

The Prisament Paper

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Five upstate regions of New York met the criteria to begin incrementally re-opening their economies.
- A 6.5-magnitude earthquake hit a remote region of Nevada, the largest earthquake there in many decades.
- The *Prisament Paper* will not publish on Memorial Day weekend, with plans to resume in June. We hope you have enjoyed the first ten issues. Have a relaxing and healthy Memorial Day!

IN MEMORIAM LUZMILA GRECO DE SALDAÑA MOTHER TO EVELYN, YETSI & DIOMY BIRTHDAY - MAY 16



Evelyn: Deseo hacerle un homenaje en nuestro periodico a mi mamá, Luzmila Greco de Saldaña para recordarla y honorarla. Le agradezco a Dios por habermela dado como madre, amiga, consejera y angel. Le agradezco por ella quien me vio nacer, me cuido y me dio amor desde pequeña. Con ella no siempre congeneara, pero de alguna manera siempre encontrabamos forma de hacer las paces. Ayer, sabado 16 de mayo hubiese sido su cumpleaños. Hoy la recuerdo con tanto amor y la añoro! Te quiero muchisimo mamá, mi angel de luz.

More remembrances on Page 2 ...

CHAIN STORY INSTALLMENT 8

by Marc Prisament

Please email us to submit a continuation! The only rule is you can't end the story.

“Swish, swish, swish, swish...”

What was that repeating, rhythmic noise and where was it coming from?

I started to turn and look, but I soon realized I was hooked up to a number of “gadgets.”

I was very groggy and disoriented. What was going on?

I tried to remember how I got there, but the last thing I remember was some emergency at work and being told to evacuate right away. I wasn't sure, but I thought that may have been a number of days ago.

I decided to slowly take inventory of everything around me, to try to figure out where I was and what had happened.

The “swish machine” had a label saying “BAXTER MEDICAL” on it, and had some large bag of fluid connected to it, which lead down a tube to my arm. *Is that an IV pump? Why do I need an IV?*

The bed I was in said “Hill-Rom”, whatever that meant, and had a slew of buttons that I didn't dare to touch.

On my chest were about 8 small “sticky tape” pads or electrodes, and they were wired back to what looked like a TV set above my bed, but it definitely had my heart rhythms displayed on it and gave a HR=99.

I had a small plastic devise snapped on my middle finger, and it was reading something like “O2 = 95.”

And finally, I had a cuff wrapped around my arm, and it too had tubes and wires that led back to the TV monitor, and stated BP = 150/97. *Is that a good or bad number?* I wondered.

I was perplexed, but I soon deduced I must be in a hospital. I started to try to get up, but instantly some alarm went off, so I felt it was safer to just stay in bed for the moment.

After the alarm went off, someone came

There's more to this installment! Continued on Page 2 ...

Op-Ed

Is TRUMP LOSING HIS LAST SUPPORTER?

by Cliff Prisament

Long before he was president, Donald the snake oil salesperson had a huge fan - me. I became obsessed with his buildings, casinos and soap bars that looked like gold. All throughout my time at University of Delaware, I wished I had gone to Trump U.

In 2008, I wrote to thank him for building Trump Chicago which, at the time, was the tallest American skyscraper since 9/11. No response, but since I sent it on Facebook messenger, I got relief knowing it had been “seen”.

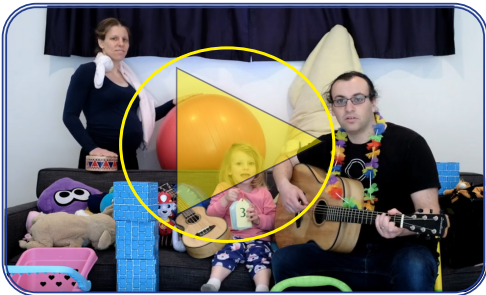
Shortly after relocating back to New York in 2010, I made my pilgrimage to the now defunct Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. At the entrance was a quote from Donald himself. I stood in awe reading it, “Within these walls lies the best hotel you will find anywhere in the world.” My life was complete.

