

### You Said It

“We hope that we can set an example for younger students to give back to their community, and that you are able to do that in a fun way.”

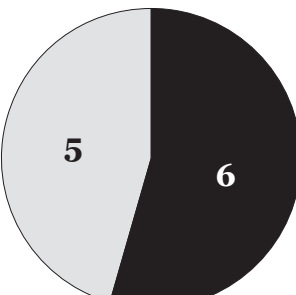
~ Natalie Steiger  
FBLA food drive / Page 5

Rumor Has It  
Bats eat enough insects to save the United States, over \$1 billion a year, in crop damage and pesticide.

Hit the Polls  
Do you have a veteran in your family?  
Yes = ❤️  
No = 😞

Go to the Courier Sentinel Facebook page to find this week's poll and vote!

Last Week's Poll  
Do you drink cappuccino?



Yes = 5 | No = 6

The mission of the Courier Sentinel, as a local, hometown newspaper, is to support our democracy, by publishing editorials and letters to the editor, that stimulate thought and discussion, but, because of the ongoing divisiveness following the recent U.S. presidential election, we have decided to put in place a moratorium on editorials and letters that will further inflame partisan rancor, and ill-will within our community of readers. We need a period of quiet, so we can begin to listen to one another. The newspaper will continue to run editorials, but as commentary on our local news coverage. We welcome letters from our readers that also focus on local issues, things that we cover in these pages.  
Kris O'Leary, general manager

## – Editorial –

# Thank veterans for their service

Members of the Courier Sentinel editorial board include publisher Carol O'Leary, general manager Kris O'Leary and Star News editor Brian Wilson.

At precisely 11 a.m., Nov. 11, 1918, the guns of World War I went silent.

Historians estimate that as many as 22 million people died during the four years of the conflict, with millions more injured or displaced.

In 1938, 20 years after the end of the war, Congress declared the creation of a national Armistice Day, to recognize and remember that conflict, and to honor those who served. In 1954, under President Dwight Eisenhower, the name was changed to Veterans Day and the scope expanded, not only to honor and remember the veterans of one conflict, but to recognize all those who have served, whether in times of war or times of peace.

Veterans Day ceremonies have become an annual tradition, in communities and schools across the country. There are speakers sharing

memories of their time in the service, performances of patriotic songs by school children, special meals served, and gatherings for veterans and their families.

The speakers represent the many faces of veterans. They may be one of the dwindling number of World War II veterans, or among those who served in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq or Afghanistan. American men and women have answered the call to serve their country, in the skies, seas and on the shores of every place the United States has asked them to be, defending American interests and freedoms across the globe.

At each ceremony, the speakers share memories of their time in the service, of the sacrifices they endured far from family and of the life-long friendships forged in the fires of conflict, and grow silent in memory of those they have lost along the way. They talk about how their time in the service changed them, and the way they look at the world and America's place in it.

Veterans Day is a day for the community to gather and to thank veterans for their service.

It is the day set aside each year, to honor this service, so that all people may know freedoms enjoyed by all, are jealously protected by the service of the few.

The battlefields of World War I have been quiet for generations, yet the scars of that war and of the conflicts that have occurred since then, remain on the landscape. Each year, the passage of time and weather wear down those scars, yet the memories linger.

Veterans Day serves not only to honor those who have served, but to remember the cost of that service. The recently passed PACT Act is a step forward in ensuring veterans receive care and support for the damages to their health that are a result of their service. There are still far too many who fall through the cracks.

This Veterans Day, as we honor the service and legacy of those who answered the call, and who stood their watch against the forces that would undermine America and its way of life, we must reach out to all veterans, and ensure they have access to the assistance and benefits they have earned, through that service.

## – Time For A Tiara: Column by Ginna Young –

# Who needs a camera anyway?

As I talked about in my last column, my beloved camera bit the dust, or rather, the spring. When I sadly decided it was too expensive to fix and since there were no places around here to do so, I put my darling camera into retirement.



