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Elucidations & Elaborations

I just got another jury summons. I get at least one every year but sometimes I am really lucky and get two--one for Glendal and one for Glen. I have tried to explain that those two are the same person. Can't they check the address, property tax records, driver's license number or something. What do other people do with these? I know many throw them out. Then what? I guess I have watched too many Jack in the Box commercials. I celebrate jury duty! Not!!! This time I only asked them to defer it until November. Maybe I'll be lucky and go on Thanksgiving and continue through my birthday! I'll let you know how it worked out this year.

Brain Teaser

What are the next four letters in this series.

Y Y H L Y E Y T _ _ _ _

See page 3 for the answer.

Google Art Project: It's Amazing

Are you an art enthusiast? Did you ever wish you could visit museums all over the world? Now you can "visit" and take a "virtual tour" of 17 famous museums worldwide. Earlier this year, Google launched Google Art Project, a collaboration with 17 of the world's most acclaimed art museums. It allows people to view over 1,000 high resolution artwork images and 17 "gigapixel" images. Visitors can take a virtual stroll through the galleries using "Street View" technology.

Nothing can beat seeing a work of art in person, however, the Google Art Project could be the next best thing. Google spent 18 months working with museums including The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the National Gallery in London, The State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg, and Uffizi Gallery in Florence to capture super high resolution images of famous artworks.

Many art museums already provide access to some of their collections online, but Google Art Project is the first that allows virtual tourists to walk through the museum's halls using Street View technology to see how the works are arranged.

Each of the 17 museums selected one artwork to be photographed in super high "gigapixel" resolution. The resultant images each contain around 7 billion pixels, which enables viewers to study fine details such as the brushwork and patina, that can't even be seen with the naked eye.

Visit the [Google Art Project](#) today. It's amazing, it's free, and there are no crowds! Do one museum per day and you will have a 17 day vacation!

Our Changing Earth

I was fascinated by a recent article in the AARP Bulletin regarding changes that have taken place in the last fifty years. Here are some facts as reported by Betsy Towner.

- ❖ Since 1960, world automobile production has increased by 370%.
- ❖ The U.S. share of auto production dropped from 47.9% to 4.6%, China's grew from less than 1% to 21.7%.
- ❖ The average price of a gallon of gas grew from 25 cents to \$3.79.
- ❖ The average cost of a new car rose from \$2,600 to \$27,958.
- ❖ World oil consumption grew 401%, from 21.3 million to 85.8 million barrels a day. U.S. consumption rose (up 198%), so did China's (up 458%), Japan's (724%), India's (1,850%) and Germany's (409%).
- ❖ Average U.S. house size grew from 983 sq. ft. in 1950 to 2,377 sq. ft. in 2010.
- ❖ Home size peaked in 2007 at 2,521 sq. ft.

Here are some additional facts from the article:

- ✓ More than 70 million barrels of crude oil are produced each day.
- ✓ The 806 million cars and light trucks in the world burn 260 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel each year
- ✓ Every square mile of ocean contains 46,000 pieces of plastic trash.
- ✓ Extreme weather may force relocation of 150 million to 200 million people by 2050.

Featured Recipe: Italian Pita Sandwich

1 bag of Fresh Express® salad mix (or whatever you have in the fridge)
1 hard boiled egg, chopped
4 mushrooms, sliced
1/4 cup chopped red onion
4 thin slices oven roasted ham, chicken, or turkey (from the deli), cut into bite sized pieces
1 tomato, thinly sliced
4 slices Swiss cheese, cut in half diagonally
16 thin slices cucumber (4 for each sandwich)
Wish-Bone® Italian Dressing
Salt and pepper to taste
2 pita breads, cut crosswise in half

In a bowl, combine salad mix, egg, mushrooms, red onions, and chicken. Toss with Wish-Bone® Italian Dressing. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Wrap pita breads loosely in paper towels. Microwave on high for 10 to 15 seconds or just until warm.

Open pita bread halves to make pockets. Line the pita bread halves with Swiss cheese, one half on each side.

Spoon salad mixture into pita pockets. Insert 2 tomato slices and 4 cucumber slices along the sides of the salad mixture. Makes 4 sandwiches.

Fun Ways to Eat Pita Bread

Toasted Pita Triangles: Toast pita bread in the oven or under a broiler. Cut into triangles with a knife or pizza cutter, and serve with dips.

Pizza Pitas: Throw some sauce, cheese and your favorite pizza toppings on pita bread and bake in the oven until cheese is melted.

Pita Bread Hot Dogs: Instead of using traditional hotdog buns at your next cookout, wrap the hotdogs in a small pita bread.

Use Pita Instead of White Bread: Grilled cheese, Sloppy Joes, submarine sandwiches are all tasty on pita bread. Wrap them or fill them. They make a good alternative to white bread.

Words about Wine



Wine bottle labels are important in many ways. The main function these days is to draw attention on those crowded shelves. (So much wine; so little time!) There are, however, certain things that must appear on all wine bottle labels.

- **Who made it?** The producers name is the most important information on the label. Ultimately, the quality of the wine will be associated with the producer,
- **What is it made from?** One way or another the label must tell you what variety of grape was used to make the wine.
- **Where was it grown?** The geographical appellation is listed on the label. It may be general or even a specific vineyard.
- **How old is it?** The vintage date tells you the year the grapes were grown to make the wine.
- **The fine print.** Somewhere on the label you will find the alcohol content, produced and bottled by, and a legal advisory. U.S. Wine labels must state “contains sulfites” if sulphur dioxide was used in making the wine, which is the case for most wines. The legal part must also state that “Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery and may cause health problems

Read the label. It’s more than just a pretty picture or image! It has stuff that you might want to know for future reference.

Solitude

There is convincing evidence that the search for solitude is not a luxury but a biological need. Just as humans possess a herding instinct that keeps us close to others most of the time, we also have a conflicting drive to seek out solitude. If the distance between ourselves and others becomes too great, we experience isolation and alienation, yet if the proximity to others becomes too close, we feel smothered and trapped. ~ Jeffrey Kottler

Grill Pan Tips

There are times when the weather is not cooperative or you just don’t feel like going outside to grill the meat or vegetables. It’s time to get out the grill pan. It gives you a wonderful flavor and the food is healthier because the ridges keep the meat out of the fat. Here are some tips for using the grill pan.

- ◆ Heat the pan over medium heat to the desired temperature *before* adding the meat.
- ◆ Oil the food, not the pan.
- ◆ Cook the first side thoroughly so the second side needs less time to cook after turning.
- ◆ After you have added the food, leave it there. When it is ready to turn it will move without sticking.
- ◆ Cool the pan before running hot water over it to remove major particles before washing.

A Final Word

Thanks again for reading the June edition of the newsletter. Pass it along if you know someone who might enjoy it. Send ideas, comments, and questions to [Glen@Glen’s Place](mailto:Glen@Glen's Place).

Until next time remember: When you take away rights from others, don’t be surprised if they try to take some away from you.

Answer to brain teaser: R, R, R, R (The final letters of the months)

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