THE EPOCH TIMES



A Tradition of Enduring Service

In some locales, volunteer first-responders are a necessity. Some of them have served for decades.

DAVE PAONE

im Bracco has been a volunteer firefighter for 64 years. Bobby Troncillito for 58 years. Steve DiLorenzo for 53. Ray Preziosi, the "kid" of the bunch, has been one for a mere a 47. That's a combined total of 222 years of firefighting, all for free.

Family Affairs

Bracco's grandfather, an Italian immigrant, was a volunteer fire chief, and his uncle was a volunteer firefighter as well. Bracco joined at age 18, in 1958. He's been with three departments over the past 64 years and is currently a commissioner.

Troncillito's four uncles were volunteer firefighters, with one being a chief. His father was a firefighter, too. Troncillito never felt pressure to join, but he did, by his own choice, at age 18 in 1964.

DiLorenzo's father was both a firefighter and a commissioner. DiLorenzo joined in 1969, at age 19. He was chief for three years and has been fire commissioner for the past 23.

Volunteer Versus Career

While big cities have full-time, career-first responders who are paid with tax dollars, most suburban and rural communities rely completely on unpaid personnel for both fire and ambulance service.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 67 percent of first responders in the United States are volunteers.

DiLorenzo's department in Highland, New York, occasionally provides "mutual aid" to nearby Poughkeepsie, which has 67 percent of first responders in the U.S. are volunteers.

career firefighters. He believes he and his fellow volunteers are perceived as "inferior," solely because they're not paid for what they do. "We're really breaking that stigma," he told The Epoch Times.

Community Service

Each one of these heroes felt the need to serve their communities in some way from an early age. While there were several organizations in which to do that, they all chose the fire department.

Even as a child, Preziosi gravitated toward fire service. He tricked out his bicycle as a fire truck by attaching a shampoo bottle as a fire extinguisher and a garden hose as a firehose.



Bill Malone has 46 years of service with the Malverne (N.Y.) Volunteer

INSPIRING READS

Heartwarming Tales of Healing, Destiny, and Hope

True stories about a donkey and a plow horse, and the humans they touched

MATTHEW JOHN

To hear "I love you," as your child's first words is something most mothers could only dream of.

For Tracy Austwick, just to hear any words from her daughter-who doctors had predicted would never speak, following an emergency tracheostomy when born 14 weeks premature—was a miracle.

But even more arresting, was to whom—or what—those words were spoken: a gentle giant of a donkey named Shocks. Tracy only happened to overhear Amber's whispered words of affection for the dear creature that had, in her third year of life, effected a mir-

"Amber's Donkey" tells the incredible tale of Amber, who was born a mere 1 pound and 9 ounces, and the unlikely friendship she forged with a beleaguered burro.

The tale of her furry friend, affectionately dubbed "Shocksy," is equally remarkable. He had been saved from the brink of death himself, only a few years before meeting Amber, by the good souls at the Donkey Sanctuary, in England.

Shocks had been found on an Irish farm with a rope so tightly tied around his neck it had dug into the flesh. His callous owner had taken to pouring bleach on the creature's horrid wounds. Few expected him to survive.

While his flesh and fur did manage to slowly recover at the sanctuary and its plush paddocks, the donkey's heart was not so easily mended. The trauma left him timid and isolated. (Quick tidbit: Donkeys are surprisingly social creatures, capable of rowdy play, pranks, and deep and enduring friendships.)

But just as Shocks managed to bring about an awakening in Amber, so too did she in her four-legged friend.

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In some locales, volunteer first-responders are a necessity. Some of them have served for decades.

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the ground, Preziosi would "respond" to the "fire" by hopping on his bike in the garage, rushing to the spigot, connecting the hose, and putting out the fire.

However, Preziosi almost didn't join. He Preziosi describes as "a maniac." He assumed all members were just like him, so Preziosi was hesitant to sign up. It was after speaking to another member who assured him the neighbor was the exception that Preziosi volunteered at age 22. Currently,

Bill Malone is a volunteer, emergency medical technician in Malverne, on New York's Long Island, with 46 years of service. If we add his 46 years of volunteer service to the four firefighters, the new total is 268.

While most departments combine fire and ambulance, Malverne has two, separate units. He decided to join the ambulance firefighters can press a button that lets the corps at age 18 in 1976.

He was inspired to join (in part) because "Emergency!"—a popular TV series at the time—glorified first responders.

Every volunteer understands service is a solid commitment. That means if they sit down for Thanksgiving dinner, and a call comes in, they have to drop what they're doing and go. They understand this, as do

"One, two o'clock in the morning, you get toned out, you get out of bed, and you go to the call," Troncillito told The Epoch Times.

INSPIRING READS

they touched

beautiful whole.

Continued from **B1**

Heartwarming

Tales of Healing,

True stories about a donkey

Destiny, and Hope

and a plow horse, and the humans

How their lives came to be intertwined is

told in remarkably suspenseful prose that

had this reader repeatedly sneaking off to

turn a few more pages and find out just what

happened next. Particularly effective—and

perhaps metaphorical—is how Shocks's

story and Amber's are woven together, be-

ginning at first as two separate points of

view, alternating chapter by chapter, before

eventually merging, like their lives, into one

What might be less apparent at first is how

thoroughly "Amber's Donkey" is also a tale

of courage—not only on the part of Amber

and her twin sister, Hope, but of her parents

Their tenacity to do everything they can for

their dear daughter, even in the face of the

most daunting of medical prognoses, is at

once humbling and inspiring. If we could all

be half as caring, devoted, and selfless for the

Over the years, these firefighters have seen many changes, particularly in equipment, which they refer to as "apparatus."

Troncillito still remembers his very first fire in 1964, when the department arrived in a 1936 American Lafrance firetruck. It was line by hand." Eventually, he was chief for his first day.)

Carole Preziosi, Ray's wife of nearly 40 Father Time

1980s. "It looked better. It was more hip," she told The Epoch Times. The turnout gear When his father dropped a cigarette butt on and the high-hip boots, which he wore when they started dating, was a look she remembers fondly.

The greatest change is possibly in communication. Back in the day, each community had a siren. If a volunteer was in the area at had a neighbor in the department whom the time and heard the siren, he'd rush to the firehouse. The first one there would use a dedicated line to contact either the phone company or a county dispatcher to find out the address of the fire, and then write it on a chalkboard for everyone else to see.

Eventually, this system was replaced with a telephone alert system (which was not run by a central dispatcher, but an operator at the telephone company), and then that was replaced by a home-alert system. That was replaced by pagers, which each volunteer would carry.

Most recently, these have developed into an app on their smartphones, where the chief know they're on their way, although Preziosi feels the smartphone technology isn't as reliable as pagers.

While there's a lot of comradery and laughs within departments, these first responders see a lot of suffering, damaged property, and sometimes loss of life.

Under his watch as fire chief, DiLorenzo had a couple of fatal fires and several fatal car accidents. "Those things you never for-

"Some of the fatals, I remember them like they were yesterday," Troncillito said. "The trauma, and all the stuff that you deal with over the years, sometimes I wonder how we even handle it."

He said back in the day, there were no crisis counselors readily available to speak to if you needed one, as there are today.

