



The Country Editor

Just good reading

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Art for my heart

by Kelly Gallagher

This past June, a young artist friend of mine suddenly passed away. When we used to get together, we'd travel around and snap pictures of pretty



Erwin Wurm's Big Kastenmann
Photos by Kelly Gallagher

things that suited our fancy. Our friendship had ignited my penchant for art and adventure, and I wondered how it would feel to love the things we loved without her. Surely adventures would feel different. Staler.

I was driving south through Ghent, NY on my way from her funeral services when a clunky hay truck pulled out ahead of me. I'm a cautious driver, and there was no way I'd be comfortable passing a swaying piece of farm equipment. So I turned down a side road, hoping to put a few minutes and miles between me and the hay truck.

As I turned, I noticed a sign that read, "The Fields Sculpture Park at Omi." I'd never heard of that before. It seemed strange that an international anything could have existed in the area without my notice! I followed the road and soon saw a statue of a... a big box man?

That certainly wasn't what I was expecting to see on this long car ride. My body, which had been heavy from the shock and sadness of losing my young friend, received a fresh jolt of energy. Who knew that seeing an 18-foot, 1.6 ton statue (according to my

later research) could be pleasant? Maybe, dare I say, thrilling?

I exited the car and continued on foot. Many treasures awaited me in Omi's fields and forests.

Since that June day, I have returned to Omi several times. And I will return again and again. When I think of my friend who passed and feel waves of grief or anger, I think of how her death indirectly led to my accidental discovery of Omi, and of the invigorating flash of joy that came over me when I stepped out of the car. That energy renews and refines each time I think of her, each time I think of Omi, and each time I visit Omi.

The beauty of travel, to me, is the ever-humming possibility of new encounters. Go out and have as many as you can, while you can.



The Marriage Tree by Dennis Oppenheim

Who's "The Man?"

by Terry Berkson

One winter morning about a dozen years ago, a friend from Richfield Springs called down to Brooklyn to tell me that a large branch from a white pine had fallen on our camp on Perkins Lane. He said that it looked like most of the weight and impact had been deflected

by another tree and that the branch appeared to be just resting on the roof. When I arrived on the opening day of deer hunting season, I found that the branch had, in fact, broken through the roof and was acting like an elbow that funneled the rain water right into the attic and down into the

kitchen. The limb was too heavy to move and the roof was too slippery to climb at that time, so, I made a Rube Goldberg contraption with the use of a pail, some tin and an old rain gutter that channeled the water that came into the house back out through the bathroom window. Then, I went hunting.

In the spring I returned to the camp with a chain saw, some shingles and other material I would need to make the repair. While working in the attic I came across two pieces of cardboard lying face down on the floor. It looked like they had been used to cover a small vent window nearby. When I turned them over they appeared to be identical, showing pictures of baseball players — six or eight of them. The portraits were the size of baseball cards. I recognized one of the names, Stanley Musial, a great outfielder who in his hey day had been known

as "Stan The Man." Coincidentally, my dad had bought me a Rawlings PMM Stan Musial baseball glove when I was in the 7th grade and I still have it — but I had never heard anybody call Stan, Stanley. It must have been when he was a rookie. Also printed on the cardboard in bold letters was the brand name Hunter Hot Dogs. A caption read, "Kids, cut these pictures out and make a collection!" If folded, it looked like the 12" by 16" sheets would form a box that housed a dozen hot dogs. Baseball and hot dogs! I thought I had found a valuable collectable but when I asked my friend Charlie who is an expert in these matters he said, "nah." I had to respect his opinion because once, when we were in Bouckville, an antique dealer commented on Charlie's knowledge by referring to him as "The Man."

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A Rawlings PMM Stan Musial baseball glove.

Photo by Terry Berkson

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Turkey rescue

by Susan Randazzo

In the summer of 1997, my husband and I took a drive to look at a gray horse that had been advertised in a local paper. We had only lived in our country home in Ilion for a year and already had chickens and goats. Upon arrival we noticed several sheds and pens in a wooded area near the pasture. We walked by a small, muddy pen where a large bronze turkey was sadly strolling near the fence. His noble, peaceful eyes peered up at us saying, "Save me, I hate it here."

As we returned to the garage area, both of us were thinking the same thing. We asked the man if the turkey was for sale. The man found a huge cardboard box and the turkey, whose name was Tom, was loaded quietly into the back of our truck. Happily we rode back to Ilion with our new friend.

We adjusted the chicken pen to give Tom a section with his own shelter and large gate to the yard. He was so friendly and attentive, I often let him walk with me as I did yard work.

One day, I allowed the pygmy goats to roam the yard to graze and get exercise. The mother goat, accompanied by her brother and son, were near our

grape arbor the same time Tom was approaching with me for a walk. I thought there would be a confrontation. As Tom puffed and fanned, his large wings opened, making him appear wider and more threatening. Our goat, Sarah, lowered her head to accept his challenge. The other goats stood near and I watched as Sarah charged, horns down, directly towards Tom's huge breast. With the ease of a forklift, she raised the turkey about four feet in the air. Tom fully extended his massive wings to cushion his descent to the ground.

I was amazed at her strength, and that Tom's huge claws hadn't scratched Sarah's body upon impact. Not wanting the scene to escalate, I quickly stepped in between the two, grabbing Sarah's collar and leading all three goats back to their pen as quickly as possible. Tom watched as we exited and continued strutting by the road, not interested in a chase.

Throughout the summer, our turkey companion was a big hit for company, who marveled at his peaceful nature as we enjoyed picnics or cold lemonade at the table in the yard. He never went too far and was always

eager to snatch any chips or bread tossed from the table.

In the fall, Tom accompanied my sisters and I as we took a walk through our woods to our pond. I was amazed that he wanted to make the trip. He huffed and puffed as his huge feet shuffled the pine needles on the path. The next day, I noticed Tom was stumbling a lot, and was staying near his area instead of following me around the yard. I followed him back to his pen later and he started flapping around.

I was so alarmed. I knew something was wrong, but at that time, I did not recognize the signs indicating his demise. I ran to the woods shouting for my husband who was cutting dead trees for firewood. By the time I returned, Tom lay dead near his shed, wings outstretched and his gray claws folded under him. It was so upsetting and so sudden. My husband returned and said he must have been older than we thought and perhaps the long walk to the pond the day before was too much for him. I was struck with grief, and guilt as well.

It was quite a low point in our farm life.



Tom, the infamous turkey who brought many memories to Randy's Ridge in Ilion.

Photo courtesy of Susan Randazzo

At that point, we had not designated a pet cemetery. That was to come years later. I remember digging the hole for Tom near a huge rock, which sits within our alpaca pen today, marking the exact spot of our precious turkey. A short time later, in 1999, we brought home a new Tom, and his lady, Georgia. They have a story all of their own. One of many yet to be told about Randy's Ridge, Ilion.

Pets on parade

A few weeks ago my husband and I adopted a six-month-old kitty, who we named Storm. We already have several cats, but Storm is special — he is completely deaf.

Early one morning, he came up to the bedroom to cuddle up with Huckleberry, our 3-year-old, 100-pound golden retriever. Storm started purring so loudly he woke everybody up — he had no volume control!

Both Storm and Huckle

-berry have unique personalities. Huck is afraid of everything. We keep a list of his irrational fears, which includes wind, daisies, the car, traveling across bridges (he moans), wood floors and Canada geese.

Storm chases every light and reflection he sees. He has cleared the mantle in the living room several times because a car drove past the house — he absolutely had to chase the light reflecting on the wall! We also can't

watch any news channel with a scroll bar on the bottom of the screen because he chases it. He especially likes messages from the National Weather Service.

Storm and Huckleberry groom each other, nap together, and Huck always gives Storm first crack at his food dish.

Everybody deserves to have a place where they feel safe and protected, and for Storm, that's with his doggy. They have a purrfect friendship.



Storm and Huckleberry taking a cat nap.
Photo courtesy of Shelley Fazekas, Dolgeville



Molly and Gunner doing what they love most: playing Frisbee.



Kathleen Lee and her dog, Axl, sneaking in a snuggle break during obedience class.

Photos courtesy of Kathleen Lee, Canaigharie

Have an awesome pet? The Country Editor wants to celebrate your favorite pals!

Please email a photo of your pet to: jkarkwren@leepub.com or mail to: The Country Editor, PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428.

Along with each photo, please give us a few details about him or her, describing what makes your pet so special! Please include your name as well.

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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 . . .

It seems that as our cellular phones get smaller and smaller. It seems that the size of our groceries and food items are shrinking too. Grocery bills continue to grow and grow.

In 2006, Hellmann's mayonnaise introduced a 30-ounce quart. Last time I checked, a quart was 32 ounces. That's 4 cups, if you're keeping track. I'm not bashing Hellmann's at all. It's the only mayonnaise to use (don't even get me started on impostors). But, when you think about it, every time you purchase a quart of mayo, your 1980 self is getting ripped off by 2 ounces.

Two ounces doesn't seem like a lot, but it adds up in the end. Around 1987, American Airlines removed one olive from their salads and that action saved the company a reported \$40,000. If one olive saved 40 grand, imagine what holding back 2 ounces of mayonnaise will get you.

Imagine this scenario: a little kid sets up a lemonade stand. He is advertising a cup of lemonade for 50 cents. You, being a supporter of citrus-based entrepreneurial efforts, plunk down your two quarters and receive a plastic cup of lemonade. The cup is half full. When you question the kid he says, "That is a full serving of lemonade." You would feel cheated because you know you should have received the other half.

They're doing it with cereal and chips too. While cereal boxes are staying the same size, the bags inside are getting smaller. The contents are shrinking too. And, they stopped putting toys in the cereal. They are also getting our cookies. That's right, you're getting less cookie for your money. Oreo cookies used to come in 16-ounce packages. Now, it's 15.35 ounces. Even less for some of their new-fangled limited editions.

Penny candy used to cost a penny, and it was so affordable that corner stores, candy shops and newsstands used to keep large stockpiles of the stuff in bins of all different sizes to satisfy their fans. Somewhere along the line, penny candy started charging nickels and dimes. Finding a jar of Tootsie Rolls is nearly impossible in 2014, and if you do find the goods, you better have a pocket full of pennies.

Maybe everything just seemed bigger back in the day. One thing is for sure, the dollar used to be bigger. When it comes down to the size of your soup can or that king-sized candy bar, your money just isn't getting you what it used to. Stop and think, "What would my mother say?" She would say, "Maybe we should appreciate what we have now instead of what we had in the past?"

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 Mark Richard Luther

I took a course that was an introduction to Microsoft Office. Earlier in the day, I had purchased the textbook — it was thicker than one of my forearms! I am keeping a positive frame of mind with this whole college thing. I am naïve when it comes to computers. I have some practical knowledge of digital technology but if there was an end-of-the-world kind of scenario, then my goose is cooked; it wouldn't be a pretty picture.

In a college situation, it's a great start. I have discovered that I am a digital immigrant, which means I didn't grow up in the digital age of computers. I am putting in my application for my digital green card. The other students who are a couple of decades younger than me, are digital natives; technology is in their blood.

