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# Southern DAILY

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Thursday, December 21, 2017 | [www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com) | Southern News Group

## House approves sweeping tax bill in a win for Trump

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives gave final approval on Wednesday to the biggest overhaul of the U.S. tax code in 30 years, sending a sweeping \$1.5 trillion bill to President Donald Trump for his signature.

In sealing Trump's first major legislative victory, Republicans steamrolled opposition from Democrats to pass a bill that slashes taxes for corporations and the wealthy while giving mixed, temporary tax relief to middle-class Americans.

The House approved the measure, 224-201, passing it for the second time in two days after a procedural foul-up forced another vote on Wednesday. The Senate had passed it 51-48 in the early hours of Wednesday.

"By cutting taxes and reforming the broken system, we are now pouring rocket fuel into the engine of our economy," Trump said in a statement after the vote. Trump, who had emphasized a tax cut for middle-class Americans during his 2016 campaign, said at the start of a Cabinet

meeting before the vote that lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent was "probably the biggest factor in this plan."

Trump planned a tax-related celebration with U.S. lawmakers at the White House in the afternoon but will not sign the legislation immediately. The timing of the signing was still up in the air.

After Trump repeatedly urged Republicans to get it to him to sign before the end of the year, White House economic adviser Gary Cohn said the timing of signing the bill depends on whether automatic spending cuts triggered by the legislation could be waived. If so, the president will sign it before the end of the year, he said.

In addition to cutting the U.S. corporate income tax rate to 21 percent, the debt-financed legislation gives other business owners a new 20 percent deduction on business income and reshapes how the government taxes multinational corporations along the lines the country's largest businesses have recommended for years.

Millions of Americans would stop itemizing deductions under the bill, putting tax breaks that incentivize



home ownership and charitable donations out of their reach, but also making tax returns somewhat simpler and shorter. The bill keeps the present number of tax brackets but adjusts many of the rates and income levels for each one. The

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan speaks after the House of Representatives passed tax reform legislation on Capitol Hill in Washington

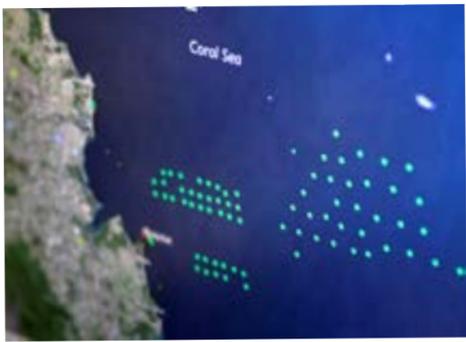
top tax rate for high earners is reduced. The estate tax on inheritances is changed so far fewer people will pay. Once signed, taxpayers

likely would see the first changes to their paycheck tax withholdings in February. Most households will not see the full effect of the tax plan on their income until they file their 2018 taxes in early 2019.

## Ships in a bottleneck: China, Australia ports clogged as coal, iron ore demand soars

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - More than 300 large dry cargo ships are having to wait outside Chinese and Australian ports in a maritime traffic jam that spotlights bottlenecks in China's huge and global commodity supply chain as demand peaks this winter.

With some vessels waiting to load coal and iron ore outside Australian ports for over a month, key charter rates have jumped to their highest in more than three years. Placed end-to-end, the total delayed fleet would stretch more than 40 miles, enough to span the English Channel from Dover to Calais and back.



As well as choking supplies to the world's second-biggest economy, the clog is costing extra in a shipping sector operating on tight margins, just as it recovers from its worst downturn in more than three decades. Charterers of capesize ships - the largest bulk dry cargo carriers - face paying an extra \$1 million per vessel, assuming a 45-day wait, according to fixture data on the Reuters Eikon terminal.

"There are some ports in east Australia that have 80 vessels anchored,

which translate into 20-25 days of delay and congestion," said Ziad Nakhleh, managing director of Greek ship owner Teo Shipping. Shippers and brokers said the delays were typical, especially during the peak demand winter season, as bad weather including fog and strong winds in China and infrastructure issues in Australia exacerbate increased demand for vessels to satisfy China's soaring minerals appetite.

Australian ports affected include Queensland export terminals at Hay Point and Dalrymple Bay, where there are 76 capesize and panamax vessels - named for being the largest size than can navigate the Panama Canal - waiting to load, according to shipping data in Thomson Reuters Eikon. At Dalrymple Bay, the 93,296 deadweight ton (DWT) panamax ship Piavia arrived to load coal on Nov. 4. But loading only started on Dec. 17.

## Community

### HCSO Needs Public's Help In Identifying Subject.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office needs the public's help in identifying and locating the male in this video for shooting a handgun from an automobile in Harris County.

Investigators say the white male subject loads the small black colored handgun and fires it out the window several times. The time frame is unknown but they did say it occurred in north-west/west Harris County within the last few weeks.

He is about 19-20 years of age and has brown hair and a distinctive tattoo on his right inside forearm.

