
  - Collateral Jamage
  - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - Stepping Out
  - David Thompson’s Produce
  - Borderline
  - Lakeview Marina Marker II
  - Tennessee Beach
  - Country Club Bar & Grill
  - From The Edge
  - Laurel Marina
  - Dixie Express Band
  - Bears Bar

- **- SATURDAY - June 16 -**
  - Rick Morris Band
  - Buffalo Ruritan
  - Asylum Suite
  - Woodstone Deli
  - Cory Jeter
  - Yee Haw Company
  - Third Day Resurrection
  - Boones Creek Resurrection
  - Historical Trust Museum

- **- SUNDAY June 17-**
  - Mike Snodgrass
  - Wild Wing Cafe
  - Ivy Road
  - Lakeview Marina Marker II

- **- MONDAY June 18-**
  - Singer & Songwriter Nite
  - Bears Bar
Karaoke

TUESDAY
Karaoke w/ Crossroads & Josh Blevins at Dawg House Tavern
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Family Night Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

WEDNESDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at American Legion 8pm
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Marx the Spot
Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at The Cave
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN

THURSDAY
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Get Wylde Entertainment Karaoke at Painter Creek
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Stateline Bar & Grill
Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez Top Shelf Entertainment at Wild Wing Cafe JC
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at New Beginning’s
Karaoke at Jiggy Rays Pizzaria

FRIDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at Sportsman’s Bar & Grill 9pm
Karaoke w/ Shane Rouse at Bear’s Bar
Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
Karaoke w/ Reverb Karaoke at The Cottage 8:30 pm
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Moe’s Original BBQ
Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
Karaoke at Elizabethton VFW
Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez & Top Shelf Entertainment at Holiday Inn (Exit 7) - Bristol VA
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

SATURDAY
Karaoke at The Horseshoe Lounge
Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

BRO-FEST
JUNE 16 | 12-7 PM

June 16 will be a day all about the guys at Bro-Fest at Johnson City Mall from noon till 7pm! Enjoy food trucks, disc golf, Jim’s Yamaha Kawasaki & KTM Motorcycle Sales & Service, and TaylorMade Barbershop will be on-site doing cuts and fades.

The following food trucks will be participating:
- Bite
- Caribbean Grill
- El Lagunero
- Packer’s Concessions
- Sam’s Snoball Paradise
- Smoking Pete’s BBQ
- Sugar Shack Kettle Corn
- Two Brotherz Burgers

Come out & join us!!!
Celestial events in the skies for the week of June 12 - June 18, as compiled for The Loafer by Mark D. Marquette.

The Full Moon of June is the Strawberry Moon or Honey Moon, and it happens Monday June 20th at 7:05 am. And the first day of Summer is ushered in Monday at 6:34 pm. The summertime full moons are low in the south evening sky and often honey colored as the moonlight is filtered through our atmosphere. This is a possible source for those nuptial times enjoyed by newlyweds on the “honeymoon!”

Tuesday, June 12
As darkness grips the late Spring landscape by 10 pm, Leo the Lion is dipping down toward the western horizon, soon to be gone by midnight. Once heralding the end of our long Winter, the familiar outline of backward question mark for its head and right triangle for its hindquarters is bidding goodbye as Summer is on its way.

Wednesday, June 13
Looking south, the scales of Libra, an indistinct small group of stars that garners attention with the famous planet’s presence. To the east are the claws of Scorpius, on the border of the Milky Way. And bright, red Mars is on those claws. The heart of the scorpion, Antares is to the left of Mars and a much fainter red. And above it is yellowish Saturn.

Thursday, June 14
On this 1963 date in space history, Valentine Tereshkova, 77, became the first woman to be launched into space aboard her spaceship Vostok 6. She is still the only female to fly solo in space—probably never to be duplicated. Tereshkova is Russian national hero, having been appointed to political posts and most recently part of the torch ceremony at the 2014 Winter Olympics. Also on this 2012 date in space history, Shenzhou 9 was launched as the fourth Chinese human space flight with three “taikonauts,” including the first female. They spent 10 days on a small Chinese space station.

Friday, June 15
Tonight the planet Mars is below the gibbous Moon in the constellation Scorpius. On this 1985 date in space history Shuttle Discovery was launched on a mission paid for with the release of three communications satellites in the cargo bay.

