



## CONNECT SELECT

*A wide selection of interesting and trending stories – rip 'em, read 'em  
& post 'em!*

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023**

### TODAY IS...

- **MAINTENANCE DAY** -- Think about all the stuff around the house you've neglected for the last year. How long has it been since you've checked the oil in your car? ... or changed the batteries in your remote control? *HERE'S SOME MORE STUFF TO PUT ON YOUR LIST TODAY:*
  - Check your car's transmission and brake fluid (important for not dying).
  - Clean your bathroom, but like REALLY clean it!
  - Wash your windows.
  - Clean out the vent in your dryer that you always forget about.
- **NATIONAL 'WINNIE THE POOH' DAY** -- The trademark on Winnie the Pooh expired last year, which is how they were able to make a 'Winnie' [horror movie](#) called 'Blood and Honey.' Yes, it was dumb. *DID YOU KNOW?...* 'Winnie the Pooh' is actually Canadian? The real bear who inspired 'Winnie' was an abandoned black bear cub who was adopted by a Canadian soldier during World War One. He happened to be from Winnipeg (hence the name 'Winnie') and took the bear with him to England where it became the Canadian army's mascot (they did weird stuff like that back then). [HERE'S A LINK TO WINNIE THE POOH'S 'HONEY SONG'](#)
- **NATIONAL PEKING (pee-KING) DUCK DAY** -- Ya know those shiny-looking 'chickens' hanging in the window of some Chinese restaurants? That's called Peking duck! It's the national dish of China. It's considered a delicacy and it's about as crispy as you can get a bird without actually burning it.
- **NATIONAL THESAURUS DAY** -- What's another word for thesaurus? The book of synonyms comes really in handy when you want to call someone 'every name in the book.' *FUN FACT:* Peter Roget (roh-ZEY) published the first Thesaurus in 1852. Today woulda been his birthday.

### BIRTHDAYS:

- **DAVE BAUTISTA, 54:** The former six-time champion professional wrestler moved on to acting and is known for playing Drax the Destroyer in the “Guardians of the Galaxy” films.
- **JASON SEGEL, 43:** Actor. Best known for playing Marshall Eriksen in “How I Met Your Mother,” Segel’s breakout role was on the TV show “Freaks and Geeks.”  
[CLICK FOR “HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER” THEME](#)
- **KEVIN COSTNER, 68:** Actor. The Oscar-winner first got hearts throbbing in “Bull Durham” and moved on to films like “Field of Dreams” and “The Bodyguard.” He now stars in the popular series “Yellowstone.”  
[CLICK FOR “YELLOWSTONE” THEME](#)
- **MARK MESSIER (messy-ay), 63:** Athlete. This NHL Hall of Fame player played for 25 years and is considered one of the greatest ice hockey players of all time.
- **JONATHAN DAVIS, 52:** Musician. He’s the lead vocalist and frontman for the band Korn. While pursuing his music career by day, Davis worked in a funeral home at night.  
[CLICK FOR KORN’S “COMING UNDONE”](#)
- **JESSE L. MARTIN, 54:** Actor. He was in “Ally McBeal’s” and “Law & Order” before playing Joe West in the superhero series “The Flash.” He also originated the role of Tom Collins in the Broadway smash “Rent.”
- **TOM BAILEY, 65:** Musician. He sang lead vocals and played keyboards for the 80s pop trio Thompson Twins.  
[CLICK FOR THOMPSON TWINS’ “HOLD ME NOW”](#)

## TRENDING/ODD

### CNET ADMITS TO USING A.I. APPS TO WRITE STORIES (00:32)

If you still don’t think Artificial Intelligence is about to take over everyone’s job, check out what happened at CNET. The tech news site just [admitted](#) to using the AI app ‘ChatGPT’ to write about 75 articles last month. They say it was part of an ‘experiment’ to see if could pull off writing basic explainers like [What Is Compound Interest?](#), and apparently, no one noticed. They did have a human writer proofread and fact-check the articles before they were posted, but it’s more proof the robot revolution is coming...

### LISA MARIE MEMORIAL SET FOR GRACELAND (00:23)

They’ve [announced](#) a public memorial for Lisa Marie Presley at Graceland. It’ll be held on the front lawn at 9 AM on Sunday (January 22nd) and anyone can attend. Lisa Marie will be buried next to her father, Elvis, and her son Benjamin, who died a few years ago. There’s also word Lisa Marie has left the Graceland estate in Memphis to her three daughters, Riley, and twins Harper and Finley.

### GIANT HURRICANE-LIKE STORM CHURNS OFF ATLANTIC COAST (00:24)

If the Atlantic hurricane season ended in December, then what's that giant storm churning off of Bermuda? The National Hurricane Center is tracking it. Technically, it's not a 'tropical' storm and they don't expect it to turn into a hurricane but it is gonna [bring](#) 20-foot waves and some nasty weather along the east coast. There have only been three January hurricanes on record (and hopefully it'll stay that way).

