

GORILLAS

families of gorillas on a rock-like island with a deep empty moat between the gorillas and the human visitors. That was one of the most amazing things I ever saw.

Up close and personal, with nothing but the moat between us, I could watch this one little family as long as I wanted. They seemed almost human. Ugly, yes, until I got used to it. Hairy, yes. But in their faces they had expression. Thought. Their eyes were expressive, deep and thoughtful. Their hands and fingers. Not paws or claws, but hands.

Before I realized it, I had blown an entire roll of slide film on this one family of gorillas. The other thing I recall of the rental car jaunt Jim and I took was, we drove to Tijuana, Mexico. The two cities adjoin at the national border. At that time, 1974, no passport was required for Americans to visit the border cities of Mexico. Just beyond them, however, was a gate with officials to inspect the required passports. We only drove into the

Tijuana business district. I had no passport with me and I doubt that Jim did.

Anyway, dark had descended and we didn't stay long. My vivid memory was this: Jim and I were walking along a long street of shops with no wall on the street side. From the sidewalk we admired the various wares for sale. The sales clerks stood or sat behind the tables. The large crowds of shopping tourists were active and excited. It was very much like the midway of a carnival.

One shop or booth sold leather goods. Another sold colorful glassware. Another sold hats. Another sold imitation Aztec statues and carvings and on and on. As we were admiring some leather items, a short man with dark skin and coal black hair and mustache had a collection of bracelets on his arms from his wrists up beyond his elbow. He offered to part with one by selling it to me.

His price was \$20, a really good price, for he said it was solid gold. Fourteen carat. I thanked

him but was not interested. He pointed out that in the States, it would cost \$50. This was a one-time opportunity. I thanked him again, and turned back to the wares on the table. He then could see his way clear to accept \$18 for it.

Jim and I walked on along the sidewalk. This guy went with us. Because he was impressed with our interest in his country, he would take only \$15 and it was mine. It began to look like he may adopt me as his son or father (he was a young guy).

He became more and more insistent and kept reducing his price. Finally, we came to an intersection. By that time, his price was \$1.50. Jim and I crossed the street and this guy didn't.

We went back to our rooms at the Convention Center. We didn't see much of Tijuana, but I look back on our brief trip and wish I had bought his bracelet for \$1.50, even though it would likely have made Mary Jo's wrist green. Just think: 14-carat pure gold!

As for the All America Cities awards, 28 cities had been

nominated. Several cities made a party of it. In addition to their professional presenters, such cities as Pontiac, Mich., Tampa, Fla., Allentown, Pa., and Spokane, Wash., sent plane loads of representatives, many of them wearing matching blazers with the city logo on the pocket. Grand Prairie, Tex., a wealthy suburb of Dallas and Fort Worth, even passed out little yellow cloth stickers for everybody's lapels or blouses, representing the Yellow Rose of Texas.

Spencer, W.Va., did not make this a party. The two banks in Spencer at the time paid the way out there and the hotel expenses of just the two of us. Spencer was among the handful of cities that won. For 8 or 10 years thereafter, red, white and blue signs were erected at the highway approaches to town proclaiming: "Spencer, W.Va., All-America City 1974." I think it helped the city in obtaining federal funding for projects, but I'm not sure.

So much for my earlier trip to San Diego. Now back to June 2013.

DKG seeking new members



Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women educators, is currently looking for new members.

In addition to classroom teachers, librarians, administrators and counselors, women who work as dance, gymnastics and yoga instructors; give private music lessons; are personal trainers; do training for businesses and companies; were teachers but changed careers; are retired from teaching; are substitute teachers; etc., are eligible for membership.

Female students in their last two years of college who are planning to become teachers are also eligible.

Mu Chapter, which has a membership of women living or working in Calhoun, Roane and Wirt counties encourages those interested to visit during one of its meetings to learn more about the organization.

Mu Chapter's next meeting is Saturday, Sept. 14 in Roane County and the president of the state organization will be the guest speaker. Email muchapterdkg@gmail.com for more information.

Dog days

It's the best time of year for dogs.

I don't have a dog. I have a cat—as of this year. His name is Felix, and he came from Mexico. When we adopted him, he was skinny and timid after living on the streets for two years. Now, he is plump and playful, with a luxurious coat and an entitled attitude that seems to imply that, since he had it rough for a couple of years, he now expects things to operate according to his plans. Things usually do.

