

Ode to E Pluribus Unum for Sunday July 14 2024

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Evening Mind (40 x 50")



Barbara Medaille

Barbara, a Healdsburg, CA resident and I have been friends for closing in on 70 years and I am constantly amazed by the works that continue to pour forth from the cloisters of her fertile talent and crowded home studio.

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Hot Tubbing or Cold Tubbing...It Depends on the Time of the Year



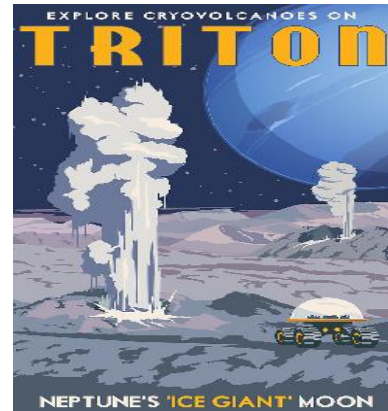
A good home, at last: Nat Geo Explorers Steve Winter and Sharon Guynup spent two years investigating captive tigers in America. For the top of their story, they chose Winter's hopeful image of three big cats who ended up in a sanctuary with proper nutrition and vet care. For their work, which helped end the cub-petting industry in the U.S., the two just won the National Geographic Society's annual Eliza Scidmore Award for Outstanding Storytelling.

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Vintage Style Travel Posters Imagine Travel to Distant Worlds

Instead of travel to Banff and St. Croix, the destinations include Europa, a moon of Jupiter, and Triton, a moon of Neptune. They are illustrated in a lovely throwback style, and include lines like "Explore the Crimson Canyons of Mars" and "Sail Under the Ice of Neptune – Yellow Star Line"

<https://bit.ly/3XEBkS4>



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Some Inspirational Quotes for E Pluribus Unum

Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.

General Douglas MacArthur

Military power wins battles, but spiritual power wins wars.
General George Marshall

Courage is fear holding on a minute longer.
General George S. Patten

Army: A body of men assembled to rectify the mistakes of the diplomats.
Josephus Daniels

This nation will remain the land of the free, only so long as it is the home of the brave.
Elmer Davis

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What Is Parkinson's Disease—And Why Is It So Hard to Diagnose?



At the University of Florida, Parkinson's disease patient Russell Price undergoes surgery to implant a deep brain stimulation (DBS) lead that will deliver electrical impulses to motion-controlling parts of his brain. The treatment has been shown to provide substantial relief from symptoms in certain patients. Photograph by Erika Larsen, Nat Geo Image Collection

The cause of the neurological disorder—marked by uncontrollable movements—remains elusive. Yet experts say we may be entering the golden years of Parkinson's research.

In 1817, British surgeon James Parkinson penned a case study of a malady he called "the shaking palsy"—a progressive affliction that left older adults with tremors, weakness, and the inability to control their body. Stumped by the disorder's cause, the physician closed his paper with a plea to his fellow scientists to follow up on his work.

[What are the signs of dementia—and why is it so hard to diagnose?](#)

More than two centuries later, the condition now known as Parkinson’s disease is the second most common neurological disorder of its kind. But though it affects up to a million Americans and is projected to balloon even further in the coming years, the cure Parkinson once imagined remains nearly as elusive as it was in the 19th century.

<https://bit.ly/3W1SV3T>

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Kawaguchiko Blocks the Mt Fuji View at Popular Lawson Store



Photo: Matt Liu/Unsplash

Town officials said that regrettably, a black vinyl photo barrier is the only solution for visitors with poor behavior.

Mt Fuji has long been a popular subject for photographers visiting Japan, but one particular vantage point of the beloved volcano has become noticeably more popular in recent years. A Lawson convenience store in the town of Kawaguchiko, just down the road from the area’s namesake station, sees a sizeable crowd of visitors trying to get a snapshot of its storefront every day, where the modern blue facade of the convenience store contrasts with the natural wonder of Japan’s tallest peak.

Unfortunately, the influx of visitors has reached unmanageable levels, leading to littering, obstruction of pedestrian pathways and unauthorized parking in favor of scoring aesthetic shots. A dental clinic opposite the convenience store has been particularly troubled by people blocking the entrance to the clinic angling for the best views. It’s reported that some even climbed onto the clinic’s roof to get a shot.

According to Asahi Shimbun, signs in multiple languages were installed to caution people against dangerous behaviors such as darting across the road and posing a risk to motorists. Despite this, the town saw little improvement in the situation and announced more extreme measures would be taken to mitigate the crowds.