Malone said there were times when "I came home and I cried myself to sleep," a brushfire, and Troncillito fondly recalled, but those moments were few. (As of July 11, "I had the privilege of rolling up the booster 2021, Malone had been on 7,479 calls since

years, recalled the turnout gear from the Since there's no stopping Father Time, the



Back in the day, each community had a siren. If a volunteer was in the area at the time and heard the siren, he'd rush to the firehouse.

three eldest firefighters of the group no lon-Ray Preziosi ger participate in the capacity they once did.

on their

in 1982.

wedding day,

Troncillito pretty much drives and operates exterior apparatus and not much more. He no longer enters burning buildings, and he's fine with that. He knows the day will come when he can no longer drive. "When the time comes, I will accept it with no problem at all," he said.

Just this year, Bracco gave up driving due to diminishing eyesight, and he rarely goes to scenes anymore. "If there's a seat on one of the apparatus, I can go and help the pump operator," he told The Epoch Times.

Shrinking Numbers

The number of volunteers in the country is dwindling. For decades, Malverne had EMTs on call 24/7. Malone said when he started in 1976, there were 60 or 70 active

He said now that number is eight or nine, so when there's no one available to respond, the village relies on a nearby medical center. At this rate, the number will fall to zero, at least in Malverne. "That time, I think, is kind of fast approaching," Malone said

When DiLorenzo was issued his badge in 1969, it was number 140. "Now we're up into the 380s," he said. "So 240 people have walked through this door and most of them

He estimates the lifespan of service for most is only four or five years and for some it's just a matter of days because they really don't understand what they're getting into.

"It's hard to explain why we do it," he said. "But I don't see any end to it, for me or these guys."

Behind Every Masculine Man Is a Feminine Woman

ANNIE HOLMQUIST

"Where are all the good men?" is a question you've probably heard asked a time or two in your life. Perhaps, you've even uttered it yourself.

Instead of the manly, John Wayne-types running around, we get boys wearing tight, ill-fighting pants and flowered blouses, sweeping their long hair up into a manbun adorned with a scrunchie. Often these mere externals are also a sign of an internal character that shies away from the hard work and responsibility that once characterized an exemplary specimen of masculinity.

But when we explore possible reasons for the rise of wimpy, effeminate men, we often look in every direction but one—toward women. There's an old saying that behind every good man is a good woman. Today's society tends to think the reverse—that behind every strong woman walks a nonsexist, obliging, feminist man. But what if this is the root of the question as to where all the good men are? Is it possible that we would have stronger, more masculine, good-hearted men willing to take the lead and be good husbands and fathers who provide for their families if there were more good women around?

As a female, that's a hard question to swallow. While I would be remiss to say that the lack of manly men is solely the fault of women, I think it's wise for females to take this question seriously and consider what we can do to encourage the men in our lives to be masculine. Embracing femininity while rejecting feminism seems like one plausible path to pursue.

Feminism, which advocates for women's rights and the equality of the sexes, has been the rising ideology for the past 50 years or so. But even those who have embraced this ideology are realizing that it has its downsides. Feminist author Camille Paglia is one of these individuals. Although she still holds feminist views, Paglia told then-Wall Street Journal associate editor Bari Weiss almost a decade ago that the way to pull men out of the pit we've thrown them into is by allowing women to be womanly again.

Five simple ways for women to pursue femininity come to mind:

Wear a skirt. I can almost see the eye rolls and hear the groans. But pushing the leggings or mom jeans aside and reaching for a dress or skirt with regularity does wonder Speaking from personal experience, not only does wearing a skirt make a woman feel and act more like a lady—and rarely underdressed—it also seems to make men treat women with more respect.

Relax and let men take the lead. If women want men to be leaders, then they can't be constantly grabbing the lead from males. Such a move would discourage anyone—male or female—from stepping up to the plate on a task. So push the hastiness aside, ask the men in your life





Even those who have embraced feminism are realizing that it has its downsides.

1. Women might consider what they can do to encourage men around them to be more masculine.

in women encourages both feminine and masculine attitudes in the respective genders. 3. Embracing

2. A gentle disposition

children as a blessing, not a hindrance.

Correction

A caption on page B1 of the March 23, 2022, edition incorrectly identified the man pictured at a carpentry class. His name is Jim Oates. The Epoch Times regrets the error.



the direction they would advise in various situations, and let them shoulder the responsibility, assisting—but not asserting—in any way you can.

Embrace children. Feminism has convinced women that children are a bother and hindrance to advancement in life. Nothing could be further from the truth. For women who want to embrace femininity, learning to accept that children are a blessing, and to love and revel in that blessing, raising the next generation to embrace faith, family, and country, will go a long way to killing the lie that is feminism.

Avoid toughness. There are definitely times when women must become mama bears in protecting the things near and dear to their hearts. But aiming that toughness toward men through bossiness will only tear apart the few shards of masculinity left in society. A sweet and gentle attitude, however, boosts both feminine and masculine attitudes in their respective sexes.

Build men up. Men are torn down plenty these days. Don't contribute to that tearing down by bashing them yourself. Instead, build up the men around you. Thank them for the ways they protect you. Compliment them on masculine behavior. Let them hold the door or carry boxes for you—even if you think you can handle them just fine on your own.

Unfortunately these actions are coun tercultural and could get you labeled a misogynist—even if you're a woman! Swimming upstream is never easy, but those who rise to the challenge of doing so are the ones who are truly bold and brave conduits of change. So if you as a woman want to change the world, cast off the bonds of feminism and instead embrace femininity.

Annie Holmquist is the editor of Intellectual Takeout and the online editor of Chronicles Magazine, both projects of the Charlemagne Institute.

The Epoch Times Interviews Shen Yun Audiences

Shen Yun 'Is About God Giving Us Liberty'

Tew York-based Shen Yun Performing Arts is the world's Premier classical Chinese dance and music company, established in 2006. Aiming for an artistic revival and celebration of China's rich cultural heritage, the comapny performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance, accompanied by orchestral and solo performers.



Massachusetts April 2-10 Raton Rouge April 9-10 April 12-13

For additional performance dates, please visit ShenYun.com/tickets



[The Shen Yun message is] exactly what my grandparents were trying to tell me as a child. This is about God giving us liberty. We are supposed to be able to speak up and have freedom, practice our faith. We have to be God-like, go back to how He created us. It's the way, the truth, and the light.

REALTOR, VANCOUVER, CANADA

MARGARET LIM,



I guess our impression of China right now is that it's very closed off. So to see that these people were able to express their spirituality in a way that was not safe for them back at home is really emotional. I cried a little bit. ... For these people to be blending spirituality and movement, continuing their cultural tradition, [it] was incredibly inspiring. SYDNEY FREGGIARO,

FORMER DANCER, LAS VEGAS



Besides the fact that it's a flawlessly executed performance, it's also that the messaging is great. It's one of respecting tradition, and faith, compassion, and how that translates to modern times.

U.S. ARMY, HONOLULU, HAWAII

MAJ. ALEXEI FAINBLOUT,



Specifically now, [when] there are a lot of bad things happening, people need this kind of message. It was conveyed through the beautiful dancing, colors of hope, joy, [and] a lot of aspects of traditional Chinese history. We cannot lose faith and trust in God. That was the message.

RENATA REJE-TEBWSKA, PIANO TEACHER, MISSISSAUGA, CANADA

Champion

sake of others (or even our own children!), Author the world would be all the better for it. Ultimately, Amber's story is one of triumph, healing, and hope, and I suspect would warm even the stoniest of hearts.

Cinderella Horse To give a little context to the measly figure

Unlike his nimbler peers, Snowman was a once muscular, full-framed former draft horse who had been abandoned to auction by an unnamed owner in the fall of 1956.



