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DAZED

Catching Santa without Losing your Eyeballs

By James L. Davis

I never actually caught Santa Claus when he came on Christmas Eve, but it wasn't for a lack of trying. I knew that attempting to catch Santa Claus was an evil thing to do and that if I did catch Santa Claus my eyeballs would pop out of my head and roll across the floor to plopp into the heater duct, but I still tried to catch the jolly old elf every year.

The reason that I knew that if I ever caught Santa Claus my eyeballs would pop out of my head and roll across the floor to plopp into the heater duct is because my older brother told me they would.

I assumed that he knew this because he had met people who had lost their eyeballs to heater ducts after sneaking a peek at Santa Claus working his Christmas magic.

I later became quite sure that my brother had been the one to lose his eyes down the heat duct while spying on Santa Claus. He lost his eyes down the heat duct and replaced them with the eyes from a doll. An evil doll that liked to beat up its

little brother for trying to sneak up on Santa Claus.

It was a compulsion that I was powerless to resist, but even though it was powerful, so was my desire not to be beaten or lose my eyeballs, so I was careful not to be caught in the act of sneaking up on Santa.

On Christmas Eve my parents would put my older brother and I to bed sometime after 6 p.m. They said they did this because our house was one of the first stops on Santa's list.

While we waited for sleep to overtake us we talked about Christmas and what we hoped would be waiting for us in the morning and since I was closer to the ceiling than my brother, I listened for the first faint taps of Rudolph's hoofs on the roof.

And while we waited, and I listened to my brother talk about all the things he hoped we would get, I could feel the magic taking place right outside our bedroom door.

Santa may not be there yet, but he was close, ohh so tantalizingly close and my heart would skip a beat or two at the thought of Santa right on the other side of the door, sipping the milk I had left for him and softly chewing the cookies I had carefully placed on the plate on our

kitchen table. I could close my eyes and see him smile as he swallowed the cookies, peanut butter cookies, of course, my favorite.

Eventually my brother's endless chatter ended and with one ear I listened for my brother's breathing to deepen and with the other I listened for reindeer sounds on the roof.

And just as sleep was beginning to push on my own eyelids something made them fly open once again. There was a noise on the roof! I was so very sure of it.

As a boy I had the ability to actually turn my skeletal frame into gelatin, which enabled me to hide in places that no normal adult (or older brother) would ever think to look. It also enabled me to slither from my place in the center of my bed to the edge of my bed without ever actually using any of my limbs.

I stared down at my brother and smiled happily. His evil doll eyes were closed, and his mouth was open, which meant he was sound asleep. I knew this because when his eyes were closed, and his mouth was open like that I could drop lint balls from my pillow into his mouth and he would never wake up.

So, with my brother asleep and Santa in the

living room I risked losing my eyeballs forever and slithered out of my bed, out the door and down the hallway.

As I neared the living room the sounds I had been so very sure that I had heard were no longer there and when I finally dared sneak a peek into the living room Santa was not there.

But he had been! The toys encircled the Christmas tree and the only light in the room, the only light in the whole house was the soft glow of the Christmas lights.

Yes indeed, he had been there, you could feel his magic in the softly blinking star atop the tree, you could almost see his magic dust dance across the toys he had left and when I looked on the kitchen table the milk and cookies were gone. I knew he would love them.

So, as I sat there in the middle of the room I realized that I didn't want to catch Santa Claus at all. I just wanted to be the first one to see the magic of Christmas morning. I wanted to feel the magic of dreams realized and wishes granted and milk and cookies eaten.

I wanted to catch a little of that Christmas magic and hold it in my hands...and not worry about my eyeballs rolling into the heat duct. *(Davis is editor of Serve Daily.)*



FOCUS

Nebo Orchestra strengthens communities through music

By **Josh Martinez**

Making symphonic music accessible is the name of the game for the Nebo Philharmonic Orchestra. This community orchestra, which is based in south Utah County, aims to accomplish this goal on two fronts: for the concert attendees and the musicians.

As part of this focus, all of the orchestra's concerts are free and membership in the non-profit orchestra is open to all in the community who want to share their musical talents.

Orchestra president Windy Shaffer said she has these goals because

music is the universal language and can make a lasting impact on others..

"So many people can testify how important music is as far as being able to bring a community together, bringing a person, internally, at peace with themselves as well as to be able to be in a group of peers as a musician [and] to be able to play with people who make the same kind of music we appreciate," Shaffer said.

The orchestra is an all-volunteer group with a variety of instruments, including strings, winds, brass and percussion. Members of the orchestra

come from between Provo and Nephi.

The orchestra, according to its mission statement, seeks to "enhance the community of south Utah County by performing live symphonic music.

"Our two-fold mission is to create a welcoming environment for adult musicians, both musically and socially, who have a diversity of skills and experiences as well as to provide audiences the opportunity to enjoy music in cost-effective venues."

The Spanish Fork Arts Council organized the orchestra in 2006. Seven years later, the orchestra became inde-



Photo courtesy of Nebo Philharmonic Orchestra

The Nebo Philharmonic Orchestra is open to anyone but most members live between Provo and Nephi.

pendent and expanded its services to the surrounding communities of south Utah County,

according to the orchestra's website.

The orchestra has several annual tradi-

tions, including Harvest Moon Hurrah

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Arts Commission sponsors Handbell Choir concert

By **Ginny Ackerson**

The Utah Valley Handbell Ringers have been a Christmas tradition at the Springville Museum of Art for many years, and they are returning to perform at the museum on Dec. 12 at 4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Springville Arts Commission, this concert is free to the public. The Handbell Choir has had many remark-

able performances, including filming a Holiday Pizza Hut commercial, auditioning for America's Got Talent and appearing on the Channel 4 Morning Show.

They have performed in many places, including Salt Lake City's Cathedral of the Madeleine, the Provo Tabernacle, and Disneyland.

There are 56 bells in their collection, cast in aluminum or bronze and each tuned to a single, beautiful note.

The Utah Valley Handbell Ringers was founded in 1993 by Karen Eskew-Wyllie. Karen directed the group for 27 years, teaching and inspiring musicians in Utah County.

Her passion for handbells has been a gift to the community.

It was very important to her that membership in the choir should not be tied to any other organization or religion, as many handbell

choirs are. The Utah Valley Handbell Ringers remains a community choir, and we value this as one of our greatest strengths.

Karen and her husband, Neil, retired to Florida in 2020, but they continue to be the greatest support, allowing the Choir to use their 4-octave handbell and chime sets.

Next month, on Jan. 16, you will have a foot tapping and exciting experience

listening to the group An Rogaire Dubh (The Black Rogue). They are a group that plays traditional Irish music on traditional Irish instruments, all for the love of the culture and the craft. Founded by Joe Perry, Pipe Major of the Thomas Cordner Pipe Band, the musicians of An Rogaire Dubh play concerts, festivals and private events all over the Utah and Salt Lake Counties. (*Serve Daily submission.*)

Nebo

From **Page 3**

in Spanish Fork, the Salem Pond Christmas Lighting, and several children's concerts at the Springville Library.

Over the years, the orchestra has collaborated with the Payson Civic Chorale, Spanish Fork Chorale, Pleasant Grove Orchestra, Utah Philharmonic Orchestra, Utah Valley Handbell Ringers and high school groups from Spanish Fork and Salem Hills.

Shaffer has had a lot of fun with the orchestra over the years,

playing a variety of instruments including the cello and tuba, but the actual playing of instruments isn't her favorite part.

"More than anything, it's the sense of community," she said. "The sense that I'm not alone. The ability to play music as a group as an entity is definitely greater than the sum of its parts."

When Shaffer talks about community, she's not only referring to the civic community, but also the musical

community.

Those who join the orchestra, Shaffer said, come from myriad backgrounds, such as retired professional musicians to those who haven't played for years.

Forging a bond with these orchestra members is a lot of fun, Shaffer said, because they connect on both a human and musical levels.

