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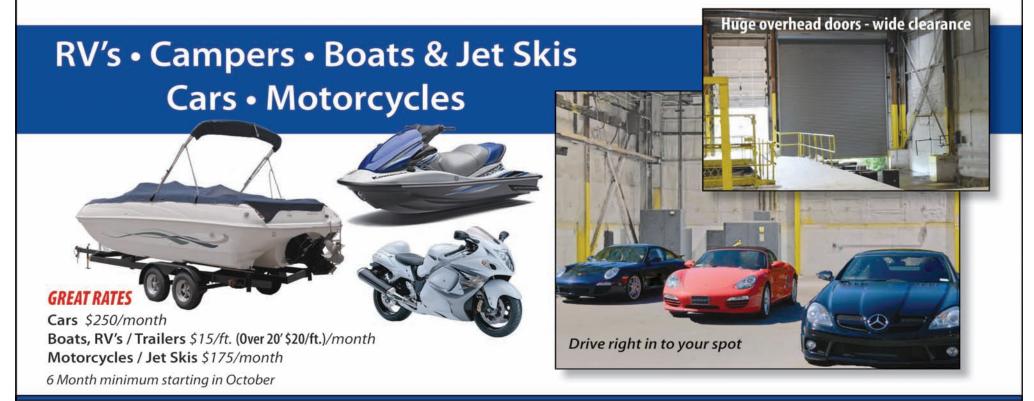




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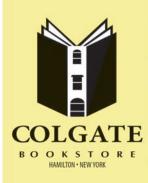
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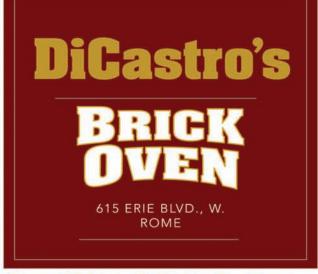
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Don't forget headlights when performing routine maintenance





Standard headlight bulbs (left) vs. Philips X-tremeVision bulbs (right) that provide up to 100 percent more light on the road.

(MS) — Veteran and even novice drivers understand the importance of visibility when they get behind the wheel of their vehicles. When visibility is not an issue, drivers can more easily see their fellow motorists

and better anticipate potentially dangerous situations. But when visibility is compromised, drivers and their passengers are vulnerable to a host of dangers, including inclement weather and aggressive motorists.

Many things can affect drivers' visibility on the road, but those who take a proactive approach to improving their visibility can put themselves in a better position to handle any negative situations that may arise. One of the ways to do just that is to pay more attention to your headlights. Often overlooked when performing routine vehicle maintenance, headlights must be maintained to ensure optimal visibility for

The following are a few ways drivers can improve the performance of their headlights to make their vehicles safer for themselves and their passengers.

• Pay attention to the headlights' output. Perhaps the most noticeable indicator of an aging headlight is its light output. As bulbs start to dim, drivers may find themselves struggling to see during twilight and at night. That difficulty is not necessarily because drivers' own vision is failing, but may be a result of aging bulbs whose light output is gradually reduced by the effects of humidity, electrical resistance and filament fatigue. Drivers who notice their headlights are not producing as much light as they once did should know that reduced output is a telltale sign of aging bulbs that need to be replaced.

• Say "so long" to the status quo. Recognizing dimming bulbs is just the first step toward improving the performance of your headlights. The next step is for drivers to recognize that all headlight bulbs are not created equal. Instead of replacing existing bulbs

with the same type of bulbs provided by their vehicle's manufacturer, drivers can vastly improve their visibility by upgrading to a bulb designed to provide more light than the standard halogen bulbs found in many of today's vehicles. Leading automotive lighting manufacturer Philips produces a range of Upgrade Headlight Bulbs that offer up to 100 percent more light on the road than standard halogen bulbs. That's a significant benefit to drivers, as motorists' visual acuity is reduced by 70 percent at night, when statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicate 49 percent of all fatal accidents occur. The NHTSA also notes that the fatality rate per mile driven at night is roughly three times as high as it is during

• Find the right fit. The right headlight bulb can dramatically improve visibility when driving at night, but what's good for the goose is not always good for the gander. That's because motorists drive for various reasons and on various roads, so the right bulb for seniors who don't often take to the highways will not necessarily be the best fit for commuters who routinely drive long distances. Philips makes a headlight bulb for every type of driver, and each Upgrade Headlight Bulb creates a better beam pattern that is dramatically longer than

daylight hours.

that provided by standard halogen lights, ensuring drivers can safely see no matter how accustomed they are to driving at night.

• Let there be light. Regardless of how effective a bulb has the potential to be, drivers who don't routinely clean their headlights will continue to have their visibility compromised. Certain preventative measures can help drivers address headlight issues before they appear, ensuring their visibility is not compromised. When checking your oil in the driveway or even when you're filling up at the gas station, take a few moments to inspect your headlights and address any issues that arise as soon as possible. The Philips Headlight Restoration Kit includes a post-treatment that provides long-lasting UV protection for headlight lenses. The kit also includes a cleaner/polish and restorer/ protector so drivers can restore their headlight lenses to "like new" quality while increasing visibility and reducing glare in as little as 30 minutes. Such quick and simple maintenance can ensure your headlights are performing optimally.

More information is available at www.philips.com/ automotive. ■



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Paint versus car wrap options



Over time a car's exterior can fade or suffer some dings and dents. Before owners sell or trade in their rides for something new, investing in a new color may be all that's necessary to revitalize the look of the vehicle.

Changing the color of a car is not something every driver should try on their own. Such a task can be time-consuming, and it requires a good deal of skill to turn out looking good. Furthermore, painting a car involves a variety of different tools and equipment, from a spray gun, sander and

buffer to specific types of enamel or acrylic paints.

After considering the work involved and the expense of investing in the equipment to get the job done right, many vehicle owners opt to hire a professional to change the color of their vehicles. Many service centers offer two options to change the look of a car or truck: painting and car wraps.

Paint job

A professional paint job will yield an impressive result. A skilled auto painter can recommend the right type of automotive paint for your make and model and guide you in color selections. While there are hundreds of different color choices available, professionals also may be able to mix colors to create the custom look you desire.

Paint work may be done to match the existing color of the vehicle after accident repairs have been made. Or you may be tired with the color of your car and simply desire a change. Experienced service shops

What to do when faced with an auto recall



Vehicle safety recalls are designed to keep roadways and passengers safe.

New cars are purchased or leased to provide a reliable mode of transportation. But some vehicles malfunction. even when they are fresh off of the dealership lot. Other times manufacturers or safety watchdog groups determine that certain cars and trucks have an issue that requires a recall to keep roadways safe. Vehicle recall statistics are difficult to pin down. That's because there is no standard rate of recalls per year, as recalls depend on safety statistics for particular makes and models. For example, in 2009 more than 40 million Toyota vehicles were recalled due to a faulty gas pedal.

An automotive recall is how manufacturers inform drivers that there could be something about their cars or trucks that presents a risk of injury or property damage. The recall may be independently conducted by the manufacturer or ordered by a safety group, such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The recall involves the manufacturer providing a free, safe and effective remedy for the faulty component.

When a recall is announced, drivers may not have to immediately visit a dealership to have the problem corrected. Owners should wait for an official letter. The letter will narrow down which vehicles are affected. There should be a specific window of time presented in which the vehicle can be repaired. Vehicle owners are urged to pay attention to the performance of their cars or trucks to see if they are exhibiting any problems. If so, schedule

an appointment for repair according to the recall instructions provided.

The notification letter should include the risk of hazard posed by the problem as well as the free remedy and how long the repair should take. There also should be a description of what an owner can do if he or she is unable to have the problem remedied within a reasonable amount of time and without charge.

If repair work has been done on a vehicle prior to knowledge of the recall, owners may be eligible for reimbursement for their expenses, provided they kept their receipts. While reimbursement for damages that the defect may have caused are not covered by recalls, owners may be able to solicit reimbursement privately.

The following are steps to take when informed of a recall:

- I. Contact the dealer service manager and explain that you are inquiring about work required as part of a recall.
- 2. If the manager has not remedied the situation and provided the next steps, contact the manufacturer, which should be able to handle the situation.
- 3. If all else fails, contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at www.recalls.

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Car Wrap vs Paint from previous_____

can offer these services and more. Other shops may specialize in custom paint jobs that may entail graphics, detail work or the blending of multiple colors to give the vehicle an airbrushed effect. Custom painters are artists, and their work may be very detailed.

Painting may demand your vehicle be off the road for a week or more, so it's best to have an alternative travel plan. Also, be sure to investigate how painting will affect the value of the vehicle. A paint job may end up depreciating the value of a resale because it's changing the original vehicle permanently.

Car wrap

Car wraps are typically made of high-quality vinyls that come in a bevy of different colors and styles. Wraps also can be used for custom graphics or to advertise businesses.

The vinyl wrap completely covers the paint of the vehicle. But because car wraps can be removed, they do not permanently change the vehicle and are therefore unlikely to affect its resale

Car wrapping can take less time than a labor-intensive

paint job. Some jobs can be completed in only two or three days. Car wraps also may be the less expensive option if you're not selecting a complicated, custom design. Many car wraps will last between five to seven years, which is on par with the life span of a professional

paint job, which lasts five to 10 years.

Changing the look of a vehicle may be as simple as choosing a new exterior color. Professional paint services and vinyl car wraps make it easy to switch up the style of a car or truck.

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EDITOR

How to keep your garage work space safe

Auto enthusiasts often find their garage is a sanctuary where they can go and think about their vehicles and little else. Similar to a carpenter's workshop or a gardener's backyard, a garage can be a place where auto enthusiasts unwind as they pursue their passions for automobiles.

But no garage is a true sanctuary if it is not safe, and the following are a few ways auto enthusiasts can ensure their work space is safe and sound.

* Keep an adequately stocked first aid kit

on hand. An accessible first aid kit can be the difference between a minor injury or a significant health issue. Make sure the first aid kit is easily accessible, ideally on a low shelf that you can reach should you suffer an injury that limits your mobility. Periodically restock your first aid kit with necessary

- * Post the national Poison Control Hotline number in plain view. That number is 1-800-222-1222.
- * Always bring your cell phone with you



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LT Pkg., AWD, Every Avail. Opt. Too Many Extras To List. Remote Starter, Chrome

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Dont Miss It At \$16,995

LT, Every Avail. Opt., Too Many Extras To List, Super Gas Mileage, New Tires

Super Price \$14.995

2010 CHEVY MALIBU

and Brakes, Super Clean, 1 Owner,

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2006 NISSAN 350Z CONVERTIBLE

Every Avail. Opt., Only 16,000 Miles, 1 Owner, Chrome Wheels, Heated Leather Interior, This 350Z Is Not Missing Anything, In Show Room, Must See,

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when working in your workshop. Though it might seem like a good idea to escape from life's distractions and leave your cell phone inside when working on your vehicle, that cell phone may be your only way to contact the outside world should you suffer an injury. You don't have to answer the phone when it rings, but be sure to bring it with you as a safety precaution whenever you will be working alone in the garage.

