

The Prisament Paper

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OSSINING, NY SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- New York Governor Cuomo announced that schools in New York State will continue to be closed until at least April 15.
- President Donald J. Trump signed the U.S. Coronavirus Economic Relief Bill
- The International Olympics Committee announced that they are postponing the 2020 Olympics by at least a year. See article, right column.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1933

by Barbara Rocah

First Inaugural Speech of Franklin Delano Roosevelt:

"I am certain that my fellow Americans expect that on my induction into the Presidency I will address them with a candor and a decision which the present situation of our Nation impels. This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great Nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself--nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance. In every dark hour of our national life a leadership of frankness and vigor has met with that understanding and support of the people themselves which is essential to victory. I am convinced that you will again give that support to leadership in these critical days."

March, 1933 I was almost three years old.

Although I have no memory of that day, I am sure that my parents, and my older brother and I, were seated in the living room of our 2nd floor apartment, on 77th and Essex Avenue in Chicago, listening on the radio to this man: Franklin Delano Roosevelt speak these inspiring words.

We need an FDR to lead us out of the current pandemic, where, sadly, we have more to fear than fear itself.

We have pestilence that kills without mercy,
We have incompetent leadership in Washington,
We have a reactive economy that is quivering,
We have threats to our democracy.
We have leadership dominated by narcissistic ambition and personal profit;
that will grow a garden, not of sweet herbs, but bitter fruits:
hard facts of death, poverty, wasting while claiming an Easter message of rebirth.

Can this bizarre situation come to an end?
Will we always live distant from our neighbors?
Will we always anticipate danger, a second wave, or third?
Ready to wash us away in new outbreaks determined by invisible pieces of RNA
that can hijack our cells and turn health into pandemics?

I wish for a utopia of wise epidemiologists at the CDC
Who would speak the truth about epidemics, plan our recovery, lead the way to progress:
Restoring dying gardens that lay waiting for the rose to flower, and the crocus to bloom
Where we can think beyond our human frailty
And contemplate ourselves and what is around us slowly.

3/25/2020

Birthday Zone!



March 14 - Three Months!
Joshua Alexei Lipovsky
(Cousin Jennifer's baby!)



March 26 - Three Years!
Skyler Bert Prisament
See Interview, Page 2

On page 2: Poetry! Fun zone! and more!

BY WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

by Elena, Clayton and Lucas Prisament

As New York State becomes the Epicenter of Coronavirus outbreaks, most things that happen daily are either changed or gone. Rozanne Prisament (65) has enjoyed listening to the church bells ring her entire life.

"I always looked forward to hearing them," she told us. "I grew up with church bells. We lived our lives by the church bells." So, when she heard that all churches wouldn't be in session, she immediately realized that this meant the bells wouldn't ring. "There was no one to ring the bells!" She said.

Rozanne then went and asked the person in charge of the vestry of All Saints Episcopal Church in Briarcliff, New York about it. To her great joy, he responded, "Yes, you can ring the bells. Make the whole neighborhood have a little hope."

Rozanne Prisament tolls the bell by hand twice a day (Noon and 6:00pm), pulling a long rope that dangles from above the rooftop. "It's a real, physical thing." She explains. "It isn't automatic! Someone has to go out and do it. A bell ringer is an important job in the town."

She also does it very reverently, saying prayers beforehand and remaining solemn during the process. Rozanne is very dedicated to this newfound job. It brings joy to her and the rest of her community during these trying times. "It's very meaningful to me," She expressed. "It's a sign of life in a dead church. That church has probably never had a day without mass since 1854." Thanks to Rozanne, the bells continue to ring even in this time of distress, bringing light and hope to the hearts of her neighborhood.



PHOTO: MARC PRISAMENT

Does she ring a bell?

This is grandma Rozanne playing the bells at All Saints Church so that the community feels like the Church is still there.

