

Ode to E Pluribus Unum for Sunday August 7 2022



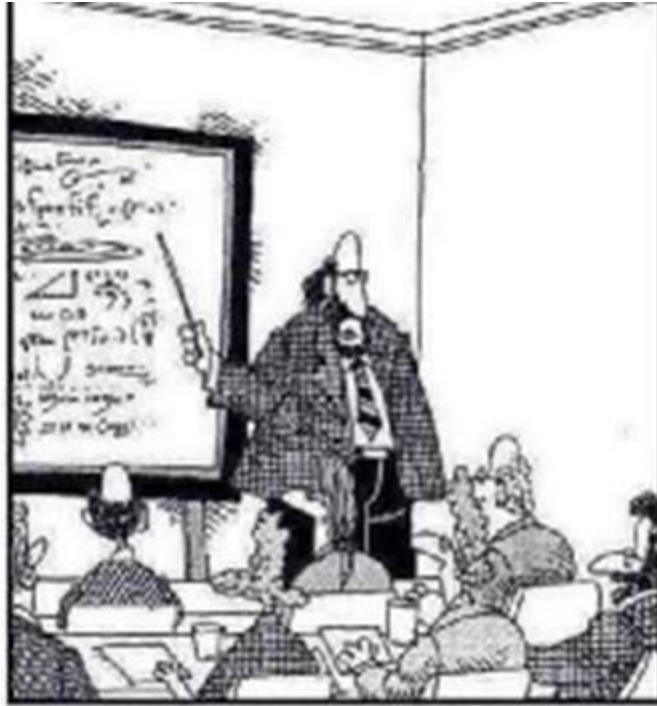
=====

The Human Eye



Gaze and ponder what lies within

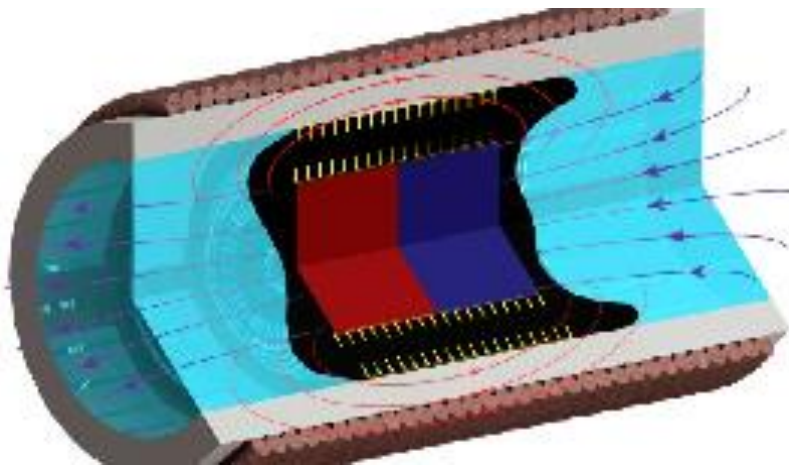
=====



"Along with 'Antimatter' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever.

=====

Deformable Pump Gives Soft Robots a Heart



https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2022/07/deformable-pump-gives-soft-robots-heart-0?utm_source=join1440&utm_medium=email

=====

There are Belly Flops...and then there are BELLY FLOPS



Humpbacks know how to do it with style.