- * Install a functioning fire extinguisher in your garage, and learn how to use it. Be sure to periodically check the extinguisher's expiration date and make sure it's easily accessible.
- * Keep hazardous materials out of the reach of children. Read the labels on products. Items whose labels include warnings and cautions or suggest products can be poisonous if or when they are ingested should be stored where kids cannot reach them. If necessary, store them in a cabinet that can be locked

- * Store gasoline in a locked outdoor shed or, if keeping it in the garage, make sure youngsters won't be able to reach it. Make sure the gasoline container is childproof and approved for gasoline storage.
- * Wear chemical safety glasses when using hazardous solvents and cleaning products. Wear safety glasses with side shields when using power tools.
- * Don't allow children into your work space when you're working on your vehicle.
- * Wear tight clothing and take off all jewely. Loose clothing and dangling jewelry that can easily get caught in moving parts, greatly increasing your risk of injury.
- * Unplug any power cords before trouble-shooting any problems with your power
- * When working with power tools, unplug them when taking a break from work and when leaving your work space, even if such breaks are only momentary.

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qualify you for a discount.

- Occupation: Your occupation also may entitle you to a discount on insurance. Insurance companies believe that people in certain occupations or those who spend a lot of time on the road may be less likely to take risks. Find out if your occupation qualifies.
- · Alumni associations and clubs: Certain organizations have teamed with insurance providers to offer discounts to members. Therefore, if you are in a fraternal group, a credit union, an alumni association, or some other organization, you may eligible for certain discounts. Check with your insurance company for their affiliate groups, or contact the organization to which you belong for more information.
- Multiple policies: Many

insurance companies will offer a discount if you group your policies together into a bundle. Having homeowner insurance, auto insurance and life insurance through one company, for example, can earn you a substantial discount.

Insurance companies have many other discounts available if you ask. For example, if your vehicle has an antitheft system or environmentally friendly components, you may be eligible for a discount. Customer loyalty, paperless billing, paying all your bill at once, being a current or former member of the military or if your vehicle is a new model year also may make you eligible for discounts that can drastically reduce the cost of your policy. ■

August 7, 2015 • 9

Our Cover Story

By AI Dorantes

As soon as you open the door to the Black Stallion, located on route 5 in Vernon New York, you can tell that it is a restaurant that has heart. The Black Stallion was established in 1972 by Vincent and Maria Vullo. Their love for their native Italian cuisine and their ability to make all who dined with them feel special and welcome, is the reason that the restaurant is still successful today. In 1986 Sal Vullo, Vincent and Maria's son, took over as the sole proprietor. He runs the restaurant today, in the same fashion as his parents. He combines his Italian heritage, his American upbringing, and uses the same recipes brought from Italy by his parents as well as new techniques that make dining at the Black Stallion

Sal's parents are from Sicily. When Sal's father. Vincent "Gino" Vullo married Sal's mother, Maria, her mother was already living in Utica. The newlyweds wanted to be close to family so they came over to America in 1958. They bought the Black Stallion in 1972. Sal's mom did all the cooking using all the old recipes plus new twists on classics.

The Black Stallion is one of the oldest family owned and operated restaurants in the area. Sal's knowledge of wine and the delicious homemade desserts are just a few reasons why the Black Stallion is frequented by so many so often. Sal Vullo, who has been running the Black Stallion since 1986 said "I've been here since I was 10 years old." Sal and his sister Dina started working at the Black Stallion when they were kids. Sal said, "I washed dishes standing on a case of beer." Sal's sisters, Dina Laino, Lisa Grande, and twins Carla Marsala and Grace Nassar all worked at the Black Stallion.

The Black Stallion has seating for approximately 100. The restaurant is open Tuesday through Thursday 11-9, Friday 11-? Saturday 4-? & Sunday 12-9. You will find the Stallion open later on Friday and Saturday nights during the Vernon Downs racing season to ac-

Black Stallion Restaurant

-truly a family tradition

comodate their many track fan customers. The Black Stallion draws a lot of locals - Utica, Rome, Syracuse and as well as the summer track crowd

Sal went to the school of hard knocks; he went to work. At the Black Stallion he learned from his mother and was self-taught. He likes things where they are supposed to be. Sal has rules and those rules have to be followed. The Black Stallion is not a chain restaurant; it is like family. Sal explained, the Black Stallion does not have shifts like a chain restaurant. 8 hours in the kitchen is like a vacation for him

Sal likes to use local ingredients every chance he can. He also uses no hormone chicken and hand cuts steaks. Sal has fish flown in from Hawaii every week. Usually for the weekend walu (white tuna), kagiki (marlin), pumpkin sword fish, and more. Sal takes a basic dish like chicken or veal and turns it on its head by adding fresh herbs, other



Vincent "Gino" Vullo purchased the restaurant in 1972. He and his wife Maria ran the business together. Maria passed away in late 2010. Sal says his Dad, Gino still regularly stops by! This photo is circa 1977.

The Black Stallion's full menu features everything from traditional Italian pasta dishes to hand cut steaks. The steaks can be prepared blackened, au poive or Italian style with greens and peppers. Veal, chicken, and fresh seafood dishes mean

ingredients, and his own spin. that there is something for everybody. The Black Stallion's menu even has salads for those who shy away from meat.

> One of Sal's signature and very popular appetizers is the Arranchi (rice balls). While they are not on the menu he gets calls for them







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A. Crissey~"Black Stallion Catered my sisters wedding and everyone loved it! Sal was great to work with and worked with our specifications, we had GF and vegetarian quests, and it turned out better than we imagined. From the appetizers to the main course, everything was fantastic! Thank you for helping my sisters big day go on without a hitch.

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Sal, Grace and Dina.

all the time. The appetizer, big balls of meat and cheese, wrapped with rice and fried. Call ahead and ask if Sal can start your meal with an order of these tasty treats.

Risa, Sal's wife, said, "Everything is homemade. Even the deserts. Remember, there is slow roasted prime rib on Saturday; a customer

The long time staff, most have ten plus years working for the Black Stallion, are what make the Black Stallion consistent and good. Jeff Beam, head chef, has been at the Black Stallion for 14 years and Frannie has been their in house baker for years. Sal treats everybody like family; that goes for customers and employees.

Sal explained that the future for the Black Stallion is to keep on rolling. The Black Stallion will continue to provide the freshest foods with as many local ingredients as possible while continuing to offer the ambiance that customers have become used to. Sal's son Vincent is involved with the kitchen at the Black Stallion; he cooks. Sal's daughter, Alisha, is enrolled in college but helps out at the restaurant when she can. Sal explained that more and more catering is on the menu for the Black Stallion, on or off premises. The Black Stallion only caters one wedding or event per day. That way Sal is able to concentrate on one customer or bride. Sal said, "It gets me out of the

kitchen even though I'm doing the same thing." The Black Stallion can cater weddings, parties, showers and more with full service, including plates, glasses, and ever thing you need for a great event.

Sal Vullo and the Black Stallion are part of what makes Vernon "Vernon." Hard work, horses, the track, racing and hospitality to your guests. Sal and his staff will make you feel at home; make you feel part of the family. For more information go to: www.theblackstallionny. com or the-black-stallion on facebook.

The Black Stallion is open Tuesday-Thursday 11-9 Friday II-? Saturday 4-? Sunday 12-9. During the Vernon Downs racing season you will find the Stallion open even later on Friday and Saturday nights. The Vullo family inviltes you to "come join the fun!"■



Sal had his son and dauahter in the kitchen as very young children. Both Vinny and Alisha still help out when they can at the Black Stallion. It's truly a Vullo family tradition! Here Vinny gets a lesson on breading fish from his Dad, Sal. Vinny now works in forensic accounting.



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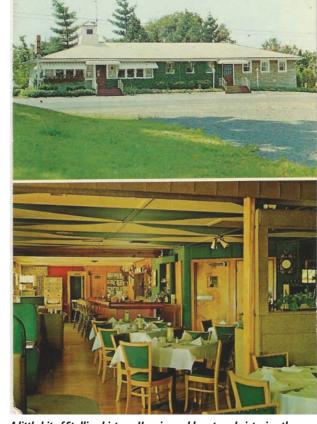
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A little bit of Stallion history: Here is an old post card picturing the Normandie of Vernon, the name of the restaurant when Gino Vullo purchased the property in 1972.

Utica Bread

by AI Dorantes

"If thou tastest a crust of bread, thou tastest all the stars and all the heavens." – Robert Browning



Utica Bread, located at 106 Genesee Street, is Utica's newest bakery. They bring you the experience of hand crafted, European Style bread and pastries. Utica Bread is the brainchild from the same folks who brought you The Tailor and the Cook. Utica Bread is located in Utica's historic Bagg's Square. Utica Bread is open seven days a week. They offer light breakfast and lunch fare as well as a great selection of local foods prepared in house for you to carry out. They also carry a variety of retail items from local producers as well as an interesting selection of New York State and farmstead cheeses. Their slogan is Utica Bread. Great Bread. Great City.

You can tell from the beautiful metal sign, made by metal artist Joe Grimaldi from Metalogix, that time and thought went into every detail of Utica Bread. Melissa Hardiman, general manager of Utica Bread and the Tailor and the

Cook explained that Utica Bread was a 2 year process. There was some uncharted waters for the Tailor and the Cook crew. They had no retail experience; selling bread is much different from serving the finest dinners in Central New York. They also had to acquire the proper equipment. Baking European style bread requires European the rehab of the space before they could open.

The Tailor and the Cook was originally getting its bread from 5 Corners Cafe and their close friend Paul Rivett in Old Forge. Sous chef, Steve Arbogast, expressed an interest in baking bread. And the journey began.

Melissa Hardiman explained that the whole venture started 2 years ago. They have given people careers. "This is remarkable because it's more than just a job. It's family." she said.

Tim Hardiman said, "You don't do this without great staff."

Tim Hardiman knew that Steve Arbogast could bake. Tim said, "Most good cooks are not good bakers. Baking is a science. Steve is the exception. He is a great baker. Steve is equally as good a chef as a baker." They brought in a team of 4 bakers to work with Steve, 2 of which are European



Great accompaniments to your bread purchases and from local suppliers. Been in vited out to a friend's home for dinner? Don't show up empty handed. Go see Utica Bread for some great breads and pastries and some local products to go with them!

immigrants I German and I French. Tim said, "To produce truly European bread what better way to do it?"