"People have had major life challenges, people who have been fairly successful in

what they do and we really just all come together and support each other no matter what path our life is currently taking," she said.

As for the civic community, Shaffer said she has received a lot of positive feedback.

"Most people are just really impressed," she said. "A lot of them didn't know we even existed until they heard us and then a lot of people are impressed when they hear Joe-schmo community

members can make pretty decent music."

Generally, the orchestra is open to all who want to participate. Shaffer said in order to keep a balance of instruments, orchestra leaders may have to be more selective when it comes to adding members.

She said those interested are welcome to sit through rehearsals to see if the orchestra is for them. Shaffer said a community orchestra is about giving what you can and enjoying

the moment despite any perceived flaws or unrealistic expectations.

"You're going to accept that I'm going to do my best, I'll hit what notes I can and the rest I'm going to let go because being there and making music is far more helpful to our souls and to our community than hiding because it's not perfect," she said.

To learn more about Nebo Philharmonic Orchestra, visit nebo-phil.org.



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‘O Christmas Tree!’

Jensen Family Christmas Trees continues 64-year family tradition

By **Arianne Brown**

Not much beats the smell of a pine tree at Christmastime, and one local family has been bringing that scent into the living rooms of homes since 1957.

Jensen Family Christmas Trees, which can be found at Payson Market, began with a simple family Christmas tree cutting tradition, according to owner Chris Jensen, who was just a little boy at the time. He said that it is this tradition that his family wants to bring to families all over the county.

“In 1957, my dad started taking us up to cut a tree for Christmas on property owned by the forest service,” Jensen said. “We grew up playing in the mountains, and it was just a great time for our family to have this tradition. In 1962, my dad bid on some property to get the rights to cut trees down and sell them at Christmastime, and that’s how Jensen Family Christmas Trees began.”

Jensen said that the business has been in the family some way or another since it began, and he has been in charge of it for the past six years.

He said that while it is a lot of work, he loves being able to provide a piece of Christmas to families.

“We start cutting trees and hauling them down at the beginning of November, and go through Thanksgiving,” Jensen said. “I have my sons who help me to get the trees down here, and it is a lot of work, but we love it. I just love the feeling of old Christmases, and having evergreens really brings that old Christmas feeling. I also love what the trees themselves represent. The trees are forever green, which represents eternal life, and the needles all point upward toward the heavens.”

Along with what Jensen says the trees themselves represent, he said that he and those who work at the lot, really try to make the experience of choosing a tree, a good one for all.

“We want to make sure that those who choose a tree have a good experience,” Jensen said. “We actually hide little stuffed animals throughout the lot in different trees, and we have children who come, go and find a stuffed animal to bring home. Picking a tree is a family experience, and we want to make sure all who come, feel that.”

Jensen Family Christmas Trees are available for sale at Payson Market on 586 North Main Street. *(Brown is a Serve Daily contributor.)*



Courtesy photo

Jensen Family Christmas Trees at Payson Market started with a simple family tradition.

Expanded Community Art Center reopens

By **Julia DeLeeuw**

Neighborhood Art Center is celebrating the major expansion of its Community Workshop space With a free grand reopening event at Provo Towne Center on Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m.

For four years Neighborhood Art Center has been dedicated to

providing the community of Provo with affordable access to hands-on art exploration.

A \$5 entrance fee gives patrons full access to the open studio space, tools, and supplies where they can create artwork and explore new art mediums like screen printing,

wall painting, paper crafts, and textile art to their heart’s content.

Individuals and families can also enjoy specialty art classes and courses like a six-week hand-on art history course, or the weekly “KinderArten” sensory art class for ages 2 through 6.

The new expansion

will almost triple the previous space and will allow for additional art exploration offerings, such as an art library, clay art station, seasonal crafts, and the space to accommodate art shows, additional classes, and bigger groups.

The community of Provo and neighboring cities are invited

to attend the grand reopening celebration. Admission is free and includes a special holiday craft activity, catered focaccia pizza, treats, interactive booths, fundraising raffle, silent auction, artbook drive, and exploring the new expanded space.

“We have outgrown

our old space. This expansion will open up new possibilities for the Neighborhood Art Center and give us more opportunities to bring art to our community in a fun and accessible way,” said Tallia Feltis, Founder and Executive Director of Neighborhood Art Center.

Payson native earns All-American title

By **Arianne Brown**

In June of this year, *Serve Daily* introduced you to Payson native, Summer Allen who competed at the 2021 Olympic Trials for the steeplechase, finishing at a more-than-impressive 11th place. Allen did this all while balancing life as a full-time student at Weber State, not to mention the responsibilities that come with being a wife and mother.

Fast forward to Nov. 20, Allen competed at the NCAA National Cross-Country meet in Tallahassee, Fla., and came home with All-American status for the second year in a row. This time, however, she wasn't alone. This year, her husband, Christian Allen, who also runs for Weber State, qualified for the national meet. The two, who are parents to a 2-year-old son, have been coined "The first couple" of Weber State Cross Country.

According to Summer, however, qualifying for Nationals was more challenging than she had hoped.

"After training and competing all summer with the Olympic trials, I was really tired," Summer said. "I wasn't at the fitness level I wanted to be at, at pre-nationals, and I was having negative thoughts about running. I actually had a terrible race at pre-nationals and was feeling really down."

That's when Summer said, her husband stepped in to help her get out of her funk.

"My husband knew that I was tired, and that things weren't going very well," she said. "He validated my feelings, and let me know that my fitness was there, but I needed to do some work on my mental game. He asked me how bad I wanted this, and that helped me dig deep to see how badly I actually did want it. I got in to see

the sport's psychologist who helped me work through some negative feelings, and I started keeping a gratitude journal."

It was then, when she said she started to have a shift in perspective, and she began to see improvements in her times. In fact, at the conference championships, Summer had a lifetime personal record in the 5K at 16:33, which qualified her for the National Championships.

"It was kind of interesting to race at nationals because it was the same course as pre-nationals," she said. "I kind of got to do a do-over, and see what things worked and didn't work. At pre-nationals, I got boxed in at the start, and I made sure that I didn't do that this time. It was so hard, though, because the race was so fast. I remember thinking about halfway through, that the pace was really fast. With

about 2K to go, I heard someone say that I was at about 50th place, and I had to crack the top 40 if I was going to be an All-American."

Even with the pace moving fast, Summer found another gear.

"I started passing people, and I kept hearing different placings being shouted out, but I wasn't sure what place I actually was in," she recalled. "All I knew was that I had to keep passing people if I wanted a chance at being an All-American. With about a quarter mile to go, I heard my dad yell that I needed to go now! I knew I needed to give it all I had but I just kept pushing."

Not long after crossing the finish line, Summer found out that she had finished 35th, which would give her that All-American title.

"My placing this year wasn't as good as last year's 7th place, but I actually ended



Courtesy photo

Summer Allen, with encouragement and support of her husband, Christian, was able to get back on track in her training and was named an All-American at the NCAA National Cross-Country meet in Tallahassee, Fla.

up getting my fastest time, which was a 19:54," she said. "This year was actually more rewarding because of all that I had overcome to get there. It was also awesome to watch my husband race and also become an All-American."

And while Summer has one more indoor season left before graduation, this race was Summer's last cross country race, and what a way to end it! (*Brown is a *Serve Daily* contributor.*)

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Giving Machines return to University Place for holidays

By **Jennifer Durrant**

In 2019, we watched as children donated their savings to help local kids in need. We also witnessed families lining up patiently to give to people in need in our community. Their generous donations through the Giving Machines in Orem resulted in \$230,000 for Community Action Services and Food Bank, which we used to help people in need throughout Utah, Wasatch, and Summit counties.

“It helped so many people in 2019,” says Karen McCandless, Community Action Services and Food Bank CEO. “We had no idea what to expect, and we were grateful for anything. We cried with

how many people we were able to help.”

