



The Country Editor

Just good reading

October 25, 2013

Volume 1 Number 28

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clean, repair
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**Oregon
bartender gets
\$17,500 tip**
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Left - The newlyweds and guests changed out of wedding clothes and coaxed the cows toward the barn for a ceremonial milking.

Right - Sorrel and Isaac Bingham dance by the parents of the bride, Patricia Crosby and husband Clifford Hatch.

Photos by Joe Parzych



A wedding like no other

by Joe Parzych

Earlier this month, Sorrel Lyman Hatch and Isaac Alexander Bingham married on a hill on the Upinngil Farm owned by Sorrel's parents, Patricia Crosby and Clifford Hatch, located up in Gill, MA. The wedding day was also the 25th anniversary of the purchase of the farm in this small

rural farming community.

The marriage was in the manner of Quaker Friends with no minister, priest, rabbi, or Justice of the Peace. "No one married the couple," said Nina Weyl. "In a Quaker wedding, no intermediary is necessary because the couple marry each other in the presence of God, with family and friends as their witnesses." Nina Weyl serves as Clerk of the Mount Toby Friends in

Leverett, and oversaw the signing of over 250 witness to the marriage.

During the ceremony, guests sat in silence on hay bales in a circle surrounding the couple. Quaker Friends believe that God exists in all of us, that we might act accordingly by following our inner light. Wedding guests are invited to speak if so moved. Friends, guests and the couple sat for a time in contemplative

silence. Several people shared the sad remembrance of people who had passed. Others recalled happy times including the meeting of the couple at the Mount Tobey Friends Meeting House in Leverett. Since the marriage was under the group's care, all members of the Mount Tobey Friends were invited to the wedding.

When moved to speak, Sorrel and Isaac stood to proclaim their love and lifelong commitment to each other. They also signed a commitment proclamation which more than 250 family and guests also signed as witnesses. A colored pencil drawing of the Upinngil Farm by Clerk Nina Weyl, adorned the top of the proclamation. Fittingly, a flock of geese, who mate for life, flew high overhead during the marriage ceremony, as if choreographed.

To cap off the ceremony, Isaac slipped a wedding ring on Sorrel's finger, and kissed her. She in turn placed a ring on his finger and also sealed it with a kiss. The newlyweds then danced on the green to music of the No Name Band comprised of Ann Percival, Van Kaynor, and Susan Conger. The parents of the bride and groom, Patricia

Crosby and Clifford Hatch, and Isaac's parents, Laurence and Deborah Bingham of Great Barrington, MA, took turns dancing with the newlyweds and then with each other, all around.

After the ceremony, guests moved hay bale seats closer to the food tent to form a large circle. Guests lined up to partake of the abundant variety of potluck food arrayed on long tables. The picnic began with music supplied by the band and the sharing of stories celebrating love, marriage, family, and the land.

At 5 p.m., there was a Procession of the Cows. Bride and groom, now changed out of their wedding clothes, drove the herd of Ayshire cows from the adjoining meadow, along a lane leading to the barn, for a ceremonial milking, with the help of guests. The cows were skittish, being unaccustomed to the large crowd invading their territory, accompanied by the flashing of cameras by gawking guests who either had never seen a cow before, or, at least had never seen a herd of cattle at a wedding. The cows, having never seen a wedding before, gawked at the herd of guests.

See Wedding page 4

Halloween Night

by Elizabeth Zerbst

Hanging spiders, in a cob web...
Apples, dipped in caramel.
Lighted candles, in the windows...
Little ghosts, standing by the well.

Orange pumpkins, with spooky faces...
Witches, with yellow-eyed black cats.
Eerie noises, from hidden speakers...
Even a family of swooping bats.

Nothing to really be afraid of.
Nothing to need to worry about.
It's Halloween, so put your duds on.
Get ready to party... to haunt and shout.
Have some treats ready... or expect to be tricked.
The neighborhood monsters will soon be out.
To see more writings by Elizabeth, visit
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A 1600-bale day

by Terry Berkson

Of all the farms I worked on as a boy, the most memorable was the old Borden Farm which was on the east side of Canadarago Lake outside of Richfield Springs, NY. By the time I came along it had recently been sold to Bill and Shirley Weingates. Back then, they were milking about 200 cows on one of the biggest operations in the area. The first job I had was leveling chopped grass as it was being blown into a silo. I foolishly knocked myself out trying to level it as fast as it was coming in, so that when I climbed out of the silo I was so dehydrated that I must have drank a gallon of water from a spigot in the milk house. I would later clean the barn and when the spreader was full, I mounted a tractor for the first time and gloriously towed it up Rockie's Road to give nourishment to the land — not without some mishaps that let the manure hit the fan.

I enjoyed all kinds of jobs — even cleaning calf pens, because at the time, I was kind of standing outside of myself, watching this kid from Brooklyn doing these country boy things. I had recently read Thomas Hardy and at times I was seeing all that I was doing through the great writer's eyes. I never enjoyed the country more than at that time of very hard work.

Mostly I pitched hay, and of all the days over the several summers I worked there, one particular day stands out above the rest. We were hauling bales in high-racked trucks from a large field several miles east of the farm. A lot of hay had been cut. The baler dropped the 70 pound squares on the ground and we'd walk along loading them onto a truck. A large crew had been hired for the big day to save time and make up for the long haul to the barn. There was chesty Andy Hugick, hefty Eddie Morgan, smilin' Rod Sullivan, muscular Jerry Smith, big Bob Bernhardt, me and this little guy Winnie who chewed tobacco and used a pitch fork to lift the bales up when the load was high. Bill Weingates drove the tractor with his young red-headed son Gary seated on the fender

next to him. Frank Kasproicz drove one of the trucks. I'm sure I'm forgetting somebody but it was a long time ago, back in the late 50s.