Thus began my search for a new one. I mean, I have to have one for work, and I absolutely can't live without one for landscape and wildlife photography on my own time... it's unthinkable.

So, I turned to online reviews for what would fit my needs and consulted with my photography buddy. I had one model in mind (Canon R7), while she had another (Canon T8i). So, I bowed to her wisdom and ordered it through Walmart. They had the best price and I know the items come quickly.

Take 1.

I placed my order online and now, I could just sit back and wait. Walmart promised it would be delivered before the end of the week. I've written extensively about my bad luck that follows me everywhere, right?

Two days later, I received notification that it would be delivered by the end of the week. The day after that, I was notified that my order had been canceled, because the account was flagged as fraud. Which account? Mine or the shippers?

Take 2.

OK, new plan. Since I wasn't sold on the T8i, I decided to go to Best Buy and get the one I originally planned on. I withdrew money from my savings and headed to Eau Claire. Of course, when I got there, I asked for help on the sales floor and was informed it would be a 15-minute wait.

That should have been my first clue to just walk out the door. But, I said no problem and patiently waited until the nice young salesman

came to help me. While I waited, I looked at the cameras on display. They didn't have the R7, but they had the Nikon D850 that caught my eye.

I wandered around, but kept coming back to that Nikon. Finally, I picked it up and tested it out, and fell instantly in love with it. By the time the salesman arrived, I'd made up my mind to purchase the Nikon, who I named Francine, even though it was more than I wanted to spend.

Seems cut and dried, right? Hah! First off, they didn't have the camera or lens I wanted in stock, and would have to order and ship it (why am I not surprised?). Well, OK, I guess I can wait a few more days. Then the nice young man accidentally hit the wrong thing on the register, so we had to wait for an equally nice young manager to come override the transaction and then start the process all over again.

Finally, I walked out the door, sans a camera, but with a new external flash and much lighter pockets. My email informed me that I would receive my package before the end of the week. Another email came, saying it would arrive by the end of the week. Still another came, saying it was arriving before the end of the week, but required a signature, since it was an expensive item(s).

I took that day off of work to wait for the delivery, running to the door every time I heard a car. Several emails later and multiple, "now arriving between such and such a time," and the UPS delivery man pulled in. I signed and Francine was here. Only, this wasn't Francine.

The camera that came said it was a D850, right on the body, as did the display one, but were nothing alike, so there must be various models. The control buttons were completely different, and the one I received was much larger and heavier. Still, how bad could it be?

Well, for starters, the lens wasn't compat-

ible, even though the salesman had assured me it was. Of course not. So, I immediately ordered one from a company in New York. The next day, said company called. The transaction didn't go through.

I contacted my bank, who said my account had been flagged for fraud (it was me after all!) and while they tried to reach me (I got no call or email), they didn't have any luck and suspended the card attached to the account.

Turns out, if you purchase something online back-to-back from the same place, within minutes of each other, that is a fraud red flag. Who knew? I got that straightened out and got the lens ordered, after it was made clear that the one I wanted to purchase was actually an international model. Did I want the U.S. model instead? Heck yes!

I paid for next-day shipping, because I just wanted a camera, but turns out, since I ordered it on a Friday, they don't deliver until Monday. Still paid for the shipping though. Rip-off much?

After the four-day wait, I would be back in business. The lens did come when specified and it was a beauty; it fit the camera perfectly and now I could try it out. Only...why were all my photos blurry and over-exposed? I fought with the camera for hours, trying every single thing I could do get them to actually turn out.

Sometimes, a distance shot in enough light worked well, sometimes, it didn't. Close-ups you had to forget about. I watched multiple online tutorials, read the trouble shooting manual several times, talked with my photography buddy and read online testimonials about that very same issue. Nothing worked.

I finally just decided I couldn't deal with it and didn't want to. Even if I could have figured it out, the controls were hard to use and my hands were killing me from the weight of that thing.

It's going back, as are the lenses.

Take 3.