The machines took a COVID hiatus in 2020, but they’re back and ready to help people in need all over the world! We’re again grateful that we’re included on the shortlist of local charities in the Giving Machines at University Place in Orem.

The Giving Machines are like regular vending machines, but with a twist: You make a selection and swipe your card to pay. Instead of getting a soda or candy bar, though, you give directly to a charity and help someone in need. One hundred percent of donations go to the charities; The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints covers all the other expenses, including credit card fees.

This year’s Giving Machines are located around the country and have staggered opening dates. For example, the Orem location at University Place and another is open at the City Creek Center.

Every Giving Machine location is affiliated with different local charities as well as global charities like UNICEF and WaterAid. In addition to Community Action Services, the Orem location will include these local causes: United Way of Utah County, The Center for Women and Children in Crisis, Family Support and Treatment Center.

We’ll have five options available for giving to Community Action Services: Take-

home meals for a child, \$5; Pantry staples for a senior, \$15; Full holiday meal for a family, \$30; 100 meals, \$50; 300 meals, \$150.

We direct the donation exactly the way donors intended when they made their purchase. We’ll get a list with the donated amount for everything on the giving menu, so we’ll be able to budget precisely for those items.

We’re so happy the Giving Machines are back this year and ready to help people in need here and around the world.

If you would like to give but can’t make it to University Place, you can earmark a donation through our communityactionprovo.org. (*Serve Daily submission.*)



Courtesy photo

The Ashcraft family ponders what items they will donate during the 2019 Giving Machines opening night at University Place in Orem. The 2021 Giving Machines are now open.

Chairbound Sportsman help restore lost dreams with pheasant hunt

By **Ed Helmick**

The Chairbound Sportsman Organization is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization of volunteers who help wheelchair bound and disabled people have hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

Many after their injury or medical diagnosis thought they would never be able to hunt or fish again. The Chairbound Sportsman volunteers are here to make what were once lost dreams possible.

A pheasant hunt was held in November at

Earl Southerland’s 4-Mile Hunting Club located off Highway 28 southeast of Nephi. Southerland raises and sells the game birds for hunting. Twenty-two people showed up at the hunting lodge, either as hunters or volunteers to assist with the day. Several 4X4 quads were set up with a seat and seat belt mounted on the front of the machine for the hunter.

A couple of ATVs also served as hunting platforms, and the Chairbound organization brought their two Action Track Chairs. After a safety briefing,

the hunters mounted up on their hunting machines. A couple of the paralyzed hunters were lifted by the volunteers on the forward seat of a quad or track chair.

Then there was a short drive to the hunting field which gradually sloped up the mountain with abundant natural brush cover. It was here that everyone met Shawn Heaton and his four bird dogs. They were amazing animals to watch as they did their job locating and retrieving the downed pheasant. The hunt started about 8:30 a.m. and it was obvious that

everyone enjoyed the challenge of the hunt. After about two hours and 25 pheasants the dogs were getting tired. So were the hunters.

The Chairbound Sportsman provided lunch back at the hunting lodge. Lunch time conversation centered on the joy of being involved in a game bird hunt and enjoying the outdoors. This is exactly the purpose of the Chairbound Sportsman Organization.

The last event of the Chairbound Sportsman is their annual Christmas Dinner at the Provo Elks Lodge on the



Photo by Ed Helmick

Chairbound Sportsman help wheelchair bound and disabled people have hunting, fishing, and other activities.

evening of Dec. 11. This is a thank you dinner for all those who have been involved with the Chairbound Sportsman. While this is not a fund-raising event, donations are always

appreciated to keep the good work of this group going. For more information contact Kenneth Vaughn at Kenneth.Vaughn@gmail.com or call (801) 499-9770. (*Serve Daily submission.*)

Cowboy's Kitchen offers great meals for those passing through small town

By Ed Helmick

For years we have driven past the Cowboy's Kitchen restaurant on the north side of State Route 6 in Wellington on our way to Nine Mile Canyon or the San Rafael Swell, or Moab. I am sure many people have done the same.

On the west end of the building is a covered wagon that catches our eye and a couple metal cut western era art pieces that we hardly notice in our quick pass by. The exterior does not look that inviting as we are focused on our destination. However,

we have wondered in curiosity what was behind the long light tan brick wall that advertised itself as the Cowboy's Kitchen.

A few weeks ago, I received a call from the granddaughter of one of the historical people referenced in our Discover Nine Mile Canyon book and she wanted to meet us at the Cowboy's Kitchen. As soon as we stepped inside the impression was "wow, this is a real restaurant" and nicely decorated in a comfortable style.

My wife ordered a Sirloin Salad, and I ordered the Chef's Salad,

for \$12.95 and \$11.95. The Salad bowls were 12" oval bowls. Neither of us came close to eating our way to the bottom of the bowl. The salads also came with a small loaf of fresh baked bread.

A week later passing back through Wellington on our way home we met up again with our new Nine Mile Canyon historical resource and again met at the Cowboy Kitchen. This time my wife and I had the Sautéed Sirloin, which came with a baked potato and soup or salad, and of course their signature fresh baked loaf of bread, for



Photo by Ed Helmick

Cowboy Kitchen in Wellington offers great homemade meals at reasonable prices for those traveling State Route 6.

\$13.95. The food portions were large, and we left with take-home boxes.

Wellington's Cowboy's Kitchen was established in 1972 by Glen Wells, who has been at the restaurant every time we have stopped by, which is now every time we drive through Wellington at mealtime. They

are open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Everything is homemade, like the noodles for the chicken noodle soup. They grow their own potatoes, and the mutton stew and lamb chops come from the sheep the Wells family has raised.

The potatoes come from their own farm. It is an uncommon

restaurant in this age of chain restaurants.

A popular place with the locals because it is great food at a good price. But, not well known to the out of towners driving through.

The next time you drive through Wellington, discover the Cowboy's Kitchen. (Serve Daily submission)

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Tour takes visitors through a land that time forgot

By Ed Helmick

What today is barren desert and stark mountain terrain of Utah once was a humid tropical forest, an inland sea, still lagoons, and at some point in time, a tremendous amount of volcanic activity occurred. That was the image of a world that somewhat resembled what we saw in the 1993 movie Jurassic Park.

Utah is one of the richest locales on the planet for evidence of the dinosaur era, with 115 confirmed species identified within the state. One area where anyone can witness this long-ago evolution of this part of the Earth is within a 50-mile radius of Ticaboo, Utah.

Ticaboo is about 50 miles south of Hanksville and is bordered on the north by the Henry Mountains, on the east by the northern end of Lake Powell, and on the west by Capital Reef National Park.

It's a huge area predominantly under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. And the area has a vast network of roads and trails suitable for ATVs and 4X4 SUVs.

Exploring the area takes the visitor to amazing scenic viewpoints, and abundant human history, including ancient rock art. Some areas are rich in petrified wood and evidence of the dinosaur age.

These back roads are not well known and rarely utilized except by ranchers and in years past, uranium miners.

It's a land not yet crowded with tourists and today begs to be explored by the adventurous.

At the old town site of Ticaboo, originally a uranium company town, at milepost 27 on Highway 276 is a modern resort and base camp facility that's a great starting point for exploring the area. On Nov. 5-6, the Ticaboo Resort conducted its third annual "ATV Rally in Bullfrog Valley."

The theme was the geology and dinosaur history of the area. Two tour routes were utilized on both days of the event to keep the size to fewer 30 vehicles. The tour groups departed at 8:30 and 8:45 each morning and were back at Ticaboo base camp at about 4 p.m. Dinner was

included in the event registration.

One route was a scenic loop around Mount Hiller, the southernmost mountain and third highest at 10,737 feet of the Henry Mountains. The southwest and southern side of the mountain is extremely colorful and rugged as a result of intrusive lava bodies that deformed the host rocks. A stop was made at the historic Al Starr stone house.

The panoramic views of mountains and desert areas made this an astonishing tour after climbing from the foothills below.