ARAMARK OFFERS FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH DURING COVID-19

By Conrad Prisament

During this hard time for everyone, Aramark is doing a good deed for those in need. Every morning at the Dobbs Ferry High School you can pick up delicious breakfast and lunch. When I went last week, there was nobody there. I encourage everybody to take a meal!

WHERE? The location of the food giveaway is the Dobbs Ferry High school Gym entrance (to the right of the main entrance).

HOW? The free food pickup is VERY easy! Once you arrive at the high school, they ask 'how many meals do you want?' then you respond, 'I want _ meals.' See it's that easy.

WHY? You should take advantage of the free food pick up because all the food they don't give away well... goes in the garbage. And one more thing, those free lunches aren't really free because the Dobbs Ferry people pay taxes and some of the money goes to the 'free lunches.'

WHEN? The 'free food pickup' is 8AM-11AM. Don't be late because the lunches are at stake (no pun intended). So, after all of this, do you think these lunches are really free...?

2020 TOKYO SUMMER OLYMPICS POSTPONED

by Clayton Prisament

On March 24, 2020, the International Olympic Committee announced that they were going to be postponing the 2020 Olympics by at least one year. This happened after both the countries of Canada and Australia claimed that they would refuse to send their athletes to the Olympics if the event was to stay scheduled during July. The Olympics postponement became official when Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe stated that the Olympics were to be held next year. The Olympics is one of the world's largest sporting events and hasn't been postponed or cancelled for 76 years. We can only hope that the 2020 Olympics will be held as soon as possible, and that this horrible virus passes shortly. It is still unclear whether the summer Olympics are to realign itself back into its previous 4 year tradition or if the summer Olympics will continue to be held a year before the winter Olympics.

CHAIN STORY - INSTALLMENT 1

Fiction

Begun by Rozanne Prisament

Email us to submit a continuation for the next issue! The only rule is you can't end the story.

The announcement over the office intercom was jarring: "Attention! All personnel must leave at once! Pack only what you need and line up at the elevators. Last names starting with A thru M go to elevator 1. Last names starting with N thru Z go to elevator 2. Those able to walk down the stairs, do so immediately. There is no fire, so no need to panic but do not delay."

Everybody looked up from their computers confused, but in a matter of seconds started to collect their belongings. Better to be safe than sorry. Someone will explain this later.

I dumped the contents of my one drawer into my laptop backpack. In the haste of the moment, an empty envelope flew out and raced like a hanglider across the room. My instinct never to litter trumped the expediency of the moment. Wasting precious time I followed it to the window to retrieve it. It landed under a plastic bucket chair, no longer used for sitting, but for plopping almost anything. I looked at the large, unfamiliar, print, made with light blue magic marker. "Serra" was written sideways, the number "222.47" was written boldly across the front, and "acorn," in almost invisible print was in the address box.

To be continued ... by YOU!

THE MOST ANNOYING THING (TALES FROM ISOLATION)

by Elena Prisament

My letter tiles were spread out before me. I had a Q, I, U, N, E, R, and a blank piece. My eyes scanned the board, my mind forming words. Scrabble was my game, and I was determined to win this. There was an open G that I couldn't stop thinking about because I wanted to make something that ended in "ing". Then, to my pleasant surprise, I saw a "triple word score" tile on the same horizontal line as the open G! I became desperate to get it. I was in third place, but I knew if I could get the triple word score, I would shoot to first.

My turn came, and I spent forever trying to make words. "Running", maybe? But no, I didn't have enough "N's. "Acquiring"? No, I didn't have a C or an A, and I only had one wild card tile to use. I took such a long time thinking that my brothers began whining that I should just skip my turn if I couldn't think of anything. I explained to them

Continued on page 2 ...

THE MOST ANNOYING THING (TALES FROM ISOLATION)

From Page 1 ...

that I just really wanted a triple word score. Just when I was about to give up and do a 4-letter word somewhere else, a word came to my mind. It was perfect. The longest word that had been put on the board this game, and the rarest. I smiled in excitement and put it down.