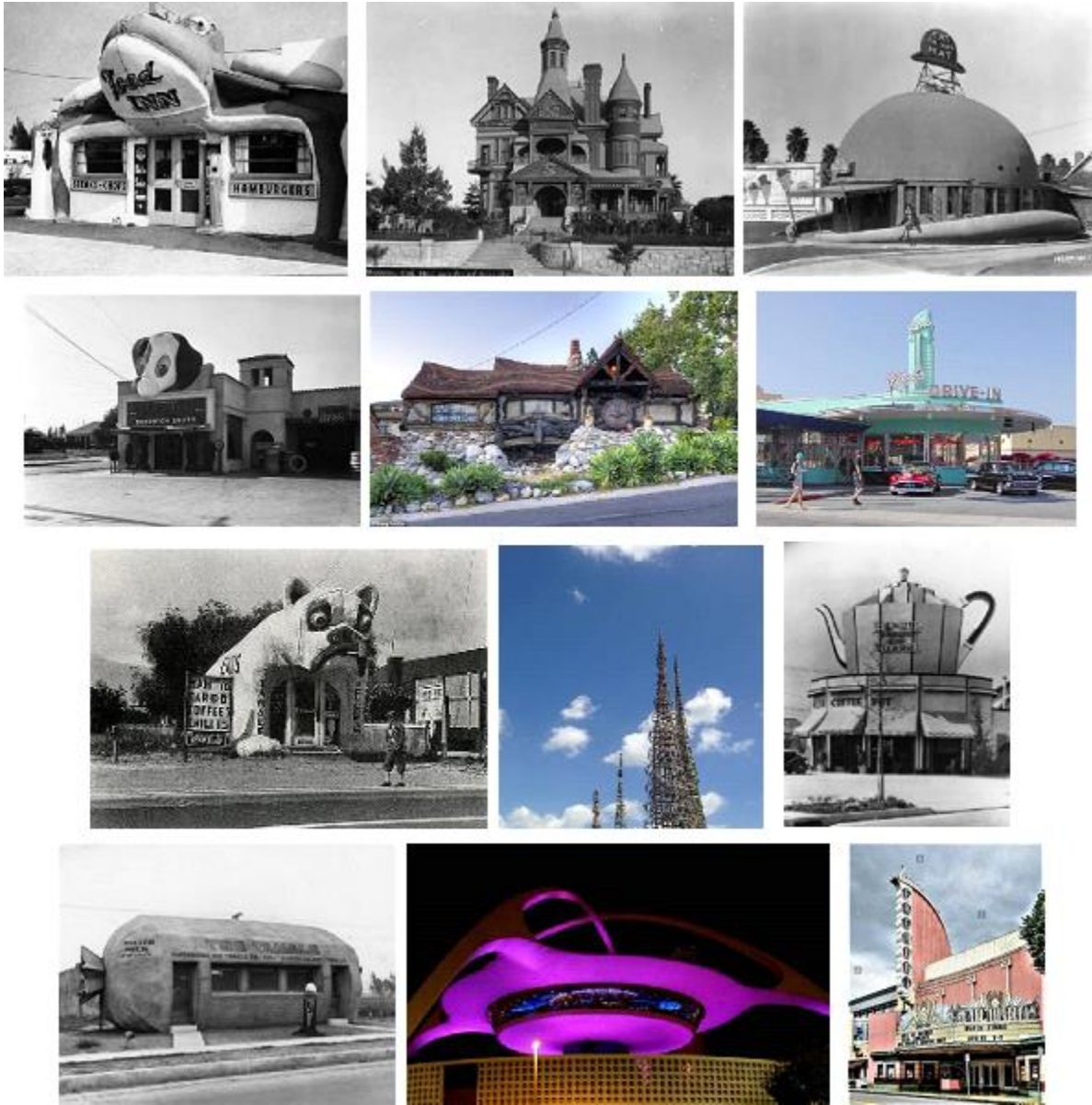
<https://youtu.be/zZTQngw8MZE?t=110>

=====



=====

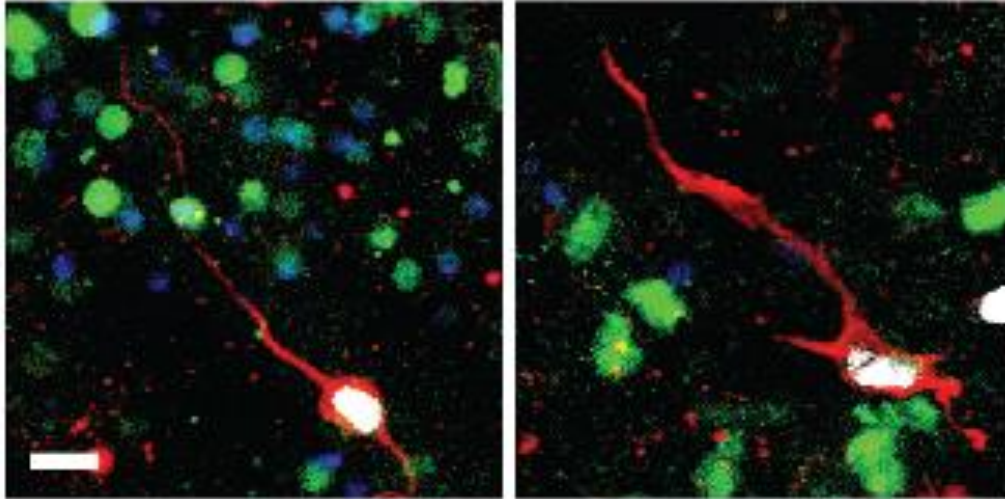
Back When Americans Were Able to Laugh at Themselves



