

Does Halloween candy trivia drive you crazy?

By Danny Tyree

Perhaps it's partly because my mother owns a huge antique desk from Milky Way Farm (the former estate of Franklin C. Mars, founder of Mars Candies), but I pay keen attention to the annual flurry of "filler" news items about Halloween candy.



"Prices up or down? What's hot and what's not? Should I call my manual laborer cousin and rub this sweet gig in his face or not?"

(Think of the perennial stories as being like the swallows returning to San Juan Capistrano, except with cavities, tummy aches and hyperactivity.)

According to a survey by the oral care platform Byte ("Rinse, spit, blurt out the name of a favorite candy before cussing and slamming the phone down..."), candy corn is this year's favorite treat in Ohio and five other states — although a plurality of Americans are ambivalent about the confection and 34 percent actively detest it. ("Let's drag it to the town square and string it up by its neck with... black licorice! No — stone it with circus peanuts!")

I happen to like candy corn (although my consumption of it resembles the frustration of trying to eat just one Lay's potato chip). It gets a bum rap because it's like a wide-open target in a game of dodgeball. Some candy mogul got cold feet and abandoned all the OTHER candies designed to remind you of the school cafeteria. You know, the Grape Greasy Ladle, Chocolate Hairnets and Sweet-and-Sour Popu-

lar Kids' Table.

As a former geography whiz, I am aware that different states have different ethnic mixes, industries and traditions; but I must confess it bugs me that there is such a wild variation of favorite and least-favorite candies between the states. Are taste buds so sensitive to state borders?

State nicknames must figure in there somewhere. It's like the Tar Heel State, Wolverine State and Garden State are joined by the "Nougat Is the Spawn of Satan" State or "Almonds Can Bite ME" state.

Okay, maybe it is better to have a little diversity rather than allowing one or two populous states dictate what everyone else likes. ("Kids, don't fret about messy candy wrappers. Tickle your tonsils with the new delivery system: discarded syringes!")

I'm not the first person to mock the "fun-size" designation for candy bars and I won't be the last (unless those new hate-crime laws go into effect, incarcerating people who persist in heinous acts such as referring to Butterfinger bars instead of Digital Coordination-Challenged bars).

To me, "fun-size" candy would be Lifesavers you can use as a hula hoop or Twix bars you could wield as a light saber. Razor blades? A fun-size Snickers should be able to accommodate a machete!

According to Byte, a whopping 52 percent of Americans are going to tick off trick-or-treaters by not dispensing treats this Halloween. Official excuses include inflation, "don't celebrate Halloween" and lingering pandemic fears. Digging deeper brings confessions of "I really need the eggs and toilet paper."

I hope next year's filler stories are tame. Alas, the signs are not good, with politics and social trends intruding. "How many licks to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop? You and your Western European math!"

"REESE'S Pieces? How capitalistic! This piece is your piece, this piece is my piece, from California to the New York Island..."

"Because you demanded it...one musketeer and two self-service musketeers!"

Sigh

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Meet your Tribune Staff

Patty Blackburn

Vacation Spot: Panama City Beach or Gatlinburg

Love about my job: There are daily tasks that are required when publishing a newspaper and each day these tasks are different. I love the versatility.

Favorite Food: A delicious steak with a baked potato

POLICE BLOTTER

An alleged attempt to take his 7-month-old daughter from his ex-girlfriend's home without her permission landed a Lewisburg man in jail Sunday.

Bobby Ridgeway allegedly arrived at an Anes Station Road home Sunday after the ex-girlfriend didn't answer a text asking to see his daughter.

Witnesses told a Marshall County deputy that Ridgeway sped to the home, walked inside with a handgun on his hip and told the ex, "You're dead to me."

Ridgeway allegedly grabbed the little girl and pushed and choked the ex-girlfriend, who fought him off and called 911.

The report said Ridgeway handed the girl back to her mother, left the home, and was outside with hands raised when deputies arrived.

The loaded and chambered Glock 21 handgun was stolen from Webster County, Mississippi, according to the report.

Ridgeway is charged with aggravated kidnapping, aggravated burglary, child abuse, child endangerment, aggravated domestic assault and theft of property. Bond was set at \$30,000.

RAPE CHARGES

A man identified as Jonathon Lipscomb of Lewisburg faces two charges of rape after allegedly forcing himself on two young women.

Officers were initially called to a report of an unwanted visitor at a Lewisburg residence. Two women at the home told Lewisburg police that Lipscomb had threatened to kill them and their families if they didn't have sex with him.

Both women said they did so out of fear.

Lipscomb allegedly took nude photos of one of the women and sent them to her cellphone. She told police she didn't want him to have those photos.

That woman was also given money and ordered to purchase a gun for him because he allegedly wasn't able to himself, without giving a specific reason why. He was with her at the time of purchase and had the guns put in her name, police were told.

Officers confiscated a pistol, revolver and shotgun loaded with one shell from the residence.

Lipscomb was arrested Friday, Oct. 6. He allegedly told investigators one of the women had voluntarily agreed to some, but not all, of the sexual activity.

A \$60,000 bond was set for Lipscomb. He will appear in Lewisburg City Court on Nov. 14.

DRUG CHARGES

Methamphetamine and marijuana were found in a vehicle during a traffic stop early Thursday.

A Lewisburg police officer stopped William Denton Turner, 46, of Columbia around 3 a.m. after discovering his SUV's plate was registered to another vehicle. The location of the stop was not listed in the report.