Most of the crew was working in the hay mow. I was out in the field with Bob Bernhardt who could pitch a bale as though it were a basketball. Sometimes he'd spin around like a shotputer and let the bale fly over the high side-rack of the truck. I was the youngest of the crew and in awe of Bob, but I made sure I held my own, lifting my share of the bales onto the truck — without any of the fancy moves.

At noon we rode back to the farm to join the rest of the crew around a bountiful dinner table. I washed up at the kitchen sink and when it was time to dry my hands, I was careful not to grab the towel before Bill Weingates was finished with it. That was one of his pet peeves. Another, was leaving a bale on the ground so that the truck would have to waste time making another pass. If you complained, Bill would close one eye, cock his head and quietly say, "the road goes both ways." For lunch, there was a mountain of mashed potatoes, platters full of pork chops, fresh string beans, delicious hot apple pie and whole milk from the barn. Because of the hard work and gentle Shirley's good cooking, I don't think I ever enjoyed food more.

We worked late, chaff stuck to the sweat on our arms, and dog tired, triumphantly cleaned every bale off of that seemingly endless field before the evening dew set in. It may have been one of the hardest work days of my life but it was also one of the best. This all happened more than four decades ago. Since then, I've been to many places and done different kinds of work but I never felt more of a sense of accomplishment than being the youngest of the hard working crew on that 1600-bale day.

Recently, I took my roadster for a drive around the lake. As I passed the farm I tooted to old, bearded Bill who was crossing the road to the barn for about the 60,000th time. Standing on the other side was



The author's son, Jonathan, stacks his own memories at about the same age as he was.

Photo by Terry Berkson

little Gary, all grown up, a middle-aged man and himself a father. Hard workers. I admire their ability to keep on keeping on — living monuments to the pastoral writings of Thomas Hardy. In my mind, I grip my calloused hands around the twine of a square bale, walk it to the truck, lift and kick with my knee. The bale falls on the truck and silently slides across the bed — like the leaf of paper this finished story is written on slides across my writing table.

Halloween

by Al Dorantes

You can tell that October is nearly over because of all the costumes. You'll see princesses, devils, firemen, and superheroes all wandering the streets, sacks of candy in hand. It's Halloween and Americans love this holiday. You have tiny candy bars and "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" on the television.

Halloween can be traced back about 2000 years to pagan harvest festivals. The holiday has evolved from a harvest feast into more of a commercial holiday focused on selling candy and costumes. Over

the last few hundred years Halloween has become a holiday aimed mostly at children.

Millions of American children and adults will don costumes (12 percent of Americans will dress up their pets). They'll spend around \$6 billion (with a B) on costumes. But the spending doesn't stop there. Americans will spend another \$2 billion on candy (40 percent of adults admit to swiping from their own bowl as they give it away). In the USA, the average person will eat almost one and a quarter pounds of candy on Halloween.

Halloween is the third biggest

party holiday behind New Year's Eve and Super Bowl Sunday. People of all ages look forward to Halloween. Candy is a big part of the holiday but there's more to it.

First, there are the costumes. The costumes give us all an escape. Dressing like a robot for a few hours allows one to escape the mundane. A simple cape makes a little boy a superhero, some borrowed turnout gear makes an accountant a firefighter, and a cat suit can turn a mousey housewife into a sexy siren. Once a year a costume can, for a little while, remove us from the tedious humdrum of our regular lives.

Second; nostalgia. Americans love nostalgia. Each time we sit down to decide what type of costume we want to wear we think back. "Remember that time Dad dressed up like a lumberjack?" We all remember our horrible costumes, the ones we hated and the ones we loved. Remember that ghost costume that was an old bed sheet? Remember that kid that was always a football player because he just used his football gear as a costume?

I remember a pirate costume from the long lost days of third grade. My mom sewed the pants and dad made me a saber out of a dowel and a



People of all ages look forward to Halloween.

Photos by Al Dorantes

piece of milk jug. I was sure that I would win the blue ribbon prize during our costume parade at school. I didn't. Some kid dressed like a sheik won. The political correctness police wouldn't even let him in the door today.

It's this nostalgia that compels me to help my own son with his costumes. Soon, he'll just be wearing a hoodie and causing mischief but, in the mean time, we generally spend the better part of October building his costume. The homemade costumes have included a robot, a Lego block, and Pacman. Please note: each of these costumes had almost zero visibility and were difficult

(nearly impossible) to walk in. This is how you pass on nostalgia.

Halloween has its fair share of naysayers. They cite mischief, anti-candy, and paganism (the very root of the holiday). Halloween is a tradition that needs to be passed on. There's something good about planning a costume for months. There's something intrinsically wonderful about taking that family stroll around the block and hearing the kids say, "trick or treat?" It's good when parents remind kids to "Say thank you." Even the mischief is good. Keep your porch light on. Pass out candy and have fun.



Making costumes with your kids for Halloween is great family fun!



WHAT WOULD YOUR MOTHER SAY?!

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 . . .

Saggy pants. I may be becoming a curmudgeon because some things modern kids do are just annoying. It's not even their music. It's the way they dress. I don't understand the saggy pants. I'm not talking about baggy or even ill-fitting pants. The situation that I am talking about is when young men wear their pants below their butt and you can see their underwear.

