

Southwest Symphony Presents A Tribute To Aretha Franklin Ad The Season Finale!

Southern Utah's own award-winning Southwest Symphony will present a magnificent season finale with a tribute to the Queen of Soul herself. This program features Broadway favorite Capathia Jenkins and three-time Grammy Award nominee Ryan Shaw performing such iconic hits as *Respect*,

Think, A Natural Woman, Chain of Fools, Amazing Grace, and many others.

Arriving from New York City, Ms. Jenkins most recently appeared as 'Medda' in the hit Disney production of *Newsies* on Broadway, and she can be heard on the film soundtracks of *Nine, Chicago, and Legally*

Blonde 2. She'll be joined on stage by Ryan Shaw, who was the original Stevie Wonder in *Motown: The Musical* on Broadway and whose music can be heard on FOX's *So You Think You Can Dance* and ABC's *Dancing with The Stars, Grey's Anatomy, and Lincoln Heights*, and the *Sex*

and the *City* soundtrack.

Both have performed with major symphony orchestras around the world, and they will be joining Maestro Lucas Darger and the Southwest Symphony for two evenings of exquisite music. The Southwest Symphony's temporary home is the beautiful performing arts auditorium at Desert Hills High School while the Cox Auditorium is being renovated.

Excellent seats are still available. Tickets can be purchased anytime online at swsutah.org, or by calling the box office at 435-767-9800, option #1. The box office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Seniors save 25% by using code SENIOR and students save 25% using code STUDENT.



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a tribute

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What Is Your Time Worth When At The Doctor's Office?

By Dr. Eric Drake

Recent studies show the average American waits 24 days for an appointment to see their doctor. Then after they check in, they average 19 minutes in the waiting room. These averages can vary depending on a number of factors, but many of us have had similar experiences when going to the doctor. We check in, fill out paperwork, take a seat, and wait. Eventually, we're taken back for testing or moved to an exam room where we continue waiting. Finally, the doctor arrives, reviews test results, conducts the exam, describes

treatment(s) needed, and is quickly out again to see other



Dr. Eric Drake

patients, leaving us with unanswered questions and feeling like our time was not valued. Sound familiar?

Now, in the doctor's defense, most have to run from

room to room and book patients closely together for a number of reasons (e.g. avoid gaps due to no-shows, backed up from an emergency patient, maximize low reimbursements by insurances, heavy demands to be seen, complicated cases taking longer than expected, etc.). It's a vicious cycle. Luckily, there are some doctors' offices that do things a little different. Usually, it means limiting accepted insurances so they can give patients more quality time in the exam and to answer all the patient's questions.

I believe this is how medicine should be done, more time with the doctor. More time being tested and moved through the process than sitting around reading magazines. While we, the doctors, always try our best, we aren't perfect. I wish more medical offices could practice patient first medicine than letting insurances dictate what they can do, but it's not always the case. How do you find quality

offices like this? Using friends and neighbors to find these offices are usually the best method.

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more face-to-face doctor time. If you are new to the area or are looking for a new eye care experience then give us a call at SouthWest Vision, 435-673-5577. See us online at www.SouthWestVision.com.

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Honoring Our Veterans: A Tribute Of Love And Respect

In a world filled with constant change and fast-paced living, it's crucial to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by our brave Veterans. These individuals have dedicated their lives to serving their country, ensuring our safety and freedom. It is only fitting that we show them the love, appreciation, and respect they truly deserve.

Veterans embody the values of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism. Their unwavering commitment to protecting our nation is a debt that can never truly be repaid. However, we can express our gratitude by honoring them in meaningful ways, such as through acts of kindness, recognition, and

support.

At The Cottages, we hold a deep reverence for our Veterans and believe in showing them the respect they have earned. That's why on May 11th, we will be hosting a special event to honor and celebrate our Veterans with a car show and barbecue lunch. This event is a token of our appreciation for their service and a way to give back to those who have given so much.

All Veterans and Seniors are invited to join us for a complimentary lunch as a small gesture of our immense gratitude. The day promises to be filled with camaraderie, good food, and the beauty of classic cars on display.

It's a time for everyone to come together, share stories, and create lasting memories.

Moreover, attendees can participate in our exciting drawing by entering their names for a chance to win special prizes. The event will take place at The Cottages, located at 2041 Mesa Palms Drive, St. George, Utah, 84770. It's an opportunity to show our Veterans that their sacrifices are not forgotten and that their service is deeply appreciated.

Let us come together as a community to honor our Veterans, express our gratitude, and create a memorable day filled with love, respect, and appreciation. Join us on May 11th as we salute our heroes and celebrate their invaluable contributions to our nation.



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Friday, April 5



Fri. & Sat. May 3 & 4



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Summer Comes Early With Lieto Voices In Concert: “Let Freedom Ring!”

By Kris Barber

Lieto Voices, Southern Utah’s premier choir, presents “Let Freedom Ring!” on May 8 at the Eccles Concert Hall on Utah Tech campus, 149 S. 799 E. The concert begins at 7:00 pm. Seating is limited, so be sure to come early. Admission is free.

Lieto Voices is a 90-voice auditioned choir composed of local music educators and singers. Auditions are held after each concert cycle. Lieto Voices performs several times each season and has enjoyed appearing with Southwest Symphony in Handel’s *Messiah*, Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony*, *Lamb of God*, and Christmas holiday programs. Dr. Nancy Allred-Wright directs the choir with Kris Barber as associate director. Tracie Madsen and Ann Graf serve as accompanists.