The other route was a paleontologic tour. Dr. Josh Lively, paleontologist from the Utah State University's Prehistoric Museum in Price, participated in the guided tour both days. Several stops were made to discuss the geological history in the exposed rock formations.

In an area of mancos shale beneath the Indian Spring Benches near a point known on maps as Eggnog, a large area of exposed fossilized ancient oysters was exposed. These long extinct creatures are commonly called devil's

toenails and technically are known as *Pycnodonte newberry*.

A little further down the road, Lively set up an exhibit table to display items he brought from the Price Museum.

Included was a casting of a skull from a *Gastonia burgei* found in the Cedar Mountain area and named for Dr. Donald Burge, past director of the university's museum in Price.

Clearly, this outing had become more than just a drive into the desert. It was a wonderfully educational experience about a lesser-known part of Utah and its prehistoric past.

Before returning to Ticaboo, the trail ride stopped at a viewpoint overlooking a geological feature known as the Waterpocket Fold. It was an awesome sight with a double arch on the west side of the canyon, another trail that offered incredible photo opportunities.

The distance people traveled to reach this event was as amazing as the event itself, one couple traveled almost 900 miles from Idaho for this ATV ride. It was

more than a collection of ATVs zipping around the desert. It was an educational experience. Many lifelong Utahans had never been to this area, so the exposure to the region was a learning experience about the state. The knowledge that Lively shared about the geology and paleontology of the area gave the participants an understanding of Utah's ancient history.

Ticaboo Resort is already planning a fall 2022 ATV event scheduled for Nov. 3-7 and Lively is on the agenda again. A springtime event is also being discussed, and that is when the wildflowers bloom.

When you have great areas, such as Bullfrog Valley and the Henry Mountains, the opportunity for fun with family and friends are vast. For more information contact Ticaboo Resort at ticaboo.com .

As a side note, \$15 of the registration fee for this event, which totaled \$3,500, was donated to the USU Prehistoric Museum Paleontology Department. That money will be used to purchase equipment.



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Photos by Pete Hansen

Maria Zambrano (center) started Agape Community Center in Payson 11 years ago after seeing firsthand the good that can come when community members ban together to help each other.

Unconditional Love

Agape Community Center serves with dedication and a giving heart

By **Arianne Brown**

It is a Monday morning and Maria Zambrano is opening the doors of her thrift store in Payson, ready for customers to arrive. Some items she sets out

front —things like rocking chairs, baby cribs and other furniture items let customers know she is open for business. The items out front also let passers-by know what they might find inside.

For the past 11 years, Zambrano has been running her thrift store as a community resource, operating on the model that community members are here to help each other. But it is much more than just a thrift store.

According to Zambrano, Agape Community Center, as it is called, was created in 2010 as a result of Zambrano seeing firsthand what

happens when community members ban together to help each other.

“I used to work with the Nebo School District’s pantry, and we were getting so many items donated that we ended up having yard sales with the extra inventory,” Zambrano said. “We ended up selling many of the items and using the money to help children in orphanages in Mexico. It was really neat to be a part of something that was helping so many people.”

Zambrano’s job with the school district ended in 2010, and it was

around that time as she reflected on her experience working at the pantry, when she decided that she would open her own nonprofit organization that would operate much like a pantry, accepting donations and giving to families and individuals in need.

- Maria Zambrano

Without the security of a regular job, or federal money that school districts and some other thrift stores in the area have, Zambrano would have to find a way to provide for her own family while working toward the goal of helping others in need. That’s when the idea

“It is important for me to give back to the community that has helped me.”



to start her own nonprofit thrift store and community center came to be.

According to Zambrano, the community center has the thrift store that keeps the nonprofit running, and then there is the pantry that includes food, grocery items and other monetary donations. After 10 years of doing what she feels she was called to do, Zambrano says she loves being able to do something that serves so many people. She also expressed her gratitude for those who donate items to both the thrift store and food pantry.

“Agape is a local nonprofit that is owned and operated with the help of community members,” Zambrano said. “We take local donations and distribute them locally. We are a redistributor of food through food banks, we put together backpacks for children in need, and we donate to senior citizens in need on a monthly basis. It is important for me to give back to the community

that has helped me.”

Agape is a Greco-Christian term referring to unconditional love, or the highest form of love, which is charity. Zambrano says that it is this mindset that drives her to keep going even when times are hard.

“I want to feed people. I want to show the love of God to others, and the community center helps to do that,” Zambrano said.

Zambrano said that her ultimate goal is to be able to own her own building so she will be able to have more resources to continue to do what she has set out to do.

“The thing about nonprofits, especially when you don’t have the money from a government, is that you rely on donations to keep you in business,” Zambrano said. “We have to pay rent, and all other business costs, and that takes away from our ability to help more people in need. I would like to be able to eventually have a place that is ours so that we can have more resources to grow



At Agape, the community center has the thrift store that keeps the nonprofit running, and then there is the pantry that includes food, grocery items and other monetary donations.

this and help others.”

For information on how to donate or if you know someone who might benefit from Agape’s services, contact Maria at (801) 658-5158.

Agape Community Center is located on 10 South 900 East in Payson. Store hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. *(Brown is a Serve Daily contributor.)*

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MEET THE LIBRARIAN

‘I Love this Job!’

Bryce Williams of the little-known Salem Library, would love for more to explore the world of words waiting for discovery there

By Kelly Martinez

If you're unaware that Salem has a library, you're not alone.

It would be easy to assume that the bedroom community doesn't have such a resource, but it does. Just ask Library Assistant Bryce Williams, who's been with the library since 2010.

"There are people who've lived here their entire lives and don't really know there's a library here," he said.

"Only about half of our patrons are residents of Salem. We'd love it if more residents of Salem used our library, though."

Of the city's residents who do use the library, most take advantage of its online services.

Children and families account for the majority of Salem Library's patrons, though the staff is trying to change that.

"Right before the pandemic, and continuing through 2020 and into this year," Williams said, "we've redeveloped our general adult fiction section. We're trying

to build it to include more modern titles, akin to what you'd find in a bookstore."

In addition, the library is also striving to update its adult nonfiction titles to include content for readers who prefer narrative-based, true-story accounts.

One of the library's offerings Williams likes most is the Library of Things program.

What started three years ago as a collection of about 30 board and card games that patrons could check out has grown into more than 150 items, and not just games.

"Some of our most popular items patrons check out include a sewing machine, telescope, lawn games, and pickleball paddle sets," he said. "They're items people find useful for short periods of time without having to invest in them."

So, what exactly does a Library Assistant at the Salem Library do every day?

His general duties include circulation of materials, coordinating the interlibrary loan service, program



Courtesy photo

Bryce Williams with Captain America. Captain America knows all about the Salem Library.

planning, website development and maintenance, and running the library's social media pages, which include Facebook and Instagram (search "Salem City Library" on each platform). His favorite task is reader's advisory, which entails helping patrons find suggested reading material.

This has led to curating book-recommendation lists, which you can find on the library's website at library.salemcity.org/book-lists/.

Williams is also excited

about the library's quarterly program aimed at teens 13 and older called Story Swag Bags. You can learn more about this program on the library's website under the "Events" menu link.

Born in Provo, Williams considers himself a Salemite because he's lived and grown up there since 2000. After graduating from Salem Hills High School, he started working at the Salem Library performing basic tasks, such as shelving and helping patrons.

Williams gets to spread his love of library-dom out as he also works part-time at the Utah Valley University Fulton Library. But it's the Salem Library that he pours his heart into. "I love this job, that's why I haven't left it," he said.

If you're so inclined, give the Salem Library a try. Non-residents of the city pay just \$25 per year to use the library's services, the lowest cost in Utah County. (Martinez is a *Serve Daily* contributor.)

MY VIEW

Consider as you move forward

By **Jace Einfeldt**

To many, the month of December rings with a tone of finality.

It's the last month of the year. It's the end of autumn. The end of warm weather for some. Many animals hibernate for the winter. Trees lose their leaves, and their limbs remain bare for months.