"Queuing"

It means to line up, and it's a word they only use in Britain. But it's still English! I was immensely proud and happy. And then I looked down at the board and realized - It was one letter away from getting the triple word score. I had used every single one of my letters except the R, and it still didn't make it to the triple word score! I felt like screaming at the Scrabble board. I only got 17 points from it, which is pretty good, but nothing compared to the 51 I would have gotten with the special tile I'd been aiming for.



So close to the triple word score, yet so far away...

And then, to make matters even worse, my little brother took out one letter - just one letter! - which was the letter X. Then he placed it next to an open O that I hadn't seen, spelling the word "Ox". And got a triple word score. He ended up getting 27 points for that tiny word! 10 points more than my 7-letter one. I decided that that proved all board games were just luck based, no matter how much skill they claim they require.

I don't think I'll play Scrabble again anytime soon.

Poetry

I AM FROM

By Elena Prisament

I am from dining room tables
From pencils and paper
I am from the loving whispers only I hear in the walls
Familiar, ever-changing, mine.
I am from the pachysandra
Framing my little world, an ankle-deep sea of emerald leaves
And they held on to those leaves, just as vibrant in summer as when peeking through the snow.

I'm from roses thrown into the river and random genius shared
From Saldaña and Prisament
I'm from arguing and giggle fits and socks left on the floor
I'm from "life's too short" and "life's unfair" and "life is beautiful"
I'm from "Sueña con angelitos" and "Corazón de Melocotón" and "Pio Pio Pio".

I'm from Hello and Hola and Bonjour
and Konnichiwa and Merhaba and Ni hao and Namaste
And lips that couldn't yet speak but hands that would move and say
"More book" "Food, please" "all done" "I love you"
I'm from moonlight and sunrise, from morning dew and fireflies
From upside down and so high up, rooftop geography lessons and adventures
From dance on your feet and dance on your hands and
You are my ray of sunlight

I'm from Advent calendars and chocolate coins, from "Shalom" and "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit".
I'm from Manhattan and Panamá
Scotch bread and raw coffee beans
From cousin Skyler, who has more wisdom at the age of two than some attain their whole lives
And she showed me I could fly one day under the Mexican sun, giggling and denying she was high in the sky
"No," she said
"I'm flying on the bench".

And I'm from the frozen moments that speak of innocence and joy
Covering the wall dedicated to its soul
Always there to remind me who I am, who I've been, blank spaces whispering about who I will be.

Our Solutions to
Last Week's Spelling
Bee Extreme



Total Points: 35

Words:

One point:

zebras
stones
streets
lessons
otters
treats
letters
snores
stores
sneezes
starry
strange
reeboots
lasagna
strobe
strong

Two points:

snares
batters
bloats
stares
battles
ballons
enables
snazzy
snoozy
angels
angles
zealots

Three points:

Algebra
Geometry
Math
Tessellates

THE BIRTHDAY INTERVIEW: SKYLER PRISAMENT

Interviewed by Greg Prisament & Julie Bert

How old are you?

"Three"

When did you turn three?

"March 26"

What did you do for your birthday?

"I got a phone and a stroller."

What else did you do today?

"I played with one of my games."

What's your favorite color?

"My favorite color is blue, green and pink."

What do you like to do?

"I like to go outside and play on my trampoline."

What's your favorite book?

"My favorite book is... is... is... Daniel Tiger Merry Christmas."

What do you want to be when you grow up?

"A light."

(In the past she has answered: "An egg".)

What's your favorite animal?

"A giraffe."

Can you tell us about Giraffes?

"Giraffes have a long neck."

They have tails.

I don't know what they eat."

Who is your favorite Paw Patrol Pup?

"Skye. No.. All of them!"

What do you think about the coronavirus?

"We stay at home!"

How do you feel about staying home?

"It's good because I like to sleep."

Anything you want your cousins to know?

"I am beautiful and unique."

