

making headlines

Hannah Franklin



Back To The Future Gave Us Flying Cars... But Self-Driving Cars??? GET READY.

The concept of driving a car has been around since the 1800's. That could change! General Motors bought Cruise Automation (a self-driving technology startup) and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles teamed with Google — both are developing "self-driving" cars. Although auto experts say these cars are inevitable, 75% of American drivers don't want them because of safety concerns says AAA. How can we NOT have safety concerns when we watch movies that depict a human apocalypse at the hands of technology gone berserk; possibly evil hackers invade our auto systems, wreaking havoc. Supposedly, self-driving cars can learn to identify objects and recognize situations. OH REALLY? But what if like in the movie, IRobot, cars become as smart as humans, and creepily don't have our best interests in mind? THEN WHAT? And, safety is only part of the reason that Americans (teenagers specifically) aren't thrilled. Driving is a right of passage, and one of the most freeing experiences in a young person's life. What teenager can wait to reach the "age of reason" and drive a car without a parent hovering around? NOW a car takes the place of a "parent" and drives for us? A changing world dictates that we get ready for new government regulations and protocols developing with self-driving technology. IHS Automotive reports the first batch of self-driving cars will appear in 2020.

Superman??? What About Superwoman Jessie Graff?

When we spoke, Jessie Graff said, "I don't want people to think of womanhood as a handicap. We can do anything." Professional stunt woman Graff is on the TV show Supergirl and OH Graff is a fierce competitor on the TV show American Ninja Warrior. "My stunt training probably prepared me for the part of ninja warrior that is the most difficult to do." Back in season five, Graff was the FIRST female to qualify for the city finals (then outshined by fellow competitor Kacy Catanzaro who became the first female to complete the course in the city finals in season six). Graff.

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said, "If I see someone do something that I thought was impossible, the fact they've done it, and proven it's possible means I should be able to do it too." Graff's making history this season as the first female to defeat the new, impossible 14.5 FOOT WARPED WALL on her first try at L.A. qualifiers. "I feel my legs are so much stronger than before, and even though it's a harder wall, it feels easier than last year, so it's really satisfying to see the improvement my training has brought." How did she do it? Dressed like Wonder Woman because Graff's a hero on and off the set.



The Walking Dead Are Alive At Universal Studios Hollywood.

TV binge watching is HUGE with the rise of Netflix and Hulu. Do you get so wrapped up in your favorite TV shows you think you're part of the action? Well, if AMC's The Walking Dead is on your watch list NOW YOU CAN be part of the zombie world. OMG!!! Universal Studios Hollywood has developed an extension of "Halloween Horror Nights Maze" making a year-round attraction paying homage to the most popular cable television program in history. BEWARE! Just like the show, this attraction is very intense and filled with "WALKERS" so no one under the age of 13 is allowed. The show's executive producer, Greg Nicotero is working on the



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project. He plans to make it authentic. "We're getting the chance to utilize molds that were created specifically for the show, and translate them into the attraction," he said. CRY. BREATHE. But like Negan... the attraction is HERE. There is no sanctuary.

We Salute You Miss USA Deshauna Barber

Miss USA competition made history when it crowned Miss District of Columbia, Deshauna Barber, the first winner to serve in the United States military. Barber, 26, is an Army Reserve Officer and IT analyst. "My father, brother, sister, mother — all Army," Barber said her family was surprised, but supportive when she told them she was competing in the pageant. "It gives me the opportunity to promote a platform," she said. Miss USA is using her crown to support fellow soldiers by raising awareness for veterans who suffer



from post-traumatic stress. During the interview portion of the competition, Barber gave her opinion on gender equality in the military. "We are just as tough as men," she said as the crowd erupted in agreement. "As a commander of my unit, I am powerful. I am dedicated, and it is important we recognize that gender does not limit us in the United States Army." HELL YEA! Say it louder for the people in the back. Barber will compete in the Miss Universe Pageant in 2017.