The choir is pleased to welcome Celeste Teal

Larkin as a guest artist. Celeste earned a Bachelor of Science in Music with an emphasis in Vocal Performance from Dixie State University in 2016 and earned her Master of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Music in 2018. She is currently an adjunct voice instructor at Utah Tech.

This salute-to-freedom concert begins with three well-known hymns. The first, “Fairest Lord Jesus,” has lyrics first copied from a 1662 Jesuit manuscript produced in Germany. In its current setting, the tune by Derek Hakes and revised by Craig Courtney is delightfully simple, with the accompaniment creating a contemporary feel. The second hymn, “Give Me Jesus,” is widely known and was first published in the United States in 1845 by a Baptist minister from New York. Again, Craig Courtney appears as the arranger. “My Comfort by Day, My Song in the Night” by Anthony

Iannaccone uses a traditional text for a popular hymn.

“All My Trials,” arranged by Norman Luboff, became popular as a protest song in the late 1950s. It has been performed throughout the decades by folk groups such as Harry Belafonte, Harry Gibson, The Kingston Trio and Peter, Paul and Mary.

Randall Thompson’s “The Last Words of David” was first performed in 1949. This powerful piece, with text taken from the biblical book of 2 Samuel, is truly a moving choral experience. “America the Beautiful,” with music by Samuel A. Ward and words by Katherine Lee Bates, has received several nominations to either replace or join “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the national anthem. This majestic arrangement by Mark Hayes builds on the simple melody to a memorable conclusion. “Danny Boy,” arranged by Brad Printz in 2004, is set to the tune of Londonderry Air and became one of the most

popular songs of the early 20th century. The most common story for the meaning of this haunting song is that of a son going off to war.

No choral concert is complete without a piece from the British composer John Rutter. His “Distant Land” was written in 1990 soon after the demolition of the Berlin Wall and the release of Nelson Mandela from prison. Lieto Voices was privileged to perform this piece with its composer at Carnegie Hall in New York City in 2006. “Pilgrim Song,” a traditional American tune adapted and arranged by Ryan Murphy, tells the story of a personal jour-

ney leading to freedom: “And as I pass along, I’ll sing the Christian song, I’m going to live forever.”

Concluding the program is Peter Wilhousky’s “Battle Hymn of the Republic.” Also known as “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” or “Glory, Glory Hallelujah,” this arrangement was brought to public attention in 1960 when the Tabernacle Choir was awarded a Grammy for Best Performance by a Vocal Group or Chorus.

For additional information about Lieto Voices, please visit www.lietovoices.com







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The Prophet's 'Presidential' Platform

Issued 159 Years Ago, This Document is Still of Vital Import

This article first appeared in the Desert News of 29th January 1944.

#5 and concluding article of a series of 5

Opposed Large Payroll

The Prophet was opposed to the government hiring large numbers of people to live on a public payroll. He believed that government hiring should be at a minimum, and that those authorities in government be restricted in their powers of operation. Speaking of the tendency to grant undue powers to government appointees, "The Philistine lords have shorn our nation of its goodly locks in the lap of Delilah."

The Prophet stood for immediate abolition of slavery, and urged that Congress pay every slave holder a fair price for his slaves, and afterward, each Negro be hired like other human beings and paid a fair wage for his service. The funds from which Congress would pay for freeing the slaves was to come from the sale of public lands, which at that time was an important part of national business.

His Financial Ideas

The Prophet was opposed to government spending on large scales. He

urged that the purse strings be tightened in all branches of government, federal, state and local.

cut down expenses for government.

Due to the poor national system of finance, the lack

tion. He would set up a bank, similar to the present Federal Reserve System, with branches in every state. Eliminate abuses in money that had arisen through the current type of brokerage.

Urged Extension of

vored determining the possibility of adding both Canada and Mexico to the United States.

He was opposed to court-martial in army or navy, and took the position that if a man deserted, he should not be shot, but should be given a dishonorable discharge from the service and be told that never again would his country trust him.

He advocated a strong tariff policy, and felt that our home industries should be protected from cheaper goods produced abroad. "If you wish to be respected," he said, "respect yourselves."

Followers United

His followers were united in these same ideals, and together they prepared a campaign to elect him president. The Prophet assured them that if he were elected, he would give an honest administration, and would make 'honor' the standard of all men. He told them there was a good opportunity to win the election, and said "There is enough oratory in the Church to put me in the White House."

Prominent members of the Church were sent to all parts of the United States to campaign for him, but before the movement really got under way, mobocracy – the thing that persuaded him to become a candidate for the presidency – took its toll. He was 'martyred in Carthage Jail'.

"PRAISE TO THE MAN WHO COMMUNED WITH JEHOVAH! JESUS ANNOINTED THAT PROPHET AND SEER."



He was opposed to heavy taxation upon the people, the best way in which to relieve the tax burden was to promote the economic situation of the nation and

of a stable currency, and a series of panics, the American dollar had depreciated. The Prophet would stabilize the currency, making it of the same value all over the na-

Borders

He urged the admission of Oregon "as soon as the Red Men give their permission"; he suggested the annexation of Texas, and fa-



Humor Corner



Real Mothers...

Real Mothers don't eat quiche; they don't have time to make it.