Saturday, June 16
On this 1983 date in space history, Sally Ride became the first American female in space as was rocketed off Earth with four men aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger. It was the seventh Shuttle flight, and Challenger’s second. Ride made a second flight before becoming a NASA ambassador. She died in 2012 of pancreatic cancer at age 61. Her maiden voyage at age 32 still makes her the youngest American to orbit Earth.

Sunday, June 17
Father’s Day. And the last day of spring as the Summer Solstice is tomorrow, June 20th at 6:34 pm. And the nearly full phase Moon will be shining brightly over our Appalachian landscape.

Monday, June 18
Full Moon is today at 7:02 am. On this 1996 date in space history, Space Shuttle Columbia was launched with seven astronauts and the 40-foot Spacelab module in the cargo bay. During the nearly 17-day mission, the astronauts conducted 22 experiments on human physiology, microgravity effects on metallic alloys and protein crystals as well as the behavior of fluids in the weightlessness of outer space.
A SUMMER TOSSSED SALAD (OR HALF-EATEN KIT KAT BAR)

Every week I am glad I chose to write a pop culture column so many years ago, because I never run out of ideas. After all, we are goldfish who swim inside a big bowl of pop culture. And sometimes there is so much stuff out there that I can’t settle on one thing and have to include more than one topic in my column. This is one of those weeks, so let’s see what’s in store.

Our first topic comes from our friends in Scandinavia, and is closely related to our obsession with binge watching TV series on streaming video. According to a recent VinePair column by Tim McKirdy, “Pantsdrunk” (which was called “Kalsarikanni,” back in the long-ago world of 2017). And what exactly is this exotic sounding term all about? Well, McKirdy tells us it “literally means drinking at home, alone, in your underwear,” especially while binge watching the series of your choice. And he references a new book about this very interesting trend, written by Miska Rantanen. I located a few pages from this book, found a list of the “Top 100 Excuses For Pantsdrunk,” and was delighted to discover that this very bizarre practice needs only the flimsiest of excuses like “I’m done with work for this day,” “I have to go to work tomorrow,” “It’s raining,” “There are still some potato chips at the bottom of the bag,” “I don’t have a significant other,” “I’ve never been this old before,” “I should sort the laundry,” and “I cleaned my inbox” (I would probably succumb to Pantsdrunk if I could manage this impossible feat, even if only a few moments). Be on the lookout, if you dare, for this to become the next big thing—although we should be a little frightened by the prospect.

Next on our list is the apparent solution to one of the world’s greatest mysteries. No, it doesn’t have anything to do with socks that disappear in the dryer, but about how those enigmatic statues on Easter Island got those fascinating stone hats. In a Popular Science article written by Kat Eschner, we learn that “physicists and anthropologists used three-dimensional models of the hats, which are called pukao, and the existing anthropological record, which includes hats and statues found around the island in modern times. Based on their modeling and the existing evidence, they demonstrated that the hats were affixed before the statues were completed and situated, while they were tilted forward.” Sounds pretty simple, doesn’t it? Of course, it looks like we might have to discard Erich Von Daniken’s infamous (and lucrative) theory that the statues were put in place by ancient astronauts.

Speaking of wacky theories, we come to one of my favorite pet explanations—the really boring idea that planet Earth is in fact flat rather than round. In a fascinating, and pretty scary, expose in The New Yorker, Alan Burdick writes about his attendance at a November 2017 flat earth conference held at the Embassy Suites in Raleigh, North Carolina. As Burdick notes, “If you are only just waking up to the twenty-first century, you should know that, according to a growing number of people, much of what you’ve been taught about our planet is a lie: Earth really is flat. We know this because dozens, if not hundreds, of YouTube videos describe the coverup.” And this, in essence, constitutes all the proof you need. If it appears on YouTube, you don’t need any other evidence, and if more than one of your acquaintances believe the world is flat, then it is. Everyone else is part of the conspiracy. Of course, if you need any more proof, you should have become a true believer when you plunked down your two hundred and forty-nine dollars to attend that first-ever Flat Earth Conference in Raleigh (in my home state, no less). Never mind that most inhabitants of our little place in the universe, from the ancient Greeks on down, have believed in the spherical nature of our home. This is, however, apparently more evidence of the grand conspiracy. And, as Burdick says, “believing in a flat Earth is hard work” because “there is so much to relearn.” In the end, it all comes down to who you trust, and who you are willing to give permission to steal your independence of thought.” And, for me, it boils down to what advantage it can have for anyone to create such an elaborate hoax. I am convinced that the world is neither round or flat, but hexagonal. And I am currently looking for a YouTube video to validate me. So, pay me two hundred and forty-nine dollars and I will convince you.