Each of the classes I have attended the first week of my first semester at college has included a daily routine among the professors. They say "Hello,

good morning and welcome." Attendance is taken. They go over the class syllabus and what the class expectations are.

The professor I have for Introduction to Microsoft Office is older than me, which is somewhat refreshing. He's a professor who has worked in the real world of the big computers, decades before home computers became the rage in the late 80s. I know I am going to enjoy this class. Only time will tell in the long run.

I hope I don't have to run too far away from the path I have chosen for myself. I hope the road isn't laden with potholes the size of a human body. I will make every step count and keep one eye looking down at the road, one eye staring straight in front of me. I wish I had a third eye in the back of my head so I won't miss anything. I could go on writing about my experiences as an older college student; I might end up with a novel as thick as *War and Peace*.

I had a lot of ups, then some downs.

A day without your smile

by Elizabeth Lipiec Zerbst

A day without your smile
is like Christmas without snow —
or a day in the summer
without the sun's warm glow.

Like an ocean with no water
or a beach that has no sand —
like a cat without its whiskers
or a clock without a hand.

A day that I don't see you
is a day that's incomplete —
like a springtime without flowers
or potatoes with no meat.

Like a horse that doesn't whinny
or a cow that doesn't moo,
or a duck that doesn't waddle —
that's a day without you.

The Man from Page 1

Nevertheless, I ignored my friend's pooh-poohing of my find, and put Stanley Musial and his buddies up on a shelf in the attic back in Brooklyn. A couple of years went by. During that time I had visited a baseball card shop and described to the owner what I had found. His response was about the same as Charlie's. I still had my doubts about their appraisal and one day asked Charlie to post my find on Ebay. He was bothered by the foolish request because it was work to put something on the internet, but he said, "Okay, we'll split whatever it brings 50/50." A week later I get a call from an excited Charlie saying, "The hot dog box went for \$220!" That was \$110 a piece, plus the sweet feeling of knowing better than the experts.

"You want to sell the other one?" Charlie asked. "This time I'll only take 15 percent," he said sounding a bit guilty.

"Let's wait a while," I told him.

A couple of months later I gave Charlie the green light to unload the remaining Stanley and then boarded a plane to Florida. A week later my cell phone rang with so much energy it almost jumped out of my pocket. It was an excited Charlie telling me, "The cardboard went for 150 dollars!"

"That helps pay for Florida," I said in a forced matter of fact tone.

"Did I tell you I get 50 percent — or 15 percent?" he asked chuckling.

"You said 15," I returned.

"Who knew?" he said disgusted.

Now, briefly, in the area of collectibles, like Stan — I was "The Man."

"You gotta get back up to your camp and into that attic," Charlie said. "There might be more . . ."

Several months later I made the trip — but the hot dog cards, like old Stanley, had left the ball park.

 **The Country Editor**
Just good reading

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The Country Preacher

by Dan West

God bless America! We hear that mantra repeated many times throughout a year — especially around the birthday of our nation, July 4th. Have you ever wondered what it means? According to the Davis Dictionary of the Bible, to “bless” means to bestow favor, or invoke God’s favor.

But do you know that we people can bless God? Another definition of “bless” is to give adoration and thanksgiving to God. This leads me to wonder, why should God bless America when America has turned her back on God?

Think about it; we tell God to stay out of our schools and our children’s lives, and even

though our country was founded on biblical principles our government is passing laws contrary to this, and we allow a handful of vocal

unbelievers to dictate where biblical influences can be displayed.

The nation of Israel was like this so Psalm 81: 11 and 12 says God

“gave them up to their own desire.” He continues saying He would have subdued their enemies, given them victory, He would have fed

them with the finest and satisfied them, but because they wouldn’t listen to Him, He withheld His blessing on them. Wake up America!

Nation’s top birding team seeks new 24-hour record

ITHACA, NY — After setting a new North American record for the number of species identified in a 24-hour birding marathon in Texas last year (294), the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Team Sapsucker is taking on another big challenge. In early May, the team will head to the American Southwest following a new birding route they call “El Gigante.” Their goals are to focus at-

tention on environmental pressures in this key region and to raise a record \$400,000 for conservation work at the Cornell Lab.

“After three successful Big Day runs in Texas, we’re right now planning our route through Arizona and California,” says Sapsucker captain Chris Wood. “It’s a brand-new route for us, with new challenges and lots of unknowns. It’ll be fun

to see how many species we can find. We’ll be looking for some really great birds, such as the Elegant Trogon, Phainopepla, and Mountain Quail.”

The Sapsuckers’ route will take them through areas where habitat for birds and other animals is under heavy pressure from changes in land use and severe ongoing drought. In Arizona’s Santa Rita Mountains,

forests of oaks and pines rise up from dry desert. But the desert is now moving higher and the mountains are getting hotter, threatening survival for the species that live there.

“The Cornell Lab is using science and cutting-edge technologies to find answers to some of the biggest environmental threats,” Wood says. “We use models from data collected through eBird to help federal agencies and landowners determine the best ways to target bird and habitat conservation. These same techniques are helping us identify the most important times and places to provide habitat for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway.”

To learn more about the Sapsuckers’ Big Day in the Southwest, visit www.birds.cornell.edu/BigDay.



Team Sapsucker (L-R): Chris Wood, Jessie Barry, Brian Sullivan, Andrew Farnsworth, Tim Lenz, and Marshall Iliff.

Photo by Luke Seitz

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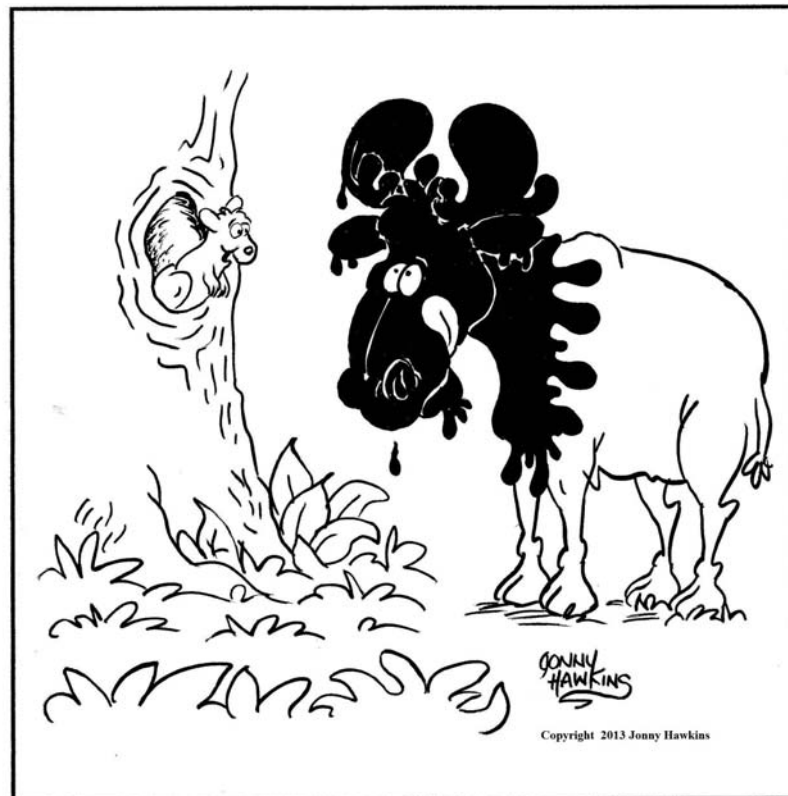
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Man among first in U.S. to get ‘bionic eye’

by Mike Householder, Associated Press
ANN ARBOR, MI (AP) — A degenerative eye disease slowly robbed Roger Pontz of his vision.

Diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa as a teenager, Pontz has been almost completely blind for years. Now, thanks to a high-tech procedure that involved the surgical implantation of a “bionic eye,” he’s regained enough of his eyesight to catch small glimpses of his wife, grandson and cat.

“It’s awesome. It’s exciting — seeing something new every day,” Pontz said during a recent appointment at the University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center. The 55-year-old former competitive weightlifter and factory worker is one of four people in the U.S. to receive an artificial retina since the Food and Drug Administration signed off on its use last year.

Not all of the 100,000 or so people in the U.S. with retinitis pigmentosa can benefit from the bionic eye. An estimated 10,000 have vision low enough, said Dr. Brian Mech, an executive with Second Sight Medical Products Inc., the Sylmar, CA-based company that makes the device. Of those, about 7,500 are eligible for the surgery.

The artificial implant in Pontz’s left eye is part of a system developed by Second Sight that includes a small video camera and transmitter housed in a pair of glasses.

Images from the camera are converted into a series of electrical pulses that

are transmitted wirelessly to an array of electrodes on the surface of the retina. The pulses stimulate the retina’s remaining healthy cells, causing them to relay the signal to the optic nerve.

The visual information then moves to the brain, where it is translated into patterns of light that can be recognized and interpreted, allowing the patient to regain some visual function.

When wearing the glasses, which Pontz refers to as his “eyes,” he can identify and grab his cat and figure out that a flash of light is his grandson hightailing it to the kitchen.

The visual improvement is sometimes startling for Pontz and his wife, Terri, who is just as amazed at her husband’s progress as he is.

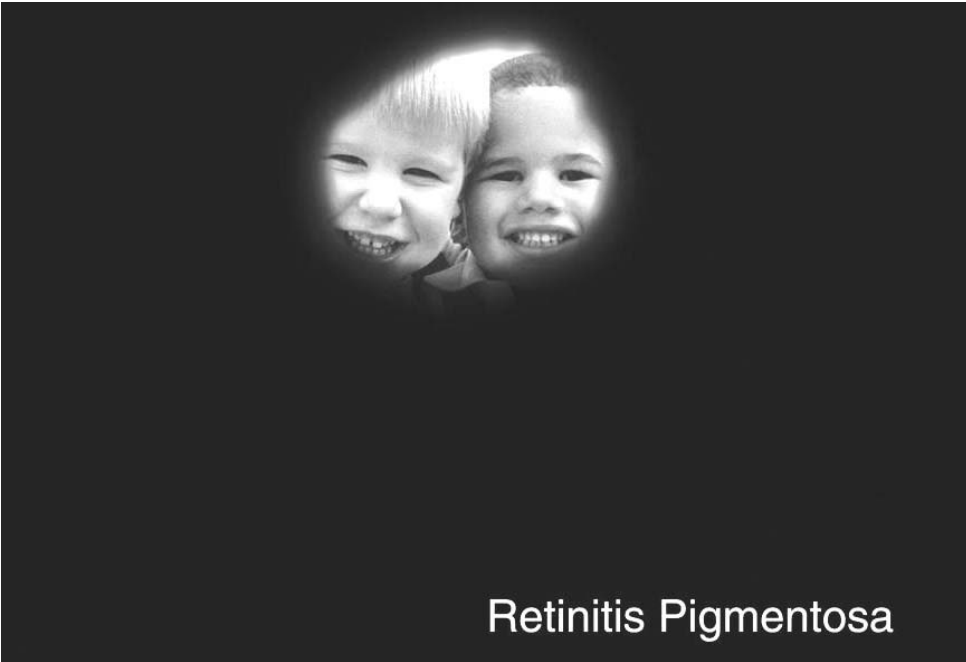
“I said something I never thought I’d say: ‘Stop staring at me while I’m eating,’” Terri Pontz said.

