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Photo by Janet Lee Stanley

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New Hartford Central Radio

–Senior, Cooper Deck, broadcaster and student extraordinaire

By Al Dorantes

In New Hartford, down a side street, behind an unsuspecting door, down in the basement you will find the headquarters of

one of Central New York's newest sports radio stations. NHCR, New Hartford Central Radio, helmed by New Hartford Central School senior Cooper Deck and fo-

cusing on the school's varsity football team is keeping the community up-to-date on scores and highlights.

Cooper Deck is a point guard and catcher for New

Hartford Senior High School basketball and baseball teams respectively. Cooper Deck loves football but because of the year-round commitment he chose basketball and baseball. Cooper explained the difficult choice was to either exhaust himself playing 3 sports or cut 1 and enjoy the other 2. He also explained that in his junior year he did not know what he wanted to do. The radio show allows him to interact, touch people, and combine his love of sports and broadcasting. In his spare time Cooper volunteers at Utica College radio station.

Cooper uses what he explained is a pretty simple system. Basic microphones connected to his computer and broadcasted through Mixlr. Mixlr is an audio streaming platform that allows users to broadcast audio from their computers or mobile devices. Cooper sets up his equipment and live broadcasts from football games. His play by play and color commentary hits the airwaves over a personal WIFI hotspot he carries with him.

Cooper gets a great deal of support from his mother and father. Cooper said, "Dad loves it. Sometimes I have to rein him in."

Cooper's father, Fred Deck, said, "The premise was simple: as a child when I went to bed, I would set my radio to NY Yankee and NY Met games and fall asleep to those radio calls. I did that for several years and it triggered a love for radio commentary and of course sports in general. Phil Rizzuto, Ralph Kiener, Steve Sabrisky, Bobby Mercer; all those guys were who I listened to."

Fast forward 20 years to me being Cooper's dad and wanting to enjoy some fun time with him. When he was 12 or 13 years old, we started recording ourselves doing radio call/broadcasting of certain sports events: college bowl games, Super Bowl reviews, college baseball world series type stuff. Those type of things triggered an interest in Cooper and he then took his new ideas (much better than any of mine) and ran with them. So he developed his own



Cooper Deck calling a Spartan foot ball game with Ryan Faro.



web-casts (via MIXLR) and focused on Spartan football last season."

This year Cooper has expanded on last fall's beginning to include all New Hartford varsity fall sports and he is using technology even more to connect the student athletes, the community, and the New Hartford student body as each varsity sports season progresses. NHCR has plans to do "player of the game" type profiles. Fred Deck said, "I remember last year one of the parents made a point to thank Cooper for selecting his son as player of the game. That parent sincerely appreciated the small recognition and it was very fun to be a part of."

While football will continue to be the primary broadcast program this year for NHCR other scores and highlights will be available across the board on NHCR's twitter feed. Cooper has enlisted the help of other students to be his "eyes and ears" for scores and highlights as the fall sports schedule rolls out. That type of teamwork

will resonate throughout the school and community and creates a sense of pride. Fred Deck said, "As a parent, I like the idea that the kids are kind of running the show and participating. The kids get it right 99% of the time."

Cooper Deck puts a lot of effort into his broadcasts. Before each Friday night game he does research so he knows who is playing each position. The effort that he puts into each game he has also put into the future of NHCR. Cooper has invested in a banner and business cards to promote NHCR. Cooper has also thought of NHCR's future after he heads to college. One possibility is to bring NHCR to the school board to keep it going as a club or extra circular activity.

The season began on Friday, September 4th. Tune in to NHCR and hear Cooper call the games live every Friday during the fall season. For more information follow NHCR on twitter @nhcr or on mixlr.com/nh42 ■

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Dive team explores wreckage of Tuskegee Airman’s WWII plane



Tough guy with a heart of gold

By Joseph Parzych

While serving in Japan with the 11th Airborne Division and working as cook’s helper for a day, the cook instructed me to gather up the nearly empty jam and jelly jars from the mess hall tables. He instructed me to put them into a clean garbage can set aside from the regular row of garbage filled cans. He acted gruff, but, in reality, he was a kind and compassionate man. He never referred to a Japanese by the derogatory term “Gook” as many soldiers did. As he instructed, I put the condiments into the clean can, along with other edible table scraps such as heels of bread and other odds and ends that would ordinarily be discarded as garbage.

Later that day, a Japanese garbage collector arrived with his horse-drawn dumpcart. A woman accompanied him on the wagon seat. They were an older couple, most likely

untouchables at the bottom of Japan’s caste system, humbly going about one of the few occupations available to them. Before emptying the regular garbage cans, the man looked into the clean can. With a big grin, he held aloft a partial filled jar of jelly, rejoicing as if he’d discovered the Hope Diamond. A broad smile spread across the woman’s face. Joy and happiness seemed to radiate from the couple as he handed her item after discarded item, which she carefully placed in the box at her feet. The couple smiled, chattering happily, as he handed her treasure after treasure left for them in the can. It brought tears to my eyes to see their joy and gratitude when the couple turned to leave. With their palms together, they faced the kitchen and solemnly bowed low in obvious heartfelt gratitude for the cook’s compassionate kindness toward his fellow human beings. ■

Items to include in your automotive emergency kit

- First-aid kit:
- Tools: It’s important to include tools in your automotive emergency kit. While a full toolbox might be unnecessary, bring along an adjustable wrench, a flat head and Phillips screwdriver, a pair of pliers, a tire jack and crow bar, an ice scraper, and a flashlight. Extra roadside flares and reflectors. Funnel and work gloves... see below.
- Fluids: Just in case you start to run low while out on the road. Fluids to pack include motor oil, antifreeze, brake fluid, and windshield washer fluid. Pack an empty spray bottle as well so you have something to spray washer fluid from if a problem arises with your wiper blades.
- Wiper blades:
- Miscellaneous items: Pack a blanket so you and your passengers can stay warm should your car break down at night. In addition, pack some energy bars and bottled water so no one gets too hungry or thirsty while waiting for help to arrive. ■

By MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

PORT HURON, Mich. (AP) — Seven divers recently spent a week descending to the bottom of Lake Huron to officially document for the first time the wreckage of a plane piloted by a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen.

For them, it was a labor of love.

The team included five members of Diving with a Purpose, a nonprofit that works to conserve and protect maritime history with an emphasis on African-American contributions. The Tuskegee Airmen were the U.S. military’s first black aviators.

DWP member Jay Haigler (HAY’-gler) says the remnants of the P-39 that

crashed during a training exercise brought tears to his eyes.

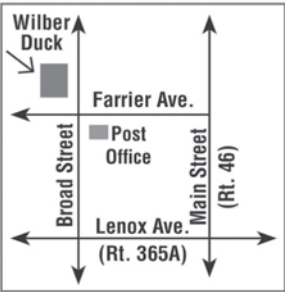
Its pilot, 2nd Lt. Frank Moody, was killed in the 1944 crash near Port Huron. The wreckage was discovered a year ago, but hadn’t been formally documented until the August expedition. ■

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Publisher, President
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Vice. Pres./ Treasurer
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EDITOR

219 N. Prospect St.
Herkimer, NY 13350

315.985.9133
FAX: 315.985.9144

General Manager Bruce Button
Production Coordinator Jessica Mackay
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Managing Editor/ Sales Manager

Janet Lee Stanley Cell: 315.525.3582

Office: 315-985-9133 Fax: 315-985-9144

email: janet.leepub@gmail.com

- **Fred Mang, Sales Associate**
518-441-7299..... fmang@leepub.com
- **Margie Widay, Sales Associate**
315-790-4133..... mwiday@leepub.com
- **Matt Stanley, Sales Associate**
315-292-2306..... matt.leepub@gmail.com
- **Al Dorantes, Sales Associate**
315-868-8801..... adorantes@leepub.com
- **Mary Skinner, Sales Associate**
518-673-0130..... mskinner@leepub.com
- **Jed Suits, Sales Associate**
518-673-0131..... jsuits@leepub.com
- **John Snyder, Sales Associate**
518-673-0129..... jsnyder@leepub.com
- **Beth Snyder, Sales Associate**
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Utica hosted 4th Annual American Legion Tournament

By Daniel Baldwin

The New York State American Legion Baseball Tournament made its return to Utica in late August. Eight teams, from all across New York State, gathered at Murnane Field to play ball, during one week, and fight for the right to become New York State baseball champions.

The event kicked off on Jul. 28, and former New York Yankees player, Bucky Dent, came to the field, on that day, to throw out the first pitch.

This American Legion tournament has a strong connection towards Dent. The former Yankees star said that he once played in this league before playing major league ball in New York.

"American Legion is a big part of my background too," Dent said. "I played American Legion ball. I love what the organization stands for, what they do and what they represent. Being a part of it is a big honor."

The final game, of the tournament, was played on Aug. 1. West Seneca Post had already won this tournament in 2013, and they were looking to grab their second state title in three years. West Seneca was up against a tough Saratoga Stampede team who came off a 5-3 victory against Brooks Shepard Post in the tournament semi-finals.

The Stampede had a two run lead (3-1) early the game, but West Seneca recorded four runs, in the top of the fourth, to take a 5-3 lead. The team hung onto to their two run lead for four innings and grabbed their second New York State championship title.

West Seneca has had a phenomenal baseball season. They finished with a 32-1 record overall and completed a 5-0-tournament sweep.

"From the beginning we knew we had a shot," West Seneca's catcher Matt Schneider said after the game. "We had a great team, we worked hard, kept going, and never gave up. It (winning the tournament) was amazing."

West Seneca's pitcher, Joel Krywcun was awarded the tournament MVP after pitching five shutout innings. Although West Seneca has won two American Legion tournaments, Krywcun said that this was his first time that he received the championship trophy as a pitcher.

"Two years ago, I wasn't able to make the trip," he said. "I went to Cooperstown with my brother. I was extremely happy to make it this year, and I'm proud that we won this tournament."

The American Legion Championship is generally focused on giving young players a chance to make a name for themselves throughout the state and have a bright baseball future. But Rony Comardo, committee for the American Legion Tournament, said that this championship week is focused on other things besides baseball.

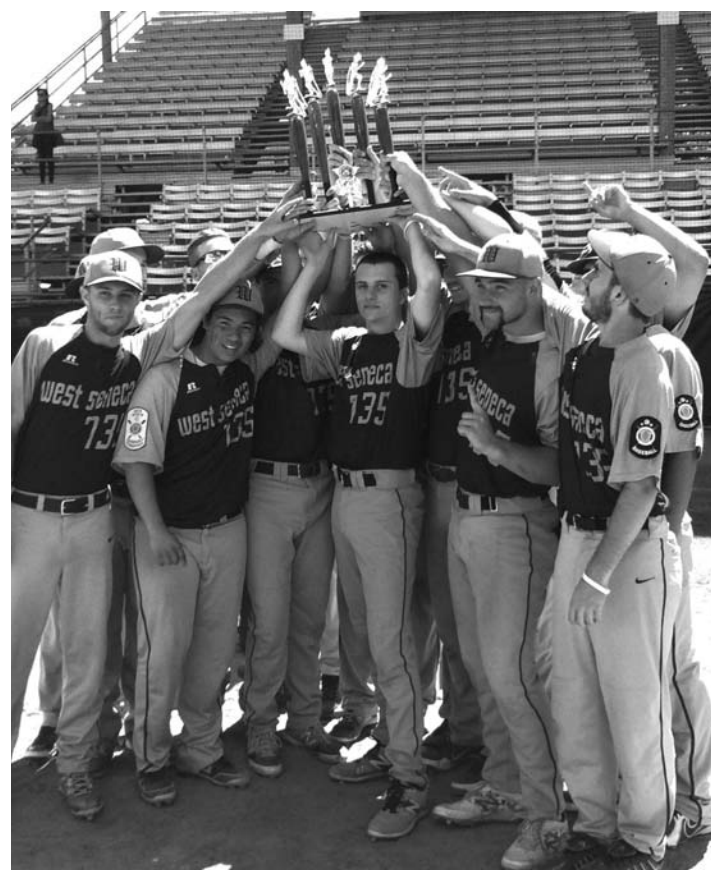
"From a local standpoint, we're bringing people from all over the state



Former Yankee, Bucky Dent takes the field to throw out the first pitch.

to Utica New York to showcase it," he said. "It's great economically, and it's great to showcase this area."

according to Comardo, this postseason competition is expected to stay in the city of Utica until 2020.



West Seneca celebrating their win. Catcher, Matt Schneider told us that their determination and hard work paid off. "We had a great team, we worked hard, kept going, and never gave up!"

Comardo also said that this championship week was another way to support the men and women who had served or are currently serving in the U.S. military.

"If there weren't veterans, there wouldn't be American Legion baseball," he said again. "They put everything behind us to put there kids out there playing. They're all coming from Legion Posts that are all supported by veterans."

Murnane Field has hosted this tournament for four straight years, and

"It (American Legion Tournament) has been ongoing for years, and it has been all over the state a few years ago," Comardo said. "We decided to bring it back (to Utica) because it makes so much sense. It's so centrally located. We had the New York State High School Hockey Championship for 27 years at the Utica Aud., and it made sense because you had teams coming from Western New York, Binghamton, and Watertown. The location for the American Legion Tournament is great, the facility is great, and the county really helps us." ■

Compass Problems

-learning to lead can be such a thorn in your side



By Joseph Parzych

In the Army, learning to read a map and to use a compass were essential to our training. The first time I went out on a map problem with a group of trainees, our practice objective was a stone marker. From studying the contour lines showing elevations on the map, I saw that the marker was on the other side of a hill rising up, right in front of us. The hill was covered with a thicket of treacherous brambles. The map showed a small stream running around the base of the bramble covered

hill.

As the others were trying to get a compass reading to locate the marker, I attempted to convince them that we needed only to follow the stream around to the other side of the hill to find the marker. They scoffed at my idea, saying we needed to learn to use a compass, and they began thrashing through the thicket of brambles in the direction indicated by the compass reading.

I followed the stream along the base of hill to the stone

marker, and sat waiting for them, unscathed. After a considerable time had lapsed, the rest of the troop emerged, scratched, torn and bloodied from their encounter with the treacherous brambles, quite some distance downstream from the marker, since they'd found it nearly impossible to get an accurate reading on the compass amidst the brambles. Our training sergeant then informed us that it was a deliberate trick to demonstrate that a little common sense after studying the map could have saved the troop from unnecessarily battling with the brambles and they could have achieved their objective, sooner.

Quite some time later, while serving in Japan, I took part in another compass practice session. This time it was a night training exercise. Our compasses were dimly illuminated by a little battery powered light bulb to energize a luminous dial. The bulb was dim so as to not be

visible to the enemy, making it barely visible to us!

On this particular exercise, we needed to use two compass readings to find our ultimate target. Our objective was to first find a large steel structure next to a railroad track, using our compass. In a box nailed to a telephone pole next to the structure was a note with a second compass heading that would lead to our final destination, a large barn. With the first compass heading, we had no problem finding the wooden box affixed to the pole near the steel structure. The second compass heading on a slip of paper inside the box was supposed to direct us to a barn.

I have excellent night vision. By crouching low to the ground, I could see both the steel structure and the barn against the night sky. I was aware that a compass needle is magnetized so that the steel structure would draw the compass needle towards it, giving an erroneous reading, unless the

person reading the compass distanced himself away from the structure when using the compass. He then would need to do a little dead reckoning to compensate for the distance he'd moved away from the structure, but that shouldn't have been a problem.

The soldier reading the compass ignored the steel structure, used the er-

roneous reading to lead his followers to wander, aimlessly in the night, lost in the rugged terrain, until long after dawn, while I and another soldier, who had faith in my leadership, found the second compass heading, and retrieved proof that we'd visited the steel structure and the barn. We soon returned to our tents for a good night's sleep. ■

Preswick Glen Residents Travel to Cooperstown to Experience Farmer's Museum



Residents from Preswick Glen in New Hartford enjoyed a guided tour of the Farmer's Museum in Cooperstown, NY. Back row left to right: Jack Cooper, Preswick Glen Programming & Events Director Kyle Leisner, Joe Saden; front row left to right: Shirley Felt, Ginny Saden and Connie Marson.

NEW HARTFORD, NY – Residents of Preswick Glen in New Hartford traveled to Cooperstown for a guided tour of the Farmer's Museum on August 13th, 2015. They visited the vintage farmer's village, a recreation that included an old school house, broom-making shop, pharmacy, doctor's office,

old houses, church, and even an old tavern with boarding rooms. Actors in period dress were on hand to demonstrate the functionality of the recreations, and offer knowledge about the era. The museum also features live animals including cows, chickens, an ox, and more.

"It was a great tour and a

fun day learning about past cultures, and how farmers used to live in the old days," said Kyle Leisner, Programming and Events Director for Preswick Glen. "The residents take wonderful advantage of our transportation to enjoy days like this, and the rich history and culture of Central New York make that easy."

Preswick Glen independent senior living community is a member of the Presbyterian Homes & Services' family of services, which also includes the Presbyterian Residential Community, Presbyterian Home for Central New York, the Presbyterian Homes Foundation and The Meadows at Middle Settlement. Presbyterian Homes & Services excels in providing health care, housing and community services while promoting individual wellness and independence in a dignified manner.

For more information contact Kyle Leisner, Programming & Events Director, at 315-734-9586. ■

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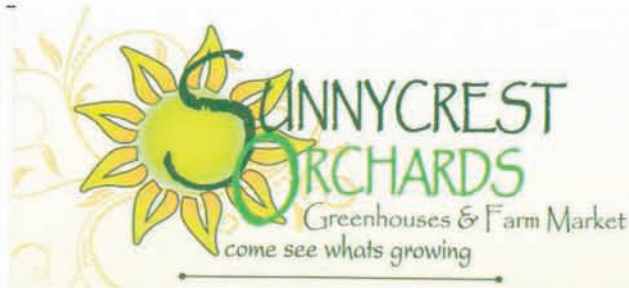


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It's Hard to Say Goodbye



By Troy Bishopp

Charlie Brown said, "Goodbyes always makes my throat hurt". At this time of year, I'm pretty sure there are quite a few parents and students with that certain emotional tickle. I bring this topic up because by the time you read this, I will have said farewell to a group of teenagers who will nourish a community. Even a farmer can get choked up with saying goodbye.