But every day on my walk, I see dogs. And this time of year—when the hydrangeas have started to turn pink around the edges and the berries are turning red on the trees—this time of year is called the dog days of summer, and I believe the dogs know it.

I see them in the distance, and I usually catch up, because the dog stops to inspect something, and the owner has to wait while the dog dutifully catches up on all the news that has transpired since he last passed this particu-



CARRIE CLASSON

The Postscript

lar electric pole.

"It's dogs' Facebook, you know," I told a man who was impatiently shifting from one foot to the other while his dog did a close reading of the area beneath the pole.

"Uh-huh."

"There's probably been a lot of posts since your last visit."

The dog finally satisfied himself that he had caught up on all the latest news, lifted his leg, added his contribution to the post and was ready to go. Even I can tell there's a lot more to smell this time of year, when it is humid, and things are starting to ripen. An elderly dog appears fixated on a spot beside the sidewalk. Her owner stands

motionless beside her.

"You're not trying to rush her, are you?" I ask.

The owner rolls her eyes. "As if I could."

I watch the arthritic old dog, smelling something invisible in the grass. Her eyes are cloudy, and I suspect she is hard of hearing, but her nose appears to be working perfectly well.

Yesterday, I saw one of my favorite dogs. He's a very large, fierce-looking short-haired German shepherd, and he always carries a toy. Yesterday, it was a ball that seemed to be wrapped up in a hand-knitted bright blue sock. It was wagging back and forth as he walked.

"You have a new toy!" I exclaimed.

His two people were with him. His female person sighed. "He always has to bring his toy."

"But last time I saw him, it was a different toy."

"He lost that one! He always loses his toy. He has to bring it along, then he gets distracted

and he loses it!" The German shepherd's female person did not sound entirely happy about this. "I am no longer the toy minder!" she added, shooting a glance at her husband. "I think he is a little spoiled!"

I assumed she was talking about the dog.

"That's not possible," I said. "Dogs can't be spoiled."

The German shepherd and his male person seemed to agree that this was the case, and they went on their way, the blue knitted toy swinging from the happy German shepherd's mouth.

It is a good time for dogs and it's a good time for their people, and the people like me, who enjoy their company. Dogs get us to slow down and smell our surroundings. They remind us that this warmth won't last forever, and maybe it's a good idea to enjoy it while it lasts.

Till next time, Carrie
For more Carrie Classon, go to CarrieClasson.com.

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WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highways
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Bids will be received electronically by the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways through the Bid Express Bidding Service (www.bidx.com) and by sealed proposals (only when prequalification is waived) being received at its office in Building 5, Room 843, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia until October 08, 2024 at 10:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time). The bids will be downloaded and/or opened and read publicly thereafter for the constructions of the following project(s):

Call	Contract	State Project	Federal Project	Description
009	2020000474	S344-79-25.67 00	NHPP-0792(207)	RESURFACING Amma - CO 29 OP Midpoint COUNTY: ROANE

DBE GOAL: 10 % OF CONTRACT BID AMOUNT. BIDDER MUST PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCE OF MEETING GOAL ON FORM IN PROPOSAL.

REMARKS:
Proposals will be received from prequalified and West Virginia licensed contractors only except that on Federal-Aid Projects a contractor's license is not required at time of bid, but will be required before work can begin. Registration is required with the Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, in accordance with Chapter 5A, Article 3, Section 12 of the West Virginia Code. All contractors submitting bids on project(s) must submit electronically with their bid a Proposal Guaranty Bond for \$500.00 or 5% of the total bid, whichever is greater. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways reserves the right to defer, delay or postpone the date for receiving and publicly opening proposals for any project designated in this advertisement, without the necessity of renewing such advertisement. The deferment, delay, postponement, and the date that proposals will be received and publicly opened will be available on www.bidx.com. The West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.
2t 8/29-9/5/24 B

