



HUMAN INTEREST

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Dallas pet happy to hog spotlight as world's oldest pig

DALLAS- At 20 years old, Oscar is some pig. His long life – in pig years – has included a Colorado ski vacation, a TV appearance with a pet psychologist, and his photo on one of those wacky Avanti animal birthday cards. The Vietnamese potbellied pig's latest claim to fame is one for the ages: Guinness World Records recently named Oscar the world's oldest pig. "The average pig lives 15 to 20 years, so we call Oscar in bonus rounds," said his owner, Stacy Kimbell of Far North Dallas, who believes having the 130-pound porker in her

house feeds her rebellious side. On Saturday, Kimbell hosted a pig-out for 40 friends, and they wore pig snouts and brought pig gifts. She also had lithographs printed to mark Oscar's record-breaking feat. Oscar signed them with a blue snoutprint. Miniature pets were all the rage in 1989, when Kimbell bought Oscar as a piglet. Dogs and cats were out of the question because of her ex-husband's allergies, and the couple's fish were, well, fish. Oscar was a tiny fellow who liked to walk the streets of Chicago on a leash. "But then he grew and grew and grew," Kimbell said. He topped out at an unhealthy 180 pounds before Kimbell got a better handle on his diet. These days his meals consist of roasted pumpkin mash, grapes, almonds, apples, watermelon and canned fruit. Dog treats are pretty tasty too, but his favorite snack is Southwest Airlines peanuts. "He's like a little disposal," said Kimbell, 47, who admits he's spoiled. Oscar won't eat broccoli, cauliflower or onions. He licks the salad dressing of those veggies and spits them out. And once he's full? "He wants his belly rubbed," Kimbell said. ([Full story and video](#))

Woodstock man wins \$10,000 iTunes contest



WOODSTOCK - "Hello, Lou. This is Steve Jobs." So began the Wednesday night phone conversation between Louie Sulcer of Woodstock and the high-tech wizard who co-founded Apple, the maker of computers and all things iPod. Sulcer's end of the conversation went something like this: "Sure it is. Aw, who is this really? C'mon." The guy on the other end of Sulcer's line would not back off. It was Steve Jobs. Really. Sulcer, a 71-year-old country music fan with seven stents in his heart and artificial hip sockets, hit the Apple jackpot when he downloaded from iTunes a 1958 Johnny Cash song, "Guess Things Happen That Way." It was the 10 billionth song downloaded from Apple's music site, and the company had been advertising that the lucky buyer of song No. 10 billion would win \$10,000 in credit to be spent on songs, movies and apps. What has Sulcer been lusting for from the purveyor of the largest entertainment Web site on the planet? "I don't even know what all they have," Sulcer said. His iPod Nano was a birthday gift from his children last October. Since then, he has bought about 100 songs from Apple to fill it. Jobs congratulated him, thanked him for using Apple products and

chatted a bit. "He was real nice," Sulcer said. "I told him I can't tell you how much I've enjoyed iTunes and the iPod. I really enjoy country music. "He asked me if I played the guitar, and I said, 'Oh my goodness. That is my lifelong frustration.' " Sulcer has been trying to learn the picking style of Luther Perkins, Cash's guitarist, but he has not had much luck. "[Jobs] said he had been messing around a little with [the guitar], too," Sulcer said. Sulcer did not bother to go on the Apple Web site to see what \$10,000 can buy. He called his daughter in Mississippi to tell her the news, and she asked him what he

wanted. "I said I don't even want to look right now," he said Thursday. "I just went to bed." Later Thursday, after his doctor appointment, Sulcer was expecting calls from near and far. Apple public relations people have been calling him to ask whether he would consent to an interview with Rolling Stone, the rock magazine, and other publications. "I said, 'Rolling Stone is going to be so disappointed with this old man.' " He did get a call he found a little more special. "Rosanne Cash also called this morning to thank me for listening to Johnny Cash," Sulcer said. She told Sulcer her father would have turned 78 on Friday. Then she had one more surprise for him: Her husband, musician John Leventhal, played the song he bought over the phone for him. Guess things don't usually happen that way. ([Video](#))

Man defiles classy building — with his own feces!



BROOKLYN - A drunken defecator entered a Livingston Street apartment building on Feb. 12 and left residents a deposit that they'll never forget. The dazed dumper entered the building, which is near Court Street, at around midnight, apparently mistaking the stately tower for the Brooklyn Marriott, where his company was having a convention. Cops say that he had been drinking at a nearby bar on Court Street. Once inside the building, the 24-year-old stripped down to his birthday suit and, as in many such cases, that's when the trouble began. First, cops say, he entered the laundry room and left a load — though not, unfortunately, of clothes. Then, still stinking (drunk, that is), he wandered the halls nude, spreading his fecal material on the walls. Eventually, he found an unlocked door to an apartment and entered — letting loose another explosion in front of the shocked, and appalled, resident. He disappeared out the building's door. But the next night, he returned — this time, dragged there by the bartender who had served him the night before. And this time, the party pooper was profusely apologetic and embarrassed, a source in the building told The Brooklyn Paper. The

young man was not arrested.

