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Show Prep - Nov 11-12

HOLIDAY PREP IN RED

[PDF Version: christianartistnews.info/ftp/Nov_11-12_19.pdf](http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/Nov_11-12_19.pdf)

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Verses

Nov 11

1 John 2:15-16

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

Nov 12

Colossians 1:9

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives

Today is...

Nov 11

Today is...

Air Day

National Sundae Day

Origami Day

Singles' Day

Veterans Day

World Orphans Day

Nov 12

Today is...

National French Dip Day

National Pizza with the Works Except Anchovies Day

National Young Reader's Day

World Pneumonia Day

Today In History

Nov 11

1620 The Mayflower Compact was signed by Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower. It would provide the basis for all governments of the American colonies.

1831 Former slave Nat Turner was executed.

1889 Washington became the 42nd state.

1918 The Allies and Germany signed an armistice ending World War I.

1921 The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was dedicated in Arlington National Cemetery.

1992 The Church of England voted to ordain women as priests.

Nov 12

1920 Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis was elected the first commissioner of baseball.

1927 Leon Trotsky was expelled from the Communist Party and Joseph Stalin became the ruler of the Soviet Union.

1942 The World War II battle of Guadalcanal begins.

1954 Ellis Island stopped serving as the chief immigration station for the United States. Twenty million immigrants went through Ellis Island in its 62 years of operation.

1981 The space shuttle Columbia was launched for the second time. It was the first time a space vehicle was used more than once.

1997 Ramzi Yousef, the man behind the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, was convicted in New York.

Question of the Day

Question of the day from **Dr James Dobson**: What is your favorite small gesture that your spouse regularly does for you?

Question of the day from **Proverbs 31**: When times of discouragement come, how can we persevere?

Artist News

Building 429 is gearing up for Thanksgiving. They posted: Thanksgiving is finally upon us! Other than the big ones (Jesus, family, friends) what are some things you're most thankful for in this season?
<https://twitter.com/building429/status/1192547712589291520/photo/1>

What are your thoughts on Christmas music? **Casting Crowns** posted: now that we just released our Christmas video for Make Room featuring Matt Maher the question we have is...Christmas Music Now or Not Until Thanksgiving.

The Afters are celebrating. They posted this weekend: Happy Fall! Happy football, and fire pits, chili and cold nights...happy sweaters and pumpkin spice lattes! What's your favorite thing about fall???
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4pw1J1AEz3/?igshid=1ewj5it0zpg7x>

Mercyme's Bart Millard says projecting an image of a tough biker is proving to be difficult. He posted a picture on motorcycle and added: I try to be a tough guy but I can't stop smiling. Smiling's my favorite.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4lh3jFjRm/?igshid=xnd4xh8un8f6>

Riley Clemmons on-road life: drinks iced espresso in the cold, goes 6 days without washing hair. She says she's been living on dry shampoo and coffee.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4la7SgjnDU/?igshid=npmiqmyd6d0z>

Mercyme frontman Bart Millard is starting a new campaign. After learning that retired pitcher Nolan Ryan had left the Houston Astros, Bart posted an open message to the Texas Rangers stating Dear Rangers...BRING HIM BACK!!!. Bart included the hashtags: #BringNolanHome, #MakeItRight, and #OliveBranch.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4I3TBTDW8P/?igshid=f6frf04ib55m>

Building 429: If you were to meet us, what's a question you'd like to ask us?

Jamie Grace is struggling to stay focused. She posted a picture of her daughter this weekend and added: how am

I supposed to work with this little face smiling at me?! I quit. check out my old songs, y'all. we don't need new ones. Jamie went on to promise, though, that new music would be out in less than 60 days.
https://www.instagram.com/p/B4oCUMxHcD_/?igshid=w2bpymdd1try

Tauren Wells is looking forward to some time off. He posted a picture of his three children and added: Missing these little dudes big!! I've only been able to see them about 6 out of 40ish days which is TOUGH. BUT. I've got a lot of time off coming up that I'm protecting so I can spend some real, uninterrupted, quality time with them. I'm pumped about it!!
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4lkXjAH8mp/?igshid=fl7rp1n90873>

A reminder from **Love and the Outcome**: Our authority comes from our story, and we all have a unique one to tell... that's why comparison is such a waste of energy! Let's celebrate instead of compete, let's build-up instead of tear down. Tag someone you're cheering on today.
<https://twitter.com/loveandoutcome/status/1192873351674564609/photo/1>

Hannah Kerr is counting the months...but she's not gearing up for another tour. She posted this weekend: FIVE. The number of months until I marry this man!
<https://twitter.com/HannahKerr/status/1192910108256288768/photo/1>

Lauren Daigle was in Germany this week but that didn't stop her from celebrating the LSU victory over Alabama this weekend. The Louisiana native posted from Berlin, Germany at 2:25 am local time...The best...I'm freaking out...I've waited for this moment for 9 years!!!!!!
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/lauren1110.jpg>

New Music/Free Items

Worship leader **Christy Nockels** has released a reimagined version of her Christmas album called *The Thrill of Hope, Renewed!* She posted: this project was such a joy to create and we cannot wait for you to experience these songs in a fresh way!
<http://bit.ly/thrillofhoperenewed>

A Surprise from the **Sidewalk Prophets**: We just released "Merry Christmas To You (Great Big Family Edition)". The project includes 4 new songs.
https://music.youtube.com/playlist?list=OLAK5uy_kc1GI90KOi2KFujoqUXsdCOI9jbcP8nbE

Lincoln Brewster released a brand-new album Christmas album over the weekend. He posted: A "Mostly" Acoustic Christmas is now available!
<http://LincolnBrewster.Ink.to/aMostlyAcousticChristmas>

Elle Limebear has joined with her dad, Martin Smith for a new collaboration titled "Lord You Have My Heart".
<https://ElleLimebear.Ink.to/LordYouHaveMyHeartps>

We Are Messengers member Kyle Williams is out with new music. His latest release is titled Watch It Fall.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4nEMmuBvpS/>

Citizenway is helping the couple who heads up their production and merch to branch out on their own. They posted: our great friends in our production/merch team, Holly and Walter Halliwell, have started a Kickstarter campaign to get their debut single funded! We are beyond excited for them! Please go help out as there is only 21 days left to help them achieve this dream!
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4p5H1khog9/?igshid=1hia7n7vzd1cd>

New from **Hillsong United**...a Spanish EP. The band posted: We are so excited to announce PEOPLE EN ESPAÑOL, our 4 song EP featuring songs you already know and love from People, recorded in Spanish! We hope you love it.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4n2A5fAkBF/?igshid=9b3w1xc8iop3>

Rend Collective is trying to set a fire with their latest song...Revival Anthem. They posted this weekend: Revival anthems refuse to stay in their assigned church pew: they spill out onto the streets. All true worship sets a fire beneath the worshipper and forces them out the door with passion for the lost. That's why we sing: because the worship fuels the revival, and the revival fuels the worship.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4m8TPbg4D4/?igshid=1njin2dn04prn3>

New from **Matt Maher**: Alive and Breathing (vol. 3) featuring a new song entitled, "Lord Of My Life".
<https://MattMaher.Ink.to/AliveAndBreathingVol3TW>

Jesus Culture's Chris McClarney shared the story behind his song "What a Friend" over the weekend.
<https://soo.nr/EF4s>

Matthew West will release his new project, Brand New, on February 14, 2020. "The title Brand New does represent where I find myself these days," explains Matthew West about the upcoming release. "Signing with a new label, starting my own management company, building a new songwriting house and studio called The Story House, and with that, a flood of new songs. But the title really has an even deeper meaning than just a representation of where I'm at in my career. Brand New is actually inspired by the idea of looking back, or what's more, going back. In many ways, this is an album about returning to the days when I was a new Christian, and my faith felt fresh and alive."
<https://nrt.cc/WestBrandNew>

Videos

Who's ready for Christmas? Check out **Casting Crowns** new music video for "Make Room (feat. Matt Maher)"
<https://CastingCrowns.Ink.to/MakeRoomMusicVideoTW>

Matthew West's version of Winter Wonderland is out now! Matthew posted: I wanted to make sure to keep this classic sounding classic while still making it my own. Just call me Matthew Bubl . Hope it helps get you in the Christmas spirit!
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4nvQqmnRSB/?igshid=ap9vkw7k9ipf>

Ready for more Christmas music? **Worship leader Phil Wickham** just loaded 5 new Acoustic performance videos of Christmas songs on YouTube! You can watch the full acoustic performance of "Joy To The World (Joyful, Joyful)" and all the rest of the Acoustic Christmas videos now at [YouTube.com/philwickham](https://www.youtube.com/user/philwickham).