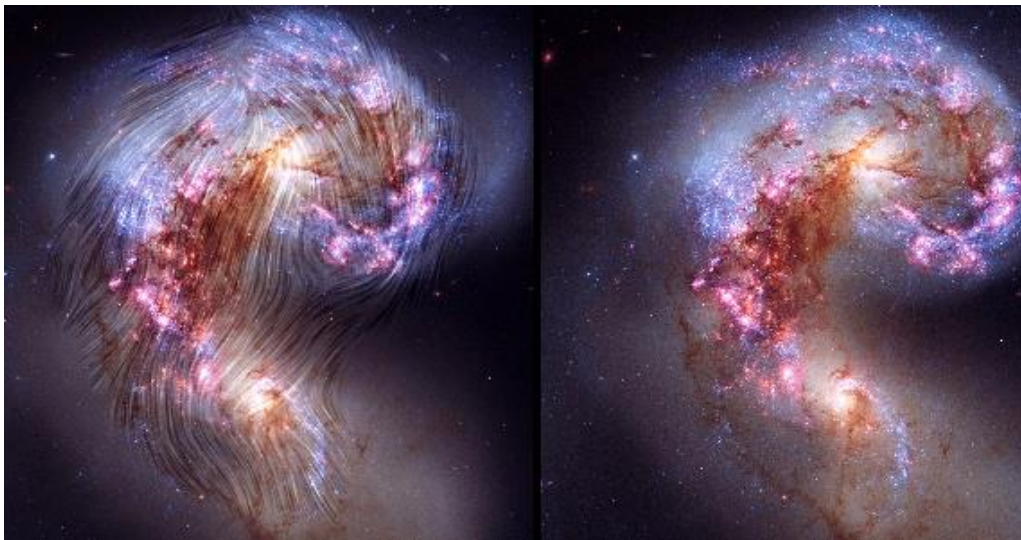
On April 30, the town began installing poles opposite the convenience store, measuring roughly 2.5 meters high and 20 meters wide. This will prevent people from gathering across the road for photos and causing a nuisance to the dental clinic and neighboring businesses. Asahi Shimbun also reports that six three-meter-wide iron fences will be set up along the road to stop people from jaywalking. Construction for the barrier is expected to be completed on May 2.

This is yet another measure local governments in Japan have had to implement to combat over-tourism. Earlier this spring, the Kyoto government announced a penalty fee for trespassing on private roads, spurred by the large numbers of tourists who were photographing maiko performers without permission and posing risks to local residents and businesses.

Written by Emma Steen for TimeOut

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Tracing the Hidden Hand of Magnetism in the Galaxy



The Antennae galaxies are merging, as seen in these images from the Hubble Space Telescope. Clark and her colleagues mapped the magnetic field orientations on top of the image at left. SALS A V: Lopez-Rodriguez et al. 2022 (left); ESA/Hubble

Amid the roilings of the Milky Way, immense pockets of gas coalesce into clouds where stars are born. In this process, there is a hidden hand at play: magnetism.

While much remains unknown, new tools and methods are bringing us closer to perceiving the influence of magnetism on the evolution of stars and galaxies, and Clark is one of the scientists spearheading this effort. As the leader of the Cosmic Magnetism and Interstellar Physics group at Stanford, she uses a combination of novel observational techniques, simulations and theory to unravel the puzzles of galactic magnetism. This year, she was awarded the Sloan Research Fellowship for “outstanding early-career faculty who have the potential to revolutionize their fields of study.”

<https://bit.ly/3zot92b>

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3D Printer Successfully Makes Models in Microgravity



*SpaceCAL 3D printer on VSS Unity, awaiting launch on June 8, 2024.
(Image credit: Virgin Galactic)*

The device was aboard the Virgin Galactic 07 crewed suborbital space mission.

Scientists with the University of California, Berkeley, have carried out successful tests of a next-gen microgravity 3D printer called SpaceCAL. The tests were carried out as part of the Virgin Galactic 07 mission, a crewed suborbital spaceflight that launched on Monday (June 8).



*Benchy
adv3dprint*

During its 140-second trial run, SpaceCAL 3D printed four items from a liquid plastic called PEGDA. These included space shuttle models and small tugboats called "Benchys," conventionally used as benchmarks (hence the name) to evaluate a printer's quality and performance.

<https://bit.ly/4eWjzUF>

Hmmm. Maybe print a lifeboat for Starliner?

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Space Instruments Artemis III Will Bring to the Moon



NASA

NASA recently revealed some of the instruments astronauts will deploy on the moon during the Artemis III mission, set to be humans' first return to the lunar surface since the Apollo 17 spaceflight in 1972. The tools will collect "valuable scientific data," including information on how humans could sustain a long-term presence on the moon, which would inform future missions to Mars.