And now, we come to the most tantalizing topical question this week. Namely, what is the correct way to bite into a Kit Kat bar? In a June 2 news feed from ABC news, we learn about a life-changing argument that erupted between Haley Byrd became enraged when her boyfriend, in eating his first Kit Kat bar (if you really believe that), bit all four bars at once, leaving a graphic impression of his upper teeth. You can view the picture online, of course, allowing you to judge for yourself the enormity of this crime. As you might expect, this debate has become sensation, replacing the now-ancient arguments over what words you hear and what color dress you see. In case you are wondering, I guess I eat my Kit Kat the correct way—by separating each bar and then eating one at a time. But I don’t pull Oreos apart, preferring to eat both halves and the cream middle with each bite. Which raises an even more probing question—What is the correct way to eat an unfrosted blueberry Pop Tart? Perhaps I should save the answer until next week after I conduct some extensive research (i.e. YouTube videos).

See you next week.

In the meantime, don’t fall off the edge of the Earth.
Entries Now Being Accepted for Annual Jonesborough Days Parade
Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Department is currently accepting entries for the Annual Jonesborough Days Parade to be held Saturday, June 30th at 10 a.m. The parade is part of the Jonesborough Days Festival held each year, and celebrates the community and its heritage. It is requested that entries be designed and decorated to focus on patriotism to tie in with the Fourth of July holiday and Jonesborough Days Festival. Also encouraged, is live music being played from floats during the parade. Entry fees are $50 for commercial and political entries and $25 for non-commercial entries. A mandatory safety meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 26 at the Jonesborough Visitors Center at 6 p.m. to review rules and line-ups of the parade. A refund of $10 will be given for attendance to the meeting. For a parade application and additional information, visit www.jonesboroughtn.org. Call Rachel Conger at 791-3869 with questions.

“Tail-Waggin’ Tutors” Program at Gray Library
Magpie, a female Goldendoodle, will be available to listen to young readers at the Gray Library on Wednesday afternoons this summer at the Gray Library. As part of the Therapy Dogs International Tail Waggin’ Tutors program, Magpie will encourage children to read by providing a non-judgmental listener and furry friend that won’t criticize or laugh at them if they make a mistake or stumble over a word. This will help the child gain confidence over time as they practice their skills in a fun environment. Parents may call or come by the library to sign up their child for one of the 15-minute sessions. They will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. on June 13 and 27. Bennett, the Setter, will also be available for sessions on June 8. For more information, call the library at (423) 477-1550.

Movie Maker
Windows Movie Maker, a video editing program, will be the subject of a tech class at Gray Library on June 14. Basics of movie making to be discussed include how to import video footage, set title/credit and ending screens, and do special effects and sound. The class will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Call the library for more information or to register at (423) 477-1550.

Library Online Resources
Library Online Resources will be the subject of a tech class at Gray Library on June 21. Participants can find out more about how to access some of the free resources which are offered to library patrons. The class begins at 4:30 p.m. Overdrive and RBdigital offer ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, etc., for checkout to individuals with library cards. GCFLearnFree is a site which offers extensive online learning in many subjects. These include technology (devices, digital skills, social media, photos, graphics, and using the Cloud), workplace skills and job hunting, money, reading, math, and everyday skills, to name just a few. Tumble Books offers ebooks and other games, puzzles, etc., for children. For more information or to register, call the library at (423) 477-1550.

Jonesborough to Welcome Storyteller Elizabeth Ellis
The 2018 season of the Storytelling Live!, the International Storytelling Center’s popular performance series, is underway. All ticketholders can present their ticket stubs for a 10 percent discount on same-day dining at JJ’s Eatery and Ice Cream; Main Street Café (lunch only); Medley Vegan Vegetarian; Olde Towne Pancake House; and The Corner Cup. Boone Street Market is offering 10 percent off prepared meals and 5 percent off any other purchase. Information about all performers, as well as a detailed schedule for 2018, is available at www.storytellingcenter.net. (800) 952-8392 ext. 222 or (423) 913-1276.