Real Mothers know that their kitchen utensils are probably in the sandbox.

Real Mothers often have sticky floors, filthy ovens and happy kids.

Real Mothers know that dried Play dough doesn't come out of shag carpets.

Real Mothers don't want to know what the vacuum just sucked up.

Real Mothers sometimes ask, "Why me?" and get their answer when a little voice says, "Because I love you best."

Real Mothers know that a child's growth is not measured by height or years or grade. It is marked by the progression of Mama to Mommy to Mom...

Quotes From Famous Mothers

Mona Lisa's Mother: "This you call a smile after all the money your father and I spent on braces?"

Michelangelo's Mother: "Why can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you know how hard it is to get that

schmutz off the ceiling?"

Abe Lincoln's Mother: "Again with the hat? Why can't you wear a baseball cap like the other kids?"

George Washington's Mother: "Next time I catch you throwing money across the Potomac, you can kiss your allowance good-bye."

Napoleon's Mother: "All right, if you're not hiding your report card inside your jacket, take your hand out of there and show me!"

Christopher Columbus' Mother: "I don't care what you've discovered. You still could have written."

Thomas Edison's Mother: "Of course I'm proud that you invented the electric light bulb. Now turn it off and go to sleep."

Paul Revere's mother: "I don't care where you think you have to go, young man — midnight is long past your bedtime."

Albert Einstein's mother: "But it's your senior photograph! Couldn't you have done something with your hair?"

Moses' mother: "That's a good story. Now tell me where you've really been for the last forty years."

Understanding Your Social Security

Protecting Yourself From QR Fraud

Quick Response codes, better known as QR codes, are a very popular way to get information. QR codes are scannable barcodes that will direct you to a website. However, scammers can create QR codes to trick people into visiting a fraudulent website or downloading malware that compromises their personal information.

For example, scammers may:

- Cover official QR codes with fake ones on parking meters, menus, or magazines.
- Send QR codes via email or text message pretending to be from delivery companies.
- Request that you confirm your information due to suspicious activity on your account using imposter QR codes.
- Place harmful codes on social media advertisements.

Here are some tips to avoid related scams.

Verify the Source

Before scanning a QR code, make sure it comes from a trusted and reliable source. Legitimate QR codes from Social Security will always send you to a safe and secure webpage at www.ssa.gov.

Inspect the Code

Scammers may use tactics that mirror a legitimate QR code. Take a moment to exam-

ine the QR code closely. Look for any signs of tampering, unusual colors, or misspellings. If something seems suspicious, it's best to avoid scanning the QR code.

Be Cautious of Unsolicited QR Codes

Avoid scanning unsolicited QR codes received via email or text message. Be aware of codes from unknown sources. We will never send a QR code via text or email asking you to confirm your information.

Be Aware of Urgent Requests Using QR Codes

Fraudsters often pretend to be government officials and use fake QR codes to defraud people. For example, a scammer may pose as a Social Security employee claiming that you have an outstanding debt or there's a problem with your account and demanding immediate payment. A scammer may send fake QR codes via text or

email requesting the payment. Remember, Social Security will never request any form of payment using a QR code.

Stay Informed

Stay up to date on the latest QR code fraud and scams. Follow trusted sources such as cybersecurity blogs, news outlets, and official government websites for updates.

QR codes are an easy and convenient way to get information, but it's important to remain vigilant when using them.

For more information, you can review the Federal Trade Commission Consumer Alert at www.consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts/2023/12/scammers-hide-harmful-links-qr-codes-steal-your-information.

You can report suspected Social Security imposter scams to the Office of the Inspector General's website at www.oig.ssa.gov/report. We encourage you to learn more about fraud and scams on our *Protect Yourself from Scams* webpage at www.ssa.gov/scam.

Please share this with those who may need it.



Cinco De Mayo Dip

By Bev Rankin, aka, The Bread Lady

A Concurrent Resolution was issued on June 7, 2005, calling upon people in the United States to observe Cinco de Mayo with appropriate activities and ceremonies. Cinco de Mayo is Spanish for “fifth of May” and is celebrated nationwide in the United States. It did not take a resolution by Congress to have folks celebrate Cinco de Mayo. We have been doing this in our family for as many years as I can remember. In fact, before I retired, our law office celebrated Cinco de Mayo every year by having a buffet lunch featuring all Mexican cuisine. I think that we here in the United States probably celebrate the culture and food

of Americans of Mexican ancestry as much many in Mexico do. To me, it is kind of like St. Patrick’s Day, Chinese New Year or even Oktoberfest. It is just another day to come up with good ethnic food, decorations and a little celebrating. When considering what recipe I might use to represent Cinco



de Mayo, I realized that we eat a lot of Mexican-American food at our house, as do our married children. I think this particular type of ethnic food has just become commonplace in our homes the last ten or fifteen years.

The following recipe is one I came upon quite by accident. While working, I was assigned to bring in some snacks for the

office the next day. It wasn’t until about 11:15 that evening that I remembered my agreed upon assignment. I frantically looked through the cupboards and refrigerator hoping to spot something simple and easy to take to the office. Nothing! What was I to do? Then I noticed I had some sour cream, green onions, and a block of Colby/Jack cheese, refried beans and even some green chilies. I knew immediately I had the makings for a Mexican type dip. I just had to think how to season it. Well, to make a long story short, the following recipe became our office’s favorite-all-time dip for veggies and tortilla chips. I can’t begin to tell you how many batches of this concoction I have made up over the years. Hopefully, you will enjoy it as much as we have.