Plumb is out with a new Christmas song. Check out the lyric video for Behold.
<https://ffm.to/yanvmp7>

The all sister Christian hard rock "Glam Core" act **GFM** (Gold Frankincense & Myrrh) has posted a fun Christmas video on their YouTube channel featuring their unique rendition of 'It's The Most Wonderful Time of The Year'.
<http://bit.ly/CCM-GFMc>

Tenth Avenue North is out with a new video for their song No Shame...and it is unlike any music video you've ever seen. The video lets you pick the version you want to see...from staying on the scooter with Mike to attending a party on the band bus.
<https://tenthavenuenorth.Ink.to/NoShameMusicVideoTW>

Switchfoot is out with a new video of their song VOICES featuring Lindsey Stirling on the violin.
<https://youtu.be/YRtwJRpEIA0>

Back in September **Jason Ingram, from One Sonic Society**, joined Vertical Worship to record his new song "Goodness Of God". He released that version over the weekend. Check out the live recording online.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKr7JwK9M-k>

Matt Maher has release a new lyric video. The latest release is titled Lor of My Life.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7x1CXQbaWQ>

New from **NEEDTOBREATHE**: The live video for "Forever On Your Side" (Acoustic Live Tour Version).
<https://youtu.be/OmOe5sWChPE>

CCM Magazine recently sat down with **Zach Williams** to talk about his CMA Awards performance with Dolly Parton, how the Dolly duet came to be, wrapping up the 'Rescue Story Tour' with a sold-out Ryman show, and more!

<http://bit.ly/CCM-ZWbw>

New from **Trala**...the Everythings Cool live performance video. Teleport to Austria, Denmark and Ohio for a V.I.P. TRALA concert experience through the video. <http://hyperurl.co/everythingscoollive>

Funny

An honest question from **Casting Crowns Juan Devevo**: When you are eating your favorite snack food, how many times do you say to yourself, "ok. That's enough" before you stop because you'd have to open the next bag of corn chips?

Mandisa is being forced to rethink her dislike of cats and she's not happy about it. She posted: Awww man! Why'd you have to RT this, Ang Schweinitz? You're messing with my worldview!
<https://twitter.com/awwwwcats/status/1192590787625783296>

Newsboys drummer Duncan Phillips says his wife knows him well. He shared a note she life for the kids when she was recently out of town and left Duncan in charge. It said: Please wake daddy up!!
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/2173544877990685986223031471.mp4>

Tours

For King and Country's tour production manager was showing his dedication this week. Santiago Del Valle Garcés posted from backstage: study time...back to school work while the show goes on!
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/21731290149661131294946901.mp4>

A special moment for **Casting Crowns Juan Devevo**. He posted a picture of frontman Mark Hall leading worship this week and added: One of my favorite times on this tour is when we gather to worship and pray. If I don't seek God before we go out, I'll always forget how desperate I am for Him.
https://www.instagram.com/p/B4m_p3HnF1_/?igshid=1t7jdgoeffms

Plumb says a recent concert stop provided mixed emotions. She posted from the California Institution for Women and added: I'm speechless. Humbled. Broken-hearted. And full of joy. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to share your hope. I did something tonight for the very first time that I want to do 1 million more times before I die.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4oa1KpHNZI/?igshid=1evgnhcl6qm4o>

Natalie Grant was part of an all-star lineup honoring Tony Evans this week. She posted: What a night of incredible music, with friends both old and new, all to celebrate the incredible kingdom legacy of Dr. Tony Evans. Jeremy Camp was there and he added: He's the first African American theologian to release a Bible commentary and study Bible. What an incredible legacy! Other artists at the event included Kirk Franklin, Lecrae, Tori Kelly, Anthony Evans, and Priscilla Shirer.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4oeS-fD9XD/?igshid=dgl7miobctyz>

Casting Crowns Megan Garrett is flying solo for the first time this weekend. She posted a picture of her daughter Lillie and added: I'm missing this one fierce today. She had to stay home last minute to have knee surgery and to focus on recovering. This is the first tour in the 14 years of her life that she hasn't been with me, so I feel like I'm missing an arm in a sense. Her sweet presence, energy, hard work ethic, and sense of humor is missed by so many out here on the road.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/B4qjZTCI9tr/?igshid=i9nz80k0wzxb>

Casting Crowns Megan Garrett on what tour life is really like: "nothing says 'glamorous living' like hopping in your locker room shower post-concert and realizing you forgot to grab a towel out of the towel bin...on the other side of the arena."
<http://christianartistnews.info/ftp/21738092499979202802220812.mp4>

For King and Country shared their slightly overwhelming thoughts on a wonderfully momentous day over the weekend. The band played in front of over 11,000 people at the sold-out Target Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota...the biggest solo concert they have ever done.
<https://twitter.com/4kingandcountry/status/1193407711754563584/video/1>

Program Info

Focus on the Family is encouraging family time over the holidays. They posted: The holidays are coming up quickly and most families can get overwhelmed with a long list of tasks to complete. But even with a busy schedule, it's important to prioritize spending time together as a family. Those who s'more together, stay together!
<https://twitter.com/FocusFamily/status/1193291724770234368/video/1>

A reminder from **Family Life Today's Bob Lepine**: Let's remember that Twitter is a great place for certain kinds of communication and interaction. It's usually the wrong place for substantive, edifying interaction on areas where we might disagree.

A correctional facility in Tennessee was celebrating a milestone this week. They posted: Wonderful day celebrating the completion of the 10,000 wheelchairs at Core Civic South Central Facility's Wheels for the World program. We are grateful for our long-time partnership with **Joni and Friends**
<https://twitter.com/DamonHininger/status/1191859587139428352/photo/1>

Quotes

Revive Our Hearts: Yes, I have a criminal background; but I also have a Savior who died a criminal's death so I could go free.

Laura Story: Every surrender to God involves choosing to believe Him.

Tim Keller: Material love dies away as those things get old. Biblical love deepens as it gets old.

Matt Smethurst: The sun will burn your eyes out from 92 million miles, and you expect to casually stroll into the presence of its Creator?

DL Moody: Give God your life. He can do more with it than you can.

Lists

4 REMINDERS FOR MANAGING HOLIDAY MINISTRY EXPECTATIONS

1. PLAN AHEAD
2. UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE GOING TO DISAPPOINT SOME PEOPLE
3. HAVE FUN
4. REFLECT

<https://t.co/9NnIgsJU3x>

7 HOLIDAY OUTREACH IDEAS FOR YOUR CHURCH

1. PUMPKIN ENCOURAGEMENTS

During your small group, take time to decorate pumpkins and write notes of thankfulness and encouragement. Send each group member out the door with a name and address, a handwritten note and a church invitation to deliver with their pumpkins that week.

