

LIFESTYLE

THE POSTSCRIPT

What we remember

"I suppose I have to start packing," my husband, Peter, said.

It is always so hard to leave. Packing up from San Miguel de Allende is not a terribly difficult process because we leave the art on the walls and the dishes in the cupboard and, this year, a brand-new beautiful couch sitting in the apartment. We know that the hotel housekeeper, Lulu, will keep a watchful eye on everything.

So, it should not be so hard to leave, yet it always is. Our stuff stays behind, and we leave with memories.

There is a principle



Carrie Classon

in psychology that says that in order to slow time, you need more novel experiences. Childhood seems to last a long time because everything is new and everything is a first. As we age, we do more of the same things. This makes one day blend into the next, and one week into the one after that, and before we

know it, 10 years have passed without it seeming like any time at all.

Coming to San Miguel, we find ourselves doing things we've never done before on at least a weekly basis -- and this is unusual for a couple of people who are fond of our routines.

I write every day. I have friends who complain about this. "You should come to yoga!" they insist. "You should go to the hot springs!" "You should take an art class!"

They think I should make exceptions to attend morning events -- events that occur right smack in the middle of

my writing time. Occasionally I do. But 9 days out of 10, I am at my desk writing.

My friends reaction to this is either to tell me that I am very disciplined or very boring. I don't think either one is true (although I will accept that I might be a little dull). I write every day because I enjoy it, and most of my enjoyment comes from getting better and getting things finished. It's no more complicated than that.

Peter is very much the same way about his morning hikes. Peter gets positively grouchy if he is deprived of daily exercise, not because he

has a gun to his head, but because his long, strenuous hike is what makes him feel good.

Fortunately for both of us, there is no shortage of things to do and see in the afternoons and evenings, and last night, we had a going-away gathering of friends and neighbors.

We called it a book launch, although after two and a half months, I no longer think of "Loon Point" as launching. It's more like a ship out at sea. It has left me behind on shore and is off having amazing adventures with all its readers.

But I read from "Loon Point" one last time, and the violinist David Mendoza played, and we served food to friends. Everyone met someone they had never met

before, and friendships were forged and a lot of fun was had.

Then Sebastian (who, unlike most of our guests, grew up in San Miguel) came out of the kitchen and announced, "It will rain soon."

Everyone looked up at the blue sky in surprise. Fifteen minutes later, it began to pour.

We said our goodbyes. We promised to get together again. Every person headed off to a different life in a different place.

I knew we would never meet again -- not in quite that way, not with that exact group of people, not for that meal or that experience. And I will remember last night for all of those reasons.

Till next time,
Carrie

From our HISTORY Sponsored by



'Shelters used for disasters not storms'

Compiled by Brady Cloud
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Excerpted stories in Crawford County newspaper archives

100 YEARS AGO

April 25, 1926
Girard - E. Halde- man-Julius, publisher, made a profit of \$435,000 in the past eighteen days in the present bull movement on the New York Stock Exchange, it was said today at the offices of Mr. Halde- man-Julius. Mr. Halde- man-Julius, it was explained, bought heavily of several different issues at the bottom a few weeks ago and sold hurriedly in the present upward movement. It was announced that the publisher dealt in Dodge Brothers, National Cash Register, General Motors, Briggs Compa- ny. Lehn & Fink, American Brown-Bovert and Devoe & Reynolds.

Girard, - Having elim- inated one of its wit- nesses, Joe Saia, whose testimony was of a cor- roborative nature, the state shortened its case a bit in the trial of Ar- thur Schirard, deputy constable of Lincoln Township under Fred

Black, constable, and rested shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon. The trial, before Judge D. H. Woolley in divi- sion No. 1 of the district court, in which the de- fendant faces charges of soliciting and accept- ing a \$100 bribe, saw five state witnesses on the stand this morning.

Seventeen floats al- ready have been as- sured to make gorgeous the parade and pagean- try which will depict the advance and growth of Pittsburg during the past 50 years, on the morning of May 20 as a feature of the golden jubilee celebrating the founding of Pittsburg, it was announced by G. W. Pogson, chairman of the parade committee, during a conference of members of the various committees on arrange- ments at the City Hall this morning at 9:30 o'clock.

Final decision to launch a campaign to raise \$15,000, with which to pay off the in- debtedness of the First Presbyterian church, and to make repairs, including redecorating, was reached yesterday afternoon at a meeting of men of the church. First plans originated

at a joint meeting of el- ders, deacons and trust- ees on March 6, when it was unanimously agreed to recommend the proposition to the congregation. The con- gressional meeting was held April 7, when a resolution was present- ed setting out in full the amount of the indebted- ness and money neces- sary for repairs.