Urban lore says that the trend of saggy pants has its roots in the prison system. Belts are usually prohibited and that leads to the inevitable sag of the pantaloons. It's odd that a fashion trend would escape from prisons. What's next, a ball and chain? Some towns and school districts have gone as far as passing laws to help curb the effects of gravity on pants.

One of the few things more obnoxious than saggy pants is the appearance of pajama pants in public. The very descriptor "pajama" means said pants were meant for sleeping. Wearing them in public is wrong. Pajama pants are not a substitute for real clothing.

Not to be outdone, the fairer sex has their own version of saggy pants. The difference is their fashion problem goes in the opposite direction: shirts that rise up. Young ladies in the 21st century seem to be wearing shirts that rise up. This is either purposely or accidental. Either way, young ladies are allowing to happen exactly what plumbers have been fighting for years.

I'm not a prude by any means. Let's face it, Madonna rewrote fashion in the 80s, Gwen Stefani kept it going in the 90s and who knows what Rihanna is doing with it today. But even the most thoroughly modern Millie should have a modicum of modesty. Perhaps, like grade schools, the dress code of, "the top must meet the bottom," is not such a bad idea.

While we are talking about fashion forward, ladies, let me ask a question: what about dress slips? Do they even sell them anymore? What's the deal with panty hose? The tabloids were all in an uproar when Princess Kate wore some sheer hose. Are they back in style?

Since nearly all the rules about dressing in modern times are thrown out the window, I pose the \$64,000 question: can you wear white after Labor Day?

When it comes down to it and you find yourself looking at a fashion offense like saggy pants or pajama pants or a shirt rising up, just stop and think, "What would my mother say?" She would say, "Pull em up!" And, "Ladies, there's nothing wrong with sensible undergarments."

Would your mother have a different opinion? Do you have another moral dilemma you'd like to see featured? Email S. D. Shapiro at s.d.shap@gmail.com with "What would your mother say?" in the subject line.

by Patrick McCreless, The Anniston Star

ANNISTON, AL (AP) — Even wheelchairs sometimes need a tuneup.

Volunteers were on hand for a special wheelchair wash event at the Children's Rehabilitation Service in Anniston on Oct. 15. The volunteers cleaned and repaired wheelchairs for area children and adults for free through most of the day.

Along with employees from Children's Rehabilitation, members of East Central Alabama United Cerebral Palsy and employees of an area wheelchair vendor, Alabama Wheelchairs, helped with the event.

"We've done events like this before in the past, but this is the first time we've done one since we moved into our new building a year and a half ago," said Randy Whitt, field supervisor for Children's Rehabilitation. "We hope to make this an annual event here."

Children's Rehabilitation is part of a statewide program that provides medical and rehabilitative support for children with special care needs and their families. Along with medical care, the program helps children acquire medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, not covered by their insurance.

Whitt said the group started the wheelchair wash several years ago due to how difficult it is to properly clean a wheelchair.

"They are very difficult to clean unless you have someone to take it apart and clean it piece by piece," Whitt said.

White, bubbly soap dripped onto warm concrete as Holly Edwards scrubbed part of a small orange wheelchair Tuesday. Edwards, a social worker at Children's Rehabilitation for nearly 11 years, has plenty of experience helping children and has loved every minute of it.

"The kids with the smiles on their faces ... the families are thankful for anything you do for them

... it's a very rewarding job," Edwards said.

Nearby the cleaning site, Rusty Kays of Anniston watched as his 10-year-old son Seth Monroe used a big piece of yellow chalk to draw a picture on the sidewalk. The cleaning of Monroe's wheelchair



Wedding from page 1

While some guests assisted in the ceremonial milking of the cows, other guests, who may have felt they'd had more than their fair share of milking in the past, moved hay bales to the area of a bon fire in preparation to the cutting of the wedding cake and the closing of the day around the fire with song.

There were no white stretch limousines, frilly wedding dress, tuxedos, best man, nor ring bearer, but simply a moving declaration to each other of love, commitment, and devotion before God and the world, sincerely vowing to remain together for the rest of their lives. Shown left to right, Susan Conger, Van Kaynor and Ann Percival supplied music for dancing on the green.



Volunteers clean, repair wheelchairs in Anniston

was just the latest help he had received from Children's Rehabilitation. Kays said his son has multiple sclerosis, a chronic disease that attacks the central nervous system, and has been a Children's Rehabilitation patient since he was a baby.

"The staff here is fantastic," Kays said. "When he comes here, he feels like he is with family _ he doesn't feel like he's seeing a doctor."

Bonnie Johnson, program coordinator for East Central Alabama United Cerebral Palsy, said her organization brought several of its adult patients to the event. Johnson said her organization and Children's Rehabilitation share many patients. However, her organization performs at home visits, she said.

"We go into their homes and provide therapy and train the patients' caregivers in what to do," Johnson said.

Despite being in the hot sun Tuesday, Johnson and her volunteers enjoyed the event and thought it was successful, she said.

"I think there's been a great turnout," Johnson said.

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Just good reading

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Learn about the woman behind the 'cure'

Thousands upon thousands of women have battled breast cancer. Some have pulled through the disease, while others succumbed

to the disease after a brave fight. Few people who have waged war with breast cancer are better known than Susan Komen, a name many in-

stantly associate with the organization Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the most widely known, largest and well-funded breast cancer organization in the United States.