2. COLLEGE DORM REVERSE TRICK-OR-TREATING

Get permission from your local university to go reverse trick-or-treating in their on-campus housing units. Dress up in fun costumes and purchase big containers of candy.

3. UN-RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Plan a "Christmas of Kindness" this year.

4. FAMILY CRAFT PARTY THAT SHARES THE REAL CHRISTMAS STORY

Plan a family Christmas craft party.

5. GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Give them a special Christmas gift they'll never forget

6. ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES STOCKINGS

Deliver Christmas gifts and Jesus' love to elderly.

7. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Be involved with excellence, and in the name of Jesus.

<https://t.co/pfW2ccvmgY>

Facts

UberFacts...In Sweden, some students let out a primal scream at 10 PM every night. The 'Flogsta Scream' is when students at some universities stop what they're doing at exactly 10 PM and collectively scream from their windows to help blow off steam and ease the stresses of college life.

UberFacts...The Black Panther is the richest superhero out of all the Marvel and DC characters. With an estimated value of \$90.7 trillion, he's also the wealthiest fictional character of all time.

UberFacts...Volkswagen owns Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Audi, Ducati and Porsche.

Religious News

Rwandan Genocide Survivor: God Used a Christmas Shoebox to Save Me as a Child

A man who fled the Rwandan genocide as a boy and who saw his life change when he received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox is now traveling the U.S. and encouraging others to fill shoeboxes this holiday season. Alex Nsengimana's family was killed during the 1994 genocide that saw as many as 800,000 people murdered. He was bitter and was blaming God, he said. But during that tragedy, a small box – filled with gifts from Christians – gave him hope. He was 7 at the time. Operation Christmas Child is an annual event in which volunteers pack shoeboxes with gifts – with everything from toiletries to toys – for children around the world. <https://t.co/knuZPtNadV> <https://t.co/vZH9OYYjvw>

Prayer Requests

Indonesia: Wenny is a believer. In 2018, she lost both her sons to a suicide bombing at their church. Pray for her continued physical healing as well as for her family as they grieve the loss of their boys.

COLOMBIA: Pray that VOM Bible distributions will reach and encourage those most in need of God's Word.

CHINA: Chinese authorities are now attempting to stifle the flow of Christian literature in order to create a "spiritual famine."

OMAN: Pray for the strength and faith of those forced into hiding because of their faith.

Florida Sheriff Rebuffs Atheists, Won't Remove 'In God We Trust' from Patrol Cars

A Florida sheriff has rebuffed requests from an atheist group to remove "In God We Trust" decals from the county's patrol cars. "They have a better chance of me waking up thin tomorrow morning than they do of me taking that motto off our cars!" Sheriff Wayne Ivey of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office told Fox News. At issue are the county's new fleet of patrol cars, which are emblazoned with an American flag on the side and the phrase "In God We Trust" on the back. The latter is the national motto. Ivey, in an October Facebook post, called it a "patriot theme" that was inspired by a veteran, as Christian Headlines previously reported. <https://t.co/VEvVHo5Kee> <https://t.co/vlx7cqmt35>

Florida High School Denies Pro-Life Club, Allows LGBTQ Group

A Florida high school is violating federal law and the Constitution by preventing the formation of a pro-life club even though the same school allows dozens of other student clubs, including LGBTQ special-interest ones, a religious liberty group alleges. Gulf Coast High School in Naples, Fla., refused this year to officially recognize a pro-life club affiliated with Students for Life of America, even though the pro-life student in question, Gabrielle Gabbard, followed every requirement, according to a letter Alliance Defending Freedom submitted to Collier County Public Schools Thursday.

<https://t.co/qKujRO6NvN> <https://t.co/LbcuhMJBuu>

Museum of the Bible Displays Medieval Hebrew Pentateuch

A rare medieval Pentateuch manuscript that had been in private collections for years will go on display Friday (Nov. 8) at the Museum of the Bible. The volume, which dates to around the year 1000, was acquired two years ago by the Green Collection, headed by billionaire Steve Green of the Hobby Lobby arts and crafts chain. The 15-by-24-inch volume, bound in leather with metal bosses, contains two sections. The main section (nearly 500 pages) was written around the year 1000. Another section (20 pages) was written in 1141 by Joseph ben Jacob in Alexandria, Egypt.

<https://t.co/42TwaRNE1A> <https://t.co/MnaKWdLnsP>

Mohler, Prominent Southern Baptist, Will Be Nominated to Lead Denomination

There are seven more months before the next annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. But the race for SBC president may already be over, following news that R. Albert Mohler Jr. will likely be nominated to run as the denomination's next president. H.B. Charles, pastor of Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, a predominantly African American congregation, announced last week that he planned to nominate

Mohler. In a statement about his willingness to serve as SBC president, Mohler said he hopes to “unite Southern Baptists,” a group that has long had political and theological divisions within its fold even as it has seen a declining membership as the nation's largest Protestant denomination.
<https://t.co/Nlu5KPGAiB> <https://t.co/AfgfFAzMBR>

Columbia professor from Romania resigns, says school is becoming communist

A Romania-born professor who fled his communist country says he recently left a tenured position at Columbia University because the school is “on its way toward full-blown communism.” Andrei Serban, an award-winning director and professor in Columbia's theater department, complained about growing social justice demands in his department in an interview aired on Romania's TVR1 in October. In the interview, Serban expressed frustration at growing social justice demands, including pressure to admit a transgender applicant who auditioned as Juliet from “Romeo and Juliet” and to hire candidates who were not white or straight, even if they were less qualified.
<https://t.co/p6E9dM4BTM>

Planned Parenthood says "virginity is a made-up social construct"

Abortion provider Planned Parenthood took to Twitter on Wednesday to claim that “virginity is a made-up social construct.” The abortion giant was likely responding to news reports that the rapper T.I. accompanies his daughter on “yearly trips to the gynecologist” to ensure she's still a virgin.
<https://t.co/Sh5keiGrQr>

Francis Chan announces he is moving to *Hong Kong* (not Myanmar) to be a missionary

Francis Chan, well-known Bible teacher and author of the multimillion-selling “Crazy Love,” announced Wednesday during a chapel sermon at Azusa Pacific University that he will be moving to Asia in February to be a missionary. Though his message made it seem like he was moving to Myanmar and it was originally reported that way, Chan announced on Twitter and his Crazy Love website Friday that he is actually moving to Hong Kong. In his Wednesday message, recounting how he and his family were recently in Myanmar going “from hut to hut” with a translator telling people about Jesus, Chan told of the “eagerness” of the people there to hear and embrace the Christian message. Remarking to his wife on the plane ride home, “What do we do on a normal day that even compares to this?”
<https://t.co/6WXrAMPHe9>

New pro-choice campaign: "What is abortion actually? It's compassion. It's healing. It's selfless. It's love"

A new pro-choice campaign called “Abortion Actually” argues that abortion is “compassion,” “healing,” “selfless,” and an act of “love.” The National Women's Law Center, a “gender justice” advocacy group, tweeted the message as part of its effort to shift the narrative on abortion away from its negative connotations. The campaign's website urges each woman to embrace abortion in her own unique way, calling it both “healthcare” and “freedom.”
<https://t.co/oJiDqTeDV9>

Parents magazine publishes photo of 4-year-old holding sign reading "some men have periods too"

