

## Standard online reader survey



**Q: What's your favorite automaker?**

|                   |            |               |            |
|-------------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| <b>Ford</b>       | <b>28%</b> | <b>Chevy</b>  | <b>30%</b> |
| <b>Toyota</b>     | <b>29%</b> | <b>Nissan</b> | <b>12%</b> |
| <b>Volkswagen</b> |            | <b>1%</b>     |            |

## GUEST EDITORIAL

## More study needed on video game addiction

Who hasn't lost patience with kids engrossed in video games and exclaimed in frustration, "Agh! You're addicted to those things!"?

The World Health Organization has now backed up what you might have meant as a hyperbolic diagnosis. The agency now will recognize compulsive gaming as a mental health condition.

The organization said it hopes classifying gaming disorder, as it calls it, as a condition will help draw attention to the real — albeit rare — condition of video game addiction. Doctors, families, social service agencies and others should be aware of the problem and learn about its effects, the World Health Organization believes.

Before you snatch the smartphone or game controller out of your seemingly addicted teenager's hands, though, keep in mind that legitimate compulsive gaming disorder is believed to afflict only about 3 percent of gamers.

Also, keep in mind that the American Psychiatric Association has not gone so far as the WHO in declaring gaming addiction a medical condition.

What is important to recognize in the WHO designation is that obsessive gaming can lead to

**The Blade  
Ohio**

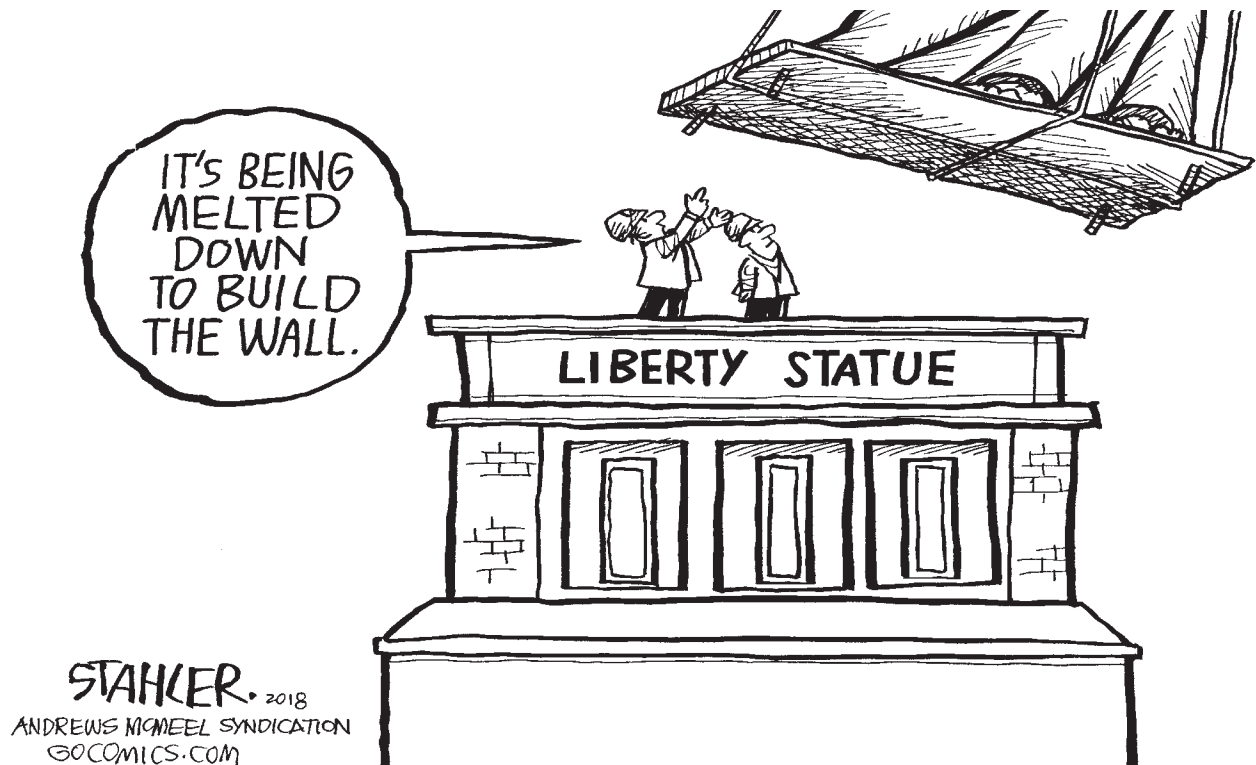
some very real problems. If a gaming habit interferes with school or work, relationships, or socialization, the games have become a problem. Maybe even if the gamer does not technically have an addiction, knowing that gaming is disrupting life this way can help families intervene.