Bev’s Bean/Pepper Dip

- 1 can (16 oz.) refried beans (regular or fat free)
- 2 cups sour cream (regular or reduced fat)
- 4 green onions, chopped

- 1 can (4 oz.) chopped green chilies
- 1 package dry taco seasoning mix
- ½ cup chopped black olives
- 1 cup shredded cheese (Colby-Jack, Monterey, Cheddar or whatever you have on hand)

Put all ingredients in a large bowl and mix together with an electric mixer until mixed thoroughly. If you want some heat, add a jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped or a chopped chipotle pepper. If you don’t care for olives, leave them out. Change it up to fit your taste!



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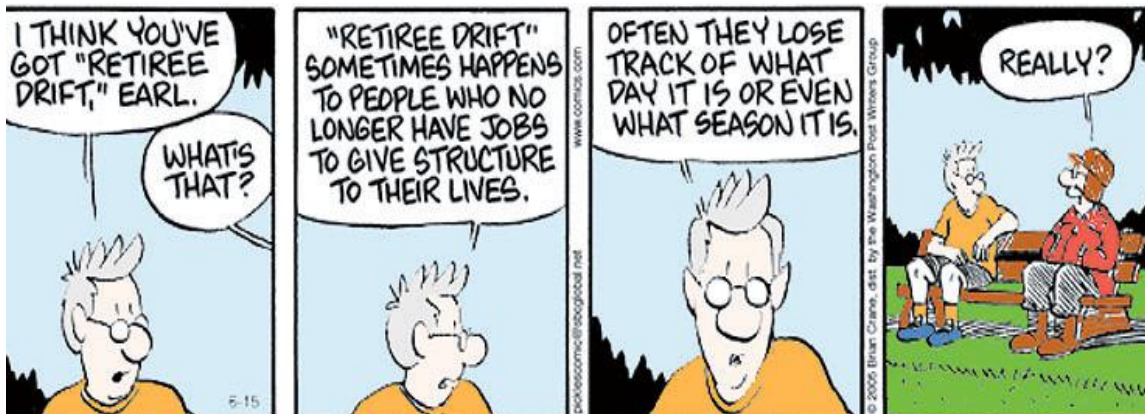
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A Veteran's Thoughts

America Needs a Bridge Builder

By Ski Ingram

During the four years that Donld Trump was the President of these United States there was little, if any, civility between the Republicans and the Democrats. The Democrats did everything they could to undermine his authority as the leader of the free world. They ignored all of his accomplishments, which were many, even while President Trump was fighting two impeachments and the RINO's (Republican in name only) in his own party.

Some of Trump's accomplishments while in office are: he lowered taxes for all Americans, he improved trade agreements with other nations, he destroyed the terror organization ISIS, he rebuilt America's armed forces to once again the strongest in the free world, he supported Israel and helped to have our embassy moved from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem, he unleashed America's vast natural resources. These are only a few of his accomplishments even while fighting against a culture of political correctness.

One question every American should be asking themselves this question, were you better off then or are you better off today? I believe we were better off then. America was respected all over the world. The unemployment rate was low for every minority group in America. Inflation was

very low which kept gas, food, and rents low. People were able to buy a new car and a new home. Yes, we were better off when Trump was in office. People were much happier because they were more prosperous and there were no new wars



in the world.

President Trump was successful because most of America loved what he had done for the country. The world respected him so there was peace between many nations in the world. Today we have chaos in America and in the world. Why, because President Biden is not respected on the world stage and he does not care about you. He only cares about retaining power for himself and the Democratic party.

Joe Biden ran on uniting the country. His inaugural address was filled with statements on how he was going to unite the country after the "chaotic Trump presidency." Opening his speech he stated, "This is America's day. This is democracy's day. A day of history and hope. Of renewal and resolve." He went on to say, "We will press forward with

speed and urgency, for we have much to do in this winter of peril and possibility. Much to repair. Much to restore. Much to heal. Much to build." It sounds good but read on.

He went on to say, "To overcome these challenges – to restore the soul and to secure the future of America requires more than words. It requires that most elusive of things in a democracy: Unity. Unity. It will be for this act and my whole soul is in it ... My whole soul is in it. Today, on this January day, my whole soul is in this: Bringing America together. Uniting our people. And uniting our nation. I ask every American to join me in this cause." This is another failure. Today the country is less unified than ever before.

What we need today is someone who can build a bridge that will truly unite the people. I'm sure if Donald Trump had been allowed to do what he does best his first term in office would have united most of America. People tend to unite when they are successful in life and free to pursue the American Dream.

What America needs more than ever before is someone who can build a bridge to span the gap that separates the American people thereby uniting them. There is a famous poem by Will Allen

Dromgoole called The Bridge Builder.
An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast, and deep,
and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;

The sullen stream had no fears for him;

But he turned, when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide-
Why build you the bridge at the eventide?"
The builder lifted his old gray head:

"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,

"There followeth after me today

A youth, whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm, that has been naught to me,

To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.