Parents magazine posted a picture on their Instagram page of a four-year-old boy holding a sign reading “some men have periods too.” The photo was originally posted by the boy's mother to her Instagram page, and Parents reposted it to celebrate the message. The boy's mother, Milly Bhaskara, described how she explained to her son how not only women have periods, telling her son only some women have periods, along with some non-binary people, and some men.
<https://t.co/l1dsmiMPTL>

Canadian couple sues school board for teaching 6-year-old daughter “there's no such thing as boys and girls”

A Canadian couple is suing a school board after they claim a teacher taught their daughter that “there's no such things as boys and girls.” In January 2018, elementary school teacher Janine Blouin allegedly told her class that “girls are not real, and boys are not real.” A six-year-old girl, the daughter of the suing parents, said she identifies as a girl, which prompted the comments from Blouin. The student's parents, Pamela and Jason Buffone, say that the dialogue severely confused their daughter. The Buffones met with school officials to express their concerns but were met with resistance. No date has been set yet for a hearing. The parents have since transferred their daughter to another school.
<https://t.co/a40oPWrBG4>

Trump appoints 150th federal judge

President Trump has appointed his 150th federal judge, a feat the president called a “truly momentous achievement” in a press conference on Wednesday. The judges have been appointed to a diverse assortment of

positions. Trump has appointed 43 of the 179 judges to the influential federal circuit courts — representing a full quarter of U.S. courts of appeals. For comparison, President Obama appointed 55 circuit court judges in his entire eight years. Trump has also appointed two of the nine Supreme Court justices on the bench. Trump in his press conference predicted that he and his administration would be “number one” in terms of the “quality and quantity” of judges appointed.

<https://t.co/bacodk6o9v>

Lesbian Episcopal priest becomes CEO of major abortion group

The National Abortion Federation (NAF) has named lesbian Episcopal priest Katherine Ragsdale as its new president and CEO. Ragsdale, who has been the group's interim leader since September 2018, accepted the appointment, calling abortion doctors her “personal heroes and modern-day saints.” In a NAF statement, the group described Ragsdale as a champion for progressive ideas. “Ragsdale is an Episcopal priest who has been outspoken about abortion rights, LGBTQ equality, and public policy issues affecting women and families throughout her career,” the organization said.

<https://t.co/apEyVVe2cB>

Dad says 7-year-old at center of transgender battle dresses as boy for school, church

A Texas boy whose mother says is a girl has attended school and church dressed as a boy, an action his father says supports his claim that he is not actually transgender. A Texas judge ruled last month that both of James Younger's parents would have a say in medical decisions, overturning an earlier jury ruling that gave that authority to only Dr. Anne Georgulas, the boy's mother. Jeffery Younger, James's father, stands by his claim that his son does not actually wish to identify as a girl and that his ex-wife is forcing a transgender identity onto the child. She is pursuing chemical castration and medical puberty blockers for the seven-year-old.

<https://t.co/qtlUylyage>

Americans with evangelical beliefs may be more politically diverse than many realize.

Most American evangelicals believe Jesus' Golden Rule—“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you”—applies to politics. Some, however, see the political realm leading up to the 2020 elections as no place for niceness, according to a new study. A LifeWay Research study explored the perspectives of American evangelicals on civility, politics, media consumption and how likely they are to engage with views different from their own. Two in 3 Americans with evangelical beliefs (66%) believe being civil in political conversations is productive, with 22% dissenting and 12% not sure. Around 8 in 10 (82%) say their faith influences how they engage others politically.

<https://t.co/XhAKo4QYkq> <https://t.co/8WYOxusDtv>

Mastercard Announces Option for Transgender and Nonbinary People to Use Chosen Names on Cards

Mastercard announced on Friday a partnership with bank BMO Harris Bank and Superbia Credit Union to offer “True Name,” an option that allows transgender and non-binary people the option of using their chosen names on their payment cards without having to change their legal name. “The implementation of Mastercard's True Name feature is a crucial step forward in helping to reduce these risks by allowing trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people to have financial products that accurately reflect who they are,” Scott Turner Schofield of the GLAAD Media Institute said.

<https://t.co/kQV4XzDM1T>

Kanye West Says He Wants to Run for President in 2024

Kanye West has announced his plans to run for president in 2024 — but before potentially moving into the White House the rapper might change his name. Speaking at Fast Company's Innovation Festival, West, 42, was joined on stage by his Yeezy collaborator Steven Smith. “When people say it's crass to call yourself a billionaire, I say I might legally change my name to Christian Genius Billionaire Kanye West for a year until y'all understand exactly what it is,” he said. That's when West shifted the conversation to his plan to run for president. “When I run for president in 2024 —” West said.

<https://t.co/tTwFAYIBAX>

School gives 7-year-old son flyer promoting free condoms, birth control

A father in Tennessee is outraged after his children's elementary school distributed a flyer promoting a three-day clinic to access free condoms and contraception. Richard Penkoski, a Christian activist who runs the online ministry Warriors for Christ and regularly protests against Drag Queen Story Hour events at public libraries nationwide, spoke out Thursday during a school board meeting in Sullivan County about a flyer that his 7-year-old son brought home last week from his second grade class at the Mary Hughes School in Piney Flats. The flyer in question promoted an event at the Appalachian Fairgrounds in Gray hosted by the Remote Area Medical Volunteer

Corps. While one side of the flyer offered free dental, medical and vision services, the other side of the flyer advertised in big, bold letters “free birth control and pre-pregnancy services.”
<https://t.co/x376hoK7ZK>

Mark Burnett, Roma Downey aiming to raise \$100M for faith-based streaming service

Mark Burnett and Roma Downey are planning to launch a subscription-based streaming service for faith-based viewers as part of MGM's LightWorkers entertainment. Since its inception in 2016, LightWorkers entertainment has been known for avoiding sexually explicit scenes, gratuitous violence and profanity in its content. On social media alone, LightWorkers content has garnered millions of video views and Burnett and Downey are hoping to keep the momentum going with a new streaming service. According to people close to the matter, Burnett and Downey, who brought the history-making miniseries “The Bible” to TV, are looking to raise \$100 million to launch the streaming service.
<https://t.co/t06xNDtzdx>

Nearly half of young adults with ties to Christianity say church can't answer their questions

Extensive new research from The Barna Group shows that nearly half of young adults worldwide who have a connection to Christianity feel that the Church can't answer their questions. Published in a research report, the study is based on a survey of 15,369 young adults between the ages of 18 and 35 across 25 different countries and nine languages. The survey suggests that churches are struggling to raise up the next generation of church leaders. 32 percent of practicing Christians were said to have “strong” connectivity, the data indicates that respondents of no religious faith are much more likely than practicing Christians (44 percent to 26 percent) to have “weak” levels of connectivity to the world around them.
<https://t.co/NEAdkxbbvr>

Thousands of evangelicals exhorted at global meeting to finish the Great Commission

Thousands of evangelicals from around the world were challenged to finish the Great Commission and make disciples as they kicked off a decennial gathering in Indonesia. Niko Njotorahardjo, an Indonesian pastor, told those attending the World Evangelical Alliance's General Assembly on Thursday not to forget their calling. WEA is a network of churches and organizations in 129 countries that seek to help spread the Gospel. This year, under the theme “Your Kingdom Come,” assembly participants are seeking to address the question of what evangelism and disciple-making should look like over the next decade.
<https://t.co/czEsvU0GPd>

A Canadian couple serving as missionaries killed in head-on crash in South Africa.