This group of ladies has been on summer sabbatical frolicking in the pasture and learning about the nature of things. They were inquisitive and hungry for adventure with a boisterous side as they played pasture games like: Tic Tac Moo, Swishter, Cow-quet, Hide and go eat and Grass-hole. After a good game, they enjoyed some high quality protein and energy foods with long naps under the shade trees.

If you haven't guessed by now, I'm saying a sad Arrivederci to a group of 40 dairy heifers who will be giving birth this fall and providing America with a vast array of dairy products.

As custom graziers, we work with other farmers who employ us seasonally, to provide their animals with nutritious grass, clovers, forbs and daily care. Over the past 20 years, we have taken in hundreds of "bovine exchange students" and taught them how to eat the funny green stuff, behave as a herd and become accustomed to fending for themselves. We formed relationships with cows and are hopeful they will always value their time here and remember us in some small way.

Many times these future matriarchs come from confinement,

bunk-fed facilities and spend plenty of time on concrete. Keen dairy managers know time out in some lush pasture help tone muscles and build lung function. They place trust in us to transition individuals into a team. It takes patience, good husbandry skills, solid fences and a kind demeanor. I would say we are emotionally and physically invested.

We call, coax and sometimes beg for them to move to a new paddock or through a gate. They are stubbornly cautious and you can't rush them. You have to let them learn. Day by day they gain more confidence and knowledge. In a month's time, you have a transformed group who understand the system and seem to really enjoy a cow's life. They try new flowers, leaves and browse. They love to scamper and run as children would. There is joy in the whole environment as a result.

On our grazing chart as with a college move-in day, there is a date of separation which looms heavy on the hearts. Tonight is that final grazing paddock before tomorrow's journey back to their home farm. As the ladies settle in to eating, I can't help but linger. The funny thing is they sensed I needed some comforting. I owe these animals a tremendous amount of respect for turning sunshine and grass into healthy soil and dairy products to feed a hungry planet.

They surrounded me and looked for a scratch on the head in paying homage for my sincere husbandry. Caring for stock in a compassionate way all the way through to the loading ramp is frankly worth it in terms of being a good farmer. I shed a tear every year over every load of cattle leaving our care. The sheer appreciation of these animals nourishing a country and me giving them the best natural life possible chokes me up.

At the moment when the truck will roll out of site, I wonder how God will perceive my stewardship. For someday, I will say goodbye and return to the earth and leave my lasting footprint upon the grass. "So this is it, I say goodbye; to this chapter of my ever-changing life" ~ Aaron Lewis ■



Life in occupied Japan



By Joseph Parzych

In order to keep the trooper's interest during my Saturday morning talks before everyone went off to town on pass, I spent time in the base library researching the history of Hokkaido. It turned out that some of the attractive Japanese women, who did not look at all oriental, were, in fact, Caucasians. They were Ainu, commonly referred to as Eskimos. The Ainu, whom the Japanese had enslaved along with Koreans who had been imported as slave labor when Korea had fallen to the Japanese.

Slaves were ranked as "untouchables", at the bottom of the five tier Japanese caste system, destined to do the dirtiest jobs, cleaning outhouses, laboring in trenches and working at other demeaning jobs. The U.S. Government, under General Douglas MacArthur, freed the slaves but did not transport the Koreans back to Korea, nor make life easier for the Inuit who had originally been enslaved to work on fishing vessels long before the U.S. took over Japan.

In Japan, women were treated as lesser beings. Women walked two steps behind their husbands. A man could indulge in extra marital affairs. He could even be a sugar-daddy to a Geisha, if he could afford it. On entering a street car, men entered first, and sat, while the women stood. If a woman was already seated when a man entered, she would immediately rise to give up her seat to him.

American soldiers soon changed all that, much to the Japanese women's delight.

One day, a Japanese man

came through our Army base with a dog cart, pulled by a half a dozen mangy dogs. A woman was harnessed with the dogs. We stopped the man and his dogs, freed the woman, harnessed the indignant man to the cart with his dogs, and we sat the woman to ride in the cart. He was outraged and humiliated. The woman who we did not recognize as Inuit, at the time, smiled happily as she rode off with her master harnessed to the cart along with the dogs.

The Army recruiter, who had signed me up as a teenage country boy, had stressed that I could get an education in the Army. He was absolutely right. Though I took evening classes at Hokkaido University, serving in the Army was not the education I'd had in mind. My greatest education was outside the classroom, traveling in the United States and later being immersed in the Japanese culture, traveling in that country, as well. I also saw, first hand, the devastating effects of Doolittle's B-25 bombing raids. Doolittle's bombers dropped Napalm, jellied gasoline, on Tokyo and Yokohama, setting off firestorms that swept through the cities, killing more people than the Atomic Bombs had killed in Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

When I arrived in Yokohama harbor with other soldiers of the U.S. Occupation Forces, we'd expected Yokohama to look like Boston and Tokyo like New York City, since we had no knowledge of the devastation caused by the Doolittle raids. We saw nothing but devastation and people living in shacks of flimsy wood and paper. Children begged for food at train stations with their

mothers keeping an eye on them from a distance. Street children, orphaned by the war, also begged for food. They often rode the U.S. troop trains to cheerfully beg for our K-rations which were chiefly comprised of barely edible stale crackers. I gave them everything in the K-ration but the fruit bar. Had I known how bad they were starving, I'd have given them that, as well.

Japanese newspapers ran recipes for the preparation of grass, which is indigestible by humans. It offered no nutritional value, whatsoever, but chopped fine, grass extended the amount of food so that it added bulk and made people feel fuller. People foraged for edible plants in the countryside, looking for mushrooms and anything fit to eat. We saw Japanese sucking on boney fish heads. By and large, the Japanese were honest, so that gardens or fruit trees were not raided. Homeless people sought shelter in railroad stations. Each morning, a half dozen, or more, people, who had died during the night, were hauled away.

I never saw an obese person in all the time I was stationed in Japan. I later discovered that malnutrition and starvation had been going on in Japan for years. Everyone was short and thin. The Japanese were unable to raise enough food for their citizens, and had imported food from Korea and China for years, leading to the invasion of both of those countries prior to WWII. Decades later, a Japanese professor who I met in the U.S. told me the U.S. Government sent food to Japan during the occupation to stave off starvation. Unfortunately, they sent white wheat flour. The only flour that Japanese were familiar with was rice flour, which does not rise. Again, recipes in the Japanese newspapers offered ways in which to use wheat flour, and instructions in the use of yeast for baking bread, which they had never tasted before, and which they found utterly delightful.

Later, to assuage my feelings of guilt for not giving up my fruit bars to the Japanese street kids, I used my weekly candy ration to buy one roll of Necco wafers in assorted colors and flavors at the Post Exchange. In all

the time I served in Japan, I never saw candy of any kind, sold anywhere, other than the Base Post Exchange. Along with another soldier, on pass, we'd hitch a ride to the City of Sapporo with our Necco wafers. As soon as the street children spotted us carrying wafers, we'd be swamped by shouting, happy children. The first time I doled out a wafer to each smiling youngster in the mob who swamped us with outstretched hands, they handed the wafers to an older boy. I was about to intervene in the older boy's pirating of the candy when my friend said, "Hold on; watch what happens."

The older boy counted heads and divided the wafers by breaking them in pieces, if need be, so that everyone got an equal share. Though I occasionally selected a liquorish flavored wafer, which was my favorite, I got more enjoyment out of seeing the street kids receive the wafers than I ever got from the occasional one I selected. ■

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Colorado Springs police debunk "CSI" myths



By KASSONDRA CLOOS
Colorado Springs Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Compare real-life cops, jail and prison to shows like "CSI," "NCIS" and "Orange Is the New Black," and police will likely roll their eyes.

In honor of National Forensic Science Week, the Colorado Springs Police Department has debunked some of the top myths of being a crime scene investigator or forensic scientist. The myths were busted by Breanne Hornsby, who spent three years as a crime scene investigator in Florida before joining the metro crime lab here. She works as the quality assurance specialist for the lab, making sure it follows protocols to the T as it goes through an accreditation process.

She wanted to be a crime scene inves-

tigator long before such shows became popular, she said, but she pegged "The New Detectives," a late-1990s and early-2000s series that featured mini documentaries on true crimes, as the most accurate.

"I think a lot of them ... are based on reality, but it's just exaggerated," she said. "It's sped up and the technology is exaggerated."

Hornsby is a civilian investigator, like the rest of the lab personnel at the police department. Unlike investigators on many crime shows, she doesn't wear a gun or arrest people.

"It actually really is a cool job, but I try to caution the younger generation that's just now getting into it to go and talk to somebody," she said.

Sometimes, people come into the lab expecting one thing and stumble upon something completely foreign from what they see on TV, Hornsby said.

Here are some other myths, debunked:

1. MYTH: Forensic scientists can examine all of the evidence in a case and determine exactly how a crime was committed and determine a suspect's guilt or innocence.

TRUTH: Forensic scientists collect pieces of the puzzle and detectives and investigators put them together. Scientists have different areas of expertise, so they're typically only working with case information pertaining specifically to the evidence they've been asked to analyze. In real life, Abby from "NCIS" wouldn't do all the work; different

areas of the lab sometimes process different pieces of evidence from the same case.

2. MYTH: Forensic scientists make a lot of money, wear suits to scenes and drive Hummers.

TRUTH: "A white suit at a crime scene would likely get dirty in a matter of minutes," Hornsby wrote. Here, those in the Metro Crime Lab wear black pants and black polo shirts to work. And they're not rich. Most forensic scientists work for law enforcement agencies and "earn a modest middle-class wage."

3. MYTH: Crime scene investigators (CSIs) carry guns, question people and make arrests.

TRUTH: Civilian crime scene investigators and forensic scientists, which most departments use, don't carry guns, question people or make arrests. Crime scene investigators do just what their title says — they go out and process the scene of the crime — but forensic scientists do nearly all their work inside a lab.

4. MYTH: DNA testing can identify a criminal in minutes.

TRUTH: It takes a whole lot longer. The average DNA test takes a week, but it often takes longer because there's a backlog of DNA that needs testing. Once the DNA

is identified, there's no guarantee it will be linked with a person. Police don't have a database of the whole world's DNA at their fingertips. If they can't get a sample from the person who left the DNA to match it against the evidence they find, it's possible the person who left the clue will never be identified.

5. MYTH: Forensics can solve every case because there is evidence left behind in every case.

TRUTH: Not every case has a "smoking gun." Some criminals are smarter than others, and some wear gloves, use bleach, burn a body or toss evidence to avoid being caught.

"Even evidence left behind on a scene may not lead you to the criminal," Hornsby wrote. "Old-fashioned detective work is an essential part of solving cases and can often find out the 'who' before the evidence testing is even completed."

Police also say fingerprints aren't always found at a crime scene, and those that are found don't always lead to an arrest. What's found is often "small sections of a person's fingerprint or palm print that are fairly poor quality," Latent Print Examiner Brian Annen said in a feature Colorado Springs police posted about him on their Facebook page. "The latent prints on the 'CSI' shows look almost like a person's fingerprint would if they had taken it during the booking process." ■

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The 10th Annual Latino-American Festival

By Daniel Baldwin

During the summer, there were a wide variety of Italian and Irish festivities in the Mohawk Valley. The Herkimer County Fairgrounds in Frankfort just had an Irish Festival last July. On July 20, the city of Utica had an Italian Festival on Jay Street, and the village of Frankfort hosted an Italian Festival at the St. Francis Society last June.

But on Aug. 23, residents got a chance to learn and celebrate a new culture. Hanna Park, which is located in Downtown Utica, hosted its 10th Annual Latino-American Festival.

Latino associations, like the Junior Frontier (which has supported this event for many years) and Mohawk Valley Latino Association (MVLA), gathered at this park to have fun, and explain the main goals behind their organization.

"The main purpose (for this event) is to gather all the Latinos together and give all the information that the city or whole Oneida County can offer," MVLA member Maria Tretter said. "We have a lot of (Latino) association that they (Central New York resident) don't know anything about it. So we try to give them as much information as we can for the whole community."

Despite the large amounts of advertising, Latino-American Festival Pres. Tony Colon said that this event is another reason for families or friends to go out and have fun.



"It's just a family day," he said. "It's a fun day. Sundays a day of family and that's just an extension of what we like to share."

This festival was definitely fun for many Latino and local residents. The weather was beautiful, and there were many food vendors cooking and serving Mexican foods. Latino



music was played throughout the park and many residents were dancing to the Mexican beat.

"I had a nice time," Junior Frontier member and Utica resident Asa Beyah said. "Getting to know the different events that are similar. It was nice. I like to enjoy different cultures."

Although the most important reason, why this festival occurs every year, is to bring the Latino society together to celebrate their own culture.

"We want to get our Latino community and families together for the event," Sonia Martinez, organizer for this event, said, "and have something that they can be proud of."

The process towards starting this event, in 2005, was an uphill climb, according to Martinez, but the percentage of festival customers steadily grew each year.

"It started with maybe 50 people, in a smaller park named Heritage Park in Utica," she said. "It started off slow, but people started coming in throughout the year."

According to Colon, the Latinos have been a part of the Central New York community from the early eighteenth century till today, but many local residents may not know that. The event president said that this Latino-American Festival was also a perfect chance for people to understand the history behind the Latino culture.

"There is a lot that folks don't know about Latinos and their history here in this community," Latino-American Festival Pres. Tony Colon said. "Latinos have been in this community since before the French Revolution and Indian War. This (festival) has been a part of our community. Latinos have been a part of this community for many years." ■

The important role played by physical therapists

An injury or illness can impact a person's mobility and ability to perform everyday activities. While medicine and other treatments can help the situation, physical therapists are often sought to help individuals get back on track.

The American Physical Therapy Association says physical therapists examine each individual patient and develop plans using treatment techniques to promote mobility, reduce pain, restore function, and prevent further disability. In addition, physical therapists work with individuals to prevent the loss of mobility before it occurs by developing fitness- and wellness-oriented programs for healthier and more active lifestyles.

Physical therapists frequently work with patients' larger medical teams to provide customized care depending on patients' needs. Physical therapists may begin their treatment plans by gathering patients' histories and reviewing any tests and imaging the patients may have had. This information, combined with physical examinations and studies

of the injuries or illnesses, will help physical therapists to establish treatment plans for the patients.

Men and women who have been told they need physical therapy can heed to the following tips as they look for therapists to work with.

- Get a referral from your primary doctor or orthopedist. With some insurance plans, a referral will be needed for treatment. Otherwise, use your insurance plan's provider directory to find a physical therapist who accepts your insurance.
- Check your insurance benefits to determine how much coverage you have for physical therapy. You may be limited to a certain number of sessions or have no restrictions at all.
- Many physical therapists are board certified in one specialty. They have passed tests and have documented hours treating certain conditions. This can be helpful if you require a pediatric

specialists or one who has expertise with the back or neck. Any physical therapist or therapist's assistant should be qualified and licensed.

- Ask if you will be the physical therapist's only patient at an appointment. Some treat one individual at a time while others may see two or three patients at a time.
- Find out who will be treating you. You may be assigned the same therapist each time. If you are getting services at a therapy group, you may have a different therapist for each visit.
- Always ask questions before and after a treatment so you can continue to work on the healing process on your own and so you know which activities are safe, which should change as your treatment progresses.

Physical therapists play an integral role in helping restore patients' mobility and helping them avoid further injury so that patients can maximize their quality of life. ■

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Review: Lily Tomlin’s in full glory in bittersweet ‘Grandma’



By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
AP National Writer

A movie about a wise-cracking grandma and her teen granddaughter, racing around in a beat-up car to find \$600 by nightfall. You might think it sounds like any number of mediocre road comedies out there, full of trite generational gags and sporting a sappy, all-is-forgiven ending.

You’d be very wrong.

“Grandma” is, instead, a brisk, bittersweet and moving film, rightfully devoted to displaying the singular talent of Lily Tomlin — especially her striking ability to fuse acerbity and crankiness with empathy and humanity, and to find the essential lovability way, way down at the core of an unlikeable person.

The film, directed and written by Paul Weitz, is also about abortion, a theme that could easily have taken

over every line and frame. But somehow, it leaves us thinking even more about what it means to be someone’s mother, someone’s daughter, someone’s granddaughter — and what it means to grow old. Credit for that last part goes to Tomlin and also to Sam Elliott, who darned near steals the show in a scene with Tomlin that, well, they should immediately start showing in acting classes — to demonstrate what two actors can convey in just a few minutes about a lifelong relationship.

Tomlin is Elle, a brilliant poet and professor who, perhaps due to her facility with words, doesn’t mince them. We meet Elle in her living room, mid-breakup with her younger girlfriend (Judy Greer). “You were a footnote,” Elle tells her lover, with resigned honesty more than spite. But in the shower later, alone, she weeps.

We soon learn Elle is still suffering the loss of her longtime romantic partner, Violet, which explains much of her bitterness. She’s also clearly at odds with her stressed, workaholic daughter, Judy (Marcia Gay Harden, pitch-perfect). But when teen granddaughter Sage (Julia Garner, appealingly natural) comes knocking, Elle’s ready to help.

Turns out Sage needs an abortion, and fast; the only free appointment is that evening, and it’s \$600, which has Elle immediately ranting about how it’s impossible to get a reasonably priced abortion these days. Sage has no money, but doesn’t want to bring her judgmental mother into the picture. Elle herself is fairly broke, scraping by on a college writer-in-residence gig. She’s recently paid off her debt and cut her credit cards into scraps, which now serve as wind chimes.

Elle is angry — as we see in an unnervingly funny mini-breakdown she has in a coffee shop — but not at Sage. First, she’s angry at Sage’s obnoxious, good-for-nothing boyfriend, who has no intention of contributing to the abortion until Elle pretty much beats him — physically — into submission and grabs the few dollars he has. They also try Elle’s old friend Deathy (Laverne Cox, of “Orange Is the New Black”), a tattoo artist who can only offer a free tattoo.