She drives her husband the nearly 200 miles to Ann Arbor for check-ups and visits with occupational therapist Ashley Howson, who helps Roger Pontz reawaken his visual memory and learn techniques needed to make the most of his new vision.

“What’s it worth to see again? It’s worth everything,” Terri Pontz said.

The artificial retina procedure has been performed several-dozen times over the past few years in Europe, and the expectation is that it will find similar success in the U.S., where the University of Michigan is one of 12 centers accepting consultations

for patients.
Candidates for the retinal prosthesis must be 25 or older with end-stage retinitis pigmentosa that has progressed to the point of having “bare light” or no light perception in both eyes.
Dr. Thiran Jayasundera, one of two physicians who performed the 4.5-hour surgery on Roger Pontz, was scheduled to discuss his experiences with the retinal prosthesis process during a meeting of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery held on April 25 in Boston. He calls it a “game-changer.”
Pontz agrees: “I can walk through the house with ease. If that’s all I get out of this, it’d be great.”



Retinitis Pigmentosa

A scene as it might be viewed by a person with retinitis pigmentosa.
Credit: National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health and wikimedia.org

Facebook helps find owner of military bracelet

APPLETON, WI — Employees at an Appleton supper club have been searching for the owner of a special military bracelet for more than a year.

The bracelet memorializes the life of Army Staff Sgt. Derek Farley who died while serving in Afghanistan in 2010. His

mother, Carrie Farley, of New York, lost the price-less bracelet while visiting her parents in Appleton in January 2013.

WBAY-TV says staff at Dick and Joan's Supper Club tried calling every Farley in the local phone book, but had no luck finding the bracelet's owner. That's

until bar manager Alisa Heiman turned to her daughter for help in putting posting it on Facebook. And, in just 24 hours and many Facebook shares later, the mystery was solved.

Carrie Farley has been reunited with the bracelet that means so much to her.

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Monday, April 21st sale - cull ave. \$.80, Top cow \$1.12, Bulls/Steers \$.96 - \$1.30, bull calves top \$3.20, heifer calf top \$3.02, Dairy feeders \$.68 - \$1.00, dairy milking age Grade cow top \$1700.

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9:00 AM: Flowers and Shrubs
10:00 AM: Farm Machinery
9:30 AM: Antiques and Misc.
1:00 PM: Horses

12:00 Noon: Quilts
10:30 AM: Building Material
10:30 AM: Tools & Furniture
12:00 Noon: Tack

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She sold Belgian waffles at the 1964 World's Fair

NEW YORK (AP) — The notion of introducing a new food to the American public is almost inconceivable in an era of TV chefs, global cuisine and foodie websites.

But that's what happened 50 years ago at the 1964 New York World's Fair in Queens, NY, when a family from Belgium introduced Belgian waffles, topped with fresh whipped cream, powdered sugar and sliced strawberries.

Once Maurice and Rose Vermersch and

their daughter MariePaule began serving the delicacy, there was no turning back the crowds.

"From the moment we opened there was a line. We couldn't see the end," recalled MariePaule Vermersch, 66, who helped her parents serve an average of 2,500 waffles a day during the fair, which opened 50 years ago on April 22, 1964. "It was wild."

They were supposed to be called Brussels waffles — named for the Belgian capital, where

they were a specialty — but her mother soon realized many Americans didn't know where Brussels was.

The Vermersch family first served the treat two years earlier at the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle, and for years after they made the waffles at the annual New York State Fair in Syracuse. But it was at the 1964 event in New York City that the waffles became a sensation.

Compared to American waffles, the Belgian treat was light, crispy and fluffy. To this day, baby boomers fondly recall the memory of enjoying them at the fair.

Vermersch said that for years she ran a coffee shop, MariePaule's Authentic Belgian Waffles, in her current home of Albuquerque, New Mexico, that fea-



The Belgian waffle was first introduced at the 1964 New York World's Fair in Queens, NY.



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cited a special cast-iron pan that heats up to 500 degrees. "As soon as the batter touches the grill, it gets crispy on the outside and soft on the inside," she said. "You don't want to put anything syrupy on it or it will turn it into a sponge."

They served the waffles with whipped cream, adding hand-sliced strawberries for color.

Waffles in the United States date back to the Pilgrims, who were familiar with them from time spent in the Netherlands, which has a similar waffle culture. And during the latter part of the 18th century, "waffle parties" were all the rage. Today, a version of the Belgian waffle can be found in diners and restaurants across the country.

Vermersch said she vowed never to create an instant mix because the recipe requires fresh, carefully prepped ingredients: pure vanilla, fresh yeast or self-rising flour, melted but cooled sweet butter, and eggs at room temperature, with egg whites added at the end.

But that's as much information as she'll divulge. About 12 years ago, she sold the Maurice Authentic Belgian Waffle recipe to a Syracuse family on condition that it be served only at the New York State Fair. The exact recipe, she says, is a secret.

Hunters bound by love of outdoors, kidney donation

by John Milburn

TOPEKA, KS — Two hunters brought together by a love of the outdoors formed a friendship leading one to donate a kidney to the other, a friendship that has led to a foundation aimed at sharing the outdoors with others.

Rob Robinson, a 45-year-old firefighter from Starkville, MS, happened to knock on Gil Alexander's door in 2008 in northwest Kansas seeking permission to hunt pheasant. Robinson returned three years later, this time to hunt turkey on Alexander's property.

"I didn't remember his

name, but I knew the voice and Mississippi," Alexander said of their second meeting.

That's when Robinson learned that Alexander was ill and needed a kidney transplant to prolong his life. Robinson returned to Mississippi and got tested and found out he was a match, in fact closer than if they were brothers.

"He texted me and said 'I'm a match'," Alexander said. "I put down the phone and started to cry."

Robinson, a soft-spoken man of few words, jokes that giving the kidney wasn't required for getting permission to

hunt, but felt like the right thing to do.

"I never thought I would be an organ donor, let alone a living one," he said.

The two went to a Kansas City Chiefs football game together then went to the hospital the next day for the surgery on Nov. 26, 2012. In the process, Alexander also learned he had early stages of pancreatic cancer, which doctors were able to remove.

"I just feel like the most blessed person on the planet," said Alexander, 56.

The transplant gave Alexander new life, allowing him to stop dialy-

sis and to continue farming his nearly 3,000 acres north of Nicodemus. The men decided to build on their friendship and start Forever Outdoors, an organization that brings wounded veterans, children and others to northwest Kansas to experience hunting and nature.

Alexander and Robinson met with Kansas Governor Sam Brownback and other state wildlife officials Tuesday to talk about their organization and to raise awareness of the need for organ donors.

"This is a gift of life. Without the kidney, he's not here," said Brown-

back, who met Alexander at a hunting event.

Robinson, who holds the record for one of the largest turkeys ever shot, said he always wanted to start a hunting business and the connection with Alexander is helping him fulfill that dream. The two are hoping to create a "five-star resort" where people can come experience hunting and the outdoors by overcoming any physical or financial obstacles.

"I also want to turn my house in Mississippi into a lodge," Robinson said.

Alexander, a fourth-generation Kansas farmer, said his great-

grandfather was from Mississippi and was a Buffalo Soldier in the Army. He's traveled to the South to see his friend and promote their foundation.

The two have created a Facebook page to post updates on their hunting exploits, as well as a good dose of Mississippi State University sporting events. The two have events planned throughout the year, including a muzzle loader tournament in September.

"I could tell that he was a spiritual guy. God took care of the rest," Alexander said.

Pennsylvania grads create skateboards out of ocean waste

by Lynn Olanoff, The (Easton) Express-Times

EASTON, PA (AP) — Lehigh University graduate David Stover surfed on a regular basis while living in Australia.

He loved the conditions at Manly Beach, his favorite surf spot in suburban Sydney, but hated how polluted the water was with plastic.

It got the mechanical engineering major thinking: Could something be done with the many plastic bags, bottles and fishing nets he saw on a daily basis? His Australian roommate, Ben Kneppers, a Northeastern University graduate, and Kevin Ahearn, a friend from Lehigh, also were interested in the predicament of plastic pollu-

tion in oceans.

"We became obsessed with this idea: Why is there plastic everywhere?" said Stover, 28, who grew up in Rhode Island and graduated from Lehigh in 2007.

They started thinking about what the plastic could be recycled into, and their thoughts turned to skateboards, another of their hobbies in addition to surfing. Kneppers soon took a job in Chile and it was there they got the idea to focus on the recycling of nylon fishnets, an especially problematic pollutant in the fishing industry-heavy country.

"It enabled us to recycle these nets into a fun product," said Ahearn, 28, who grew up on Long Island and also

graduated from Lehigh in 2007.

That product is what they call The Minnow, a fish-shaped skateboard whose deck is made entirely of recycled fishing nets. The trio, who call their company Bureo, launched a Kickstarter campaign April 15 and has already raised almost \$34,000, well surpassing the \$25,000 goal.

Ahearn, who designed The Minnow, said it

rides well. They decided to make it wider and sturdier than the average skateboard to appeal to older skateboarders. He said they're proud of their design, which also includes a lock function not found on many skateboards so it can be chained to bicycle racks.

They received grant financing through both Kneppers' alma mater and also the Chilean

government's Start-Up Chile program. Because of the latter grant, they had to set up their company in Chile, where Ahearn and Stover have been living for six months.

With the success of their Kickstarter effort, which will be used to fund an initial production run, they plan to spend the summer promoting their skateboards in California, where they see the

greatest market potential. The boards retail for \$135, or \$60 for the deck alone.

They plan to keep production in Chile at least for the time being, as the Chilean seas are the source of the fishing nets they use. They hope to expand their company to other oceanside countries, as fishing net pollution is a worldwide problem.

"Fishing is a global industry," Ahearn said.

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Bloomberg invests \$5M in solar-powered lamp

NEW YORK (AP) — Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s foundation announced a \$5 million investment in an artsy-looking solar-powered lamp designed for use in off-grid populations in Africa.

The lamp, called Little Sun, provides clear, affordable energy to places dependent on costly and

toxic kerosene lighting in sub-Saharan Africa, said Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charity of the billionaire businessman and former mayor.

The foundation said it will provide a low-interest rate loan to help the business grow.

“Too many families are forced to breathe in toxic kerosene fumes because they don’t have access to

electricity,” Bloomberg said in a statement. “Little Sun is bringing clean, safe, affordable light to people who don’t have it today.”

The portable lamp created by Danish artist Olafur Eliasson and engineer Frederik Ottesen lasts two to three years before needing a new battery.

The Little Sun compa-

ny said it can save households as much as 90 percent over three years compared to what they spend on kerosene.

“Today, seven out of 10 people lack access to even the most basic electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa,” said Little Sun managing director and CEO Felix Hallwachs. “Over the

next 20 years, Africa is poised to hold the world’s largest un-electrified population.”

He said breathing kerosene fumes for four hours is equivalent to smoking 40 cigarettes.