A Canadian couple serving as missionaries were killed alongside their two children when their vehicle was hit in a head-on collision in South Africa on Sunday. Missionaries Brendan Perrott, 33, his wife, Melissa, 32, their children Evelyn, 5, and Colton, 3, along with an orphan they were mentoring named Sabelo Sibeko were all killed along with four other victims when the vehicles exploded in the crash. At the time of their deaths, the family lived in Bulembu, a small town in the mountainous Highveld region of Eswatini, formerly known as Swaziland.
<https://t.co/x1TxE5xuEB>

Chinese-American UMC caucus supports 'Traditional Plan' on homosexuality

The National Chinese Caucus of The United Methodist Church recently passed a statement in support of the mainline Protestant denomination's traditional stance on LGBT issues. In recent years, the UMC has experienced divisive debate over its official position against homosexuality, same-sex marriage and the ordination of noncelibate gay clergy. In February, at a special session of General Conference, a majority of UMC delegates approved the “Traditional Plan,” which affirmed the official position and promised stricter enforcement. At their biannual meeting held last month, the National Chinese Caucus passed a statement in support of the “Traditional Plan” for the UMC, with 41 votes in favor, 3 abstentions, and 0 nays.
<https://t.co/vjc1FrBlpK>

YouTube censors Christian pediatrician for criticism of trans surgery

YouTube is censoring a video of an outspoken pediatrician openly critical of transgender medicine, particularly surgeries where reproductive organs are removed. A 2017 video from the Daily Signal, a conservative outlet, featuring Dr. Michelle Cretella of the American College of Pediatricians speaking against medical practices that confuse children about their biological sex was recently removed from the video streaming platform.
<https://t.co/e7WSqli5ph>

Catholic Church investigating after two nuns went to Africa on mission trips and returned pregnant

Just months after Pope Francis publicly acknowledged that nuns were being sexually abused by priests and bishops, officials in Rome have reportedly launched an investigation after two Italy-based nuns who served on separate mission trips to Africa returned pregnant. The two nuns are both African and were posted to their home continent as part of their charity mission. In February this year, Pope Francis publicly acknowledged during a news conference that the Roman Catholic Church had faced a persistent problem of sexual abuse of nuns by priests and even bishops.

<https://t.co/Ra232soUW6>

Swiss Protestant church network votes in favor of same-sex marriage

The Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches, a Reformed association uniting 26 member churches and nearly 1,000 congregations, voted during a nationwide assembly this week to allow same-sex marriages. The federation's assembly of delegates voted 46 to 11 this week in support of "marriage for all" proposals introduced earlier this year, according to a press release. The delegates also voted in favor of recommending that member churches respect the freedom of conscience of pastors and allow individual pastors to make their own decisions whether or not they will officiate same-sex weddings. This week's vote comes after the Council of the Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches in August endorsed the proposal to open up civil marriages to same-sex couples and treat them with the "same liturgical celebration" used in the weddings of heterosexual couples.

<https://t.co/m0PBDECu56>

General News & Trending Stories

Here's Every Pumpkin Recipe You'll Ever Need

Just in time for Thanksgiving, Taste of Home has released what they describe as "Every Pumpking Recipe You'll Ever Need. The 100 slide list includes a wide variety of pumpkin sweet and savory dishes. Among the options are a Pumpkin Whoopie Pie, Pumpkin-Apple Muffins with Streusel Topping, Pumpkin-Lentil Soup, and, of course, Classic Pumpkin Pie. Taste of Home recipes are included for each option.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/foodanddrink/recipes/heres-every-pumpkin-recipe-youll-ever-need/ss-AAJu9Jw?ocid=spartanntp>

Our 50 Best Thanksgiving Recipes

One of the upsides of Thanksgiving is that you get to spend the day feasting on homemade comfort dishes. When you're cooking for a crowd of your family and friends, you want to make sure you're delivering the most delicious, best dishes for Turkey Day. To help, MSN has found the 50 most mouthwatering Thanksgiving recipes that will wow at your holiday feast. Scroll through to discover the dishes you're no doubt going to want to add to your Thanksgiving lineup. And to really make sure the star of the show—your bird—turns out the best it can be, check out The Best Turkey Cooking Tips and Tricks.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/foodanddrink/recipes/our-50-best-thanksgiving-recipes/ss-AAJlhG3?ocid=spartanntp>

9-year-old raises enough money to buy 108 Thanksgiving meals

Alex Fischer is just 9 years old but already has a giving heart. Alex was 7 when her mom, Lisa Fischer, said the family should take on a service project to help their community. After some extensive research, the Fischer's chose the Charlotte Rescue Mission, a program that provides a free 120-day Christian residential program for men and women who are addicted to drugs and/or alcohol and are predominantly homeless. Every year the Charlotte Rescue Mission holds a community-wide Thanksgiving Turkey and Food Box Drive. When Lisa Fischer first pitched the idea to Alex, she figured they would pack one box as a family. "She was like one box is not enough, let's do ten," Fischer recalled. Fast forward a couple of years later, and Alex is still fundraising for the mission center. With the help of the community, 10 boxes quickly turned into 100. So far this year, Alex and Caroline have raised enough money to buy 108 frozen turkeys and boxes of food. At their lemonade stand last weekend, they sold out for the first time.

<https://www.kgw.com/mobile/article/life/heartwarming/charlotte-9-year-old-raises-enough-money-to-buy-108-thanksgiving-meals-and-turkeys-for-families-in-need/275-99dca96d-135f-4658-9727-724169af03f7>

You Can Ride the Polar Express this Christmas

Florida's Brightline Polar Express (soon to be part of Richard Branson's Virgin Trains USA) is a special one-hour journey full of holiday cheer, including a read-a-long from the beloved 1985 children's picture book The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg, which was made into a 2004 film starring Tom Hanks. Jamie Ryan, Marketing Manager for Rail Events, a special events company licensing the Polar Express, tells PEOPLE. "The entire ride is like stepping into a page of the original story." In partnership with Warner Brothers Consumer Products, Brightline's Polar Express journey begins Nov. 16 and runs through Dec. 29 on select dates from both Miami and Fort Lauderdale Brightline rail stations.

<https://t.co/sUJLCbmahd>

Oreo Just Released Festive Creme-Filled Eggs

This holiday season, Nabisco (Oreo's parent company) is bringing back the creme-filled Oreo Eggs that flew off supermarket shelves earlier this year for Easter. Similar to the Cadbury Creme Eggs, the Oreo Egg is a chocolate egg filled with Oreo's classic vanilla creme with bits of chocolate cookies.

<https://t.co/ChgVo8jt1z>

The Christmas Cave is unlike any holiday attraction around

If you're looking for a Christmas experience that's unlike any other, you can now find it in Ohio. The Christmas Cave at White Gravel Mines is located in Minford, southeast of Cincinnati. According to the Christmas Cave Facebook page, the cave features thousands of lights and biblical scenes illustrating the birth of Christ. "Upon entry, you'll go back in time to Bethlehem and walk through all the life-sized scenes surrounding the wonderful night that proclaimed, "Joy to the World!" The passageways of the Mines are vast and remarkable and lit with vibrant colors highlighting the locally handcrafted scenes," the Facebook page says. The mile-long attraction is self-guided and free of charge.