Elle has one more idea: Karl, an old flame. She shows up on his doorstep, and at first, it seems like it’ll be an easy solution. But then the layers of the onion get peeled back — suddenly, startlingly. Karl’s laconic demeanor and sexy drawl make it all the more shocking when his emotion — rage, resentment, and more — comes gushing forth. The scene is not to be missed.

Of course, Judy (Harden) eventually must emerge, and she’s a trip: She works at a treadmill desk, and has espresso running through her veins. But Judy isn’t the shrew she initially seems. In one of the better scenes, three generations of women come together for a moment — very brief — in which it becomes clear that even in the nuttiest families, there are bonds that supersede all that craziness.

We won’t spoil the story, but in the end, it’s just Elle on the screen. As it should be. Tomlin, at 75, is operating at full throttle, and she deserves that final shot, all alone.

“Grandma,” a Sony Pictures Classics release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America “for language and some drug use.” Running time: 79 minutes. Three stars out of four. ■

A question of conscience

By **Joan O. Scharf**

The rain stopped and there was a clean washed smell to the mild April evening. The Kid felt good as he drove along. He adjusted

his seat back a notch to accommodate his long legs and squeezed the steering wheel hard with pleasure as he thought again about the car, and how he had talked his Dad into giving it to him

for Christmas rather than waiting until graduation in June. Being an only child, he usually got what he wanted.

It wasn’t a new car. It had a partially crumpled fender plus its share of dents and scrapes, but the motor had plenty of power, and he looked forward to giving the body a good going over come summer.

It was 9:30 PM and the

streets of Eastville were already deserted. He had forgotten his cell phone; left it on the kitchen counter at home. Briefly irritated, a sense of freedom followed. He was unavailable to one and all. As he drove, the Kid thought ahead of college, anticipating the miles it would put between him and small time Eastville. Learning came easily to him. With more concentration he

could have made the top ten of his class, but settled for the mediocre grades he received. His friend Joey, on the other hand, had to put in at least two hours of homework every night to keep up a B average. That was tough. He’d left Joey’s house only a few minutes ago, where they had tossed darts in Joey’s room while talking about school and future plans.

His mind now drifted back to his college applications and a grin crossed his clean shaven face. The independence of dormitory life, plus his car, added up to girls, parties and good times. He loosened his grip on the steering wheel as he fished in his jacket’s inside pocket for cigarettes. His parents would raise the roof if they knew he smoked, he reflected wryly, as he pushed in the dashboard lighter. That’s why he kept a supply of gum and mints handy. The track coach wouldn’t like it one bit either, but as far as the Kid could tell, it hadn’t hurt his wind any.

Restless, not ready to go home yet, he impulsively swung down a darkened residential street, cupping one hand around the lighter as he turned the corner, momentarily glancing down to ignite his cigarette.

He didn’t see the figure of the woman until a split second before impact, and he hit her with his foot still on the accelerator. He felt the heavy sickening jolt, and his brain automatically registered the fact that he solidly hit and in all probability killed someone, but his body, numb with horror, refused to act. Oblivious

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Make the most of sale season



Fall can be an ideal time of year for homeowners to tackle home improvement projects, as the moderate temperatures make for ideal conditions to work in and around the house. In addition, many retailers offer consumer-friendly sales in autumn, helping homeowners to save money. As early as September, many stores begin stocking their shelves in advance of the holiday season. As a result, stores look to unload summer and fall seasonal items. The following are just a few types of items homeowners might find at reduced prices this fall.

Lawn and garden

If you want to revamp your backyard, wait until late summer or early autumn to do so. At this time of year, you can

find great deals on patio furniture, lawn mowers, perennials, shrubs, sheds, and many other lawn and garden items. In addition, check with local contractors to see if they will offer discounts late in the season. Tree-removal companies, landscapers, fence installers, masons, and others may cut prices in mid- to late-autumn as they look to earn a bit more money before the arrival of winter.

Snow removal

Retailers looking to move snow blowers, shovels and other winter accessories may offer teaser deals to attract customers. It's best to purchase such tools now before the first big storm drives up demand.

Conscience from previous

and unfocused, he continued down the street, the now cold lighter still clutched in his hand; the cigarette it was about to light, somewhere on the floor:

Regaining control of his arms and legs, he was finally able to pull to a stop on a side road about three blocks distant. He sat shivering, a tight choking sensation in his chest, unable to deal with the reality of the situation. As the seconds ticked by, he became aware of his surroundings. He was parked on a poorly lit road with a large vacant lot to his right, and the local lumber company, its iron gates now closed on the left. No other traffic was in sight. She must have stepped off the curb to hurry across the street and didn't see him making the sudden turn. His fleeting glance left him with only a vague impression of the coated form of a woman. There was no scream, no screech of brakes...just that dull heavy blow. The vivid recollection of the sound made him unexpectedly nauseated. This was for real! He had run down a woman with his car. She was probably dead. DEAD! Oh, God! What should he do? Clammy sweat prickled along his forehead and formed small rivulets under his armpits.

He had to go back and get help. Yes. Get help. Reaching for the ignition key, he heard the rise and fall of the ambulance siren, and his hand stopped. Someone must have found her. He sat immobile, barely breathing as the minutes passed, then heard the earnest whine of the retreating vehicle. He

ground his clenched fists into his eyes as unrelenting reasoning struck at him in harsh slices. The police. The shocked disbelief of his parents. The looks on the faces of his friends. Prison instead of college. No no, NO NO!

He repeatedly slammed his hands against the steering wheel until he felt the hurt and tried to collect himself. Abruptly, with a fresh shaft of fear, he remembered something. His Aunt Maggie lived on that street, the one where it happened, just a few houses away from the accident. Perhaps she had seen and recognized his car. He sagged against the side of the door. As thoughts led him on, he recalled his mother mentioning at breakfast that Aunt Maggie was down with the flu, and their good friend and family physician, Dr. Alex, recommended she stay in bed for a few days. It was likely she hadn't seen anything after all. His mother said something else concerning Aunt Maggie, but as he often did the Kid had tuned out the rest of her conversation.

God, it was quiet here; not a vehicle or person passed by since he parked. Slowly he climbed out of the car. On trembling legs, he walked around to the front. The grill didn't appear to be changed. The left fender looked much like the same dented wrinkled fender that it had been. The lighting was dim, but in his brief inspection, there seemed nothing to indicate recent violence.

He didn't know exactly at what point he made up his mind, but when starting the car, he headed in the direc-

tion of home, and not for the police station. With no witnesses, he reasoned, why involve his family and mess up his future? Besides, there was nothing he could do for the woman now.

As he pulled in the driveway and shut off the motor, he noticed the downstairs lights were still on. He glanced at his watch. 10:25PM. He had hoped to avoid conversation with his parents, but they were waiting up for him, probably wanting to know where he had been.

He rubbed his sweaty palms against the thighs of his jeans, took a few deep breaths then opened the front door, nervously pulling off his jacket as he entered. He could see his father in the living room, feet propped on the hassock, watching the late news. As his father looked up to say something, the phone rang.

"Lucky break," mumbled the Kid to himself, running to pick up the kitchen extension. It would likely be Joey with one more thing to tell him. He would joke around a minute or two on the phone, call a brief good night to his parents, and dash up to his room to be alone.

He picked up the receiver. As he held it to his ear, he became aware of his father's questioning gaze, but the voice on the phone had to repeat several times before the Kid could grasp the meaning of the words.

This is Dr. Alex Samson at the emergency room of the hospital. I'm very sorry, but there's been an accident... You knew your Aunt Maggie

had been ill didn't you? Well, I'm so very sorry to have to tell you this, but your mother was taking a pot of soup to her, and your Mom was struck by a hit and run driver as she was crossing the street. We did everything we could, but she died shortly after the ambulance reached the hospital

Hello? Did you hear me? Hello? Is your father there? Hello? Hello? ■

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Sales from previous _____

Cooking appliances

Manufacturers typically introduce new stoves, cooktops and other cooking supplies in advance of the holiday season. Older models may be discounted to make room for the new arrivals, and you may be able to score even bigger savings on floor models. If renovating the kitchen is in the works, wait until early autumn to start appliance shopping.

Painting supplies

The weekends surrounding Labor Day and Columbus Day are also great times to find deals on home improvement, as retailers know customers have extra time to complete projects during these long weekends. Paint, rollers and other supplies may be discounted on such weekends, and you also may find discounts on power tools.

Vehicles

If you are in the market for a new SUV or truck to transport your home improvement project supplies, autumn is a good time to visit a dealership. Many dealerships liquidate their inventory in autumn to free up space for new model releases about to hit the market. Come autumn, you may find it easier to negotiate financing and leasing deals. Homeowners can save on home improvement projects and other needs by taking advantage of late-summer, early-autumn discounts. ■



Local Hamilton Boy Makes Good

—Former Syracuse New Times Owner Publishes Memoir

HAMILTON, N.Y.—Art Zimmer, former owner of the Syracuse New Times, the Zimmer Car Company and numerous other Central New York enterprises, has written a memoir that recounts his rise from a farm outside Hamilton, NY to become a business and community leader in the Syracuse area for most of his 76 years.

"Making It Count: From A to Z, the Life and Times of Art Zimmer" tells the story of his life on the farm in Randallville, NY, where he earned the distinction of finishing last in his high school class at Hamilton High School before heading out into the world where he started successful business after successful business—all based on hard work and a keen eye for consumer-based marketing. Often one to take the path less traveled, he writes about riding a Vespa scooter all the way to his U.S. Army placements in Arkansas and Texas; of helping to run the Onondaga Ski Club and to rescue Syracuse's foundering alternative newspaper, The New Times, which he owned from 1984 through 2010.

The author writes frankly about the movers and shakers he worked with

through the years, from the late former Syracuse Mayor Lee Alexander to county and state politicians, business leaders, and others.

His other ventures included magazines like Family Times, the Parenting Guide of Central New York; a local maple syrup and candy company that helped him pay for college; and real estate, where he bought, rented, and sold many properties over several decades. He bought the Zimmer Car Company because he liked the name and loved the high-end classic Duesenberg-style cars it produced. He envisioned and founded the SALT (Syracuse Area Live Theater) Awards and helped Frank Malfitano realize his dream of establishing the SAMMYS (Syracuse Area Music Awards). Zimmer also was a charter board member of the Syracuse International Film Festival.

When he felt that too little was being done by the theater industry to recognize the greatest musical era in American history, Zimmer took it upon himself to write a musical revue, "Cruizin' Thru The '50s," and staged it successfully at the Fairgrounds in Syracuse for

almost a decade.

All along the way, Zimmer has been a collector of talent, leading people of diverse backgrounds to embrace a common purpose and work toward a common goal. "I like to

Marketing Executives in 2005. Two years earlier, he was named New York State Entrepreneur of the Year in a competition sponsored by USAToday and Ernst & Young.

The book was co-authored by Art's wife and frequent business partner, Shirley Sherburne

Zimmer; and by CNY writer and editor Lois Gridley, with illustrations by Dennis Calkins. It includes reminiscences and back-cover endorsements from a host of CNY celebrities and political leaders who worked with Zimmer. It is available at area bookstores after Sept. 15 and can be pre-ordered online at the publisher's Web site starting Sept. 1 at www.logcabin-books.com. ■

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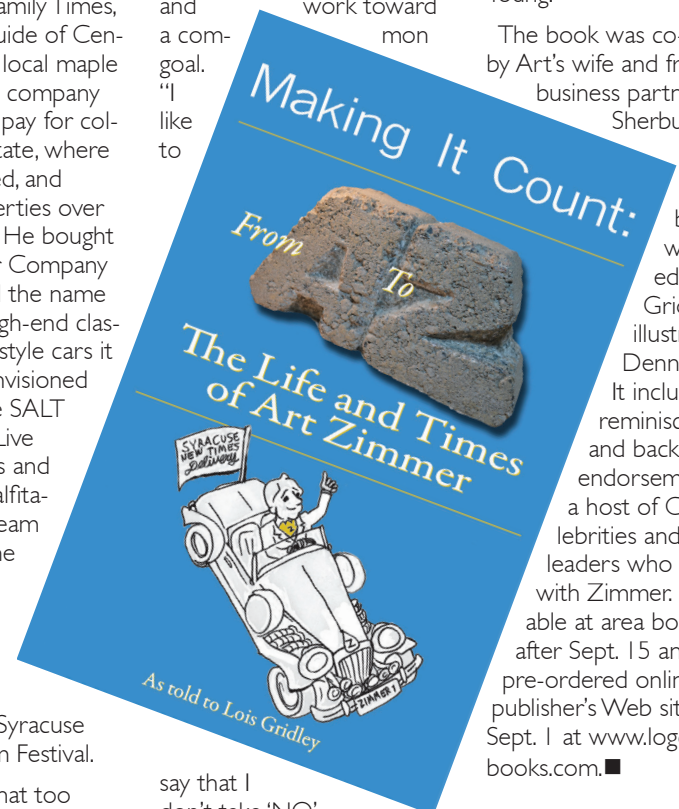
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saying that I don't take 'NO' for an answer," he writes in the book. "A final answer, anyway." The man who has worked with many, but has never been outworked, won the Crystal Ball Award given by the Central New York chapter of Sales &

A filling morning meal for overnight guests



Many families enjoy hosting overnight guests come the holiday season. Waking up to a full house and enjoying a leisurely breakfast with family and friends is a great way to begin a new day, and such moments make for great opportunities to catch up with loved ones. The following recipe for “Gratin of Eggs, Leeks, Bacon, and St. André Cheese” from Betty Rosbottom and Susie Cushner’s “Sunday Brunch” (Chronicle Books) includes the staples of a traditional breakfast: bacon, eggs and toast. But this dish also can be assembled the night before and simply popped into the oven the next morning once everyone wakes up, making it an ideal morning meal that allows hosts to join in the breakfast table conversation.

Gratin of Eggs, Leeks, Bacon, and St. André Cheese
Serves 6

- 1 baguette, about 2 1/2 to 3 inches in diameter
- 6 thick slices bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 cups chopped leeks, white and light green parts
- 6 ounces St. André cheese, well chilled (see note)
- 6 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups half-and-half
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon minced flat-leaf parsley or chives
- Unsalted butter, for the baking dish
- Generous 2 pinches of cayenne pepper

1. Arrange a rack at center position and preheat the oven to 350 F. Generously butter a 9-by 13-inch baking dish.
2. Cut enough 1/2-inch-thick slices from the baguette to make a single layer in the baking dish. (You will probably need between 20 and 24 slices; save extra slices for another use.) Arrange the slices on a baking sheet and bake without turning until crisp and very lightly colored, 10 minutes. Remove and arrange the slices in the baking dish.
3. In a medium, heavy frying pan set over medium heat, fry the bacon pieces until crisp and browned, 5 minutes. Drain on paper towels.
4. Pour off all but 1 tablespoon of the drippings and return the frying pan to medium heat. Add the leeks and cook, stirring, until just softened, 4 to 5 minutes. Sprinkle the leeks and bacon over the bread slices in the baking dish.
5. Cut the St. André cheese with its rind into 1/2-inch cubes and scatter them over the leeks and bacon in the baking dish. In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs to blend, and then whisk in the half-and-half, salt and cayenne. Pour the mixture into the baking dish. Let the gratin stand at least 1 hour, or cover the pan with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. (If the dish has been refrigerated, let it stand at room temperature for 30 minutes before baking if you have time. It also can go directly from the refrigerator to the oven but will take longer to cook.)
6. Bake the gratin until the egg mixture is set, the top is golden and the mixture is bubbly, 40 to 45 minutes (10 to 15 minutes longer if straight from the refrigerator). Remove and let cool for about 5 minutes. Sprinkle with minced parsley and serve hot.

(Note: St. André cheese is a mild, triple-cream French cheese with a white rind. It is available at many grocers and cheese stores. If you are unable to find it, you can substitute a triple-cream Brie.) ■

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Our Cover Story

Dr. James Brummett DMD & Dr. Patrick Cardinale DMD

– changing the face of dentistry one smile at a time



Dr. Patrick Cardinale, DMD (left) and Dr. James Brummett, DMD are joining forces to bring you the best in dentistry. A shared passion for excellence in patient care makes these two a sure thing for your family's dental needs.

By Al Dorantes

Dr. James Brummett DMD and Dr. Patrick Cardinale DMD are excited to announce they are merging their dental practices into

one extraordinary place to receive your dental care! Their combined practice provides a more convenient location for their patients and an efficient facility for the doctors to practice

Gentle and Relaxing Dental Care for the whole family. With their combined years of experience, patients will have unsurpassed dental care, availability, and treatment options.

Both Dr. Brummett and Dr. Cardinale have extensive educational backgrounds. Dr. Brummett is a 1998 graduate of Troy University in Alabama and a 2002 graduate of the University of Florida College of Dentistry. He completed an Advanced Education Residency in the US Air Force at David Grant Medical Center in California where he received awards for being an outstanding resident in his class. He has also expanded his practice of dentistry by completing a 1 year master Clinician in Implant Dentistry program at the prestigious GIDE Institute in conjunction with the UCLA Dental School Continuing Education. Dr. Brummett practiced in Florida for several years prior to moving to the area. His family is originally from

Upstate New York. Being an active person, Dr. Brummett is discovering all that the Mohawk Valley has to offer. Dr. Brummett is an avid runner and participated in the Boilermaker this year. Above all, he is passionate about providing the best to his patients with the most current treatment and options available.

Dr. Cardinale and Dr. Brummett share a passion for excellence in patient care. Dr. Cardinale has been providing this excellence to his patients for 39 years in his Utica practice. Dr. Cardinale is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania College of Dental Medicine and like Dr. Brummett, completed an Advanced Education Residency. Dr. Cardinale has dedication to dentistry unlike most. He is currently sharing his dedication by shaping the next generation of dentist as an adjunct professor at LECOM School of Dental Medicine in Florida. He has also served as the director of dental services at Mohawk Valley Nursing Home for 24 years. Dr. Cardinale enjoys being a part of the community and has volunteered as a soccer coach, officiates for high school football, and is currently the chairman of the New Hartford Police Commission.