Susan G. Komen was born Susan Goodman in 1943 in Peoria, IL. According to her sister, Nancy, Susan was the high school homecoming queen and a college beauty queen. After graduating from college, Goodman returned to her hometown and pursued modeling, eventually marrying her high school sweetheart, Stan.

Komen was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1977 after finding a lump that subsequent testing revealed was cancerous. Komen underwent a pro-

cedure called a subcutaneous mastectomy, in which the outside of the breast tissue was left intact, but the interior breast tissue was removed. The doctor who did the procedure assured Komen that she was cured. Despite urging her sister to get a second opinion, Komen was convinced she was safe. But within six months Komen found another lump under her arm, and by this point, it was evident that the cancer had spread. Doctors at the Mayo Clinic soon determined the cancer had metastasized to her lung and under her arm.

Komen underwent several different treatments to slow the progression of the cancer, including radiation

and intense chemotherapy. However, the cancer continued to spread and eventually her body developed a resistance to most of the medication. During treat-

centers, and doing other things to help comfort those who would find themselves in similar situations in the future. Komen lost her battle with breast



Nancy Brinker, founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, poses at a Komen Race For The Cure event in Washington, D.C., one of hundreds taking place annually to raise money for and awareness of the disease.

Photo courtesy of University of Illinois

ment, Komen repeatedly spoke with her sister about her wish to make the entire breast cancer experience and treatments in the hospital more palatable for women, including improving the appearance of waiting rooms and treatment

cancer in 1980 at age 36. By the time of her death, Komen had undergone nine operations and three courses of chemotherapy and radiation.

Nancy Goodman Brinker then made it her mission to do everything she could to help end breast cancer and increase awareness of this potentially deadly disease. In 1982, Brinker established the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation in her sister's memory. Since its inception, the organization, now called Susan G. Komen for the Cure, has provided funding for basic, clinical and translational breast cancer research projects. It also has become instrumental in breast health education and urging women to do self-screening while promoting annual mammograms. Through the years, the foundation has teamed up with many well-known businesses, brands and organizations as part of its fundraising efforts. To date, the organization has invested \$750 million in breast cancer research, awarding many thousands of dollars in grants in countries around the world.

Through her struggle with breast cancer, Susan Goodman Komen unknowingly inspired an organization that has helped to save the lives of millions. Learn more at www5.komen.org

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October 19, 2013

Hello Again,

Did you ever wake too early in the morning with a crazy thought which would not let you get back to sleep?

Well that happened to me in the wee hours of last night. Our national main leader is President Obama. I wondered, did this leader of the most powerful nation on the face of the earth ever hold down a regular job, working for a commercial employer and not one that was government funded? I wondered at what age did Mr. Obama receive a social security card?

Then my restless mind flipped over to our governor and I wondered — prior to law school and law practice, did he ever hold down an ordinary job? You know what I mean — a job where you worked for someone or a company for eight hours a day, 40 hours per week, and received a paycheck, or even cash, as payment for your labor.

I imagine that line of thinking and 10 cents won't buy you a cup of coffee. To continue with this strange thinking, both men — our president and our governor — are advocates of a higher minimum wage law. How could either one of them have the foggiest idea what it

would mean? For one thing, many employed with a minimum wage — such as high school and college students — will actually lose their job. Now — how will that help them? If I needed my job, I wouldn't vote for either of them. How about you? Can you imagine anyone paying a 14 year old boy or girl, \$10 per hour for 40 hours plus 20 percent more going to the government which would total \$480 weekly?

Will it not just add to the cost of our agricultural and manufactured goods and products which now cannot compete in the world market? If we continue to raise our salaries and raise the cost of our goods, why in the realm of sane thinking would anyone or country buy from us when they can pay less elsewhere?

It appears we cannot at the present compete in the world marketplace as our products just plain cost too much. The Republican Party is trying its best to cut down on our country's spending and the daily newspapers and T.V. news programs are calling them radicals and worse.

Now let's get blunt. When your home expenses become greater than your income, do you keep on spending and spending with no regard to the eventual outcome? Well, I guess some do — that's why they

Hello 7

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The Country Editor

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lose their credit rating, homes, cars and end up in bankruptcy.

I trust you understand — this is not simply a political republican against democrat issue. It is a choice. Are we going to let our leaders drive this greatest of all countries down the road to financial destruction so one side or the other can say they won? We must — we have to stop spending. The republicans claim the Obama Healthcare

program is the greatest financial mistake our country could ever make — just think — what if they are right? If you are a democrat or a republican — it will not matter — we will sink into destruction together.

Messrs Obama, and Cuomo — sit up straight and pay attention. This is the people who voted for you speaking. We — you — cannot keep on overspending and giving U.S. money away to other na-

tions and raising wages and not wipe the U.S. economy clear off the map. We didn't attend or graduate from Harvard or Yale. We are tough-minded students/occupants out of the school of hard knocks. Experience has taught us, and not some philosophy professor, that we cannot constantly raise prices and wages and give billions of dol-

per and asked, "How come no dog pictures? Are we not 'Man's Best Friend'?" This promoted the idea of a "What am I thinking?" pet contest.

As an example, refer to the caption line under Toby's picture. You can enter the "What am I thinking?" pet contest by writing your caption and mailing your entry to Toby at Lee Publications,

will win the \$50.

What can a jack-ass, mule, or horse have in common? It's owner.