The lamp is currently available in Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Senegal, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The Little Sun project was launched in 2012 at the Tate Modern museum in London. Consumers in the U.S. and Europe also can buy Little Sun at some museums and stores.

“With a Little Sun in your hand, you become a power station, charging your lamp in the sun, you also empower yourself,” Eliasson said.

North Dakota students help fund construction with pennies

POWERS LAKE, ND — When efforts to fund a \$7.5 million school construction project in Powers Lake fell \$1 million short, students turned to their piggy banks.

In six days, the 105 elementary school students in the northwestern North Dakota

town raised nearly \$1,200 in pennies and other coins. That is an average of more than 1,100 pennies per student.

Superintendent Marlyn Vatne tells the Minot Daily News the money won’t be enough — but the effort made the students feel a part of the project.

The planned classroom addition and new cafeteria at the high school is being funded through loans, a state grant, a bond issue passed by voters and donations. The district has set up a fundraising fund through the North Dakota School Foundation to try to reach the goal.

Five facts about unemployment benefits

If you lose your job or your employer lays you off, you may be able to get unemployment benefits. The payments may be a welcomed relief. But you should know that they’re taxable.

Here are five important facts from the IRS about unemployment compensation:

1. You must include all unemployment compensation in your income for the year. You should receive a Form 1099-G, Certain Government Payments. It will show the amount paid to you and the amount of any federal income taxes withheld.
2. There are several

types of unemployment compensation. They generally include any amount received under an unemployment compensation law of the U.S. or a state. For more about the various types, see Publication 525, Taxable and Non-taxable Income.

3. You must include benefits paid to you from regular union dues in your income. Different rules may apply if you contribute to a special union fund and those contributions are not deductible. In that case, only include as income any amount you get that is more than the contributions

you made.

4. You can choose to have federal income tax withheld from your unemployment. You make this choice using Form W-4V, Voluntary Withholding Request. If you do not choose to have tax withheld, you may have to make estimated tax payments during the year.

5. If you are facing financial difficulties, you should visit IRS.gov. “What Ifs” for Struggling Taxpayers explains the tax effect of events such as the loss of a job. For example, if your income decreased, you may be eligible for some tax credits, such



as the Earned Income Tax Credit. If you owe federal taxes and can’t pay your bill, contact the IRS as soon as possible. In many cases, the IRS can take steps to help ease your financial burden.

For more details, see

IRS Publications 17, Your Federal Income Tax, or IRS Publication 525. You can download these booklets and Form W-4V at IRS.gov. You may also order them by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

Source: www.irs.gov



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Scorekeeper at Wrigley practices dying art

by Don Babwin, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Inside a dusty, dimly lit chamber of steel catwalks, Darryl Wilson peers out a square hole and into one of baseball's most revered shrines.

For 23 years, Wilson has been a scoreboard operator at Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs. Running the tall, green manual scoreboard is one of the most unique jobs in baseball, or anywhere, and it's a symphony of the senses.

Each run and every inning, there is a flurry of activity and cacophony of noise inside as scoreboard operators yank metal plates with numbers on them out of the scoreboard and slam others into place. The room suddenly fills with what sounds like a thousand angry bees. This is the result of a finger pressing a button in the far-off press box behind home plate that sends an electrical charge into a panel of half ball-shaped "targets," causing specific ones to flip so that they add up to form the number of the batter, and the number of balls, strikes and outs.

About the only thing that's changed, besides the green paint to cover what was a white scoreboard when it was erected in 1937, is that the scores coming in from, say, Baltimore or St. Louis no longer arrive via a tickertape machine that once spat out reams of paper. They now pop up on the screen of a laptop computer that's a bit out of place atop a dusty counter near Wilson's duct-taped seat.

"I feel unique," said Wilson, who works the upper reaches of the scoreboard, tracking games around the majors and changing scores and pitchers' uniform numbers when managers in those games bring in re-

lievers. "When they made it a (historic) landmark, I'm like, I guess I'm a landmark, too."

With Boston's Fenway Park and Wrigley the only stadiums in the majors

with manual scoreboards, Wilson's job is all but extinct. It's a job largely shrouded in mystery, but the Cubs allowed The Associated Press a rare visit to mark

the 100th anniversary of Wrigley's first game.

From his small window, Wilson has watched some of baseball's greatest sluggers step into the batter's

box, which explains why things occasionally back up a bit. He saw Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa's home run duel, for example.

"No scores would go up when those guys come up to bat because you knew there was going to be some monster home runs coming," he said, smiling.

He also had a clear view of perhaps Wrigley's most infamous moment when a fan deflected a foul ball that seemed destined for left fielder Moises Alou's glove in the 2003 playoffs. Wilson won't say if he thought Alou would have caught the ball or whether Steve Bartman changed the course of history.

But he does speak of the collective shudder that went through the stands as everyone

seemed to understand that the Cubs' World Series drought would continue.

"It took the air right out of us," he said.

Wilson has occasionally put a number where it didn't belong, though he said his biggest blunder came after he raised the American flag and got a call from a friend wondering if the country was in distress.

"I looked up and the flag was upside down," he said.

The job can be exhausting, particularly on hot days when temperatures are 10-15 degrees higher inside the scoreboard. But he loves the job he's had for 23 of his 48 years and has no plans to give it up.

"Just to hear the crowd and all that, it kind of gives you an excited feeling," he said.



Wrigley Field Scoreboard

Photo source: commons.wikimedia.org

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This is a hammer

by **Samantha Mazzotta**
Drafty windows a costly nuisance

G: Our front room windows have never been very good at keeping out drafts on windy nights, and in the summer, it's the hottest room in the house. Do we need to replace these windows? — Charlene T., via email

A: Drafty, leaky windows have a number of causes for — from warped or old frames to single-pane windows and more — but completely replacing the windows and frames can be quite costly.

Your electric company

may offer an energy audit kit — or can even send a professional to perform an energy audit — at low or no cost. A basic kit can determine that hot or cool air is escaping the house, while more detailed audits can determine where that air is escaping.

Another way is to simply bring in a window replacement contractor to inspect the front-room windows, determine what's wrong and present an estimate for the cost of repair or replacement. This is the costliest option, so be certain the problem is

severe enough to warrant window and/or frame replacement. Consider getting two or three estimates from different contractors to compare prices.

In the long term, investing in new, higher-quality windows can save a lot in heating and air conditioning costs, and help make the front room more comfortable year-round.

In the short term, you'll want to take some inexpensive measures to prevent drafts and, in the summer, cool air from escaping.

If you've performed an energy audit or have been able to figure out just where outside air is

blowing through, you can lessen the problem. Air entering under the sash can be blocked by placing a length of foam weatherstripping along the underside, where the sash meets the frame. Thinner weatherstripping can be installed vertically along the frame to prevent drafts from entering between the window and the frame.

Install double-paneled curtains on all the windows of the room. In the winter, these provide an extra buffer between drafts and you. In the summer, these solid curtains can be pulled shut when the sun is shining into the room, to help keep the room cool.

These short-term measures can save some energy, but to really

make that room comfortable, take a serious look at replacing the windows, particularly if they're old or the frame or sash are visibly warped.

HOME TIP: Take a tour of your home and

make note of as many improvement or maintenance tasks that you can find. Then create a schedule to tackle a few of them at a time.

(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.



"We Can Do It!" poster for Westinghouse, closely associated with Rosie the Riveter, although not a depiction of the cultural icon itself. Pictured Geraldine Doyle (1924-2010), at age 17. Date: 1942.

Source: Virginia Historical Society website

Group officially sets Rosie the Riveter record

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP, MI (AP) — A group trying to save a portion of a Detroit-area assembly plant where Rosie the Riveter once worked is the proud owner of a new Guinness World Record.

Save the Willow Run Bomber Plant officials announced that Guinness has officially recognized the 778 "Rosies" who gathered on March 29.

The publishers of the Guinness book wrote that the group now holds the title of "largest gathering of people dressed as Rosie the Riveter."

The record attempt

was part of an ongoing effort to raise the cash needed to save part of the former Willow Run bomber plant in Ypsilanti Township and transform it into the new home of the Yankee Air Museum.

The group said it must raise \$1.25 million by May 1 to prevent demolition.

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Home Country

by Slim Randles

As a prequel to the morning coffee inhalation down at the Mule Barn coffee shop, the members of the world dilemma think tank were found at the break of day, armed with fly rods, in their other guise as charter members of the Lewis Creek Piscatorial Pursuit Alliance.

Dud," said Doc, waving his hand-tied midge through the air. A presentation is fly-fishing-speak for how you wave your line through the air and set it down on the water.

"Thanks, Doc. That double-haul cast of yours is a work of beauty. Look at Steve over there. Ever see anyone pull the line out of the reel and extend his cast that

well?"

"Thanks," said Steve. "But I keep watching how Doc does it and I know I'm not in the same league."

"You're too kind," said Doc. "I think a good part of it is just using this mayfly dry that Marvin tied for me. This thing just hangs suspended over the creek like it was a helicopter."

"I do my best," Marvin said, casting a stonefly nymph upstream, "but we all know it isn't the fly so much as it is the way it's presented to the fish."

Half an hour later, they were seated and sipping at the philosophy counter at the Mule Barn. No one had caught anything that morning, but it didn't stop them

all from feeling really good about themselves.

Fishing can be painlessly therapeutic. You can look it up.

Brought to you by A Home Country Minute with Slim Randles, coming to a television station near you. Want a sneak peek?

www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMVxpRLzvVY

Memory Lane: Traveling through time on Google maps

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA (AP) — Google is now offering trips down memory lane on its digital maps.

The new twist on time travel debuted April 30 as part of the "Street View" feature in Google's maps, a navigational tool that at-

tracts more than 1 billion visitors each month.

The Street View snapshots will now include an option to see what neighborhoods and landmarks looked like at different periods during the past seven years, as Google

Inc. has been dispatching camera-toting cars to take street-level pictures for its maps.

Although the photos only date back to 2007, some of them illustrate dramatic changes, such as the gradual recovery of

New Orleans neighborhoods in the years following Hurricane Kat-

rina's devastation. Scrolling over to Wash-

ington D.C. offers a look at the restoration of the historic Howard Theatre.



New Orleans, 2011. Google maps cars, Subaru Impreza 2.5i Hatchback.

Source: wikimedia.org

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Selecting the best trees

by Dr. Leonard Perry, Extension Professor, University of Vermont

Choosing the best tree for a site depends on what you desire from the tree, its traits, its quality, and a proper match to the site. According to a brochure from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) on Tree Selection, the main cause of tree death is not from pests and diseases, but from planting the wrong tree.

Before you start shopping for a tree, consider what you want from it. Will it be for aesthetics? If so, what are its shape, growth habit, rate of growth, flowers, fruit, or attractive bark?

Will your tree be for an environmental use such as providing shade, screening winds, providing wildlife food or habitat, reducing noise, or just adding more oxygen? Evergreen trees provide a backdrop for other plantings, screening from wind, and food or habitat for wildlife in winter.

Then consider where

the tree will go, and the space for its ultimate growth. Choose the right size and shape of tree, and maintenance will be greatly reduced.