December signals the end of the semester, and with that comes term papers, exams, and stressful days of fretful studying. It's the final chapter of one more year around the sun.

As we come to the close of this year, it's hard not to think about endings and about what has happened to us over the course of the last twelve months. How does

your experience over this last year compare to how you envisioned it? Was it exactly how you planned? Were there unforeseen events that altered your year's hoped for trajectory? What changed? What stayed the same? What will you do at the beginning of next year to better prepare for what's to come?

These questions, and many more, might be circulating through your mind over the next month, and as overwhelming and difficult as it might be to evaluate how your year has been, doing so can help you feel personal peace as you move toward the end of the year and into new year.

As your December begins, consider the following ways you can turn

the final month of the year into a month thoughtful and meaningful introspection.

Take some time to write out what you have accomplished. It can be really easy to focus on what you could have done, but as you make a list of the things you have been able to do, you can begin to recognize how you have grown over the last year.

Maybe you didn't exercise every single day and you haven't lost much weight since the beginning the year, but maybe you notice that you've become more patient with yourself and others.

As you note the things you were able to accomplish over the course of the year, you might be surprised at how much you have changed, and this newfound remembrance of the good you've done can motivate you

to keep getting better next year.

Take some time to write down what you can improve for the upcoming year. While it is good to know what you have done well, understanding where you can improve is just as important. In addition to writing down the good you've done, consider writing down how you could have done better and make a resolve to do better. You can make a goal to say one kind thing to your loved ones a day or to change your relationship with food and exercise.

There are many things you can do as the year comes to a close. You don't have to let December feel like the end. As you take some time to evaluate your actions over the last year, you can prepare yourself for a better, more peaceful new year. *(Serve Daily submission)*

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MOVIE BUFF

Red Notice has its moments, but ultimately falls short

By Kelly Martinez

Netflix's "Red Notice" has an all-star lineup that includes Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Ryan Reynolds, and Gal Gadot, but that doesn't keep the film from getting in the way of itself — which it does often.

In spite of its tired action/adventure storytelling devices that are groan-worthy and eye roll-inducing, "Red Notice" is a watchable flick, thanks mostly to the screen presences of its stars.

The story centers on three coveted eggs that once belonged to Cleopatra, two of which are already recovered. In the opening scene, FBI profiler, John Hartley (Johnson), captures world-renowned art thief Nolan Booth (Reynolds) who is attempting to steal

one of the eggs. What happens next sets the stage for an unlikely partnership between the two for the rest of the movie.

Enter another art thief, The Bishop (Gadot), who consistently outsmarts the pair at almost every turn in her efforts to secure the eggs.

She outwits them for good reason, as the story eventually reveals.

While "edge-of-your-seat" isn't an accurate way to describe the storyline, there are twists that might catch some viewers by surprise.

If not, you can at least appreciate director Rawson Marshall Thurber's attempt to keep viewers guessing.

Reynolds' performance brings a light-heartedness to the film that's hard not to enjoy. Witty and

entertaining, many of his lines bring a level of humor to the story that may cause viewers to laugh, though it may not be clear why they're laughing. (Think: dad jokes.)

The buddy chemistry between Johnson and Reynolds comes across well on the screen. That's a good thing given the fact that they spend most of the film together.

Johnson's acting abilities have improved since his first role in 2001's "The Mummy Returns," which is another saving grace for viewers of "Red Notice." His charismatic charm makes Hartley likable.

As for Gadot, her performance is solid, though you might keep seeing her in the light of her role as Wonder Woman, especially in one of the fight scenes.

Then again, maybe that was the director's intention.

If you're expecting a movie that's going to sweep you off your feet, "Red Notice" isn't the one that's going to do it.

That's not saying the movie's not entertaining at all during its nearly two-hour-long runtime.

Officially rated PG-13 for violence and action, some sexual references, and strong language, "Red Notice"—mainly due to an abundance of profanity and suggestive and revealing clothing worn by Gadot—may be more deserving of an R-rating.

If this isn't a deal-breaker for you, then "Red Notice" is at least worth watching for a chuckle or two.

Streaming now on Netflix, "Red Notice"



was originally released in theaters on Nov.

5, then on Netflix on Nov. 12.

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BOOK REVIEW

‘Then She Was Gone’ entertains, but in a somber way

By **Kelly Martinez**

Lisa Jewell’s “Then She Was Gone” is a story that’s based on one of a parent’s worst nightmares: the disappearance of a child.

Laurel Mack is a 50-something mother of three who, at the start of the story, has been dealing with her daughter Ellie’s disappearance 10 years before. Just 15 years old at the time of her vanishing, Ellie was Laurel’s golden child, which makes dealing with the girl’s loss especially difficult.

The trauma of the experience eventually leads to the crumbling of Laurel’s marriage and distancing of her remaining children. Things begin to change for her after a chance meeting in a cafe with a charming

and charismatic stranger named Floyd.

It’s here where the story begins to really get interesting as the two form a relationship that brings Floyd’s daughter, Poppy, into the mix. Poppy’s precociousness and resemblance to Ellie capture Laurel’s heart and rekindles her motherly instincts, which have been dormant for a decade.

Written in a then-and-now manner, “Then She Was Gone” keeps readers guessing about who’s who and what’s up from start to finish. Just when you think you have a grip on a character and his/her role in the big picture – Bam! – the plot turns and thickens.

Jewell’s ability to tell a story makes

the book hard to put down at some points. She unfolds the story expertly, peeling back its outer shell layer by layer until what you thought was happening begins to unravel in light of new revelations.

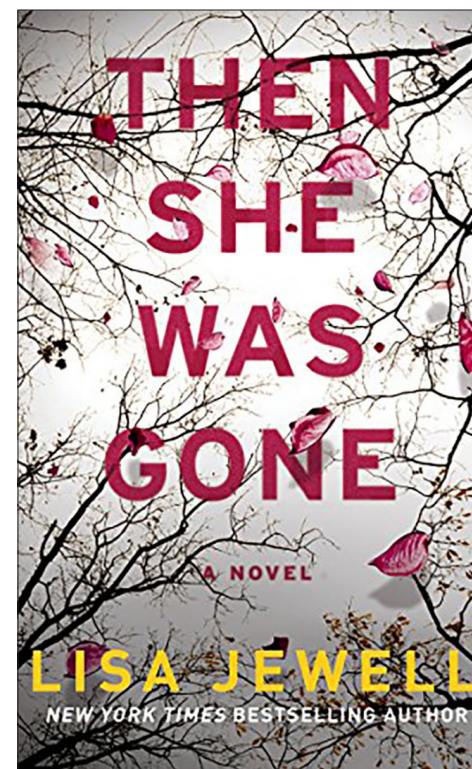
The overall theme of the story is full of mature thematic elements that can cause readers to think deeply about some aspects of marriage and parenting.

For instance, Laurel’s tendency to favor Ellie over her other children may cause parents to consider if they do the same with their children. Or in regards to marriage, is the unthinkable situation of losing a child something that would kill your marriage?

These are just a couple of the thought-provoking elements readers will find within the pages of the book.

Were it a movie, “Then She Was Gone” would likely earn a PG-13 rating due to its occasional profanity and mature elements. Unlike some authors who describe sexual intimacy in detail, Jewell opts to say it happened, then leaves it at that.

Because the author is British, some of the terms and phrases used



in the book might be unfamiliar to many readers. So, if you read the ebook version, expect to use your e-reader’s defining tool often.

Originally released in 2016, “Then She Was Gone” is available in print and digital formats. *(Martinez is a Serve Daily contributor.)*

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LOCAL BUSINESS

Springville/Mapleton Chamber recognizes Erik Busath

Erik Busath grew up in Utah County. In his youth, he loved playing sports and hanging out with friends and family.

He enjoyed his high school years participating in track and cross country in his hometown at Orem High School.

Erik cherishes his time as an essential member of his team.