The first instrument is the Lunar Environment Monitoring Station, an autonomous seismometer that will track moonquakes. The Lunar Effects on Agricultural Flora — or, aptly, LEAF — will look into how the environment affects space crops, and the Lunar Dielectric Analyzer will detect electric fields.

"These three scientific instruments will be our first opportunity since Apollo to leverage the unique capabilities of human explorers to conduct transformative lunar science," NASA's Joel Kearns said in a statement.

Artemis III is currently scheduled for liftoff no earlier than September 2026 — in the meantime, check out this inspiring [NASA video](#) about the mission.

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Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Now, I'm wondering did I send this to you, did you send it to me, or have I only sent it to myself.

You don't need anger management. You need people to stop irritating you.

Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.

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Chicago Plans to Build Nearly 50 Miles of Bikeways This Year



Joel Lerner/Xinhua News Agency via Getty Images

A recent report from PeopleForBikes found that biking infrastructure and safety are generally improving across the U.S. But Chicago wasn't among the cities that earned top marks, ranking 2,026th in the country. The Midwestern metro wants to change that.

A new update from the Chicago Department of Transportation includes plans to build around 47 miles of new bikeways by the end of 2024. It's part of a larger goal, announced in 2023, to create 150 miles of new and improved lanes within the next few years.

The project is being spearheaded by the department's Complete Streets program. At a city council meeting in October, program manager David Smith noted that 2023 was a record year for cycling in Chicago, with over 1,300 free bikes distributed to residents.

"2023 really was an exciting year, and I think sets the tone and the stage for how we move forward in the years to come," Smith said, per GoodGoodGood. "When we design

our streets and adopt policies that prioritize those most vulnerable, we improve the safety and accessibility for everybody using the street.”

Surely this should boost them into the top 2000.

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Pair of Sleeping Bees Wins Insect Photography Contest



*Two cuckoo bees asleep with their mandibles clinging onto the grass.
Overall winner. | Luke Chambers*

The Royal Entomological Society has announced the winners of its 2023 insect photography competition.

Announced during Insect Week (which runs 24-30 June), the annual competition, organized by the U.K.-based leading insect science charity, showcases the very best amateur insect photography.

<https://bit.ly/3W3wD2V>

Not necessarily loveable, but worth your visit.

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Physicists Accidentally Discover a Whole New Way to Write Pi



"Our efforts, initially, were never to find a way to look at π ."

Image credit: rawf8/Shutterstock.com

Ah, pi. The most popular of the irrationals. Its expansion goes on forever, in any base, with no way to predict which number will come next; it's so unknowable that even NASA only bothers learning around 15 digits, and they put people on the Moon.

But just because we can't write pi using numbers – at least not without infinite time and space at our disposal – that doesn't mean we can't do it at all. There are actually many ways to express the constant exactly – you just need to be a bit tricky about it.

$$\pi = 4 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{4}{2n+1} \right) \left(\frac{(2n+1)^2}{4(n+1)} - n \right)_{n-1}.$$

The formula that Sinha and his colleague, postdoc Arnab Saha, stumbled onto, however, is comparatively light-speed. It's actually closely related to Gregory's series – referred to in the paper as a Madhava series in recognition of its earlier discoverer, the 14th-century Indian mathematician and astronomer Madhava of Sangamagrama – but arrived at through entirely different means.

<https://bit.ly/4cosUTG>

Will this make our lives better? Remains to be seen I guess.