Utica Bread rounded out their team by bringing in Deana Hansen-Danis to handle the pastries. Tim said, "She's knocking it out of the park." Utica Bread is focusing on the French baguette (which they cannot keep on the shelf) and the croisant (49% butter by volume) but already have a variety of other fine breads to

have a variety of other fine breads to choose from; raisin walnut, multi



Steve Arbogast preps the dough for baking at Utica Bread.





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Amazing Noodles



Tee Time Mini Golf

by AI Dorantes

If you are looking for a place to putt around and have some good old fashioned fun then Tee Time Mini Golf is the place for you. Located at 310 Mohawk Street in Herkimer Tee Time Mini Golf offers 18 holes of challenging obstacles for young and old.

Tee Time is open 7 days a week from noon until 9pm, weather permitting, for you to take on their challenging 18 hole course. They offer soda, juice, water, and novelty ice cream. Nibble on frozen Sponge Bob while putting away. A hole in one on the 18th hole will win you a free ice cream or a free game pass.

Tee Time Mini Golf's

affordable prices are: \$5.00 Adults and Children, \$4.00 seniors and college students, 4 & under free, and \$2.50 for replays. They offer season passes; \$60.00 for children, \$80.00 for adults. and \$70.00 for seniors.

Owner Delbert Ball said, "I thought about it for several years. Finding the right location was key. People need to be able see us.' He explained that keeping the facility neat and clean equates to good feedback. Delbert's wife and coowner, Sue Ball added, "The feedback is unbelievable."

Tee Time Mini Golf can even help you celebrate birthdays. Birthday parties are \$10.00 per child which includes mini golf, pizza, soda or water, cupcakes, & novelty ice cream. Tee Time can also provide fundraisers, events, corporate outings, and tournaments. Call and book yours today.

Speaking of tournaments, Tee Time Mini Golf will be hosting a 36 hole tournament on Sunday, August 16th! The tournament is open to everybody. The cost is \$10 per person with teams up to 6. Included in the entry fee is; Golf (2 rounds), Drink, self-serve hot dogs and a baked good. A team of 5 will be \$45 and a Team of 6 will be \$55. Each participant will receive a free game pass to return! Start time is I I am, but please arrive at 10:30am. The tournament winner will be based on a cumulative score for all participants on the team so bring your ringers and goldbrickers.

Stop by and have a little

fun. Tee Time Mini Golf was designed to provide entertainment the whole family can enjoy at a very affordable price. Follow them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ pages/Tee-Time-Mini-Golf/1010776162267170 and sign up for the big tournament.

Sammy Berowski concentrates on a putt at Tee Time Mini Golf in Herkimer.



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Utica Bread.... from previous



Pastries in the oven at Utica Bread.

grain, 100% whole wheat, deli rye with caraway seeds, Utica sour dough, Alsacian sour dough, and sesame semolina. They also produce an epi baguett. It resembles a stalk of wheat or rolls on a string. Rolls, bread sticks, crostini, croutons, and bread crumbs are in the future. Utica Bread has a great deal on day old breads (if they last that long); buy one get one.

Tim Hardiman said, "The momentum in Utica is almost unstoppable. The next

evolution for Utica comes with nanotech." He added that fresh bread equals small purchases 3 or 4 times a week. With small everyday purchases people become regulars.

When you bite into any of Utica Bread's breads you will truly taste the stars and the heavens. Stop down to Bagg Square, buy some bread, and bite into life. For more information go to: uticabread.com or follow them on Facebook.





Hello Again,

If you were selected to head up a study to determine why this country is having so many internal problems, what kind of a person should you be? Lets make up a list of qualifications with appropriate comment.

- I. Age Comment: it is against the law for an employer to ask your age.
- 2. Nationality, or whatever breed of cat you are. Comment: it is against the law of political correctness to know if you are white, black, yellow, green, or a mixture.
- 3. Religion Comment: It is against the law to even mention religion.
- 4. Education Comment: Many feel our country is not spending enough tax dollars for education. So- you yourself will not have the necessary qualifications, as the government has not spent enough on you. If you do not have college degrees, you're not qualified. If you have a Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctorate, you are obviously overqualified, and why do you want this position anyway?

5. Married Comment: If you answer yes or no. No one has the right to ask you that question.

- 6. Children Comment: The answer to number 6 may clash with your rights of number 5.
- 7. Citizenship Comment: The hospital you were born in under the Privacy Act has no legal right to reveal anything about you.

The great man, Albert Einstein, said "I never think of the future. It comes soon enough." Patrick Henry is remembered for saying, "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."

Hello Again says, "I love today. It is a day the good Lord gave me – it is his introduction to tomorrow and a memory of yesterday."

Growing up over in the hills of Middlefield, Cooperstown was seven miles away and Cherry Valley was ten miles in the other direction. All of the rest of the country was a little bit further away. Outsiders said, "What do you do here in God's country?" We knew we lived in God's country and just stayed busy having a good life and didn't have time to wonder about

the rest of the country that God didn't want.

Isn't life what you make of it? If high rise buildings, heavy traffic, and stop lights and signs turn you on, so be it. For my friends and me, we love the Mohawk Valley. We have one light in St. Johnsville. However, giving into modern times we did have a traffic jam. On my way home from Stewarts yesterday, there were three cars ahead at the traffic light and one Amish horse and buggy.

At a recent art show the artist said, "I only paint what I see." One of the local farmers said, "You shouldn't drive a car in that condition."

A young farm girl was discussing whether she should keep a date with an old rich artist. "Mom, is he too old for me?" "Daughter, listen to your mother. He is a little bit too eligible and rich to be considered old."

As a young graduate in Bally Connoll, Ireland, my mother applied for a teachers position in the one room country school. According to the standards set, she was amply qualified. She was denied the position as she was tone deaf and could not sing. It was important in those days for a teacher to be able to lead the class in singing. Mom could not sing. Which goes to show how things have changed. Here in this country, a professional musician or songstress can gain fame and riches even if they sing off key as long as they can sing loud - real loud. Singing potty mouth seems to be an attribute

How would George Washington fit as a 21st century politician in the United States?

Remember the famous story when young George was fessing up to his father when he said, "Father, I cannot tell a lie. I cut down that tree." Just imagine the predicament he would be in with modern politicians if he couldn't tell a lie. Today — do they ever tell the truth?

What would he do if he was told he could not believe in God or at least not make any reference to suggest there is a God in the White House or on any other public grounds? One of his famous sayings, "No one should be president of the United States if he doesn't believe in God."

He would have to have a liberal interpreter claim he didn't mean — exactly what he said even though he did.

Belated messages to our 1st president:

- I. As little boy George: Learn to lie or you will not ever become a four-star general or president of the United States or have your portrait printed on trillions upon trillions of dollar bills.
- 2. As the future president:
- a. Face it George, you will be more successful if you admit the early Washington's loved bananas and hung by their tails from trees.
- b. That Darwin's theory was the absolute truth and the Holy Bible is a collection of books loaded with a

manmade pile of fiction.
c. If someday you throw
your hat into the ring to
become president, be sure
the publisher of your local
newspaper will have a staff
writer there to interpret all
of your statements. Isn't it
possible that you might say
something that you yourself
would misunderstand what
you meant to say but didn't?

Hello Again received an ipad message from a reader stating that the publisher did not know the name of Florida's current governor. I called him Governor Perry – oops my mistake. Thanks for reading and the correction.

.....

I will not include the remainder of the ipad remarks or the writer's name. I choose to not believe he meant to say Governor Scott (the

actual governor of Florida) was willing to let 800,000 Floridians die for political gain. That was more than poorly thought out political tripe. It was just plain sick.

Should we call in Mrs. Clinton's local interpreter to flush out what you wrote but didn't actually mean to say, but did say something along that double talking modern political rubbish way of blowing smoke.

Be happy – stay healthy – talk life thoughts and problems over with our Heavenly Father, attend church on Sunday.

Wave when you see the red Spyder wander by. Watch for Dale and his 3-legged bat mobile.

Fred Lee





Did You Know?



While it might be tempting to lower mower blades when summer temperatures

reach their hottest, it is possible to cut grass too short. Homeowners who want to cut back on the time they spend mowing their lawns under the hot summer sun should avoid lowering their mower blades too low, as doing so can cause significant damage to the lawn. Lawns that have been cut too low are less capable of surviving drought and are unlikely to thrive. When grass is cut too short, the stem tissue from the grass is exposed, and that exposure can lead to unsightly grass

that turns yellow or brown. Grass that is cut too short also may suffer from weaker roots, which in turn makes the grass weaker and less likely to grow in strong. In addition, weaker grass is more susceptible to weed growth, which can be both a nuisance and an eyesore. When mowing, homeowners should remove no more than one-third of the grass blade. Mowing at this height will promote strong roots and protect the grass when the weather gets especially hot in the summer. ■

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Dixie (Part 1)

-An American Story

by Terry Berkson

In 1965, I was a soldier in Preventive Medicine School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Instructors spent so much time teaching about insects and snakes and diseases like Malaria that I was certain that I was headed for Viet Nam. But, as luck would have it, and consistent with the way the army often operates, I was sent to Ludwigsburg, Germany to learn among other things, that there really is a cuckoo bird and that it sounded just like the timekeeper in the Black Forest

Spring came about four months after I had arrived and my outfit, The 485th Preventive Medicine Unit, was called up to participate in maneuvers somewhere near the walled town of Rothenburg. I shared my pup tent with a quiet guy named Hailey who came from Niagara Falls. The weather wasn't bad and it was kind of pleasant to be out of the barracks and set up in the woods. Nevertheless, some guys were complaining about the twenty-year old C rations we were eating or the sanitary inconveniences or, for some, being away from their wives. It wasn't long before one of the guys discovered that there was a gasthaus located in a tiny hamlet at the far end of the woods.

That night, a bunch of us from my section sneaked off to the tavern to have a few brews. Hailey was there, this guy Whizzer from Queens, Bartle from Maryland and two staff sergeants, Meyers out of New Orleans and Polaris from Texas. They were career men, married, and a bit older than the rest of us. Of course, we would all be considered A.W.O.L, but who could have seen us steal away in the night?