He is especially fond of his most outstanding high school accomplishment of running

a mile in under five minutes while in track.

Erik graduated from Orem High in 1995 and served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in West Virginia.

In 2002, Erik graduated from Utah Valley University with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting.

Busath stated that a highlight of attending Utah Valley University was the opportunity of participating in the

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance grant program that supports free tax preparation services for low-income individuals, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

In November 2008, Busath began working for HOLT CPA and quickly distinguished himself as a reliable, friendly, approachable, and competent team member.

He has successfully refined his tax and accounting skills and

is a trusted advisor for many clients.

"I think working with the people, that's the best part of my job," Busath said.

While working as a certified public accountant, Erik has attained enrolled agent status. This distinction allows him to represent clients before the Internal Revenue Service.

This prestigious status is the highest credential the IRS awards certified public accountants.

Ever willing to serve and assist in any capacity, Busath has served as the Springville-Mapleton Chamber of Commerce treasurer since 2012.

Erik enjoys working at HOLT CPA, volunteering as an integral part of the chamber, and actively participating in the community. With all that he does and has accomplished, he declared, "my most important role is being a hardworking, loving, and attentive father



Erik Busath

of my four children; Emma, Ashlyn, Austin, and Jake." (*Serve Daily submission.*)

Payson Santaquin Chamber selects The Life Platform as Business of the Month

The Payson Santaquin Area Chamber of Commerce selected Hilary Roberts with The Life Platform as Business of the Month for November.

The Life Platform is a digital platform that has partnered with thousands of stores, restaurants, and other businesses to provide amazing deals. What

makes it unique is that all profits generated by the platform go back to the people.

Perks on the platform include instant cash back, deep travel discounts and savings, exclusive access to a world-class self-development podcast, free Bitcoin rewards (coming early next year), and more.

Hilary has been an

active member of the chamber since 2018. She enjoys attending events, volunteering her time to assist the chamber and local businesses, and building relationships that will strengthen the community as a whole. For more information about The Life Platform, go to savebigapp.com. (*Serve Daily submission.*)



Courtesy photo

Hilary Roberts with The Life Platform was selected as Business of the Month for November.

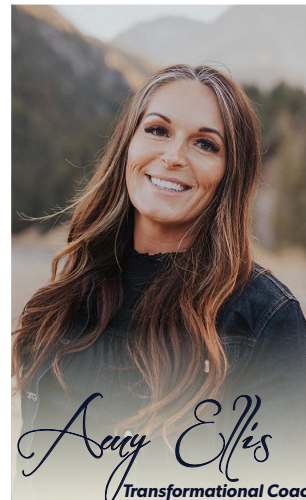
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ALA TEACHERS OF THE MONTH

Kellie Messerly

Kellie is in her seventh-year teaching at American Leadership Academy.

She teaches dance and Yoga and is also the director of the High School Dance Company, Junior High Dance Company and the Coach of the Drill Team.

Kellie attended the University of Utah. Messerly enjoys camping, traveling and spending time with her family, crafting and playing guitar. Her favorite quote and motto in life is "Always be Better than I was yesterday!"



Heidi Mather

Heidi Mather has been working at ALA for seven years now. All of those years were spent teaching Kindergarten. Teaching Kindergarten was the "dream job" that she imagined for herself when she first began working in education.

Mather received her bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and later got her teaching license through the State Program, Alternate Route to Licenser.

"I have gained so much from this journey to achieve my dream of becoming a teacher. I feel it a great honor to have played a small role in educating these children who have touched my life."

Mather has seven children, all of which are currently adults. She enjoys spending time with her family. She has a love for animals as her students are well aware.



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SCHOOL NEWS

Nebo FFA Students Provide Turkeys for Thanksgiving

By Lana Hiskey

The thoughts of purchasing a turkey to prepare for Thanksgiving do not cross most of our minds until just days before Thanksgiving.

However, for Nebo students participating in the Utah State Junior Turkey Program, the preparation of a turkey for Thanksgiving begins in July.

Nebo consistently produces around 1,000 turkeys of the state total for the Utah State Junior Turkey Program.

This is just one program under Future Farmers of America

and the Career Technology Education.

This year Nebo students produced more than 1,000 birds. Nebo is the largest school producer in the state. The students manage the project from hatching eggs, brooding chicks, and then feeding turkeys for 12 more weeks.

The Nebo turkey birds sold out within minutes of posting the sale of the frozen turkeys. Most purchases were from repeat customers. The turkey project allows any Nebo student to get involved and learn the basics of business operations and how

to make a good profit without having to spend a lot of up-front money.

Nebo students provided turkeys for the police department, fire department, Nebo Maintenance Department, and the Nebo School Board over the years.

When the Utah County 4-H provided more than 300 Thanksgiving meals to needy families, Nebo students donated the turkeys for those dinners. All these turkeys are raised and processed by Nebo students and advisors. Many people are involved in making

this program possible: J. Merrill Hallam, Nebo CTE Specialist, who has the vision to create and maintain this program across the district. Alan Ashton, Nebo CTE Coordinator, who provides transportation, feed ingredients, and facilities.

The teachers who work through the summer and provide support to so many Nebo students.

The FFA program is so broad that students can be involved whether they live in an apartment or on a farm. The Nebo FFA programs collaborate closely with Utah State



Courtesy photo

This year Nebo students produced more than 1,000 birds.

University Extension Program on research of similar interests, and the Nebo students share the data with other schools.

Nebo students have also expanded this turkey business to many science fair projects that win at nationals. *(Serve Daily submission)*

Nebo Schools Participate in the State Marching Band Championships

By Lana Hiskey

Schools in the Nebo School District participated in the Utah Music Educators Association State Marching Bands Championships in St. George in during the month of November.

It has been a long, dedicated season for teams and directors.

The season begins the day after graduation each May and includes logging hours of rehearsals, camps, rehearsals, parades, game-time performances, rehearsals, invitational, rehearsals, tournaments, rehears-

als, and the championship performance.

The Maple Mountain Marching Band entered the competition as Region Champions and claimed Third Place at State!

This team is coached by Joshua Hurst.

The Salem Hills Marching Band was awarded the State Scholastic Championship and the Outstanding Color Guard Award.

This team is coached by Ryan Adair.

The Fine Arts Director, Karen Kidd, enjoyed the championship from the stands.

“Watching the differ-

ent components come together is amazing!

Each school brought their own vision and

a production unique to their students,” she

said. *(Serve Daily submission.)*

Maceys Donates to Nebo Food Pantry

Macey’s grocery stores teamed up with local customers to give back to the Nebo Education Foundation and to the Nebo Pantry, specifically for hungry students.

Spanish Fork Maceys donated \$5,932 and Provo Maceys donated \$1,515. Bill Summers, Spanish Fork Maceys General Manager, delivered the check to Lana Hiskey, Nebo Education Foundation Executive Director,

to provide funding for nutritional meals for hungry students.

The students can take these meals home to combat evening and weekend hunger. The Annual Round Up Campaign is designed to ask guests to round up their grocery total to the nearest dollar.

“We love partnering with the Nebo Education Foundation and Nebo Pantry. We love seeing our customers give back. It is an easy

way to give without hurting too much. We hope to make it an annual event,” Summers said.