He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;

Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Joe Biden is not a bridge builder; he is a bridge burner. Most of us are all united in the

thought that he is doing a horrible job at the border. Most agree that he chose as a running mate someone who has a lower approval than he has. Many agree that he is too old and mentally deficient to run the most powerful nation on earth. Many agree that one more term for Biden would mean disaster for America. It was just reported that America is no longer among the top 20 of richest countries on earth, we are now ranked number 23.

Joe Biden recently used the sentence we can "make America great again" in a campaign speech in Nevada. He once again plagiarized a term, this time from Donald Trump. On this rare occasion he was right, we can make America great again by voting him out of office on November 5th.

Ski Ingram is a life member of Lester Keate Post 90 of the American Legion in St. George, Utah. He now lives in Gilbert, Arizona. He is a combat veteran and is a life member of six different veteran's organizations as well as the NRA. He can be reached at Ski@Skiingram.com Or www.Skiingram.com

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Avoiding Guardianship And The Curse Of Money

By Joseph Prete

Avoiding Guardianship
Each of us will someday die—and we ought to set up a well-crafted estate plan long before then.

But estate planning is not just about death. Many of us will experience diminished capacity in the years prior to death.

If you don't have a strong estate plan before experiencing diminished capacity, somebody likely will need to file a lawsuit to be appointed as your guardian—to make healthcare and financial decisions for you during the period of incapacity.

Guardianship court proceedings are costly and sometimes contentious, and may result in a “care giver” that you don't prefer.

Well-crafted estate plans can usually avoid guardianship (and probate) proceedings, and give you the peace of mind that, during a diminished state, you have the right people pre-appointed to care for you and make decisions for you.

Avoiding The Curse of Money

A key aspect of estate planning is establishing the disposition of your assets at death. Stated differently, it's designating who will get “free money” when you die.

Free money can pro-

foundly bless lives. It can ease burdens, augment lifestyle, facilitate family events, create opportunity, and communicate



intergenerational love and support.

But there is a dark side to free money. Far too often, inheritances result in family rifts, waste, bickering, unhealthy indulgences, and a pathetic departure from cherished family harmony and values. Sometimes, inheritances can actually be a curse, undermining the highest priority objectives of the

decendent.

At Barney McKenna & Olmstead, P.C., we take the time to identify your highest priority objectives and to plan accordingly, ensuring that your hard-earned assets bless lives and do good in the world instead of bad.

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Joseph Prete has been practicing law for the past 19 years and his practice includes a focus on Estate Planning. He also serves on the City Council in Hurricane, UT. Mr. Prete is licensed and serves clients in Utah and Nevada. If you have questions, you would like addressed in these articles, you can contact him at 435-628-1711 or joseph@bmo.law or visit the firm's website at WWW.BMOLAWFIRM.COM

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Spring Into Eye Safety Protect Your Vision With Zion Eye Center

By The Academy of Ophthalmology/Zion Eye Institute

As the season transitions into spring, it heralds the perfect opportunity to embrace outdoor activities and bask in the warmth of the sun. However, amidst the excitement, it's crucial to acknowledge the potential risks of eye injuries that accompany increased physical engagement. Zion Eye Institute advocates for a balanced approach: enjoying springtime activities while prioritizing eye safety.

A fundamental step in safeguarding your vision during physical pursuits is the consistent use of protective eyewear. Whether tending to the garden, cycling

along scenic routes, or perfecting your swing on the golf course, the adoption of impact-resistant goggles, safety glasses, or appropriately designed sunglasses becomes paramount.

Furthermore, staying vigilant for signs of eye injuries is imperative. Symptoms such as redness, pain, swelling, blurred vision, or light sensitivity following physical exertion necessitate immediate medical attention to mitigate potential complications.

Beyond protective measures, nurturing overall eye health contributes significantly to long-term well-being. A balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, sufficient restorative sleep, and abstaining from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption collectively foster optimal ocular health.

At Zion Eye Institute, we recognize the significance of preserving vision, particularly as individuals age. Our comprehensive array of services, including thorough eye examinations, advanced cataract surgery, and specialized treatments for conditions like glaucoma and macular degeneration, underscores our commitment to proactive eye care.

In summation, as you gear up for outdoor activities for spring, prioritize the protection of your eyes. Equip yourself with appropriate eyewear, remain vigilant for any signs of injury, and uphold the fundamentals of good eye health. Should you require assistance or wish to schedule an eye examination call 435-466-2736 to reach out to Zion Eye Institute, where our seasoned ophthalmologists are ready to assist you.

Gary's Travel Quiz

1. Name the country with 700 islands off the coast of Florida?
2. Name the large island off the southeastern coast of Australia?
3. Name the islands off the coast of Ecuador?
4. Name the tourist island off the coast near Los Angeles?
5. Name the island where Tokyo is located?
6. Name the two main islands of New Zealand?
7. Name the island at the end of the Florida Keys?
8. Name the island about 650 miles east of North Carolina?

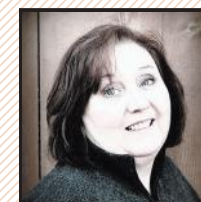
1. *The Bahamas*; 2. *Tasmania*; 3. *The Galapagos Islands*; 4. *Catalina Island*; 5. *Honshu*; 6. *North and South Islands, Te Ika-a-Maui and Te Waipounamu*; 7. *Key West*; 8. *Bermuda*;

Quiz courtesy of Morris Columbus Travel

Genealogy Corner

Paradigm Shift for FamilySearch

By Julie Brinkerhoff



Artificial Intelligence (AI) was the talk of RootsTech 2024. The major genealogy companies made significant announcements concerning AI and how they use it to expedite our ancestors' research. The group's surprise was FamilySearch and their outstanding advancements in bringing records to us thanks to AI. FamilySearch, in their Tech Forum at RootsTech, advised their audience to buckle up for an innovative journey.