Over the past year, Dr.

Brummett and Dr. Cardinale have been working together and treating each other's patients in an effort to ensure that care is always available. These efforts have demonstrated that both doctors possess the highest qualifications and share a passion for dentistry. They are both eager and delighted to merge their practices into one patient centered dental practice. Dr. Brummett said, "One of the benefits of merging the two practices is that there are two doctors with similar styles who are covering the practice. You will always feel comfortable with either doctor."

Dental assistant, Jamie Hennessy, added, "We interact with patients and we get to know patients; they become like family to us."

The combined office is conveniently located at 1231 Mohawk St. Utica, New York just a couple of blocks north of the Parkway across from Historic St. Agnes cemetery. This facility allows the doctors to provide a relaxing and comfortable environment with the highest quality dental care available. Dr. Brummett will begin seeing patients at this facility starting September 11th. The facility has five treatment rooms that will provide more space for the doctors and their staff to have the ability to spend

more time with patients, reviewing options, and answering questions. This will allow the patient to feel educated and comfortable to make a decision about their treatment needs.

The services include all areas of dentistry: dental hygiene including periodontal cleanings and treatment, implants, cosmetic (veneers, bonding, and whitening), endodontics - root canal, restoration (bridges crowns, dentures, bonding), oral surgery (extractions, including wisdom teeth, extraction site preservation, bone grafting), orthodontics (Invisalign).

Dr. Brummett said, "I always treat patients as if I'm the one in the chair, and has held this philosophy, since day one of practicing. We strive to maintain a light and fun atmosphere in the office. We love what we do and it shows, we laugh and have fun but, we are very serious about dentistry, preventative care, and providing the best to our patients."

Dr. Brummett and Dr. Cardinale are trying to change the stereotyped mentality behind dentistry. They are making it stress free, pain free, and remember that if you are good you can pick a prize from the treasure chest. For more information go to: www.jamesbrummettdmd.com ■

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SCHOOL'S OPEN, DRIVE SAFELY



Setting a Restless Soul to Rest

—a well invested \$40



By Joe Parzych

When I joined the Army in 1946, WWII was not long over. While taking basic training, our supply sergeant asked to borrow \$40 until payday. He seemed like a nice guy; I was 17, he needed the money because he was getting married, and

payday was just a few days away. Our pay was doled out next to the supply room where he worked. "There's no way you can lose," he said, and gave me his most prized possession—a Japanese flag he'd taken off of a Japanese soldier killed in battle—to hold as security and to show his good faith.

The sergeant went AWOL; I shipped out right after payday and never saw my \$40, again.

Later, the Army shipped me to Japan. On Hokkaido, I showed the flag to some Japanese construction laborers at our base, hoping to return the flag to the dead soldier's family. They

Here is the clipping of the Japanese news article featuring the flag that author, Joe Parzych took as collateral for a \$40 loan.

spoke no English, shrugged, and went back to work. I later figured out from their appearance that they were Ainu, Japanese Aborigines, who are untouchables and probably could not read the Japanese writing on the flag.

After discharge from the Army, I finished Mt Hermon School, went off to college, got a job and got married, moving 18 times the first five years of marriage. The flag went with us—twice to California—and was never lost in all those moves. We eventually moved back home to Gill where Mt Hermon School is located. I contacted a student, there, who was from Japan, but

he didn't respond. Then---in April of 2001, while visiting Ellis Island to check on my parents names listed when emigrating from Poland—we met a Japanese couple. They were teachers who spoke fluent English. I told them about the flag. The husband, Mochida Rihee, doubted that the owner's family could be found after more than 55 years, but agreed to try if I sent him the flag.

From Japan, Rihee wrote to tell me he'd received the flag and had contacted the newspaper, Shizuoka-Shinbun, with the story. There were 15 names of fellow soldiers who had autographed the flag. He sent me a clipping of the article with a picture of him holding the flag. Unfortunately, I can't read Japanese.

We corresponded by post and, then, via email. A man from the war veteran's organization contacted Rihee after seeing the flag article in the Shizuoka-Shinbun

newspaper. The man told Rihee he knew the family of the owner, because they had always been interested, but unsuccessful, in finding the remains of the owner, Yoshida Kichiji, who had been killed on Okinawa. Kichiji's son was contacted. Rihee said the son wasn't interested, but his daughter, the flag owner's granddaughter was.

"He is too proud a person, she says. I guess her father was brought up strictly by his father Yosuda Kichiji, who was a policeman before he joined the war. She wants to know how he died, and how you got the flag," Rihee wrote.

Professor Rihee sent the battle flag to the granddaughter. The professor wrote me to tell of the family having a memorial ceremony in a Buddhist temple with the flag, "to comfort the soul of the soldier, so that his restless soul may rest." ■

Spinning into his 70's:

—A retiree who refuses to slow down

By Carly Proulx

At 69 years I can only hope to have half the work ethic, drive, and attitude that Woody Herman has. Out on route 29 in Galway NY there is such a man by this name, and he has one of the most magically preserved plots of land, an eccentric and colorfully blooming paradise if you will, that I've yet to see in this region of Central New York.

When he's not growing fresh vegetables, pruning his trees thriving with white plums and pears, taming the golden raspberry patch, watering rows of various perennials, building anything from bird houses to furniture from locally sourced maple, he's volunteering his "born for radio" voice live on Saratoga's WSPN Skidmore college radio-91.1 FM. And don't think any of this busy work stands between him and his two black labs getting their one hour daily walk in. Despite the thermometer reading -20 in the stubborn grips of winter, sure enough at 4pm Woody is out there making Bones and Ward blow off their canine steam.

Though the college has repeatedly offered him a year round spot on the show Woody has graciously declined. In his 19th year of spinning vinyl as Skidmore's summer dj Woody admits he won't do the show all year long because it takes away from the students who pay over 50k to be there. "America's been good to me" says Woody, as he feels fortunate enough to have had supportive parents back when he returned from paying his dues in Vietnam all those years ago. Immediately upon arriving in the U.S. Woody would enroll in college, 4 years later graduate, and continue on to become a teacher at Boces, teaching ex-cons and troubled kids up until his retirement 35 years later. Although retirement for Woody didn't come attached with the same connotation that it does for some at his age. In his case the word would not be associated with relaxing, basking on beaches in the sun, and lounging around the house as the clock ticked by. According to Woody Herman "Slowing down is the kiss of death."

After purchasing and re-storing a falling down house on an unkempt property where he lives now Woody started out making and selling furniture. Having remodeled the building back up to a solid structure with that old country character he turned the first floor of his home into a country shop, the shed outback into his carpentry work shop, and the barn into a place to paint his bird houses. On his plot he sells beautiful iron sculptures that stand scattered about his yard amongst the backdrop of ponds and random statues and sitting areas, creating many a geometric pattern throughout, lending themselves to a backyard view that tells the onlooker somehow this entire wonderland just appeared for their viewing pleasure. The reality is Woody has spent thousands of dollars at his local nursery, and thousands of man hours giving this place its majestic appearance. So as not to abandon his dogs Woody travels the bare minimum, but once a year, and decided that if he couldn't seek out paradise he would simply create his

own.

So my question was how does a 50 yr. old retired teacher, present gardener and carpenter end up on the radio? Woody dishes out the scoop from the beginning, and tells me it all started when he was traveling down Daniels Rd. in Saratoga. "I heard "Baby oh baby" by the Shells" exclaims Woody, which for those of you who haven't heard is a beautiful duet song. After discovering what station it was Woody called up the d.j. Fast forward six months later, and many a phone call in between, and Woody and that d.j. would become good friends.

Not needing an FCC license for college radio Woody soon began his new endeavor. As these guys do their own engineering, and having no experience prior using this sort of equipment Woody confesses his first year was a bit of a disaster. However, soon enough he'd learn the ropes, and was surprised the followed popularity his show would attain. Due to the outlet of radio listening on the internet Woody was now taking calls

from out of state.

His gig is playing non-hits, and when he's not buzzing around like a bee in his own backyard and in his shop spends his time researching

music, reading biographies and the like to keep his show interesting and informative as well as pleasing to the ear. He's always learning, and currently reading up

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hello AGAIN



Hello Again,

This old world keeps on spinning and spinning around and around. With all of that spinning have we the inhabitants really changed that much? Ever since the Mayflower landed on the east coast of this "New world" the conversational banter remains with who is the best. First it was the Whiteman thinking he was superior to the red man. The whites were called English and the reds were called Indians. The English knew they were superior but the Indians knew they weren't. To prove their superiority both sides felt it was just ok to shoot a few from the other group. So the whites – rather than getting along started killing off an Indian or two and found it was sort of fun and a mark of manhood. And Indian warriors standing in

his community grew with each raid or kill.

As the years went by if the Whiteman felt it was ok to shoot a few Indians there certainly could not be anything wrong with owning a few Black slaves. In the mean time the English were fighting with the French. The Germans were fighting with their neighbors and the Russians thought fighting was just a plain way of life.

Shortly after the 2nd World War years my mother was entertaining a few ladies with an afternoon tea. Mrs. Hearn a highly respected lady in our community asked, "Have you noticed that a Polish family has moved up to the old Robert's farm? What is this country coming to with all of these foreigners moving in? My mother who

had arrived only a few years earlier from Ireland did not have her United States Citizenship papers yet. Mom with her Irish brough smiled and said "maybe you will like them when you have a chance to meet, I know they are buying groceries in Mr. Hearn's store.

During World War II the Germans (Krauts) and the Japanese (Japs) were our enemies. The Russians were our friends and allies. Within a few years the Germans and the Japanese were our Friends and the Russians were our enemies.

Now we seem to have a new kettle of fish. During earlier times we had several different political parties. But they seemed to behave as American - United States Citizens. Now the democrats and the republicans act as citizens of different countries. Sometimes it would appear that both are against the United States of America and totally dedicated to their political parties, or some global philosophy.

The Holy Bible says that God created man in his own image. His name was Adam then he created his wife Eve. All mankind came from this couple. Wouldn't it seem that we should find some-

way to "Get along" with each other and eliminate the nasty nicknames. In sort of a way of speaking – didn't we all get here on the same boat.

If you see Shirley (Nanny) Putnam of Fort Plain wish her a Happy Belated Birthday. Nanny was 91 on August 19th. The world has never been the same since 1924.

The following is a repeat Hello Again Dated Sept. 13, 2010. I enjoyed Ed's "Pig-Tale" and decided it was worth repeating. This is an example of Ed's polished blarney.

Hello Again,

My friend Ed likes to spin a yarn once in awhile. You could say sometimes he helps the truth out just a little bit. In Ireland they might say he uses a wee bit of the blarney! According to Ed.

When we kids were young our family was very poor. Just to survive Dad kept a cow for milk and butter, a few hens for eggs and chicken dinners along with a few pigs. One night a thief broke into the barn, stole some eggs and a couple of our best laying hens and ventured further into the

pigpen and took a couple of piglets.

Both Dad and Mom were so sure it would happen again, they moved the sow with her piglets into our house cellar for safe keeping.

For the next few years Mom would take the table scraps along with leftovers mixed pig ration and fed the pigs in the cellar.

One morning, Mom slipped and got hurt on the cellar stairs. Dad being the inventive type cut an 8-inch hole in the floor under the kitchen table. After that we just tossed our scraps while we were eating down through the hole to the pigs in the cellar.

A busy body type neighbor heard about the pigs being kept in our cellar and called the board of health. One day a health agent showed up at our door. Mom answered her knock, which seemed extra loud and sharp. There she stood in her gray flannel suit holding her wooden cane, which had been used to rap on our front door and asked if the complaint about the pigs was true. "Oh yes!" Mom said, and invited her in to see the pigs through the hole under the kitchen table.

To say the least, the agent was flabbergasted and with an all knowing voice looking over her glasses and down her nose to Mom asked, "Don't you realize how terribly unhealthy this is? It will cause all kinds of disease and sickness!" All Mom replied was, "I don't think so, we've been feeding the hogs that way for several years now and not one of the pigs has ever gotten sick!"

If you run into Ed, ask him if this yarn is true or blarney!

Life is full of laughs and some sorrow. If we are willing to share both with the Lord, life seems to run smoother. Today, talk with the Lord and say "Hi" to a neighbor, see if it doesn't make life seem just a little bit easier.

May the good Lord continue to bless you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

Fred Lee

P.S. Yesterday while I was bopping around on my Can Am 3 wheeler, I was hailed to pull over. I thought he wanted to talk about the Hello Again, turns out he wanted to buy the 3 wheeler!

Clifton's Cafeteria

–One of the 50 things I need to do before I die

By Joseph Parzych

When my wife and I were living in Los Angeles, my mother sent word that a friend from Rhode Island said we had to be sure to dine out at Clifton's Cafeteria. My wife said, "If I'm going to eat out, it's not going to be in a cafeteria."

We didn't eat out often because we couldn't afford it, but a few months later my wife's friend, who had worked at the telephone company with her, came to visit. My wife and her visitor went out to muscle beach to admire the body builders, to the big ballroom in Santa Monica where people sometimes danced barefooted, and to Olivera Street to see Mexican arts & crafts.

After taking our visitor to various other attractions, our visitor said she just had to go to Clifton's Cafeteria as part of the 50 places she had to see before she died.

Clifton's was like no other cafeteria we'd ever seen. The décor was a Hawaiian motif with real palm trees and a gigantic waterfall cascading down one wall into a rock rimmed pool below. Floor shows took place periodically while singers sang from a balcony between times. A scantily clad lady walked around with a tray of cigarettes and cigars. A photographer took our picture with a big Graf Reflex camera. At the end of the evening he presented us with a matted black and white photo documenting our visit to

Clifton's with irrefutable proof. The wide selection of food was wonderful and the deserts were to die for. The cost was a more than at an ordinary cafeteria, but it was well worth it.

Clifford Clinton combined his first and last name to Clifton for a chain of restaurants started in 1931. He maintained a precedent established at his first



Clifton's in downtown LA has now been closed for its remodel since September 26, 2011, it was then planned to last three to six months, while the restaurant gets a new kitchen and a redesigned serving area. In February 2012, the remodeling process continued with the "unveiling" of the original 1904 building facade, with the removal of the 1963 aluminum facade. They estimated that the cafeteria would reopen in about 18 months. This is taking forever... at this time, no new news on an expected reopening date could be found.

restaurant of never turning away anyone hungry. Of the chain, Clifton's Cafeteria is the sole surviving restaurant, now owned by his children, and still in business, recently undergoing an extensive \$3 million restoration. The cafeteria is located at Broadway and 7th Street near the downtown theatre district, and apparently does not turn away any performer who wishes to audition.

We made another trip to Clifton's with a couple we met while in California. The man was from Scotland and his wife was from Brattleboro, Vermont, where my wife had lived prior to marriage. The Scotch-

man worked as a construction laborer but fancied himself a singer. He'd come to Hollywood to be discovered. That evening, he convinced Clifton's management that he was a singer. He appeared on the balcony and belted out a Scottish Ballard, rolling his r's while gesturing grandly. Alas, there were no talent scouts in the audience that night and he went back to his job as a laborer.

My wife died seven years ago; but someday, I'm going back to Los Angeles to revisit Clifton's Cafeteria as one of the 50 things I need to do before I die. ■



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Spinning from 17



on a female duop group called the Non Romancers. Rather than sitting there watching T.V. Woody's got an open book on his lap, and follows up the statement with "it keeps ya young." On the show there's not much he doesn't spill, teaching his listeners between song picks and requests about the writers, labels, producers, and artists. He sometimes plays the same songs by different artists, but refuses to play the Beatles. The only such song he'll play is a song called "Cry for a shadow" by the Beatles former identity, Tony Sheridan & the beat brothers.

He's full of behind the scenes facts on old rock n' roll, and he's more than willing to tell all on the show. As rock n' roll really progressed in the 40's, and Woody was born in 46' he was raised in a generation that couldn't possibly fathom playing, as they do on today's radio, music that doesn't involve real instruments. A generation that invented their own music, and changed American society as a whole. Woody spends at least 15 hrs a day listening to music, and half jokingly confesses during the interview "I'm really giving into you by turning off the music." He's got three record players in his barn, outdoor speakers on every outdoor structure of his property, cassette players and tapes, an uncountable collection of 45s, 78s, and 33s, and over 200 books on rock n' roll.

The radio show comes without a paycheck. On the contrary it can cost

him 10k or more in equipment and records a year; but as Woody doesn't consider himself a professional d.j. he tells me it's just for fun. I think he does it because his German work ethic won't allow him to sit still, but it sure does seem like Skidmore won the lottery the day they played "Baby oh baby." In whatever spare time he manages to find Woody will do free record appraisals for senior citizens. "There's money to be made if you know what

you're looking for," says Woody.

He was once offered a large sum of money for an old rockabilly record in mint condition. But just like he wouldn't sell his dogs for a million big ones he held on tight to what truly holds value to him in this world. And to Woody that's music, companionship, teaching, and mastering the art of keeping busy with his chin up. ■

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“

Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity.

-Henri Nouwen

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Top 5 renovation tips to create more space in your home



(MS) — As real estate prices continue to climb, the cost to trade up to a larger home is on the upswing across the country, especially as markets remain hampered by tight inventory levels. As a result, more and more Americans are choosing to renovate their current homes instead of relocating. In fact, some forecasts predict that 2015 renovation spending could exceed the

record of \$324 billion set during the peak of last decade's housing boom. While the hunt for more square footage can be challenging, homeowners shouldn't feel like a costly second story or complete addition are the only options.

Here are five great ways to create or optimize space in your existing home.