The over-the-top, musky and moldy Trump Taj Mahal was one of the more rundown places I've ever stayed, but I convinced myself it must be better than the Ritz Carlton Paris. Had a massive hurricane swept me into the Atlantic that night, I would have died happy in my bed-bug laced sheets.

Fast forward to election night 2016. It's 3:00AM and he won! He won! He won? Yes, it was a electoral college victory, but still counts. My idol, who everything he touches turns to chocolate gold, is now president. While the world wept, I celebrated. I joined the MAGA movement and agreed with almost everything he did and said, except one - China.

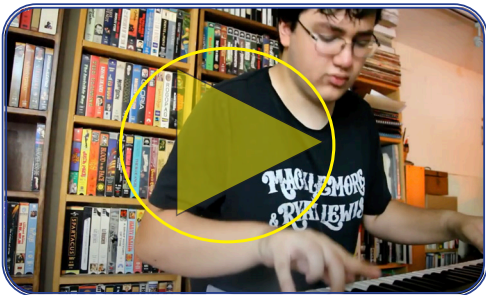
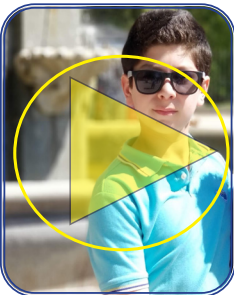
See, yes, I am a huge fan of Trump, but also love China. China is genuinely an amazing place. If you haven't been (as of late), it's a bit like the movie set for Disney's Tron Legacy. Part of the appeal I had for Trump is the same I have for China. It's a pro-development, highly capitalist country with great food and legitimately some of the nicest

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The Prisament Playlist

Clockwise from top-left: **Elena** performing *Again*; **Greg, Julie and Skyley** in their cover of *The Downeaster Alexa*; **Clayton's** electronic *Background Music* (audio only); **Noah** with his High School band *Blank Citation* performing *Overgrowth*; **Seth** leading *Chamelon for Vassar on Tap*; **Rob** in *American Idol* ...



TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

by Greg Prisament

In this episode of Uncle Greg's Math Corner we ask, how big is infinity?

The numbers, starting from 1 and counting up by 1, are known as the Natural Numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, ...

What is the largest natural number? Well, no matter how high you count, you can always count one more higher. There is no largest natural number.

Let's ask a slightly different question. How many natural numbers are there? Yes, there are more than we can count, but we can give the quantity a name. We call it infinity and represent it with the symbol ∞ .

We can think of infinity as representing any quantity that is too large to be counted.

Which leads us to our next question (and some fun surprises): Are all infinite quantities the same size?

Consider even numbers (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ...). One might assume that there are twice as many natural numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ...) as there are even numbers. After all, the even numbers skip half of the natural numbers, right? However, there are, in fact, the same number of natural numbers as even numbers.

To see this, we use a technique called a bijection. If we have two collections of numbers, which we will call A and B, a bijection translates each value in A to a distinct value in B, and, in reverse, each value in B to a distinct value in A. If a bijection is possible, then the two collections are the same size.

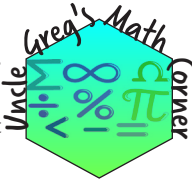
For example, if we consider A to be the natural numbers in English: “one, two, three, four, five...” and B to be the natural numbers in Spanish: “uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, ...” we can form a bijection by translating English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English. “one” \leftrightarrow “uno”, “two” \leftrightarrow “dos”, etc. A bijection simply gives each number a different name; it does not change how many there are.

We can also come up with a bijection that translates between natural numbers and even numbers: 1 \leftrightarrow 2, 2 \leftrightarrow 4, 3 \leftrightarrow 6, ... Think of this as renaming 1 to 2 and renaming 2 to 4. Maybe on Saturn they always count “2, 4, 6, 8, 10” where 2 on Saturn is what we mean by 1 on Earth. Since we can translate between natural numbers and even numbers in this way, the two sets must have the same size.

But sometimes a bijection between two infinite collections is not possible, in which case one of the collections is a larger infinity in size than the other.

For example, there is a larger infinity of real numbers (numbers with digits after a decimal point) than natural numbers. We can easily translate each natural number to a real number. One choice of translation is: 1 \rightarrow 1.0, 2

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On page 2: Fun Zone! and more!