The German nationals at the gasthaus were very friendly and there were two pretty waitresses ferrying large mugs of beer to our tables. Hailey and I were out to learn to speak German and were carrying on a conversation with a guy named Fritz who had been in the German Army during World War Two. He had been taken prisoner and shipped across the Atlantic to a P.O.W. camp in Oklahoma. During his confinement, he was treated well which resulted in his now friendly attitude toward Americans. In a short time, the strong beer had us all tipsy and we were singing old American classics, like, Jimmy Crack Corn, Daisy, Daisy and Clementine, to the music of a harmonica played by a hefty

German with bulging red cheeks. It was all very genial and homey and suited to a German word, "gemutlich," that I would later learn from a new friend. What I wasn't aware of and would hear about later from my tent mate Hailey



was that after having a few beers, Meyers from New Orleans and Whizzer from Queens, New York had gotten into a debate about the Civil War. Whizzer seemed to know his history and shot out facts about why The North was right and The South was wrong. In defense, Meyers said, "It wasn't just a war to end slavery. There were economic . . .'

"We crushed you at Gettysburg!" Whizzer interrupted.

"Not by a long shot!" Meyers countered. "Yankee losses surpassed Confederate losses, and as Lee retreated his men still had plenty of fight in them! Lee was in Yankee territory nine days after Gettysburg and Meade was afraid to come after him!"

"Lee was a naive idealist who wasted many of his men's lives!"

"I don't see it that way," Meyers said as his face turned red. He was a big guy who could easily have won the argument by decking his mouthy adversary.

By the time I became aware that some kind of argument was taking place I heard Whizzer say, "Why, even The South's song "Dixie" was written by a Yankee, Daniel Decator Emmett! Did you know that?"

"No, I didn't know that," Meyers said quietly. When he noticed that I was looking his way from a distant table, he called, "Brooklyn, would you stand up if they played Dixie?" I had been friendly with sergeant Meyers and I liked him and I didn't mind carrying out his occasional orders. Also, I had no particular feelings about The North and The South or The Civil War, so, I said, "Yes."

A moment later, at Meyer's request the German with the harmonica was playing "Dixie" and I, along with several other guys, stood up. This gesture of good will seemed to diffuse the argument and nothing more was said.

About a half hour and a couple of more beers later, the two sergeants, Meyers and Polaris who had families and rank to worry about were ready to leave and suggested we all go back to the camp. I was having a great time and tried to convince them to stay a little longer. They declined and headed for the door as the rest of us remained at the table and I humorously called out, in my newly learned German, "Kinder gehen schlafen!" which meant, children going to

A few minutes later, Meyers re-entered the gasthaus and walked over to my table. With his eyes half shut and his jaw jutting out he sneered, "I heard what you said. You called us Kinder." He had already been in Germany for two years and I assumed he would surely know the meaning of the word.

The beer let my mouth throw caution to the wind and I answered, "If you're offended by that, then you are a kid!"

Meyers exploded and threw a chair out of the way as I stood up and squared off with him.

To be continued in next issue. ■



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The D.A. (Turkey, Munster Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Mayo)

The Prosecutor (Capicola Ham, Salami, Pepperoni, Provolone Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Italian Dressing)

The Bailiff (Ham, Swiss Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Mayo)

The Attorney (Tuna, American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Mayo)

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Mastering KP in the Army

by Joseph Parzych

I grew up in a small house on a hard scrabble farm in the company of a combined family of 15 children, three of whom died in infancy. I joined the Army in disgrace soon after my 17th birthday, having recently been kicked out of a private prep school which I was attending as a day student on scholarship. I'd fallen asleep in Advanced Grammar Class, not my

favorite subject, taught by a deadly dull teacher. I got a letter from the headmaster that summer suggesting I'd be happier going to school elsewhere.

During Army processing, I was stationed in temporary housing in a two story barracks at Fort Dix, New Jersey. After a few days, I saw my name on a KP list. Kitchen police duty was assigned alphabetically, as a form of punishment, or

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simply assigned at random. I have no idea how my name got on the roster, other than the random option.

The Quonset hut mess hall was the size of an airplane hangar. I'd eaten in a dining hall at prep school but it was nothing like this operation. At Mount Hermon School, we sat at rectangular dining tables for the noonday meal with a teacher at one end and a selected student as table head at the other end. The headmaster gave a short prayer of thanks for our food before we were served. The teacher led a topic of discussion during the meal. It was all very formal but pleasant. The waiter served the teacher first, then the table head, after which we passed the food from left to right. Neckties and suit coats were mandatory, and we each had a white cloth napkin. The kitchen doors burst open; waiters wearing starched white jackets, carrying large trays of food balanced on their upturned right hand, marched out of the kitchen in single file, splitting off to



the right and left like members of a marching band, then branched off, again, to their assigned tables. The superb food was attractively arranged, and served with freshly baked bread that was absolutely delicious. Mealtime was a very pleasant experience.

Not so at Fort Dix, where soldiers picked up stainless steel trays and silverware in a cafeteria style line. Servers plopped tasteless food approximately in or near the various pockets of the pressed stainless steel trays. The first time I ate at that mess hall, at the end of the line, a server plopped a rectangle of Neapolitan ice cream on top of my hot mashed potatoes where it promptly began melting. We picked up cups of coffee, or little cartons of milk, at a table. Seating was at picnic type tables with attached benches.

After going through the line, I found a table with an empty space. "May I sit here?" I asked. A soldier turned his head to give me a pained look, and went back to shoveling food into his mouth. The others completely ignored me and each other. There was no conversation, whatsoever.

The day I found my name on the KP roster, I reported to the mess hall at 4:30 AM, went through the serving line and ate my gooey oatmeal, before going into the kitchen to report for KP.

A very self-important private was checking names off a list. "I'm the KP Pusher. You jerks are going to answer to me. What I sez---goes. Now

get yourself one of them brooms and start sweepin'."

The corn brooms were big and heavy, loaded with grease and dirt. We stood waiting for orders.

"Don't just stan' there; start sweepin'."

We began sweeping, but the greasy floor, black with dirt, yielded none of the dirt. The brooms just left striations in the grease like those on a broom-finished sidewalk. Puzzled at what we were supposed to be doing, some soldiers stopped trying to sweep.

"Youse guys just keep them brooms movin'! I gotta' go somewheres. If I come back and don't see yer broom movin', yer in a heap a' trouble."

We swept and swept. The brooms dragged through the grease. Nothing accumulated. After a while, I looked in a closet. There I found mops, pails, scrapers, and lye soap. I got out a pail and filled it with soap and hot water. With a mop, I swabbed the floor, and began scraping off the thick layer of crud down to concrete. The others joined in. Soon we had a sizable section of floor cleaned down to gray concrete. It looked great.

When the KP pusher came back, he was livid. "Who tol" youse guys to mop the floor. I tol' youse to sweep. If I'd wanted youse to mop the floors, I'da tol' youse to mop the floor. I tol' ya' ta' sweep! Put that stuff away, get back on them brooms and keep them movin'. When I get back, I better see them

movin'.

In the meantime, a cook built like a heavy weight prizefighter began laying out pieces of fish onto a couple of stovetops that were about five feet wide and four feet deep. Before he got the fish all laid out, he suddenly turned and asked, "Who knows how to cook?"

My hand went up. I wasn't sure what he wanted me to do, but it would be better than the exercise in futility in which I was engaged.

"Finish laying out these fish and watch 'em. When one side is done, turn 'em over. I gotta' go to the can."

It was a relief to be done with sweeping, but I had never cooked fish of that size before. The only thing I'd ever cooked were pumpkin seeds, bull heads and trout that I caught in our brook. I just fried or baked them in the oven. But, I figured that the worst that could happen is that I'd have to go back to the futile job of sweeping.

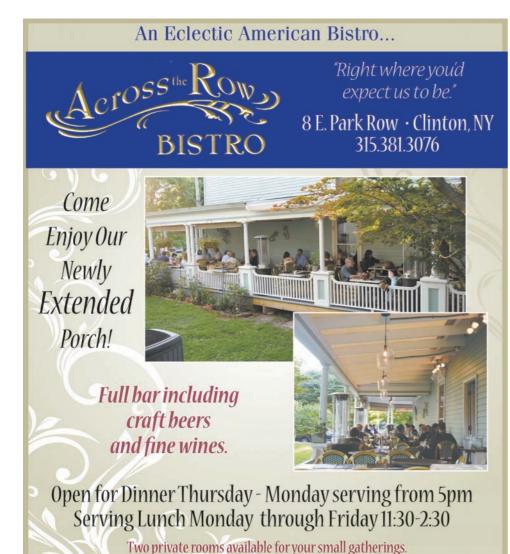
Soon, I had the fish all laid out. I knew that fish didn't need to fry long, so I began turning the first row that the cook had laid out. When the entire stove top of fish were all turned over, I began taking the first ones off. I was nearly done when the cook returned. He poked a piece of fish with a spatula. It flaked nicely.

Ya' done good, kid. Wanna' work wit' me, t'day?''

"I'd love to."

Stainless steel cooking kettles stood on little feet, and were heated by steam. A giant mixer looked like a concrete or mortar mixer.





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12th Annual Irish Festival

-the one weekend a year, everyone is Irish

By Daniel Baldwin

Central New York residents got a taste of the Irish culture last weekend (Jul.24-26) as the Herkimer Fairgrounds, in Frankfort, hosted its 12th annual Irish Festival.

Many bands came to the festival to sing their latest and classical Irish tunes. Bagpipe players marched all around the fair grounds, and Irish tap dancers entertained the festival crowd and got them on their feet.

According to Judy Weeks, director of this event, the Irish Festival attracted a large number of people in the past, and the number steadily grew year after year. This year's event was another success with reports of 50,000 people attending.

Eric Muiers of Utica is one of the residents who love this festival, and he said that he once came all the way from Japan to attend this event in the past.

"I love the Irish Festival," Muiers said. "Me and my family have been coming every year since the start, and the locals make a special effort to get here."

Whitesboro resident Brad Kempeny said that he also attended this event since

"There is no better display of Irish culture and music than here," he said. "I love the Irish food and beer, so I come down for all of them."

While this festival may be another reason for residents to go out and have fun, it also has a more specific purpose than just entertaining and feeding people.

Weeks said that there are two main reasons why the fairgrounds host this festival.

"We have two main purposes," she said. "First of all, to spread the Irish heritage, keep it alive, and let people listen to the music. Our second purpose is that we are building a cultural center. Proceeds from our festival goes to the cultural center."

Weeks also said that the Irish Cultural Center was the one reason why this event started in the first place. "It (The Irish Festival) was put together with the dream of building a cultural center," Weeks said. "It started off as a one day event. It had a handful of volunteers. They (volunteers) got about 7,000 people through the gate, and they thought that it was too much. The next year it went to two days, and then two-to-three years later it went to three days. So that is where we are now."

Kempeny said that this event is a good way to experience the Irish culture.