1. Finish an unfinished basement. A basement renovation can hold limitless potential and increase the resale value or income potential of your home. Think about the possibilities: a home theater, office, spare bedroom, basement apartment or recreation room. The key to doing it successfully is to focus on what's behind the walls, especially since moisture is a common issue in basements. Choosing the right insulation is critical. Look for products that are vapor permeable, dimensionally stable and mold and moisture resistant. Many contractors use Roxul Comfortboard IS semi-rigid

sheathing board paired with Comfortbatt batt insulation to combat thermal bridging and protect against mold and mildew growth. An added benefit of this type of mineral wool insulation is that it's also fire-resistant to 2,150 F. For interior walls and ceilings, Safe 'n' Sound insulation is ideal because of its ability to absorb noise and indoor traffic sounds, ensuring your newfound space is a peaceful one.

2. Create a more open-concept feel with light and color. If your home wasn't blessed with towering windows, installing French doors and pot lights can encourage light to travel more freely, creating the illusion of space. Likewise, choosing a paint color for walls, trim and moldings that is lighter and cooler in tone (think soft grays or blues) will help to reflect light and give the room a more open feel.

3. Remove non-load-bearing walls. Homeowners have the opportunity to rethink the layout of their home by removing non-load-bearing

walls. Removing structurally unnecessary walls can make your whole home feel larger, improve flow, lighting and the function of your home.

4. Convert your garage into usable living or work space. For many homeowners, the garage becomes an overflow room for storage — and is often a walk-in headache. Convert your garage (or a portion of it) into another living space, guest bedroom or home office. Install carpet and quality thermal insulation such as Roxul Comfortbatt to block outdoor noise and keep in warmth.

5. Choose furniture and accessories carefully. Adopt a minimalist's eye. Begin looking around your home for furniture or accessories that overwhelm the space. Interior designers recommend choosing low-profile or small-scale furniture for rooms with less square footage. Dual-purpose items, such as ottomans with storage chests inside, are a budget-friendly way to save on space while staying organized. ■

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Earth-friendly tips for autumn

Autumn is upon us, and with the change of seasons comes the fall to-do list that must be completed before the arrival of winter weather. Many outdoor jobs are best completed before temperatures drop, while others can be tackled indoors to help save energy and prepare for increased time spent inside the home.

Outdoor cleanup

Autumn means leaves are falling from trees and littering landscapes. Cleaning up leaves can be a time-consuming task, but it's necessary to promote the health of lawns and other plants. Grass that is completely matted down with leaves can become starved for light and moisture, and lawns may even rot when forced to spend winter beneath fallen leaves.

One eco-friendly timesaver is to shred leaves with a mower (a manual mower is preferable) and leave them as topdressing for the lawn. As long as the grass blades can be seen within the leaves, the lawn should be fine. Shredded leaves will decompose and add necessary nutrients and organic matter to the soil naturally.

Leaves also can be used in annual flower and vegetable gardens to improve the soil. Mulch made from shredded leaves can be placed on the soil around trees and shrubs. This helps to reduce weed problems and protects root systems from harsh temperature fluctuations.

Clothing donations

It's time to pack away summer clothing and once again fill closets and drawers with sweaters and jeans. Before packing away your summer wardrobe, conduct an inventory to determine if there are any items you no longer use. Donate these items or use them as rags when cleaning.

Keep some short-sleeved shirts accessible so you can layer them under sweatshirts and sweaters. The heat from layering will be trapped against your body and keep you cozier, reducing your reliance on HVAC systems to stay warm.

Home repairs

Check the roof for any missing shingles. In addition, look for spots where animals or insects may be able to gain entry into your home. Seal these areas and repair any leaks. This will make your home more efficient later on when winter hits its stride.

Remove window air conditioners for the winter. If they can't be removed, seal them with caulking or tape and cover them with an airtight, insulated jacket. If you have forced-air systems, move furniture away from the vents so that air can flow better around the home and keep it comfortable.

Check weatherstripping around windows and doors and make the necessary adjustments. Installing additional insulation also can help reduce energy consumption.

A few tips can help homeowners prepare for autumn in eco-friendly ways. ■

Creative ways to recycle leaves



Leaves cascading down from trees indicate the arrival of autumn. However, colorful and awe-inspiring autumn leaves can be a hazard if left to lie on the ground too long.

Fallen leaves form a dense insulator to protect trees' roots and prevent competing plants from growing. Decomposing leaves also provide nutrients for the tree. But wet leaves can be a safety hazard and leaves left on the lawn through the winter can pose a threat to the grass. These are just a couple of reasons why so much effort is placed on leaf clean-up in the fall. The following are some creative ways to recycle leaves that fall from your trees in the weeks to come.

- **Mulch:** Shredded leaves can make for a great amendment to fertilizer for garden beds and even the lawn. Leaves lying on the grass can be mulched into small pieces with a mulching mower so they don't choke the blades of grass. Leaves also can be broken down with a string trimmer, a leaf blower that has a vacuum function or a commercial shredder/chipper. Add the shredded leaves to a compost pile or use them to fill con-

tainer plants before adding regular potting soil.

- **Insulation:** Collect leaves to mound over delicate perennial plants and shrubs. The leaves will add more warmth to the soil and may help plants make it through harsh winters. Just remove the leaves slowly when spring arrives so that the soil underneath can get the sunlight and water it needs to thrive. Leave some leaves in the yard so that animals can use them as nesting material and line their dens for the winter.

- **Stuffing:** Create whimsical scarecrows as part of your autumn decoration scheme. Gather older clothes that you no longer use and stuff the sleeves of shirts and the legs of pants with leaves, which are less expensive and easier to come by than straw. Use a few pieces of straw around the neck and hand areas of the scarecrow for visual effect. Tie off with twine and display your scarecrow.

- **Bedding:** Chicken owners can use fallen leaves as bedding in their chicken coops. Dry leaves also may create more comfortable

and drier conditions for goats and other livestock. Goats may look to recently fallen leaves as a nutritious food source. Gather the leaves and let the goats munch before you further rake and compost the leaves.

- **Decorations:** Natural leaves can be used as decorations both inside and outside a home. String freshly fallen leaves together and wrap them around a grapevine wreath for a rustic door decoration. Leaves can be placed in clear vases and put on display for a cheap way to showcase some autumn color. Preserve favorite leaves with a lamination

machine or by sealing them between heated sheets of waxed paper. Cut out the leaf shapes and use for hanging window decorations.

- **Recreation:** Leaves have long been favorite toys for children, who eagerly await jumping into large piles of fallen leaves. Fill paper bags with leaves and draw a target on the front. Let kids test their skill aiming for the targets. Children can camouflage their clothing with leaves and masking tape and have a more intense session of "hide and seek." ■



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Guide to replacing home siding

Few home improvements can transform a home more than the installation of new siding. Replacing siding can be a costly venture, but the right siding will maintain its appeal for years to come.

Updated siding can improve home's energy value by enabling owners to save on heating and cooling costs. A new design and color also can improve a home's property value and set it apart from neighboring properties. According to the Professional Builder's Home Exteriors Survey, exterior design and materials used are a top priority for new home buyers.

Project costs depend on the size of the home as well as which siding material homeowners choose.

Considering new siding is a major renovation, it pays to get the job done right.

Choose a qualified contractor

It is important for consumers to do their research when it comes to siding materials and contractors. A contractor who takes shortcuts or improperly installs the siding may void a manufacturer's warranty. Always ask family members and friends for recommendations before choosing a contractor, and check out each prospective contractor's work for yourself. Interview more than one contractor and compare both their costs and what they offer. Ask plenty of questions of the contractors,

and avoid those who try hard-sell methods. Questionable contractors may try strategies like a promise of a considerable discount if you "act now" or scare tactics that your home is unsafe in its present condition.

Be sure the contractor carries general liability insurance as well as workers' compensation insurance for their subcontractors. Ask for a license number as well and verify its accuracy.

Select a durable material

Siding comes in all types of materials — from wood to plastic to fiber cement — but vinyl is among the most popular due to cost and availability. Research how well particular brands of



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Exterior painting pointers

A fresh coat of paint on a home's exterior can give a property a vibrant new look. Whether you decide to go with a bold new color or repaint a house in an existing color, new paint can add some life to the exterior of your home.

Summer has long been considered the ideal season to paint home exteriors, but advancements in technology have made it easier to paint

home exteriors later in the year. According to paint manufacturer Sherwin-Williams, traditional latex-based paints need temperatures above 60 F to cure properly. Sherwin-Williams also notes that one of the more common mistakes homeowners make when painting their homes' exteriors is to paint during times of the year when temperatures fluctuate greatly between the days and nights. When nighttime temperatures dip considerably lower than they were in the afternoon, dew will form and the paint can stop coalescing. When that happens, moisture gets into the uncured paint and surface staining and adhesion problems may result. So even if the temperature is a comfortable 60 F during the day, homeowners should avoid painting if the nighttime temperatures figure to drop considerably.

In addition to choosing the right time of year to paint, consider the following painting pointers to ensure your home's exterior gets the fresh look you are aiming for.

- Monitor weather reports. It's not just the temperature at night after you paint that should be monitored. Sherwin-Williams advises that the temperature should be in the suggested range and above the dew point for at least 48 hours after application so the paint film can form properly. So applying a fresh coat of paint on a beautiful autumn Saturday is not ideal if Sunday figures to



than the paints of yesteryear, so you likely won't need to paint your home's exterior again for a long time. A budget-friendly yet low-quality paint will not only make your home less appealing, but you will likely need to paint again sooner than you will if you go with a higher quality paint.

- Don't paint to cover up a problem. Rotting wood or siding is unsightly, and some homeowners think paint can cover up such a problem. But paint will not stick to rotten wood and siding, and the problem will still be noticeable after you paint. A fresh coat of paint is not the solution to rotten wood or siding. Consult a professional contractor if your home is experiencing such a problem.

A fresh coat of paint on your home's exterior can be a great way to improve your home's curb appeal. But it's important homeowners follow some of the same rules the pros adhere to when painting the exteriors of their homes. ■

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siding stand up to conditions and which are the least likely to crack, warp or discolor. Find this information from online reviews or through consumer advocacy groups. Also remember, vinyl and other synthetic materials have improved and can now mimic the look of many other materials for a fraction of the cost.

Calculate how much you need

Before you price out siding with contractors, estimate

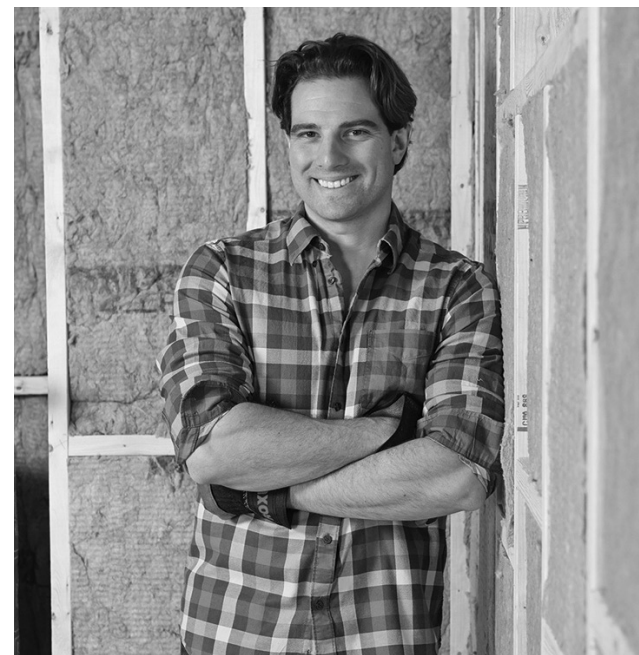
how much you will need for your house. Consumer Reports suggests multiplying the height times the width of each rectangular section of your house in feet, going by what you can measure from the ground, to determine their areas. Multiply the approximate height and width of gables and other triangular surfaces and divide each total by two. Then add all the totals. To allow for waste, don't subtract for doors, windows or other areas that won't

be covered. Finally, divide the total square footage by 100 to estimate how many squares of siding you will need. A square represents 100 square feet. Knowing how much you need can save you money.

Vinyl siding can completely transform the look of a home and make it more energy efficient. Consumers who do their homework will get the best value for their investments. ■

Four easy tips for a basement makeover

(MS) — By Scott McGillivray



The start of a new season is the perfect time to check some tasks off of your “to-do” list — whether it’s to get in shape or tackle at-home projects. If you’re planning on making some simple but effective changes at home, here are some tips on how to give your basement a total 180-degree makeover.

Soundproof it

Installing acoustic insulation is the perfect excuse to crank up the subwoofer, host a get-together or let the kids run wild. Soundproofing is the ultimate solution to maximize your basement’s peace, quiet and privacy. Industry experts suggest using Roxul Safe n’ Sound, which effectively absorbs sound and is easy to work with.

Out with the old, in with a floor

Installing a new floor or updating the existing one can improve the overall comfort level and look of your basement. Many unfinished basements have basic concrete flooring, which is cold year-round. Flooring options are endless — hardwood, laminate, cork and Berber flooring all add warmth to a basement bedroom or TV room; play mats are

great for kids’ playrooms; and carpets are perfect to make any room feel more comfy and welcoming.

Get creative with a fresh coat of paint

Transform the dull and boring space into an inviting entertainment oasis or a colorful playroom with a simple coat of paint. When considering the paint, think about what color will compliment your existing furniture. To add some drama, consider adding depth and visual interest to your space with a different colored accent wall.

Accessorize it

Throw pillows, rugs, lighting, and artwork are simple additions that can immediately enhance or change your basement’s look and feel. Pot lights can modernize, while art work and throw pillows can add a splash of color. Decide on a theme and color scheme for your room and keep your eye out for staple pieces that will make it feel like an entirely new space.

Scott McGillivray is the award-winning TV host, a full-time real estate investor, contractor, author, and educator. Follow him on Twitter @smcgillivray. ■

Tips on shopping for new appliances



Now may be the right time to make large appliance purchases. Know the product before visiting the store.

As the weather turns cooler, outdoor improvements become less practical. Homeowners’ thoughts may turn to projects they can tackle inside of the home. Now may be the time to consider the purchase of new appliances that can be the finishing touches to renovated spaces.

Fall is prime time to purchase new large appliances. Manufacturers typically unveil their latest models during September and October. At this point, prices on older models will be reduced to make room for new ones. By the end of the year, any older models that have not yet been cleared out will be discount-

ed further. Even though the end-of-the year deals will be better, the selection may be limited the longer you wait.

It is best never to wait until an appliance is on its last leg for repair or replacement. Then consumers do not have the luxury to price shop nor find items that include the features they desire most. Here are some other buying tips.

Research

Shoppers should begin their research at home before they even enter a store. Make a list of features you want in the appliance, which helps narrow down the playing field and better focus

your purchasing decisions.

Once you have a list handy, speak with friends or family members about their experiences with brands and/or retailers. Ask about which features they like the most and how often they have had to call for repairs. If they could do things differently, what would those things be?

Know your space

Perhaps you are familiar with the adage to measure twice and cut once. The same can be said for measuring prior to purchasing an appliance. Be sure you know the exact measurements of the space that will house the new appliance. Take into

consideration the clearance needed to open doors, such as with a refrigerator or front-loading washing machine. It can be a waste of time and money to have an appliance delivered only to find it doesn’t fit at the time of installation.

Energy savings

Consider appliances that reduce energy usage. Energy Star® appliances are produced in adherence to international standards for energy efficiency. The program was started more than 20 years ago by the EPA and the Department of Energy. Since then, other countries have adopted the program. Appliances that feature the Energy Star® logo use 20 to 30 percent less energy than required by typical federal standards. Homeowners who purchase qualifying appliances may be eligible for tax breaks and other incentives.

Consider your lifestyle

It is easy to be overwhelmed and awestruck by the number of appliances available. You may desire the biggest and best there is, but if you are not a superstar in the kitchen, you may not need the commercial stove. A bachelor may not require an oversized washing machine.

Do your research and comparison shop so you won’t have any regrets later on. ■

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Helen Hunt Jackson



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KEEP CLUTTER AT BAY

Useful items to
keep your home
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Photo courtesy of Getty Images

FAMILY FEATURES

As summer gives way to a busy fall and schedules get a bit more hectic, things have a way of getting disheveled. You can get your home reorganized and looking great with just a little bit of TLC and some helpful storage solutions. From those stray groceries that haven’t found a home in the pantry to shampoo bottles that linger on the bathtub ledge, these options can help you get reorganized and maximize your storage space.



Bathe in Luxurious Elegance

Bring a sophisticated look to your bath with organizers that combine stunning design with superior function. Shower accessories from the LINEA collection – single, double and triple dispensers, as well as a shower basket and squeegee – are crafted with crystal-like elements and completed with rust-proof metal features. A beautiful storage solution inspired by contemporary perfume bottles, LINEA is the definition of modern luxury. See how you can accessorize your bath with elegance at dispenser.com/linea.



Take Pride in Your Pantry

Add style in the pantry with shelving that is not only functional but looks good, too, with ClosetMaid Close Mesh wire shelving. Available in white, nickel and satin chrome finishes, the deck wires are spaced 5/8 inches apart instead of the standard 1 inch, to keep small items from tipping. Maximize storage space by using the shelving with the ShelfTrack adjustable bracket system, which makes it easy to make room for pantry items of various sizes. Purchase at ClosetMaid.com and HomeDepot.com.



Organize with Aesthetics in Mind

Maximize space, storage and organization with a pocket door system. The Demi Tall Pantry Cabinet from Wellborn Cabinet, Inc. is ideal for kitchens of all sizes. Pull out units, sliding shelves and motion sensor lighting make organizing and locating items easy, while adding a pleasing aesthetic to the room. For more storage solutions, go to wellborn.com.

Converting garages into livable spaces



Many people decide to upgrade from their apartments or condominiums out of a need for more space. But even after moving into a new home, homeowners may soon begin to outgrow the room they have.

Rather than looking for a new home, some homeowners consider expansion. Expanding a living space can be expensive, and a more affordable option may be converting existing basement or garage space into something more livable. Garages already are built on a foundation, have four walls and a roof overhead, so a garage-conversion project is merely a matter of turning this utilitarian area into a living space.