While traveling by car back to the farm, Farmer Jones and his wife had a fight and didn't speak for a couple of hours. Finally Farmer Jones pointed to a group of mules along the road. "Relatives of

a huge gaggle-flock-skein of geese traveling south-east through our Mohawk Valley. Sometimes we have so much natural beauty it's hard to decide what to look at first.

Huge piles of logs and split wood can be seen along our country roads. One home has a real long stack of split wood on the west side of their home and driveway, large storage stack as a wind block. Now that's real "Yankyism."

Someone suggested I put skis on the little red bike for winter. I wonder — how would they work in Florida? Keep on waving when you see "Little Red." He loves it, and it will give you a chance to get your hands out of your pockets.

Spring and summer are gone. It's fall, and soon it will be winter. Nearly everything in life changes. Now I have gray hair. However, God's love for his creation — the Heavens and Earth and you and I — doesn't change. All he asks from us is to love him and appreciate his creations, both nature and mankind.

Fred Lee & Family



Ok, I did the trick, now where is my treat?

lars to other countries without going belly up. In the daily newspapers this week it was reported that we, the people of the United States, are giving to Egypt over 1.5 billion dollars. Stop being a political party power and become a country-loving American.

Our little dog, Toby, was looking over this pa-

PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428.

The winner of this "What am I thinking?" pet contest will receive a check for \$50 and the winning entry will be published. Your cut line message can be cute, not so cute, or even a few line poem. If there is a tie, your entry will go in the hat and with luck, you

yours?" he asked. "Yes," she snapped, "all of them by marriage."

The pastor of a country church asked a young people's group, "What is wrong with polygamy — marriage with several wives?" The old janitor overhead the question and said, "Too many in-laws."

Two evenings ago I saw

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Monday, Oct. 14th sale - cull ave. .68 Top cow \$.85, bulls/steers \$.72 - \$.98, bull calves top \$1.40, heifer calves \$1.00, Dairy - Milking age top \$1425, Springing heifers top \$1600, open heifers top \$775, young heifer calves top \$320.

Saturday, Nov. 2nd - Sale held on the farm. Westdale, NY (town of Florence) Oneida County. Furlow Farm Complete Dairy Cattle & Farm Equipment Dispersal. 60 Head of Dairy Cattle consist of 20 Holsteins, 12 Jersey & Jersey Cross, 2 Brown Swiss Cross, 1 Guernsey, 1 Jersey Service Bull, balance youngstock. SCC consistently under 200,000. Quantity of feeder & roaster pigs sell. Partial listing of Equip.: Gehl 5635 SX Skidsteer; Farmall 300 Tractor; Oliver 1550 Gas Tractor w/narrow front end; 1974 F700 Truck w/16' grain dump. Full listing on website or call for more info. Owners: Clint & Kristy Furlow.

Monday, Nov. 4th - Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale.

Saturday, Nov. 9th - Orange County, NY - sale on the farm. 11 AM Gold-Bar Holsteins Complete Milking Herd & Bred Heifer Dispersal. 100 Head of Registered Holsteins (20 R&W).

Friday, Nov. 15th - Fall Premier All-Breed Sale 100 Head of Registered Cattle sell. 11:30AM. Call now to get into early advertising.

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by Linda Thistle

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

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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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "— the night before ..."
5 Peace antithesis
8 Stage presentation
12 Rope material
13 Coloring
14 Queue
15 Banister
16 Ovum
17 One
18 Spread open
20 Bullets and such
22 Schedules
26 Reinforcing device
29 And so on (Abbr.)
30 Ambulance
31 Solemn promise
32 Monokini's lack
33 Cougar
34 John's Yoko
35 — Lanka
36 One without a Y chromo-some
37 Watches, e.g.
40 Mideast country
41 Tie on
45 Judy's

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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45	46				47	48			49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

- daughter
47 Grecian vessel
49 Vicinity
50 Top pair, maybe
51 Aachen article
52 Heart of the matter
53 Unembellished
54 Plaything
55 Chows down
(Var.)
4 Mark with a stain of color
5 Cover completely
6 Summer mo.
7 Boat race
8 Vertical
9 Kitchen flooring
10 Singer
DiFranco
11 Still
19 Whopper
21 PC alternative
23 Inducing gooseflesh
24 Austen heroine
25 Ollie's pal
26 Italy's silhouette
27 Royal of India
28 Perfume dispenser
32 Block of charcoal
33 Stamps
35 Hot tub
36 Moist
38 Obliterate
39 Shrewd
42 Met melody
43 "— la vie"
45 Felon's flight
46 Lemieux milieu
48 Carnival city

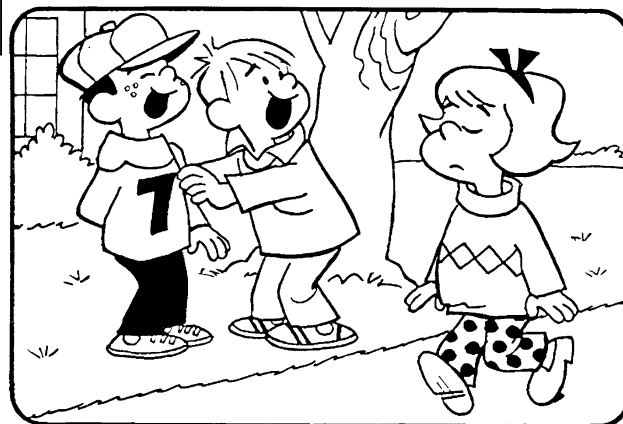
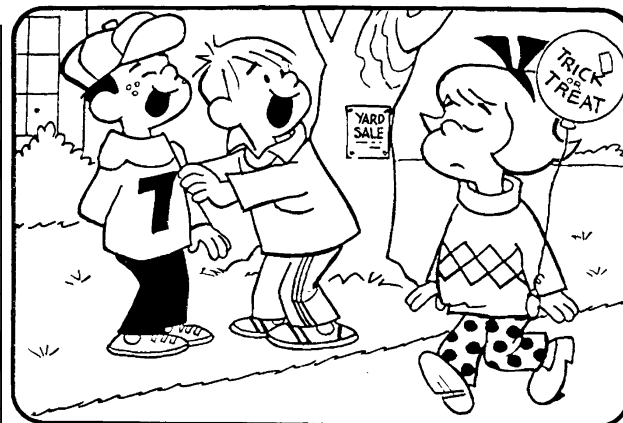
DOWN