"The Irish heritage is very strong in Central New York," he said, "but here you can actually get a sense of what the actual Irish culture is, especially with the stages and music. There is even an Irish cultural center."

More and more people, throughout Central New York, are turning Irish, according to Weeks. She and the rest of her staff are doing whatever they can to attract more Irish lovers, before next year's festival, and have the money to build the cultural center.



One of the most popular areas of the Irish Festival is the vendor building. Celtic jewelry is one of the favorite finds with an enormous selection to choose from. Here one happy attendee peruses her many options.

"Our Irish heritage is not dying," Weeks said. "It's a melting pot in this area. There are a lot of Irish people, and you're amazed that the people who come in aren't Irish, but they are for the weekend. We're getting more into Facebook, marketing, and media, and it helps spread the word a lot more than ten years ago."

KP from previous

complete with a gear shift lever sticking out of the side for slow and fast speeds. A spade that ordinarily would be used to dig or shovel sand or gravel, we used for shoveling shortening. Everything was done on a large volume basis. It was anything but boring. The cook was good natured and took a liking to me. The pusher was livid when he got back. "Who do you think you are? Why ain't you pushing them broom like I tol' you to do?"

The cook walked up to the self-important pusher, thrust out his chest, rolled his shoulders and flexed his enormous forearms and biceps. He assumed a fighting staunch. "Buzz off, buddy. He's workin' wit' me."

The pusher blanched, backed away, and left me alone for the rest of the day. From then on, whenever I served KP duty, I'd befriend the cooks. I knew how to regulate a coal cooking stove and knew enough about cooking to be able to figure out whatever they

assigned me to do.

One weekend, a soldier who was assigned KP, paid a fellow soldier to substitute for him. The sub took the money and also went off to town on pass. When neither arrived, a cook came into our barracks, told us he was working alone, was short-handed, and asked if someone would volunteer. They all laughed at him. I volunteered. The work was

largely helping the cook. He was grateful, it was interesting, and the work kept me from being bored. It also paid off in another way.

"When you get out of the movies in the evening, and see me in the kitchen," the cook said, "don't go to the PX for a snack; come in here for a piece of pie and a cuppa' coffee and save yourself some money." That was exactly what I did from

then on.

The only time I ran into trouble was in Japan when a freight car converted to a kitchen car with gasoline kitchen ranges, exploded, and burst into flame while on a ferry boat far out to sea, blowing me out of the railcar door and killing a Japanese boy who was helping us. But that's another story.

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Differing Points of View

By Joseph Parzych

Although the small Massachusetts town of Turners Falls is 100 miles from the ocean, seagulls periodically flock to the area, sometimes to feed on spawning fish that die trying to make their way up the falls. Customers at the large grocery store often discard pizza crusts and other bits of food onto the parking lot for the gulls to scavenge. Other times gulls just show up for seemingly no reason at all.

Some people adore the gulls and feed them. Others are blind to the beauty of the gull's, their graceful soaring and the sheer poetry of their flight. They consider gulls a nuisance

The grocery store manager stood outside, idly eying the nearly empty parking lot, one day, as he smoked a cigarette. A lone gull circled, overhead.

"Strange; how one day they're all here, and then they vanish," I said. "I wonder where they go before they all come flocking back.'



"I wonder, too," the manager ruefully said, as he eyed the nearly empty

"I mean the gulls."

"Oh, yeah, them, too," he said. ■

The Finest Car I Ever Drove

By Joseph Parzych

My teen years were the most eventful time of my life. I was going to a private prep school as a day student on scholarship. I'd had to postpone entry because the school had a dress code; necktie and suit coat were required dress for attending chapel and the dining hall. I had a tie, but no suit coat, so I went to public high school for the freshman year, until I scraped together enough money to buy the required

The prep school wouldn't give me credit for the freshman year of public high school, so I had to start all over, again, as a freshman. I had to buy books, pay for lab fees, and the noon day meal. My father wouldn't give me any money. He didn't even want me to go to school, at all, much less a prep school. He wanted me to drop out of school and start working so I could bring him home some money. And who did I think I was going to a private school, anyway!

Since it was a private school, the town didn't provide transportation. I rode my bike or caught rides with people going to work. In the afternoon, I worked on a potato farm, and usually walked the four miles home, dirty, hungry, and exhausted. My mother would leave food for me, warming on the back of the wood stove. By the time I got cleaned up and ate supper, I was bushed. I tried to study but kept falling asleep. I got to bed at 10 or 11 o'clock. But,

it seemed that I'd just fallen asleep when my mother was calling me to get up. It was 4:30 AM, and I felt like I was drugged. After breakfast, I milked the cows and did the barn chores. My mother and I walked up our dirt road to catch a ride with a neighbor on his way to work. I got out at a gas station to wait for another ride to the school. I tried to study before classes, but usually fell asleep. The other day students would burst into the day student's room yelling, "Wake up! Wake up!"

In my second year of prep school, I fell asleep while sitting in the front row of my 11 o'clock Advanced Grammar class. The teacher was insulted and more than a little annoyed. As he was bawling me out for falling asleep, my eyes rolled up into my head, and I fell asleep, again. I just could not stay awake. The teacher became livid with rage, spittle flying."To the office!" The assistant headmaster told me I could finish out the year, but not to come back, since I was obviously not a serious student. (I later discovered that I had a low blood sugar problem that compounded my lack of sleep.)

I'd felt pretty proud to have been the first student in town to be accepted at the prep school in over the past ten years. Now, I felt ashamed and in disgrace.

One day, an Army recruiter asked me why I was so down-hearted. When I explained how I'd ruined everything, he said, "Cheer up. You can get an education in the Army.

That sounded like a great way to get out of my dilemma. In addition, the Army was running a special 18 month enlistment. The only hitch was that I had to get my parents to sign for me, since I was only 17. Though I was afraid my parents wouldn't sign the enlistment papers, I was a little disappointed when they agreed all too readily

I got more education than I bargained for I had been hardly more than 50 miles from home. The Army shipped me around the country. I took basic training in Virginia, drove a staff car at The Army War College in Washington, D.C. for a couple of months, then traveled across the country by rail to California, leaving me bug eyed from looking at mountains, prairies, desert, and Salt Lake, with stops in Reno, Nevada and Salt Lake City in Utah

In California, I attended evening high school classes. When I got orders to go to Japan as part of the Army of Occupation, I passed a comprehensive exam and got a high school diploma from Pittsburg Evening

Cont on page 21

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Fresh Fish Frozen at Sea

-One memory this repairman will never forget



By Joe Parzych

While working out of Seattle, field service engineer Mike Lambert got an assignment to trouble-shoot a generator problem aboard the Endurance, a factory ship that catches and processes fish, mainly Pollack, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Customers in grocery stores read the label, "Fresh fish frozen at sea," giving customers the vision of a nice clean fish caught in pristine waters, then cleaned in immaculate facilities and frozen. The ship needs electricity for lights, communications, winches, processing equipment, and most importantly—refrigeration, to keep the processed fish frozen until purchased by consumers who are delighted to buy the "Fresh fish frozen at sea".

Lambert flew to Anchorage on a Boeing 747. From Anchorage, he flew on to Cold Bay, Alaska on a commuter plane, and then continued on a smaller plane to St. Paul, the tiny Pribilof island of St. Paul, in the Bering Strait, which boasts having a post office, a small store, a bar, and a community center with showers and laundromat. The plane landed on a desolate gravel landing strip.

The driver of a truck loaded baggage to haul into town.

"Can I ride with you in the baggage truck? Lambert asked.

"No.Take a taxi."

There are no taxis on St. Paul. The only thing resembling a taxi was an islander free-lancing with his car, perhaps the founder of Uber. The fare to the airport terminal on the other side of the tiny island; five dollars a head, with the number of passengers rivaling a circus act, lacking only a miniature pony jammed amidst the passengers.

He wasn't a very good driver, but

he was fast. Kicking aside empty beer cans strewn at his feet, the driver, with alcohol laden breath, careened off to the airport terminal. Being the only car on the road and it being a treeless island with nothing to hit, the driver skillfully avoided a collision.

At the airport terminal, two crewmen from the Endurance greeted Lambert in rain gear. They were happy to see he'd arrived. Had he not arrived on that flight, the crewmen would have had to go back to the ship and wait two days to come out to the island, again, because there were only three flights to the island scheduled per week. After introductions, the crewmen escorted Lambert to the dock.

"Where's the ship?" Lambert asked, searching the ocean for any sign of a ship.

"Oh, we can't dock the ship here; the island taxes the catch of any ship that comes within three miles of St. Paul," a crewman said. "We're going in that boat," he said, pointing to an open motorboat.

A brisk wind whipped the sea into choppy waves, and Lambert soon figured out why the crewmen wore rain gear. The wind blew spray over them. Frigid waves and spray drenched Lambert. He was so cold, he could scarcely move except for shivering and chattering his teeth. The filthy boat stank of dead fish and rotting fish guts. The factory ship was about five miles out to sea, but it seemed more like fifty.

At long last, they got to the ship and with help, Lambert, stiff and cramped with cold, struggled aboard. After thawing out, he began diagnosing the generator problem. Since the problem was intermittent, he needed to hook up instruments and a chart re-

corder to a bank of five generators to isolate the generator causing the trouble. While waiting for the system to fail, the ship's captain showed Lambert the ship's global positioning system, sophisticated navigating, mapping, and recording devices they used to find and record good fishing areas. The captain showed Lambert winches pulling heavily laden fish nets hauling up tons of fish at a time. The catch was largely Pollack, which the crew held in a holding area until rigor mortis set in to facilitate gutting and slicing. A steady stream of fish guts continually washed overboard from a big discharge pipe, once the processing started. Occasionally, big slugs of guts surged out.

Once Lambert isolated the problem and fixed the troublesome generator controls, he was stuck aboard the ship for two reasons. He needed to wait to ascertain that the offending generator was running trouble-free. There was also the fact that there were only three flights per week off the island of St. Paul, with no lodging in town. While waiting, Lambert modified the ship's satellite telephone system to make it work better and to save the crew connecting fees when they called home. The captain was more than pleased, along with crewmembers, who were also happy with the reduced cost of phone calls. The captain ordered the crewmen to clean the boat. In a display of appreciation, the crewmen soon had the boat in pristine condition. The captain had Lambert's clothes cleaned and pressed.

The boat began drifting back toward the rear of the ship where the big chute periodically spewed fish guts.