Before beginning the renovation, homeowners should consider the benefits versus the cost of converting the garage. For those who are planning to grow old in a house, a garage conversion can be a worthy investment. But those who intend to sell their homes rather than retire in them may learn that a converted garage can affect home value and make it less desirable at resale. Compare your home to others in the area and see what your neighbors have done. If converted garages are the norm where you live, your own renovation may fit in with others.

Always apply for the proper permits and learn the zoning laws to see if a garage conversion is acceptable in your town or city. It's best to go by the book so that work can be done in a proper manner and be inspected for safety.

Many homeowners hope their garage-conversion projects will make their garages seem like a seamless part of the rest of the house. To do so, you will need to remove evidence the space was once a garage. Slab floor will need to be raised and insulated. Walls also will need to be insulated and finished to improve comfort and soundproofing. Many garages do not have windows, so for the garage to function as a renovated space, windows may need to be added.

One of the biggest transformations will come by way of modifying the garage door entry. Some homeowners prefer to leave the existing door so that the home still has the appearance of a garage from the curb, while others remove the garage door and rebuild the exterior wall so that it has a window or another architectural element. An architect can help suggest design elements that will camouflage the original garage look and make the space seem like it was always part of the main living area of the home.

Landscaping work also can minimize the appearance of an old garage. Rather than having the driveway end at the wall of a home, shrubbery, pavers and other techniques can blend the garage renovation into the rest of the yard design.

Transforming a garage into a living space can add several hundred square feet to a home. Hire a reputable contractor and follow the municipal guidelines for modifying the space to ensure the job is done right. ■

4 simple ways to winterize your home

1. Plug leaks

Leaky windows and doorways can cost homeowners money year-round, allowing cold air to escape on hot summer afternoons and letting cold air in on brisk winter nights. When such leaks aren't fixed, homeowners are more liable to turn up their air conditioners or heaters, unnecessarily padding their energy bills along the way. Before winter arrives, check areas around windows and door frames for leaks, as well as any additional openings, such as chimneys, that may allow cold air in. Use caulk or weather strips to plug these leaks, and enjoy your warmer home and lower energy bills as winter weather gets colder and colder.

2. Inspect your chimney

If your home has a chimney, chances are you have not used it since last winter. During that time, the chimney has likely accumulated some dirt and grime, and may even have served as home to some uninvited critters. As the season for fireside chats approaches, have your chimney serviced by a professional so it's ready for use and you are not greeted by some unwanted guests upon lighting your first fire.

3. Clear the yard

Autumn days, particularly late autumn days, can be gusty, and strong winds can cause branches to fall off trees. Branches big and small can cause damage to cars, siding and roofs, and smaller branches can get clogged in gutters, potentially causing gutters to back up and leading to leaky roofs that damage a home's interior. Take a walk around your property at least once per week during the fall, clearing any fallen limbs and trimming branches that appear one strong gust away from falling off of trees. Remove any branches that are hanging over your home and driveway so they don't pose a threat to your house or vehicles.

4. Turn off outdoor water supplies

When temperatures get especially low, pipes with water still in them can freeze and burst, potentially leading to significant water damage. When you no longer need to water the lawn and when temperatures get too cold to wash your car in the driveway, be sure to shut off the water supply to outdoor spigots and sprinkler systems. Once you do that, drain them so no water is sitting in the pipes when temperatures dip.

There are many ways to winterize a home, and homeowners should take every precaution necessary to ensure their homes are safe and warm as the cold weather season approaches.

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Bring Tailgating Home

It's a trend some are calling "homegating." Kick off with the grill. Food

makes or breaks a home-gate. Get the grill off the sidelines. So many times the

grill is in a corner, but that takes the host out of the game.

"Keep the grill close to the action," said Russ Faulk, grillmaster for Kalamazoo

Outdoor Gourmet. "That way, the cook can talk with guests during the game."

Pizza ovens get your guests involved in the cooking, Faulk said. Some companies, such as Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet, offer countertop versions.

When the weather gets cooler, fire pits offer a place to warm up while watching the game outdoors. They also create opportunities for more activities, like making s'mores.

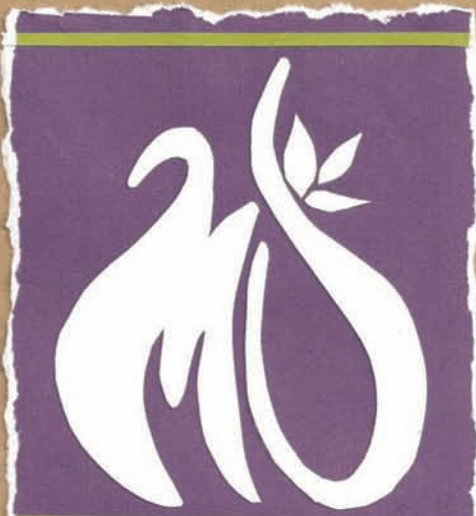
As for the menu, Faulk recommends individual-sized appetizers - like sliders and mini tacos.

Mix it up at halftime

Fire pits, smokers and pizza ovens make the party more interactive for guests, Hillebrand said.

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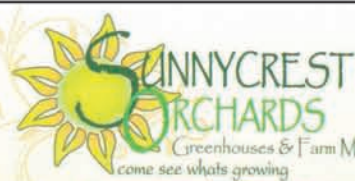
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Kalamazoo Sliders

Servings: 4

- 1 red onion
- extra virgin olive oil
- fine sea salt
- 4 pretzel rolls, about 3 inches in diameter
- 1 pound (15 percent lean) ground beef
- 4 ounces Cambozola cheese, cut into chunks
- 4 cocktail skewers

Prepare the grill for direct grilling over high heat, about 700 F grill grate temperature.

Slice red onion into 3/4-inch thick slices. Oil both sides and season with salt. Reserve.

Slice pretzel rolls. On dessert plate, pour oil and dip cut sides of each roll to coat evenly. Season oiled side with salt. Reserve.

Form ground beef into patties 1-inch larger in diameter than rolls and about 3/4-inch thick. Recess center of patties so when burgers plump, they will turn out flat.

Brush each patty on all sides with olive oil and season with salt.

Grill onion slices until translucent and soft, about 10 minutes. Remove from grill, break slices down into rings and reserve.

Grill beef patties, turning once, 3-4 minutes per side. Flip patties, adding large ring of onion to each patty. Add small ring or two of onion inside larger ring. Add cheese on top of onion.

While cheese is melting and bottom of patties are cooking, lightly grill rolls.

Gently remove burgers when done and transfer directly onto pretzel rolls. Skewer each burger.

\$100 Contest Winner

You could be the next lucky reader



This issue's lucky reader was Donna Dell'Anno of Yorkville! Donna picks up her copy of EDITOR at Function Better Studio 55 in Yorkville where she works. Donna also works as Smiley the Clown and will be performing this weekend at the Utica Zoo at a great event sponsored by the Power Authority. She will be there Saturday from 10-4.

When I asked Donna, who I have known for years, what she enjoys most about her EDITOR she said that she LOVES the local historical "old timer" articles, as well as Amanda Comstock's Hair

Matters column. She said that Amanda's column was a favorite when I published PULSE magazine and she was thrilled to see it continue with the merging of EDITOR. We were too Donna!

Donna also shared with me that the ads from local businesses are a favorite of hers too. "Seeing what our local area has to offer is great. I love to support our local businesses and it makes it easy to do that when they are in EDITOR."

The new contest clue can be found in the promotional advertise-

ment on page 37 of this issue. We wish you all good luck! The winner will randomly be drawn a day earlier than usual this time around as EDITOR will be busy at the Business EXPO at the Aud on Wednesday the 16th. The winner will be drawn on Tuesday, September 15th at 4pm and will be announced in our September 25th issue!

Congratulations Donna! Best wishes to you as Smiley the Clown this weekend and thank you for being such an avid reader! We appreciate your kind words. ■

Tips for a healthy school year

Encourage handwashing

Frequent handwashing is a great way to prevent illness. Handwashing habits are essential for school-aged children and should be taught as soon as possible. Children should wash their hands after they use the bathroom and before they eat.

Stop (some) sharing

Sharing develops good manners and can foster new friendships. But children should be discouraged from sharing food, drinks and other personal items. Once the item has been placed in a child's mouth, it should not be shared.

Take a sick day

Rare is the student who will never come down with an illness. When kids get sick, keep them at home. Schools may have guidelines indicating when it is acceptable for children to return to school, and it's important that parents adhere to those guidelines so illnesses cannot spread around the school.

Promote adequate sleep and nutrition

While adults may need between seven and nine hours of sleep a night, children often require more. The National Sleep Foundation recommends eight to 13 hours of sleep a night for school-aged children. Parents also should feed kids nutritious diets consisting of a variety of foods. Avoid high-calorie junk foods, reserving such items only as special treats every so often. ■



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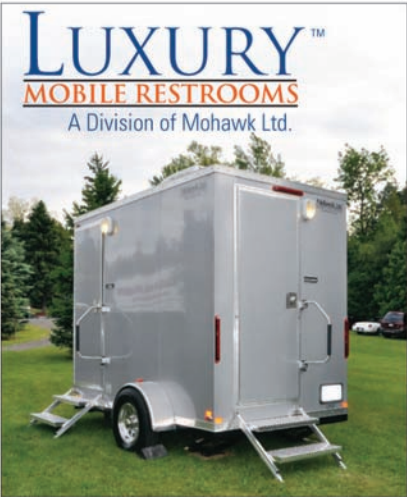
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Barona

– the light at the end of a long day

By Joseph Parzych

I met Barona after our barn burned down in 1939. We'd had a spell of bad luck. A year earlier, during the Hurricane of 1938, we watched as our neighbor's barn roof was lifted about 20 or 30 feet in the air, completely intact, with the slate roof perfectly in place. When the roof stopped rising, the timbers and boards fell apart, and it all fell to the earth, pieces of slate fluttering down

like confetti. The hurricane then came raging upon us. It lifted our big hen coop high off the ground, letting it fall back to earth to smash into a pile of splintered lumber. Continuing north to a wood lot adjoining our farm, the wind uprooted a large number of big trees, two or three feet in diameter.

The very next year, our barn caught fire. My father had a heart attack fighting the

fire, and the barn burned to the ground. He lay in bed at the hospital for a week or two before the doctor sent him home with instructions to take a shot or two of whiskey whenever he experienced discomfort, or felt it coming on. My father was pleased to be in the care of such a learned healer, and followed the doctor's instructions with a fair amount of zeal.

There was no insurance on our barn. The company doctor wouldn't allow Pa to return to work at his job in the paper mill. A relative slapped together a temporary shelter of sorts using slabs we were planning to use as firewood. But, we needed permanent shelter for our farm animals. Since Pa didn't have insurance, nor money enough to hire someone to build a new barn, he decided to build the barn himself with our help. The hurricane had flattened a pine grove of big trees on a neighbor's woodlot. Pa bought the fallen pine trees, cut them into logs, and transported them to a saw mill to be sawed into lumber to build a new barn.

He and my mother used a two-man cross-cut saw to cut the trees into logs. His heart condition limited his exertion, so I spelled him when he got tired. One day after a vigorous spell on the saw, I sat, out of sight, resting in the cool hole of the upended tree with my back against the big circle of tree roots and dirt of the stump. It stuck up about eight feet in the air. When the stump was just inches from being severed from the tree trunk and ready to fall back into the hole, my father looked around, asking, "Where's Joey?" He nearly had another heart attack when he found me sitting in the hole with my back to the stump which was ready to slam back down to squash me like a bug. When my parents cut the stump loose from the fallen tree, it flipped back slamming into the hole so hard, the ground shook. My father held his hand over his heart and shook his head.

Once we got the logs cut, we loaded them onto our home-made trailer pulled by our home-made farm tractor made from a cut-down car. My father transported the logs to a saw mill three or four miles away. He could only take one or two of the big logs at a time, and seemed to take half the summer. The saw mill was next to a river that supplied water power. The mill was on the first floor of a shop where they'd once manufactured hoes, rakes and other hand tools. The owner and his family had had their own share of bad luck. Their dwelling, which was a converted warehouse, had also been destroyed by the hurricane. The family was able to salvage the contents, which they transferred to the former hoe shop.

My sisters were friends of a daughter of the mill owner. I had occasion to go with my sister to stop by, one evening, and I was intrigued by the living quarters on the second floor of the mill. The second floor had a walkway, bridging it to the embankment near the spot the warehouse had once stood. Walking over the walkway felt like we were walking over a drawbridge on a castle, but this shop was no castle. Furniture was arranged in the large open second floor of the mill in groupings, as if they were on display

in a large furniture store. A sofa sat flanked by end tables, with a coffee table in front of it, an easy chair and a rocking chair stood on either side of a settee to complete the living room group. A dining room table and chairs stood in front of a china closet. Work benches still lined the wall with pulleys overhead. There were small rugs scattered about in an attempt to make it look homey. There were bedroom arrangements with beds and bureaus. Sheets and bedspreads hung next to the bedrooms in a rudimentary screening for privacy.

Massive overhead beams held huge shafts equipped with large pulleys. Flat belts linked overhead pulleys to small pulleys on machines next to work benches along one wall. Extension cords snaked overhead and along the floor to table lamps. Clothes hung from hangers on spikes driven into the outside wooden walls. Family members acted as though this was a completely normal dwelling, offering no explanation or excuses for the arrangement.

Since the mill owner worked full time in a tool shop in a nearby town, he only operated the sawmill part time. He had a painful dry eye condition and constantly blinked. He periodically closed his eyes tightly, as if to squeeze out tears to wet his eyes. I liked the scrawny old man. He once asked me to rake some dusty hay, paid me 25 cents and gave me a pearl handled jackknife. He was small, and at a distance had the appearance of a young lad. His big boned wife loomed over him like a Holstein cow overshadowing a frail calf. Her mouth spewed angry words sharp enough to cut steel. Their son, who had his mother's build, was a drunk. He was supposed to operate the saw mill because of saw dust irritating his father's eyes.

Since my father was anxious to get our logs sawed into lumber so we could build the barn before winter, he would send me to check on the progress, or lack, thereof. With trees downed by the hurricane all over the countryside, the saw mill was loaded with work. Our logs would often appear to be the very next ones in line to be sawed, but if someone came in with a bottle, the son would allow them to put their logs ahead of my father's, much to my father's dismay. I didn't at all like dealing with the drunken son, or with his ill-tempered mother. But, it didn't do any good to complain, anyway. Both parents seemed afraid of their volatile son, even when he was sober.

The only bright side to this situation was Barona, the mill owner's lovely daughter. She was not only pretty, but shapely. Her chestnut hair fell in soft folds and shone with reddish highlights in the sun. Though friendly, she was quiet and seldom smiled. She always looked sad and troubled. I first saw Barona when she was delivering a plate of cookies she'd baked for her father. He often took refuge from his wife's ugly moods by moving into a shed, where he had a bed, a chair, a small table and a little wood stove. Barona brought him his supper, each day. She'd later return to collect the dirty dishes. Before picking up the dishes in the late afternoon, Barona often took a walk in the woods on a logging road that ran next to the river feeding the

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Barona continued



mill pond. One day, she invited me to come along with her. Since she was a few of years older than me, I felt flattered since I was only eleven. She said she sometimes just needed to get away, for a little while. At first, we didn't talk very much. Still, it was all very

companionable. I loved just walking along the river next to lovely Barona. I began to check on the progress of my father's logs, more frequently, timing my visits to coincide with her father's supper time. Barona began waiting for me by the abutment out of sight of the shop at

the end of the iron bridge spanning the river. As time went on, she began telling me how much her family troubled her, and I began to be more and more attracted to her; flattered that she'd confide in me.

"My brother is supposed

to run the saw mill," Barona said one day as we walked along the river; "but he's usually in a bar room getting drunk. Mother makes excuses for him, and when he comes home too drunk, she won't let him run the saw mill. It's dangerous and he doesn't turn out lumber that's square. Then Pop tries to saw logs, and his eyes get red and swollen from the sawdust."

One day, Ken and Doody, two older boys whom I knew from school, were lying in wait down beside the bridge abutment, out of sight of the mill and Barona's mother. They seemed to know Barona's routine. When she arrived, we all began walking along the wood road. The brothers walked on either side of her and crowded me out. Barona scowled and wrung her hands. The brothers tried to put their arms around her; but she shrugged them off.

The day's heat still lingered as we continued along the wood road. There was a fair amount of jockeying by the boys. Barona didn't talk as she usually did when just the two of us walked together. In fact, she didn't talk at all. I followed behind. Soon, shadows began to lengthen. Then, trees began forming a darkening canopy over the road. I began to fear that something might happen to Barona. When we got to a swimming hole, the boys talked about taking a swim.

"But, we don't have our bathing suits," Barona said. "And it's getting late."

"We can swim in our shorts, and you can wear your T-shirt," Ken said.

"Come on, Barona, it's getting dark. We're just going to take a quick dip and we'll head right back," Doody said.

"Be a good sport."

I began to worry when Barona finally relented. She hid in the bushes to undress, while we stripped to our shorts and dove into the shallow pool. Soon, Barona came running out, holding down the bottom of her T-shirt. When she got to the river bank, she let go of her T-shirt and extended her arms to dive into the pool. The T-shirt jumped up. I caught a glimpse of a patch of dark pubic hair and her milky white derriere as she dove into the pool. When she stood up, water came a little way above her waist. Her wet T-shirt left nothing to the imagination. She stood in the pool like a water nymph, as breath-taking beautiful as Venus de Milo.

I began to fear for her safety. After a brief swim, Barona scampered back into the bushes. Doody started to follow.

"Leave her alone," Ken growled. His voice stopped Doody in his tracks. I felt glad that Ken was there.

Barona emerged from the bushes, fully dressed, carrying her wet T-shirt. She tied her hair up in a chignon as we walked back toward the mill along the wood road. It was dark, now. A tree frog called. I worried that Doody would make advances toward Barona, again, but Ken kept him in check. When we got to the road, Barona ran for home.

