

'Mexican Dynasties' provides a glimpse into the lives of Mexico City's elite

By **Jacqueline Spendlove, Andrew Warren and Francis Babin**
TV Media

South of the border: Bravo is headed south with its newest reality TV series, "Mexican Dynasties," premiering Tuesday, Feb. 26. The series should be right at home alongside the network's multiple Real Housewives iterations and spinoffs as "Dynasties" likewise follows the lives of a group of absurdly wealthy socialites and tycoons as they go about their absurdly wealthy lives — in Mexico City, in this case.

The dynasties in question are the Allende, the Bessudo and the Madraza families, who found their fortunes in entertainment, beverages and luxury cars, respectively. They're all connected through decades of personal and professional relationships, which makes for plenty of history — which, in turn, makes for plenty of drama.

Allende family patriarch Fernando was an '80s heartthrob in his younger days and found fame as a singer, actor and artist. He and his wife Mari have been married 30 years and are the parents of two sons, Elan and Adan, both of whom aspire to careers in music.

Known as the "Grand Dame of Beauty" in Mexico, Raquel Bessudo is a TV host and fashionista who was recently widowed after losing her husband of 58 years, Leon, earlier this year. Though close with her daughter Doris, the owner of a successful public relations and media company, the two have been known to butt heads.

Siblings Oscar and Paulina Madraza are a successful pair. They co-host an entertainment talk show, "Qué Madraza," and Paulina is an executive at her brother's modeling agency — the largest and most prestigious in Latin America — which he launched when he was just 18 years old.



Oscar Madraza stars in "Mexican Dynasties"

Though they all lead busy lives, they still have plenty of time to argue, get in each other's business and, of course, party. "Mexican Dynasties" premieres Tuesday, Feb. 26, on Bravo.

Take my wife: Call it a promising sign in these divided times: CMT has revived a classic reality series that aims to bring people from different walks of life together.

"Wife Swap" stages a return to television on Thursday, Feb. 28, with the first new episode for the format since the show's celebrity spinoff wrapped up in 2015.

The idea behind the show is pretty simple: take two married women who lead dramatically different lives and swap them. At first the wives have to live by the rules of their new families, eating what they eat and generally just going along with their day-to-day activities. Halfway through their stay though, they get to lay down their own rules and take charge of the family.

It's a situation that's primed for drama — but also for understanding. Taking anyone away from their family is stressful for everyone involved, and once the wives start setting their own rules it often isn't long before their substitute families push back.

The key ingredient here that makes the whole thing work is that the two families tend to be quite different from each other, like a sports-obsessed working class family switching spouses with a wealthy one that spends its free time doing crosswords together. It makes for situations

that are just primed for drama, but also for understanding as the families get to know each other and hopefully realize that, despite their differences, they maybe aren't so

different after all. "Wife Swap" first premiered on ABC back in 2004 and ran until 2010. A one-season revival brought the

show back in 2013, and a spinoff version featuring celebrities ran from 2012-2015

Whatever walk of life they come from, all wives have something in common: they all have families. Find out what happens when those families get switched when "Wife Swap" premieres on its new home Thursday, Feb. 28, on CMT.

Let's get fabulous: Finding and accepting oneself in a media obsessed society is not easy. We are constantly bombarded with images of men and women with perfect bodies (or at least bodies that we are led to believe are perfect). We are told that to be happy, we must look, feel and act a certain way. For Whitney Way Thore, the struggle is all too real. On Tuesday, Feb. 26, the body positivity activist continues her crusade to find happiness in an all new episode of "My Big Fat Fabulous Life," on TLC.

When she was still in college, Thore's life changed forever. After developing a condition called Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS), the small-town dancer gained 200 pounds in a year. Naturally, she had a hard dealing with this sudden change, and unhappiness took over her once vivacious and fun-filled life.

Several years ago, Thore decided that she no longer wanted to live in fear of what others thought of her. She wanted to be happy and at peace with herself. After moving back in with her loving, supportive albeit often meddling parents, she decided it was time to take her life back. Since then, she has made the decision to embrace her body and live her life anew.

Over the course of the series, we've seen the fabulous Thore, with the help of her ever-helpful friend circle, rediscover her love of dance, jump back into the dating pool and even confront body-shaming online bullies. On Tuesday, Feb. 26, live the fabulous life as Whitney Way Thore continues her mission to find happiness in an all new episode of "My Big Fat Fabulous Life," on TLC.

Late laughs

Conan

The weather is really messing up everything. Amtrak is canceling services in some areas. In other words, Amtrak is not affected.

They couldn't get anyone to play the Super Bowl halftime show this year. They had a very hard time. They finally got Maroon 5. Apparently, Maroon 1 through 4 said no.

If you turn on the TV, all anyone's talking about is the polar vortex. It's crazy, that's the big story. Midwest, polar vortex. But, here in Los Angeles, we have something just as bad: moderate rain.

Here's a weird truth: if you know there's a football team in L.A., chances are you're probably playing on it.

The Tonight Show With Jimmy Fallon

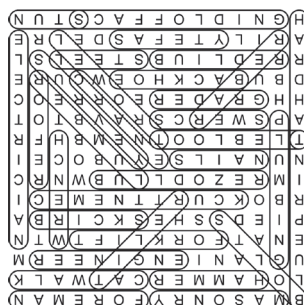
The whole country is dealing with crazy weather right now.



Today, the polar vortex brought the coldest

temperatures in 20 years to parts of the Midwest. And Midwesterners were so upset, they ALMOST started cursing.

An 80-year-old crossing guard in Iowa said the cold won't stop him from doing his job. Then his boss said,



"Nothing stops him — we fired that guy 40 years ago."

The Super Bowl is this Sunday, and on game day, a marijuana dispensary in Oregon is delivering pizza AND weed. When they heard that, every Domino's delivery guy was like, "Oh please, we've been doing that for years."

Super Bowl 53 is on Sunday! Which means we're just a few days away from your drunk friend walking in front of the TV at a crucial moment.

The Late Late Show With James Corden

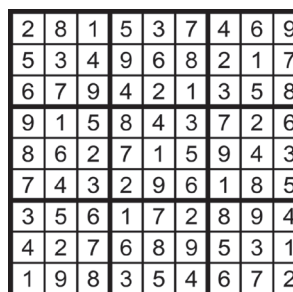
The most popular time of the day to use Tinder is apparently 9 p.m. And, by the way, the most popular time to completely give up on love forever is 9:02 p.m.



January is the most popular month for Tinder. So this is good news if your New Year's resolution is to get ghosted by a guy named Xander who's rock climbing in every photo.

The American Kennel Club has recently announced that they will be opening a dog museum in New York City. ... Meanwhile, the cat museum continues to be your aunt Judy's condo in Tampa.

Thousands of people have now signed an online



petition to merge North Dakota and South Dakota into a brand new state called — I promise I'm not kidding here — MegaKota. Because if there's one thing you want your state to sound like, it's a monster truck rally.

Jimmy Kimmel Live

They say it could be even colder in Chicago this week than it is in Antarctica. Residents of Chicago are being forced to slice into deep dish pizzas and crawl inside them for warmth.



It was 17 degrees below zero in Chicago today — the second-coldest day in recorded history. There's a hashtag going around calling Chicago "Chiberia," but no one is using it because it's too cold to take your gloves off and text.

Late Night With Seth Meyers

A woman in England recently found that she had a ring stuck up her nose for 12 years, after she sneezed it out. And despite making him wait that long, she still said no.

Due to frigid temperatures, railroad tracks in Chicago were set on fire today in order to keep trains running smoothly. While in New York, we have no idea why our train tracks are on fire.

