

Alba News by Lorelei Colton

It's a very foggy morning here in south Alba, with unusual balmy temps into the lower 50's. The forecast is for above average temperatures all week – some possibly setting new records – but, with chances of rain almost every day. April showers bring May flowers. We should be covered in petals soon!

I had my nerve block for pain last Thursday at the Troy Hospital, and though it was extremely more painful than I had envisioned it to be, I received excellent care, and was in and out in just an hours' time. I admit I felt very pretty crappy all that day – especially when they told me I could not use my heating pad for 24 hours! Only ice! My heating pad is my best friend – next to my husband of course. I laid low that day and tried to rest – but couldn't get comfortable no matter how I tried. But, the following day I felt much better. And, I mean, MUCH better! We didn't change any of our plans to camp the weekend at the Maple Festival in Troy, and am glad to report we had a great time. Saturday's weather was so awful with horrific wind, rain, and temps in the upper 40's. But Sunday's weather was a complete turnaround. No rain, little wind, and the temperature reaching into the 70's. I probably didn't do my back much good doing all that walking on Saturday – I could feel the "ouch". But on Sunday I used Ron's spare came to help me get around and we had a great time wandering the grounds, visiting with lots of folks, grabbing a hot dog at the Big Pond Lion's booth, and even returning to our camper to visit some more with people that decided to drop in.

Last Thursday when I was up in the night trying to get comfortable, I looked out our front door window to see a beautiful big doe standing across the road under the street light for a long time, pawing the ground with her foot – eating something. What a sight. Then, the next morning, very early, when looking out the back door window, I noticed one of our neighbors' cows had a tiny little black furry image standing beside her – or should I say wobbling beside her. When I told Ron he grabbed his phone and texted the neighbor because he had been

told to watch for this. The mama and baby were checked on right away, given fresh water and fresh hay, and all is well. I can't think of a better way to start the day than to see a miracle like that right in sight out your back deck. Also, we have seen several robin's nests holding eggs and mama sitting close by to return in you've interrupted her sitting.

Another wonderful "SPRING" happening, is I see the local produce/flower stand was stocking their racks and tents with all kinds of bright, beautiful flats of flowers. The green onions we planted in our container garden are now up over three inches. The peony shoots are up over 6 inches, and the lilacs are budded out. Our ferns survived all the frosts so they're on their way up, and I've already picked two vases-full of tulips. It's so amazing how much better we feel and is our outlook when you witness these Godly-created joys.

And here it is May. May is named for the Roman goddess Maia, who ruled over the growth of plants. "Full Flower Moon" is the name Native Americans gave to this month's full moon, and it was also known as the "Full Corn Planting Moon", or the "Full Milk Moon", referencing the fertility of the season.

A dear friend of mine said she would soon be bringing me the rhubarb I asked her for so I can make a batch or two of strawberry rhubarb jam to sell at our annual fall church bazaar – or, just give it away, as I sometimes do.

I am so saddened by the college protests taking place around our country. It, unfortunately, reminds me of the campus protests in 1970 towards the Vietnam War. I know, personally, many folks that fought hard in that war. Sadness is a much too slight way to call what and how I feel.

Quote by Ronald Reagan: "Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

Here is a "food for thought" – especially for yours truly: I KNOW A LITTLE SUFFERING IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL, BUT SOMEBODY MUST BE TRYING TO MAKE A SAINT OUT OF ME!....

Our One Light Town by Brock Kitchen

Take Kids to Work day

This past week was Take Your Kids to Work Day and I had the pleasure of taking my daughter with me to my kindergarten classroom. Now this is not the first time she has done this with me. When she was five or six years old, and I was teaching in Liberty she came with me to school a few times over there as well. However, now she is a seventeen-year-old young lady that is almost done with school herself. She knows what my job entails and hears the funny stories that I come home and tell about my day, but her coming at this age wasn't about seeing what I do or being part of the class, I wanted her to see where some of these kids today are coming from and also see the smiles of these young kids and how much they enjoy still being in school. At her age she is now looking beyond high school and at what is going to come next in her life, but I hope for this one day it maybe brought her back to being a kid, a kid full of smiles and cheers and whose biggest worry that day might be if mom remembered to pack their snack at lunch time or if they are going to be one of the first ones out to recess so they can get one of the swings first. We had lots of kids come with their parents on