<https://www.10tv.com/article/christmas-cave-unlike-any-holiday-attraction-around-and-its-right-here-ohio-2019-nov>

9-Year-old Who Got in Trouble for Doodling in Class Now Has Job Drawing On Restaurant Walls

Joe Whale is the pint-sized English artist who is more famously known as "The Doodle Boy" because of his knack for drawing cool little doodles—but Joe was not always encouraged to pursue his passion for drawing. The 9-year-old from Shrewsbury, Shropshire used to continuously get in trouble with his school teachers for drawing on the classroom table's whiteboard whenever he finished with his work. Rather than scold the youngster for his drawing, however, his parents signed him up for an after-school art class. His drawings then caught the eye of the management at the local Number 4 restaurant. The Number 4 owners reached out to Joe and asked if they could commission him to decorate the restaurant. The staffers said they wanted him to cover the entire white wall of the restaurant in doodles.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/boy-who-got-in-trouble-doodling-now-has-paid-drawing-gig/>

You Can Now Get Directions From the Cookie Monster

As a means of celebrating the Cookie Monster's birthday on November 2nd, the Waze navigational app has just released a new Cookie Monster voice option. The company used a short cartoon video of the Sesame Street character riding in a car to announce their new voice feature on Twitter earlier this week. All Waze users have to do to get directions from the pastry-loving television hero is go to the "Voice and Sound" section of the app and select the Cookie Monster option from the "Voice Directions" menu. Much to the disappointment of Sesame Street fans, the feature will only be available for a limited time—but Twitter users are still vying for Cookie Monster's voice to remain a permanent fixture on the app.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/waze-releases-cookie-monster-voice-option/>

Village in India Plants 111 Trees Whenever a Girl is Born

Typically in Asian cultures, the birth of a girl is considered an unfortunate responsibility because of the dowry system that puts a financial burden on the parents. But in one village in India, the residents honor the birth of a daughter with a unique ritual of planting one hundred and eleven fruit trees. The number 111 in Indian culture is believed to bring success. Through this tradition, every time a girl is born, the people of Piplantri, Rajasthan, combat the historical prejudice against daughters and beautify their homeland at the same time.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/111-trees-for-each-girl-born/>

Mexican Student Develops New Form of Rubber Road Pavement That Repairs Itself

A Mexican college student has created a new formula for road pavement that repairs itself when exposed to rainwater. Israel Antonio Briseño Carmona developed the groundbreaking formula by melting recycled tires into a putty combined with a number of other additives. The putty then harnesses rainwater as a catalyst for regeneration so that—instead of building roads that slowly crumbling away as they are exposed to inclement weather—the water spurs the road mixture to form calcium silicates that repairs itself. He now plans to get the formula approved for use in Mexico so he can begin brewing the asphalt through his own construction company.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/rubber-road-pavement-repairs-itself-when-exposed-to-rain/>

High winds cause waterfall to flow backward

A visitor to Ireland's Cliffs of Moher captured video of high winds causing a waterfall's water to flow backward. Garry McNabb said he was hiking with friends on the Doolin side of the cliffs when he saw the waterfall spraying water backward onto the cliffs. McNabb captured video of the phenomenon and posted it to Reddit. He said the

water was being blown back by high winds.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/08/High-winds-cause-waterfall-to-flow-backward/6681573245250/?sl=2

Twinkie on display at Maine school for 43 years

A Maine school is celebrating the 43rd anniversary of a Twinkie that has been on display at the school since being unwrapped by a science teacher. George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill said the Twinkie originally unwrapped by teacher Roger Bennatti in 1976 as part of a lesson on food preservatives is marking its 43rd year at the school. The school said the Twinkie is still the same size and shape as a fresh snack cake, but its color has faded to gray and its texture has turned rough. The Twinkie was on display in Bennatti's classroom until he retired in 2004 and passed it along to Libby Rosemeier, the school's dean of students and one of the students who was in his class for the original Twinkie lesson.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/08/Twinkie-on-display-at-Maine-school-for-43-years/2781573242355/?sl=3

Texas pair dubbed world's oldest married couple by Guinness

A pair of Texas centenarians with a combined age of 211 years has been dubbed the world's oldest married couple by Guinness World Records. John Henderson, 106, and wife Charlotte Henderson, 105, were presented with a Guinness certificate for oldest married couple (aggregate age). The couple met at the University of Texas, married during the Great Depression and 10 years ago moved into Longhorn Village, an Austin senior community for UT alumni and staff. The Hendersons, who will be celebrating their 80th wedding anniversary in December, attributed their long marriage to living life in moderation and being cordial to one another.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/08/Texas-pair-dubbed-worlds-oldest-married-couple-by-Guinness/4761573230852/?sl=6

Matchbox Cars, Magic: The Gathering, coloring books make Toy Hall of Fame

Matchbox Cars, Magic: The Gathering and coloring books were selected for induction into the National Toy Hall of Fame in New York state. The Strong Museum of Play in Rochester announced the miniature cars, collectible card game and coloring tomes are this year's inductees, chosen from a list of 12 finalists that also included Care Bears, Fisher-Price Corn Popper, Jenga, Masters of the Universe, My Little Pony, Nerf Blaster, Risk, smartphone and spinning top.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/08/Matchbox-Cars-Magic-The-Gathering-coloring-books-make-Toy-Hall-of-Fame/6541573229760/?sl=7

Snow crab auctioned for record \$46,000 in Japan

A snow crab caught in Japan was auctioned for a record \$46,000. The Tottori Prefecture Fisheries Association said the 2.7 pound itsukiboshi crab, which boasts a 5.7-inch shell, was caught at the start of the fishing season Tuesday and was sold at the first auction of the season at Tottori port. The crab fetched a high bid of \$46,000 from crab seller Kanemasa Hamashita Shoten. The company previously set a world record last year when it paid \$18,300 for a crab auctioned in the same place. The representative said the crab is destined for a restaurant in the Ginza shopping district of Tokyo.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/07/Snow-crab-auctioned-for-record-46000-in-Japan/6171573159961/?sl=9

Chicago-area man builds his own Batmobile

An Illinois man built his own life-sized replica of the Batmobile, complete with a Boeing jet engine in the back. Brian Hendler said he took a GM body, cut it and built a frame underneath to construct his replica of Batman's car from the 1989 Tim Burton film starring Michael Keaton. He said his Batmobile, or "Big Black Car" as he calls it, can pick itself up and spin 360 degrees. Hendler said the car is not yet street legal, but he is hoping to eventually use the vehicle as an attention-grabber for charity fundraising events.

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2019/11/07/Chicago-area-man-builds-his-own-Batmobile/7671573142826/?sl=15

'Grandma Joy,' grandson share photos of US as they try visiting all national parks

For the last four years, Brad Ryan and his grandmother Joy Ryan have been on the road trip of a lifetime, attempting to visit all 61 national parks and inadvertently giving all of us a true tour of the U.S. in all of its natural beauty. So far, the pair have traveled 40,000 miles through 41 of the lower 48 states and taken in the scenery at 49 national parks. On Friday, they were wrapping up a trip to Gateway Arch National Park in St. Louis -- their 49th and final park in the lower 48 states. The duo started in 2015 and was at Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee when Joy Ryan, then 85, spent the first night in a tent.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/grandma-joy-grandson-share-photos-of-us-as-they-try-visiting-all-national-parks/ar-BBwvMjN>

130,000 Books Donated to Fort Worth ISD Elementary Schools

Read Fort Worth started three years ago with the help of a community that saw a need. The coalition of community leaders, businesses and volunteers who have come together for one common goal. They want to ensure that 100 % of Fort Worth's third-graders are proficient readers by 2025. This summer, Read Fort Worth made a big donation towards young student success. "Read Fort Worth got together and raised the money to distribute 130,000 books to every single elementary school, 84 of them, in Fort Worth," Brands said. That donation ensured every pre-kindergarten through second-grade teacher would have 50 to 100 new books for their individual classroom libraries.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/130000-books-donated-to-fort-worth-isd-elementary-schools/ar-BBWsJpF>