The next time I came to check on the logs, Barona was waiting for me. A white flower pinned in her hair gave her the appearance of a Hawaiian beauty. My heart began to thump as we began our walk together in the woods, again. I told her how beautiful she looked. Barona smiled and took my

arm. She said she was glad I was there the day the two brothers insisted she go swimming with them. I felt grownup to be regarded as a protector.

"They scared me," Barona said. "I'll never, ever, go walking in the woods with them, ever again."

Barona's drunken brother finally sawed our logs, ending my cherished walks with Barona. Her family built a new house on the old foundations of the warehouse, so that the new house still looked like a warehouse. My father also built our barn that summer. He supervised the construction while my mother and we kids did much of the work. From time to time, he would take a break and sit holding his hand over his heart. We built the barn the way he learned to build in the old country, which was post and beam construction. He tied the barn together with cables and the roofline never sagged.

Barona's brother began drinking more and more, prompting his girlfriend to break up with him. In a drunken rage, he went home to get his shotgun. His mother locked him in the house when he went inside to get his gun, but he jumped out of the second story window, with the gun, drove to his girlfriend's place of employment, gunned her down and shot himself.

I don't know what ever happened to Barona. After we hauled the lumber home and built the barn, I took a ride on my bike to visit Barona, but she'd left home, her mother said. I never saw her again. With Barona gone I felt an empty place in my heart. ■

Safe school carpooling

Students have a few different options to get to and from school. In areas where school bus service is provided, children have an easy way to get to class each day. But if no bus service is available, students must be driven to school by their parents or neighbors.

Busy parents frequently ban together to form carpooling teams to ensure students get to school on time. Carpooling is eco-friendly, convenient and can foster stronger relationships between students and the parents of those students. Sharing rides also can be fun for kids and motivate them to get out the door so they can see their friends.

Safety should be a priority for carpoolers, and drivers can take the following steps to ensure kids get to school safely.

- Know the laws regarding safety seats as they pertain to

age, weight and height.

- Each child will need to ride in a seat that is appropriate and shortcuts should not be taken. If there isn't room in the vehicle to sit all children comfortably and in the proper restraint, then you must reduce the number of passengers in your vehicle.
- Children should ride in the backseat of the vehicle as a priority. Many kids can be safely moved to the front seat around age 13.
- Instruct children to remain in their seats until the car has come to a complete stop. Only then should they remove their seatbelts.

- Make sure students enter and exit the vehicle on the curb side instead of on the street side.
- Instruct passengers to keep their hands and heads inside of the vehicle. If necessary, engage child locks on doors and windows.
- Do not leave a child alone at an empty home in the afternoon. Wait until you see a child go inside his or her home before you drive away.
- Keep the radio low and minimize distractions while driving others.

Carpooling is a great way for parents to share the responsibility of getting kids to and from school. ■



What Would Your Mother Say????

Political Signs

By S.D. Shapiro

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 to our roots?

Can we get back?

Food for thought . . .

In the land of the free and the home of the brave it seems that it is always election season. The presidential election does not happen for over a year but it seems that candidates have been campaigning since the last inauguration. With each political campaign comes the ubiquitous political sign. Whether they are billboards or lawn signs they are everywhere. Printed on cardboard, vinyl on corrugated plastic, or handmade, politicians are getting their word out.

Everybody knows that

one corner in your neighborhood or on the way to work that has somehow become prime real estate for political signs. Every candidate has one propped there on spindly wire stakes. From the local dog catcher to presidential candidate the signs are lined up like soldiers in swaths of red, white, and blue. Occasionally a dark horse with Irish heritage will sneak a green one in. Every school board bidder's sign will have either an apple, pencil, or ruler. Some have all three.

Different colors for the same candidate. Down at their political headquarters candidates should choose their color schemes early on and they should stick to them. Nothing is more confusing than seeing an "elect John Public" sign in two different colors. Is he running against himself? Are there 2 different John Publics? Another political misstep is accidentally buying signs that are the same color as your opponent.

Another annoyance that political signs bring is when people have signs in their yards for two (or more) candidates who are running for the same position. It is understandable if you are a bigwig in a political party but really, you should still pick a candidate. Even worse is the house that has signs for both party's candidate. Are you going to vote for both candidates?

Every once and a while a real estate sign will sneak into the morass of municipal job applicant signs. I always wonder if the person selling their house is also running for office?

One of the worst byproducts of the modern political machine are the signs and adding injury to insult the signs kick us one more time when candidates fail to pick them up after the polls close. Whether you won or lost, nobody wants to see the signs after Election Day. We have been looking

at these signs for way too long. Get rid of them.

Sometimes the slogans on the signs deteriorate faster than the actual sign. How many candidates really are, "the voice of the people?" All candidates are, "committed to change" or are "a new direction." Every sign that has the words, trust, commitment, and values on it blends together with every other sign. They all should say, "beware," "caution," or "compromised." Modern political signs would be more interesting if they were truthful.

When it comes down to all those political signs it is great that sign shops can make a



year's salary from one candidate. It is also great that politicians are passionate enough to invest in so many signs. Remember though, it only takes 1 dollar to win a race; the problem is that you cannot tell if it is the

first dollar or the last. Stop and think, "What would my mother say?" She would say, "I'm going to run for town council and my platform is; 'no more political signs.'" Do I have your vote?" ■

Mohawk Valley Doulas

By Al Dorantes

What is a doula? Originally a Greek word referring to a female servant, today it's used to describe a woman who is knowledgeable about childbirth and who will assist a pregnant woman through pregnancy and birth. Trained to create an environment of safety for the expecting mothers, doulas recognize the need of laboring women to have emotional support and will escort an expectant mother and their family through pregnancy, labor, and birth. While they do not offer medical advice or perform any medical or clinical procedures doulas do provide emotional, physical, and informational support, along with practical advice to help women have a better birth experience.

For local women looking to hire a doula there are several options - and you can meet them all through the Mohawk Valley Doulas.

Diane Starsiak has been supporting moms during the birth of their babies for over 30 years. She is a certified lactation consultant with years of experience helping moms nurse their babies.

Christine Benson works in the field of public health but her real love is birth; that is why she loves being a doula. She is a trained Hypnobabies hypno doula.

Naomi Starsiak is a natural birth consultant who brings her knowledge of holistic health to her clients.

Mohawk Valley Doulas is a cooperative of independent



Chris and Diane offer assistance to a client.

doulas who work together to bring education to the women of Central New York. Through their weekly "Chats with the Doulas" they share information about labor, birth and babies. Every Monday from 6:30 to 8:00 you can come and learn about what doulas do, watch a video on positive and informed birth options, and ask questions and get answers.

There are a number of reasons people reach out for a doula: first time mothers who are looking for education and support about pregnancy and childbirth; women who have had a c-section and are seeking support for VBAC (vaginal birth after cesarean); holistically conscious clients wanting a

range of options for physical support; women seeking emotional support from past traumas.

"Pregnancy is a time of heightened emotions," Naomi Starsiak explains, "We are a safe place for you to cry, vent, or complain about pregnancy."

The three women bring different styles of support and attract different demographics of clients. Many of Diane's clients fall in the 27-40 year old professional woman demographic, Christine finds herself filling the role of "grandma" to younger mothers, while Naomi's clients tend to be women who do not necessarily want a mother figure to lean on nor a sister; they're looking for a knowledgeable friend and Naomi fits that definition.

In addition to their clients the Mohawk Valley Doulas work to bring education and outreach to the community at large. Currently the Mohawk Valley Doulas are looking to find women of ethnic backgrounds who are interested in becoming a doula in order to help service the large refugee and ethnic birthing practices of the area.

If you are interested in becoming a doula, Mohawk Valley Doulas will be hosting a doula training October 16-18, 2015 in Utica, NY. It features birth doula trainers from Doulas of North America (DONA) International and is approved as one step toward certification as a DONA doula.

For more information on hiring a doula or about the upcoming training go to: www.mohawkvalleydoulas.com or call Diane at (315)736-2503. ■

Bible Museum to display artifacts from Holy Land under deal

By **BRETT ZONGKER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Museum of the Bible being built in Washington will feature ancient artifacts and treasures from the Holy Land under a new deal that ensures Israel's leading archaeological organization will have an outpost in the U.S. capital.

An agreement between the museum and the Israel Antiquities Authority announced Tuesday will bring a selection of artifacts excavated in Israel for long-term display in a top-floor gallery at the new Bible museum. The \$400 million, eight-story museum is set to open near the National Mall in 2017.

The specific artifacts to be displayed in Washington haven't been settled, officials said, though they will be related to the Bible. Plans call for both a permanent exhibition and rotating special exhibits. In 1993, the Israel Antiquities Authority exhibited the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Library of Congress in Washington.

Researchers and curators from the Israeli authority will write the exhibition text based on their research from numerous excavations in the field, and the museum will design the exhibit, said Jacob Fisch, the executive director of the New York-based Friends of the Israel Antiquities Authority.

"We share one mission, and that's telling the story that is based on the archaeological material," Fisch said of the museum partnership. "We're very scientifically based, research based."

While the Israeli group has a long-term loan arrangement with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York to display about 30 objects, the Bible museum exhibit will include hundreds or even thousands of objects from Israel's 2 million artifacts.

"We have a lot of exhibits that travel around the world. We have a long-term exhibit at the Met," he said. "But we don't have our own gallery in which we can keep material for a whole number of years on a long-term loan basis."

The Museum of the Bible already holds a collection of about 40,000 objects from its founder, Hobby Lobby President Steve Green. The Green Collection includes rare biblical texts and artifacts, such as cuneiform tablets dating to the time of Abraham, Torah scrolls and rare printed Bibles.

"When we set out to build the best new museum in the world, we knew the museum would be even

better if we joined forces with some of the greatest collections anywhere," said Museum President Cary Summers in announcing the Israeli agreement.

The museum also is beginning its own archaeological dig at Tel-Shimon, a historic site in Israel.

Green, the museum's chairman, is known for funding conservative and evangelical causes. He provided seed money to begin building the \$400 million Bible museum. Organizers have said they will present stories from different religious viewpoints that visitors can choose from.

Museum of the Bible: <http://museumofthebible.org/>

Israel Antiquities Authority: <http://www.antiquities.org.il>

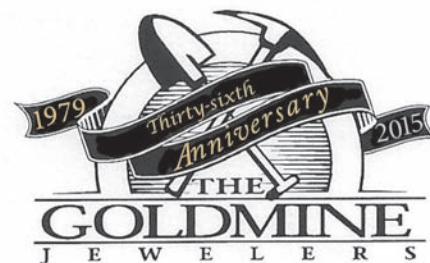
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Potato Planting

– Part II

By Anthony Bagnick

The young potato plants sprouted nicely. The soil was soft with enough moisture to ensure eager growth of the young plants. When they were a few weeks old I sprinkled some fertilizer alongside the young plants. Then I cultivated my eight rows of potato plants. My

potato factory for 2015 was doing great.

In early June the monsoons started. The rains came at least every other day. The plants grew quickly. It was soon time to hill them, but the rains came in barrels. The dirt was so muddy I couldn't get in the field with the tractor. It did stop raining for two or three

days and the latest weather report said another rainy few days were on the way. I had no choice but to get the hiller on the tractor and do the hilling in the mud before more rains came. A hiller is an implement that pushes dirt against the potato plants so the new potatoes would continue to grow underground.

My hiller is an old hiller used in grandpa's day. It was the kind that was pulled by a horse or a sturdy wife. It laid on the farm for many years until I thought, 'Why not.' I have a buddy who is a welder. He cut off the iron part in front of the hiller where the horse would be hitched. The two handles that grandpa used to steer the hiller between the rows of potatoes rotted away long ago. My buddy welded a plate to the hiller so I could bolt it to my tractor drawbar. With my hiller converted to the tractor I now hill my potatoes so easily. I don't have to use



the hoe. This year though, it was extremely muddy.

I did the best I could do. The mud rolled off the hiller in huge globs. In the evening heavy rains came. If I had waited, I wouldn't have been able to get in the garden for several weeks. The dirt between the rows of potatoes became plain mud, and it stayed that way for several weeks.

Aside from the muddy conditions this summer, another issue is the pesky potato bugs. I did the 'potato bug walk' twice a day to kill these voracious potato bug larvae. That is, I took a walk twice a day between the eight rows to kill all the bad larvae I could find. My young neighbor boy came to help. I showed him a potato beetle and explained that we can gather them in a can or we can just crush them between our fingers and thumbs. We never found many beetles, but we killed many of the beetles in their soft larva stage. The larvae have big appetites. They can devour a potato plant of its leaves within a few days.

I showed him how to easily kill those soft larvae reddish critters.

The simplest way is to put your first two fingers underneath the leaf where the larva is chomping away and squeeze with your thumb on the top of the larva or hold your fingers and thumb the other way around. It just depends on where the bug is on the leaf. I told him that sometimes when you squash the larva to death the innards will sometimes splat in your face. I know sooner said that when he started spitting. He cried, "I got stuff on my lips. Am I going to die now?" He continued spitting and wiping his lips.

I replied, "Not hardly. That bug juice might even make you stronger, but I have

heard it said that on rare occasions a person changes into a potato beetle if they get that larva juice inside of them." He spitted vigorously for the next few minutes.

The mud hampered us in our bug searching. We had to be careful as we stepped along between the rows. Often our boots became stuck. It took careful maneuvering and slowly lifting of our legs to get our boots free from the suction of the mud.

My young friend got his boot stuck and he lost his balance. His foot came out of the boot and he fell on his stocking foot and backside into the mud. He got up quite messy. I told him not to put his boot on because it will get all dirty inside. I held his boot as we both returned to my home to get him cleaned up. He hobbled along on one stocking foot. He said the mud was so cold and squishy on his stocking foot. After he got cleaned up, we returned to the garden to complete our daily search for the nasty potato larvae.

After we were done I said, "This has nothing to do with potatoes but do you know why we are getting so much rain? He looked at me inquisitively. Before he could speak I continued, "I will explain why. It has to do with hand held hay rakes. Somebody left their hay rake upside down."

He questioned, "What has hay rakes got to do with rain?"

I explained, "Hand held hay rakes have everything to do with rain. My grandpa told me this truism years ago when I was a little boy like you. You see, grandpa had a homemade hay rake that I used way back then. I still have it and I will show it to you some day. Grandpa explained to me that after you

use the hay rake you must always hang the rake up with the teeth facing against a building or else it will rain. Also, never, never, ever leave a rake lying on the ground with the teeth facing upward or it will rain and rain."

I continued explaining, "You heard what is happening in Texas. They got so much rain this spring they don't know what to do with all the water. The reason they go so much water is some Texans left their rakes upside down. If they want the rains to stop, all they have to do is hang up their rakes with the teeth facing inward or downward. Now take those people way out west such as in California. It is so dry there because the people are hanging their rakes properly. What those people should do is lay all of their hay rakes over the fields with the teeth facing upward. It would shortly start to rain by the bucket full."

My young friend looked up at me. He remarked, "That can't be true, could it? I am going home to lay a hay rake on the ground with the teeth facing upward. I want to see if I can make it rain."

I replied, "Of course it is true. My grandpa would never lie and don't you dare try it out. If you make it rain the garden will get so muddy you might lose both of your boots. We have enough rain for now."

I continued, "You are a good helper. I hope you can come tomorrow. We will have more fun squashing potato bug larvae. Make sure you wear your boots. One more thing. If you can come tomorrow, I will show you grandpa's old hay rake."

He trotted off for home as he spoke, "I will be here in the afternoon." ■

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A story you couldn't make up

-A traveler, an alpaca and guns



By **ERIC DIETRICH**
The Bozeman Daily Chronicle

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — "I'm a bard and I'm a warrior," says "Tinker" D'Harra, sitting outside the Pump & Pak Cenex on North Seventh Avenue.

"I've got a real unsavory past" adds the self-described "Scotch-Irish-American" in a lilting accent as he smokes a Marlboro.

D'Harra and his group of itinerant travelers, who say they're in the process of crossing the country, appear to have set an unofficial Bozeman record over the last week. Since Aug. 6, they've appeared in the city's police reports at least 11 times.

It's the alpaca, mostly. Sometimes the ferret. Or the guns.

Aug. 6, an officer contacted three people walking the

alpaca on Main Street at 12:45 a.m., noting they were "polite and cooperative."

Aug. 9, a caller complained about a "band of gypsies" roving South Church Avenue with guns and knives, describing them as "dirty."

Aug. 12, another caller was concerned about the group's treatment of the ferret, which officers determined was in good health.

The list goes on.

When a reporter caught up with him Thursday afternoon, D'Harra and his partner Zarra were lounging on grass outside the Pump & Pak, a block north of I-90. They were drying out after what he described as a wretched, rainy night.

Within arm's reach was a green bedroll, as well as a bundle containing a pair of long rifles (one, he says, is an 1860 Hawken, a muz-

zle-loader). Another firearm is strapped to D'Harra's hip, and a thick paperback — Louis L'Amour's "To the Far Blue Mountains" — rests nearby.

The white alpaca — named Gomer Pyle, after the "Andy Griffith Show" character — is tied to a tree, chewing on leaves. The ferret and a black Lab puppy (recently acquired in exchange for a pistol, D'Harra says) alternately play with each other and munch on a pile of kibble on the grass.

Over the course of 45 minutes, D'Harra variously claims to be an Irish Republican Army veteran, to have emigrated to the U.S. on a "Chinese boat" and to have dual citizenship because he was "born in an airplane." He grew up in a gypsy caravan, he says, and has been traveling since he was a child.

He won't give his real first name ("due to that I've got a real unsavory past") but proudly points out "D'Harra" means "people of the horse."

"I had a horse until about three weeks before I got here," he adds.

He gives a vague answer to a question about where he got the alpaca, saying it was from a fellow veteran who passes along "bad breeding stock."

"He knows I like animals," D'Harra says. "Anything exotic."

"We take animals that nobody wants," he says, adding it's a substitute because he and Zarra can't have kids.

As conversation turns to his interactions with the

Bozeman police, D'Harra becomes indignant.

