

Signals in the Static: Sean Penn will play "Larry" in MGM's new *The Three Stooges*. Nancy Pelosi turns 69. The Woodstock Festival turns 40 in August. Monica Lewinsky turns 36. Jamie Lynn Spears turns 18. [Subservient Chicken](#) turns 5. Died: Porn star and Ivory Snow model, [Marilyn Chambers](#), 56.

After more than 15,700 episodes on radio and TV, the CBS soap opera "Guiding Light" will end in September. After 118 years, JWT closes its Chicago office, once the largest office of the world's largest ad agency network. The Las Vegas topless revue, "[Les Folies Bergere](#)" closes after 49 years at the Tropicana hotel.

The Library of Congress launches its own [YouTube](#) channel. FOX-TV is producing "Someone's Gotta Go," a reality series in which real companies let their staff decide who among them will get fired to cut costs. CBS-TV will produce "Thunder Road," a reality show where contestants drive cars through a perilous obstacle course. VH1 will launch a reality show about sex addiction.

Google-searches for the term "coupons" last month for the first time surpassed those for "Britney Spears." Campbell's Soup offers the seeds used for their soup tomatoes to the public for free. JoS. A. Bank Clothiers will refund the price of a suit if the purchaser loses his job, and also allow him to keep the suit. A new [Honda Element](#) model features a folding ramp, a dog bed in the cargo area, private cooling fan, spill-proof water bowl and other canine amenities. Toyota's dog-friendly Venza was released last year. Ford has picked 100 young drivers to get behind the wheel of their new Fiesta subcompact for six months and post their uncensored impressions on YouTube, Flickr, and Twitter. New taxes push the price of a pack of cigarettes in NYC to \$9. Marvel and DC Comics both raise the price of single-issue comic books \$1 to \$3.

Thriving Businesses: Philips electric razors sales are up 3%, Smith & Wesson pistol sales are up 40%. Also doing well: frozen meals, bread, peanut butter, auto repair and parts, home hair care, gift cards (up 5% in six months).

Boxee: This [start-up company](#) makes free, open-source software that turns your computer into the equivalent of a powerful TV set-top box that can play anything from [Hulu](#) to iTunes to videos on your hard drive. An app turns your iPhone into a remote control. Because it's formatted for the TV screen, it will become competition for cable and satellite delivery systems.

Don't Know Much About Science: A recent [survey](#) revealed that only 53% of American adults know how long it takes for the Earth to revolve around the Sun. Only 59% know that humans and dinosaurs did not live at the same time. Only 47% can approximate the percent of the Earth's surface that is covered with water. Only 21% answered all three questions correctly.



Recession Signs: [Bus tours](#) of foreclosed homes and *Simpler Times* beer in Trader Joe's grocery stores (\$4/sixpack).