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US Women's Gymnastics Team



GK Elite, USA Gymnastics

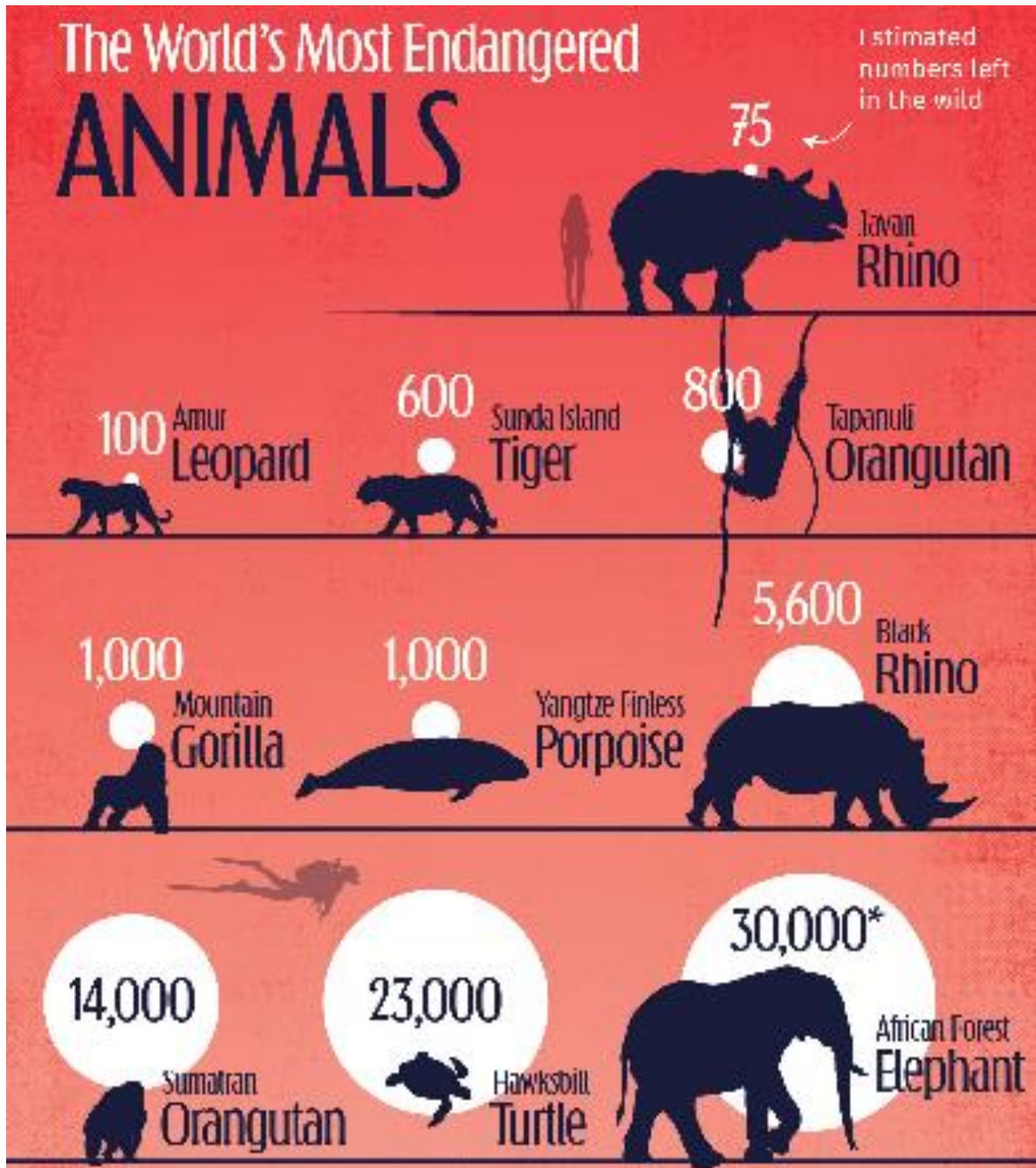
Gwyneth Paltrow and the US women's gymnastics team have at least one thing in common: They can never have too many crystals.

The American gymnastics team unveiled its new leotards for the upcoming Paris Olympics yesterday, and some include 10,000 hand-placed crystals, up from a pathetic 6,400 for the Tokyo Games three years ago. Each leo would fetch up to \$5,000 on the retail market, the New York Times reported. "The more crystals, the more impact, the more the leotards are talked about," Jeanne Diaz, the design director of GK Elite, told the NYT. Fans can buy replica leotards, which replace the crystals with "spanglez," for \$90.

An added dimension to the Olympics. Is it one we want?

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Ranked: The Most Endangered Animals in the World



visual capitalist

In the last decade alone, more than 460 species have been declared extinct. Expanding human activity is largely to blame for this rapid biodiversity loss.

This graphic shows the most endangered animals by numbers found in the wild, per estimates from the World Wildlife Fund UK.

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/most-endangered-animals-in-the-world-ranked/>

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Grizzly Bear Baby Boom at Yellowstone



Cub count triples

Photo Courtesy Of Nps/Eric Johnston

Two weeks ago, Yellowstone National Park made headlines when a mother grizzly bear was spotted out and about with five cubs in tow — the biggest grizzly bear cub litter ever seen in the park.

Grizzly bears in that region of North America typically only have one to three bear cubs a litter.

<https://bit.ly/4cS26uG>

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Rare Wild Cat Species, Iberian Lynx, Moved off Endangered List



Ondrej Prosicky/ iStock

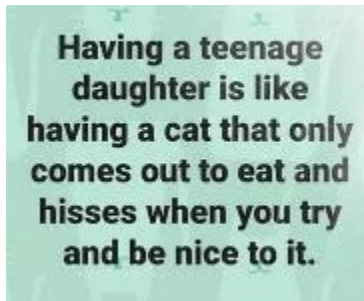
In what one conservationist called “the greatest recovery of a cat species ever achieved through conservation,” the Iberian lynx has been brought back from the brink of

extinction. Last week, the International Union for Conservation of Nature announced that the rare wild cat species, native to the peninsula of the same name, had been downgraded from “endangered” to “vulnerable” on the [Red List](#) of Threatened Species.