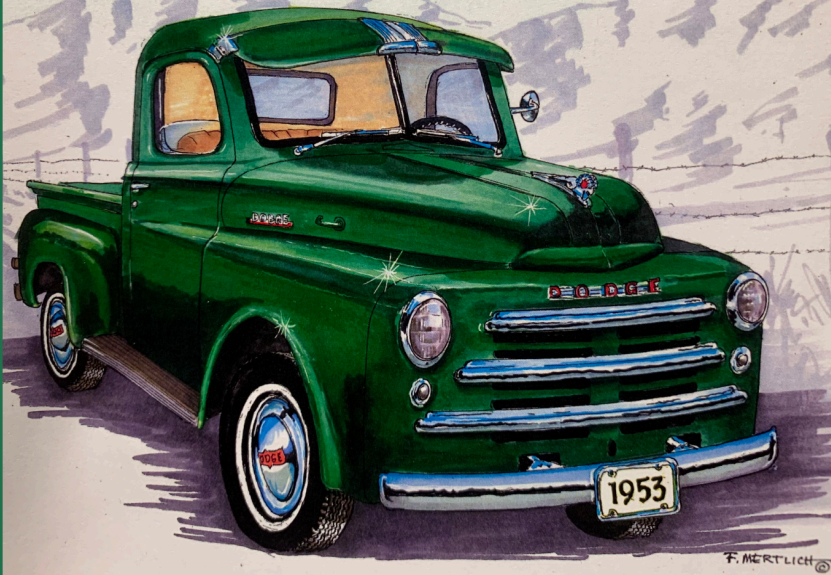
Associated Retail Operations representative, Sarah Pettit, stated, “We know that food insecurity is a real issue that affects one in seven children in the state of Utah. As local grocers, we are dissatisfied with this and believe that we can be a part of the solution. We hope these

funds will serve your students well and will provide a better opportunity for them to learn, grow, and show academic success.”

“These funds will truly help feed our hungry students,” summarized Lana Hiskey. “Our community is so generous; it simply brings tears. Nebo could not offer so many amazing programs without the generous help of so many businesses.”

SEARCHING FOR MY '53 PICKUP

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THE EMERALD QUEEN

Several years ago we moved from Heber to Springville. I sold our 1953 Dodge pickup to a businessman in Heber. I later found out he had sold it. Several of us spent more than a year in that truck's restoration and we are sad it was sold.

I'm now 85 years old and would very much like to find it once more just to check it out. It was green in color with the name "The Emerald Queen" on the tail gate. It had an accompanying trailer painted the same color. It was last seen on Heber's Main Street six years ago as an advertisement for a local drive-in business.

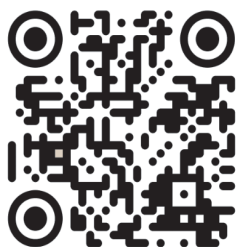
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Captain's Academy instills sportsmanship

By Lana Hiskey

Athletic leaders from secondary schools in Nebo School District gathered on Nov. 20, for Captains' Academy, a program implemented to increase communication and friendship among student athletes and encourage sportsmanship and leadership.

Nebo School District held the Captains' Academy for all Nebo, Provo, and Wasatch School Districts for their junior high and high school sports captains participating in winter sports.

This event, held three times a year, helps the student athletes focus on leadership and sportsmanship.

The student athletes were first welcomed by Dr. Everett Kelepolo, Nebo Athletic Coordinator. The captains then heard from former House Representative 65, Francis Gibson on how to be a great leader. He stated how greatness comes from service, gratitude, listening, and humility. The sport captains learned

about leadership and sportsmanship from various leaders in sports and education, including: Mike Hunter, athletic director at Provo High, that spoke on sportsmanship. He also asked a tough question of each captain, "Is it more important to win or have good sportsmanship?"

Signs of good sportsmanship include being observant, respectful, and treating other fairly. Don't do what you see on social media. We can talk about good sportsmanship, but actions are the most important.

Jentry Youd, assistant principal at Springville Junior, discussed "What is a leader?" and "What is the role of a captain?" During these discussions, the students collaborated in team building exercises to answer questions such as, "How do you as a captain instill sportsmanship at each individual school?"

All of the student captains sit at individual tables with their peers from other junior high and high schools. They listen to each presentation, and then work collaboratively to present back to the entire group their position and ideas.

"Through Captains' Academy, we hope students get a better idea of what it means to lead and the role of sportsmanship in athletics and activities. We hope the student leaders who attend Captains' Academy will take what they learned and support others in their school," Kelepolo said. *(Serve Daily submission.)*

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VIEWPOINT

Good Memories from Hard Times

By **Arianne Brown**

Have you ever taken time to reflect on Holiday seasons of the past? If so, what memories have you found that stood out to you? Was it the time when you were able to buy everyone exactly what they wanted? Or was it the time when you had very little to go around, yet you found that it was the spirit of the season that brought you the most comfort?

As you do an assessment of the Holiday seasons of the past, did you take time to serve others in need, or have you ever been on the receiving end?

I've been doing a lot of self-reflection over the last little while, and as

the holiday season has approached, I have found myself pondering on all of those questions. And as I have looked back, it really hasn't been the times when we checked off the holiday list that have stood out in my memory, but rather the times when we were served, and when we served others.

One year in particular was 2006. I was expecting my third child any day when there was a knock at my door. It was late at night, and my older kids had gone to bed. My family was small, and their needs were not great.

I wasn't worried about affording anything that year, yet on the other side of that door was an older couple dressed up as Santa and Mrs. Clause

carrying a bag full of gifts.

As I looked into the eyes of the people behind the costumes, there was an unspoken sadness – a solidarity even. Mrs. Clause gave me a warm hug, while her husband tearfully looked on.

"We understand you've had a rough couple of months," she said.

She didn't have to say anything else because what wasn't spoken, was felt.

You see, just over a month earlier, I had lost my older sister to suicide. I was grieving, and I felt alone and empty, and I needed someone to love me.

The couple who visited my home may have brought gifts for my sleeping babies who they never did

get a chance to meet, but the spirit of kindness and love was what was needed that night. The clothes and toys (aside from two very durable monster trucks) have long since gone, but the memories and feeling of love has stayed with me for the past 15 years.

The experience that evening has forever been part of our family's story even as we have added children and has been an example to us of how we want to be.

It really is the spirit of the season that will last for generations, and with that thought, I encourage you all to reflect on holiday seasons of the past and see what you can do to replicate that feeling for another. *(Brown is a Serve Daily contributor.)*

FUNNY-ISH

What do you Really want for Christmas?

By **Joe Capell**

"What do you want for Christmas this year?"

That's the big question, isn't it? We'll get asked that question many times over the course of December, and we'll probably ask it ourselves to several people. It can be a tough question, or it can be an easy question.

Some people know exactly how to answer it. "I want an official Red Ryder Carbine-Action Two-Hundred-Shot Range Model Air Rifle!" And some people have no idea whatsoever what they want.

In her letter to Santa (as dictated to my wife) my youngest daughter once said, "Please bring me a present, not a froggy. I want a froggy

and a toy dinosaur and a toy lion in the present." (She ended up getting an elastic toy froggy. She liked it very much.)

There are rumors floating around that, because of supply problems, things might be harder to find this year. Personally, I don't believe the rumors much – I think there will still be plenty of "things" to buy for Christmas presents if we really want them.

But wouldn't it be better if what we wanted for Christmas wasn't "things" you can buy? Playstations and air-fryers and robot drones and Cabbage Patch Dolls

(are those still a thing?) are nice and all, but there are plenty of things that money can't buy that might

make the holidays even better.

So, what do I want for Christmas this year? Oh, I don't know, maybe a few things like:

I would like an end to partisan bickering, so that members of both parties could spend more time working to continue to make this nation a wonderful place to live instead of calling each other names and worrying about getting re-elected.

I would like the Minnesota Vikings to win the Super Bowl this

year. (Just one championship. That's all I'm asking for! C'mon, if Tampa Bay can win it, why can't the Vikings?)

I would like all television commercials to be rated "G." I shouldn't have to have the "birds and the bees" talk with my kids because of an advertisement during a timeout in the basketball game.

I would like good health for me and my family. And my friends. And other people, too.

I would like world peace.

I would like lettuce to taste like bacon.

I would like happiness for me and my family. And my friends. And other people, too.

I don't want to be greedy. I'd be happy for any one of these things. (But, if I have to settle for something that can be bought, I'd be okay with some eggnog and a chocolate cake.)



TRIBUTES

Lisa Marie Corrales Corral
Aug. 8, 1971
Nov. 6, 2021

Our wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend, Lisa Marie Corral passed away on Nov. 6, 2021 surrounded by her loved ones.