this day at the school and I do not know who was more worn out the kids or the parents. I hope these kids did not just take it as a day off from their own normal routine but took the time to see what goes into a work-day each day for their mom or dad. When I was a kid, this type of day did not exist, but when I was a little bit older, at the end of my high school days I did get to go with my dad and work with him at a few jobs. This was a big eye opener for me. I always knew my dad was a hard worker and put in a lot of hours for our family, but I didn't realize how hard it really was. His work started at 7:00 am, and some job sites might be an hour or two away, so he was leaving the house many days before I even thought about waking up. Then when he did get there he was laying plumbing pipe of new heating systems or tearing out boilers, he was not doing one thing that was easy and me getting to see that firsthand gave me a new respect for him what he did. So, kids if you did get the chance to go to work with mom or dad this week, not only thank them for taking you along with them but thank them for what they do everyday to make sure you are taken care of.

Ralston News by Kathy Austin

Hi All,
The meetings for the township, water company and the firehall for May are township is May 6th the water company's is May 7th and the fire company's is May 1st. They start at 7:00 pm and all are held at the firehall.

The food bank at the firehall is the second and fourth Wednesday of every month in May it will be on the 8th and the 29th. Take advantage of the food we all can use a little extra help. There is no income requirements. They get some good items.

The Fire Company would like to thank everyone who come out to the Ladies Night Out. The food was delicious and was prepared by Kate Frey and some of the desserts were made by

Donna Frey and her family. Again thank you all who help with the event and to who attend it you all are greatly appreciated.

On May 11th the firehall is having a marathon bingo. Look on the Ralston Firehall's Facebook page for information on the bingo. Don't know what to get Mom and she likes to play bingo why not give her money to play bingo for the day.

If you would like me to put something in the Ralston news just call me at (570)995-5091 or email me at ksacandle18@gmail.com. I am happy to do it can be birthdays or something special going on. If no answer leave a message and I will call you back.

Have a wonderful weekend and week.

The Lighthouse by Jim Lewis

What makes squirrels gather and bury nuts and other food before winter? It's not like they read The Farmer's Almanac, "Squirrel Edition." Even though they forget where much of it is stashed when the time comes, it sure is a smart and necessary practice. They collect when times are good so that they are prepared for when times aren't, and their buried supply is absolutely essential for survival. Good thing we save essential things for our rainy days too, right? Right? Well then again, what are the essential things? Money, food, medicine...

There is wisdom in being prepared for when life turns for the worse. These things are necessary for life here, no doubt, but without God, none of it would be possible. They, and life are a by-product of God and His goodness. If my focus is primarily around the food, shelter, clothing "here on Earth" things, then am I properly preparing for when times get tough? Am I, like the squirrel, preparing when times are good? Is my faith building? Am I storing His word, His peace and His promises inside now so that my foundation and confidence will be there, no matter what comes? Remember Aesop's fable about the ant and the grasshopper?

The ant worked and prepared for the future by storing food (sound familiar?) for the winter, while the grasshopper lived a day by day, whatever life brings existence. Of course when things grew barren, the grasshopper, starving, begs for food and is turned away. Again, it is wise to be prepared for a rainy day

here, but it shouldn't be our first concern. Not convinced? Ask Jesus, "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matt. 6).

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Jesus, (John 16:33). Do you truly believe it? Will you when times get tough? Are you gathering, "spiritual" nuts now? Something to think about..

Well ladies, here is something to look forward to! Four women share a birthday and always celebrate it together. For their 40th birthday they go to the Lakeview restaurant because the waiters are cute and wear tight pants. For their 50th birthday they go to there again because the prices are reasonable and it has a good wine list. For their 60th birthday they go to there because it's quiet and has a nice view. For their 70th birthday they go to the Lakeview restaurant because it's wheelchair accessible. For their 80th birthday they go to there because they've decided to try someplace new.

Encountering God is something you will NEVER forget. Want to meet Him? Come and let Him prove Himself. Impact Church, 141 E. Main St. in Canton, (across from Kwikfill Mkt). Services

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