The keystone species’ numbers have grown exponentially, from 62 mature individuals in 2001 to 648 in 2022. Today, the total population, including young, is believed to be over 2,000. That’s thanks to efforts like restoring habitats, increasing the abundance of prey, reducing deaths from human activity, and expanding the lynx’s genetic diversity.

“The significant recovery of the Iberian lynx demonstrates that even the most threatened species can be brought back from the brink of extinction through committed, science-based conservation action and provides hope for those working to protect wildlife across the globe,” Sarah Durant, a professor at the Zoological Society of London’s Institute of Zoology, said in a statement. [Watch the cats in the wild.](#)

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Researchers Demonstrate the First Chip-Based 3D Printer

Smaller than a coin, this optical device could enable rapid prototyping on the go.



MIT

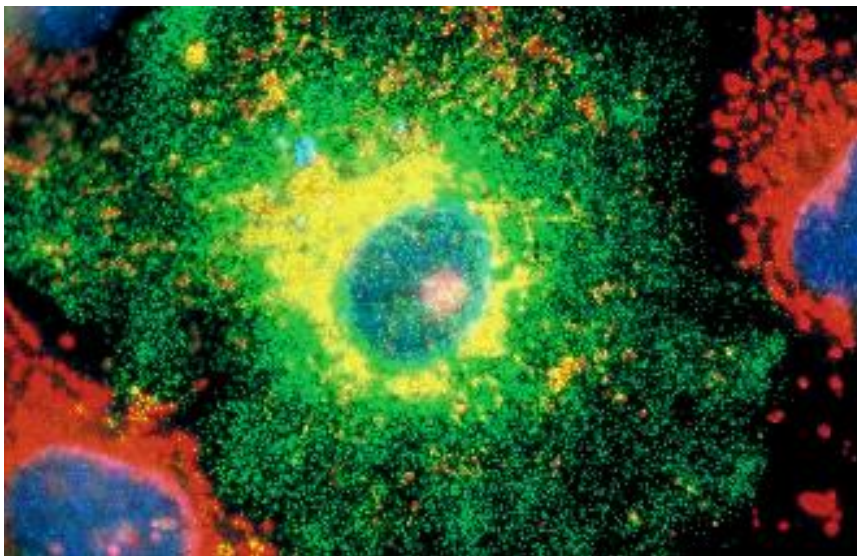
Imagine a portable 3D printer you could hold in the palm of your hand. The tiny device could enable a user to rapidly create customized, low-cost objects on the go, like a fastener to repair a wobbly bicycle wheel or a component for a critical medical operation.

Researchers from MIT and the University of Texas at Austin took a major step toward making this idea a reality by demonstrating the first chip-based 3D printer. Their proof-of-concept device consists of a single, millimeter-scale photonic chip that emits reconfigurable beams of light into a well of resin that cures into a solid shape when light strikes it.

<https://bit.ly/4bO5Hdf>

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A Lab Discovered an Abundant Component of Cells in the 1980s —And is Still Trying to Figure Out What it Does



Vaults (green dots) populate most animal cells by the thousands, including these monkey kidney cells. (Blue is DNA in the cell nucleus.)

Nancy Kedersha

Leonard Rome switches off the overhead light in the small room, leaving it illuminated only by a computer monitor and the fluorescent screen at the base of a towering electron microscope. Qing Lou, a Ph.D. student who works with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) biologist, points to some ovoid smudges within the circular green glow of the microscope display. With a twist of a dial and a click of a mouse, she brings the shadows into focus and snaps a picture. Dozens, maybe hundreds, of barrel-shaped particles suddenly fill the computer monitor.

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

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if you're ever feeling down
Just remember that
somewhere out there is a cat
wearing a dish towel cape
on a mission to save the world.



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Poetry Corner

William Wordsworth (1770–1850)



William Wordsworth was one of the founders of English Romanticism and one its most central figures and important intellects. He is remembered as a poet of spiritual and epistemological speculation, a poet concerned with the human relationship to nature and a fierce advocate of using the vocabulary and speech patterns of common people in poetry.

Throughout his life, Wordsworth explored the relationship between humanity and nature and celebrated the power of the human spirit, often using simple language and personal experiences as the basis for his poems.