It's a shame we decided to grow up

=====

Immature, Plastic Neurons are Present in Significant Numbers Throughout the Human Lifespan



<https://bit.ly/3Of7bAA>

Might this suggest hope in dealing with aging brains?

=====

Great Blue Thang



In Africa there are many colorful birds
One in particular needs only two words:
Great Blue,

A Turaco in brilliant color
In size and style there is no other.
A full crested head, a proud strutting fellow
Luster-blue wings, a belly of green-yellow
Although a large bird, he is habitually shy,
Non-confrontational, seeking safety up high
In trees where his favorite fruit is found
Satisfying his appetite with a purring sound.
Great Blue Climbs trees, claws on his wings
Socially courting a mate, engaging in flings,
Bobbing his head, and fanning his tail
Through the trees he is seen,
A Great Blue Sail.

This is an example of beauty and power
Combined to be his best in each passing hour
Protecting his nest and socially independent
Great Blue enjoys an image resplendent.

Francie Troy '19

=====

Octopus-Inspired Glove Helps Humans Grip Slippery Objects

The tool could be useful in search and rescue efforts and to scientists who work underwater



This wetsuit glove equipped with octopus-inspired suckers can stick to both curved and

flat objects made of different materials.

Photo Alex Parrish for Virginia Tech

By Maria Temming

A new high-tech glove totally sucks — and that's a good thing.

Each fingertip is outfitted with a sucker inspired by those on octopus arms. These suckers allow people to grab slippery, underwater objects without squeezing too tightly, researchers report July 13 in *Science Advances*.

"Being able to grasp things underwater could be good for search and rescue, it could be good for archaeology, [and] could be good for marine biology," says mechanical engineer Michael Bartlett of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Each sucker on the glove is a raspberry-sized rubber cone capped with a thin, stretchy rubber sheet. Vacuuming the air out of a sucker pulls its cap into a concave shape that sticks to surfaces like a suction cup. Pumping air back into the sucker inflates its cap, causing it to pop off surfaces. Each finger is also equipped with a Tic Tac–sized sensor that detects nearby surfaces. When the sensor comes within some preset distance of any object, it switches the sucker on that finger to sticky mode.

Bartlett and colleagues used the glove to pick up objects underwater, including a toy car, plastic spoon and metal bowl. Each sucker could lift about one kilogram in open air — and could lift more underwater, with the help of buoyancy, Bartlett says. Adding more suckers could give the glove an even stronger grip.

<https://youtu.be/8t7uemrFKlq>

The octopus-inspired suckers on a new wetsuit glove can pick up objects of various shapes and materials, from a metal toy car to a delicate, squishy hydrogel bead. Sensors on the glove activate suction at its fingertips whenever it approaches an object, allowing wearers to pick items up without even closing their hands.

The octopus-inspired glove barely brushes the surface of what octopuses and other cephalopods can do. Octopuses can individually control thousands of suckers across their eight arms to feel around the seafloor and snatch prey. The suckers do this using not only tactile sensors, but also chemical-detecting cells that "taste" their surroundings (SN: 10/29/20).

The new glove is far from turning fingers into extra tongues. But Bartlett is intrigued by the possibility of adding chemical sensors so that the suckers stick to only certain materials.

=====

How Tomato Ketchup Is Made

Tomato harvesting and processing process with modern technology



<https://youtu.be/RRWpu2RwxI0?t=1>

Long but interesting.

=====

Is Your Pet Bison Really a Buffalo...or Vice Versa?



<https://youtu.be/45CuH-QZ1i4?t=1>

(Maybe you should know better than to ask one.)