At the end of his stay aboard the factory ship, Lambert joined the crewman in the now spotless motor boat. He was dressed in clean travel clothes carrying his travel bag packed with his freshly laundered clothes. The seas were calm. the sun shown bright. He waved to the ship's crew lined up at the rail. They waved back. The helmsman fired up the boat's engine and opened the throttle wide. The engine roared, the boat's prow lifted high and the boat surged forward amidst cheers and waves from the crew lined up at the ship's railing. Then, the engine abruptly died. The crewman yanked on the starter cord, again and again. Not a pop. The boat began drifting back

toward the rear of the ship where the big chute periodically spewed fish guts. Lambert sat there in his freshly laundered clothes with his travel bags filled with clean clothes at his feet. The crewman had no rain gear on; Lambert was wearing only his freshly laundered clothes. The boat drifted backward, closer and closer, to the big chute sporadically puking fish guts as the crewman frantically yanked on the boat's starting cord, cursing the engine in several languages. Just as they got squarely beneath the discharge pipe, an enormous load of fish guts belched out, drenching them with guts and gurry.

At long last, after exhausting his vocabulary of curse words and forced to devise new ones, the crewman badgered the engine into starting. They made their way to the island's dock, the boat ankle deep in fish guts. There were guts in their hair, guts hanging from their clothes, and guts covering Lambert's bags with juice and gurry seeping inside the bags. After docking at St. Paul Island, Lambert got out carrying his slimy sodden bags and trudged to the island's sparse settlement of a largely Eskimo population, his shoes squishing with fish guts at every step. Depressed at the revolting change in his fortune, Lambert was in a quandary. Perhaps on the wild taxi ride out to the landing strip in the crowded alcoholic's rambling wreck, and on the flight aboard the small plane to Cold Bay air terminal, someone covered in fish guts might not have seemed too out of place. But Lambert knew he definitely wouldn't be welcome in the Anchorage terminal, nor on the Boeing 747 flying to Seattle in his stinking state of dress.

As he trudged along in his despondent state toward the tiny settlement, he spotted a community center. Inside, the center sported a coin operated laundry and shower room. Dismissing the thoughts of suicide that had drifted into his mind, as a viable alternative, he squished on inside. Native Eskimo women were doing laundry. They sized him up as an easy mark. For five dollars, they agreed to wash his clothes-all of them. Had they said, "Fifty dollars," he'd have accepted.

He tried not to show his elation as he went into the shower room, stripped naked, and handed his stinking clothes out to them. They giggled and said they hoped their husbands didn't return before he got his clothes back on, again, giving him cause for a case of acute anxiety in the seeming endless wait

until he was safely clothed, again, in freshly washed and dried clothing. The women even managed to clean the guts off his bags and they washed the clothes inside, as well.

Feeling like a new man, he located another "taxi" in as bad shape as the first one. This driver sped even faster over the gravel road, slewing around corners in his haste to make as many trips as possible each day. He slewed out onto the gravel strip, which didn't look much different than the gravel road. There, Lambert caught the plane to Cold Bay. The reason for the stop-over at St. Paul Airport was for a trip through a metal detector, since Cold Bay Airport didn't have one. Terrorists apparently are duty bound not to hi-jack a plane before going through the Cold Bay Airport metal detector..

At Cold Bay, everyone passed the screening, but the pilot reported a cracked windshield, which grounded it. "A plane will be diverted to pick you up," the pilot said.

Since the grounded plane was near capacity, and the diverted plane would also have a load of passengers, it seemed extremely likely that a lot of people would be left behind to await another diverted plane to pick them up.

Everyone stormed out of the terminal to raid the island's only hamburger stand. It soon sold out. The unruly mob nearly depleted the island's only liquor store's stock. Lambert sat on the floor in front of the metal detector, first in line for boarding.

"There's no need to sit here," the airport lady said. "You can sit over there in a comfortable seat."

"That's O.K. I like it here."

Sure enough, the diverted plane was half full of passengers. Lambert was first in line after going through the metal detector, and was first to board the plane. The people left behind had no recourse but to go back to the liquor store to replenish their supplies before the store completely sold out. Aboard the plane to Anchorage, fishermen occupied the rear of the plane, smoking, drinking and carrying on. The lone stewardess made a token effort to restrain them from drinking and smoking. They just mocked her. This apparently wasn't her first experience with fishermen so she left them alone.

In Anchorage, Lambert boarded an Alaska Airlines flight home to Seattle, which, by now, seemed a universe away. It was a long time before he wanted to see another fish—in any way, shape or form.

Finest Car from page 18

High School. In Japan, I joined the paratroops. After jump training, I go an extra \$50 hazardous duty pay per month. I took evening classes at Hokkaido University, and the Army sent me to Troop Leadership School. I scored well on my Armed Forces Classification test and was given the job of Public Relations Writer and promoted to Private First Class. My pay was held up for several months, but cigarettes were rationed to a carton a week. Cigarettes cost 50 cents a carton at the PX, but heavy smokers, or the lapanese, would buy them from me of \$25 or \$30 a carton. I had only smoked occasionally, so I quit, sold my ration and had plenty of money to send home. When my pay finally came through, I sent all of my pay home, along with the \$50 jump pay each month and most of the cigarette money. My sister Irene banked all of it for me. The Army also sent my parents an allotment, so that made my father happy.

The Army sent me back to the United States a couple of months early, so they discharged me at 16 months, instead of 18 months. I took the last semester of the senior year at public school and graduated with honors. School let out at noon. I worked at a garage and used car lot in the afternoon. The owner had an empty used car lot because he was a gambler and was usually in debt with no money to buy cars to sell. Used cars were very scarce at the time and sold well, so I wasn't afraid to buy cars. The owner was happy to split the profit. I noticed that women had

the last word in buying cars, so I bought good looking cars, not paying as much attention to mechanical conditions. I made sure they looked good. The cars sold well, and we made money on all but one my partner bought. We lost a bundle fixing it up.

I reapplied to the prep school, telling them I'd graduated from high school with honors, and was successful in business. "And, this time, I promise to stay awake." They enrolled me in the senior year and I graduated for the third time, without ever having attended a junior year, anywhere.

One of the most memorable cars, that I ever owned, was a classic looking Packard sedan. All Packard models had a long imposing hood. This car was in great shape, except for having dull faded paint. My partner said, "You don't know nothin' about buying cars. Who's going to buy this shabby looking old ark?"

I didn't care if no one wanted it. I did. I loved that car. Driving it was like driving a Rolls Royce. The only problem was that it didn't get very good gas mileage. Though gasoline was cheap, I reluctantly decided to paint the car, and try to sell it.

I picked out the paint, Chrome Metallic Gold, much to the disgust of my older partner. When we finished painting it, I put that glorious car out on the lot. It glittered like treasure from King Tut's tomb. Cars began slowing down. People gawked at it. Some drove in for a closer look. Several people gathered, eager to buy it.

"We were here first," a young man said. His companion was his grandmother. They took the magnificent Packard for a test drive and loved every bit of it. But before buying the car, the young man wanted to look at the engine. For some reason, he took off the radiator cap. This was the era before cars were equipped with overflow expansion tanks. All gas stations had a water can at the gas pumps because cars needed to periodically have their radiators refilled, caused by after-boil pushing water out of the overflow pipe when the engine was shut off. Right on schedule, the radiator water gushed out, all over the engine.

"Oh dear!" Gramma said, holding her hand to her



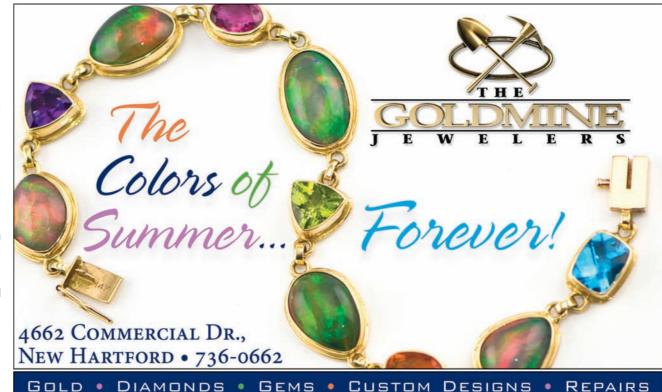
mouth."I don't think we should buy it."

"Gramma, we have to buy it, or it'll be gone. There's

people, here, just waiting to buy it!"

So Grandma wrote out a check, and they drove

off into the sunset in that gleaming golden chariot, the finest car I ever drove. ■





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Local Luthier keeps old world craftsmanship alive

By Carly Proulx

I heard the zoom of a saw going off, and peered through the glass of the storefront on East Main Street in Little Falls, NY. The creator and store owner of Vincent Guitars, Greg DeLuis was hard at work. When I walked in the man behind the saw sent a friendly wave in my direction, right before turning his focus back

to the task at hand. Every surface in the place including the seats of chairs were covered in tools. I thought I might have to stand for the interview, not wanting to disturb the organization of the clutter, but soon enough I was informed I could make room wherever I found approachable. Greg DeLuis was building guitars from the ground up, and Little Falls had their very own

Luthier! Vincent Guitars was clearly not a hang out spot, not yet anyway, but a work shop where a very special skill was being honed, and a highly valuable craft was being carried out. Unlike most I've seen with pin up girls on the wall and a mini fridge in the corner stocked with beer only, this was a man cave where things were getting done, and by far the coolest one I'd seen.

Quality over quantity is the name of the game at Vincent Guitars, as well as authentic artistry over mass produced replication. I'd done minimal research before chatting with DeLuis, but I knew building guitars wasn't something you could do overnight. The man hours in effect to the finished product output seem a little more than unfair, but isn't that amount of TLC what really matters to a buyer? Well if you happen to be a serious musician, or are seriously considering getting serious about music, it should. Just as I'd expect an art collector

to be, you'd wait as long as the artist needed to get it done, and get it done good. You can't expect to rush art, most especially when the artist is working with power tools and creating an instrument that's likely to outlast your future onset of arthritis. The primary focus of factories where guitars are being mass produced, let's say China for example, is to bang out as many guitars in as little time as possible. There is no thought that goes into it, no real light in the eyes of the one assembling the same old guitar day after day. DeLuis is way down on the other end of the spectrum. Not only are no two guitars the same inside the shop here at Vincent Guitars, but Greg puts his own creative spin on them for a one of a kind truly custom built beauty.

In pursuit of research for a

school project back in high school DeLuis came across a book that would steer him towards a musical pathway, ultimately igniting his craftsman passion and changing his life forever. When I asked Greg what got him started in all this he practically ran to a shelf across the room where sat an Irving Sloane steel string guitar book. He flipped through it, stopping at multiple pages to elaborate on which makers of the trade most left their mark in his mind. These pages would show him how it was being done back in the day, and from that point on DeLuis decided old school craftsmanship was the only way to proceed in following his dream. None so hard to believe as his skills extend to more than building guitars, and like many a kid with drive and a vision, is the fact that Greg went to art



Greg DeLuis in his shop building a 15" Deluxe model, custom made for a client in Rhinebeck, NY.

school after high school.