The video link is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO-nyY6GQBdc>

Anyone with information on the name and whereabouts of this individual is urged to call the Harris County Sheriff's Office at 713-274-9210. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspect in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477) or submitted online at [www.crime-stoppers.org](http://www.crime-stoppers.org). Tips may also be sent via a text message by texting the following: TIP610 plus the information to CRIMES (274637). All tipsters remain anonymous. For full details, view this message on the web.

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Amazon.com Inc. is experimenting with a new delivery service intended to make more products available for free two-day delivery and relieve overcrowding in its warehouses, according to two people familiar with the plan, which will push the online retailer deeper into functions handled by longtime partners United Parcel Service Inc. and FedEx Corp.

The service began two years ago in India, and Amazon has been slowly marketing it to U.S. merchants in preparation for a national expansion, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the U.S. pilot project is confidential. Amazon is calling the project Seller Flex, one person said. The service began on a trial basis this year in West Coast states with a broader rollout planned in 2018, the people said. Amazon declined to comment. Amazon will oversee pickup of packages from warehouses of third-party merchants selling goods on Amazon.com and their delivery to customers' homes, the people said -- work that is now often handled by UPS and FedEx. Amazon could still use these couriers for delivery, but the company will decide how a package is sent instead of leaving it up to the seller.

Handling more deliveries itself would give Amazon greater flexibility and control over the last mile to shoppers' doorsteps, let it save money through volume discounts, and help avoid congestion in its own warehouses by keeping merchandise in the outside sellers' own facilities.



Last year, Amazon introduced Seller Fulfilled Prime, which lets merchants who don't stow items in Amazon warehouses still have their products listed with the Prime badge, meaning they'll be delivered within two days. The merchants had to demonstrate they could meet Amazon's delivery pledge, and many used UPS and FedEx for deliveries. The new service gives Amazon control over those deliveries instead, even if it continues to use third-party couriers.

Amazon has started looking beyond its own warehouse network to give shoppers

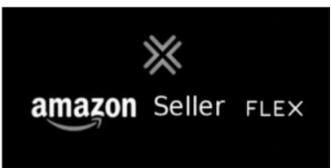
## The New Delivery Service Aims To Ship More Goods, Faster Amazon Is Testing Its Own Delivery Service to Rival FedEx and UPS

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



quick access to an abundant assortment of goods. Its fulfillment by Amazon offering already lets merchants ship goods to Amazon warehouses around the U.S., where they can be stored, packed and shipped to customers. That centralized approach can create logjams, particularly during the busy holiday shopping season.

Seller Flex would also give Seattle-based Amazon more visibility into the warehousing and delivery operations of its merchant partners, potentially helping it make full use of their product inventory, storage space and proximity to customers while still guaranteeing quick delivery.



The project underscores Amazon's ambitions to expand its logistics operations

and wean itself off the delivery networks of UPS and FedEx. A rush of last-minute holiday orders in 2013 forced Amazon to issue refunds to shoppers who didn't get gifts in time, highlighting the perils of being overly dependent on partners for a main part of its business pledge -- quick, reliable delivery. Taking over some responsibility for delivery enables Amazon to protect that edge as rivals like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. enhance their own delivery operations.

Amazon is constantly experimenting to shorten delivery times and reduce costs. It built a network of "sortation centers" around the country, where packages are sorted by zip code and trucked to post offices, with the U.S. Postal Service handling the final mile of delivery since it already has workers bringing mail to every home in the country. It launched Amazon Flex, which uses independent contractors driving their own vehicles to deliver packages from Amazon shipping hubs, guided by a smartphone app. Prime Now offers

a limited assortment of products, such as phone chargers and bottled water, in as little as an hour to shoppers in many cities. Many online merchants who sell on Amazon's marketplace pay fees to store products in the retail giant's warehouses, letting Amazon gather and pack products when orders arrive. But the popularity of this service strains Amazon's capacity during the end-of-year holidays. Online holiday spending in the U.S. will hit \$129 billion this year, up 12 percent from a year ago, according to Forrester Research Inc. (Courtesy Bloomberg LP)

**Related**

**Amazon Won't Annihilate Retail: FedEx CEO**

Smith responded to analysts' questions regarding how Amazon's \$13.7 billion deal for grocer Whole Foods would impact the courier business.

"E-commerce is not going to eliminate the retailing sector of the country," Fe-



dEx (FDX - Get Report) CEO Fred Smith emphatically said on the company's first-quarter earnings conference call on Tuesday.

"It's about 10% now. It's certainly going to grow as a percentage. But will it be half? I doubt it," Smith added.

Smith was responding to analysts' questions regarding how Amazon.com's (AMZN - Get Report) \$13.7 billion deal for Whole Foods would impact the courier business.

"I think you're going to see e-tailers become more brick-and-mortar," Smith added. "And I think you're going to see brick-and-mortar become more e-tailers. And how that all shakes out, I don't know."



**Smith contended that Amazon's move to buy Whole Foods does not demonstrate the e-commerce giant's will to displace the courier business, rather it just illustrated its desire to get more into grocery.**

"Groceries are heavy, hard to handle, people like to come and see the produce and so forth," he said.

FedEx's stock fell after it reported adjusted earnings of \$2.51 per share on \$15.30 billion in revenue for its first-quarter. Wall Street was expecting adjusted earnings of \$3.09 per share, on revenue of \$15.35 billion.