=====

Another Pearl of Wisdom Destroyed by the Sands of Time



<https://bit.ly/3bwjjzY>

=====

Chico Hamilton (1921 – 2013)



Jazz drummer and bandleader, Hamilton came to prominence as sideman for Lester Young, Gerry Mulligan, Count Basie, and Lena Horne. Hamilton became a bandleader, first with a quintet featuring the cello as a lead instrument, an unusual choice for a jazz band in the 1950s, and subsequently leading bands that performed cool jazz, post bop, and jazz fusion.

Chico the man who made wearing a cape fashionable, and was always partial to groups with cello.

Conquistadores <https://youtu.be/GahLupjATuI>

Original Ellington Suite <https://youtu.be/xd7Nwdi0fNw>

The Morning Side Of Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6dtQ1FRLr4>

=====

There's Nothing Better Than Coming Home To Your Dog



<https://youtu.be/JfPQSoBFVdk>

=====

The Truth About How Men Think – Steve Geyer



<https://youtu.be/BhfBRq7v3IA>

=====



=====

Astronomers Radically Reimagine the Making of the Planets

Observations of faraway worlds have forced a near-total rewrite of the story of our solar system.



<https://bit.ly/3BfcgWT>

New cosmos theories are becoming as common as those on diets.

=====

Jester's Cap

Jingles on the July 31 2022 Ode

The Many Facets of Lift

The question of lift of airplanes was fascinating indeed.

At the University of Delaware, - circa 1960-62 - I was involved with two professors - one Dr. Paul Bock and Dr. Kurt Frey.

Under Bock my assignment was to measure the boundary layer thickness in very narrow channels. Bock was interested in how rainwater flows into catchment basins along roads. He wanted to improve rainwater removal from road surfaces. We had to learn to use the Navier -Stokes equations. The classrooms had large black boards on three walls. and that covered three dimensional flows. It was a nightmare. There was no computer available at that time and Loglog slide rule was in fashion!

However, he showed how to reduce the computation by "relaxation" methods. The idea was to see how boundary layers grow and then collapse. Bock's career in the university ended when he supported the rights of the university student newspaper that criticized the university president. I became fully aware of the "Freedom of the press" issue.

I was then assigned to work with Dr. Frey. He was a leader of wing design in Messerschmidt aircraft company in Germany. He also worked with a Dr. Foettinger in the design of fluid drives for automobiles. Dr. Frey was invited to join the University of Michigan where he worked on novel design of mine sweeping paravanes. He moved to the University of Delaware in 1958 or so. Dr. Frey had built a hydrodynamic tank for flow visualization. I did a lot of work for him and took photographs of the fluid flow around airfoils, creation of vortices etc. We had some lab demonstration experiments for students of fluid mechanics to demonstrate lift, trailing vortex etc.

So, the article on "lift" was very interesting. It brought back memories of lectures in fluid mechanics and ways to calculate lift.

We did not bother with the philosophical issue of why there is lift! Bernoulli rules were the bible.

Somewhere in my archive lives an article written by a Brit explaining (based on the VSTOL characteristics of the Harrier) that lift is actually a function of noise. As the pilot advances the throttle, the loud sounds from within the engine frighten all the Bernoullis in the vicinity, causing them to overcome gravity without resorting to the lift equation.

=====

Armored Helm of Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand Habsburg II



Ferdinand II, (1578--1637) was the leading champion of the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation and of absolutist rule during the Thirty Years' War.

In 1619 the largely Protestant diet of Bohemia deposed him, in effect precipitating the Thirty Years' War. Aided by Maximilian I, duke of Bavaria, his troops under the generalship of Albrecht von Wallenstein annihilated the rebel army on the White Mountain, near Prague 1620. Subsequent events led Ferdinand to call for Wallenstein's head on a plaque, retaining his own to pass the succession to his son in 1636.

=====

A Video Tour of Stephan's Quintet Image by Philip Appleton



<https://youtu.be/RXmIAwgPnyA>

This month, NASA released a batch of long-awaited, jaw-dropping images from its newest and most powerful space observatory, the James Webb Space Telescope. In unprecedented detail, pictures revealed faraway wonders such as the Carina Nebula, the Southern Ring Nebula, and Stephan's Quintet—a collection of five dazzling galaxies, some of which are actively colliding with each other.