FamilySearch announced that they are using generative AI to preserve and reveal the records we need to access. FamilySearch has been working on using AI for more than a year to bring about the results that we enjoy today. More than 5 billion documents have been digitized and need transcription, with 1 to 2 million documents added daily. This transcription is where AI comes to the rescue. In just a few hours, the computer can index more than you or I could do in a lifetime.

What does FamilySearch think about Gen AI? Gen AI provides FamilySearch with 1- Tools for bringing people closer together worldwide. 2- Tools for bridging cultural and demographic divides and connecting all people. The AI field is marked by explosive growth with the ability for Deep Learning (the AI program they use). FamilySearch is harnessing this energy for genealogists.

AI is accelerating genea-

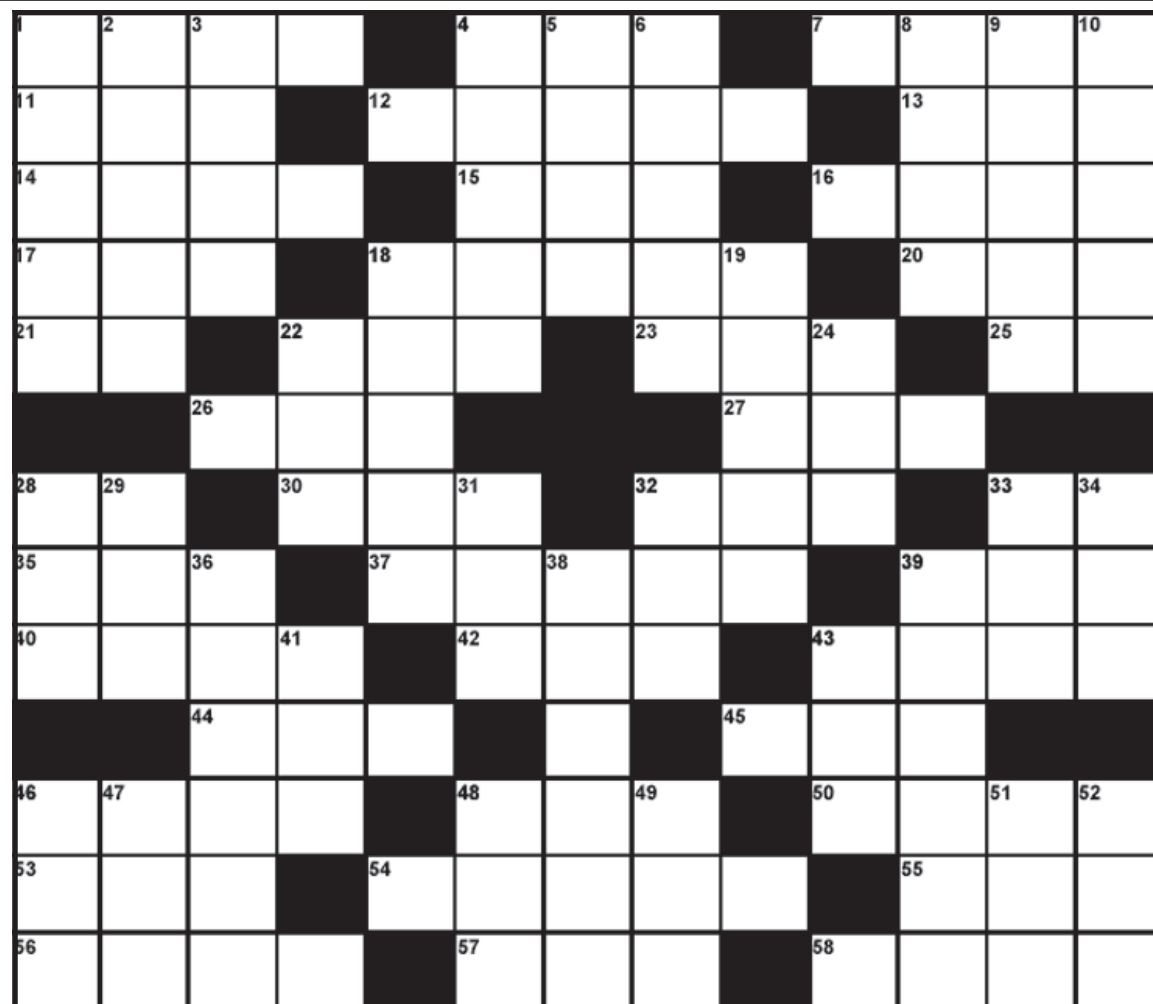
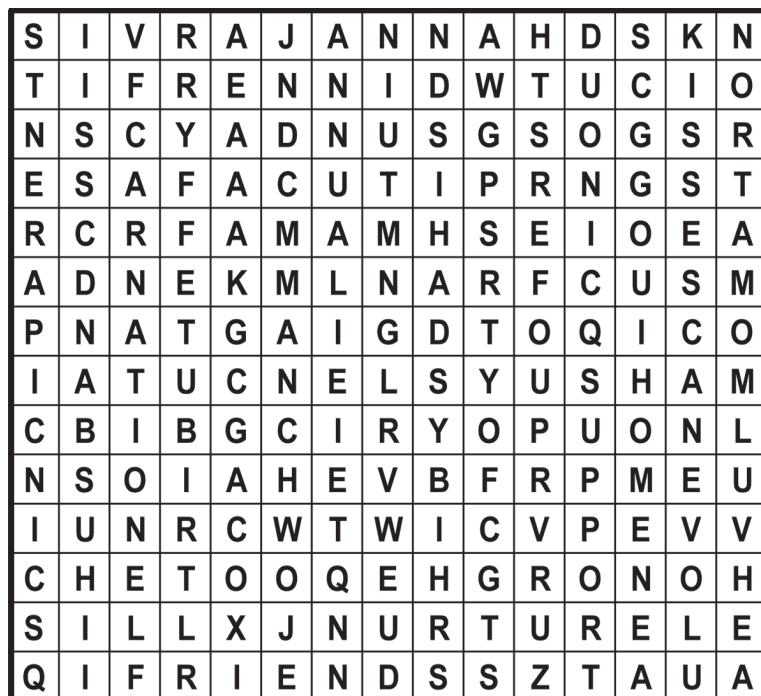
logical research. FamilySearch utilizes Deep Learning to process and learn from vast amounts of historical data to focus on people. They use Machine Learning (another AI program) to recognize patterns, predict connections, and suggest potential family links.