The main focus in the shop is custom building and selling guitars, mostly being shipped on-line, and as it can take up to 200 hrs. to build an acoustic, and a little less than half of that chunk to build an electric I'd say that's as much focus as anyone of us living in the 21st century could still hope to have. Certainly he takes his time to give his customers the jaw dropping awe they've anticipated, but he's in that shop 40+ hrs a week. Having made his first acoustic guitar in 1995 with his grandfather's tools, DeLuis admits that his first "child" is pretty clunky. He's truly an artist in all senses of the word. The freedom he's allowed to put special touches on each guitar leave

the buyer feeling like they've got a one of a kind masterpiece. And they're 100% correct! Greg's signature style is far from what's being thrown up on the walls of big box retailers such as Big Apple Music and Guitar Center today. "So many instruments today aren't made to withstand the tests of time," sighs Greg.

Made in the U.S. with real materials many of the high end electric guitars are based on 1960s catalog guitars."The guitars that everyone started playing on," exclaims DeLuis."The Original Vinny" is a Vincent Guitars original and is based on one made in Chicago from the 1960s Student Sears catalog. All of the wooden components on the





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Greg shredding on one of his own electric creations with Holiday City blues band at 315 BBQ & Brew pub in Utica.

guitars are made in the shop from dimensional tone woods, locally sourced maple is just one example. He is careful in the selection process of the wood, as each piece is chosen based on grain orientation, tap tone, color, figure, weight etc. This isn't someone whose calling his work custom and then taking other parts to bolt them together and slap on a logo. This is someone who lives by his ideals, and his M.O. seems to me, if you didn't chop down the tree then don't bother starting the fire.

Greg is inspired by crystal geometry, using locally found gifts from the earth to add an eccentric touch to his creations. I was lucky enough to hear the sweet music that came from a small lightweight bodied guitar, inspired by crystal geometry as well as ancient serpents called the Lemurian Sitar Model. Another DeLuis creation was inspired by Django Reinhardt's Selmer guitar, the musician himself having a great influence on Greg and his developed gypsy jazz guitar skills and style. The guitars that are hand crafted one by one by Greg DeLuis are known as DeLuis guitars. When Greg's brother Justin Welyczko and friend Rob Richards get in on some carving these guitars with the help of all 3 are called the Vincent Guitars. Though mostly a one man band in the shop Greg is part of a trio that plays out locally. With Greg shredding on guitar, Justin slapping the bass, and Joe Macri drumming awfully mean-but in

the nicest sounding way, these guys make for a great live performance playing anything from blues to rock

Greg's first guitar was a Stewart McDonald, and his first real hero was his grandfather, a man by the name of Vincent "Jimmy" DeLuis. Greg grew up around his grandfather, hanging around the shop and Vincent's old Gibson arch tops watching him make and repair guitars, mandolins and the like. He got the itch messing around in the shop at a young age, and probably before having

realized it had been laid out a musical foundation that he'd carry with him, and later build upon. Since having dedicated Vincent Guitars to the memory of his grandfather it's safe to say he knows where he comes from, and is rightfully so, prideful. Greg talked about the science behind some of the building process, yet there being this need and use for his intuition. With his own artist intuition, as well as the deep seeded intuition stemmed from Greg's youth working alongside his grandfather it's no big mystery as to how he ended up with his own legit shop, building such beautiful platforms for music.

Trying to fill a niche in a small city such as Little Falls isn't always easy, but for now Greg sells his creations on-line. By creating quality instruments that won't break the bank, and for the amount of work that is going into them, are going for more than a fair price Greg is instilling old world values, recreating a time and a place where we used our hands on a daily basis, rather than typed letters onto a keyboard on a phone to have someone do it for us. Planning to build a kick-starter website to help with the funding of his creations and the future of Vincent Guitars which one day hopes to be a location promoting local bands, as well as promoting other handmade

instruments such as a local and friend of DeLuis Cory Scanlon's handmade pedal boards, musical interactions of the sort and much more inspirations are in store.

Keep an eye out for a future of old school class with modern twists and quality from Vincent guitars, and don't forget to check out Greg's creations, photos and descriptions on-line at http:///www.deluisguitars.com.

Guess Who?

I am a rock drummer and vocalist who was born on January 14, 1969 in Ohio. I rose to prominence in the early 1990s with the band Nirvana. I have since become the founder and lead singer of another successful band.

Answers: Dave Grohl







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In the fast paced 21st century we've traded common sense for the ability to quickly look up information on the internet. We've forgotten our manners and civility. How do we get back

Food for thought . . .

to our roots?

Can we get back?

What Would Your Mother Say???? **Days off school & summer break**

By S.D. Shapiro

Summer is halfway through in Upstate New York and school age children across the state are driving their parents insane every time they say, "I'm bored," or "There's nothing to do."

In the past kids would have adventures over summer break. They would wander across town or explore the countryside. Secret fishing holes would be discovered

and the deepest caverns of their imagination would be delved into.

Kids do not go outside anymore. The only exploring they will do they will do in virtual reality. They are enthralled with their phones and their apps that they miss the outdoors and nature. If their Xbox does not have downloadable nature content then they will not even notice that the lawn needs mowing.

In the good old days kids used to be able to get jobs over the summer. Mowing lawns, delivering newspapers, or even painting houses were staple summer jobs. Now the lawn is ignored and newspapers are dying. Nobody needs a teenager to deliver the Internet; the wires do that. Labor laws have put a hurting on kids and summer jobs. Painting a house or fence like Tom Sawyer is also a thing of the past. OSHA will just not approve our kids working on a ladder. The work ethic of modern kids is like their attention span; nonexistent.



Baseball used to have a firm grasp on the summers of American kids. Kids would spend their days in pick-up games in sandlots or down at the local diamond. Hot summer days would dissolve in a blur of double plays and innings won and lost. Little leagues are losing players to iPhones and **Xhoxes**

We can fix this problem. Next time your child cries out that they are dying of boredom or that there is nothing to do, change the Wifi password. You will see them jump up from their beds or reclining chairs and will be more animated than you have ever seen them. After they figure out that the world is not coming to an end, the next step is

to give them some chores. Chores have a double edged sword effect. First, you get a little help around the house. Second, when you enact the next step, your kids will be more than happy to comply.

The next step is to kindly advise them to go outside and play. "Get out of the house!" You will be surprised how a little work will prod your children to abandon ship. They will be on their bikes to the neighbor's house quicker than you can say, "Summer Camp." Hopefully your neighbors have adopted the same doctrine. Before you know it the kids will be playing a pickup game down at the park or clowning around down at the local frog pond.

This will even work on your obstinate teenage kids. They are more vocal when they complain, you may have to flat out shut off the internet, and their chores should be more difficult but you can coax them out of the house too.

When it comes down to kids and summer break we need to flip a switch and get our kids outside again. Get them using their imagination and get them using their bikes. Sitting on your butt starring at your phone just isn't the American way. Get out and do something! Stop and think, "What would my mother say?" She would say, "Go outside and play. Make sure you're home in time for



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Did You Know?

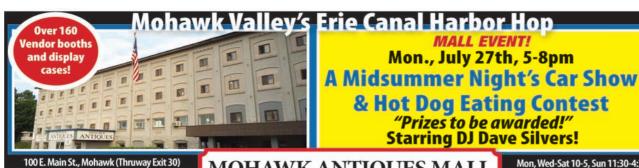
Watering a lawn can do more harm than good if the lawn is not watered correctly. Excessive watering is a

homeowners money while harming the environment at the same time. Water that is not absorbed by the lawn can result in runoff, which causes nitrogen in the grass, any fertilizer that was applied and chemicals in the water itself to run into gutters and eventually pollute streams, rivers and oceans. In addition, grass needs oxygen in the soil to grow properly. But when a lawn is overwatered, the oxygen between the soil particles is pushed out, depriving roots

of the oxygen they need to

grow in strong. This leads to shallow root systems, which make a lawn more susceptible to stress, disease and insect infestation. But overwatering can also be unsightly, as lawns that are overwatered tend to have more weeds, robbing even the greenest of lawns of its aesthetic appeal. ■





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\$100 Contest Winners

You could be the next lucky reader



My sincere apologies to our readers and our lucky winner from the July 10th issue, Mary Dubiel of N. Utica.

Mary was our lucky winner but I got side tracked and neglected to put her picture in the last issue.

Mary is an avid EDITOR reader and was so very excited to receive our phone call letting her know she had one our \$100 reader contest!

She said that she just loves to read EDITOR and looks for it faithfully. Some of her favorite parts.... all the dining ads. She loves to see all the local restaurants and what they have to offer. Shopping and dining local and showing support to our area is very important to

She also enjoys reading the eclectic mix of articles. "There is just always such an interesting mix to read. I just love it!"

She said, "My husband and I just love animals so I am going to donate my winnings to the Stevens- Swan Humane Society. They just do such an amazing job helping so many animals. I am just happy to be able to donate this money to such a worthy cause in our area."

That's guite a beautiful gesture and one that I am sure some furry four legged creatures will very much appreciate!

Congratulations Mary and thank you for being such a faithful reader!

The most recent winner was Donna Warchal of Rome. Donna picked up her winning copy at Mario's Pizza in Oriskany Falls. She was very excited to have been randomly

chosen.

Donna said, "Even though I have lived here all my life, I always either see a local business that I forgot existed or ones that I never knew about." She went on to tell me that she especially likes the colorful ads and she reads it from front to back every issue!

"The covers are so eye catching too, I just love the large size of the magazine, it makes it easy to read."

Thank you Donna for entering our contest and for being a faithful reader.

Be sure to see our clue for this issue in the ad on this page. Good luck to you all and thanks again for being such great voices for EDITOR! ■



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Did You Know?



Though vaccines are usually associated with childhood or foreign travel, older adults may need certain vaccinations as they age. Even those who received immunizations as youngsters may need refresher doses or vaccinations tailored specifically to the over 50 crowd. Seniors are urged to talk to their doctors about certain vaccines. In addition to flu shots, there are vaccinations that can help prevent other illnesses, such as pertussis (whooping cough), shingles, diphtheria/tetanus, and pneumonia. Shingles is a condition that affects those who had chickenpox as children, and can be guite painful. A vaccination is an easy way to avoid it. Many local pharmacies now offer on-site immunizations, saving people a trip to the doctor's office.

We do not remember days, we remember moments. -Cesare Pavese



A Winner Chosen Each and Every Issue!!