In this video, Philip Appleton, a staff scientist at Caltech's IPAC astronomy center, walks us through the new image of the quintet. Four of the five galaxies are gravitationally bound and make up a compact galaxy group located hundreds of millions of light-years away in the Pegasus constellation. At least three galaxies in this group are actively colliding with each other, producing shock waves that trigger new star formation.

=====

Yikes, A One-Building City Stretching 106 Miles in Saudi Arabia.



<https://cnn.it/3vpj77>

What a wonderful opportunity it is for benevolent (?) despots harboring the overpowering urge to exercise total control over their ecstatically happy subjects.

=====

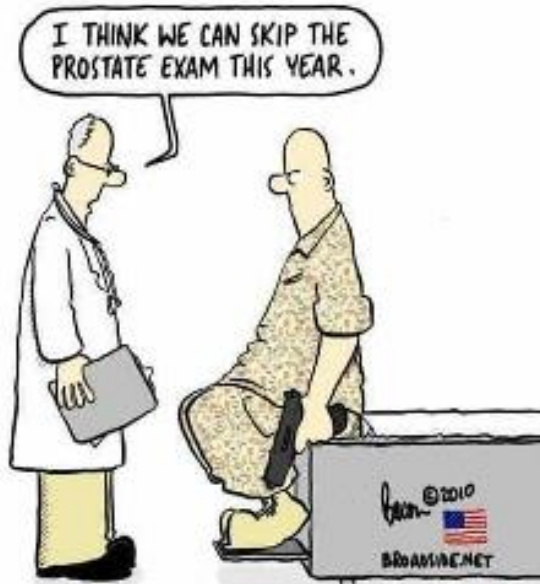
Hidden Chaos Found to Lurk in Ecosystems

New research finds that chaos plays a bigger role in population dynamics than decades of ecological data seemed to suggest.



https://www.quantamagazine.org/hidden-chaos-found-to-lurk-in-ecosystems-20220727/?mc_cid=4bb88e444c&mc_eid=636bc88d2e

=====



=====

The Glenn Gould Corner



Beethoven – 5th Piano Concerto – Glenn Gould



With the Toronto Symphony <https://youtu.be/hDXWK3W477w?t=2>

In 1970, when Italian pianist, Arturo Benedetto Michelangeli, was unable to carry out his scheduled performance of Beethoven's Concerto No.5, Emperor, in Toronto, Gould was given a telephone call the night before the concert and asked if he could come in and play it the next morning with the Toronto Symphony as a substitute for Michelangeli.

Gould's answer was positive, and he rehearsed the Concerto, which he had not played since he recorded it with Leopoldo Stokowski and American Symphony Orchestra in 1966. The concert was recorded for TV as planned and aired on September 12, 1970.

As can be seen and heard here, Gould and the orchestra played Beethoven's Concerto flawlessly.

=====



=====

Pop Pop, Fizz Fizz...Know What the Magic Is?

By Charles Q. Choi



Soda's effervescence comes from carbon dioxide bubbles.
(Image credit: iStock/Getty Images Plus)

The dancing, tingling fizz of soda has delighted the world for centuries. But what is the secret behind these bubbles?

The fizz in soda consists of bubbles of carbon dioxide, or CO₂. Carbonated drinks are infused with this colorless, odorless gas at high pressures during production until the liquid becomes supersaturated with the gas.

"Soda fizzes because it's made to fizz," Mark Jones, an industrial chemist and fellow of the American Chemical Society, told Live Science.

Naturally carbonated beverages like beer and kombucha that rely on fermentation for their fizz have been around for ages. But the advent of modern carbonated sodas can be traced to English clergyman and scientist Joseph Priestley, who is nicknamed "the father of the soft drinks industry," for developing a carbonating apparatus in 1772, according to Britannica. By 1794, Swiss jeweler Jacob Schweppe was selling carbonated artificial mineral waters to his friends in Geneva.

At first, bottled carbonated water was used medicinally, Britannica noted. Flavors were added later — ginger by about 1820, and lemon in the 1830s. In 1886, pharmacist John Pemberton in Atlanta, Georgia, invented Coca-Cola, the first cola drink.

Carbonation not only leads to a dancing froth, but also reacts with the water to generate carbonic acid, resulting in a slightly tangy flavor. Although the carbonic acid and any other flavor-enhancing acids that soda-makers add to soft drinks has been linked to tooth damage, "I think the American Dental Association is more concerned about the sugar in soda," Jones said.