### DID TIKTOK MAKE CANNED TUNA MORE POPULAR? (00:24)

Is the latest TikTok star canned tuna? Younger people are learning it's cheap and sometimes a tuna fish sandwich really hits the spot. Sales of canned seafood rose almost 10-percent last year.... bringing in a 2-point-7 billion bucks. They credit the TikTok generation for the boost (it could also be because everything else at the supermarket is too expensive). To capitalize on the trend, tuna companies have started working with social-media influencers - this could get interesting...

## LAW & DISORDER

### TSA SNAGS RECORD NUMBER OF GUNS AT AIRPORT CHECKPOINTS (00:23)

The TSA says 2022 was a [record](#) year for finding guns in people's carry-on. 65-hundred 42 firearms were seized over the last 12 months - that's the most ever. 88-percent of those guns were loaded. They found the most at Atlanta's airport, followed by Dallas, Houston, and Nashville. This year, the fine for packing a gun in your carry-on jumps to a maximum of 15-grand.

### 6 ARE DEAD IN POSSIBLE GANG-RELATED ATTACK IN CALIFORNIA HOME (00:21)

Police in the central California town of Goshen has never seen a [massacre](#) like this one... Six are dead, including a 17-year-old mother and her six-month-old baby. Police don't think the attack was random at all. They believe the family was targeted by a drug cartel. They're still on the hunt for at least two suspects.

### POLICE ARREST SUSPECT AFTER ATTEMPTED DRIVE-THRU ABDUCTION (00:31)

Just when you thought working in fast food couldn't get any weirder, cops in Washington State says someone tried [abducting](#) a barista from a coffee shop drive-thru. The whole thing was [captured](#) on surveillance video. He paid cash, and when she handed him his change, he grabbed her arm and tried putting a zip-tie around her wrist. She fought him off, and the guy sped away. Tips from the video poured in and police outside of Tacoma arrested a man who's now facing attempted-abduction charges.

## WEIRD SCIENCE & TECH

### STUDY: THE HUMAN BRAIN ISN'T MADE FOR ZOOM CALLS (00:27)

Finally, scientific proof that the human brain just isn't made for Zoom meetings. Researchers in Montreal compared face-to-face meetings with video calls and found chatting on Zoom requires way more concentration. They [found](#) that our brain waves actually 'synchronize' when we talk to someone in person - helping absorb more information through body language, but not through video. It could explain why it's so easy to get Zoom fatigue.

### STUDY: EXERCISE HELPS MAKE COVID SUCK LESS (00:26)

You're not the [only](#) one who hates working out. Apparently, COVID doesn't like it much either. A new [study](#) has found people who exercise regularly had lower rates of hospitalization

and death than folks who didn't. Sure, people who are in shape tend to have fewer health issues anyway, but this study found even those with underlying problems had a better chance of surviving COVID if they hit the gym on the regular.

#### ELON MUSK GOES TO COURT OVER TESLA TWEETS (00:26)

Elon Musk has some explaining to do.... about his tweets. Not talking about his insane tweets since he took over Twitter, either. We're talking about some from years ago, about Tesla. Back in 2018, he sent out several tweets about a proposed Tesla buyout that moved the company's stock. The buyout never happened, though, and investors say they lost billions. So, [they're suing](#) him for fraud. Jury selection began yesterday.

## YOUR MONEY/SHOPPING

#### GAS PRICES CONTINUE TO RISE IN 2023 (00:25)

2023 has already been a more expensive year at the gas station. [According](#) to Triple-A, the national average for a gallon of regular is now 3-33. That's a nickel more compared to last week and almost 20 cents more than it was at the end of 2022. We're not driving as much in January, so that gives the oil companies an excuse to jack up their prices. It'll be a month or two before they level out again.

#### CHEVY UNVEILS FIRST-EVER HYBRID CORVETTE (00:19)

It's been exactly 70 years since the first Corvette came out, and now, they [unveiled](#) another history-maker: The E-Ray is the first hybrid Corvette, and the fastest Corvette ever made. It can do zero-to-60 in a blinding 2-point-5 seconds. It'll drain your bank account just as fast: it costs 104 grand (112 for the convertible).

#### VACUUM CLEANER RECALL (00:24)

Here's an excuse NOT to clean the house today. Bissell is [recalling](#) more than 60,000 of its cordless wet/dry vacuums. Apparently, the battery pack can overheat, smoke, and well, catch on fire and that's not good. Five fires have been reported so far...one person was hurt. You can [contact Bissell](#) for a free battery pack replacement. In the meantime, pour another glass of wine and ignore those dirty floors.