William Wordsworth's great long autobiographical poem in blank verse, *The Prelude*, has many great passages, and this is one of the best, from the first book of the poem, describing the poet's schooldays and his time among nature. The description of the hill looming up as a young Wordsworth rows his boat – finding freedom on the open water – comes close to that key Romantic concept of the Sublime.

From Book 1 of William Wordsworth's *The Prelude*

One evening (surely I was led by her)
I went alone into a Shepherd's Boat,
A Skiff that to a Willow tree was tied
Within a rocky Cave, its usual home.
'Twas by the shores of Patterdale, a Vale
Wherein I was a Stranger, thither come
A School-boy Traveller, at the Holidays.
Forth rambled from the Village Inn alone
No sooner had I sight of this small Skiff,
Discover'd thus by unexpected chance,
Than I unloos'd her tether and embark'd.
The moon was up, the Lake was shining clear
Among the hoary mountains; from the Shore
I push'd, and struck the oars and struck again
In cadence, and my little Boat mov'd on
Even like a Man who walks with stately step
Though bent on speed. It was an act of stealth
And troubled pleasure; not without the voice
Of mountain-echoes did my Boat move on,
Leaving behind her still on either side
Small circles glittering idly in the moon,
Until they melted all into one track
Of sparkling light. A rocky Steep uprose
Above the Cavern of the Willow tree
And now, as suited one who proudly row'd
With his best skill, I fix'd a steady view
Upon the top of that same craggy ridge,

The bound of the horizon, for behind
Was nothing but the stars and the grey sky.
She was an elfin Pinnacle; lustily
I dipp'd my oars into the silent Lake,
And, as I rose upon the stroke, my Boat
Went heaving through the water, like a Swan;
When from behind that craggy Steep, till then
The bound of the horizon, a huge Cliff,
As if with voluntary power instinct,
Uprear'd its head. I struck, and struck again
And, growing still in stature, the huge Cliff
Rose up between me and the stars, and still,
With measur'd motion, like a living thing,
Strode after me. With trembling hands I turn'd,
And through the silent water stole my way
Back to the Cavern of the Willow tree.
There, in her mooring-place, I left my Bark,
And, through the meadows homeward went, with grave
And serious thoughts; and after I had seen
That spectacle, for many days, my brain
Work'd with a dim and undetermin'd sense
Of unknown modes of being; in my thoughts
There was a darkness, call it solitude,
Or blank desertion, no familiar shapes
Of hourly objects, images of trees,
Of sea or sky, no colours of green fields;
But huge and mighty Forms that do not live
Like living men mov'd slowly through the mind
By day and were the trouble of my dreams.

If this excerpt whets your appetite for the whole poem, you can read that [here](#).

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;

Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802

Earth has not any thing to show more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth, like a garment, wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky;
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!
The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;

And all that mighty heart is lying still!

Character of the Happy Warrior

Who is the happy Warrior? Who is he
That every man in arms should wish to be?
—It is the generous Spirit, who, when brought
Among the tasks of real life, hath wrought
Upon the plan that pleased his boyish thought:
Whose high endeavours are an inward light
That makes the path before him always bright;
Who, with a natural instinct to discern
What knowledge can perform, is diligent to learn;
Abides by this resolve, and stops not there,
But makes his moral being his prime care;
Who, doomed to go in company with Pain,
And Fear, and Bloodshed, miserable train!
Turns his necessity to glorious gain;
In face of these doth exercise a power
Which is our human nature's highest dower:
Controls them and subdues, transmutes, bereaves
Of their bad influence, and their good receives:
By objects, which might force the soul to abate
Her feeling, rendered more compassionate;
Is placable—because occasions rise
So often that demand such sacrifice;
More skilful in self-knowledge, even more pure,
As tempted more; more able to endure,
As more exposed to suffering and distress;
Thence, also, more alive to tenderness.
—'Tis he whose law is reason; who depends
Upon that law as on the best of friends;
Whence, in a state where men are tempted still
To evil for a guard against worse ill,
And what in quality or act is best
Doth seldom on a right foundation rest,
He labours good on good to fix, and owes
To virtue every triumph that he knows:
—Who, if he rise to station of command,
Rises by open means; and there will stand