Consider aspects of the environment, such as hardiness, soil type, and if a small tree if it will be shaded by a building or taller trees. Often hardiness is given as a USDA zone.

Soil type is critical, as trees just can't be moved easily as can smaller shrubs or flowers. Poor soil drainage will starve the roots of oxygen, drowning them and leading to root rots.

Soil compaction from foot or vehicle traffic can keep water and air from entering the soil as well, resulting in tree decline or death. Keep in mind that tree roots extend out at least as far as the tips of the branches, or "dripline", so this should be planned for in tree growth if they're to be in areas of potential soil compaction.

While many trees will tolerate some level of

pests and diseases, and in fact insects on trees provide a huge supply of food for birds, there are some specific ones you should think about or ask your nursery professional for their recommendations.

When looking at trees to purchase, the ISA says to keep in mind R.I.F. This is a way to remember to inspect a plant for problems with roots, injuries, or form. Make sure the tree has plenty of roots to support the top — the larger the top, the larger the pot or "root ball" if a ball of burlap holding soil and roots.

Check the trunk and stems for injuries, either

broken branches or trunk wounds. Branches pruned off should not have stubs left, as these lead to improper healing and diseases. If trunks are wrapped with paper or a tree guard, check under this as it often can hide injuries from improper handling, or insects. Look for cracks in the trunk below branch unions. Sunken and discolored areas on trunks may indicate start of a canker disease, so avoid trees with these.

Check the tree form as well — there shouldn't be too many branches on one side and not another, branches should be well-spaced around and up the trunk, branches should not be

rubbing or squeezed together, and upper V-shaped angles between branches are weak areas that often result in a branch breaking off.

If buying trees in spring, particularly before leafed out fully, make sure they are

what the label states. The best way to get the correct plant is to buy from a reputable nursery.

You can learn much more on choosing and care of trees online from the ISA (www.treesaregood.org/).



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206 S Frankfort St, Frankfort

Charm & character comes through on this completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath village home. Too many updates to list. This one will not last. Come check it out at our open house!

Feeding hummingbirds and other May gardening tips

by **Charlie Nardozzi, Horticulturist** and **Leonard Perry, UVM Extension Horticulturist**

Proper flowers and feeding for hummingbirds, proper watering of new transplants, and working on lawns are some of the many garden activities for this month.

After their incredibly long journey northward, hummingbirds are ready for food. Hang a hummingbird feeder or two this time of the year, and either use hummingbird food you can buy (a powder to mix with water), or make your own.

To make your own food for "hummers", add one cup of white sugar to a quart of water, heat to dissolve, then allow to cool before placing out. Don't use any other additives such as food coloring. Refrigerate what you don't use, and replace the feeder food every few days. If your feeder hangs from a pole, and ants find it, put grease on a section of the pole to deter the ants.

Even if you put up hummingbird feeders, also plant some of their favorite flowers, such as fuchsias, salvias, columbines, nicotiana, trumpet vine, bleeding hearts, foxgloves, and others that have trumpet-shaped blooms.

They are attracted to the color red but they visit flowers of other colors, too, as long as they are the right shape.

To encourage good rooting of new plants in the ground, make sure you water enough to moisten the soil around the root zone of the plant. Sprinkling a little water on plants every day can do more harm than good by encouraging the roots to stay close to the surface where they are susceptible to drying out faster. Stick your finger into the soil and if it's dry two inches deep, it's time to water. Apply enough water to moisten the soil a bit deeper than the root zone.

ten the soil a bit deeper than the root zone.

Brace plants that tend to flop over now, while they're still small. Use wire rings and supports, or make your own by placing sturdy branches in the ground in a ring around the plant. If staking, place 3 or 4 around plants, then loop twine from stake to stake to encircle the plant. If you set wire cages in place now, the foliage will soon hide them. In contrast to supporting now, trying to tie up toppled plants later is frustrating and usually ends up looking ridiculous.

May is a good month to work on your lawn. If

you haven't done so already, rake to remove dead grass and, if you have a gravel drive, rake out any stones that may have gotten plowed into the lawn over winter. Top dress bare areas with a mix of topsoil and compost, then reseed. Use a good quality grass seed mix. Water seeded areas, keeping them moist as the grass starts to grow.

Plant cool vegetable crops early, such as carrots, lettuce, peas, spinach, broccoli and cabbage. Wait until the usual last frost is past for warm crops such as tomatoes, eggplants,

and peppers, and for sowing seeds of melons, squash, and corn. Have frost protection fabric, such as you can buy at garden stores, ready for your transplants, or even use sheets or "hot

caps". Liquid starter fertilizer, higher in phosphorus than other elements (the middle number of the three in a fertilizer analysis), will help get transplants off to a good start.



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Five insider tips to save money when buying a car

(BPT) — As the weather warms, car buying season gets into full swing. Even though interest rates are still at or near record lows, there are additional ways smart buyers are saving even more cash on their next vehicle and staying within their budgets.

"Purchasing power is crucial when it comes to buying a vehicle and it's important to make sure you're spending within your financial means," says Joe Pendergast, assistant vice president of Consumer Lending at Navy Federal Credit Union. "Along with conducting research before choosing a make and model, there are steps you can take to ensure you're getting the best possible deal."

Here are five tips from Pendergast to get the most car for your money with a payment you can live with:

Step 1: Know what you can afford

Your first step when making any large purchase should be to assess your current financial situation. Review your monthly income, subtract all anticipated expenses, and make sure there's money left to not only afford a car payment, but also to contribute to your savings. Adding a car payment to your monthly budget shouldn't leave you without money remaining for things like groceries or unexpected expenses.

Step 2: Review your credit inventory

Take a comprehensive look at your current debt. Are you in good-standing on all prior loan commitments and credit cards? If not, it may be difficult to obtain financing at a low interest rate, which will result in a higher monthly payment. So, if you're behind on other loans, take the steps now to get in good shape to purchase a car. Go back to Step 1 if need be. Once you've made sure all your debts are in good-standing and that

you're financially able to take on a car payment, you're ready for the next step.

Step 3: Check your credit report and score

Getting a car loan at the best possible rate requires a good credit score. Before applying for an auto loan, it's best to get a copy of your credit report. Although financial institutions will check your credit when applying for a loan, having your report in advance gives you the chance to correct any discrepancies before applying. This leads to a quicker application process and prevents denial because of a credit report error unbeknownst to you.

Step 4: Shop around for the best rate

Rates are low right now. Before walking into a dealership, check interest rates at different lenders and read the fine print for any hidden fees. The key to a good auto loan is striking the right balance between the rate and how long to finance the loan. New vehicles will have a lower interest rate, but the monthly payments will be larger. Look for the shortest term you can afford without breaking your budget.

Step 5: Get pre-approved

Once you've shopped around, increase your buying power by visiting your chosen lender

and getting a quick, pre-approved loan. A salesperson will be more willing to bargain if how much you've been approved for and what are willing to pay has already been determined. Keep your payment threshold in mind and allow your pre-approval to lead discussions at the negotiating table. It will result in purchasing a car at a price that's right for your budget.

If you're looking to

purchase a vehicle this spring, follow these five steps to ensure you're buying within your means and getting the

best possible deal. By doing your homework and talking with a lender, you'll save as much as possible.

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**We say
YES when
the others
say no!**



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NeedACarBuyACar.com

2011 CHEVY TRAVERSE

AWD, LTZ, Every Available Option, 2 TV/DVD Players, New Tires, 5 Yr 100,000 Mi. Warr., Way Too Many Extras To List, Must See, Remote Starter, Chrome Wheels, Full Power **Hurry, Will Not Last At \$21,995**

2010 FORD F-150

Crew Cab, 4x4, Every Avail. Opt., XLT Pkg., This Crew Cab Is Not Missing Anything, Too Many Extras To List, Must See, Loaded With Extras, Super Sharp, **Steal At \$19,995**

2008 CHEVY AVALANCHE

LTZ, 4x4, Every Avail. Opt., Heated Leather Int., Power Sunroof, TV/DVD Player, 20" Chrome Wheels, New Tires and Brakes, Way Too Many Extras To List, One Owner, Must See, **Super Sharp \$21,995**

2008 BUICK LUCERNE CXL

Every Avail. Opt., Heated Leather Int., Chrome Wheels, This Car Is Not Missing Anything, Too Many Extras To List, Super Super Clean, **Super Priced \$10,995**

2013 CHEVY SILVERADO

Ext. 4x4, LT1 Pkg., This Silverado Has All The Extras, Too Many To List, 5.3 V8, HD Trailing, Bedliner, Only 20,000 Easy Miles, 5 Yr 100,000 Mi. Warr., **Priced To Move \$26,995**

2009 CADILLAC DTS

Premium Pkg., Heated Leather Int., Navigation System, New Tires and Brakes, Too Many Extras To List, Must See, Looks Better **Than New, Steal At \$9,995**

2011 CHEVY SILVERADO

1 Ton, Ext. Cab, HD, 4x4, Dually, 6.6 Turbo Diesel, Allison Trans., Way Too Many Extras To List, Bed Liner, Chrome Running Boards, Chrome Wheels, HD Trailing, Must See, **Steal At \$29,995**

2012 FORD FOCUS SEL

Every Avail. Opt., Automatic, Pwr. Sunroof, 30,000 Easy Miles, Too Many Extras To List, Chrome Wheels, Remote Starter, Great Gas Mileage, Super **Sharp, Must See \$11,995**

2010 DODGE RAM

4x4, Short Box, V8, Hemi, Automatic, AC, SLT Pkg., New Tires and Brakes, 40,000 Easy Miles, Too Many Extras To List, This Ram Is In Showroom Condition, Must See, Super **Sharp, Steal At \$21,995**

2012 FORD F-350

Super Duty, Super Cab, 4x4, Every Avail. Opt., Only 20,000 Miles, Full Warr., HD Trailing Pkg., This Truck Has Way Too Many Options To List! Must See, Like New, **Will Not Last At \$29,995**

2012 GMC SIERRA

Ext. Cab, 4x4, Every Avail. Opt., Only 16,000 Miles, 1 Owner, 5 Yr. 100,000 Mile Warr., Too Many Extras To List, Super **Sharp Super Price \$26,995**

2012 CHEVY SUBURBAN LTZ

Every Avail. Opt., Heated Leather Int., 3rd Row Seating, 20" Tires and Wheels, This Suburban Is Not Missing Anything, Too Many Extras To List, 5 Yr. 100,000 Mi. Warr., **Best Buy Of The Week \$28,995**

2013 BUICK LACROSSE

CXL, Every Avail. Opt., Heated Leather Int., Chrome Wheel Pkg., Too Many Extras To List, Remote Starter, 20,000 Easy Miles, Full Warr., **Super Priced \$21,995**

2013 CHEVY CORVETTE

LT3 Pkg., Grand Sport, GM Executive Car, Every Avail. Opt., Only 12,000 Easy Miles, 5 Yr. 100,000 Mi. Warr., Too Many Extras To List, 2 Tops, MSRP New \$71,000, **Hurry! Super Buy At \$49,995**