'The Eighty-Dollar

Elizabeth Letts **Publisher** Ballantine Books, 2012

Pages 368 pages that "Snowman"—the greatest showjumper horse of his day—once fetched (you guessed it, \$80), consider what the 2016 Olympic jumping champion MHS Going Global sold for in 2016: a reported 12 million euros (about \$13.3 million). Snowman's lowly price tag indeed re-

flects his humble beginnings and sets up the extraordinary rags-to-riches tale that Elizabeth Letts so masterfully narrates. The gelding's story is every bit as inspiring and heartwarming as "Amber's Donkey," but this time more in the mold of the American

(Both tales have in common an unspoken, though palpable, sense of a higher hand at work, so incredible are the friendships they tell of.) Unlike his nimbler peers, Snowman was

a once-muscular, full-framed former draft horse who had been abandoned to auction by an unnamed owner in the fall of 1956. It was then that Harry de Leyer found him, arriving at the end of a three-hour auction,

unwanted and packed with some 15 other

steeds in a battered old truck bound for the

slaughterhouse. De Leyer—who had developed a keen sense for horses in his native Holland, just years before—noticed Snowman for his quiet demeanor. While the hoofs of the abandoned beasts clattered deafeningly on the truck's metal floor, fear pulsing in the air, the gray gelding paid no mind to the

tension and quietly stuck his nose out from

the slatted walls toward Harry. Their eyes locked, and de Leyer felt a connection. There was a spark of life in the gray horse's eyes, which belied his terrible appearance—a coat caked with mud and dung, open sores on both knees, and overgrown and cracked hooves.

De Leyer saw into the creature's heart. He saw hope in its eyes. Courage. Trust. Spirit.

Perhaps even a touch of humanity. As Letts puts it so lyrically, "A horse for

sale is more than a flesh-and-blood animal; he is also an embodiment of a promise. Along with his physical attributes—coat color, four legs, a strong back, a facial expression—he also carries hope: that he will be strong and brave, faithful and true."

Whatever promise Snowman showed, it was enough for someone to give him a second chance at life.

De Leyer forked over 80 would-be eponymous dollars, and the rest, as they say, is history. A champion was, if not born that day, at least rescued.

De Leyer's act of humanity wouldn't pay off immediately, however. (It would be three weeks before the horse's mottled and marred coat was back to normal, and his malnourished frame filled out.) All de Lever had hoped for was a calm training horse he could use at the Knox School in Long Island, New York, where he served as a riding instructor.

But as fate would have it, Snowman and his oversized heart—had more than a few surprises in store for De Leyer and company, the greatest being his prodigious leaping ability. Within a few years the pair would rise—or perhaps "vault," more fittingly—to national

prominence, with Snowman even winning

the Triple Crown of horse show jumping in

1958, appearing on "The Johnny Carson

Show," gracing the cover of Life magazine and garnering an international following. It's a tale almost too magical to be true, and a wonderful reminder that there's something extraordinary in all of us. It might just take that someone special to

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Decarlini and Lamarca with their daughter Sophie.

Following Her Dreams Around the World

LOUISE BEVAN

woman paralyzed in a scooter accident during her teenage years has refused to let life in a wheelchair hold her back. After some time spent dedicated to recovery, she found the perfect way to see the world: in the arms of her

Giulia Lamarca and Andrea Decarlini reach the top of of Machu Picchu, Peru.

content creator and travel blogger, was 18 and returning from work with her thenboyfriend on his scooter when they got into an accident.

Recalling the day in 2011 that changed Epoch Times: "It wasn't anything special, we just slipped during a turn. ... We were probably going too fast, and my boyfriend of that time was driving when we slipped.

"It was so quick, I just remember thinking, 'Don't fall over him or he will get hurt.' Right after the accident, I was conscious, and I felt a great pain in my foot. A moment later, the pain rose to my back, and then I realized that something was really wrong." Lamarca had broken a vertebra. She had a hospital can be very useful sometimes." surgery that same night to place two bars and eight screws in her spine. However,

after having sustained damage to her diagnosed with spinal cord injury. So began nine months in the hospital with a dedicated physiotherapy program where she learned how to move again.

"Pretty much everything was a daily challenge at the time. ... I couldn't even get dressed by myself," she said. "Somehow, I overcame these problems, mainly because Italian native Giulia Lamarca, who is a I wanted to get better, and I was actually recovering my autonomy bit by bit."

A personal mantra, "I can do this," helped Lamarca stay on top of her struggles. Her family had already endured her brother's battle with leukemia as a child her life forever, the 30-year-old told The thankfully, he recovered—and she didn't wish to bring a similar burden on them.

She began every day trying to elicit a smile by reading jokes, but says it didn't always work. Then along came Andrea Decarlini.

"Andrea was a physiotherapy student, I met him some days after the accident," said Lamarca. "He came to say hello because our fathers used to work together. ... Having someone 'on the other side' when you are in Weeks later, Lamarca began seeing Decarlini every day. The two began spending

The couple's conquests

China, and the sacred boulder

include Machu Picchu, the **Great Wall of** of Sigiriya, Sri Lanka, where Decarlini carried Lamarca on his back for **1,000 steps to** its summit.



Lamarca and Decarlini contemplating the Taj Mahal in India.



Decarlini and Lamarca on their wedding day.

a lot of time together, since Decarlini had to "study" her. After Decarlini's internship ended, the two began to go out as friends and have conversations about everything. As their friendship blossomed, Lamarca and Decarlini became more than just friends.

Though she feared he wasn't serious about a romantic relationship, their connection was undeniable. Decarlini soon found a way to reassure her, and he wanted them to see the world together.

"One day we were sitting outside the hospital, when he asked me, 'What if we go to Australia as soon as I graduate, and you get out of the hospital?" Lamarca said. "I thought he was crazy, but I said yes anyway." Since then, they've visited 30 countries together, collecting photos and videos of their epic adventures along the way.

The couple's conquests include Machu Picchu, the Great Wall of China, and the sacred boulder of Sigiriya, Sri Lanka, where Decarlini carried Lamarca on his back for 1,000 steps to its summit.

In an account of their story shared with Love What Matters, Lamarca marveled: "My husband has literally carried me places I cannot access otherwise."

Through her travels around the world, Lamarca shares what she has learned and experienced in the process.

"Travel teaches us a lot about the world, and a lot about ourselves," she told The Epoch Times. "When you have an accident, there is always a 'before' and an 'after,' and if you don't find a way to let go of the before, you will end up living in the past.

"During our travels, nobody knows me; I am just Giulia, so I can start over and be who I really am, not just who I used to be." Lamarca has not walked since her ac-

cident, but today she's independent. She drives and works, and has even designed the couple's home. In September 2021, she and her husband welcomed their daughter, Sophie.

They also share their daily adventures

While currently based in Italy, Lamarca and her family have begun a "world tour" this year and will be living all around the world for at least one year. The wife, mother, and globetrotter advocates that everyone find their passion.

"You really need to find what you love and stick to that," she said. "Don't follow other people too much. ... Take your time and find your way.

"For me, it has been travel; for some, sport or family. Set your goals a bit at a ime. Start thinking about tomorrow, then the next week, the next month, the next year, and soon you can start to program your life again."

From Homeless to Valedictorian

'I made this pact to change my life,' says Griffin Furlong, of his tenacious journey marked by hardships, hard work, and a life-changing realization

LOUISE BEVAN

After losing his mother to leukemia, a Kentucky native and his family lost their home and struggled with homelessness for a period of time until they were taken in by the boy's grandmother in Florida. Experiencing a glimmer of light, the boy made a pact: to change his life for the better.