The company also lowered its full-year 2018 earnings expectations to between \$11.05 and \$11.85 per share, down from between \$12 and \$12.80 per share. (Courtesy <https://www.thestreet.com/>)

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Dr. Hwang is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He earned his undergraduate and medical degree from the National Taiwan University College of Medicine in Taipei. He completed residency programs at National Taiwan University Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, Penn. In addition, he earned a postgraduate degree of Master of Public Health in maternal and child health from the prestigious Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore, Md. He is a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Texas Medical Association and Harris County Medical Society.

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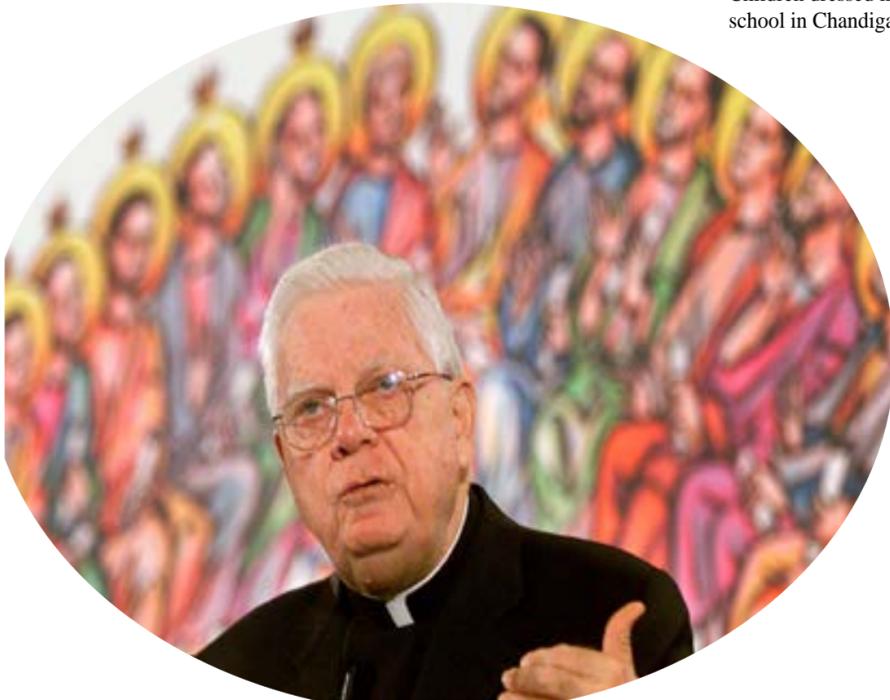
# A Snapshot Of The World



A protester wears a 'STOP BREXIT' hat outside the Palace of Westminster, London



Children dressed in Santa Claus costumes sit inside a classroom before participating in Christmas celebrations at a school in Chandigarh



FILE PHOTO - Cardinal Law addresses the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in this November 12, 2002 file photo. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid/File Photo TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Window cleaners, dressed as a rooster, this year's Chinese zodiac animal and a dog, next year's Chinese zodiac animal, pose for photographers as they clean the windows of Ryoumeikan hotel during a promotional event to celebrate the upcoming new year in Tokyo



David Prados Fernandez reads the names of children who are going to visit him as he impersonates Santa Claus at La Casa de Papa Noel at the Real Casa de Postas in central Madrid



Protesters who call for an immigration bill addressing the so-called Dreamers, young adults who were brought to the United States as children, rally in the Cannon Tunnel on Capitol Hill in Washington



Female giant panda cub Xiang Xiang walks beside her mother Shin Shin at Ueno Zoo in Tokyo JAPAN-PANDA/



Subaru Corp's President and CEO Yasuyuki Yoshinaga bows his head to apologise at a news conference at the company's Tokyo headquarters in Tokyo



Israeli police scuffle with Palestinian protestors after Friday prayers in Jerusalem's Old City USA-TRUMP/ISRAEL

Could A Video Game Be The Next Big Breakthrough In Treating Kids With ADHD?

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



A screenshot from Akili's video game designed to treat ADHD.

Akili Interactive Labs reported this week that its late-stage study of a video game designed to treat kids with ADHD met its primary goal...

In a study of 348 children between the ages of 8 and 12 diagnosed with ADHD, those who played Akili's action-packed game on a tablet over four weeks saw statistically significant improvements...

"We are directly targeting the key neurological pathways that control attention and impulsivity," said Akili CEO Eddie Martucci. The study "was meant to be a strong objective test to ask: Is it the targeting we do in the brain or is it general engagement with a treatment that's exciting and interesting ... that actually leads to these targeted effects?"



Despite the positive results, questions about the product remain. For instance, parents and physicians subjectively perceived about the same amount of improvement in children's behavior...

The video game has not been tested head-to-head against ADHD medications or psychotherapy to see if it's equally effective.

Akili's video game, which is played on a tablet, sends players down a molten lava river and through an icy winter wonderland, rewarding them with stars and points as they complete tasks.

their glucose levels. "We have something that looks and feels and is delivered through a video game," Martucci said, "but when someone's using it, they're getting a direct physiological activation that will lead hopefully — and we have a nice glimpse of data now — to cognitive and general clinical improvement."