2007 GMC SIERRA

Crew Cab, 4x4, SLT Pkg., This Crew Cab Has All The Options, Too Many Extras To List, Running Boards, Tonneau Cover, Chrome Wheels, HD Trailing, Remote Starter, Must See, **Super Buy At \$17,995**

2009 CHEVY IMPALA LT

Every Avail. Opt., New Tires and Brakes, One Owner, Must See, Super Clean Looks and Runs Like New, Great Gas Mileage, **Great Price \$9,995**

2010 CHEVY SILVERADO

3/4 Ton, Crew Cab, 4x4, HD, LT1 Pkg., Every Avail. Opt., Too Many Extras To List, Bedliner, HD Trailing, Looks and Runs Like New, Must **See, Great Buy At \$24,995**

2010 CHEVY TRAVERSE

AWD, Every Avail. Opt., Too Many Extras To List, One Owner, New Tires, Remote Start, Chrome Wheels, 5 Yr. 100,000 Mi. Warr., This AWD Will Go Anywhere, Super Sharp, In Showroom Cond. **\$17,995**

2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

Every Available Opt., 16,000 Miles, One Owner, Full Warranty Left, Too Many Extras To List, Must See, Super **Sharp, Super Price \$14,995**

2013 GMC SAVANA G25

Ext. 12 Passenger Van, Every Avail. Opt., 20,000 Easy Miles, This Van Has Too Many Options To List, 5 Yr. 100,000 Mi. Warr., **Super Super Price \$21,995**

2011 FORD F-350

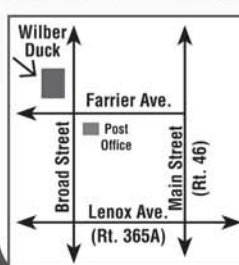
4x4, XLT, Every Avail. Opt., Too Many Extras To List, Bedliner, Chrome Wheels, HD Trailing Pkg., Super Super Clean, One Owner, **Must See \$21,995**

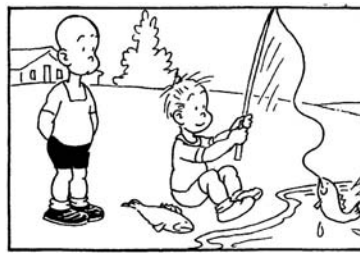
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Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family. Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.
~Jane Howard

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

S	L	Y	D	A	T	E	S	C	A	D
I	L	L	E	R	S	O	H	E	T	E
B	E	B	E	R	I	A	L	L	C	A
B	E	B	E	R	I	A	L	L	C	A
I	D	I	O	I	D	I	O	I	D	I
S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S
S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S
S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S
S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S
S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 United nations
- 5 Half (Pref.)
- 9 TV overseer (Abbr.)
- 12 Pearl Harbor site
- 13 Former mates
- 14 Carte lead-in
- 15 Honesty of purpose
- 17 Charged bit
- 18 Sudden rush of wind
- 19 Glossy alternative
- 21 Earth tone
- 24 Apiece
- 25 Hammer's target
- 26 As one
- 30 Web address
- 31 Melodic
- 32 Anger
- 33 Individuality
- 35 Error
- 36 Very dry, as champagne
- 37 Cock and bull
- 38 Figure of speech
- 40 Suitor
- 42 — canto
- 43 Nightstick
- 48 Ailing
- 49 Love god

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15				16						17		
			18					19	20			
21	22	23					24					
25					26	27					28	29
30				31						32		
33			34						35			
		36					37					
38	39					40	41					
42				43	44					45	46	47
48				49					50			
51				52					53			

- 50 Facility
- 51 Crafty
- 52 Info on a notarized document
- 53 Oodle?

DOWN

- 1 Cranberry territory
- 2 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
- 3 Discoverer's cry
- 4 Bat
- 5 Vast areas
- 6 Way out
- 7 Encountered
- 8 "Moby-Dick" narrator
- 9 Popular country singer
- 10 Coagulate
- 11 Walking stick
- 16 Bear hair
- 20 Performance
- 21 Burden
- 22 Give a darn
- 23 Backwoods dweller
- 24 "Zounds!"
- 26 Hit the horn
- 27 Yoko of music
- 28 Great Lake
- 29 Agents, for short
- 31 Hitched a ride
- 34 To and —
- 35 Pasta toppings
- 37 Has permission
- 38 Sacred Egyptian bird
- 39 Farmer's home?
- 40 Rorschach picture
- 41 Differently
- 44 401(k) alternative
- 45 Fond du —, Wis.
- 46 G8 member
- 47 Foundation

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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. Stick is shorter. 2. Jacket is open. 3. Binoculars are missing. 4. Cap is different. 5. Flashlight is missing. 6. Squirrel is missing.

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Country Editor

**PO Box 121, 6113 State Hwy. 5
Palatine Bridge, NY 13428
800-836-2888 • Fax: 518-673-2381
classified@leepub.com**

Announcements

Announcements

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Friday • 2:00 PM

For as little as \$4.00 - place a classified ad in

The Country Editor

Call Peg at **1-800-836-2888**
or **518-673-0111**

or email classified@leepub.com

Number / Classification

20 Air Compressors
25 Air Tools
35 Announcements
45 Antiques
55 Appraisal Services
75 ATV
80 Auctions
82 Auto Body
110 Bedding Plants
120 Bees-Beekeeping
130 Bird Control
140 Books
155 Building Materials/Supplies
157 Building Repair
160 Buildings For Sale
161 Bulk Foods / Spices
165 Business Opportunities
170 Butchering Supplies
173 Carpentry
175 Cars, Trucks, Trailers
180 Catalogs
182 Catering
190 Chain Saws
195 Cheesemaking Supplies
205 Christmas
214 Clocks & Repair
215 Collectibles
216 Clothing
235 Computers
253 Consignment
265 Construction Equipment For Rent
275 Construction Machinery Wanted
277 Construction Services
280 Construction Supplies
312 Crafts
325 Custom Butchering
330 Custom Services
360 Deer-Butchering & Hides
370 Dogs
410 Electrical
415 Employment Wanted
440 Farm Machinery For Sale
445 Farm Machinery Wanted
447 Farm Market Items
460 Fencing
470 Financial Services
480 Fish
483 Flooring
495 For Rent or Lease
500 For Sale
510 Fresh Produce, Nursery
525 Fruits & Berries
527 Furniture
529 Garage Sales
530 Garden Supplies
535 Generators
537 Gifts
575 Greenhouse Supplies
585 Guns
587 Hair Styling
589 Hardware
600 Health Care/Products
605 Heating
610 Help Wanted
653 Hotel / Motel
683 Jewelers
700 Lawn & Garden
711 Lessons
760 Lumber & Wood Products
790 Maple Syrup Supplies
805 Miscellaneous
810 Mobile Homes
811 Monuments
812 Multi Media
813 Music
815 Motorcycles
817 Nails
820 Nurseries
910 Plants
950 Real Estate For Sale
955 Real Estate Wanted
960 RVs & Motor Homes
975 Rentals
980 Restaurant Supplies
1040 Services Offered
1075 Snowblowers
1080 Snowmobiles
1096 Sports
1109 Thrift
1140 Trailers
1147 Trains
1148 Travel
1165 Trees
1170 Truck Parts & Equipment
1180 Trucks
1187 Vacuum
1190 Vegetable
1200 Veterinary
1205 Wanted

Announcements

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ADVERTISERS

Get the best responses from your advertisements by including the age, condition, price and best calling hours. Also, we always recommend insertion for at least 2 issues for maximum benefits. DEADLINE for placing ads is FRIDAY prior to edition date. **Call Peg at 1-800-836-2888 or 518-673-0111**

CHECK YOUR AD - ADVERTISERS should check their ads on the first week of insertion. Lee Publications, Inc. shall not be liable for typographical, or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the first weeks insertion of the ad, and shall also not be liable for damages due to failure to publish an ad. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. **Report any errors to 800-836-2888**

FREE THEATER Performance of Etty. She was centered in herself, not self-centered. SUNY New Paltz. Tuesday, April 29, 7:30pm www.ettyplay.org Performed Professionally.

PHOTO ENLARGEMENTS 8x10 - \$2.00 • 11x17 - \$5.00 • 12x18 or 13x19 - \$7.00. Come see us at Lee Publications, 6113 State Rt. 5, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 518-673-3237

Antiques

ANTIQUES WANTED! Advertising items: Tin and iron toys, WWII items, old advertising papers, antique furniture, picture frames, pottery, post cards, early dolls & costume jewelry. Call 315-717-7295

ANTIQUES WANTED: Paintings, furniture, jewelry, glassware, silver, antique collections, toys, coins, pottery. 518-424-4626, 518-399-7624.

Appliances

MAYTAG electric dryer, excellent condition, \$100.00. Fred 315-717-9512.

Appliances

Appliances

WILL REMOVE UNWANTED APPLIANCES FOR FREE

If you have unwanted refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, push lawn mowers, riding mowers, bikes, tillers, stoves, hotwater tanks, furnaces in cellar, home, garage.



WILL REMOVE FOR FREE
No Labor Cost To You NO COST TO YOU

518-848-6469

Building Materials/Supplies

FACTORY DIRECT Pricing on high quality red oak crown moulding and furniture grade rough or finished red oak lumber. Buryford Farms, Dolgeville, NY. Call direct to General Manager Frank Herringshaw 315-868-4842 or plant #315-429-9040

FACTORY DIRECT Pricing on pre-finished and un-finished knotty pine and tamarack tongue and groove paneling. Buryford Farms, Dolgeville, NY. Call direct to General Manager Frank Herringshaw 315-868-4842 or plant #315-429-9040

INSULATION: All Types. New/Existing Buildings. Free Estimates. Fully Insured. Call Upstate Spray Foam Insulation 315-822-5238. www.upstatesprayfoam.com

Cars, Trucks, Trailers

EVERYONE APPROVED!!! Many cars, trucks, and SUV's to choose from. Contact us today yorkvillepreowned.net 315-292-8181 Advanced Automotive Sales and Service

Collectibles

FOR SALE: Collectibles, jugs, crocks, butter churn, too many items to list. 315-717-4345

VINTAGE TREASURES & CHADWICKS MARKETPLACE Antiques, Collectibles, Shabby Chic, Furniture, Artwork, Primitives, Picker's Room. Tuesday 10-4; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10-5; Saturday 9-4; Sunday 10-5. 3480 Oneida St., Chadwicks, NY 315-269-1274, 315-542-3949

WANTED - CASH PAID: For old jewelry, old buttons, books. Dolls toys, even if broken, 1970s older. 1960s & older: Clothing. Old frames, Christmas, Halloween items. Interested in almost anything old. Shirley 315-894-9032.

Construction Services

ROOFING & MASONRY Roof replacements, Tear-off's, Shingle Over, Flat Roofs. Brick & Stone Work. Masonry Repair, Repointing & Rebuilding. Chimney's, Fireplaces/Woodstoves. Free estimates. Insured. Licensed & Bonded. 315-542-5509

Crafts

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OFF THE WALL DECOR
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May 2-3-4 9am to 4pm
follow signs/come see us

Custom Services

DON'S PAINTING SERVICE Experienced Professional Exterior and Interior, One Room or Entire Home! Affordable, Reliable Insured. Free Estimates. Now Booking Exterior Work for Spring/Summer. 315-867-4409

Farm Machinery For Sale

NH BALER 570, PUT ABOUT 5,000 bales through, EC, call 315-822-3791.