Through hard work and tenacity, Griffin Furlong, 26, excelled at school and became valedictorian. Today, he's a civil engineer and is writing a book about his inspiring journey from living in a homeless shelter to becoming a high achiever.

Furlong's worldview changed completely when he lost his mother at the tender age of 6.

He told The Epoch Times: "It made me start thinking about what eternity meant, and I learned that life was very, very fragile."

In the days leading up to her death, there was a series of events that have since been ingrained in Furlong's memory forever, he said. He recalls spending time with her when she was at the hospital. She helped him to learn to read, and he would read back to her. Although he didn't completely comprehend it at that time, he knew his mother was suffering.

"I couldn't quite understand it fully," he said. "She started to lose color in her tell a teacher that he had lost his home. face, she started to lose her hair, and eventually, one day at school, I was called up to the guidance counselor's office."

That morning would be the last time he would see his mother.

He remembers standing beside her open casket at the funeral, holding her "cold hand," hoping it was all a dream. Back home, his heartbroken older brother, Sean, cried with him in their shared bedroom. They then promised to be there and support each other no matter what challenges they encountered. Months later, hardship put their promise into practice.

Furlong's father, a car salesman, lost his job after his wife died, and filed for unemployment.

"He really wanted to watch over us, that was his main priority, and that's what I commend him for today," said Furlong. "[But] we went through a lot of our retirement accounts; it was a slow depletion of our money and our move her grandsons in.

mental and emotional wellbeing."

The family downgraded from their rented house to an apartment, temporarily living with Furlong's maternal grandmother before "bouncing around" friends' couches.

per an account of his story shared with Love What Matters. Furlong recalls writing "Never Give Up" with a marker pen under the bill of his baseball cap.

Life grew harder still when his dad surrendered their car, unable to afford repairs. Furlong told The Epoch Times: "Life was definitely changing, and I knew it changed

for the worse when we finally ended up in a hotel with a little bit of money. That's what led us into the homeless shelters."

> At Wayside Christian Mission homeless shelter in downtown Louisville, he felt like a caveman, tallying the days on the wall. His family took one of two bunk beds in a shared room; another family took the other. There were rats and

mold, the plastic mattresses were thin and cold, and the civil engineer, is writing shelter wasn't heated. a book about the lessons He also began to feel like an outcast at school. He was the

only kid to hop off the school bus from the homeless shelter and rarely wore clean clothes. Despite this, never once did he

To this day, Furlong considers this period of his adolescence a test of stamina and patience. Yet the more he took a step back and observed his life, the more he realized the positives surrounding him. He then took the

"glass half full" approach to life. "I realized that everything was based off my mindset," he said. "If I were to continue viewing the world in more of a positive way, the world would be good. ... If I made the choice to be negative, if I made the choice to allow my circumstances to define who I was instead of having me define who I was, well, I wouldn't really make it out anywhere."

Circumstances changed when Furlong and his family were removed from the shelter and they stayed in a hotel.

However, at that time, his paternal grandmother, living in Jacksonville, Florida, with his aunt and uncle, reached out. She had always sent money, but had finally decided to





Griffin Furlong, today a

he has learned. He

also hopes to start a

scholarship fund for a

student in need

how to do it; you don't magically become an engineer, you don't magically become a doctor.

In order to do anything, you

Griffin Furlong

Furlong's mother

suffered from leukemia.

in sixth grade. His brother, Sean, a huge role model, told him, "If you keep getting all A's, you can be valedictorian.' input was my output."

He said, "I made this pact to really change my life, the more I started realizing that my

It was "just like a miracle," Furlong said. The

move was like a "restart button" to his life. The first time he achieved straight-As was

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However, it wasn't all smooth sailing; a few months before high school graduation, in 2014, Furlong met with another ordeal where he found himself homeless again.

was mortified. He'd had no idea his family was behind on rent. Shamefaced, he walked back to the car and explained his history to

Throughout this ordeal, Furlong kept up with essay deadlines, exams, and college applications. A few days later, he found out he

"My brother was dating a news producer at the time," he said. "She was like, 'Hey, I think a news story about this could really help you get a scholarship.' She was persistent enough, so I finally agreed."

Morning America and The Today Show, and I wake up and my face is on the TV. It was honestly unreal," he said.

His story came in as a huge shock to his teachers and his friends.

The news coverage changed Furlong's life and cemented his personal motto: Never Give Up. With a scholarship and a public fundraiser behind him, he enrolled in Florida State University's engineering program, alongside like minds who provided "awe-

He struggled, but grew, earning internships and becoming a "sponge" in learning as much as possible.

"I was not shocked that I graduated college," the effort that I put in."

work ethic persisted. He moved up the ranks quickly, gaining the trust of his colleagues and mentors. He still firmly believes mindset controls every action we make.

"If I'd made the choice back in the homeless shelter to not care, to not do my work, to just sit around, then my path would have been completely different," he said. "I probably would have hung around people who thought the same way. I probably wouldn't have graduated.

"In order to do anything, you have to learn how to do it; you don't magically become an engineer, you don't magically become a doctor, you don't magically become whatever you want to be. ... Education is one of the best investments you can ever make for

his myriad experiences made him the man he is today. Citing an Earl Nightingale quote—"Success is the progressive realization of a worthy goal or ideal"—he says

He's currently writing a memoir-based book of his inspiring journey and hopes to launch a scholarship fund providing full tuition for a student in need every single year. A portion of his book proceeds will go toward

He also hopes to one day have the financial means to relieve his father from minimumwage jobs once and for all.

"I think the best thing that we can ever do is share our perspective on things, because you can learn a lot from people. One story could change someone's life," he said.

An 'Unbreakable Bond'

Dad visits widower, 86, with infant daughter, to brighten his days

E. S. ARMSTRONG

A young father introduced his infant daughter to an 86-year-old widower, and the resulting relationship has been mutually life-changing.

In a moving moment captured on video, Floyd, who recently lost his wife, meets baby Brinley Kindle for the first time. Brinley's father, Camerin Kindle, 22, brought the baby to visit Floyd at an Idaho assisted-living facility where the elderly man currently resides.

"You could just see light being brought to his eyes," Camerin told The Epoch Times. Camerin's mother, who works at the assisted-living facility where Floyd lives,

had told her son about him. Having lost his wife, Floyd was in a "pretty dark place." So, Camerin's mother urged her son to bring the baby for a visit, in the hopes that it would encourage and lighten Floyd's mood.

The first time Floyd was introduced to 6-month-old Brinley, he had no idea that he was being recorded on video, but according to Camerin, he instantly took Brinley to be his own granddaughter.

Since then, Camerin, Brinley, and Floyd have created some precious memories together. Floyd and the baby have developed "an unbreakable bond."

Sometimes when Camerin stops by for a visit, Brinley just falls asleep in Floyd's arms. On other occasions, they have done things like watch the Superbowl together, and even venture out for a trip to the local ice cream shop. Floyd, who "insisted on buying" the ice cream during their outing, cradled baby Brinley as if she were his own granddaughter. What started as a simple visit a while

Furlong played baseball

during his middle

school years.

Furlong at his high school

ago has now blossomed into a relationship with the quality and character of a true family. Camerin now even considers him to be "Grandpa Floyd."

On a regular basis, Camerin and baby Brinley visit "Grandpa Floyd" at least once or twice a week. The elderly man's face lights up each time he sees them.

Camerin also said it's not unusual for the newfound grandfather to proudly boast about his "granddaughter," or to show an innocent and endearing protectiveness when it comes to sharing Brinley with the others at the assisted-living facility.