- 1 Via, for short
2 Gradually withdraw
3 Eastern potentate

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

Differences: 1. Cap is different. 2. Stripe is missing. 3. Sign is missing. 4. Bow is smaller. 5. Balloon is missing. 6. Sweater design is different.

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COR 6:17 But he that is joined unto the lord is one spirit.

Last month, *The Country Editor* submitted this Whatchamacallit to you for identification. We are pleased to announce that the mystery has been solved. Bob Roger from Staunton, VA provided us with the official U.S. patent.

Whatchamacallit

It is titled "A Poultry-Killing Device" and is used in the butchering process. Where most people assume chickens were butchered by the



snap of the neck, this instrument actually pierced the skull, which rested in the cup so the proper arteries could be more efficiently severed. The item was invented in Saskatchewan, Canada in 1932.

Have your own Whatchamacallit? Send picture and description to eeper@leepub.com. Visit our Facebook page each week to see if you can figure out what the upcoming Whatchamacallit is!

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Oregon bartender gets \$17,500 tip

SPRINGFIELD, OR — An Oregon bartender just got the tip of a lifetime.

One of Aurora Kephart's

choose two.

When she checked the numbers, Kephart's first ticket won \$5. The second

But the man wouldn't take the ticket and made Kephart sign it so she would be the only one able

of her customers are regulars, and they were excited for her.

"The reaction was crazy," Kephart said. "Everyone was so amped up."

With the bar busy, Kephart went right back to work, her brain "scrambled" by the big tip. The next day, she claimed her prize at the Oregon Lottery office in Salem.

Kephart said she gave the man a percentage of her winnings. "I just couldn't not give him some of it," she said.

Kephart said she plans to buy a new couch with her share and save the rest. Those modest plans earned her teasing from the bar's regulars, but she had been looking for a couch before going to work Tuesday and was scared off by the prices.

"I never realized how expensive couches were," she said. "Instead of waiting till Christmas or later, now I can buy something I really need."



Regular customer Jerry Arnett (left) congratulates Springfield bartender Aurora Kephart, who received a \$17,500 tip this week in the form of a Keno ticket that turned out to be a winner.

Photo courtesy of The Register-Guard, registerguard.com

regulars at Conway's Restaurant and Lounge in Springfield often tips her with Keno tickets from the Oregon Lottery. On Tuesday evening, the man who wishes to remain anonymous asked Kephart to

turned into a \$17,500 gratuity.

"The look on his face was incredible," Kephart, 25, told The Register-Guard newspaper. "I automatically handed it back to him; it was his ticket."

to collect the prize.

Kephart said 80 percent

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DIY roof tips

As the winter months approach, our homes first measure of protection against rain and snow is the roof. GAF, North America's largest Roofing Manufacturer based in New Jersey, of-

fers these tips for how to get your roof ready for the cold winter.

1. Start off by checking the roof framing structure to make sure it is not compromised. Visually scan the roof for any

sagging or uneven areas. If you do see an area that looks uneven, this may mean damage to the roof deck below the shingles.

2. Inspect the gutter systems to make sure they are not clogged with branches, leaves, or other debris. This is important to ensure that rain water and snow have a way off of the roof. If the water or snow is left standing on the roof, there is an increased likelihood of leaking or ice damming.

3. Make sure that gutters are fastened properly and are tight and secure so that they don't

cause overflow and build-up or fall off the fascia board. Leaking water can end up causing damage not just to your roof, but to your interior walls, as well.

4. Check the valleys of the roof to ensure that they are also free and clear of debris that can add weight to the roof and also act as a barrier to rain and snow. Leaks frequently occur in the valleys so make sure they are well protected by a proper roofing system.

5. One of the most common causes for roofing leaks is due to prob-



lems with flashing. Flashing is the aluminum or metal materials that is used in roof to wall transitions over

joints to prevent water from seeping in and causing damage. Metal flashing should also be used around roof vents, pipes, skylights, and chimneys. Remember that flashings can be loosened or torn by high winds and heavy rains, so inspect the areas annually. One of the most common causes for roofing leaks is due to problems with flashing.

6. Lastly, you should walk around to carefully inspect the shingles on the roof — look for curling edges, missing granules, and certainly for missing shingles or damage from birds, rodents, or squirrels.

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by Dan West

There is an old saying "When you help a mule that is stuck in the mud, you are bound to get kicked." Does this apply to people, too? Like mules, many people are very independent and even proud. When forward progress in their lives comes to a halt, they need help. They are too proud and independent to admit it or accept

The Country Preacher

it, but those around them see it clearly. When a kind-hearted person steps in to help, the one in need rejects — kicks — the helper.

