

## Bluegrass, horses, whiskey, country music and Dolly Parton

Sometimes we forget all the wonderful travel opportunities we have in our own country, like the spectacular scenery and attractions found in the South and East that are so different from our high desert.

If you like horses, Dolly Parton, Wild Turkey whiskey, the Grand Ole Opry, terrific food, genteel people and so much more, well, here's a trip for you to consider that will have you flying into Atlanta and out of Nashville and traveling by motorcoach through the Great Smoky Mountains and the green and scenic horse country of Kentucky. No passport needed!

Mayflowers Tours and Cruises is offering a special trip not often found in travel brochures. The From Blue Ridges to Blue Grass tour is sure to be a winner showcasing parts of this country a bit off the beaten path but true Americana.

We start this nine-day tour in Atlanta with a tour of the more historical parts of the city. We'll see the Georgia State Capitol and compare it to our little Capitol. There's lunch after the tour at the famous Mary Mac's Tea Room to enjoy delicious southern cooking. So famous is this iconic restaurant that in March 2011, the Georgia House of Representatives created Resolution 477 in which Mary Mac's was officially declared to be



**Marilyn Foster**  
Travels  
with  
Marilyn

Atlanta's Dining Room.

Then, we board our motorcoach to enjoy the scenery of North Carolina as we make our way to overnight in Asheville, N.C. But first we'll have a lunch stop at the Biltmore Estates before we make our way through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Then, it's two nights in Gatlinburg, Tenn., where we will enjoy a visit to the "world's largest museum," the Titanic Museum, showcasing more than 400 artifacts from the doomed ship. We'll enjoy a dinner and Dolly Parton's patriotic Stampede Show in Pigeon Forge.

Off to Kentucky we venture for two nights, staying in Lexington, home of the Kentucky Horse Park where we'll learn all about horse history and culture. Kentucky is known for its bluegrass and horses.

While in the region, we'll visit Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, the third largest Shaker community in the nation. A visit to the south is not complete without a paddle wheeler cruise on the Kentucky River followed by some whiskey tasting and touring at the famed Wild Turkey Distillery!



COURTESY

**Visit Dolly Parton's patriotic Stampede Show in Pigeon Fork, Tenn. during the Blue Ridges to Blue Grass tour departing May 2019.**

Day 7 finds us on our way to Bardstown, Ken/, to visit My Old Kentucky Home State Park, "where the sun shines bright on my old Kentucky Home." I remember learning that song as a kid. It's here you'll learn the history of Stephen Foster, composer of "My Old Kentucky Home," in a 200-year-old mansion and even learn how to make biscuits. After filling ourselves with homemade biscuits, off we venture to Opryland Hotel for the final two nights.

The Gaylord Opryland Resort Hotel is a major attraction in itself and you'll be fully aware you're staying in a true southern-style hotel where the inside looks like an outside. You'll tour the Country Music Hall of Fame and after a down-home dinner at the Opry Backstage Grill, we'll enjoy a performance at the "granddaddy of all country

music shows," the Grand Ole Opry, where today's biggest stars entertain. One never knows who will be performing, and that's part of the fun.

The tour departs on May 4, a beautiful time to be in this region, and includes air from Reno, free parking at the Chamber office, airport transfers, motorcoach sightseeing, eight nights of first-class hotels, 15 meals, a first-class guide, lots of incredible scenery we don't see in the west and some great traveling companions.

Don't miss this wonderful tour to round out your Americana journey. Be sure to RSVP by calling 775-882-1565 for the free Chamber Travel Club meeting to learn more about this tour and other great travel offerings on Nov. 13 at the Chamber office beginning at 3 p.m. We look forward to seeing you.

## Horse sense is needed where I live

I feel lucky to live where I do. I walk each day — two or three miles depending on the amount of caffeine on board that tells my legs how far I can go and get back home before I need to have a couch under me! On my walks, I can go any one of the four compass directions, but east and west are my favorites. Those directions are dirt roads and the traffic is lighter... like maybe one pickup. Just right!

I'm pulled to the east more often than west. That way, I get to see some sheep that are living happily in corrals about a mile into my daily jaunt. There are these huge white Pyrenees dogs that announce me coming. They, however, don't speak English as they're owned by sheep herders who only speak Spanish. So, I've learned a few dog words in Spanish. In my rudimentary try at a second language, I can sputter out, "Bueno perro-ie. No morder mi cara lejos!" Roughly translates to, "Good doggie, don't eat my face off!" I smile and just keep walking. But I'm not afraid. I've taken treats of homemade cookies to the sheep herders and they let me pet the dogs so they know me. Thank goodness.

To the west, there are horses and a herd of buffalo! Yes, buffalo. I like going that way, too, to see the buffalo, of course, but there are these two horses that I like to visit with. Yes, I know, I need to get out among people more! But these horses get me. A horse won't talk down to you and tell you your hair isn't combed or your shirt had a stain on it the size of Delaware from the pomegranate you ate with breakfast. Yes, those horses get me.