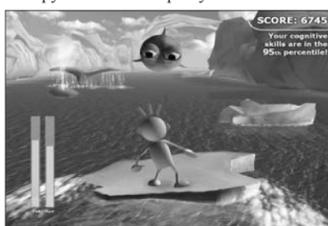
The researchers recommended that kids complete a 30-minute session of the game five days a week for four weeks. Just 11 of the participants reported adverse events, mainly headache and frustration — much milder than the usual side effects associated with the drugs often used to treat ADHD.



Akili CEO Eddie Martucci (right) talks about one of the company's video games with Jeff Bower, Akili's director of data science.

Akili is also studying whether a similar version of its video game may have promise in treating adults with depression; the company recently started a mid-stage clinical trial in that population, with early results expected late next year.

While the effectiveness of brain fitness games is heavily debated among researchers, one neuroscientist may have invented a video game with real staying power and results.



His game, on its journey through FDA approval, uses multitasking to improve overall brain function and he hopes that, pending FDA approval, the game could be used to help people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, PTSD, traumatic brain injuries and ADHD.

Brain fitness games that promise to prolong memory, boost brain health and prevent cognitive decline are everywhere. In fact, the estimated market for these games is close to \$1 billion and experts believe the industry will grow to \$6 billion over the next five years.



However, some experts are more than skeptical about the results of these games.

ing patients manage certain substance use disorders, developed by the Boston company Pear Therapeutics.

Then, last month, the FDA approved the first pill that can alert your doctor when you swallow it. It's a version of the schizophrenia drug sold as Abilify, embedded with sensor, and was developed in collaboration by the Japanese drug maker Otsuka Pharmaceutical and the Silicon Valley company Proteus Digital Health.

Studies also suggest that a video game might prove to be useful as an Alzheimer's screening tool. (Courtesy https://www.statnews.com)

Related

Video Games for Brain Health

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His game, on its journey through FDA approval, uses multitasking to improve overall brain function and he hopes that, pending FDA approval, the game could be used to help people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, PTSD, traumatic brain injuries and ADHD.

Video Games for Brain Health: A Billion Dollar Industry

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However, some experts are more than skeptical about the results of these games.

Psychology professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology Randall Engle has been outspoken about his skepticism saying, "We're really talking about a biological system. The idea that you can do some little computer game for half an hour a day for 10 days and change that system is ludicrous on the face of it."

Engle has completed numerous studies putting brain fitness game to the test and has not seen any "substantial benefit" to the games. In fact, Engle was one of 75 scientists who signed a letter to the brain fitness game industry stating that marketers are inventing claims and even targeting elderly customers worried about memory loss.

New Brain Health Game Takes a Different Approach

Neuroscientist Adam Gazzaley, who in fact signed the same letter as Engle, believes that he may have invented a game that addresses both the business and science aspects of brain fitness games.

His game is in the process of getting approval from the Food and Drug Administration, which will take several years and even more money. However, if approved, the game could be used to help people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, PTSD, traumatic brain injury and ADHD.



The game is fully immersive and focuses on multitasking. For example, the player would need to guide a horse through the desert while tapping only green carrots flashing at the top of the screen, but not the radishes or carrots of another color. Gazzaley says that "if we created this, what we call a high-interference environment, with multitasking going on and lots of distraction... if we put pressure in that environment, we would see benefits in other aspects of cognitive control."

Admitting that his game and his theory needs to undergo extensive testing, Gazzaley is cautiously optimistic.

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With a new year, people often turn the page with resolutions that include a career move to improve pay

With a new year, people often turn the page with resolutions that include a career move to improve pay or personal fulfillment.

Job search hub Glassdoor recently released their monthly numbers for the Houston job market in November and there were more than 97,000 job openings in the area in November alone.

The unemployment rate was marked at 4.8 percent, which is a 0.9 percent decrease over last year.

We hit up Glassdoor to get a quick snapshot on the types of jobs recently listed and more than 47,000 jobs listed is what we found.

U.S. job growth was halted in part by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in September. The U.S. lost 33,000 jobs as the unemployment rate fell to a 16-year low

of 4.2 percent. The jobs loss was the first monthly decline in seven years, when the economy was still pulling out of the Great Recession. Wall Street economists had expected very modest employment gains of 80,000, according to Bloomberg.

Methodology: Based on millions of anonymous salary reports shared on Glassdoor. The Local Pay Reports apply a proprietary machine-learning algorithm to estimate median annual base pay for full-time workers. November 2017 figures are current as of November 22, 2017.

Metro areas are based on U.S. Census Bureau "core based statistical areas" (CBSAs). All year-over-year estimates for median salary growth are based on 3-month moving averages. Median base pay is presented in nominal dollars, and is not adjusted for inflation or seasonally adjusted. (\*) denotes Bureau of Labor Statistics data.