Johnson City Community Drum Circle
The Johnson City Community Drum Circle meets every Wednesday evenings through October 24, 7 pm - 8:30pm, inside the Farmers’ Market Pavilion next to Founders Park. Everyone is welcome and any body can play. Come drum, hoop/holler, dance, or just relax and take in the scene, no experience or “talent” necessary. There are shared instruments and of course you can bring your own drums or percussion. It’s all improvised, so there are no mistakes. We just smile and keep playing. Shine or rain, the pavilion has us covered. Bring your own seating!

“Let’s talk about that” Book Club
at the Johnson City Public Library
Children ages eight to twelve are invited to the Johnson City Public Library Storytime Room on June 12 at 2:30 p.m. to discuss The Way to Stay in Destiny by Augusta Scattered. In this story, Theo has a passion for playing the piano, but his new guardian doesn’t see the value in it. Theo must find a way to remain true to himself and his family, all while adjusting to a new town. Registration is required for this free program and can be completed by calling Youth Services at 434-4458 or by visiting the Event Calendar at www.jcpl.org. Copies of the book are available for the first ten participants to borrow.

Marsh Regional Blood Center will conduct public blood drives at the following locations:
• Tuesday, June 12, 7:00am-12:00pm, Universal Fibers, Bristol, VA
• Tuesday, June 12, 7:30am-3:00pm, Eastman Building 215, Kingsport, TN
• Tuesday, June 12, 12:00am-3:00pm,

Cryptogram: Not to know what has been transacted in former times is to be always a child. If no use is made of the labors of past ages, the world must remain always in the infancy of knowledge.

DropQuote: “Luck affects everything. Let your hook always be cast; in the stream where you least expect it there will be a fish.”

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The Bridge Home has an ongoing aluminum can collection in front of the shelter at 2061 Hwy 75 in Blountville, TN 37617 and a second aluminum can collection site at Airworks Heating and Cooling, 5633 Memorial Blvd Kingsport. The cans are collected by a volunteer and the money from the aluminum goes towards badly needed food and supplies for the animals.

The Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue has started a pet food pantry for people that have had financial hardships because of job loss or medical problems and are struggling to feed their pet. They can come by the shelter and get cat or dog food to get through the tough time.

Donations can be sent to The Bridge Home Shelter PO Box 654 Blountville, TN 37617. Every animal in their care is spayed or neutered and fully vaccinated before being adopted. Being a non profit the shelter is funded entirely by membership dues and private donations. They always need volunteers or monetary donations.

Other always needed items: pet food, cat litter & cat toys dog treats & dog toys, paper towels, cleaners, office supplies, Purina weight circles. Phone: 423-239-5237 Hours are Mon-Fri 12pm-6pm Sat 12pm-3pm and Sun 2pm-4pm. Website is www.bridgehomerescue@gmail.com or like them on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/bridgehome

Diamond is a 2 year old terrier mix. She is spayed and up to date on all vaccines. Such a sweet girl and loves to play!

Lily is a female lab basset mix. She is spayed and up to date on all vaccines. She is such a sweet girl great personality and would do best with a fenced in yard. She is ready for a family!
RUNS, CAR SHOWS AND BIKE NIGHTS

BIKE NIGHTS
Wednesdays  Bear’s Bar
Wednesdays  Holston River Brewing Co.
Thursdays  Quaker Steak & Lube
Fridays  Tulips American Grub and Pub

RUNS & RIDES
June 22-24:  Hot Springs Bike Rally (Hot Springs, NC) James Bucker 828-230-6124
July 6-8:  Women on Wheels; Holiday Inn, Johnson City with Indian Demo
July 14:  Apple Tyree 3rd Annual Poker Chip Memorial Ride; benefits Special Olympics; Smith Bros. Harley Davidson; 423-946-5423 or 423-283-0422