So, being the animal talker I am, a few times I've stopped at the fence and tried to coax the horses over by pulling up some green grass growing in clumps on my side of the fence and holding it out as a treat. I'm telling you it's the beginning of November now and the grass pickin's are getting pretty thin along the dirt road to the west of where I live! But I scavenge and come up with a nibble or two. I've only been able to get one horse to come and befriend me. She's a pretty filly and rewards me by letting



**Trina Machacek**  
Is This You?

me scratch her nose and run my hand along her cheeks. All horse friendly. But, yep, here's the "but." But the boy horse is as stubborn as — well I was going to say a mule, but he's just a stubborn horse. Apparently, I can only talk girl horse language.

So a friend was visiting and we walked to the west together and one day I decided to take an apple. Yeah, you guessed it. Neither horse came to the fence. The next day I took the apple and there was the filly, waiting for me. OK, she was waiting for the grass. But I pulled out the apple and my knife and sliced off a piece. She sniffed and, since we had this trust thing going, she took the piece and chewed. And chewed. And chewed. I'm not sure she ever had any apples. But she ate it, core and all. The boy horse just stood off watching. The next day, she enjoyed another apple. Then the next day...

She was walking over and I began to slice. She comes to the fence, sniffed and shook her head and wasn't the least bit interested in that sweet Gala apple. Try as I might to entice her to partake and enjoy a slice, she was adamant. No apple — but when I pulled up and offered her a handful of grass, she was like my best friend. The boy horse just stood off in the field, watching. I took the apple down the road and threw it in where the buffalo roam, not knowing if buffalo eat apples or not. But the next day, the apple was gone so I'm hazarding a guess that yes, buffalo do eat apples!

So here's the things I've learned from this little episode that took several days to play out... I feel lucky to live where I do. That one pickup I usually see will stop and check to see if I need help, how cool is that! I don't speak boy horse. And I need to study Spanish un poquito mas!

*Trina lives in Eureka, Nev. Share with her at [itybytrina@yahoo.com](mailto:itybytrina@yahoo.com). Really!*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A solution to decreasing national debt

President Trump was correct in his criticism of the Federal Reserve raising interest rates too rapidly without any current inflation fears (very minimal increases during Obama years) having a negative effect on the growing economy. Every increase of 1 percent on the interest rate results in \$200 billion additional annual debt expense on the federal budget. Now the solution: Increase the harvesting of lumber from federal lands. The current \$600 million tree harvest will need to be increased to 3 billion trees (would take us to efficient planned harvesting levels of the 1980s) before the environmentalists and Democrats used the Endangered Species Act to almost

end the logging industry, leaving us with the loss of millions of jobs and 7.5 billion dead trees in the national forests of 11 western states (Denver Post 2017, U.S. Forest Service). Value of the lost resources is estimated at \$14.5 trillion. This equals two-thirds of the national debt, or 580 times the \$25 billion wall, or three and a half times the \$4 trillion annual federal budget (estimated average size of tree 0.4 cords or 650 board feet by U.S. Forest Service 1 cord equals 4 feet by 4 feet by 8 feet equals 1,550 board feet at an estimated \$3 per board foot, which equals 12 foot square by 1 foot thick equaling an average value of tree \$2,000 each). The 2.4 billion tree increase would add approximately \$4.8 trillion annually to the economy with 40 percent of

the total (stump fees) designated to reducing the national debt by \$2 trillion per year.

**Mark Tarvainen**  
Gardnerville

### Becoming two states might have been good idea

The November election is now over and we are well on our way to becoming another California mess. The California liberals have left the terrible state of affairs they created and want to do the same here. Maybe the smarter people of California had the right idea too become two states, the north and south. Think about it: Could this be in our future? Hopefully, we can correct any mess they make in the next election.

**Glenn Bush**  
Carson City

## PAST

From page A18

and an ancient pipe of briarwood.

### 130 YEARS AGO

Born: On Sunday, November 10th, a boy was born to the wife of Mr. George Gillson. May the lad grow to be as good as his awful Dad.

### 100 YEARS AGO

Influenza: Mrs. Leete M.

Blanchard answered the final summons, the result of an attack of influenza that later turned into pneumonia. Mrs. Blanchard was born and raised in Carson City, educated in the local schools and popular among her girlfriends.

### 70 YEARS AGO

Lucius Beebe: Traveling around the country in an ornate private railroad car, Beebe's visit to this

Comstock Lode country recalls the fabulous days of the silver kings. His "Gold Coast" caboose is the first modern private car to be routed through Reno since 1932. Beebe's home on rails is the biggest ever built. It measures 82 feet and weighs 75 tons, has two bedrooms, three baths, a dining salon, servants' quarters, and a communications system. The

drawing room has crystal chandeliers, orange draperies, brocaded couches, and a marble fireplace with a China cat lounging behind a brass guard.

### 20 YEARS AGO

New Governor: Kenny Guinn became Nevada's first Republican governor in 16 years. "I've never run an election campaign before, as opposed to my opponent who

had run four races in less than seven years," Guinn told the Association Press. "I had to start at the grass roots level."

*Trent Dolan is the son of Bill Dolan and Sue Ballew is the daughter of Bill, who wrote this column for the Nevada Appeal from 1947 until his death in 2006.*