Farm Market Items

DAMIN FARM

Home Raised BEEF POTATOES
SAUERKRAUT Is Ready
Frozen STRAWBERRIES & SWEETCORN
SNAP Benefit Cards Accepted
2 Miles West of St. Johnsville
518-568-2643

For Rent

2 BEDROOM upstairs apartment, Hancock St., Little Falls, yard, off-street parking, quiet setting, heat included, prefer 1-2 adults, \$450/mo. 315-867-7672

For Rent

APARTMENT FOR RENT: Herkimer, 2-bedroom upper, stove, refrigerator, heated, sewer & water, off-street parking. Available May 1st. No pets. Call for appointment. 315-866-7791

DOLGEVILLE: 1 & 2 bedroom apartments in fully renovated historic building, very private, dead-end street in village. No smoking or pets, security required, starting \$215/month. 315-867-9791

DOLGEVILLE: Upstairs two bedroom, off street parking, washer/ dryer hookup, \$425 plus utilities & deposit, references. 315-429-9132

FOR RENT: ILION UPSTAIRS 1 bedroom. All utilities and appliances included. No pets. \$485 monthly. 315-749-3044.

HERKIMER DOWNSTAIRS 1BR, stove, refrigerator, heat included, no pets, no smoking. Security and references. \$425. 315-894-5367.

ILION 1ST FLOOR STUDIO apt. \$400/month w/all utilities, 1 car parking, no pets. Security deposit and references. 315-866-3528, 315-717-8326 before 8pm.

RENTAL: ILION LARGE first floor, 2 bedroom apartment, all electric, with washer-dryer, stove-refrigerator-lawncare-off street parking. Water-sewer-electric NOT included. Professional management, smoke free, no pet policy. Applications available. Crossett Real Estate Services, 315-894-8557, www.crossettres.com Take a visual tour

For Sale

2004 FLEETWOOD WILDERNESS Advantage, camper 29ft w/slide-out, sleeps 6, stored inside winters. Never traveled over road. New awning. \$8,500/obo. 315-868-6836, 315-868-6837.

ALL NEW IN BOXES: Dining Table & 6 Chairs. Must Sell, \$475.00/firm. Call 315-225-6673

CALLAWAY XHOT drivers Fairway Hybrids putters RHLH regular stiff like new demos. Vince 315-534-3055.

GRAVELY Two Wheel Tractor w/attachments: rotary mower, sulky, rotary plow, snow blower and sickle bar mower, \$1,200.00. SPEDEX tractor w/attachments: bottom plow, cultivators and push blade, \$800.00. Call 315-269-2598

GRINDSTONE \$25.00; show-er doors(complete), \$20.00; sledge hammer, floor lamp, \$10.00/each; variety white lace curtains, \$15.00. 315-866-1579.

For Sale

MOVING SALE at 14 Summit Ave., Little Falls, NY. Friday & Saturday, May 9th & 10th, 9am to 4pm both days. Household items, furniture, antiques, books, toys, garden items, equipment & much, much more.

NEED BUSINESS CARDS? Full color glossy, heavy stock. 250 (\$45.00); 500 (\$60.00); 1,000 (\$75.00). Call Beth at Lee Publications 518-673-0101 or bsnyder@leepub.com

TILLER: 6HP, TROY-BILT ECONO-HORSE. Tecumseh engine. EC. Used less than 20hrs. \$975/obo. 315-894-3345.

TOOLS: CARPENTER AIR, stick nailer, coil roof nailer, 100ft hose, compressor. 315-894-8940.

WINDOWS: REPLACEMENT new, two 36wx51h, white, one 41wx76h, white. 315-894-8940.

Furniture

AWESOME DEAL: Queen Plush Mattress Set. New in plastic. Must sell, \$150.00. Call 315-225-6673

CINNAMON CHERRY bedroom set. New in boxes, \$290.00. Must sell. Call 315-225-6673

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 205 East Steel St., Herkimer, May 3, 9-4. No early birds

Help Wanted

BAR HELP PT & Cook PT. Vans Tavern Barneveld, 15-20 min. from Utica, Rome & surrounding areas. Call Candy 315-896-2220 11am-6pm

Lawn & Garden

VALLEY LAWN SERVICE. Mowing, shrub trimming, mulch and clean-ups. Fully insured, free estimates. 315-894-4331.

Legal Services

BANKRUPTCY, Uncontested Divorce. Attorney Fees \$425.00. Licensed Attorney To Handle Your Case. Call Richard Kaplan 315-724-1850

Magnets

BUSINESS CARD MAGNETS only \$75.00 for 250. Free Shipping. Call Beth at Lee Publications 518-673-0101 or bsnyder@leepub.com Please allow 7-10 business days for delivery

Miscellaneous

MICRO FIBER SOFA: Brand New, never used, Chocolate, \$290.00. Call 315-225-6673

Country Editor

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Miscellaneous

STAG PARTY TICKETS Call Beth at Lee Publications 518-673-0101. Questions bsnyder@leepub.com Free Shipping

Music

1904 STEINWAY VERTE-GRANDE Piano, appraised 2002 \$4,000, very good condition, \$2,500 OBO. 315-826-7091

Motorcycles

2001 KAWASAKI EN500, excellent condition, extras, low mileage, dealer serviced, \$2,500. 315-868-5644

2007 HARLEY DAVIDSON 1200 XL Custom Vance & Hines Pipes, Vance & Hines Fuel Pak, Stage 1 EFI Kit, Black, 8,500 Miles, \$7,500. Excellent Condition! 518-378-3279

2010 CAN-AM RTS998 V-Twin, 8705 miles, excellent condition, many extras, dealer serviced, \$17,875/OBO. 315-826-7542

Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

5 Acre Building Lots: Middleville. All building lots to be sold at greatly reduced prices from \$16,900. This is the Best Deal around! 35 exceptional homesites set on 235 acres, riding trails, ponds, views, snowmobile & ATV trails. Only (4) lots remaining. 315-891-3254

Recreational Vehicles & Motor Homes

2012 KEYSTONE COUGAR CAMPER SBQ32, Sleeps 9, Indoor and outdoor kitchen, 2 Bedrooms. Living room, full bath with tub, Electric awning. Non smoking. No Pets. Barely used. \$21,000 OBO. 315-794-8875

Services Offered

JACK'S HANDYMAN SERVICE: Doing odd jobs of all kinds since 2004. Free estimates. 315-725-1133

PHOTO CALENDARS now available right here at Lee Publications. 6113 State Hwy. 5, Palatine Bridge, NY 518-673-3237. Choose up to 24 photos. Only \$12.00 for digital photos and \$15.00 if we scan them.

Real Estate For Sale

Services Offered

PLUMBING & HEATING: Gerald Robellard & David Robellard, 61 West Main Street, Mohawk, NY 315-866-3746 or 315-717-5161

RUBBER STAMPS self inking. All sizes. Call Beth at Lee Publications. 518-673-0101

WILL DO: Light painting, interior & exterior, also light carpentry. 607-287-0380

Tires & Tire Repair Service

(2) 18.4x42 REAR Tractor radials, 30% tread, good shape. \$240 each. 518-857-9404

FOUR 265/70/R17 Goodyear Wrangler TA tires, ½ tread life, 10 ply, \$200. Call 518-322-8219 or text about tires.

USED TIRE SALE: Huge Inventory, mounting & balancing FREE. No appointment necessary! Save money call Auto World, 534 North Perry Street, Johnstown 12095 518-762-7555

Tools

CARPENTRY power tools, well maintained, drills, sawsall planers, routers, etc. Priced to sell. 315-717-9512.

Calendar of Events

COUNTRY EDITOR

NOTE: Calendar entries must arrive at the Country Editor's office by Thursay a week before our Friday publication date for them to be included in the calendar of events. Send events to Lee Publications c/o Country Editor, 6113 State Highway 5, or PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 or e-mail to: kkelly@leepub.com.

MAY 2-24

Air, Gravity and Structure: Art Opening and Exhibit The Other Side Gallery, 2011 Genesee St., Utica, NY. 6-9 pm. For additional information contact Vincent Brown at 315-269-8605.

MAY 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Friday Night Dinners DeCarlo Staffo Post. With Ruth Petkovsek. 4:30-8:30 pm. Lenten specials. Take outs available by calling 315-823-1635. Members & guests.

MAY 3

Chicken BBQ Stratford Methodist Church, 29A, Stratford, NY. 3:30 until ? \$9 adult, \$4 children. Call 315429-9820 for details.

Craft Fair

East Herkimer Fire Station, 193 Main Rd., East Herkimer, NY. 10 am - 4 pm. Free admission..

Fishing Creel

Shawangunk Nature Pre-

serve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY . 9 am - 1 pm. Register a week in advance. Materials \$15 for each session. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and required preregistration.

Holistic Health & Living Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 10-11:30 am. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and required preregistration.

Pass It On:

The Jazz Legacy The Other Side Gallery, 2011 Genesee St., Utica, NY. Seating is limited so reservations are recommended. Tickets are \$18, \$10 students. Call 735-4825, e-mail kodomenico@verizon.net or stop by at Cafe Domenico to reserve your seat(s).

Senate Chaplain Barry Black to Speak

International Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1134 Herkimer Rd., Utica, NY. 11 am. More information may be obtained by calling 315-429-9399.

MAY 5

The Dog Killer of Utica: Book Reading and Signing The Other Side, 2011 Genesee St., Utica, NY. 7:30 pm. Free to the public.

MAY 10

Fishing Creel Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY . 9 am - 1 pm. Register a week in advance. Materials \$15 for each session. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and required preregistration.

Herkimer Now Fundraiser Herkimer Polish Community Home, S. Washington St., Herkimer, NY. 11 am - 2 pm. To make a donation or volunteer please contact committee member, Kathy Penree, cnycheer@hotmail.com or 315-866-0376.

Independent Living: Alternative Energy for your Home

Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 9:30-11 am. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and required preregistration.

Zen Meditation

Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 9:30 am - 1 pm. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 896-4748 for more information.

MAY 15

Rabies Clinic Middleville Fire Dept., 41 N. Main St., Middleville, NY. 6-7:30 pm. All cats, dogs & ferrets three months or older must be vaccinated, even if they stay indoors. Every dog & cat needs 2 rabies vaccinations one year apart, then 1 every 3 years. Bring proof of pets vaccination history to receive a 3 year certificate. Ferrets must be vaccinated every year. Dogs must be on a leash, cats & ferrets in a carrier/pillowcase. No exams will be given. Owners are responsible to clean up after their animals. \$5 donation/pet is suggested. Pre-register at www.herkimercounty.org

MAY 17

3 Village Wide Yard Sales Middleville, Newport & Poland. All on Rt. 28. Over 10 miles of yard sales. Questions? Call 315-845-8822.