Paramedic finds magic solution to keep kids calm in emergencies

When an emergency call comes in, paramedic Ivan Mazurkiewicz rolls out – ready to make life-saving decisions. He's passionate about his profession, but still finds time for a little sleight of hand. Mazurkiewicz's tricks are a regular part of the job on calls where kids are involved in order to help them stay calm, reports CBS News correspondent Jamie Yuccas. Magic "breaks the ice," Mazurkiewicz said, adding, "Their association of an ambulance is blood and needles. It can literally turn a kid's worst day into one of the best days." In the last five years, he's responded to more than 4,000 emergencies.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/good-news/paramedic-finds-magic-solution-to-keep-kids-calm-in-emergencies/ar-BBWquUm>

College student nails half-court shot for free tuition

Cale Mantis, a freshman at the University of Oklahoma, was plucked from the crowd at a college basketball game to take the shot of a lifetime. During a recent NCAA basketball game between Oklahoma State and ISU, the kid swished a half-court shot to earn free tuition for a year.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dtuihq/college_student_nails_halfcourt_shot_for_free/

Former Syrian refugees vote as Canadian citizens for the first time

Mohammed Alsaleh can remember the exact moment he says his life changed. He was working in a car shop — one of the few jobs the former medical student could find in Lebanon as a refugee from war-torn Syria — when he got a call from the Canadian Embassy. And the voice on the other end said his application has been accepted. Aside from recognizing Canada's distinctive maple leaf flag, Alsaleh said he knew absolutely nothing about his new home. And so he Googled everything he could — and arrived in Vancouver in September 2014. Five years later, Alsaleh is a Canadian citizen, and once again, he has searched all he could — this time about the political parties' platforms. He voted at the first opportunity in the advance polls in his riding of Burnaby South on Friday at 9 a.m. sharp. "This is amazing. Democracy is awesome, and it's so empowering," he said coming out of the polling station, giddy with excitement.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dthykp/democracy_is_awesome_former_syrian_refugees_vote/

Montgomery County becomes first US county to ban discrimination based on natural hairstyles

Maryland's Montgomery County is the first county in the United States to pass legislation banning discrimination based upon a person's natural hairstyle. The Montgomery County Council voted unanimously for the bill that prohibits discrimination in employment, housing, taxi service and other public accommodations. A person who is discriminated against can seek a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 through the county's Office of Human Rights. "It will expand the definition of race to include natural hairstyles, like Afros, twists, Bantu knots, and protective hairstyles like braids, that people of African descent wear," said Montgomery County Council member Will Jawando, who spearheaded the effort with Council President Nancy Navarro.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dtmwke/montgomery_county_becomes_first_us_county_to_ban/

Everyday heroes step up to help lone Waffle House employee

Last Saturday night, thanks to a scheduling error, a gentleman named Ben was the only employee who showed up to work the late-night shift at a Waffle House in Birmingham, Alabama. According to what witnesses told AL.com, around midnight, a mysterious man in a blue shirt stood up from the counter, asked Ben for an apron, and went to work bussing tables and washing dishes. A representative from Waffle House said that security footage from that night confirms the existence of the mysterious man in blue, and also shows two other customers who—instead of jumping on their phones to complain about Ben's lousy service on Yelp—jumped in to run food and stack plates while Ben took orders and ran the grill.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dtw4q6/everyday_heroes_step_up_to_help_lone_waffle_house/

Orangutan granted 'personhood' settles into new Florida home

A 33-year-old orangutan granted legal personhood by a judge in Argentina is settling into her new surroundings at the Center for Great Apes in central Florida. Patti Ragan, director of the center in Wauchula, Florida, says Sandra is "very sweet and inquisitive" and adjusting to her new home. She was born in Germany and spent 25 years at the Buenos Aires Zoo before arriving in Florida on Nov. 5. Judge Elena Liberatori's landmark ruling in 2015 declared that Sandra is legally not an animal, but a non-human person, thus entitled to some legal rights enjoyed by people and better living conditions. But without a clear alternative, Sandra remained at the antiquated zoo, which closed in 2016, until leaving for the US in late September.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dtondg/orangutan_granted_personhood_settles_into_new/

AI project to preserve people's voices in effort to tackle speech loss

A pioneering center aimed at preserving and re-creating people's voices using artificial intelligence has opened in the US, with researchers hoping it will change the lives of people who face losing their ability to speak. Researchers say the venture – a joint effort between Northeastern University in Boston and the company VocaliD – could play an important role in maintaining a sense of identity among those with conditions ranging from throat cancer to motor neurone disease, by offering them the chance to sound like themselves even after self-generated speech has become impossible.

https://www.reddit.com/r/UpliftingNews/comments/dtulua/ai_project_to_preserve_peoples_voices_in_effort/

Mister Rogers "Cardigan Day" is on November 13

On November 13 in honor of Kindness Day, WQED is encouraging people to express their kindness by wearing a cardigan sweater in the spirit of Fred Rogers.

Participants are encouraged to:

1. Wear their favorite cardigan sweater on November 13
2. Encourage your friends, family, co-workers, pets, etc. to do the same.
3. Take a picture and share it on social media using #CardiganDay and tagging WQED

<https://goodfoodpittsburgh.com/mister-rogers-cardigan-day-is-on-november-13/>

Eight sets of twins to graduate from Owensboro Catholic this year

Eight sets of twins will graduate from Owensboro Catholic High School this academic year out of a class of 107. The sixteen students all agreed that it has been fun being together in such a small graduating class and that one of the perks of being with other sets of twins is the relationship that being a twin creates. Kaylee and her identical twin Kara said that often people cannot tell them apart and when they were in elementary school, they decided to switch seats for the day in their class. "It was great until I got yelled at to clean my sister's messy desk...and we took a test and I scored higher for Kara than she did for me," Kaylee said.

<https://www.owensborotimes.com/features/education/2019/11/eight-sets-of-twins-to-graduate-from-owensboro-catholic-this-year/>

Mom of 5 faces fines, possible jail time over late library books

A Michigan mom of five may face up to 93 days in jail over library books returned to the Charlotte Community Library after their due date. Melinda Sanders Jones says she visited her public library a few months ago to use one of their printers but was denied use of the devices by an employee because she had two overdue library books. Sanders Jones returned to her house, found that she'd accidentally put the books on her shelf, and took them back to the library the same day. The Charlotte, Michigan, mom expected to receive an email or letter about her late fees, but when nothing came, she forgot about the incident. "A week ago I get a call from my boss to inform me that I actually have a warrant out for my arrest and it's for failure to return rental property less than \$200." Because of the criminal charges filed against her, Sanders Jones was denied a promotion and put on suspension pending a resolution to her case. In the week since learning of the charges, Sanders Jones has appeared before the magistrate at her local courthouse and attended a hearing where she was released on a personal recognizance bond.

https://www.today.com/parents/mom-faces-fines-possible-jail-time-over-late-library-books-t166624?cid=sm_npd_td_fb_ma

James Dean set to star in new film through digital resurrection

James Dean is coming back from the dead to appear in a new movie, a Hollywood production company said on Wednesday, causing an uproar about the idea of reincarnating one of America's most beloved film icons. Magic City Films said it had obtained the rights from Dean's estate to digitally recreate the "Rebel Without A Cause" star, who died in a 1955 car accident aged 24, for a Vietnam War-era action drama called "Finding Jack." Dean will be recreated through a mixture of old photos and footage, along with computer-generated creations projected over stand-ins. A different actor will lend his voice to what will be a secondary role for Dean's character.

https://www.nbcnews.com/pop-culture/celebrity/james-dean-set-star-new-film-through-digital-resurrection-horrifying-n1078051?cid=sm_npd_nn_tw_ma

Lakes Polluted at Deadly Levels Can Now Be Purified Thanks to Israeli Technology

Thousands of lakes around the globe have fallen victim to toxic algae blooms, causing entire aquatic ecosystems to collapse. However, The thousands of lakes afflicted with toxic cyanobacteria blooms—dangerous and potentially deadly to humans and animals—could be cleaned completely within 72 hours, as a solution to the global problem has been found, proven successful in the US, China, Russia and Israel. The solution is Lake Guard™ Blue—from Israel's BlueGreen Water Technologies, Ltd. ("BlueGreen")—an algaecide that is spread over the surface of the lake to combat the toxic species of algae, allowing for the lake environment to reset to normal levels. Blue was used in its first US application at Ohio's Chippewa Lake.

