



January, 2024

Teach Your Children Well

By Rajni Keswani (349)

"Values are the basic and fundamental beliefs that guide or motivate attitudes or actions."

Our values may shuffle a bit based on where we are in life. For example, when I was young, my values were more career focused, but now I relate them more to my family.

But what does it take to shape our values, and how do we inculcate these in our future generations?

A while back, I was at Bridgepointe Starbucks with my little kids. We grabbed everything we wanted and went to the checkout counter. The girl at the counter was very sweet, like every Starbucks employee is.

I do not always look at my receipt, but I am glad I did that day! As I skimmed through the list, taking seats at a table outdoors, I realized the lady missed charging me for the chocolate milk my kids had taken off the shelf. I told my kids about this, and I sensed they were more worried that they would have to put back the milk.

We went back inside and told the lady that she forgot to charge us. She smiled looking at my kids and said, "It's okay."

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Aaron's Answers



Wildflowers blooming in Wasatch Canyon, Utah
A map of the numbered US highways

Questions: 1) I'm wondering if striving to increase the biomass of wildflowers is a subject of ecological study these days - and, if so, for what reasons?

2) Did the development of the U.S. Interstate Highway System in the 1950's have a marked negative impact on the volume of U.S. freight traveling by railroad? Did that have environmental impacts in terms of air quality?

-Jerry

Aaron's Answer (A'sA): Yes, attempting to increase the global or American biomass
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Solution to Last Month's Quiz

Fit ... as a Riddle!

*Solution provided by neighbor, Ronav Keswani.
Thank you, Ronav!*

Hi, Editors of Bowfin Inquirer

I am writing below the answer to December 2023 quiz:

- 1.) The letter e (b)
- 2.) Light (e)
- 3.) A mirror (g)
- 4.) Queue (f)
- 5.) Footsteps (c)
- 6.) Heroine (h)
- 7.) A river (d)
- 8.) Day and Night (a)

This Month's Quiz

What's Happening ?

Fill in the three white squares in each column to form common, uncapitalized six-letter words reading from top to bottom. To spell a bonus phrase, select one letter from the top three squares of each column and write it in the shaded box at the top. Also select one letter from the bottom three squares and write it in the shaded box below. What three-word phrase is spelled out ?



Remembering My Teacher

by Jerry Lerman (344)

Eve and I recently hosted friends David and Rebecca, visiting from New York. David and I met in college in 1967, and we enjoy reminiscing about our days at U of Michigan, so one day I opened a desk drawer to show him I still had my transcript. Not only that was in that stash, but there were also several report cards going back to kindergarten. I took special note of my 5th grade report card, and showed him that my teacher wrote that I'd taken up an especially keen interest in social studies.

A few days later, our friends heading home, I decided to indulge that bent for social studies and consulted an internet source to see what I could learn about this teacher from my 1959-1960 school year, my first in Rockford, Illinois.

I quickly found an obituary for her, Lucille Rylander. She had passed away in 1983 at age 70, in Florida. I also found articles from 1954, in the Galesburg, Illinois paper, listing her bowling scores in a competitive league. Of some interest, I thought, but not worthy of writing an article about -- not a particularly high three-game series total. 😊

I did find one exceptional story, though, about her 5th grade class of 1966, that I thought I should share because it shows just how big Mrs. Rylander's heart was and illustrates the important values she imbued her students with: a sense of charity and need for social responsibility. It was printed in Rockford's major newspaper, the Register-Republic, November 14, 1966, under the headline "**Fairview Pupils Aid Injured Girls**":

Fifth grade pupils at Fairview school have raised \$9 for four girls injured Oct. 31 at Hall School crosswalk.

The 32 members of Mrs. Lucille Rylander's class donated their own money to the fund established at Colonial Bank for the accident victims.

A letter to each of the injured, composed by the class, and get-well cards made by pupils also were sent to each girl.

The four girls were injured when they were struck by a car while crossing N. 3rd Street.

Wilhelmina Kirkwood, 8, (address), the most seriously injured, was reported in good condition today in Swedish-American Hospital.

Hospital attendants said she is beginning to speak and is responding to questions. She suffered head injuries.

(... Two other children and their injuries were described here...)

Mrs. Rylander said the class project was a result of a study of safety education and a discussion of the Hall School accident.

"The children became so interested and sympathetic that they followed the newspaper accounts of the incident," Mrs. Rylander said.

