

ASK AMERICAN PROFILE



Q **Lester Holt** is an excellent news anchor for NBC. Where and how did he get his start in broadcasting?

—M. Rhodes, Troy, Ala.

“My first on-air job was actually as a disc jockey at a country and western station. The only way I could land a full-time gig was if I was willing to report the news,” says Holt, 52, a native of Marin County, Calif. “I was hooked.” He kept that Sacramento radio gig while earning his degree in government at California State University. Since joining NBC News in 2000, Holt has earned the nickname “Iron Pants.”

“When there’s breaking news, I don’t want to leave the chair,” says the *Dateline* NBC anchor and co-anchor of the weekend edition of *Today*.

Q I used to watch **Annabeth Gish** on *The X-Files*, and recently I saw her in Stephen King’s *Bag of Bones*, in which she played a ghost. I was wondering if she believes in ghosts herself?

—Cary Edmonds, Richmond, Va.

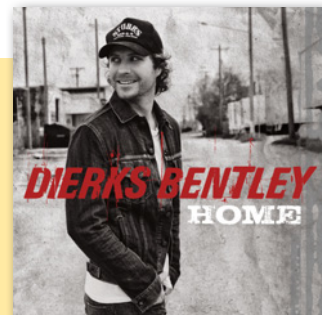
Bag of Bones marked Gish’s second appearance in a TV movie based on the writings of the author famous for his supernatural chiller-thrillers. (The first was *Desperation* in 2006.) “I’m not opposed to believing,” says the Cedar Falls, Iowa-raised actress, 40. “Let’s just put it that way. When you are on a set and you are ‘inviting that world in,’ you can’t help but be sensitive to it.”



Q What is **Lulu Roman** of *Hee Haw* fame doing today?

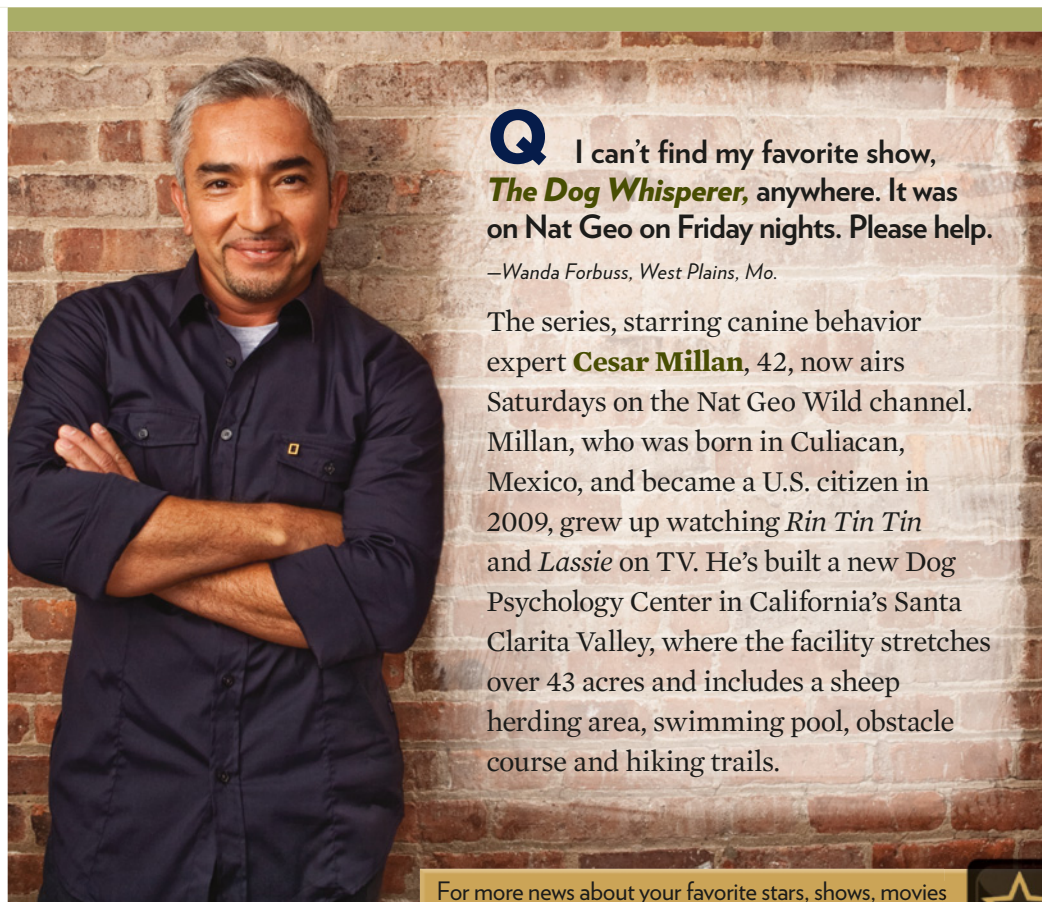
—Floyd Roberts, Lake Havasu, Ariz.

Roman, 65, who was born in Dallas, Texas, continues to perform stand-up comedy and Southern gospel music, mainly at Christian venues. One of her passions is serving as a spokeswoman for Compassion International, a child development organization that serves 1.2 million children in 26 countries. “I was born in a home for unwed mothers and dumped in an orphan home. I got a pretty good grip on what these kids are feeling,” she says. The *Hee Haw* star dropped 200 pounds several years ago after lap band surgery. She plans to release *At Last*, an album of musical standards, this spring.



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Q I can’t find my favorite show, **The Dog Whisperer**, anywhere. It was on Nat Geo on Friday nights. Please help.

—Wanda Forbuss, West Plains, Mo.

The series, starring canine behavior expert **Cesar Millan**, 42, now airs Saturdays on the Nat Geo Wild channel. Millan, who was born in Culiacan, Mexico, and became a U.S. citizen in 2009, grew up watching *Rin Tin Tin* and *Lassie* on TV. He’s built a new Dog Psychology Center in California’s Santa Clarita Valley, where the facility stretches over 43 acres and includes a sheep herding area, swimming pool, obstacle course and hiking trails.

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