FamilySearch has implemented a full-text search AND transcription capability in its lab sandbox. Additionally, every handwritten document that it transcribes is also indexed and, in some cases, translated. They use LLMs (large language models) and GPT (generative pre-trained transformer) systems to enable this technology. FamilySearch also envisions creating family trees for entire cities and countries.

To try out this new technology, go to FamilySearch.org and sign in. Then scroll down until you see the FamilySearch Labs box on the right. Click on "View Experiments," and you are ready for an AI adventure of a lifetime. A full-text search of US Land Records and Probate Records (1630-1975) and Mexico Notary Records (before the 1900s) are the collections that are currently available. FamilySearch has included a video beneath the search bar to help you improve your search experience.

Generative AI is a game changer, helping people connect with their families, past and present.

Word Search



Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis
Annual
Bouquet
Breakfast
Candy
Care
Carnation
Children
Church
Corsage
Daughters
Dinner

Family
Flowers
Friend
Gifts
Giving
Home
Honor
Hugs
Husband
Kisses
Love

Mama
Matron
May
Mom
Nurture
Parent
Picnic
Sons
Special
Sunday
Support
Tribute

Across

- cart
- pad
- agency of info. (acr)
- man's name
- sword
- landing tank (acr)
- large continent
- __ wee
- middle east org. (acr)
- foot
- muslim god
- doom palm, Africa
- little (suf)
- season
- ecru
- Social Security (abbr)
- min. daily req. (acr)
- social (abbr)
- diminutive (pre)
- drug enforcement (acr)
- attention (abbr)
- sunshine state
- section (abbr)

Down

- to cover with cloth
- to set again
- pivot
- type of tree
- Adam's son
- delicacy
- furnish
- five-dollar bill
- fume
- irritate
- assistant
- __ Rogers (cowboy)
- on this side (pre)
- trot
- anti def. league (acr)
- gauge
- signed (acr)
- metal shaped by casting
- ancient name
- glance
- longing
- masticate

Down

- toboggan
- a seizure or stroke
- smallest particles
- concur
- hurry
- increase
- negative function
- equal
- Moslem Easter
- cuckoo
- sea bird
- federal (abbr)
- General __ (Civil War)
- cadaver
- labor
- sight
- type of deer
- contribute
- lick
- crude metal
- whatever
- King Alfred city (abbr)
- high-level lang.
- Down



Sudoku

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

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

Answer to last week's Sudoku

1	R	A	S	H		4	R	E	L	Y		8	M	A	R		11	M										
12	E	D	O			13	B	E	L	I	E		14	A	P	E		R										
16	I	D	O	L			16	V	I	M			17	S	W	A	M	P	S									
18	N	I	T				19	C	O	D			20	E	O													
			T				21	S	L	E	N	D	E	R			22	F	I	T								
24	V	I					25	Z	A	T																		
26	E	O	S										28	S	E	N	S	E	L	E	S	S						
29	S	N	E	E	R	S																T						
32	S	A	M				33	A	A	R	O	N			36	S	L	O	W	S								
40	E	L					41	P	I	X			42	H	I	S			44	I	R	O						
	L						45	V	O	L				46	B	L	M			47	C	E	A					
							49	N	O	N			50	T		51	H	E				H	N					
													53	A	T	T	E	N	D	A	N	T						
													54	E	X	H	O	R	T			V	R	A				
																				55	S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E

Answer to last week's Crossword

Geek Speak



Anti-Virus Update

By Shaun McCausland

The purpose of an Anti-Virus is to protect your equipment and more particularly, your data and personal information from bad actors trying to damage or profit from your information. There are many good protective programs out there and we will highlight a few in this article. It has recently been revealed that one of the largest of these anti-virus companies made decisions a few years ago that went counter to their stated purpose. They have been fined and punished for those actions and quickly changed course when those actions became known, divesting themselves of the offending organization and changing their policies to protect against future abuse.