Of course, for most people gaming is harmless entertainment, even if it leads to the occasional all-night gaming binge. And for some games are a creative outlet, even a career. Gaming is big business — it's a \$108 billion-a-year global industry.

It is important to recognize video games as the important cultural influencers that they are. That also means recognizing and respecting the difficulties that compulsive play can cause a minority of game users.

Some scientists have described game addiction as being like gambling addiction without the money.

What is needed now is more research into the nature of compulsive gaming and what kinds of therapies or treatments will help those who are afflicted.



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## Wall opportunities fading

Building a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border was Donald Trump's premier campaign promise, and he is running out of chances to keep it.

Trump has been president for nearly a year and a half, and has not yet won anywhere near the funding needed to build the wall along the 1,000 or so miles of border that he pledged to voters. Now, there have been two Republican immigration bills in the House, each calling for around \$25 billion for the wall, and Trump has blown them both off, saying he'd rather try again after November's mid-term elections.

"Republicans should stop wasting their time on immigration until after we elect more Senators and Congressmen/women in November," Trump tweeted Friday.

Now, it is entirely possible Republicans will keep control of the House and Senate. It's also possible they will lose. But does anyone believe the GOP will gain enough seats to pass difficult legislation without somehow settling their internal disputes? Unlikely.

And of course Democrats are playing games with immigration. They still will be after the election, no matter what happens. The point is, a president only gets so many chances to do something, and when it comes to the wall, Trump is running out of time.

There's no need to go through the number of times Trump promised campaign audiences that he would build the wall. He did it so much that during rallies his loyal voters developed a call-and-response on the subject. They knew that promise better than any other.

And no, the promise was not a wall along the entire 2,000-mile border between the United States and Mexico. Agreeing with a number of

pro-wall experts, Trump said on many occasions that a wall was not needed along the entire stretch of some-times-impassable land. About 1,000 miles would do the job well.

The odds were probably always against Trump on the wall. The only way a wall will ever happen is with determined presidential leadership. Yes, Congress has supported extensive border barriers in the past — look up the Secure Fence Act of 2006 — but the political system has never wanted to actually do it. Actually building a wall would take a president who will not give up and not settle for anything less than what he promised.

Incredibly enough, Trump made it to 2018 with a real chance to get wall funding. His maneuvers on DACA,

President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, set up a simple and obvious deal: legalization of DACA recipients in exchange for money for the wall.

But Trump and Republicans in Congress always threw other issues into the mix. Chain migration. The visa lottery. Guest workers. Now, the hot issue is family separation.

In all of the back-and-forth, the simple clarity of the president's promise to build the wall was lost. But it will not be lost on his voters. Can Trump run for re-election in 2020 by promising to build a wall in his second term, coming up with some excuse for not doing it in his first?

He can certainly try, but even his supporters might not buy it. At the moment, the president is acting like he has all the time in the world. He doesn't.

*Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.*

### COLUMNIST

**BYRON  
YORK**



## Warning: I brake for junk

Over the years, we've all collected stuff we are ashamed to have in the house. Stuff that is too ugly to keep, but too expensive to throw out: unfortunate Christmas presents, out-of-date furniture, ultra-wide paisley ties I foolishly think might someday come back into fashion.

So what should we do with it? Take it to the landfill? Drop it off at Goodwill? Not a chance. We'll spread it out on the front lawn and put prices on all of it.

A yard sale always sounds like such a good idea. It's a way to get rid of 6-pound wooden tennis rackets, dented chafing dishes, old Carpenters albums, 8-track tapes, battered recliners, never-used fondue pots, coolers in the shape of giant beer cans, and stacks of Reader's Digest Condensed Books.

Unfortunately, it's the exact same junk all our neighbors are trying to get rid of. That's why lawn sales are held on the weekend, so the entire mess won't be confused for garbage and be accidentally collected.