On honourable terms, or else retire,
And in himself possess his own desire;
Who comprehends his trust, and to the same
Keeps faithful with a singleness of aim;
And therefore does not stoop, nor lie in wait
For wealth, or honours, or for worldly state;
Whom they must follow; on whose head must fall,
Like showers of manna, if they come at all:
Whose powers shed round him in the common strife,
Or mild concerns of ordinary life,
A constant influence, a peculiar grace;
But who, if he be called upon to face
Some awful moment to which Heaven has joined
Great issues, good or bad for human kind,
Is happy as a Lover; and attired
With sudden brightness, like a Man inspired;
And, through the heat of conflict, keeps the law
In calmness made, and sees what he foresaw;
Or if an unexpected call succeed,
Come when it will, is equal to the need:
—He who, though thus endued as with a sense
And faculty for storm and turbulence,
Is yet a Soul whose master-bias leans
To homefelt pleasures and to gentle scenes;
Sweet images! which, wheresoe'er he be,
Are at his heart; and such fidelity
It is his darling passion to approve;
More brave for this, that he hath much to love:—
'Tis, finally, the Man, who, lifted high,
Conspicuous object in a Nation's eye,
Or left unthought-of in obscurity,—
Who, with a toward or untoward lot,
Prosperous or adverse, to his wish or not—
Plays, in the many games of life, that one
Where what he most doth value must be won:
Whom neither shape or danger can dismay,
Nor thought of tender happiness betray;
Who, not content that former worth stand fast,
Looks forward, persevering to the last,

From well to better, daily self-surpast:
Who, whether praise of him must walk the earth
For ever, and to noble deeds give birth,
Or he must fall, to sleep without his fame,
And leave a dead unprofitable name—
Finds comfort in himself and in his cause;
And, while the mortal mist is gathering, draws
His breath in confidence of Heaven's applause:
This is the happy Warrior; this is he
That every man in arms should wish to be.

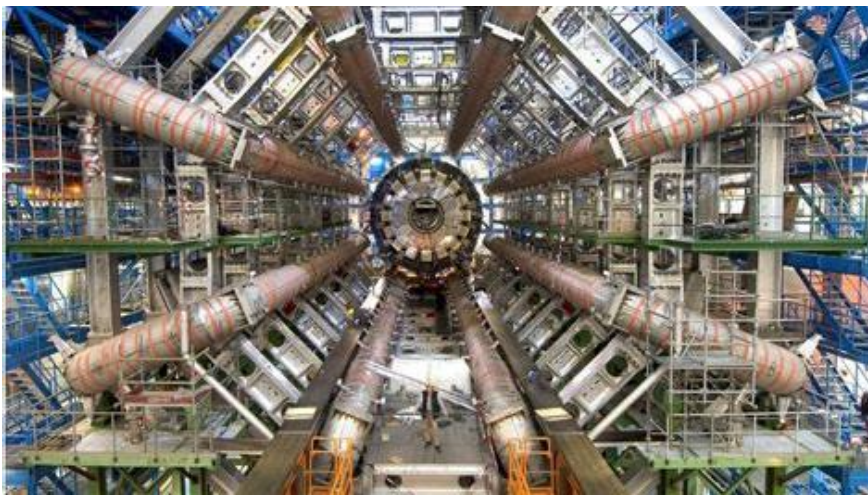
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The steaks have
never been higher



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Huge Atom-Smasher Bid to Find Missing 95% of Universe



bbc.co.uk

Researchers at the world's biggest particle accelerator in Switzerland have submitted proposals for a new, much larger, supercollider.

But its £12bn price tag has raised some eyebrows, with one critic describing the expenditure as "reckless".

That money - which is only the initial construction cost - would come from member nations of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) including the UK, and some experts have questioned whether it makes economic sense.

<https://bit.ly/48a3EO3>

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Happy 100th Birthday, Cheeseburger!



Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History

With millions gathering across the country today, cheeseburgers — a staple of American cuisine — are sure to be fired up on the grill. As it turns out, this is an extra special year for the summer cookout must-have, because the cheeseburger hit triple digits this past January.

The story goes that in 1924, Lionel Clark Sternberger (yes, that's his real name) slapped a slice of cheese onto a hamburger at his father's restaurant in Pasadena, California, the Rite Spot. It's still a mystery if he used the cheese to hide that he burned a patty or if a creative customer asked for it — but either way, it was a hit. Soon after, the eatery began charging 15 cents for the cheesy creation and called it the "Aristocratic Burger: The Original Hamburger With Cheese." [You can see it on the century-old menu here.](#)

Rite Spot isn't the only place that claims to have invented the delicacy, though. A drive-in owner in Colorado attempted to trademark the cheeseburger about a decade later, so some say the credit officially goes to Louis E. Ballast. But he never finished the

process: "That's why I'm not a millionaire," David Ballast, Louis' son, told The Denver Post in 2011.