When soda is bottled, the soft drinks are kept very cold because carbon dioxide dissolves better in soda at low temperatures. "Warming up a liquid forces gas out of the solution," Joe Glajch, an analytical chemist and pharmaceutical chemistry consultant, told Live Science. After soda is infused with carbon dioxide, the gas effervescently escapes due to a principle in physical chemistry known as Henry's law, proposed by British chemist William Henry in 1803, according to Britannica. Henry's law states that the amount of a gas dissolved in a liquid is proportional to the pressure of that same gas in the liquid's surroundings. When soda is canned or bottled, the space above the drink is usually filled with carbon dioxide at a pressure slightly above that of standard atmospheric pressure (about 14.7 pounds per square inch, or 101.325 kilopascals), Glajch said. Because of Henry's law — and the pressure of the gas trapped at the top of the sealed container — the carbon dioxide that's dissolved in the beverage stays within the fluid.

However, when a soda container is opened, the pressurized carbon releases into the air. This venting gas produces the signature hiss one expects to hear from a newly opened soda bottle or can. "A soda bottle is effectively a pressure vessel that will hold that pressure in until you open the top," Jones said. (If a can or bottle has been shaken or otherwise disturbed before it is opened, gas trapped within the liquid can escape to join the gas above the beverage, increasing the pressure in the gas above the fluid and resulting in the soda bursting out when the container is opened.)

Carbon dioxide makes up about 0.04% of Earth's atmosphere, according to Columbia University's Climate School. Henry's law suggests that when soda is exposed to air, the carbon dioxide in the soft drink naturally wants to reach the same concentration in the fluid as in the air. The result is that most of it fizzes out of the liquid as tiny CO₂ bubbles.

Soda fizzes even more when it is poured into a glass because the act of pouring greatly increases the surface area of the liquid and helps the bubbles escape, Glajch said. "A good example of this can be seen with beer," Glajch said. "If you pour a beer into a

glass, you can get a good size head of foam on top, depending on the kind of beer and how carbonated it is. That foam is all gas coming from the beverage."

One trick to reduce the amount of bubbling during pouring — and thereby enabling a soft drink to stay fizzy longer — is to pour the soda along the side of the glass. "That drastically decreases the surface area of the pour" and thus preserves more CO2 in the liquid, Glajch said. Bottoms up!

Originally published on Live Science.

Sounds like Coke and Pepsi are soldiers in the vanguard of global warming

=====

Deee-Lite



Deee-Lite was an American house and dance music group formed in New York City.

The group's best-known single is "Groove Is in the Heart", which was released in 1990 from their debut studio album *World Clique* (1990), and was a top-ten hit in multiple countries.

In December 2016, Billboard ranked them as the 55th most successful dance artists of all time

Groove is in the Heart <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=etviGf1uWlq>

Do you think the first 54 were better?

=====

Proofreading is a Dying Art, Wouldn't You Say?

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

This one friend Jim Chapman caught in the SGV Tribune the other day and called the Editorial Room and asked who wrote this. It took two or three readings before the editor realized that what he was reading was impossible!!! They put in a correction the next day.

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Really? Ya think?

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
Now that's taking things a bit far!

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
What a guy!

Miners Refuse to Work after Death
No-good-for-nothing' lazy so-and-so's!

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
See if that works any better than a fair trial!

War Dims Hope for Peace
I can see where it might have that effect!

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
Ya think?

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
Who would have thought!

Enfield (London) Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide
They may be on to something!

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
You mean there's something stronger than duct tape?

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge
He probably IS the battery charge!

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
Weren't they fat enough?!

Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft
That's what he gets for eating those beans!

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
Do they taste like chicken?

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
Chainsaw Massacre all over again!

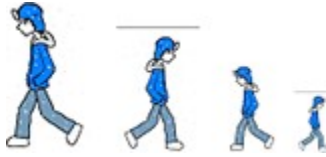
Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
Boy, are they tall!

And the winner is...

Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead
Did I read that right?