"It's a bunch of (expletive)," he says about the ferret call. "All our animals are well taken care of."

"They like to harass us," he says, saying they've given him trouble about his guns and animals and tried to tell him to leave town.

The police are corrupt, he claims, "trying to infringe on our constitutional rights by

telling us we can't have our alpaca."

"That is not considered an exotic animal," he says. "You are legally allowed to cross country with your animals as a gypsy."

For their part, Bozeman police say they've largely been responding to calls from the public in their contacts with D'Harra, or backing up property owners who don't want the band

on their premises.

"We've been trying to work with him," said Capt. Jim Veltkamp. "We've tried to be patient with him and explain the ramifications of what could happen down the road if we get complaints."

"The law doesn't specifically prohibit alpacas," Veltkamp also noted. "It falls under more of a zoning issue."

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FIGMENT

-perhaps a lesson in meddling?

By Joan O. Scharf

Her black skirt was fashionably short, fashionably tight, and provided a generous view of shapely legs. A pink silk top draped over rounded breasts and tied neatly about her slender waist.

She walked down the theater aisle wearing strappy little black heels and an air of class to sit two rows ahead of us. I wasn't the only one to notice her. I caught my husband

staring. I poked him and murmured, "I bet Alex would think she's a hottie, too."

Our 24 year old son, a college graduate with a steady job, was on the lookout for a permanent relationship with a nice girl. I must admit I was hoping the same for him, as he was our only child.

Two other girls had entered with her. They, too, were attractive, but it was the blue eyed beauty with dark curls that drew attention.

In the minutes before the play began, I watched as she twisted a lock of hair around her fingers, laughed with her friends, occasionally waved to people she knew. Friendly as well as pretty, I thought. Alex would like that.

The theater darkened, and the curtain parted. My focus was diverted. During intermission, we opted to remain in our seats, but the three girls arose, tugging to arrange their outfits as they stood. I caught the eye of Miss Lovely as she passed by. She flashed a quick smile that warmed my heart. Darn! Too bad Alex didn't come with us tonight.

The three returned just before the second act started. My prospective future daughter-in-law was chewing gum. I pressed my lips together in a bit of disappointment.

The play, a comedy, ended with satisfied applause, and the

audience dispersed. On exiting the theater doors, as fate would have it, my husband and I ended up directly behind the three young ladies, and we followed them along the sidewalk on our way to our car. Should I perhaps engage her in conversation? Maybe get her name?

Under a streetlight at the edge of the walkway sat a shabby elderly man in dark glasses. He was obviously blind, one leg missing. His crutches were nearby, and a pan for donations waited in front of him. Most folks hurried on. Surprisingly, the three girls ahead of us stopped as one of the plainer girls fished in her purse. She leaned to toss coins to ding in the pan. I was pleased to see the pretty brunette also bend close, and then straighten. I didn't hear clinking, and smiled to myself. She dropped in a dollar... maybe more. How kindhearted. I heard her light laughter as the girls moved on.

Fingering the loose quarters in my jacket, I followed to place my donation. I peered into the pan as I did so. There were no bills...but there, among the coins, was a wet wad of gum. ■

“

Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive. -Dalai Lama

Alpaca from previous

In front of the North Seventh gas station, Zarra D'Harra has her own take on the complaints the group

has spurred. "People see what they want to see," she says.

Pump & Pak, "Tinker"

D'Harra complains, is the only establishment in town he hasn't been kicked out of. "They claim to be Christian, but they don't act on it," he says of business owners.

(The owners of the family business seemed to enjoy the D'Harras and their animals, and told the Chronicle they didn't have a problem with them hanging out on the premises as long as they cleaned up after themselves.)

D'Harra has his beefs with other itinerants, too, he says.

"A lot of these travelers out here, they don't deserve to be traveling," he says, adding that many are into drugs and miss the point.

"The rainbows aren't rainbows any more. The hippies aren't hippies," he says. "They're hipsters and drainbows."

As D'Harra talks, a woman wearing an Elmo tanktop wanders over from filling up a gas tank to see the animals.

"I'll sell the Alpaca with an 1860 Hawken rifle for \$800," he tells her.

"I would," she responds, "but I live in an apartment."

She should get "service papers," D'Harra responds, then offers to let her take a picture with the alpaca in exchange for a donation. "You can even hold the puppy and the ferret," he

says.

The woman and her male companion play with the animals for a bit, then happily hand D'Harra a small wad of cash as they get up to leave, without a photo.

He sends Zarra into the convenience store for a pair of energy drinks, then stuffs the remainder of the cash in his pocket. He tells a reporter he ends up spending most of his income at local businesses, as much as \$400 to \$500 per town stocking up on supplies.

While he's tried raising money with the Gomer Pyle photos, D'Harra says he makes more money putting out a "bum sign" (the next one he plans: "Obama gave me this job").

D'Harra says he's raising money to buy a vehicle and move on from Bozeman with his menagerie. He has a seller for a van lined up if he can raise another \$100 by Saturday, he says.

"We'd like to raise, like, 500 bucks so we can register it," he adds, then wonders aloud if someone in town might have an old RV they'd be interested in giving away or trading.

The group is planning to head to Missoula, he says, then eventually to Florida.

"And," he says, "hit every little town along the way." ■

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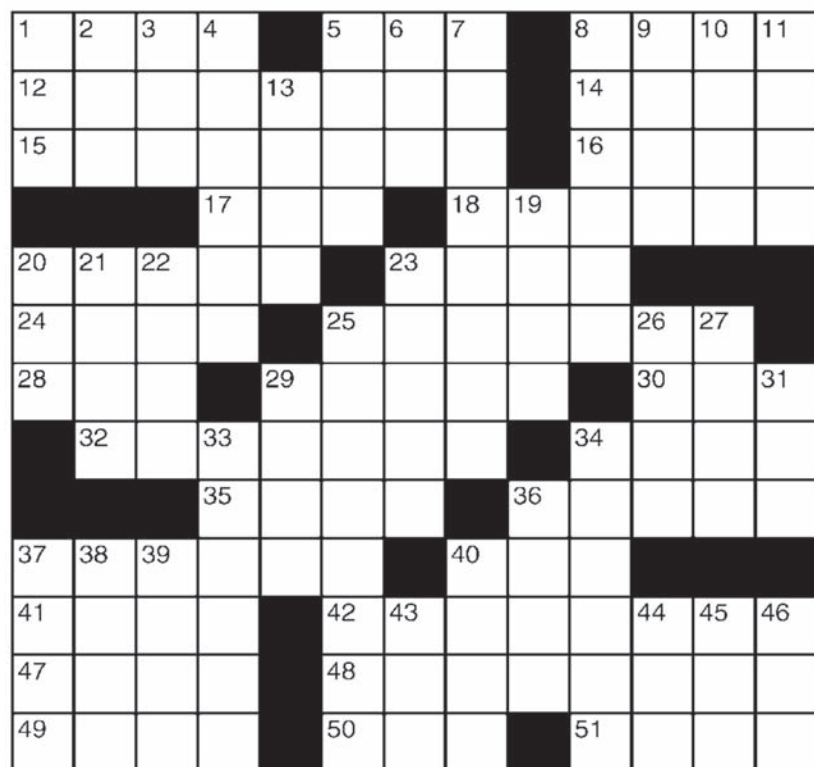
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King Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Rosary component
5 Evergreen
8 Apple's center
12 Make undue claims
14 By word of mouth
15 Drunk, in slang
16 "Darn!"
17 Brewery product
18 They're read on a Kindle
20 Braid
23 Bruin
24 Antler
25 Pet rodent, often
28 "Rocks"
29 Sensitive spots
30 Midafternoon social
32 Darrell of "SNL"

- 34 Catches some rays
35 Arctic diving birds
36 Jones' "Men in Black" co-star
37 Hurts
40 Devoured
41 TV legend Griffin
42 First Treasury Secretary
47 Great Lake
48 Secondary quality
49 Well-being
50 Bill with a portrait of 42-Across
51 Leftovers recipe

DOWN

- 1 "Phooey!"
2 Historic period
3 Upper limb
4 Realm
5 Bus rider's expense
7 Cashed in
8 Companion
9 Sandwich cookie
10 — and pinion
11 BPOE members
13 Hanukkah gift
19 Low voice
20 — Beta Kappa
21 Ness, for one
22 Geometry calculation
23 Farm structures
25 Basketball tactic
26 Needle case
27 Landlord's due
29 Pornography
31 Fire residue
33 Wonder
34 Works in a refinery
36 Use a teaspoon

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Fence is missing. 2. Cap is reversed. 3. Car door is missing. 4. House is missing. 5. License plate is missing. 6. Shirt is different.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 2 | | | | 5 | | | 6 |
| | | 4 | 1 | | | | 3 |
| | 8 | | | 7 | | 4 | |
| | 7 | | 8 | 5 | | 9 | |
| 3 | | | | 7 | | | 4 |
| | | 6 | | 9 | | | 1 |
| 9 | | | | 2 | | | 1 |
| | | 3 | | 4 | | | 7 |
| | 2 | | 9 | | | 5 | |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

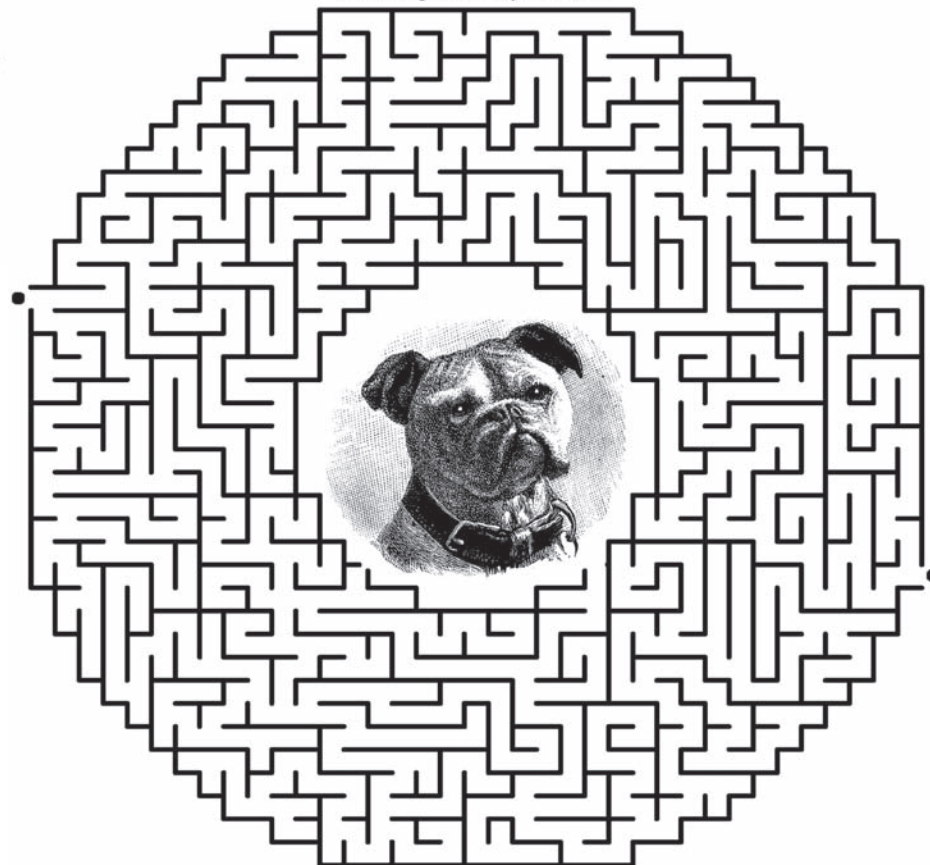
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Mega Maze

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"You can't blame gravity for falling in love."

— Albert Einstein

ANSWERS

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | E | A | L | T | E | N | S | T | E | M |
| E | R | I | E | O | V | E | R | T | I | O |
| M | E | A | M | A | M | I | L | I | T | O |
| S | M | A | R | T | S | A | T | E | | |
| H | I | S | S | A | K | S | | | | |
| I | C | E | S | O | R | E | S | T | E | A |
| H | O | R | N | H | A | M | S | T | E | R |
| P | L | A | I | T | B | E | A | R | | |
| S | A | L | E | B | O | O | K | S | | |
| H | A | M | M | E | R | E | D | | | |
| A | R | R | O | G | A | T | E | | | |
| B | E | A | D | F | I | R | | | | |

Solution time: 21 mins.
Answers
— King Crossword —

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 | |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 4 |
| 4 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | |
| 1 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 6 |

Answer

— Weekly SUDOKU —

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | E | A | L | T | E | N | S | T | E | M |
| E | R | I | E | O | V | E | R | T | I | O |
| M | E | A | M | A | M | I | L | I | T | O |
| S | M | A | R | T | S | A | T | E | | |
| H | I | S | S | A | K | S | | | | |
| I | C | E | S | O | R | E | S | T | E | A |
| H | O | R | N | H | A | M | S | T | E | R |
| P | L | A | I | T | B | E | A | R | | |
| S | A | L | E | B | O | O | K | S | | |
| H | A | M | M | E | R | E | D | | | |
| A | R | R | O | G | A | T | E | | | |
| B | E | A | D | F | I | R | | | | |

Solution time: 21 mins.
Answers
— King Crossword —

THE APPLE HEIST



By Joan O. Scharf

It was a crisp fall day in late September. The colorful foliage was of little interest to young Valentine and his friend Ralphie as they trudged along the country road on their way to school, but something else nearby caught their attention.

"Hey, Ralphie, look!

"Where?" Ralphie swiveled his head around.

Valentine grabbed Ralphie's arm. "Over there. In Mr. Kelso's back yard. Jus' look at them apples!"

"Yeah!" Ralphie's eyes widened as he caught sight of large red apples clinging to the trees. "Are you thinkin' what I'm thinkin'?"

Valentine grinned. "Guess we got time. School's just around the corner."

They headed for the stonewall fence beside the road when they heard the unmistakable clanging of the brass school bell being shaken by the teacher.

"Oh, oh! She'll be mad if we're late," Valentine grumbled. They scrambled back onto the dirt road and broke into a run, arriving out of breath as they slipped into their seats.

The teacher in Valentine's school was Miss Mackey.

Years ago, small country schools had only one room with one teacher, and students from first grade through eighth sat by rows. This morning Miss Mackey gave their fifth grade class a history reading assignment, and then began to instruct the first grade in spelling.

Valentine was restless, not focusing on history. His mind was on something else. Apples. His mouth watered just thinking about them ...and he formed a plan. He and Ralphie would sneak out of the schoolyard during recess into Mr. Kelso's orchard.

Ralphie sat two seats in front of him, and to get his attention, Valentine ripped off a thin strip of tablet paper, and wadded it into a small ball. He squeezed it tighter, and for some weight he put it between his teeth and chewed a few times. Splat! That spit ball hit Ralphie square in the back of his neck. Valentine had tried for a quick throw when the teacher's back was turned, but he wasn't quick enough.

"Valentine!" Miss Mackey scowled. "We do NOT behave like that in my classroom. Come here!"

Valentine shuffled forward and reluctantly climbed up on the high dunce stool in the front corner of the

room that the teacher pointed to. However, instead of being embarrassed, Valentine sat there smiling and making faces behind the teacher's back. Shirley, sitting in the front row, started to giggle. Miss Mackey glared at her, but soon discovered who was causing the distraction.

"Valentine!" She stepped over to her large oak desk at the front of the room. It had three sides that extended nearly to the floor. The back was empty with a space for her chair. She yanked out the chair. "March over here and sit under my desk where you can't annoy anyone!" she said sternly, and pointed to the opening.

Valentine did what he was told and crawled underneath. The lighting was dim, but before long Valentine noticed something under the desk beside him. It was the teacher's metal lunch pail. With nothing to do, he decided to have a peek. Quietly, he opened the lunch pail to find a wrapped sandwich and a big cookie.

He sniffed the cookie first. Gingerbread with raisins. Smelled good. And being curious, he wondered what kind of sandwich it was. Carefully he opened the wrapping to see. Lifting up one piece of bread, he found a thick slice of roast

beef. Ummmm. Looked tempting. And it was getting close to lunch time. He knew his mother had packed his own lunch with a cheese sandwich and a hardboiled egg. Not his favorites.

That desk had wooden sides, but it was set on stubby legs, and there was a small open space along the bottom edge. Since the sandwich looked so tasty to him, Valentine thought the rest of the class might like to see it. He stuck his hand out under the opening near the floor in the front of the desk ...with the teacher's sandwich in it.

Miss Mackey was by the blackboard where she couldn't see the sandwich poking out, but the students could. Whispers traveled around the classroom as they immediately guessed who it belonged to. The sandwich disappeared back under the desk, but soon, there it was again ... with a big bite missing. Snickering was heard throughout the room.

Miss Mackey glanced around suspiciously, but had no idea what caused the disturbance. The sandwich was held out several more times, each time becoming smaller, with the class in fits of laughter. Finally, Miss Mackey put her hands on her hips and

demanding, "Tell me what's so funny!" She stared at them.

The students avoided her look, and focused on their books. For a while, all was quiet, and she continued with the lessons. Everyone had barely settled down, when out came Valentine's hand, this time presenting a gingerbread cookie with

tooth marks of a big missing piece. Although they attempted to smother their mouths, the class erupted into chaos.

"Enough of this nonsense!" The chalk in Miss Mackey's hand snapped in half. "We'll stop for lunch recess now, and if you don't behave afterwards, there'll be extra homework."

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Apple cont.

They sprinted across the meadow between the schoolyard and Mr. Kelso's property, and slipped under the fence into the apple

"It's raining apples!" Ralphie yelled out gleefully. He stuffed them into his jacket pockets

An angry Mr. Kelso approached closer. Ralphie dashed back and yanked hard on Valentine's leg. A loud ripping sound was heard, and Valentine tumbled from the tree knocking Ralphie to the ground. They both scrambled to their feet and ran toward the road, a big flap of Valentine's pants hanging down at his rear.

"That's one reason," he called back over his shoulder as he trotted off. He was wondering what Miss Mackey had for lunch. ■

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