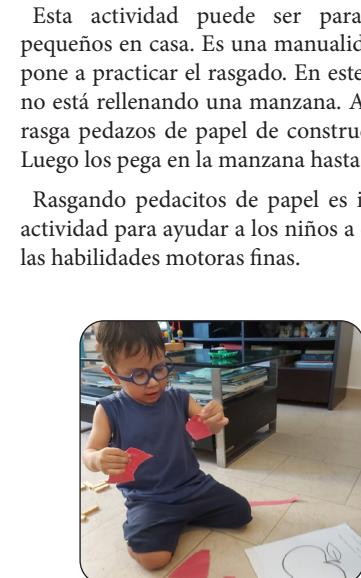
(Greg & Julie looking surprised...) Where do you hear that from?

"Alicia told me."

LA MANZANA DE BRUNO / BRUNO'S APPLE

by Yetsibel Saldaña y Bruno Bustamante

Crafts



Está actividad

esta actividad puede ser para los más pequeños en casa. Es una manualidad que los pone a practicar el rasgado. En este caso Bruno no está llenando una manzana. Aquí Bruno rasga pedazos de papel de construcción rojo. Luego los pega en la manzana hasta llenarla.

Rasgado pedacitos de papel es importante actividad para ayudar a los niños a desarrollar las habilidades motoras finas.

Tearing

pieces of paper is an important activity to help children develop fine motor skills.



MATHEMATICS WORD SEARCH

Words Chosen by Lucas Prisament

(Puzzle created with TheTeachersCorner.net; Words inspired by "Algebra & Geometry; Anything but Square!" by Dan Green)

U U T Q S P F L R H G R A D I E N T E B D Q C G R Q H T N Q B S L
W L Z B F P Z X A O G P R Y D Q N R S B O R D H L X I O M F K E Y
D L V A Z J F S H D J R J A N R R B F R M X U F A Y W P Z Q A F H
K J O U Q L U H C W F F G H B D U Z I O K J Y Z G A I I Y P I R U
O Y C I W D C P Z K T R C L L E T E U I K R U Q H E G Z U U F T S
J J U A F N V I F L A D S N O Y L A N G W I G C H O T M V K A N Y
S O C X T Z N B D P M R S W C O T G O W N C P I N N K D J H M J K
P Y R A P A Y F H Y G B O E H I J M V I X R D F X I L E T U D E K
Z F K T J B X I V R F L P N X V Y A K W G P X R E K N C M K E Q
J B V Y E N C B Z X Z P R Z G K D J D T E D I R J T X C K A N Q Y
F J K L C S P F E S B O Z B J R W V A Q H P A Q H A M Y A S A X E
P S J M G I S F O I Q I A M L B C C B L H T G N X Q G Y A S C Y V
A D I E D C P E Z O U U Y F O O S I M G I R M A T N C H L N O C N
X M I T B S S Z L B C T J I F J S F R O H X R E C A P E C J D F R
X F I H C M F V V L V Z B R V P R G N P F M S L J X W T X X M Z C
G F T W I V J D T U A M A T H E M A T I C S J J P U K U K M P R X
D B G H K I A G C D R T W Z I X L E E I K Y C B O J T E C C L
F R S Y B I O L Y R N X E A D U X N Z L E M T D T L K X U N I K O
K V R X Q T U C G A W A A S A R B X L N Y U M V V E R T I C E S Q
C O O R D I N A T E S R M P P T M A O H P L L O S V L E O T N S R
V W B W Y Y A U Z B B D J A Y B T G H R R T S U S L D Z Y V M L U
P E I I Y I R Q L K Q R U Y S I T I N L J A M S Q K A I B I F V S
V Y C N D O I C A K L Y A A O O V X L C U N Y E P I E M H S S V A
H G E T H L E P J M Z I Q N C V H J L C Y E F E H B G Z I L C P N
K S P J O O D G S Z K G E O M E T R Y C M O F O C X Q W D C P I I
M G O L C R N P I V T D I J G Q J F U O V U B U U Q V D M K E K F
B I F V J U V T O P K W W K X E E V C N A S O X Q W J L Q J O D F

e x y and z (no spaces)
Irrational
Simultaneous
Vertices