The trio has become family. When Floyd thanks Camerin for visiting, the young ity is still alive. man gently rebuffs him, reminding him that it's not needed, since he's "grandpa," and bringing her to visit him is something

that will happen forever.

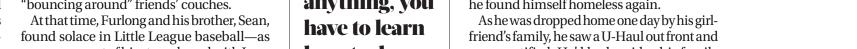
"You don't have to be fully related to someone to be their family," Camerin said. Although the regular visits are for a brief period of time, the joy that the newfound relationship adds to Floyd's life is meaningful.

"I feel like it's adding years to his life," Camerin said. "It's something you can't buy at the store.

The beautiful relationship between Floyd and Brinley has tugged at the heartstrings of netizens after Camerin shared the video on his social media accounts. Additionally, a flood of encouragement and support has poured in for Floyd

in the wake of the loss of his wife. Through sharing this video, Camerin wants to deliver the message that human-

He shared: "Whatever you can do, it may impact someone's life more than you think it could."



his girlfriend's family, who briefly took him in.

was his class valedictorian.

"Literally the next day, I get a call from Good

some motivation."

he said. "I was not shocked that I was magna cum laude. I was not shocked because I knew Joining the professional world, Furlong's

your long-term plans."

his lifelong goal is to learn and grow.

the fund.

Share your stories with us at emg.inspired@ epochtimes.com, and get a daily dose of inspiration by signing up for the Bright news*letter at TheEpochTimes.com/newsletter*

Floyd and Brinley.

Through hard work and ingenuity, photographer Randy Bince has built a business that keeps on adapting to the times

DAVE PAONE

Applying conventional logic, Randy Bince should either be in prison or dead by now. But he's not in prison and he's certainly not dead. He and his wife, Christina Murray, are living the American Dream with their own youth sports photography business.

A Childhood of Poverty

While Bince was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1981, he spent his early childhood in poverty in Haiti. At 8 years old, he relocated to the Ravenswood Projects in Queens, New York, where he lived in more poverty with his parents and his three brothers and two sisters (whom he had never met until then) in a two-bedroom apartment.

Indoor plumbing was something new to him, and he had to learn how to flush. Bince also shared the apartment with creepycrawly things, and the building was surrounded by rats.

Having only spoken Creole in Haiti, Bince started fourth grade not knowing English, but learned it rather quickly, thanks to English as a second language classes and "Sesame Street." Today, he speaks with an American accent.

Things Get Worse

One night, there was a big fight at the apartment between Bince's father and aunt. "Guns were drawn and people were shot," he told The Epoch Times.

His father eventually went to prison. Bince's mother had permanently returned to Haiti, so he and his siblings were sent to live with their two uncles and grandmother in another part of Queens.

"Grandma was a real parent," Bince said, with "education and church" being "the core foundation" of her parenting methods. Additionally, one of his uncles was "super strict," keeping Bince and his siblings on the straight and narrow, with school being a priority. Household chores were a close

He graduated high school, and thanks to public assistance programs, was able to attend St. John's University. However, the programs didn't cover everything and even with a part-time job, he couldn't make it

Bince transferred to a community college, which was far more affordable. Even so, his old-world, Haitian uncles weren't happy



(Above) Youth sports photographer Randy Bince in Studio L. (Right) A MyStyle portrait

shot on location.



His old-world, Haitian uncles weren't happy with him having a jobin their minds, school was to be his only job and actually kicked him out of the house for working.

walked out the side door, and I never turned around," Bince said.

At 17, he was on his own. **Hired at Legends** In 1999, Bince was hired at Legends Photography, which photographed youth sports. It was founded by husband-and-wife team Chris and Nancy Minerva in 1986. They

shot team photos and individual portraits of

players in organized youth sports on Long

Island (where it's located) and in neighbor-

school was to be his only job—and actu-

ally kicked him out of the house for working.

"So I went downstairs, I packed my bag, I

Generally, the spring season was baseball and soccer and the fall season was football and cheerleading. There were the occasional lacrosse, gymnastics, and ice hockey teams, as well as other sports.

The Minervas developed a method of photographing hundreds of players at a time, often having multiple units shooting at several locations over a weekend, both interior

Photographs could be put on plaques, coffee mugs, custom-made trading cards, and a host of other items.

"Randy was Mr. Energizer Bunny," Nancy Minerva told The Epoch Times.

"I loved him. I loved his energy," Chris Minerva said of Bince.

Bince described his photography skills at this point as "absolutely zero," but having grown up in the environment he did, he was a "good soldier-kid" who followed orders and didn't talk back, which is what the Minervas were looking for.

Bince took it upon himself to go to the library and read books on photography, as well as look at fashion magazines he would swipe from his neighbor's recycling bin, thus launching his career in photography.

Eventually, Bince dropped out of college and worked at Legends full time. In between seasons, when business was slow, Chris Minerva often handed Bince cash "right out of his wallet" if he needed it to pay the rent and even gave him a car.

Legends is where he met fellow employee Christina Murray, whose first impression of him was "such a goodie-two-shoes," having no immediate attraction to him. At the time, Bince had no idea how this job would greatly change the course of his life for the better.

When Bince started at Legends, it was the waning days of film. As the world made the transition to digital photography, so did Legends. So Bince learned how to shoot and edit digital photography from its early days. Bince and Murray were married in 2015,

and he became a stepfather to her daughter, Kaylee. They've had two children together,

Eventually, they knew everything needed

to run and own the company. In order to raise capital, Bince sold every personal item he could and borrowed money from friends and family. He and Murray purchased Legends from the Minervas in 2017.

Their first order of business was to bring it into the 21st century, replacing much of what was done on paper with digital alternatives, which saved hours of manpower. They also hired a full-time equipment manager to upgrade the old, worn-out items with profession-grade equipment.

The step after that was to acquire more clients, often through social media, which they did.

'MyStyle' Is His Style

While Legends shoots clean, professional pictures, every parent has a cellphone with a camera in it and can shoot pictures that are "good enough" for their purposes. Bince knew he had to shoot pictures that no one else could shoot and make them so desirable that parents and coaches just had to

With inspiration from another photographer, the style he developed is high contrast with a lot of attitude. Instead of having the subject smile, he'll say, "Put on your game face." This, combined with either a jet-black background or an urban-looking location, results in the fiercest-looking 11-year-old girls' softball teams you've ever seen.

Bince also combines customized graphics with the photos so players can have their position and number included in the layout. He also makes composite team photos, commingling the individual portraits into

Players love it, parents love it, and coaches love it. Bince calls the method "MyStyle" and copyrighted the term.