Financial advisor Smart Financial Salary estimate not given 3.2 out of 5 Glassdoor rating

Montrose Management District chairman to resign

The chairman of the board of the embattled Montrose Management District plans to resign at the end of December, the latest development in what's been a yearslong battle between the district and commercial property owners who have paid millions of dollars for services and improvements they say have not helped the area.

"Montrose was doing just fine without them and will continue to do just fine," property owner Bob Rose said Tuesday.

Rose sued the district in 2012 because he felt blindsided when

he found out he didn't have a say on its plan to levy assessments on commercial property owners to pay for its programs.

"They did it all behind our back and sprung it on us in a public hearing," said Rose, who at that time owned more than 230 apartments in Montrose.

Claude Wynn, a longtime board member who became chairman in 2011, said in a letter that his resignation would be effective Dec. 31, which he noted marks the end of the group's first "Service and Assessment Plan."

"It is time for me to step aside for others to carry on in the care and leadership of Montrose," Wynn wrote. He did not respond to requests for comment Tuesday. Wynn's resignation follows a recent legal win for the property owners who have long opposed the district.

At the end of October, a district court judge ruled that the district improperly assessed nearly \$6.6 million based on an assessment petition deemed void by the court. The judgment also ordered that the district refrain from spending any money collected and not yet spent.



Business owner Bob Rose was behind a 2012 lawsuit challenging the legitimacy of the Montrose Management District. The district's chairman, Claude Wynn, says he's resigning.

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Advertisement for 李岳樺 (Dr. Bryan Lee), a podiatrist specializing in foot and ankle surgery, with a list of treatment options.

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Advertisement for Zhen Fan, M.D., a vascular surgeon, with information on venous disease and surgical procedures.

Advertisement for 王鑫醫學博士 (Dr. Xin Wang) and Joel Cheng, PT, offering orthopedic, pain, and rehabilitation services.

# 德国一20人小村庄被拍卖 以14万欧元价格成交



德国首都柏林以南120公里外一个小村庄于当地时间9日拍卖，以14万欧元（约合人民币109万元）的价格成交。

据报道，阿尔文尼村距离柏林约2小时车程，过去来自附近的褐煤开采业的工人曾建造他们的家园。据拍卖师科纳克介绍，这片住宅区创建于1900年左右。

如今，阿尔文尼村作为多姆斯多夫乡镇的一部分，属于德国勃兰登堡州乌埃比高——瓦伦布吕克市。全村只有大约20个居民，除一户家庭外，全都是上了年纪的退休人士。阿尔文尼村没有自己的村长。

据柏林拍卖行卡尔豪森称，1990年德国统一后，这个约16000平方米的村庄被两兄弟购买。

两兄弟中的一人去世后，拥有者希望将整个村庄出售。此次拍卖会在柏林举行，连同村里的10多座建筑物、车库间和储藏室都一并拍卖。

在1990年德国统一之前，阿尔文尼的所有产业为欧洲历史最悠久的一家煤饼厂所拥有。一些居民自1960年代起，就在这家工厂工作。工厂在1991年结束营业后，许多人尤其是年轻人都离开这里，到西部联邦州去找工作。

# 6岁男童靠评论玩具赚钱 一年收入1100万美元

美国6岁男孩莱恩靠在YouTube频道上开箱和评论玩具，一年就赚了1100万美元，《福布斯》杂志将他列为今年YouTube网站上最赚钱的12个YouTuber之一。

据悉，莱恩成为网红相当偶然，他小时候常看别的孩子开箱和评论玩具的网络视频，尤其喜欢看其他孩子玩“汤玛士小火车”。有一天，他问妈妈能不能也拍视频传到网络，莱恩的父母觉得何尝不可，于是带他去买玩具。

2015年3月，莱恩开箱乐高玩具组的视频被上传到网络。到2016年6月，他的频道已有100万人订阅。

全球有许多小孩每天花好几个小时收看莱恩的频道，有些小孩还会对屏幕说话，认为莱恩是

他们的朋友。而对厂商而言，只要莱恩喜欢的玩具，就注定会有一大堆小朋友注目。

今年6月，莱恩的税前月收入已经将近100万美元，是美国总统月薪的30倍，也比美国职业篮球员的平均薪资还多。目前“莱恩玩具评论”(Ryan Toys Review)频道已有1000万订户，累积点阅总数超过160亿次。

尽管莱恩的频道很成功，他的妈妈努力不让YouTube影响孩子的学业，因此只在周末拍摄视频，她也隐藏自己的身份、姓氏和地址。

虽然莱恩的频道上已经有许多广告和产品网址链接，但他的父母说莱恩评论的玩具都是他们自己掏钱买的，不是玩具公司给的，大多数玩具在莱恩开箱评论过后，就捐给慈善机构。

# 女子翻旧照 发现未婚夫在她身后游泳

现居英国伦敦的科索沃籍女子维洛娜·柯莉琪10年前和家人到蒙特内哥罗度假时，和儿时玩伴拍下海滩纪念照片。直到最近她才发现，当年照片中在她身后游泳的小男孩，就是她现在的未婚夫布沙库。