"They decided they would like to do what they could to help, so they donated, on a strictly voluntary basis, money of their own they pooled to send to the fund.

"No child in the room wanted to be left out."

The letter sent to the girls reads: The children in our room are very sorry this accident happened to you. We hope you get out of the hospital soon.

"We have contributed some of our own money to help you.

"We have been studying about safety and are glad you followed the rules."

The fund eventually received some \$130 in total donations, \$9 of which came from Mrs. Rylander's class! Quite a teacher, I must say... quite a wonderful person!

Teach Your Children Well continued

I appreciate your honesty and let you keep that as a gift from me."

My kids were super-excited and happy. But in fact, I was more excited than they were, because I felt proud that I was able to use that opportunity to show my kids the value of honesty. Sometimes the good you do takes time to realize the benefit, but sometimes like today, you get the reward right away.

You really don't need to sit down to teach values to your kids, or anyone around you for that matter; you can just *live your values*, and they will follow.



AWAKENTHEGREATNESSWITHIN.COM

TARGET DATE FOR Next Month's Contributions

February 20, 2024

Please reach us with your articles, news, photos,
CHILDREN'S ARTWORK or ideas at

344 Bowfin, (650 572-9153) or email us at our
email EDITOR@BOWFININQUIRER.COM **or by**
adding a NOTE on our Facebook Page

or our website: BOWFININQUIRER.COM

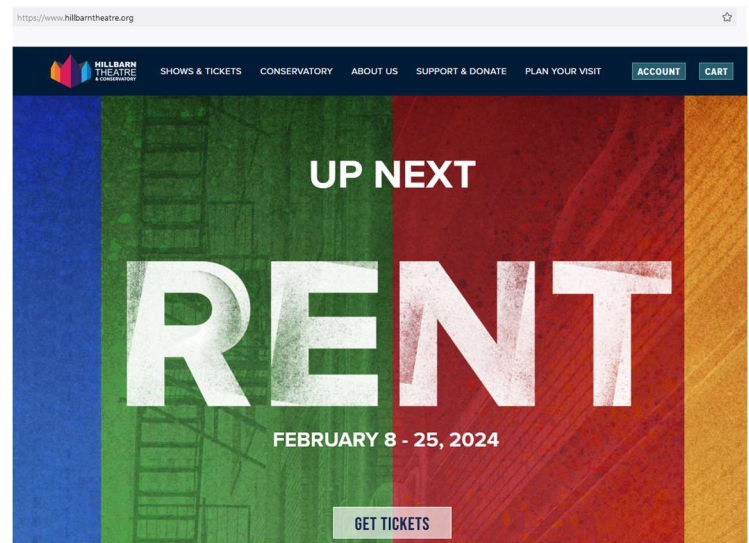
Aaron's Answers continued

of wildflowers is a topic that is studied in recent times by ecologists. There are two primary branches of this thought: The first is that we should increase the *native* wildflower populations per area to restore different species back to their former strength. This is by far a larger studied and looked-at movement. The other branch does not specifically refer to wildflowers; however, in an attempt to avoid using fossil fuels and other such harmful things, some scientists have investigated how to turn certain plants into “biogas”, a form of renewable energy. In order to achieve that, they need a *lot* of certain eligible plants, and the eligible plants themselves (not trees or wood, limited by other industries but easy-to-process plants). Wildflowers are one of those options, and thus some ecologists are looking to increase all of the wildflowers, not just native ones. Those two lines of reasoning are the primary motivators for increasing wildflower biomass.

As you might imagine, the development of the Interstate Highway System or IHS greatly decreased train and freight usage for transporting stuff, and train usage in general. It became so much faster, cost-effective and easier to transport things by truck that trains almost immediately became things of the past. Now, people still use trains to travel or move stuff over medium distances (too short for plane and too long for car), but even then it's only occasionally that trains are chosen. As far as air quality is concerned, air pollution rose steadily as people bought and drove cars and trucks and other vehicles so much more instead of trains which transported many people or things at once. I'd say that while much smaller, you could probably notice a similar change when people

switched to trains from carriages to get everywhere and wagons to transport stuff. Still, if trains caused tenfold the pollution of what came before, then automobiles caused hundreds if not more times the environmental effects of trains.

Coming Soon to Hillbarn Theatre



Go
49ers !