Me, I don't just have lawn sales. I go to them, too. I don't go because I think I will find an original copy of the Declaration of Independence hidden behind a \$2 picture of dogs playing poker. I go because I'm a snoop. Junk on a folding table in a driveway speaks to me.

Here's one silver teaspoon, by itself. Did someone steal the other seven, or did you always just have one?

A cross-country ski exercise machine for \$50. I guarantee someone twisted their ankle trying to

learn how to use it the day after it arrived, and then gained 10 pounds convalescing. Here it is out in the front yard, making them feel guilty every time they look at it. "Buy me!" it screams. "Get me out of their life!"

Lawn sales are full of kitchen gadgets that are so specific no one ever uses them. A left-handed deep-fat frog-leg fryer. A kiwi fruit peeler, still in the box. A machine that lets you "Grill Fish In Your Hotel Room!"

Where do these people stay? Motel 666? I don't ever want to be in the room next to them.

Waterskis, hurricane lamps, roller skates, TV trays, wheelchairs that

were old when FDR was a boy. And baby clothes. So many baby clothes. You rarely find good collectibles at the yard sales selling baby clothes. You can either have children or you can have nice things, as my mother used to tell us every single day.

Golf clubs. There are always golf clubs at yard sales. I saw a beautifully balanced putter at one, and the lady running the show said I could have it for a quarter. I told her that brand-new, it probably cost \$120. She said she was glad I liked it, "because it never made Hank happy."

"He doesn't play anymore?"

"Not so much since he died."

"Oh, I'm sorry."

"I'm not," she said.

I asked Sue if she'd sell my golf stuff after I died.

She said, "Are you kidding? What makes you think I'll wait that long?"

Contact Jim Mullen at [mullen.jim@gmail.com](mailto:mullen.jim@gmail.com).

### VILLAGE IDIOT

**JIM  
MULLEN**



### LIVIN' LA VIDA LACY

**LACY  
GARRISON**



## I'm so appy

I upgraded from an iPhone 4 to an iPhone 8 last week. Although I was initially resistant, now I'm pretty pumped by the possibilities. I've pestered everyone in editorial about which apps I should download now that I have 64GB of storage. Before I get to their recommendations, here's a look at the ones I use most frequently:

**Waze** — I've replaced Google Maps with this community-based traffic and navigation app. Waze is quick to alert you to traffic hazards such as accidents, items in the road, and police activity. It's kept me from hitting plenty of potholes and even deer! I also love it when I'm traveling because the speed limit appears on the screen when I'm in uncharted territory.

**iTalk Recorder** — As a reporter, I keep this recording app handy when I conduct interviews. It is super user friendly and all you have to do is press the big red button to record then press it again to stop.

**Bible** — Although I prefer traditional paper books, this app makes my Bible available at my fingertips anytime, anywhere and in different versions.

**Dark Sky** — This is my favorite weather app and provides a detailed 24-hour outlook, as well as a 7-day forecast. It's crazy how precise Dark Sky is at predicting weather changes up to the minute. I use it to know exactly how to dress and when to wear my rain gear.

These are the apps recommended by my peeps in editorial:

**Bitmoji** — This app allows you to create your own personal cartoon avatar, which makes messaging friends hilarious and more fun. No more generic emoticons for me!

**Tasty** — This app is for those who want to learn how to cook with short detailed videos and over 3,000 recipes. Basically, it's a mobile cookbook with step-by-step instructions and filters to select ingredients you like or dislike.

**Snapseed** — This is an easy-to-use photo editing app with a collection of tools to make all kinds of adjustments to your images. It seems to have pretty good online reviews too.

**Stash** — This is an investment app that allows you to invest in small increments across a variety of available portfolios. I've also been told it includes educational tools that encourage smarter financial habits so you can make sound investments.

**The Podcast App** — For long car or airplane rides, this app seems to be the way to go because you can listen to a variety of topics from news, education, comedy, politics to religion, crime and many more.

There seems to be an app for anything these days. I also use Pinterest, Instagram and Facebook, after all social apps are so obvi, am I right? Hopefully, I'll be able to take full advantage of everything this smart phone has to offer, even if I do have to ask around and google it beforehand.

Meanwhile, I'll be over here downloading a lengthy list of apps that I've recorded on this yellow Post-it Note.

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