据悉，布沙库近日和未婚妻一同看照片时，发现自己身影赫然出现在10年前的一张旧照片中。布沙库留意到，年幼的柯莉琪后方有和他穿着相同衬衫、短裤，并像他一样漂浮的男孩。

起初双方不相信这个惊人巧合。毕竟要

拍到这张照片，需要两人在同一个国家，同一片海滩，同一时间现身才有可能捕捉到。直到布沙库和家人再三确认，他们确实在同一时间拜访蒙特内哥罗后，才确定照片是真实巧合。

照片拍下10年后，他们两人在2016年相遇，并决定在今年订婚，携手共度一生。

柯莉琪在社交网站分享两人的巧合照片以及爱情故事，吸引超过3万名网友点赞。许多网友也纷纷留言，分享自己生命中难以解释的巧合。

# 男子拍海鸥特写摄像机被叼走 5个月后失而复得



挪威一名男子此前尝试用GoPro摄像机给海鸥拍特写，不料最后却眼睁睁看着摄像机被海鸥叼走。不过5个月后，摄像机失而复得，而且里面还记录下了“行窃”海鸥的影像。

据报道，挪威男子科里·罗伯特逊(Kjell Robertsen)说，GoPro被“偷”那天，他在郊外寓所的阳台栏杆上放了一些面包，以便吸引海鸥并用摄

像机拍下它们。当时摄像机就在旁边，但其中一只海鸥吃完食物叼起摄像机就飞走了。

罗伯特逊说，5个月后，他在离家几百米的地方发现当初被“偷走”的GoPro。

罗伯特逊取回摄像机存储卡后发现，里面拍摄下了海鸥叼着摄像机飞过房屋和树木上空的景象。之后，摄像机掉到地上，海鸥开始啄咬摄像机。

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# 美国历史上超自然灵异事件

自从人类这种生物在地球上出没以来，地球上就从来没少过鬼故事。尽管大部分鬼故事都很扯淡，但有一些故事却十分真实，比如有人亲眼看到、有视频录下来、或者有图有真相。这样还不能让你相信这世上真的有鬼的话，看看下面十个美国历史上最著名的超自然事件。看完别尿啊……

## 林肯的预感

关于林肯的死，人们又很多种版本的说法，其中流传最广泛也最可信的一种说法是，林肯在被刺之前，做梦时已经有了预感。林肯告诉自己的好哥们儿希拉蒙，他梦见自己的葬礼在白宫的东厅举行，葬礼上宣布总统是被暗杀的。而就在几天之后，林肯就真的被暗杀了，他的葬礼真的就在白宫东厅举行！而且接下来几年中，不止一名政要声称在白宫看见了林肯的魂魄。显然，林肯把白宫当自己的家了。

## 特拉维斯·沃尔顿绑架事件

特拉维斯·沃尔顿是一名伐木工人。1975年11月5日，他和同事正驾车在盘山公路上。他们突然看见道路旁一道闪耀的白光。在穿过右侧的一片开阔地之后，他们惊呆了，这时那个光源已经完整地呈现在了众人的眼前。那是一个碟形的发光物体，它正在废柴堆上空15-20英尺高的位置盘旋，物体发射出米黄色的光。这个物体宽20英尺，高8英尺，中间有一个环状的突起物。没有人下车，只有沃尔顿一个箭步冲了下去。沃尔顿说，开始他就是想在他们面前炫耀一下，觉得这东西一定会在他靠近之前飞走。但是他走近以后，发现那东西根本不像要飞走的样子，便决定立刻离开。但当她站起来，转身往回跑时，这个

碟形发光物发出一束蓝绿色的光击中了他的头部和胸部。沃尔顿感到如同被高压电击中一样，一阵眩晕，之后他感到全身都麻木了，头部和胸部尤其明显，很快他就丧失了意识，之后就不省人事，什么也不知道了。他的同伴们看到沃尔顿居然被那束光裹起，在被抬起一英尺之后，被突然甩到了10英尺开外的地方，左肩着地，身体软软地瘫在了地上。然后，沃尔顿被飞碟带走，随着飞碟失踪得无影无踪。直到五天后，沃尔顿才发现自己在在一个公路上，他通过电话亭联系了工友，人们才找到了他。沃尔顿向人们叙述了他在飞碟上遇到的让人震惊的离奇故事，而且他坚信自己遇离开了几个小时。

## 俄亥俄州加油站闹鬼事件

加油站的视频监控显示，有一团蓝色的烟雾一直盘旋在加油站附近，让监控人员奇怪的是，这团雾一直慢悠悠的似乎漫无目的飞行。很多看了这段视频的人都坚信这就是鬼魂，不过目前官方没有做出任何解释。有兴趣的童鞋可以网上搜一下这段视频，不要吓到啊！

## 长春花园的鬼魂克洛伊

这座位于Francisville的长春花园已经有215年的历史。1796年，大卫·布拉德福德将这座花园留给了他女儿沙拉和女婿克拉克·伍德拉克。这座花园经常闹鬼，其中最著名是克洛伊。据说，克洛伊是花园工作的一名奴隶，又一次，克洛伊被男主人克拉克强奸，并在挣扎中掉了一只耳朵。愤怒的克洛伊在花园里用有毒的夹竹桃叶子来烤面包，试图毒死克拉克，却没想到把沙拉和她女儿毒死了。克洛伊非常害怕，于是便跳进密西西