50 YEARS AGO

April 25, 1976
Locations that were listed as "storm shel- ters" in Pittsburg in a story about the Craw- ford County weather watch plan in last Sun- day's Morning Sun are actually not available in the event of severe storms in the Pittsburg area, Eldon Bedene, civil defense director, said Saturday. The 19 shel- ters listed in the story are intended for use in the event of nucle- ar attack. Bedene said. Pittsburg authorities told Bedene last week that the shelters are not available in the event of severe storms.

Pittsburg attorneys will no longer handle divorce cases for the Crawford County legal aid program, although the lawyers agreed to

continue other free le- gal services to county indigents for another six months. The law- yers voted to exclude divorces from their free legal aid services at a March meeting of the Crawford County Bar Association. Other types of gratuitous civil cases will continue to be handled at least until September. "My feeling was that we re- ally weren't doing these people much of a ser- vice," John Towner, a local attorney, said Fri- day. "If they can afford to get married, they can afford to get divorced."

Some Pittsburg police officers will be required to complete Emergen- cy Medical Technician training in order to be licensed city ambu- lance attendants as re- quired by state regula- tions that go into effect July 1. The policemen probably will apply to the Missouri Southern State College at Joplin, Mo., for the training, Po- lice Chief Jack Spencer said. Under the new city ambulance regulations, which are in the pro- cess of being updated by the state, a city with a population of 20,000 or more must conform to

the state regulations to qualify for a valid per- mit, which the service is required to have by July 1.

25 YEARS AGO

April 25, 2001
The Pittsburg City Commission voted Tuesday night to support a recommenda- tion that Kansas Gas and Electric Co.'s rates be cut \$92 million. The Kansas Corporation Commission's staff has recommended the rate cut in response to KGE's request for a \$58 million rate increase. The KCC will conduct a public hearing in Pittsburg Thursday night on the rate request. The city commission voted to direct Jerry Lindberg, director of economic development, to state the city's position at the hearing. Commissioner Mark Werner cast the lone vote against the motion.

Elm Acres Youth and Family Services held its annual Tree of Hope dinner Tuesday in the Overman Student Union. Proceeds from the event help Elm Acres to continue serv- ing children and fami- lies in southeast Kan- sas. Founded in 1955 as a home for children, the organization has ex- panded its services over the past 46 years. While it continues to offer res- idential care, it also provides family foster care, family preservation, emergencies services, alcohol and drug coun- seling, juvenile day re- porting, transportation services and the Part-

nership for Successful Youth Program.

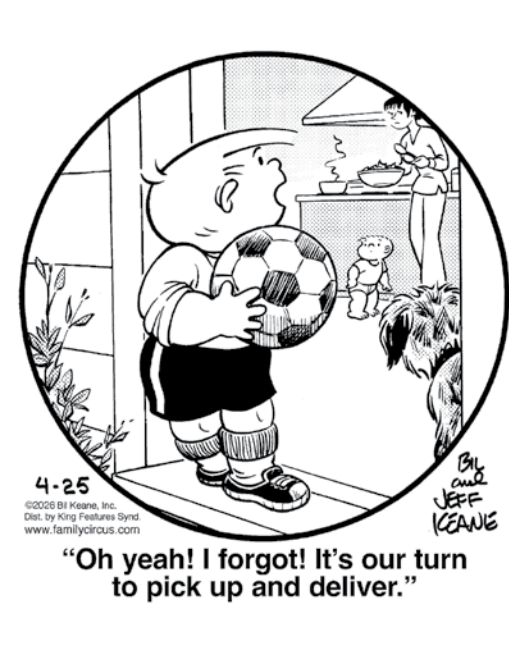
GIRARD - An appli- cation seeking \$500,000 in federal funding for a five-year plan to im- prove water quality and help flooding problems along the Cow Creek drainage area received the Crawford County Commission's blessing Tuesday morning. The application is the result of a year-long effort to come up with a plan to control run-off into the upper Cow Creek re- gion, Randy Bennett, district conservationist, told commissioners. A byproduct of efforts to improve water qual- ity in Cow Creek is that some of the waterway's flooding problems will be alleviated, he said.

Pittsburg State Uni- versity Engineering Technology students have been churning out winners lately. The team of Jared Stubby, Richard Nichols, Kenny Egnor, Jason Strecker, Justin Mintz and Nate Kirk placed first in the annual Great Moonbug- gy Race at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. The men reunited Tuesday, after the April 6 race, to analyze what made their entry the best of the 34 college teams. "We went with the in- line design, four-wheel drive, independent sus- pension, lower center of gravity," explained Strecker, a senior from Carthage, Mo. Strecker was one of the drivers in the race, along with Cat Walquist, a senior from Pittsburg.

MODERATELY CONFUSED



FAMILY CIRCUS



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PREVIOUS ANSWER

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