Should we allow this to stop us from helping? The Apostle Peter said "For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer for it, if you take it patiently,

this is commendable before God." (1 Peter 2:20)

Often this concept applies with teenagers. While they want to act grown up and independent, they don't have the life experience of their parents and teachers to base good decisions on. When we try to help,

they may outwardly scoff at us, but inwardly are glad for the advice.

So, go ahead and offer your help. Don't force it, don't argue, just clearly state your thoughts. Take the "kicks" and chock it up to experience — theirs. You both will be better off for it.

Rescued dog comes to aid of 4-year-old

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — A family's decision to rescue a dog on the brink of being euthanized in Minneapolis has been returned in spades.

Just days after Christi Smith brought TaterTot home, the 10-month-old pit bull sensed something was wrong with Smith's 4-year-old son in the middle of the night. Smith says the dog kept whining and barking after jumping on her son and licking his face. Smith says she found her son, Peyton Anderson, was barely breathing.

After rushing Peyton to the emergency room, doctors ran a series of tests and found out the boy's blood sugar was dangerously low.

Smith tells KMSP-TV she believes the dog she rescued saved her son's life. And, while Smith earlier planned to foster the dog until a permanent home could be found, TaterTot isn't going anywhere — he's become part of the family for good.



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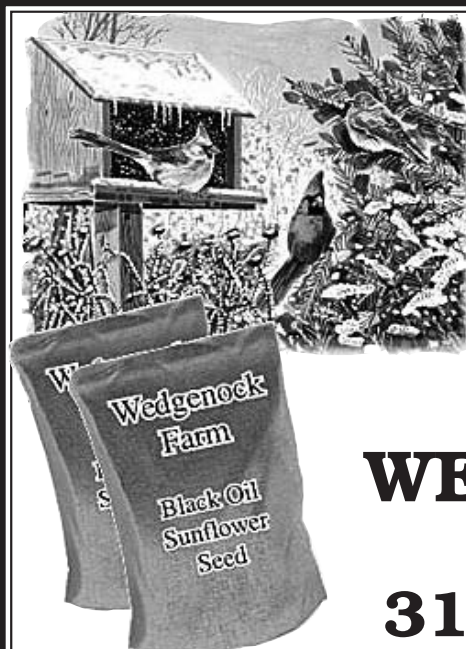
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by David Uffington

Car-buying mistakes that can cost you

The folks at AutoTrader.com have put together a list of hints and warnings for making smart choices when purchasing a new or used car. Here are some mistakes that can cost you money:

- Negotiating the price based on the monthly payment: If you extend the time period for paying off the car, it will reduce your monthly payment. However, you'll end up paying much more in the end because of the interest over a longer period of time. Negotiate the price of the car first. If the monthly payment is too high, reduce the price of cars

you consider.

- Not getting a mechanical inspection: Just doing a test drive on a used car isn't enough. There are far too many things that can be wrong with a car that will never show up during a drive.

- Buying what you don't need: Make your list of wants and needs before you even begin shopping for a car. Don't be talked into options you don't need or want.

- Not running a vehicle history report on a used car: This is a fast, low-cost way to determine if the car is being correctly represented. If it's ever been in an accident, you need to know, especially if it was totaled and writ-

ten off, or even if it was in a flood. The report also will tell you the mileage, whether the car has been stolen and the history of the title.

- Not taking a thorough test drive: According to AutoTrader.com, your test drive should be at least 45 minutes of different types of roads and under different

types of conditions. Bring family to see if they'll fit comfortable in the car, and bring items such as strollers and golf clubs to be sure there's enough room in the back.

- Falling in love with a car before you buy it: Don't. Stay focused on the serious business of what you're doing, which

is trying to make a smart choice about something that is a major purchase.

- Not shopping around: Test drive as many vehicles as possible, and visit multiple dealerships.

One place to start is at AutoTrader.com. The site is full of information you need to know before

you start your hunt for the right vehicle. Look at the Car Research category, especially the helpful shortcuts to cars rated above 30 mpg, sedans under \$25,000 and cars for grads. Or search via your ZIP code or the type of car you prefer.

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Newspapers remain a valuable resource

Newspapers have been in circulation for centuries. Ancient Romans produced government announcements and posted them in prominent locations around the city. In ancient China, news sheets were circulated among court officials to share government news. However, it wasn't until use of the printing press became widespread that the new media of newsprint became available to the general public. The 17th century was the first time much of Europe and other areas around the world began to produce something similar

to what we now know as newspapers.

Nowadays, many newspapers are still being printed on a daily or weekly basis, but publishers also understand the benefits of digital content. That is why newspapers are now supplementing their print copy with digital and interactive versions online. Should a person desire to read a printed version, he or she can do so. Others can access content online, which is typically updated regularly as newsworthy items be-

come available.

Newspapers have frequently been the first source people turn to for information on various subjects, including current events and sports. Even now, despite the prevalence of television news, people still look to the newspapers for in-depth coverage of hot topics. Additionally, some newspaper content is mirrored online or offered in some other complementary form. For example, fans of comics in the newspaper may not realize they're a major source of syndica-

tion revenue. In an effort to snag a bigger chunk of key demographics, comics not only are being run in the newspaper, but also are being adapted into "apps" that can be viewed on tablets, computers and smartphones to further their visibility.

The internet may be creating a dramatic shift in the business model and the products offered by newspapers, but that isn't necessarily a bad thing, presenting new opportunities for newspapers to expand on their offerings in unique ways.