NOTICE
(Cert No. 445978 Elemental Resources LLC)
To: WHITNEY BETH POTSUS C.O GENEVA MOSS FLESHER, E J WRIGHT, NETTIE WRIGHT, NETTIE F WRIGHT, ELZA WRIGHT, ELZIE WRIGHT, HELEN MOSS, HELEN MOSS POTSUS, HELEN POTSUS, WHITNEY POTSUS, WHITNEY BETH POTSUS, ROBERT POTSUS, GLEN WILLIAM MOSS, SANDRA KAY MOSS, MARY MOSS, SARAH FORE, MARTHA FORE, D R WRIGHT, CLARK WRIGHT, LUCY WRIGHT, STELLA STANTLER, EVA STALL, BESSIE TENNANT, BELVA WILLS, JACK WRIGHT, B B FORE, MARTHA FORE, GLENDEEN FRESHOUR, FOSTER C FORE, THELMA SIMMS, HARRY C FORE, ERNEST C FORE, NETTIE FORE, NELLIE FORE, OPAL MOSS, GENEVA MOSS FLESHER, MARY EVANS, DARLENE SCOTT, WILLADEAN CAUFMAN, JUNE HOLUB, ORHEIRSATLAW, DEVISEES CREDITORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, ATTORNEY'S IN FACT, REPRESENTATIVES, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, GUARDIANS, CONSERVATORS, FIDUCIARIES, LIEN HOLDERS AND OTHER PARTIES THAT MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property and other parties that may have any interest in the subject property.

You will take notice that Elemental Resources LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certification No. 445978, located in REEDY District, 162 1/7 OG REEDY, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of WRIGHT E J, was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent and nonentered lands of Roane County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on 05/21/2024. Elemental Resources LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after 12/16/2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The needed to redeem on or before 12/16/2024, will be as follows:
Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to 12/16/2024. \$216.58
Amount of taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to 12/16/2024. \$0.00
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest to 12/16/2024. \$977.96
Additional Statutory Fees with interest to 12/16/2024. \$0.00
Total amount payable to sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Brian Hickman, Sheriff of Roane County. \$1,194.54
You may redeem at any time before 12/16/2024 by paying the above total less any unearned interest.
Given under my hand 7/24/2024
G. Russell Rollyson Jr.
Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent

and Nonentered Lands of Roane County, State of West Virginia
Return this letter and both certified funds to the WV State Auditor's Office, County Collections Division, 1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-118, Charleston, West Virginia, 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568
3t 08/15-29/24 B

Roane County Commission REQUEST FOR BIDS
Roane County Commission (RCC) is seeking competitive bids for concrete installation at 381 Oak Dr., Spencer, WV.
Detailed specifications are available by e-mail at roaneswa@gmail.com. Question can be directed to 304.532.7533.
Sealed bids must be clearly marked as "Concrete" and must be received by September 6, 2024. All bids will be opened at a public meeting the week of September 9, 2024. Mail bids to: Roane County Commission, 200 Main St., Spencer, WV 25276 or via e-mail jenrand@commission.state.wv.us. The RCC reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality therein.
2T 8/22-29/24 RCR

NOTICE
The Roane County Deputy Sheriff Civil Service Commission will be administering a civil service exam to establish a list from which future vacancies on the Roane County Sheriff's Department may be filled. Entry level officer could earn up to \$45,000 annually. Applicants will be required to pass a PAT (physical aptitude test), 18 to 45 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED equivalent, weight must be in the appropriate range for height, and must have a valid Driver's license. Applications may be obtained from the County Clerk's Office at 200 Main Street, Spencer. Applications may be returned to the clerk at 200 Main Street, Spencer. You may also mail to:
Sena M. McDonald, Clerk, 200 Main Street, Spencer, WV 25276 or send the application by email to smcdonald@clerk.state.wv.us. All applications must be returned to the County Clerk's office or postmarked by midnight, September 19, 2024. Examination will be held on September 28, 2024. Roane County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
2t 8/29-9/5/24 B

LEGAL NOTICE August 20, 2024
The West Virginia Health Care Authority announced that it has received a Letter of Intent from VCG Luna, LLC., CON File #24-5-13068-A, to become the sole member of Housecalls Home Health and Hospice, LLC and to provide services in Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties in WV. Capital Expenditure \$2,624,920.
Further information regarding the Letter of Intent, including the Certificate of Need application when submitted, is on the Authority's website at www.hca.wv.gov.
1t 8/29/24 TR