A Blessing in Disguise

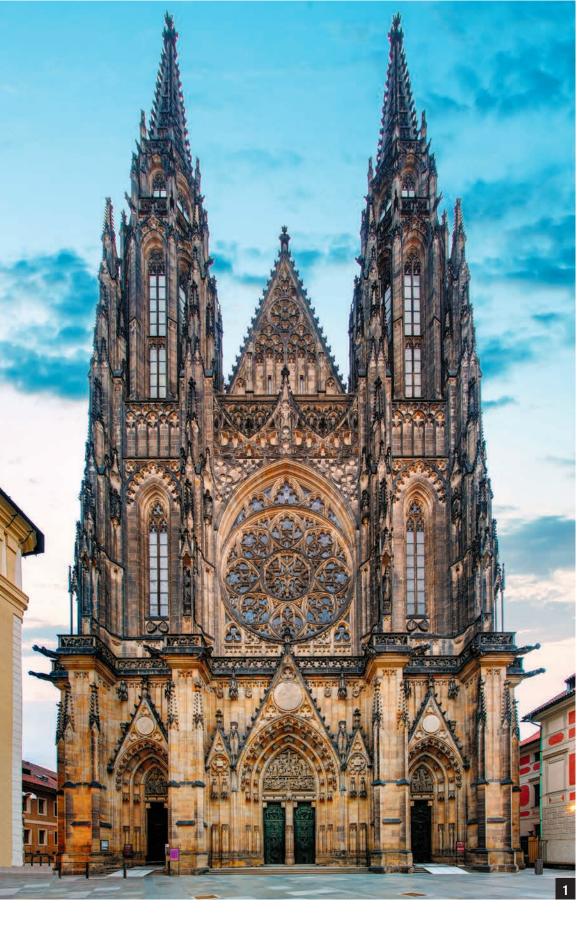
As the spring 2020 season was approaching, Bince and Murray were expecting to have a banner season (with all the newly acquired clients) to the point of having to hire more staff and purchase more cameras.

The COVID-19 lockdown put an end to "We were one step from falling off the cliff

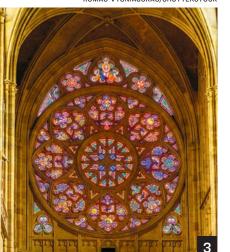
with everyone else," Bince said. However, having zero jobs coupled with an

SBA loan gave them the opportunity to renovate the office space that they rent. They tore down walls and ceilings, ripped up floors, and started from scratch. They made half the building studio space for their own use and for rental. They dubbed it, "Studio L."

Bince and Murray don't know what the future holds any more than anyone else does, but given his past as a Haitian immigrant born into poverty and his present as the co-owner of his own business, there's a good chance that they'll continue to thrive in the United States, making it the Land of Opportunity indeed.









1. The three portals are capped with pointed arches and reflect the triple-naved basilica plan within. The cathedral is characterized by two tall towers with long, thin windows and spires that create its verticality. The façade faces west, and in the center, a rose window allows in afternoon

2. St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague. The light-green copper spire was added during the Baroque period.

3. Created by Frantisek Kysela

the main west-facing façade forms a radiating pattern of eight petals. Filled with colorful geometric-shaped stained glass, the form is a beautiful centerpiece for the nave that glows in the afternoon sun. The inscriptions on the stained glass tell the story of creation as told in the Bible.

4. The stone-sculpted gargoyles were created to prevent rain damage to the building by moving the water away from the stone walls. Their animated sculptural forms were intended to ward off evil spirits.

The St. Vitus Cathedral of Prague

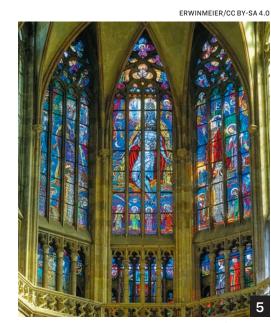
TTSTUDIO/SHUTTERSTOC

JAMES BURKE

The St. Vitus Cathedral is located on a hill that overlooks the city of Prague. When construction began in the 14th century, Prague was the third-largest city in the world after Rome and Constantinople. In this grand Gothic cathedral, kings have been crowned, married, and buried, and national treasures have been held.

As in the past, pilgrims continue to pay their respects to the church's patron saints Wenceslaus, Vitus, and others represented within.

French master-builder Matthias of Arras brought with him the French Gothic style.





St. Vitus Cathedral's inher ent beauty stands as a testimony to the structural mas tery and lofty interiors of the timeless Gothic aesthetic.

ceiling. On the exterior, carved stone spires top flying buttresses that support the walls, the pointed arched windows and portals, and the main façade. A Gothic architect set the style of the cathedral, but it remained only half-completed for several centuries. A baroque spire was added to the south tower during the 18th century. Then, in the late 19th century, architect Josef Kranner took up the chal-

that holds the seemingly weightless, high

He employed a system of harmonious pro- lenge, forging ahead with the building's portions to underpin the overarching com- Gothic style. He and others who followed position. The cathedral's slender verticality added the main nave and front façade, fithe central nave, and by ribbed vaulting

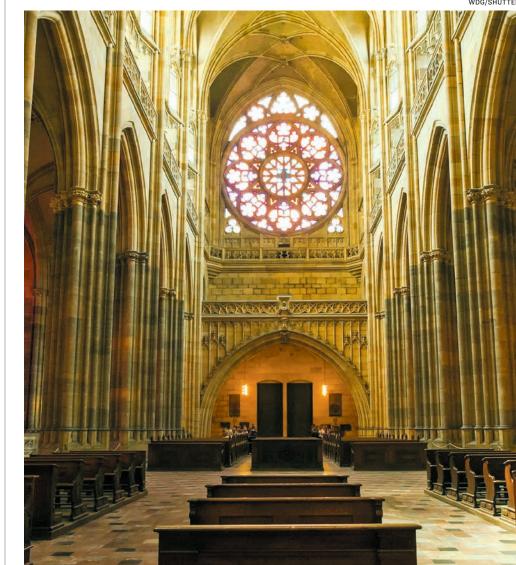
While architectural styles have come and gone, St. Vitus Cathedral's inherent beauty stands as a testimony to the structural mastery and lofty interiors of the timeless Gothic aesthetic. The cathedral's completion reflects the perseverance of a culture

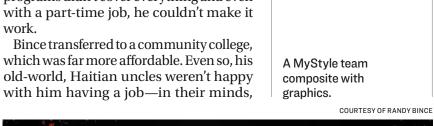
James Howard Smith, an architectural photographer, designer, and founder of Cartio, aims to inspire an appreciation of classic architecture.

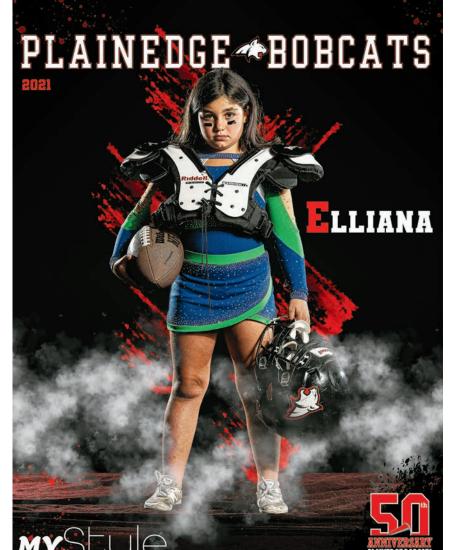
5. In this triptych, the stained glass windows with angled sides appear on the south side of the cathedral. Their glowing quality create a sense of awe. In the center, Jesus is held in the hands of the Creator, and above, a white dove appears, symbolic of the Holy Trinity. On the left, we see the Virgin Mary, and on the right, St. Wenceslas and St. Vitus on their knees.

6. Tracery are stone structures that hold the sections of stained-glass windows. Their vinelike sculptural forms create a weightless effect, lightening the atmosphere of the window composition. The scene here is a depiction by famous Prague artist Max Svabinsky of the Last Judgment.

7. The interior columns elegantly line the nave leading to the pointed arch that frames the entrance, with the prominent rose window above.







ANNIE HOLMQUIST

little girl sporting a blue tutu came into view the other day as I walked by a school parking lot. But it wasn't the tutu that caught my attention—it was her mother's various commands and entreaties that she was happily ignoring.