Many papers now enable readers to express their comments about news stories online, which fosters a global discussion that can bring people from various parts of the world together.

Newspapers also are shifting the mix of stories they offer to provide a stronger balance of entertainment, lifestyle and other subjects that are more relevant to people's daily lives than politics and international affairs may be. In turn, newspapers are attracting new readers both offline and online.

Few can argue about the validity of newspapers for current events. Students exploring current topics and presenting them in school are

frequently urged to look to newspapers for content. Editors are largely apprised of up-and-coming trends and are given first-see information before the general public, which they later share in their publications. Local newspapers truly offer the best window into what makes a community unique. When searching for local jobs, events or merchandise, newspapers and their respective websites remain a reliable resource for their readers.

Despite the ominous forecasts projecting the demise of newspapers, many publications are still going strong and proving just how valuable a resource they can be.

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Beauty now: Spritz, spray and go

by Samantha Critchell

Beauty consumers seem to like the delivery of their products with the touch of a button, and brands are obliging them with more spray-on items.

What had been the domain of sunscreen also now belongs to moisturizers, shampoo and cosmetics: It's spray, spritz and go.

"Sprays in beauty can be a game-changer," says Marie Claire beauty and health director Erin Flaherty. She predicts people will use these products more frequently, more regularly and maybe share with other family members.

That's the plan, says Ricardo Pimenta, global vice president for Vaseline and St. Ives. Vaseline's new spray body lotion is getting a lot of buzz.

"It all started with an observation that a lot of people in the U.S. have lotion at home but don't use it. They're what we call 'light users,'" he says. "We found out the reason they weren't using it that often is not because they didn't know that it was good for their skin, but it was too much work and it took too long."

He adds: "We had to innovate, and a spray seemed very simple, almost obvious, and we said, 'Why haven't we done this

before?' The answer is it was difficult."

There were challenges with viscosity, absorption, working with the compressed air that propels the spray and the ergonomics of the can.

"None of them is too complicated separately, but putting them together was," Pimenta says.

It was all worth the effort, says Flaherty.

Think of all the days you skipped lotion because you were pressed for time, or how you ran out of the house with your hair wet because you didn't have time to blow-dry. A spray dry shampoo solves that problem.

And there are all the

kids who were never fully covered in sunscreen because they couldn't sit still long enough for a head-to-toe application, Flaherty says. Those kids could probably use a good dose of moisturizer, too.

Makeup brand Urban Decay recently launched its B-6 Complexion Prep Spray, which is a fine-mist liquid vitamin mattifier that aims to minimize pores and reduce redness. It was designed as a unisex product because, says Urban Decay co-founder Wende Zomnir, men like sprays, too.

Zomnir says the spray has a much lighter touch than anyone's fingers could hope to have so you

don't feel like you're adding a layer of product. "We couldn't ask people to put another layer of stuff on their faces. ... A few years ago, a product like this was droplets landing on your face. Now, you don't feel it going on."

There's also the no-yuck factor. With a spray, Flaherty says her fingers aren't sticky, greasy or dirty. "I wouldn't use a self-tanner because of what it did to your hands, but now that you can get a spray tan, it's totally different."

She says she doesn't think it's a fad. It's not just cool, it's a time-saving problem solver — and those are the keepers. She predicts sprays to come in more color cosmetics and

facial care.

What's Zomnir working on next in her spray line-

up? A spray wrinkle remover. "That would be a dream."

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History behind the bridal veil

Wedding day attire has changed in many ways, but one component of getting dressed up for a wedding that has withstood the test of time is the wearing of a wedding veil.

Though many brides know it is tradition to wear a bridal veil, many

do not understand why. Here is a look at the history behind the veil and why it is continued to be worn today.

The veil and the bouquet that a bride carries may predate the wearing of white. Although there is no definitive reason for

the wearing of a veil, many surmise it has to do with ancient Greeks and Romans' fear of evil spirits and demons. In fact, this is where many of the bridal traditions actually come from, including bridesmaids wearing similar dresses in order to

serve as decoys for the bride. In an effort to frighten away or disguise the bride from evil spirits, brides-to-be were dressed in brightly colored fabrics like red and obscured by a veil. But in many cases, the veil prevented the bride from seeing well. That is why her father or another person "gave her away." He was actually escorting her down the aisle so she wouldn't bump or trip into anything. The veil also served as a method of shielding the bride's face from her future husband, especially in the cases of arranged marriages.

Superstition has it that it is bad luck for the groom to see the bride prior to the wedding. A veil hiding her face also ensured that the groom would not see his soon-to-be-betrothed up until the ceremony.

Eventually the meaning behind the veil transformed as weddings evolved into religious ceremonies. The veil came to symbolize modesty and obedience. In many religions it is seen as a symbol of reverence for women to cover their heads. When white wedding dresses were worn



to symbolize chastity, the white veil followed suit.

There are others who say that before the advent of shampoo, people didn't wash their hair as often and it could get quite dirty. The veil may have been a method to covering up unsightly hair.

Regardless of the origins, veils continue to be sported by today's brides, who choose from a few different styles. A flyaway is a short veil that ends at the shoulders, while a sweep veil ends at the floor. Chapel

and cathedral veils follow the bride at a significant length (nine and 12 feet, respectively). A blusher is a very short veil that covers just the bride's face as she enters the ceremony. With a fingertip veil, the veil reaches the bride's waist and brushes at her fingertips.

The veil will coordinate with the style of the gown, and many wedding attire consultants suggest choosing the gown prior to the headpiece and veil.

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