Turner was driving on a suspended license and the SUV was not registered or insured, police said.

An officer-requested search revealed 19.2 grams of crystal meth, 2.54 grams of marijuana, a glass pipe, scale, measuring scoop, bags containing meth residue, and \$573 in Turner's vehicle.

Turner was charged with manufacture/distribution/sale of a schedule 2 substance, simple possession of a schedule 6 substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving on a suspended license, and several vehicle-related offenses. Bond was set at \$23,000 bond.

A man found sleeping in his truck at Rock Creek Park Tuesday night, Nov. 11, had 90.45 grams of marijuana and 10 Adderall pills in his possession, LPD Officer Elijah Steward's report said.

Ian Penn, 35, of Ed Watson Road, was cited for simple possession of schedule 2 and 6 drugs and paraphernalia.

A bag containing 1.92 grams of crack cocaine was confiscated Sunday from a man who allegedly had just

claimed he possessed no narcotics.

Lyttle Paul Hurt, 28, of Heil Quaker Avenue, had been arrested by Cpl. Cody Schramm. Hurt was told if he tried to sneak drugs into Marshall County Jail it would be considered a felony offense.

The cocaine was discovered on a final search before entry into the jail, Schramm's report said.

Hurt was charged with felony possession of a schedule 1 drug (felony amount). Bond was set at \$15,000.

A small amount of crystal methamphetamine was found on a woman allegedly trespassing under the bridge at L&N Avenue and West Commerce Street last Wednesday.

Lara J. Dailey, 34, of Finley Beech Road, had a small bag of meth and two grinders in her possession, Detective Sgt. Shaun Crawford's report said.

Dailey was cited for simple possession and possession of drug paraphernalia.

UNEXPECTED FIND

A woman visiting her husband's grave at Lone Oak Cemetery last week was startled to find a gun lying nearby.

An unloaded FIE Titan .25 automatic pistol had been wrapped in a rubber glove, a Lewisburg police report said. The weapon had not been reported stolen.

Breast cancer: Facts, myths and where to find support

COLUMBIA, Tenn. — Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide and the second most common in women in the U.S. behind only skin cancer, according to the American Cancer Society, affecting one in eight American women.

Since it's so prevalent, Maury Regional Health recommends all women ages 40 and older receive a mammogram annually.

"The best defense is early detection," said Dana Salters, administrative director of oncology at Maury Regional Health. "Mammograms are our best tool to discover early signs of breast cancer. If we can find and treat it early, survival rates increase exponentially."

Fact vs. Myth

Did you know that 65% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at a localized stage (meaning the cancer hasn't spread outside the breast)? For localized breast cancer, the five-year survival rate is 99%. That's why it's

important to schedule annual mammograms if you're 40 or older. The earlier breast cancer is detected, the sooner treatment can begin.

Here are some more facts and myths about breast cancer:

Fact: A woman is diagnosed with breast cancer in the United States every two minutes, on average. In 2022, the American Cancer Society estimates 287,500 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the U.S., as well as 51,400 new cases of non-invasive breast cancer.

Myth: Men can't get breast cancer. In 2022, an estimated 2,710 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S., and approximately 530 men will die from breast cancer. Breast cancer in men usually has the same symptoms as in women, including a hard lump underneath the nipple and areola.

Fact: There are risk factors that could increase your chances of getting breast can-

cer. Some of these risk factors include gender, age, race, obesity, a family history of breast cancer, personal history of breast cancer, certain menstrual and reproductive history, genome changes and having dense breast tissue. (To learn more about these risk factors, visit nationalbreastcancer.org.) It is also true, however, that some people have no risk factors and still develop breast cancer. That's why annual screenings play such an important role in helping detect breast cancer in its early stages.

Myth: Breast cancer is caused by wearing underwire bras, implants, deodorants, antiperspirants, mammograms, caffeine, plastic food serving items, microwaves and cell phones. None of these things cause breast cancer. Cancer grows when a cell's DNA is damaged, but why or how that DNA becomes damaged is still unknown. It could be genetic or environmental, or in most cases, a combination of the two. But most patients will never know exactly what caused their cancer. Developing breast cancer is certainly not your fault.

Fact: There are more than 3.8 million breast cancer survivors in the United States. Those who are diagnosed with breast cancer aren't in their fight alone. The following are just a few of the local support groups there to help.

Support
"It's important that those diagnosed with breast cancer know of the many support groups both at Maury Regional Health and elsewhere that are there to help," Salters said. "There are people here to help you in your fight."

At Maury Regional Medical Center, the Breast Cancer Support Group meets on the third Monday of each month in the Women's Center in the Pavilion (no meetings in July, August or December). Survivors, trained professionals and guest speakers come together to help provide support and solutions. For more details, call 931.540.4166 or visit the Classes & Events Calendar at MauryRegional.com.

Reach to Recovery is a volunteer visitation program for breast surgery patients. The Reach to Recovery volunteer, a woman who has been diagnosed with breast cancer, provides emotional support and an educational kit containing a temporary prosthesis and information. For more details, call 931.388.6525 or 1.800.ACS.2345.

In addition, there are countless people in your life — including loved ones and your medical care team — who are there to support and lift you up at each stage during your journey with breast cancer. To learn more about the cancer resources available through Maury Regional Health, visit MauryRegional.com/Breast-Health.

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