比河中淹死了。她的鬼魂就在这所花园中，时不时露个脸刷下存在感。

## 新奥尔良法国的蒙特莱昂酒店鬼魂

新奥尔良是全美国灵异目击事件出现最多的地区，被认为是美国最恐怖的城市。坐落于法国区皇家街214号的蒙特莱昂酒店则是奥尔良闹鬼事件发生最多的地方。很多人反映，在晚上八点钟，都看到有鬼魂在酒店大厅出没。

## 阴魂不散的斯坦利酒店

不止一名目击者说，他们看到有鬼魂在舞厅里弹钢琴、在走廊里散步，甚至还听到了孩子们的笑声和奔跑的声音。然而真正让这家酒店成名的是它的217号房间，因为《闪灵》编剧斯蒂芬·金和他的妻子曾在这里入住，并在这里得到灵感，写出了《闪灵》，而且电视剧版的《闪灵》还在这里取景拍摄。这更是让斯坦利酒店名声大噪，成为著名的闹鬼酒店之一。

## 比亚·帕拉的转世

伊恩·史蒂文森博士是最著名的受人尊敬的科学家之一，重点研究轮回现象和超自然现象。他最著名的案例是一名名叫Swarnlata Mishra的女孩。在Swarnlata三岁时，她开始向人们诉说一个叫比亚·帕拉的人的经历和故事，在Swarnlata时，终于引起了史蒂文森博士的注意。史蒂文森对小女孩的故事进行了比对，竟然验证出一个惊人的结果，小女孩的诉说中至少有50个事实是现实存在的。比如Swarnlata竟然知道比亚·帕拉的家在100英里以外的某地，而小女孩跟对方没有任何交集。比亚的前夫听了这件事，他带着两个儿子和九个镇上居民来看望“比亚”。Swarnlata刚一见

到他们，就叫出了比亚一个儿子的乳名，而且能够正确的认出他们中的每一个人。

## 丽齐博登的房子

1892年8月4日，On 4 August 1892,安德鲁和艾比博登夫妇在自己家中被杀害，安德鲁的遗体是他女儿丽齐在卧室里发现的，妻子的遗体则是在楼上的客房中。丽齐还发现他们两都是被斧子劈中致死。警察怀疑这一切其实就是丽齐本人干的，不过最后证据不足，丽齐被无罪释放。直到1927年，丽齐患肺炎身亡。如今，丽齐博登的房子变成了一个旅馆和博物馆，这是美国闹鬼最多的房子之一。欧许多游客反应在房子周围看见了鬼魂的存在，而且在艾比博登死的房子里，还看到了一些不寻常的东西……

## Anneliese Michel驱魔事件

1968年，年仅16岁的Anneliese Michel开始遭受癫痫的折磨，并且在接下来五年中越来越严重。她时常会产生幻觉，能够看到鬼魂对她说她该死，她开始变得不能容忍任何宗教仪式和符号，包括圣水。大部分时间内，Anneliese Michel被认为精神出了问题，在精神病院接受治疗。直到1975年，她的家人对传统意义上的医学治疗已经失去了信心，转而向天主教堂寻求帮助。天主教堂一共为Anneliese Michel进行了多达76次的驱魔仪式，相信者能够帮助她。可是Anneliese Michel却拒绝进食，最后饥饿而死。根据驱魔录音带上的录音可以得出，Anneliese Michel用的是极富变化的声音说话而且一再地突然大喊。她用的那些粗鄙，下流的表达方式被那些驱魔士归结为魔鬼。驱魔士声称，那些化身为Hitler或Nero (古罗马一暴君)的人形的魔鬼也对这姑娘造成了影响。

# 美国孩子特别强壮？中美文化不同孕妇禁忌也差异太大

中美文化差异不少，从孕妇孕期的习惯就可见一斑

怀孕前：美国孕妇提倡运动，中国孕妇尽量休息

在备孕期，中美孕妇都会吃叶酸、体检等，但是不同的是美国女人在备孕前会尽可能的进行中等强度运动，跑步、游泳、骑单车等。而中国的老人们则会告诫称，要尽量多休息。另外，美国孕妇还会检查牙齿，保证牙齿健康。但中国孕妇对牙齿的保健意识不强，一般不会去看牙医。



孕期：美国孕妇依旧运动，中国孕妇避免干重活，干脆不动以安胎

美国的妇产科医生常常鼓励孕妇运动，因为准妈妈在运动的时候，肚子里的宝宝依旧也在运动，但是中国孕妇一旦怀孕，别说运动了，很多人连家务都不做了，恨不得一天20个小时都躺在床上安胎。