Kuyahoora Valley Ambulance Corps 40th Anniversary Celebration KVAC Bldg., 39 Case St., Poland, NY. Noon until sold out. Chicken BBQ, open house. Call 315-826-3525 for more information.

Volunteer Day

Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 9 am -1 pm. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and registration.

MAY 18

Mohawk Valley Choral Society Spring Concert Central Valley Academy, Iliion, NY. 7pm. Tickets for the concert are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. They may also be reserved by calling 315-823-1615 or by going to the website www.mvchoral.org

MAY 19

100 Years in the Evolution of Clothing Newport Masonic Temple, 7408 Main St., Newport, NY. 7 pm. For details call Lori Burritt at 315-26-7242.

MAY 25

Effective Self Defense Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY . 10-11:30 am. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and registration.

Native American Gourd Art

Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 9 am -1 pm. Register a week in advance. \$20 for materials. Call 315-826-7405 for more information and registration.

MAY 31

Bark Basketry Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 10 am - Noon. Register a week in advance. \$10 for materials. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and registration.

Let Your Poet/Writer Out Shawangunk Nature Preserve, 55 Shawangunk Rd., Cold Brook, NY. 10-11:30 am. Register a week in advance. Call 315- 826-7405 for more information and registration.

Rabies Clinic

East Herkimer Fire Dept., 193 Main Rd., East Herkimer, NY. 1-3 pm. All cats, dogs & ferrets three months or older must be vaccinated, even if they stay indoors. Every dog & cat needs 2 rabies vaccinations one year apart, then 1 every 3 years. Bring proof of pets vaccination history to receive a 3 year certificate. Ferrets must be vaccinated every year. Dogs must be on a leash, cats & ferrets in a carrier/pillowcase. No exams will be given. Owners are responsible to clean up after their animals. \$5 donation/pet is suggested. Pre-register at www.herkimercounty.org

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Donna's Day: creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Edible bird nests imitate nature

Make simple no-bake bird's nest treats with your kids to celebrate spring. Drop peanut M&Ms or natural-looking candy eggs in each one. Or wait until Easter and substitute jelly beans, tucking the nests in Easter baskets or setting them at each table setting for Easter Sunday dinner. Either way, these nests that imitate nature are adorable to look at, and with the chocolate-peanut-butter combo, they taste so good too.

Bird's nest treats

1 cup semisweet chocolate chips or butterscotch chips

1/2 cup creamy or crunchy peanut butter (I used Smucker's Natural Peanut Butter)

1 tablespoon butter

2 1/2 cups plain crushed natural shredded wheat cereal (young kids like the job of crushing it in their hands)

1/2 cup chopped nuts, such as almonds and pecans (optional)

Jelly beans, peanut M&M's or candy that resembles speckled bird eggs

1. Stir together the crushed shredded wheat and chopped nuts in a large mixing bowl.

2. An adult should melt the chips, peanut butter and butter in a double boiler or heavy saucepan to a smooth consistency, stirring frequently. Pour the mixture over the shredded wheat cereal mixture and stir lightly until well coated.

3. Drop two table-

spoons of the "nest" ingredients in muffin pan cups lined with aluminum foil. Let your child shape the mini

nests by making an indentation using their clean fingers or the back of a spoon. Chill to set.

4. Carefully peel off the foil and arrange molded nests on plates or set in baskets. Set "eggs" in the nests.



Keep extra nests refrigerated until ready to serve. Makes about 18 small nests.

Suit your tastes: Instead of candies, fill the nests with "fruity" bird eggs. Try red or green grapes, blueberries or melon balls.

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Running on empty: How far can you really go?

(BPT) — Whether intentional or purely circumstantial, it's likely that most experienced drivers have seen the low-fuel light illuminate their vehicle's dashboard at least once. For some drivers, the fuel light is a source of anxiety as they search for the closest gas station. For others, it can be a bragging right, proudly boasting how far they push their gas tanks to the limit.

It's no secret that an automobile can continue to run after the fuel light comes on, but should drivers rely on the extra mileage it allows?

It's likely most drivers would agree that the fuel light often comes on at inopportune times. Stuck in traffic on a freeway; running late for an important appointment; or driving on a country road with no towns or gas stations in sight, is when drivers decide to push the fuel gauge

past the "E" signal.

Some popular car models can make it between 30 and 50 miles after the fuel light goes on, according to a study by Pick Analysis. The average Chevrolet Silverado will continue for about 33 miles beyond empty. Smaller cars like the Volkswagen Jetta average about 43 miles and the Toyota Corolla tops the list at 47 miles.

Knowing how far a vehicle can drive with low fuel may be reassuring, but the effects of low-fuel driving can be damaging to the car.

"When you're running low on gas, it's best not to push your luck," says Neil Hoff, a refined fuels specialist with CHS, which supplies more than 1,400 Cenex branded gas stations. "Stopping to fill up before your gas gauge hits 'E' could save you stress, damage to your car and time spent on the side of the road."

Hoff explains that by allowing a car to run on

empty, dirt and contaminants are more likely to become suspended in the fuel and block the fuel filter. When fuel is extremely low, the fuel pump is no longer suspended in fuel and can overheat. In some cases, low fuel can even affect power steering and brakes.

To avoid an expensive trip to a mechanic, Hoff advises taking a proactive approach to fueling, advising drivers to always keep at least a quarter tank of gas in the tank at all times. Running out of gas in

heavy traffic is not only inconvenient but also dangerous, so Hoff recommends fueling up before getting on highways or major roads. Also, becoming familiar with where gas stations are along a driving route will also help prevent running out of gas on long trips. Always keep a gas can in the trunk in case of emergencies.

"Keeping your car fueled is cheaper and safer, in the long run, than driving on empty," Hoff says. For more helpful automotive

information and www.tanksofthanks.com gas-saving tips, visit .com



BPT

Leonard Nimoy earns hometown honors

BOSTON, MA — The Boston native who lived long and prospered as Spock in the "Star Trek" television show and movies is being honored by his hometown chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

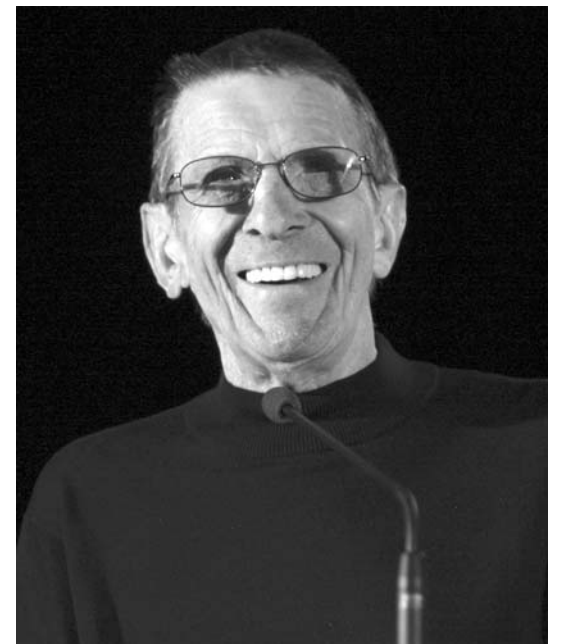
Leonard Nimoy is scheduled to receive the Governors' Award at the Boston/New England Emmy Awards ceremony on June 7. The honor was announced Wednesday.

The now 83-year-old Ni-

moy began playing the half-human, half-alien, Spock on the television series in 1966. He also played Spock in six movies.

He grew up in Boston's West End, where he performed on stage from the age of 8 through his teens before setting out for Hollywood.

The Governors' Award is given in recognition of achievements which do not fall within the structure of the chapter's regular award.



Leonard Nimoy

Photo source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>

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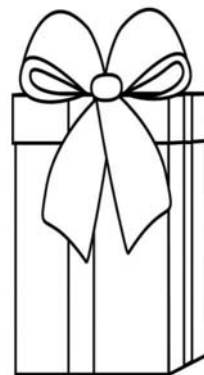
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Stretch dollars on your next road trip

In an era of escalated airline ticket prices and extra travel expenses, road trips have emerged once more as a popular and cost-conscious mode of vacationing for individuals and families.

Those making road trips may be concerned about keeping costs down, particularly if

buster. But by mixing overnights at motels with less expensive options you may be able to mitigate costs. Camp out at a safe campsite and purchase a shower ticket so you can enjoy a cheap, hot shower the next day. Spend a few nights under the stars just be sure you have the right gear. Some

road-tripper who's driving an older car. Avoid potentially costly towing costs by joining a roadside assistance club that will pay for your vehicle to be towed if necessary.

• **Have the proper paperwork.** Keep a current copy of your car registration, license and proof of insurance

ports available and follow the laws regarding bringing food or goods over the border to avoid

finances.

Road trips can be enjoyable excursions that cost far less than other

vacations. Road-trippers can stretch funds even further with some handy tips.



Road-trippers can employ several strategies to save money on the road.

saving money is the catalyst behind the road trip vacation. The following are a few tips to stretch dollars that much further on your next road trip.

• **Dine out sparingly.** Road stops and drive-thru food expenditures can quickly add up during the course of a road trip. Therefore, pack the majority of the food you will eat in a cooler. Not only will this save money, it will mean food is at the ready when hunger strikes. Food need not be all cold snacks, like sandwiches. Frozen burgers or refrigerated frankfurters can be cooked on a camp stove or tossed on a grill at a park's picnic area. Save restaurant dining as a special treat during the vacation.

• **Look for inexpensive lodging.** While on a road trip you may need to compromise some of the comforts of home to save some money. Motel rates are another trip budget-

also like to plan road trip routes between where relatives live and make pit stops at a friend or family member's home. When seeking motels, try to bargain and see if you're eligible for any rebates or coupons due to age or military status.

• **Map out cheaper gas stations.** Today's smartphones have apps that enable you to find nearby gas stations. Such apps may even shed light on which filling stations offer the best prices on gasoline.

• **Don't speed.** In addition to being illegal, speeding wastes gas. Stick to the speed limit to avoid potentially costly tickets and improve fuel efficiency.

• **Bring friends along.** Friends will not only make the trip more fun, but they also can take turns driving and sharing the costs of the excursion.

• **Join a roadside assistance club.** Vehicle problems are inevitable if you are a frequent

with you on a road trip. This makes it much easier to deal with traffic stops along the way. Individuals and their passengers planning on visiting another country should have their pass-

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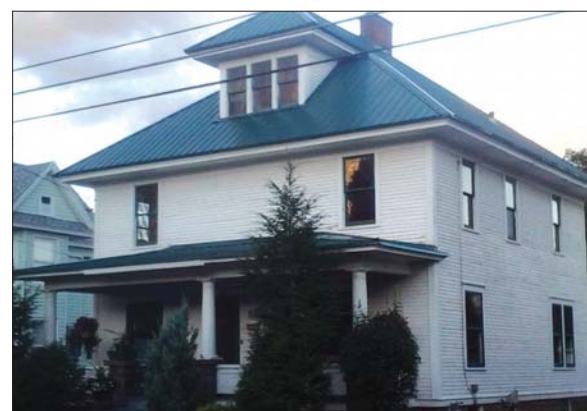
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