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The Bulletin

Weekly

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Headlines make for good stories

By Ernie Williams
The Bulletin

Ling Ling and Hsing Hsing, two giant pandas gifted to the United States by China after Richard Nixon's visit to Beijing, arrived to much fanfare at the Smithsonian Zoo in April of 1972.

The View from My Seat

There was, by media accounts, "panda-monium."

The zoo wanted to breed the two pandas as part of a program to protect the species. But there was a problem. Baby Ling Ling (the female) and baby Hsing Hsing (the male) had never seen pandas mate. They were clueless.

The zoo tried everything, including showing panda porn in hopes of inspiring the young-

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We went sailing north to Alaska

By Janice R. Edwards
The Bulletin

Husband Roy and I can cross one item off on our bucket list – sailing to Alaska.

At our children's suggestion that we go with them, we took our first cruise recently through the Inside Passage. We had always wanted to see Alaska, but something always got in the way. Not this time.

All totaled, we sailed 2,526 nautical miles. That's a long way not to get seasick, not even once. That even surprised me, a first-time cruise vacationer.

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Two brothers, knife, milk carton: What could go wrong?

By Edward A. Forbes
The Bulletin

We have journeyed back to the Heights in Alvin, Texas, around 1954. Brother Donnis and I have been delegated domestic chores. I assume mother and Butch are working. Older sister Edna, would be delegated to watch the three

younger boys.

The dynamic duo was assigned the task of washing, drying and putting dishes, utensils and pans in their respective nesting places.

"Donnis, I'll wash, and you dry and put stuff up. I'll help when I'm through."

"You've given me two jobs to

your one. Don't seem fair," Donnis replied (always so intent on fairness).

"Not true, I said. I'll help when I'm done, and I'll sock you if you don't," I said.

Work commenced and progressed along nicely for about 10

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I want to replace heated steering wheel with A/C seats

Beth-Ann Belthoff
The Bulletin

Recently, when I needed a pair of sneakers, my husband, Alan, and I ran out to our nearby Academy store. He was ecstatic as we got to the parking lot. It was as if angels began singing.

"They get five stars from me," he said. "They have nice big parking

spaces. This is the way all parking lots should be! Look how much space is around this truck!"

Transplanted in Texas

He was pointing to the truck across from our car. The person who was parked next to the truck would actually be able to get into

their car with ease. The lines that delineate the space were actually on the sides of the truck – not underneath it!

My Volkswagen Touraeg is coming off lease soon. I was thrilled when we got it because it had a heated steering wheel. That won't do much good here, but if you ever

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Shingle shot saga – Part 2

By John Toth
The Bulletin

This shot is not going to be as bad as the first one, the kind nurse reassured me. "I didn't have as many reactions to the second one," she said.

That made me feel better, knowing that the nurse who administered my second of two shingles vaccines also had the shot. I just took some Tylenol every four to six hours, and I was fine," she assured me.

That's good, because the first shot knocked me off track a little

Ramblings

for two days. I had a headache and fever, felt drained, my joints ached, and the place on my arm where I got the shot was sore.

But I sucked it up like a good trooper and hid my misery. I didn't want anyone to think that I was a whiner.

I scheduled the shot for a Thursday, so that if there were any side effects, they would not be on my busiest days when work has to be done or else – there is no or else. It just has to be done.

I think ahead like that. My second and third children were born as scheduled to maximize vacation

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Our monthly section filled with important, interesting information for seniors.

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