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A New Class of 'Hotdoggers' Hits the Road with Relish



Parade attendees wave to Bailey and Harrison as they make their way through Cottage Grove. Ashley Rodriguez

Hotdoggers spend a year, from June to June with four weeks off, driving in teams of two through one of six regions in the U.S. Each hotdogger is paid \$35,600 for the year with Oscar Mayer covering food and hotel expenses as they travel. The Wienermobile might show up anywhere, from grocery stores and state fairs to weddings and birthdays.

*I wish I were an Oscar Mayer Weiner
That is what I truly wish to be
cause if i were a Oscar Mayer Weiner
everyone would be in love
oh everyone would be in love
everyone would be in love with me*

<https://bit.ly/45Pxd7I>

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Chords & Riffs

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)



classicsforkids

Native of Bohemia (now the Czech Republic) Dvořák was the first Bohemian composer to achieve worldwide recognition, noted for turning folk material into 19th-century Romantic music.

In 1884 he made the first of 10 visits to England, where the success of his works, especially his choral works, was a source of constant pride to him, although only the *Stabat Mater* (1877) and *Te Deum* (1892) continue to hold a position among the finer works of their kind.

Dvořák accepted the post of director of the newly established National Conservatory of Music in New York in 1892, and, during his years in the United States, he traveled as far west as Iowa. Though he found much to interest and stimulate him in the New World environment, he soon came to miss his own country, and he returned to Bohemia in 1895. The final years of his life saw the composition of several string quartets and symphonic poems and his last three operas.

Since its epochal world premiere at Carnegie Hall in 1893, Dvořák's "New World" Symphony has become one of America's most popular orchestral works and is considered a breakthrough in its use of African American musical idioms

Serenade for Strings <https://youtu.be/CRcbDMg56yg?t=2>

Cello Concerto https://youtu.be/U_yxtaeFuEQ?t=1

New World 1st Movement Georg Solti <https://youtu.be/9h2RtSMKHAg?t=1>

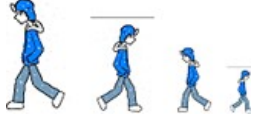
New World 2nd Movement Derek Gleeson... <https://youtu.be/-ENf4VEhI40?t=5>

New World 3rd Movement Herbert Von Karajan <https://youtu.be/-pLIBWyFBIg?t=1>

New World 4th Movement Gustavo Dudamel <https://youtu.be/jVDofBFtwwA>

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My Walking Thoughts



For Sunday July 14 2024

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The Purposes of Basic Training

Before continuing with my exploits in the cockpit of the T-28, I need to tie the syllabus under which I was proceeding to the Naval Aviation Training Command's mission, which is and was "to train, mentor, and deliver to the fleet the highest quality Naval Aviators who will prevail in competition, crisis, and conflict."

Whereas the purpose of Primary Training in the T-34 Mentor was to determine the aeronautical aptitude of students—you can read that as physically, mentally, and emotionally geared to flight--Basic Training went much farther in gauging students abilities to handle the kinds of challenges they would meet in the military aviation environment.

The Basic Syllabus was broken into several discrete stages—A- through G- followed by Carrier Qualification, whose work-up and accomplishment I will explain in boring detail at a later time.

My first flight in the T-28, described in last week's Walking Thoughts, was part of A-Stage, whose syllabus is focused on the student's *transition* to a new aircraft in which he (*he* back then, *he* or *she* since 1973) is introduced to its flight regime, including controls, operations, performance, and flight characteristics, all of which were underlain with both normal and emergency procedures. Double underline the last as these are the ones that tax the student's situational awareness to the max.

In the nine or so hops in A-Stage—*transition*--students are faced with simulated losses of every system, more often than not in tandem with one or more other malfunctions. By the end of A-Stage, I was prepared for an airborne life of continuous catastrophes, and left wondering after moving on to other airplanes why none of these catastrophes happened to me for real.

Though it didn't seem so at the time, B-Stage—*Precision*--was significantly different from its predecessor. The syllabus called for many of the same maneuvers and practices as A-Stage so since most of the flights were 'solo,' all that felt different was the absence of the instructor's voice on the intercom bitching about performance or judgment errors.

From the evaluation standpoint, however, students were watched carefully for their *approach* to precision...or perhaps a better term might be perfection. What the instructors were looking for was how students went about exploring limits—theirs and the aircraft's.

Were they timid, aggressive, too aggressive? Was their exploration rooted in process thinking or was it more 'off-the-cuff?' These were the features B-Stage was designed to tease out and instructors watched for, but that students—at least I—never saw. Subtle or not, they were the ones that determined where we would go next...transports, helicopters, or fighters.

Next week I'll return to my role as junior birdman in the Transition and Precision Stages, and in later episodes detail the features of Instrument, Formation, and Combat Training.

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