"It's time to go, honey!" No movement. "We need to go home now," came the repeated request, but little tutu lady kept playing behind a dwindling snow pile. "One ... two," the increasingly frustrated mother counted.

Leaving the pair behind to sort out their homeward bound issues, I soon came upon another child playing while her parents looked on. Repeating the "time to go!" command numerous times to no avail, her mother finally told her that she had one more minute to play, but within seconds, she also told the little girl that "the minute is up," completely reneging on the—apparently dishonest—promise

I get it. In fact, anyone who has ever worked with little ones gets it. Children have minds of their own and don't come by obedience naturally. Furthermore, no adult enjoys the shame and difficulty of dealing with a public tantrum. The easy thing to do is to just wink at disobedience, cajoling and coddling children instead. What many of us forget, however, is that such an approach to childhood disobedience not only affects the child and the adult working with that child, it also affects society at large in many negative ways, a fact we are seeing play out today.

The reason it negatively affects society is that a child's failure to learn obedience to proper authorities builds distrust, confusion, and rejection of rightful authority as that child grows into an adult. Writer and speaker Elisabeth Elliot discussed this idea roughly 50 years ago in her book "Let Me Be a Woman":

"Failure to fulfill threats and promises trains a child to discount what is said. It trains him to lie. The parents are not to be trusted, therefore they need not be obeyed, therefore no authority is trustoptional, depending on convenience or inclination or obvious reward."



A child's failure to obey proper authorities when young results in distrust of rightful authorities when he or she grows into an adult.

on a parent

or teacher

to follow

through,

he lives in

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in his life.

uncertainty,

which creates

further chaos

him to believe a lie. When a child cannot count on a parent or teacher to follow through, he lives in a world of uncertainty, which creates further chaos in his life and may even confuse him enough to follow and believe other authorities who tell him further lies and lead him down ruinous paths.

"A child has to know first of all and beyond any shadow of doubt that the word spoken will be the word carried out," Elliot wrote. "Threats ('If you don't do this, you'll be spanked') or promises ('If you pick up all your toys you'll get a Popsicle')—if not carried through are ruinous to a child's morality."

And it is that ruined morality that we are experiencing today. We see it in the riotous individuals who regularly engage in smash-and-grabs at stores or hijack yet worthy or need be obeyed. Obedience is another car. It shows up in angry students disrespecting those who present a different viewpoint than their own. It rears its head in those who pull down statues But such parental action (or inaction) not thinking they're symbols of a racist past. only trains a child to lie, but also trains And it shows up in those who fool them

selves into thinking that a man can be a woman, or even those who can't truthfully When a child define what a woman is. cannot count

The fact is, when children don't learn how to respond rightly to and interact with their parents—their first and foremost authorities—they won't know how to respond to other authorities in the future. They thus risk being misled or abused by those authorities, or conversely, abusing authorities themselves.

Many today see our nation declining and wonder what they can personally do to help it change course. One answer? Train your children to obey. Follow through not only on your threats, but also on your promises. In doing so, you will be raising children with a moral compass, who will then have the discernment and character to advance the type of government that will make our nation prosper once again.

Annie Holmquist is the editor of Intellectual Takeout and the online editor of Chronicles Magazine, both projects of the

Homeschool Planning: Ask the Kids

BARBARA DANZA

'Tis the season for homeschool planning. Many homeschooling parents, as they work their way toward the finish line of this school year, are also making their plans for next year. It's a time to review the year that's wrapping up and anticipate the needs of each child for the coming year.

One invaluable resource that parents may be overlooking is the perspective of their children. If you're in the thick of your homeschool planning for next year, don't forget to tap into the experiences, hopes, and wisdom of your children.

Some of the greatest advantages of homeschooling include the ability to cater an individualized education to the needs of each child and creatively dive What were your least favorite parts

deep into his or her interests. Here are some questions to ask each likely start with a subject they child as you plan your homeschool. A may not be too fond of ("The student entering middle school or high school may be very willing to answer all of these questions thoroughly. A younger child may prefer just a few simple questions, and the very young can answer perbeing or if they're losing inhaps just one or two. Don't make this a terest in something they once dreaded chore. It should be a lighthearted loved due to a new approach or and simple exercise. Some children will really appreciate being asked and having their input respected. Some children may love to answer in colorful doodles rather you to be able to carefully consider them. go on next year, or what kind of stories



Tap into your children's experiences and interests when planning for next year's homeschool.

A younger child

one or two.

What were your favorite parts of this would you like to read? **school year?** Start out on a positive note. Encourage your child to pause and think about specific memories from the past year that brought joy or excitement or ity here and leave no ideas off-limits. that were funny or interesting.

of this school year? Here they'll may prefer just a

math problems!") Dig deepfew simple questions, er to discover if any habits and the very young can or routines stand out as less answer perhaps just than supportive to their wellcircumstance. Listen to what your child shares here and ask follow-up nonjudg-

mental questions.

than words. Others would prefer this be a What do you hope 'X' grade will be loose conversation over a tray of brownies. **like?** Younger children may need some The key is for you to create a space for your help with this question. Add specifics children to share their thoughts and for such as, what field trip would you like to

If you were in charge of our homeschool, what would you do? Encourage creativ-

What do you wish you had more time to do? This question may offer some

real insights into ideas to bring more joy into your child's homeschool experience, as well as develop their strengths. Listen carefully.

What do you want to learn more about or get better at **doing?** This question can give

you ideas but also allow your child to think a little bit about the outcome of their own education. You may be surprised at some of the things your child

What's your favorite part of each home**school day?** Another important aspect of your homeschool life to review are habits and rhythms—those things you do each day. It can be enlightening to know what your child most looks forward to every day.

What would you eliminate from homeschool if you could? Ask yourself when you get this answer if you could really comply with this request. If it's a key component of their education (reading or math, for example), how can you change it up or make it much easier or simpler?

What do you hope we continue doing in homeschool? When making new plans, it can be tempting to reinvent the wheel and change everything. This can be a good reminder that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

What was the best thing you read this **year?** Looking back at the books your children read can be enjoyable and point to genres or authors that deserve further exploration. Look into this before you purchase new books for your library.

What was the best thing you created this year? The projects that your child poured time and effort into can point to some skills that need further development or interests that deserve further encouragement.

What are you most proud of? When your children find great meaning in their work, they may be proud of the effort they put in or the obstacles they overcame. Ensure you're up to speed on their development and what they deem most important.

What's the best thing about home**schooling?** End your questions on a positive note that lends to a sense of gratitude. How fortunate to be able to homeschool. It's good for everyone to devote some time to this question.

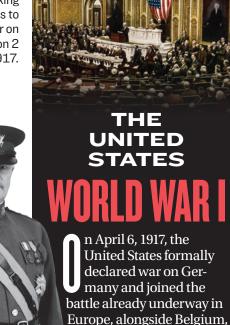








President Woodrow Wilson asking Congress to declare war on Germany on 2 April 1917.



Britain, France, and Russia. More than 2 million U.S. servicemen, led by Maj. Gen. John J. Pershing, served in France. The war wouldn't end for another year and a half in late 1918.