I have recommended Avast as a solid free anti-virus program for many years. For a short period around 2020, they were allowing a subsidiary (Jumpshot) to have access to users' information including browsing data, I was very dismayed that I had recommended them during that period, not knowing of their actions. The fact that they cleaned up the problem as soon as it was discovered is a positive and I do not discourage people from using their product, but I would have at

the time if I had known. It is interesting to know that PC Magazine (who originally reported the problem) knocked ratings for Avast down for a time, but now have reinstated them as a top pick including a statement that "We've seen no sign of any inappropriate use of private user data since then (2021), so we're taking Avast out of the penalty box". All of



that said, here are the top picks for free and commercial anti-virus products at this time.

Free – The top five are Avast One Essential (4.5 stars), AVG Antivirus Free (4 stars), Bitdefender Anti-Virus Free (4 stars), Avira Free Security (3.5 stars) and Microsoft Defender (3.5 stars). While these are all free to use, all but Microsoft Defender will use pop-up ads to encourage you to purchase better or additional protection, even when the commercial versions don't protect you against viruses any better than the free versions. These ads can be annoying, but the commercial versions do protect against more things such as Hackers, Ransomware, Encryption schemes, Identity Theft, etc. The annoyingly frequent pop-ups are the price

you pay for having free protection. If you are on a budget, it is often worth the trouble.

Commercial - Bitdefender AntiVirus Plus (5 stars - \$29.99), Norton AntiVirus Plus (4.5 stars - \$29.99), McAfee Antivirus (4 stars - \$35.99), G Data AntiVirus (4 Stars - \$29.95), Malwarebytes Premium (4 stars - \$38.24). It should be noted that most of these are 1-year prices that will go up after the initial year subscription and some of them are significantly more expensive if you continue with them. These are the basic anti-virus programs and other versions that add addition features (such as VPN, anti-ransomware, identity theft protection, etc.) are available at higher prices. It is also of note that many of the products that have been in the top five in years past (Eset, Webroot, etc.) have been supplanted by these five, but are still in the top ten.

Even Microsoft Defender (which comes with windows and automatically works unless replaced with another anti-virus) is much better than having no protection. I prefer having a better level of protection and generally recommend Avast or the others on the list above. As always, make sure you have a backup (preferably two – one local and one in the cloud) of anything important to you.

Shaun McCausland has worked in the computer industry for over 37 years, 32 years of it locally and currently works as a computer consultant and repairman. You can reach him at 435-668-7118 or mctek88@gmail.com. The Bits 'N' Bytes website is www.bitsnbytes.cc

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— William Jennings Bryan

Gary’s Travel Quiz

1. The Los Cabos Airport serves which two cities?
2. What is the name of the cruise port near Orlando?
3. Name the three U.S. Virgin Islands?
4. Which city is closest to Honolulu, Los Angeles or San Francisco?
5. Ipanema and Copacabana Beaches are in which city?
6. Which country is famous for pink sand beaches and shorts?
7. Does more water flow out of the Mediterranean to the Atlantic or into the Mediterranean?
8. The amazing ruins at Ankor Wat are in which country?

1. Cabo San Lucas and San Jose del Cabo; 2. Port Canaveral ;
3. St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John; 4. San Francisco; 5. Rio de Janeiro; 6. Bermuda; 7. Into from the Atlantic; 8. Cambodia;

Quiz courtesy of Morris Columbus Travel

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Southwest Behavioral Health Center Receives Generous Humanitarian Donation

By Brian Tenney

St. George, UT, April 2024 - A \$7,000 Bishop Storehouse account and a \$7,000 Deseret Industries voucher account were recently donated to Southwest Behavioral Health Center (SBHC). This donation was awarded as part of the Community Donation Program through the Welfare & Self-Reliance Services Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Community donation proceeds are intended to benefit the local community and are issued in the form of Bishop Storehouse accounts, Deseret Industries store voucher accounts, cash, or Deseret Industries

manufacturing accounts. SBHC would like to express their sincerest thanks to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for this donation which has been and will continue to be an incredible aid to those they serve.

According to Ryan Heck, SBHC Program Director, the donation they received was issued to the St. George location of SBHC; however, it can be used to benefit anyone within the southern Utah area. Heck will oversee the utilization of these donations. This donation provides crucial, direct support to those individuals and families that SBHC serves across the Beaver, Iron, Kane, Garfield and Washington

counties facing food and housing insecurity due to mental health challenges and/or substance use disorders.

While SBHC proudly offers a plethora of different behavioral health services, such as various modalities of therapy, case management, employment and medical services, they do not receive funding to provide other support such as food or other tangible necessities which this donation will help to provide.

Kivalu Uluave, Region Manager, Cedar City & St. George Area Councils Welfare & Self-Reliance Services Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints said: "Often individuals who need mental health services/treatments need to take a short leave from work

so they can fully commit their efforts to improving their mental health. Additionally, some individuals need help developing teamwork skills and/or learning workplace behaviors. SBHC will use these donations from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to assist clients who may be experiencing situational food insecurity, needing clothing and household items, or who may be participating in a hands-on training/therapy program(s)."

For other nonprofit agencies in the area who would like to participate in this program to address the challenges of transitional housing, food insecurity, mental health issues, or educational needs, please contact Kivalu Uluave, 435-773-5506, kuluave1@churchofjesuschrist.org.

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