<https://t.co/kJ657plo0j>

40% of Americans have misdiagnosed themselves after looking up symptoms online

Two out of every five Americans have misdiagnosed their illnesses after researching their symptoms on the Internet, a new survey has determined. Conducted by the wellness test organization LetsGetChecked, the poll sampled 2,000 Americans. Of those polled, 65 percent have used the Internet to research symptoms they were experiencing. Less than 40 percent of respondents said that the results they discovered were reliable. Three-quarters said the Internet research itself made them feel more stressed. The polling organization YouGov says that WebMD, a service that lists numerous medical symptoms and their possible causes, is the third-most-popular app in the United States.

<https://t.co/1QgM5JQhZA>

MLB to test "robot umpires" in minor leagues next season

Automated strike zones will be implemented by Major League Baseball at some minor league ballparks next season, a milestone advancement in "robot umpire" technology. The demand for technological intervention has risen after a series of questionable umpire calls during the 2019 playoffs. Baseball purists tend to frown on the idea of automated umpiring, but MLB Commissioner Robert Manfred praised the evolution of the game in an interview with The Athletic.

<https://t.co/dzHwvk6eXI>

Vanna White Fills in as Wheel of Fortune Host After Pat Sajak's Emergency Surgery

Longtime Wheel of Fortune host Pat Sajak, 73, has had to undergo emergency surgery for a blocked intestine, the show's reps tell PEOPLE. While the longtime host is expected to be fine, Thursday's taping of the show, which is now in its 37th season, was canceled. "The Wheel of Fortune taping on Thursday was canceled because host Pat Sajak underwent successful emergency surgery to correct a blocked intestine," the show posted to its social media channels. "He is resting comfortably and looking forward to getting back to work. Taping resumed today as scheduled, and Vanna White has stepped in a host."

<https://t.co/YlrlR7Dtq9>

High School Student Has Donated 50K Toys to Kids in Texas Hospital

A 15-year-old Texas boy is certainly cementing his spot on the nice list this holiday season. Micah Pinson is gearing up for his annual toy drive this year to benefit a local hospital, where he's so far donated 50,000 toys over the years. Micah, a 10th-grader at Corinth Classical Academy in Corinth, has been donating toys to the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital since he was 6 years old, bringing in about 2,000 toys that year in an operation that has since widely expanded. A spokeswoman for the hospital confirms to PEOPLE he's collected 50,000 toys for its patients over the past eight years.

<https://t.co/sofjiBqPrX>

Chip and Joanna Gaines Reveal Joanna Will Host Her Own Cooking Show

Chip and Joanna Gaines are ready to bring even more to the table. During an appearance on a special Texas taping of The Tonight Show, the home improvement power couple discussed their upcoming television network, Magnolia, with host Jimmy Fallon. "I don't wanna tell you how to do your network, but I would do a cooking show if I were you," he said, citing Joanna's success with her first cookbook, Magnolia Table. "You're talking to the executives of the Magnolia network, and when Jimmy Fallon says Jo should do a cooking show, I vote that Jo does a cooking show," he said. Joanna then confirmed that they are, in fact, developing a cooking series with her as host and that they plan to have special guests join her in the kitchen for the show.

<https://t.co/lpznoGP1M1>

Denver Broncos Star Explains Why He's Finally Moving Out of Parents' House

Denver Broncos player Phillip Lindsay is ready to fly the coup. The 25-year-old running back has lived with his parents since joining the franchise as an undrafted free agent in 2018, according to KCNC. But during an appearance on Ian Rapoport's podcast this week, Lindsay announced that he's finally preparing to pack his bags. Lindsay — who leads the Broncos in carries, rushing yards and rushing touchdowns, according to ESPN — was able to save much of his salary by living in his parents' Denver-area home. According to the outlet, Lindsay earned a base salary of \$570,000. But Lindsay said he enjoyed living with his parents, and he got more out of it than simply saving money.
<https://t.co/DPyHjrbpj1>

Washington Nationals Star Gerardo Parra Reveals 'Baby Shark' Phenomenon Was Actually Accidental

There's no denying the role that "Baby Shark" played in the Washington Nationals' 2019 championship season. Since debuting as Gerardo Parra's walk-up song in June, the viral children's tune took on a life of its own, evolving into an infectious good luck charm for the Nationals themselves and the baseball fans, who embraced the track with everything from hand motions to Halloween costumes. But what may come as a surprise is that the "Baby Shark" phenomenon almost never was. Parra tells PEOPLE the song that turned the season around was born by accident when he awoke to find his 2-year-old daughter Aaliyah jamming to her favorite song. For Parra, the "Baby Shark" days have been fun, though he says the best part is seeing the joy it brings to the team's youngest fans.
<https://t.co/BKW7Uuapu4>

Man Clinging to Branch for 2 Hours Rescued from Niagara River Just 75 Yards from Falls

A man who'd spent hours clinging to a branch in the Niagara River was rescued in dramatic fashion on Thursday, just 75 yards from the brink of the fast-moving falls. New York State Park Police responded to a report of a 59-year-old man in the river hanging on to a branch around 11:45 a.m., Capt. Chris Rola tells PEOPLE. On the first, the current and location prevented officials from reaching the man. They reached him on the second attempt, but he "broke free," after fighting with his rescuers, Rola says. Eventually, State Park Police Maj. Clyde Doty and Rola grabbed ice water suits and headed down between Goat Island and Prospect Point, where Rola tossed a rope to Doty, who managed to grab the man as he floated by. The ground crew eventually pulled them to shore, and the man was taken by ambulance to Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Rola says. He remains in stable condition in the intensive care unit.
<https://t.co/Pe90CefDG4>

Off-duty firefighter runs inside burning house without protective gear

Off-duty firefighter Gregory Bare went "beyond normal expectations" when he ran into a burning house without protective gear to rescue a sleeping man. Bare was getting ready for bed around midnight when he saw the house in flames. He immediately ran to the scene and found a woman trying to escape through a window. After assisting the woman, he ran into the house without protective gear to rescue a man inside. Once his fellow firefighters arrived, Bare worked with them to subdue the flames.
<https://t.co/FBMBu5qDs>

11-Year-Old Boy Launched Kindness 'Challenge' in El Paso

At first, 11-year-old Ruben Martinez was frightened and overwhelmed watching the horrific mass shooting unfolding on his TV that left 22 people dead and 24 more wounded at his local El Paso Walmart. But it wasn't long before the resilient sixth-grader came up with a plan to help him and his community heal. Ruben created the #ElPasoChallenge on Twitter, inviting people to commit to 22 random acts of kindness in honor of each victim who lost their life. "I usually did some things before like holding doors open, giving food to homeless people," Ruben tells PEOPLE in this week's issue. "I just thought kindness always overpowers evil."
<https://t.co/AOfRDsbTjz>

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