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- 1-Name, Address, and Phone Number
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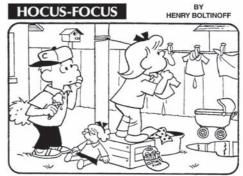
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



s: 1. Birdhouse is missing. 2. Cone is missing. 3. Doll's head is turned. Jin bag is missing. 5. Dress is smaller. 6. Carriage is missing.

Amber Waves







ACROSS Highway

King Crossword

- division 5 Lamb's
- mama Take to the pool
- 13 Atlas page 14 Windy
- day toy 15 Uncategor
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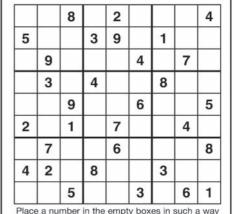
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48 Yule quaff

Mega Maze

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: **

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging *** HOO BOY!

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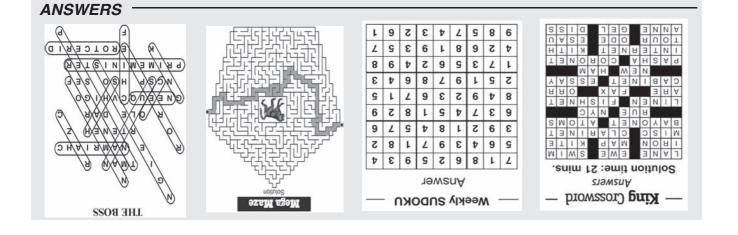
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

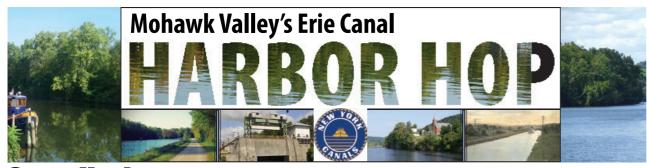
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Manager Shah Sovereign Prime minister Sultan Queen

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"A man should never neglect his family for business" — Walt Disney





Snug Harbor

by AI Dorantes

Snug Harbour Marina, an oneida indian nation enterprise, is located on Route 13, just south of Sylvan Beach. Snug Harbour offers boaters dockage and storage, repair and maintenance services, and picnic pavilions and other services. The Snug Harbour facility has 13 covered picnic pavilions, each able to accommodate groups of

up to 24. Patrons may use Grills for cooking. Boaters have direct access to clean bathrooms (including handicapped accessible restrooms) and hot showers in their newly built and renovated facilities.

Snug Harbor's store has boaters covered from gas to cold beverages and snacks. They have all the supplies and equipment necessary for a carefree day on the water. Fill up your gas tank at their convenient multi-grade pump, stop into the store and pickup deli meats, soda, boating supplies, cigarettes, souvenirs, and more.

With on-site maintenance and repair services for Mercury engines and motors Snug Harbour offers something something for boaters. They offer a variety of other services, including canvas, propeller, and hull repair. Sewage pump-out services are also available.

Snug Harbour's boat launch can accommodate boats up to 50 feet from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For more information go to: www.snug-harbor.com ■

Holmes Marina by Al Dorantes

Holmes Marina, located in Verona beach, is a privately owned business in business for over 50 Years. Betty Holmes explained that they have had the same customers for years. Betty said, "We have seen family's kids grow up."

"James Holmes built the place stick by stick dock at a time. Put up all the buildings," Betty said as she drove a golf cart around the facility. Jim Holmes is the brawn of this dynamic duo and betty is the brains. Jim handled the labor, like hauling boats in and out of the marina and dock maintenance and betty took care of the accounting such as billing and sending out invoices for summer rentals and winter storage.

Holmes Marina is approximately 65 acres. The marina is fed by Oldwood Creek which is a natural inlet. Holmes Marina has room for 100 boats. They have water and electric at each dock but no pump out facilities. Holmes Marina has bathrooms and showers. Most boaters at Holmes Marina are by the season. They pay \$35/foot per season plus additional electric if you have air conditioning. It takes a full month to get boats out of storage and into the water. Same goes for taking them out and putting them into storage for the winter. Betty Holmes explained that they store majority of boats at the marina for the winter. Those boats are generally

23' and up. A 45 footer, "Blue Belle" was the biggest vessel to dock at Holmes Marina. It was a wooden boat and it stayed for a few years.

Holmes marina has summer storage (dry) for speed boats."go fast boats," as betty refers to them.

"No cash, no splash." She said with a chuckle

Betty explained that there is no fishing at the marina. Small children seem to get hooked in canvas and that's bad. There is also no swimming. If a boater has an electrical problem the electricity could reverse polarity and electrocute swimmers. Betty and Jim run a tight ship. "We're on premises." Holmes marina is also patrolled by troopers and Oneida County sheriffs Holmes Marina has a mechanic on site who can attend to your nautical mechanical needs. They

mechanic on site who can attend to your nautical mechanical needs. They have a crane for sail boats and can haul up to 43 ft boat on their 25 ton lift travel lift (which is about 14feet wide)

Betty said, "Boaters are generally great people." She went on to explain that boating is like camping but on a boat instead of a tent. Boating is the lifestyle of the area.

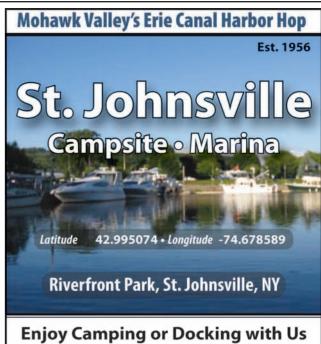
The marina is opened and plowed during winter. The Fire Department even used the marina to keep up on their skills diving in the Marina in January with temperatures of 0 degrees. Betty said that they have



A boat leaving Holmes Marina.

been lucky with word of mouth and Holmes Marina is full. They have customers from Utica, Rome, Syracuse, and Binghampton. She said, "It's been a lot of fun but also a lot of work." For more information go to: holmesmarina.com ■





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July 27th Linda Lee & the Fox Creek Band
August 3rd The Moonshine Junkies
August 10th The Karg Brothers



RECTION

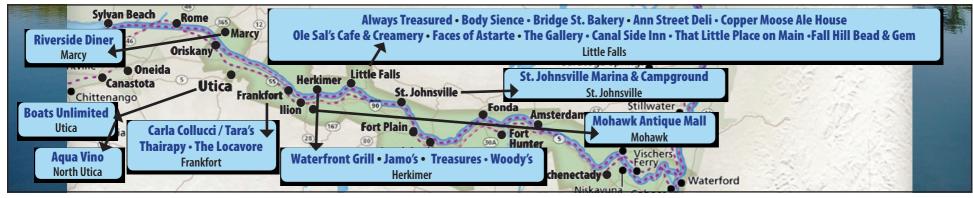
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Sylvan Beach Pier

by AI Dorantes

The final stop on the Harbor Hop is Sylvan Beach Pier. Sylvan Beach is a tourist destination in Central New York and its pier is just another way for people to get there; by boat.

Sylvan Beach has approximately 900 feett of bulkhead for boaters to tie up to. Tying up is free, it is first come, first served, and limited to 48 hours. They have no real amenities (no water, electricity or fuel) but the village has a much to offer.

Joe Benedict, Village Administrator, has been on the job about 15 years. Joe said, "Sylvan Beach gets very little rain during the day. We have a hard time growing grass." The beach at Sylvan Beach is one of the largest inland beaches in New York State; about a mile long. The village has a surf rake to manicure the beach every morning. It's like running a comb through



Enjoy about a mile of beach!

the beach. It is pulled with a New Holland tractor. He explained that Sylvan Beach has one of the largest Corvette shows in the northeast, "Vettes on the beach." He also explained that the village has a population of approximately 900 but that jumps up to 4,000 during

the summer. Add in another 200,000 visitors and you can see why Sylvan Beach Pier is a busy port on the NYS Canal System.

Joe said, "4 months out of the year there's no better place to live."

There are many restaurants within walking distance of the Sylvan Beach Pier including the Crazy Clam Steak and Seafood House, Canal View Cafe, and Harpoon Eddie's to name just a few. Joe Benedict said, "There's probably a dozen places to get ice-cream in Sylvan Beach."

"Sylvan Beach has the best sunsets in the world."

There is a brand new Nice & Easy convenience store within walking distance as well as a Laundromat. Boaters can get all their groceries and do laundry too. Biking, walking & kayaking are activities that are easy to participate in at Sylvan Beach. The Village of Sylvan Beach has a walking trail, a 3 mile loop, that connects the residential and campground areas to downtown. Sylvan Beach has well over a mile of waterfront to walk. The mouth of Fish Creek is about 1/2 mile away. Many boaters will take to Fish Creek when Oneida Lake is rough or choppy. It provides some good swimming holes and its soft sandy bars provide easy spots to pull boats onto.

About 500 feet from the Sylvan Beach pier you'll find the historic Sylvan



Sylvan Beach Pier, approximately 900 feet of bulkhead to tie up to, but get there early, these spaces fill up FAST!



Ride the Bomber, circa 1957 at Sylvan Beach Amusement Park.

Beach Amusement Park. With roots beginning in the 1870's, the traditional family amusement park, boasts 24 rides including the Galaxi roller coaster, food, games and shops. The Sylvan Beach Amusement Park is open May - September and the admission is free! Park your boat and play some Skeeball or walk through Laffland, an old fashioned fun house.

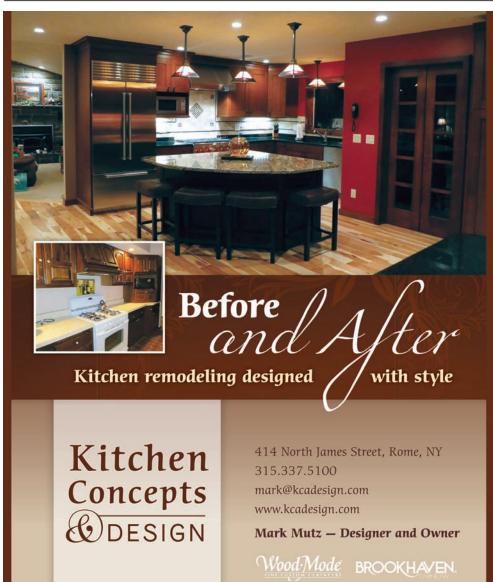
Sylvan Beach and its pier come alive during the summer and there are many activities and events going on during the summer. Joe Benedict said, "Villagers are a whole community who want to interact; take part in events." Joe added, "Sylvan Beach has the best sunsets in the world." For more information about Sylvan Beach go to: http://www.sylvanbeach.org

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