Newly-weds spend honeymoon night in prison

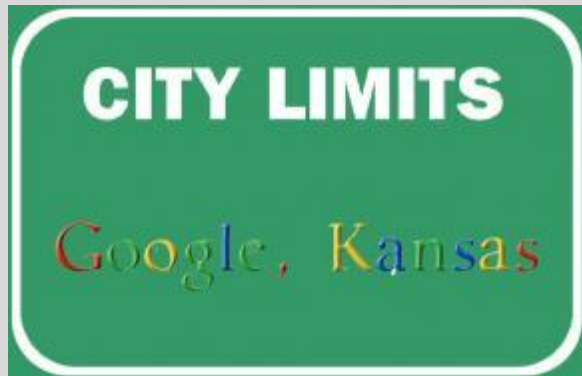


HYANNIS, MA - A US couple has spent the first night of married life in separate prison cells after the bride attacked the groom's former lover after the wedding. The Massachusetts bride is alleged to have tried to run over the woman and her son, the Cape Cod Times reports. Marissa Ann Putignano-Keene, 22, was charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon - her car. No-one was injured in the incident which happened in a car park in the Cape Cod village of Barnstable. According to the newspaper, the woman, who told police she had been previously been in an intimate relationship with the groom, was leaving work and taking a shortcut through the car park when the newly-wed couple drove by. She told police that Mrs

Putignano-Keene wound down the car window and began shouting lewd insults before revving the engine and allegedly driving towards her. The groom, 37-year-old Timothy Keene - who was in the car's passenger seat - was charged with disorderly conduct and taken into protective custody along with his new wife. Mrs Putignano-Keene was also charged with damage to property, after her car hit a fence during the incident. The pair are reported to have told police that they split a bottle of champagne between them after their wedding ceremony at Barnstable Town Hall. They were released together on Tuesday, having spent the night in individual cells at Barnstable police station.

Welcome to Google, Kansas

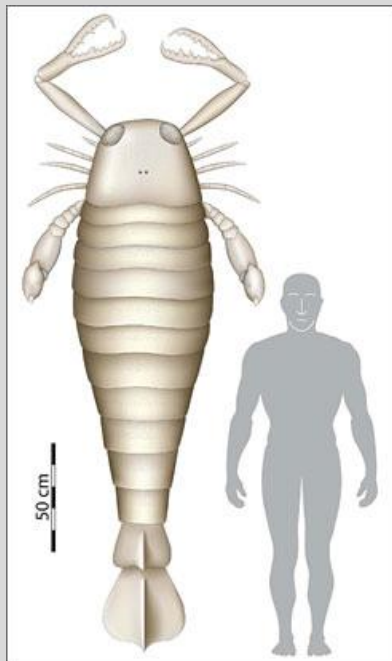
Kansas -- Topeka Mayor Bill Bunten signed a proclamation Monday calling for Topeka to be known for



the month of March as "Google, Kansas — the capital city of fiber optics." Bunten told city council members about the proclamation prior to a special meeting of the council held at noon at City Hall to hear the first reading of a proposal that wasn't linked to local efforts to convince Google to make Topeka a test site for an ultrafast Internet connection. Bunten asked the seven council members on hand if they had a problem with his issuing the proclamation, which also encourages Topekans to recognize and support continuing efforts to bring Google's fiber optics experiment here. None objected. "I support pushing the 'send'

button," Councilman Jeff Preisner said. Bunten told reporters afterward that the proclamation was "more 'fun' than anything else." He said he hoped it would set Topeka apart from other cities vying for Google's attention, which include Grand Rapids, Mich., and Baton Rouge, La. Bunten noted that Topeka's efforts to attract Google drew the attention of the New York Times, which published an Associated Press article about it. Bunten said he had heard the suggestion to change Topeka's name to "Google" from Jim Ogle, general manager of WIBW-TV Channel 13. Ogle told the council Monday about how Mayor Joan Wagnon in August 1998 issued a proclamation temporarily changing Topeka's name to "ToPikachu" in recognition of the nationwide kickoff here of the "Pokemon" media franchise, which features a fictional species of creatures named "Pikachu." Ogle said that if Topeka could change its name "for a small doll that sounds like I sneezed," it could certainly do the same for Google. ([Full Story](#))

Fossil of world's biggest bug found



LONDON (AP) — This was a bug you couldn't swat and definitely couldn't step on. British scientists have stumbled across a fossilized claw, part of an ancient sea scorpion, that is of such large proportion it would make the entire creature the biggest bug ever. How big? Bigger than you, and at 8 feet long as big as some Smart cars. The discovery in 390-million-year-old rocks suggests that spiders, insects, crabs and similar creatures were far larger in the past than previously thought, said Simon Braddy, a University of Bristol paleontologist and one of the study's three authors. "This is an amazing discovery," he said Tuesday. "We have known for some time that the fossil record yields monster millipedes, super-sized scorpions, colossal cockroaches, and jumbo dragonflies. But we never realized until now just how big some of these ancient creepy-crawlies were," he said. The research found a type of sea scorpion that was almost half a yard longer than previous estimates and the largest one ever to have evolved. The study, published online Tuesday in the Royal Society's journal *Biology Letters*, means that before this sea scorpion became extinct it was much longer than today's average man is tall. Prof. Jeorg Schneider, a paleontologist at Freiberg Mining Academy in southeastern Germany, said the study provides valuable new information about "the last of the giant scorpions." Schneider, who was not involved in

the study, said these scorpions "were dominant for millions of years because they didn't have natural enemies. Eventually they were wiped out by large fish with jaws and teeth." ([Full story](#))