美国孕妇：宠物照顾中国孕妇：很多人借机抛弃家中狗狗和猫咪

据果壳网报道，中国人一直深信养猫会导致流产。要孩子还是要宠物？这是很多年轻城市女性曾经、正在或者将要面临的问题。问题的核心则是一种绝大多数人只闻其名从未见过真容的寄生虫——弓形虫。很多准妈妈和预备役准妈妈都被告知过，她们的宠物很危险，因为会传播弓形虫，而弓形虫是一种可怕的对胎儿很不利的虫子。但事实上，感染弓形虫确实可能给孕妇带来麻烦，甚至引发流产。但感染弓形虫的渠道有很多，猫（粪）只是其中之一。其他动物不能向外界散播弓形虫后代，可能的途径就是吃下含有弓形虫活体的生肉。做到不吃生食、厨房里的生熟分开，很容易就能杜绝这个途径的传染。而猫作为弓形虫唯一的主动散播工具，也具有一定的时效性——首次感染的最初两周。准妈妈遇到这种危险猫咪的几率已经是非常低了，加上注意不要接触猫粪便

，注意清洁和洗手，感染的可能性会进一步降低的。弓形虫这样的人畜共患病听上去好像挺吓人，但其实更多的危险来自于那些能在人与人之间传播的疾病。从这个角度说，各位准妈妈床上那两只两条腿走路的动物才是你更应该提防的。

美国孕妇：顺产缝完撕裂处就可以在产房洗澡中国孕妇：坐月子将就不洗澡不刷牙

据微博网友“火爸”在博客中介绍到，中国人讲究坐月子，千万不要以为传统的都是对的哦，许多讲究其实都是胡说八道。坐月子至少要“坐”42天，而不是一个月！产妇产后，身体各器官开始恢复到怀孕前的状态，这段时间称为产褥期，但月子里千万不能久坐不动或久躺不动，这样对身体很不利！分娩后在身体可以承受的情况下要尽早开始下床活动！如果是顺产的话，第二天就可以起床走动及进行产后运动了。剖宫产的话，则要咨询医生意见后，才可以开始进行产后运动。

## 中国孕妇：滥用中药材

【中草药肾病】据网易报道，在中医文化兴盛的中国，含有马兜铃酸的药物可不少。2000年版药典和国家药品标准记载的明确含马兜铃酸的药材就有7种，分别为关木通、广防己、青木香、天仙藤、马兜铃、寻骨风、朱砂莲。

被批准上市的含马兜铃酸的中成药更多。最多的时候，有超过100种含有马兜铃酸的中成药在市面上流通，单是含有关木通的中成药就有41种之多。

更糟糕的是，不少含有马兜铃酸的中成药，例如龙胆泻肝丸、青果止嗽丸、排石颗粒、喘息灵胶囊都是非处方药，价格不贵，用途又广，用于清热、止咳、消炎等常见病，是药店里的常用药，公众非常容易地就能从各大药店买到。业内人士认为，曾经用过含有马兜铃酸的药物，而自己并不知情者并不在少数。直到1993年，比利时学者发现，一群年轻女性服用一种减肥中药“苗条丸”后，出现肾脏的损伤。奇怪的是，这种减肥药15年都没有毒副作用报告，直至1990年加入广防己一广防己中也含有大量的马兜铃酸。到1999年，服用含有广防己的中草药导致肾损伤的病例达105例，其中超过三分之一的患者进入晚期肾衰竭阶段，不得不接受肾移植或透析治疗。

## 【美国禁售含有马兜铃酸的草药】

虽然美国本土没有发现马兜铃酸致肾病的案例，仍然在2000年停止进口、制造和销售含有马兜铃酸的草药。

考虑到这类中草药都含有马兜铃酸，国外甚至称之为“中草药肾病”。而中国学者也建议将这一类的肾损伤称之为“马兜铃酸肾病”。

中国孕妇喜欢相信一些不科学的“坐月子”之道

美国孕妇生完了该干嘛干嘛，而中国孕妇则有很多老人流传下来的坐月子习俗，比如不吃蔬菜瓜果，因为太寒凉；用米酒催奶等等。事实上，这些所谓的习俗对于新妈妈都是有害的，新妈妈应该从蔬菜瓜果中摄入必要的维生素，也不容易便秘和长痔疮。而米酒因为含有酒精，则会对宝宝的脑部发育有影响。

美国孕妇手机电脑照用不误，中国孕妇怕辐射，很多人会穿根本没有用的防辐射服。

一位网名为“嘉明妈妈”的网友发帖说，自己在美国看妇产科的时候问医生有关孕期使用手机的问题，美国医生差点没笑喷，反问道，中国人那么注意孕期的辐射问题，对于手机电脑微不足道的辐射这么如临大敌，那么中国那么严重的污染，为什么不担心对宝宝造成伤害呢？”简言之，空气、水资源的污染，对于宝宝的伤害，远远超过手机和电脑的辐射。不可否认手机和电脑的辐射，但此微小的辐射对于宝宝来说，几乎是感受不到的。医学上所说，会造成宝宝畸形的辐射，是指那些X光等医学和工业的强辐射，对于任何人都是有危害的。因此，中国孕妇穿的防辐射服，除了让商家挣钱外，没有任何益处。

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本报记者秦鸿钧报导



从去年开始，恒丰银行重金聘请美国著名乐队现场表演，他们的到来，总会为晚会的热烈气氛掀起高潮



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