CAR SHOWS
Tuesdays  Holston River Brewing Company - Bristol, TN
Fridays  Krystal’s Johnson City
Saturdays  Carter County Car Club Downtown Elizabethton
June 16:  FLBC Car and Bike Show; all cars and motorcycles welcome; 423-794-8142 or 423-282-0655
June 16:  10th Annual All Corvette Show. Presented by Vettes of The Smokies. Online registration at vettesofthesmokies.com
July 7:  Kids 4 Kingston Car Show. Entry Fee $10.00 Donation. A portion of proceeds benefit Kingston Baker. Quaker Steak & Lube noon-5pm. Shane, 423-742-0167
July 28:  6th Annual Open Car Show by American Patriots Pastime; Anything with Wheels; Tri Cities Cinemas at exit 66 off I-81; 423-323-3981

Send your event to: info@theloaferonline.com
Saturday, June 16th, 2018, at 7:30 p.m., the Carter Family Fold in Hiltons, Virginia, will present a concert by the Whiskey Bent Valley Boys – an old time band. Admission to the concert is $10 for adults, children 6 to 11 $2, under age 6 free. Tickets are available at the door. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The Carter Family Museum and the Carter Birthplace Cabin are open from 6:00 p.m. till show time and again when we take intermission between sets.

This concert will be the second for the Whiskey Bent Valley Boys at the Carter Family Fold. Their first performance prompted many requests for them to play again at the Fold. You need only view one of their videos on the internet to see why the Whiskey Bent Valley Boys fit the Fold perfectly. The Boys will take you through the hills of old Kentucky with mountain songs, stories and traditions dating back a century. This old time band delivers with an intensity that would knock the socks right off their forefathers’ feet.

Hailing from the back woods of Pewee Valley, Kentucky, the Whiskey Bent Valley Boys pay homage to their southern kin. Songs from the tobacco fields to the rivers, iron skillets to moonshine stills – upbeat and professional, this band possesses the skill to honor history and preserve the instruments, their style and every authentic nuance of the day. With their sense of fashion - from overalls to string ties, straw hats to silk vests, along with a turbo charged performance, their approach breathes fire into this vintage genre.

The Boys take cues from parents and grandparents who have tapped into folk, country and bluegrass through festivals, radio and endless collections of vinyl recordings. Band founder Colonel Mason Dixon hails from a long line of musicians and will tell you it’s not so much in the whiskey as it is in the DNA. Each member’s family performs and enjoys the indigenous music of the Appalachian foothills and pastures of Kentucky.

No matter what’s chillin’ in your mason jar – hopefully sweet tea – come on out for a live show where the Whiskey Bent Valley Boys will be pounding out the swing dancing, foot stompin’, hard driving tunes that are guaranteed to tickle your innards. For more information on the band, check them out on YouTube or visit their web site at http://whiskeybentvalley.tumblr.com/.

Pack up all your family and friends and join us for a night of old time mountain family fun. Don’t forget your dancing shoes!
David Joe Miller is honored to be co-hosting Spoken Word OPEN MIC! with Dr. Wendy Welch, author of “The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap” and “Fly Or Fall, The Strangely Hopeful Story of Foster Care and Adoption in Appalachia.”

Welch will discuss her recent book “Fall or Fly: The Strangely Hopeful Story of Foster Care and Adoption in Appalachia.” The nonfiction work discusses foster care and adoption against the backdrop of the opioid epidemic in Appalachia. The book uses what Welch refers to as “storytelling journalism,” relying on interviews the author conducted with more than 60 social workers, parents and children from the region who have been impacted by the system. Spoken Word OPEN MIC invites all spoken word artists and writers to sign up and share their work. Each participant signs up for ten minutes of stage time to tell a story, recite or read poetry or their written work. There is no theme, no competition and no censorship. The show may contain adult material so it’s best suited for audiences of ages sixteen and older.

David Joe is the former staff storyteller for the National Storytelling Association in Jonesborough and created the Jonesborough Storytellers Guild in 1994. He’s been a professional storyteller since 1989 and has been producing spoken word events since 2015 in both Asheville, NC. and Jonesborough.

Spoken Word Open Mic takes place at The McKinney Center, 103 Franklin Ave. (corner of Franklin Ave. and East Main St.) Jonesborough, TN. Show begins at 7pm on Wednesday June 27th, sign up begins at 6:30. Free parking and accessible for everyone.

For more information please contact David Joe at davidjoetells@yahoo.com or visit http://www.storytellingcalendar.com/
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Donors during the months of June & July receive a Patriotic T-Shirt!

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