She was born to Ben Corrales and Evelyn Corrales on Aug. 8, 1971, in Provo, Utah. She lived her entire life in Springville, Utah, graduating from Springville High, class of 1989 and attended UVU. She married Francisco David Corral and had two beautiful children Sergio and Vanessa.

She was a friend to everyone and anyone she met and always the first to help and support anyone through a difficult situation, she continued to help others with the gift of organ



donation.

She was the life of the party and had a smile that could light up the room.

She loved camping in the Uintas, karaoke, music, traveling and dancing with her family and friends. She had a special bond with her nieces that made her their favorite Aunt.

She is survived by husband Francisco, children Sergio and Vanessa, parents Ben (Marcia) Corrales and Evelyn Corrales, siblings Ben (Heather) Corrales, Stacey King, mother-in-law Lupe Corral and many loving family members. She was preceded in death by her grandparents Joe and Cleo Corrales, Leo and Josephine Martinez, her Uncles Juan Ruiz, John "Freddie" Corrales and Mark Martinez, Cousin Andy Ruiz, sister-in-law Toni Corral, her Aunt and friend Janice Wilson.

We would like to thank all the staff at Utah Valley Hospital

who provided care for Lisa and support for her family and to all friends and family who offered support through this difficult time.

To leave condolences or share a memory of Lisa, visit www.springcreekmortuary.com

Rolf Clive Hoschouer

Rolf Clive Hoschouer, age 66, died Oct. 28, 2021 in his home in Provo, Utah.

Rolf was born on May 28, 1955, in Crescent City, Calif. to Gilbert Leslie Hoschouer and Beulah Vie Foster.

Rolf graduated from Round Valley High School the class of 1973.

Rolf enjoyed sports as a youth and played Little League Baseball, High School Basketball, and Football.

Rolf and Rhonda Young were married



and sealed in the Provo Temple on Oct. 11, 1980.

Rolf was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Lezlie Foster Hoschouer, and his sister Lynn Lisa Hoschouer Herring.

He is survived by Ben Lyle Hoschouer, Lou Vie Hoschouer, his twin Raymund Eli Hoschouer.

Condolences can be offered at www.springcreekmortuary.com.

Rhonda Lynn Young Hoschouer

Rhonda Lynn Young Hoschouer, 65, passed away on Oct. 28, 2021, in her home in Provo, Utah.

Rhonda was born on April 23, 1956, in Queens New York City, to Dale Harry Young and Janice Louise Brown.

Rhonda graduated



from Brunswick High School 1974 where she enjoyed music and planned to major in music in college.

Rolf and Rhonda were married and sealed in the Provo Temple on October 11, 1980.

Rhonda is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her sisters Brenda Young Caron, Debra Young Baker, and Terry Young Peterson.

Services for Rolf and Rhonda were held Nov. 12, 2021.

Condolences can be offered at www.springcreekmortuary.com.

Jane Peery Dietz

Jane Peery Dietz, age 73, of Santaquin, Utah, passed away on Nov. 13, 2021, in her home from the effects of cancer.

She was born on April 21, 1948, in Payson, Utah to Lynn Allen (Sam) Peery and Verl Dene Greaves Peery.

She is survived by children Natalie Archuleta, Nicole (Jake) Wight, Candice

Dietz and Dylan Dietz.

She is also survived by grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Also survived by her siblings, Hal (Rebecca) Peery, Ann Stewart, Joan (Rick) Greenhow and Sue (Kent) Hone.

She was predeceased by her parents, her son, Ryan Blain Neal, grandson Jory Archuleta and brother-in-law Doug Stewart.

Jane was dearly loved by many and will be greatly missed.

We would like to thank Bonnie Ballard Valdez and the caregivers of iCare Home Health and Hospice, for their devotion and the care Jane received in her last months.

Per Jane's request, she will be cremated and there will be no services. To leave condolences, visit www.legacyfunerals.com.



“Don't feel bad if people remember you only when they need you. Feel privileged that you are like a candle that comes to their mind when there is darkness.”

- Anonymous

SD SERVE DAILY



Sue Ann Clement Curtis
June 6, 1963 – October
29, 2021

On the afternoon of Oct. 29, 2021, a bright shining light lit up the surroundings in heaven and all the heavenly spirits asked, "Who is that coming, Lord?" The Lord exclaimed, "Well look here. It is the sweet loving spirit, Sue Ann Clement Curtis. She has returned to us 58 years after she went to explore the earth. It is so good to see you again, little Sue. Come here and give me a big hug, We have missed you so much and have much to catch up on. Why did you stay gone so long?" asked the Lord.

Sue answered, "Fa-



ther, when I got there I first met a great family I chose to stay with. Some of them have already taken this same journey back here. Look, it's my mother ReVoe Clement Jackson", who immediately asked, "Sue Ann, what are you doing here already? I am going to kick your butt", she exclaimed in a loving tone, then a warm embrace for her baby. "There is my father, Bart Clement," who then said, "Hi, sweet little Suzy Q. I sure have missed you."

"There is my sister Marsha Clement," who then said, "I sure have missed you little sister." And there is my nephew, Mark Brewer. But where is the rest of the family?" she asked. After that, everyone joined in hugging and kissing, catching up with grandparents, aunts, uncles, her nephew, cousins, friends, fami-

ly and some she didn't even know. All were so kind and loving.

Then she answered Mark, "You know, the earth is getting crazier by the day and me being the adventurous soul I am, I had to come explore and check out this place first to make sure it is suitable for the rest of my family and friends that I love so very much to follow someday. For now, I left behind my dear husband of nearly 40 years, Jim Curtis. Jim is one of the strongest men I know and will hold things together on earth for now, along with our sons Ricky Curtis, Brandon Curtis, and Robert Curtis. They are all very capable and I know they will all step up to help Jim to guide our grandbabies Kelly, Seth, Triston, Milee, Jaycelyn, and Easton Curtis to grow strong and capable."

"I also left 3 of my siblings behind for support while we're apart. Roger and his wife, Diann Clement, Pam and her husband, William Arbus, Dean and his wife, Cheryl Clement, my brother in law, John Walton, my brother in law, Calvin Curtis, my sister in law, Darlene, as well as many nieces and nephews, my dear friend and cousin, Monica Wayman, dear friend Sabrina Haycock, Aunt Bonnie Hall, and so many family, friends and neighbors that love me dearly, as I do them."

Then she spoke to God, "Please Lord, I would like to send thanks to the doctors and nurses that worked

hard at Utah Valley Medical Center to get me to stay back on earth. They also looked over my husband while he was ill and took great care of him."

"God, this place is so beautiful," she said. "I feel no pain or sorrow, only love and happiness. May I stay and bring the rest of my family here now?" "You may stay, Sue." replied the Lord. "You see, you have brought so much love, happiness and joy to others on earth. You were kind, thoughtful and giving, you passed the final test. Your work is finished on the earth. You have earned this retreat. The rest of your family still have some work to do. How-

ever, you may check in on them anytime, nudge them in the right direction in life on earth and prepare a place for them here in the future. When they pass the final test, and I believe they are ready, I will call for them to take this journey and join us here."

Sue exclaimed, "Thank you, God. I send my love to each of them each and every moment!" "You're welcome, sweet daughter. Enjoy your stay here. I love you!!" "I love you, too!"

Thanks to Janine and Denny Searle and their family for all their love and support. There will be a Celebration of Life to be announced later.

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

- Jane Goodall



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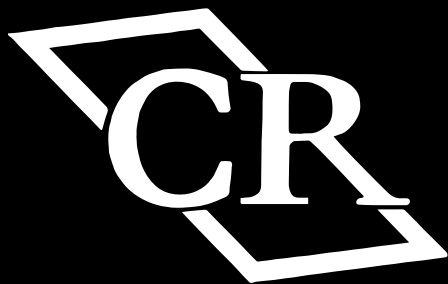


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