## LIFE/SURVEY SAYS...

#### WORLD'S OLDEST WOMAN HAS DIED (00:26)

The World's Oldest Woman has died. Sister Lucile Randon was 118. *WAS*. The French nun passed away in her sleep. She was born on February 11, 1904 and was less than 4 weeks away from turning 119. She was crowned 'World's Oldest Person' last April. Among other things, she credits her long life to drinking 'a small glass of wine every day.' Sister Randon was also the oldest-known COVID survivor, she had it when she was 116.

#### STUDY: PREGNANT WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO DIE FROM COVID (00:19)

There's another reason why you should get vaccinated if you're expecting... Researchers at George Washington University [found](#) that moms-to-be who catch COVID are seven times more likely to die from it. Also, sick moms increase the risk that the baby will have to spend some time in the NICU (nick-you).

## STUDY: MEDITATION IS GOOD FOR YOUR GUT (00:19)

We've always heard deep meditation is good for your mental health... but what about your gut? A [new study](#) looked at Buddhist monks and found meditation helped regulate their gut microbes... which has been linked to lower risks of anxiety, depression, and heart disease.

[HERE ARE SOME "OHMS" TO RELAX YOU](#)

## ENTERTAINMENT

### MADONNA ANNOUNCES WORLD TOUR (00:23)

Madonna is trying to prove she can still 'Vogue,' or whatever. The Material Girl has announced a world tour for later this year. The 35-city run starts in Vancouver on July 15th and hits Detroit, Chicago, New York, and LA before making 11 stops in Europe. Madonna will turn 65 in August.

[CLICK HERE FOR A FULL LIST OF TOUR STOPS](#)

[HERE'S MADONNA'S STAR-STUDED KICKOFF VIDEO \(NOT SAFE FOR AIR\)](#)

### 'THE MANDALORIAN' SEASON 3 TRAILER DROPS AHEAD OF MARCH 1ST PREMIERE (00:29)

Star Wars fans: tell the boss you won't be coming in on March 1st. That's when the new season of 'The Mandalorian' starts streaming. They dropped a [trailer](#) for it on Tuesday. Season two premiered back in 2020, so it's been a while. The new episodes reunite 'Mando' and his lil' buddy, 'Grogu' (AKA: 'Baby Yoda') and take place on the planet 'Mandalore.' Oh, and this season features a guest-starring role from 'Back to the Future' star Christopher Lloyd.

### SHAKIRA'S REVENGE SONG SETS RECORD (00:24)

So what happens when you're a huge hip-shakin' star and your ex gets with a new much younger chick? You sing about it....and get richer. Shakira's new tune "Out of Your League" is the [most-played Latin song on YouTube](#). It got more than 82-million views in just 24 hours. And she throws some serious shade at the ex with lines like 'you traded in a Rolex for a Casio.' Ouch!

[HERE'S THE TUNE](#)

### MARIE OSMOND WON'T LEAVE INHERITANCE TO KIDS (00:22)

Marie Osmond says her [kids aren't getting any of her money](#). She says inheritances "breed laziness and entitlement." So, what is she going to do with her riches? Years ago, she said she was going to donate her fortune to charity. That tune has changed...now she says she plans to spend it all with her husband Stephen Craig, whom she has married twice.

### KEVIN SPACEY GETS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (00:25)

Oh, hey, is that Kevin Spacey? He's been laying low here in the U.S. since those sexual abuse allegations. But, he clearly wasn't canceled in Italy. He was just given a [lifetime achievement award](#) there. He says he's truly blessed, grateful, and humbled for the award. Reminder: he was found not guilty in one case in New York. He's got another trial coming up in London in June on separate charges.

### TV PREVIEW:

- C'mon down for a new episode of ["The Price Is Right At Night"](#) on CBS at 8P EST, followed by a new episode of "Lingo" where host RuPaul Charles hosts four teams to face off in a tongue-twisting competition at 9P. Finally, a former competitor walks contestants through auto repair services in a new episode of ["Tough As Nails"](#) at 10P.

- New episodes galore on ABC starting at 8P with “The Conners,” “The Goldbergs” at 8:30P, “Abbott Elementary” at 9P, “Home Economics” at 9:30P and “Big Sky” at 10P.
- Victims of a hit-and-run are treated on a new episode of “Chicago Med” at 8P on NBC, followed by new episodes of [“Chicago Fire”](#) at 9P and “Chicago P.D.”
- Craig Ferguson vs. Jack McBrayer and Tisha Campbell vs. Elizabeth Berkley compete on a new episode of “Name That Tune” on FOX at 8P, followed by a new episode of “Special Forces: World’s Toughest Test” at 10P.

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