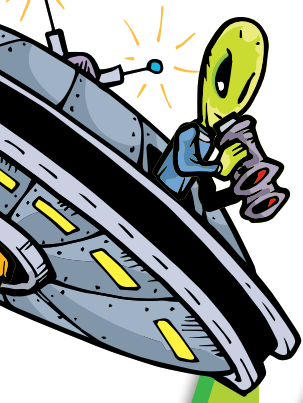


SUNDAY BEST



MONSTERS of PENNSYLVANIA

STORY BY MARCUS SCHNECK, mschneck@pennlive.com • ILLUSTRATIONS BY SCOTT ROBBINS

FROM FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS TO OLD-TIME LEGENDS, PENNSYLVANIA HAS HAD NUMEROUS REPORTS OF UNUSUAL CREATURES AND PHENOMENA THROUGHOUT THE YEARS. Everything from Bigfoot and werewolves to UFOs and gargoyles made the list of PennLive/The Patriot-News' "Monsters of Pennsylvania," a series that explores the Keystone State's cryptozoology and monster lore. Though these creatures' existence have been challenged by nonbelievers since the 1800s, people's fascination with the unknown has kept their stories alive.

ON D6-7: SEE WHAT CREATURES COULD BE LURKING NEARBY.



Gay marriage isn't issue that will lead to end of the world

During a discussion last week on the Supreme Court's controversial decision to legalize gay marriage, I heard the "e" word for the first time. "E" as in "end" or to be more precise, "end of the world," because the ruling is likely to hasten the cataclysmic destruction of the planet. See also: "Armageddon," the "second coming" or "Judgment Day."

The person who predicted this end-of-life-as-we-know-it disaster said the landmark ruling proved that government has lost its moral focus and that we will all suffer as a result. A furious God will exact punishment. Soon.

The conversation so rattled me that I had an extra helping of ice cream that evening. Just in case.

The debate on gay marriage has created a vast emotional and social schism in our country. The high court's decision has served only to exacerbate the divide.

Other issues have created a similar kind of polarity — abortion, gun rights, euthanasia — but this one has generated a level of fervor that puts it in a class by itself. People on either side of the issue feel so strongly that the



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discussion usually disintegrates into nastiness, ridicule and threats. It gets personal pretty quickly.

Maybe it's because gay marriage meshes three hot-button subjects: sex, religion and government. Even just one of those can incite passionate reactions from most of us, but mixing all three? Dyn-o-mite.

I doubt anyone really knows when the end of the world will come. If you've been to the movies lately, you might think it'll be happening pretty soon. (Where's Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson when you need him?) But if we're looking for signs that a planet-crushing catastrophe is near, there are more serious warnings than this.

For example, a stranger can enter a South Carolina church, pray with a group of people and then kill most of them.

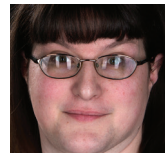
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APPLE MUSIC REVIEW

Does Spotify do it better?

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Apple Music is something I've wanted for years. As much as I love Spotify, I wanted the ease of managing all of my music in one location, and my library exists in iTunes. I'm the customer that Apple wants.

I sat down with Apple Music for a few hours. Signing up for the service is easy. You launch it, tap through some genres and artists that you like, hook the trial into your Apple ID, and you're off and running. You're instantly presented with a selection of music based on your selections.

Curated music: Really great

Out of the suggested playlists, "Classic Rock Goes to Church," was a surprise, but the music in it is extremely good. I only owned one of the tracks and gave the other ones a quick try. It fit in well with my tastes, and I retained it.

I went on a hunt for other curated playlists. I like the ongoing coffeehouse playlist on Spotify and wanted an



Courtesy of Apple

equivalent from Apple Music. Sadly, the closest I got was a curated list from PopSugar suggesting "Let It Go" from "Frozen" was an appropriate coffeehouse piece. Ah, no.

The best noncurated Apple playlists come from publications such as Alternative Press, Rolling Stone, MOJO Magazine and DownBeat Magazine. These folks actually put some thought into their playlists and crafted some of the following gems:

- '90s Emo Bands That Need to Reunite Already
- Indie Rock Songs About Books
- Scotland Primer: Bands to Tilt Your Kilt

- Insanely Great Genesis Songs Only Hardcore Fans Know
- Funktastic Post-Punk Alt. Disco Grooves

PopCrush gets points for the amount of playlists it came up with, and most of them exhibit better tastes than the suggested coffeehouse one. They have pretty fun lists, including one on forgotten boy bands.

Adding music and creating playlists: Really bad

I played my new music as I moved onto the next beast of burden — migrating my

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