By Aidan Danza, age 15

TREES OF THE **EASTERN WOODS** PINE **OAKS** Oaks are some of the bigger Pines are an easy tree to distinguish, trees. They make up a huge part just by the fact that it has needles. he eastern of the eastern forests. They are a Other evergreen trees also have needles, but they are a bit deciduous tree, meaning they lose region of America their leaves every winter and grow different. Pine needles are usually is mostly composed them again in the spring. There are long, dense, and clustered, while of various types the needles of other evergreens two major types of oaks: the red and white oaks. Their shape, bark, and singularly stick out of the twig. of forests (or what leaves can vary widely, but red oaks were formerly and white oaks always have two things that define them: the shape of forests). their leaves. A red oak's leaves have There are many different lobes, which come to sharp points There are four common types of trees in these woods; I'll tell and end in bristles, while the ends

maple in America: red, silver, sugar, of the white oak's lobes are curved. and boxelder. The boxelder is easiest to distinguish, for its leaves have no lobes. The sugar maple's leaves are more petite than those of other maples and the lobes have smaller sub-lobes on their tips. The red maple's leaves are more stocky. with shorter lobes and a generally wider leaf, while the silver maple's lobes are deeply cut and jagged. Oaks and maples are usually easy to distinguish. Oak leaves are usually longer and thinner than maple leaves, which are more circular.

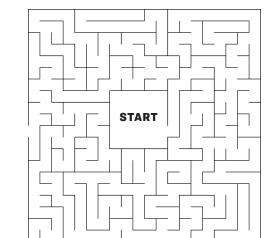
HOLLY UUnlike the other trees on this list, hollies do not make up the bulk of the forest. Instead, they are present in small groves or individually. The holly is unique among evergreens in that it has leaves (not needles) and berries. It usually inhabits more acidic soil but is tolerant of a wide range of conditions. Hollies develop their green berries in the summer. In

the winter, around Christmas, they

ripen, and they remain ripe until

the spring, or until they are eaten

you about the most common



USE THE FOUR NUMBERS IN THE CORNERS, AND THE OPERANDS (+, - AND X) to build an equation to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one "unique" solution but, there may also be "equivalent" solutions For example: $6 + (7 \times 3) + 1 = 28$ and $1 + (7 \times 3) + 6 = 28$

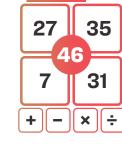


Solution For Easy 1

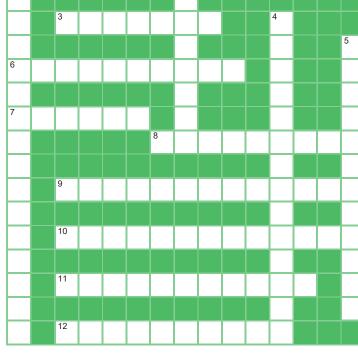
8+9+9+8

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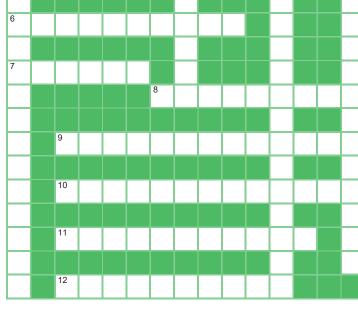
10 + L + d - 1L



32+31+1-51



- 1 Tooth care Professional (15)
- 2 Fixes cavities (7)
- 4 Sells policies (14)
- 5 Makes pets feel better (12)



T B R P R E T OSIESIIW 8 Computer boss (9)

3 If you can read, thank a _____ (7) **11** Translator (11)

Bilingual person, at times (10) **12** Drugstore employee (10)

Counsel (6)

Tests blood and urine (13)

10 Insurance company employee (13)

THE EPOCH TIMES Week 14, 2022



Epoch Times reporter Charlotte Cuthbertson interviews Yuma County Sheriff Leon Wilmot in the desert by the U.S.-Mexico border.



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 Very familiar with the news cycle

To Apply

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Contribute articles that give health-

related practical tips, philosophical

insights, research-backed findings,

and expert advice. You will work

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reporting or health-related

combined experience in news

Knowledge and interest in a wide

range of health-related topics,

Knowledge of how to interpret

trends and methods

remotely with a health editor.

Health Reporter

Freelance

Requirements

reporting

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Cover DOJ, FBI, Department of State, Pentagon, DHS, HHS and related institutions, EPA and Energy Department, Treasury Department.

Requirements

- At least 2 years of experience in
- news reportingVery familiar with the news cycle

To Apply

Send your resume, a cover letter, 2+ samples of your work (URLs and/or attachments, please include links to any relevant photo or videos samples) and 3 references to DJYEditor@epochtimes.com

China News Reporter *Freelance*

Cover topics related to China. The publication's China news section is a flagship feature, at the forefront of covering the Chinese regime's global ambitions, the latest issues affecting Chinese society and economy, and China-U.S. competition.

The ideal candidate would develop feature articles and pitch shorter-length pieces pegged to the latest happenings in the news cycle.

Requirements

At least two years of journalism experience.

To Apply

Send your resume, cover letter and writing samples to DJYEditor@epochtimes.com and pitch an idea for the article you would like to write for us.

Business News Reporter *Full-Time and Freelance*

Cover Business and Economy, with an initial focus on either economic policies that affect businesses, stock market news, or market research analysis.

Requirements

- A four-year degree in journalism, communications, or finance
- Two years of experience as a professional reporter

To Apply

Send a cover letter, resume, and three samples of your news writing to careers@epochtimes.com

Education Features Writer

Freelance

Contribute Education-related feature stories. This may include, but is not limited to, stories about specific educational schools or programs, education methods, homeschool, or lifelong learning.

Requirements

- Experience in writing on education
- Excellent communication skills

To Apply

Send your author bio, 2+ samples of your work (URLs and/or attachments, please include links to any relevant photo or videos samples), and pitch an idea for the article you would like to write for us to editor@americanessence.net

and report on scientific studies To Apply

Send your resume, a cover letter, 2+ unedited and edited samples of your work (URLs and/or attachments; please include links to any relevant photo or videos samples), and 3 references to chrisy.trudeau@epochtimes.com

Copy Editor, News and Features

Full-Time

We are looking for experienced copy editors to join our dedicated print team.

Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in a writingintensive major, or equivalent onthe-job training and experience
- Strong editorial and grammar skills, with an excellent command
 the Fortish because
- of the English language
 Proficiency in AP style preferred

To Apply

Along with your resume and references, please include a cover letter explaining your interest in working for The Epoch Times, sent via email to careers@epochtimes.com

Assistant Food Editor

Full-Time

Help shape and execute food content strategy, build, and work with a team of writers, and manage day-to-day operations, including editing and occasionally writing a wide range of food and cooking articles for web and print.

Requirements

- 4+ years journalism experience, with at least 2 years' experience editing food, including developing and editing recipes
- Professional cooking experience preferred (culinary school, restaurant/catering jobs, test kitchen work, etc.)
- A passion for food and home cooking
- Enthusiasm for growing the Epoch Times brand

To Apply

To apply, please send your resume, a cover letter, 3-5 samples of your work (URLs and/or attachments, please include links to any relevant photo or video samples), and 3 references to food@epochtimes.com

Food Reporter

Full-Time and Freelance

Contribute feature articles about time-honored culinary traditions and recipes, from across the U.S. and around the world. Cover profiles of inspiring people dedicated to keeping these culinary traditions alive—whether chefs, artisans, entrepreneurs, family business owners, farmers, or home cooks.

Requirements

- 2+ years journalism experience, preferably with a focus on food/ dripk
- Professional cooking and/or recipe development experience a plus
- A passion for food, people, and storytelling

To Apply

Send your author bio or resume, 3-5 samples of previously published work (URLs and/or attachments, please include links to any relevant photo samples), and 1-3 story pitches you think would be a great fit for us to food@epochtimes.com



We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, gender identity, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We will consider for employment qualified applicants with criminal histories consistent with applicable law.