=====

My Walking Thoughts



For August 7 2022

=====

Getting Googled, Alexa'd or Siri'd, in the Quest for Knowledge

There is this wonderful YouTube video [<https://youtu.be/Uo0KjdDJr1c>] showing a young lady applying...well I don't have to explain it, just watch the video and you'll get as sense of what I have in mind this week; the hidden dangers of using social media and the internet as basic tools for research.

Before I get into a furball with anyone, let me assure you I'm picking on me as much as anyone though I do suspect that younger people, being more literate in today's electronic fare than I are possibly more attuned to what the internet and social media have to offer.

Anyway, this is a reminder that what shows up at the top of the heap in any of these easily accessed portals to data and information is determined pretty much the same way you are treated to the wonderful presentations you find on television...or the movies...or as editorial content in magazines...*advertising bucks*.

Mind you this is not bad or at least necessarily so, just a reminder that even when curated, what you see, smell, or hear bears the stamp of someone else's beliefs...or perhaps agenda.

True research is painstaking, highly detailed, detached as much as possible from preexisting conclusions, and (I think) crowned with some amount of skepticism.

I bring this up driven by the recognition that all too often I come to the embarrassed realization that I've allowed a preconception to lead me down easy trails of citations to to the same conclusion I started with.

Sure the same results are possible if I were to I hunt on hands and knees in the deepest spiderweb encrusted catacombs of arcane knowledge, but in today's world of instantaneous electronic connectedness, it's easier to accept the notion that the weight of citations is tantamount to 'the truth;' a sort of triumph of virtual majority over scholarship.

As a somewhat corollary thought, the more painstaking your research effort, the more certain the recognition that the final word in your study has yet to be written. This is not so obvious when Siri or Google has nothing left to say.

=====

More Outtakes from Phantoms from Vietnam

After the episode in which Gordon had disagreed with Jimmy about his feelings for Japanese, Miss A uses the situation to encourage her students think about differences.

=====

"I'm sorry Jimmy. I need to apologize to all of you, but I want to make sure you understand the terrible risks we run in stereotyping." After several seconds in which she allowed for the change in direction, she continued.

"We are all afraid of differences. Terrified of things we don't understand. These are normal and rational reactions to a world filled with threats as well as opportunities; mechanisms that have allowed us to survive throughout the ages yet move forward into the unknown.

"Do we fight or flee? Or do we hang out to see if there are better options? There are no simple answers here, rather questions that I hope you'll spend time thinking about and discussing with others for the rest of your lives."

At home that evening Gordon discussed the classroom situation and his stepping up to counter Jimmy Hartley's solution to the Japanese American issue.

"I don't think Jimmy really meant what he said about shooting all the Japanese here in our country, particularly because he and George Nakano were good buddies before the war started, but still I felt I had to say something," he said to Joe, Claire, and Pastor Jacobs.

"Did you talk with him after school," Claire asked. She was sensitive to the way things sometime got blown out of proportion.

"Uh-uh. We were late getting to the bus and he was sitting way up front by the time I got there."

"Well look," she suggested, "how about taking him aside first thing tomorrow morning to tell him you weren't picking a fight with him, that you wanted to remind everyone there about the Nakano family and the suffering they and hundreds of others are exposed to through no fault of their own."

"Good idea," Joe said, rising to lead the way to the dinner table.

"We'll talk about it on the way to Manzanar," Pastor added, heralding another trip across to the Mojave desert and up into the Owens Valley.

Gordon took the suggestion and he and Jimmy discussed the matter before school, Jimmy admitting that he wasn't really talking about the internees like the Nakanos, but the soldiers and secret spies who were capable of the most vicious behavior found anywhere on the planet. And by day's end they walked to the bus arm in arm...best buddies. Miss A, looking through the classroom window had to smile.

But things were not so clear to Gordon when he and Pastor Jacobs made the bi-monthly trip up over the Tehachapis, across the broad expanse of the Mojave Desert, then up the Owens Valley to Manzanar...six hours coming and going in the sturdy but noisy 1937 DeSoto that its dealer, Mr. Phelps, swore would outlast the war no matter how long it took to send Tojo and his cohorts to their just rewards.

Joe had begged off, saying he had work to do on the farm before winter weather arrived, so the trunk and rear seat stuffed with food and clothing donated by the congregation, the two set off at 5:30 a.m. while it was still dark, the sky brightening as they passed over the Tehachapi Train Loop.

To be Continued

=====