

The Lincoln Liberator

Issue: 2

Independent Student Newspaper

Liberate Your Mind

One day a few of us, talking among each-other on a casual off-handed topic, recognized, that we all had the same opinion about something, neither of us had much awareness about. It was a topic that was neither relevant to our lives, nor were we particularly interested in it.

How did that happen? -- we wondered. How do all of us, from different interest and backgrounds end up adopting an opinion that wasn't our own?

When we asked around we discovered that most kids got manipulated into the same opinion.

How can we escape this predicament?

We formed *The Liberator* to give us kids a chance to do our own investigations, and form our own opinions.

**Speak up! Your Voice counts.
Thank you to the many contributors!**

Featured



CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION ABOUT GUNS



Is greed digging a door to hell?

[Read about it on pg. 8](#)

Puzzle, jokes, comics 😊



Why and how are people using the Giant Otters' loving, social, and curious nature to kill them all?

[Read on pg. 5](#)

Truth About Trash



In our modern world we sometimes don't think about our actions and make mistakes without even realizing it. In 2015 there was about 19,845,000,000 pounds of plastic in our oceans, and it is just getting worse. In fact, there are huge state sized garbage Islands floating in our oceans, and they devastate marine life. ([Read about it on the last page!](#))

In order to combat that, we have to buy recyclable things and make sure our trash gets in the trash can, not the ocean. This is a big problem at school, as some students are careless and walk away from their dirty lunch area, letting all their plastic just float away. You probably have had many people tell you this, but it is a real problem. You need to make sure that you and your friends throw away all your trash.

On the other hand, even if you throw away your trash, it just ends up in a landfill, and it would be better if you didn't bring any trash in the first place. You can pack your own lunch and use reusable lunch containers. You should encourage your friends to do so, too. You can also ask your parents to buy recyclable items (anything with a recycle symbol on it). This would make our schools cleaner and make the world just a little bit better.

The Liberator is committed to help preserving our planet. We print all of our copies on recycled paper, with ink that is eco-friendly. When you are done reading, please do not just discard your copy somewhere. (Since we get no support, each copy is costly.) Give it to a friend or family member or teacher.

We have a new slogan "**Read it, And Pass it On**". As an independent newspaper, The Liberator is not able to publish enough copies for everyone, since we have no funds or support available to us. And if you are the last to read your copy of The Liberator, please be sure to recycle it, so that it doesn't end up in the oceans or the landfills. It is 100% recyclable.

D.N.

Is the grass as “green” as we thought, if it is not even grass?



[Read on pg. 2](#)

Is the Grass as Green as We Thought if It's Not Even Grass?



It is always good to think, rethink, question and investigate everything in depth. Things that are obvious. Things that appear perfect. Things that we often just take for granted or things that entice us. Like our beautiful new field, which is gorgeous, inviting, and finally ready.

Everyone at our school and the neighbors around it have experienced the disruptive construction happening in the field. Recently, the athletics department received a grant to create a rubber track and artificial turf. This is amazing for PE classes, but is it great for our health? 23 years ago there was another health safety issue at our school.

On January 17, 1994, 4:30AM the Earth in southern California began to shake. The catastrophic event known as the Northridge Earthquake was underway. Santa Monica was hit bad, turning a large part of the school into rubble. The old auditorium collapsed. When it fell, it revealed that the material within the walls was primarily asbestos -- a fire-proof insulator that is all around amazing, except that it is infamous for causing lung cancer. When the building came down, the asbestos dust spread across the whole campus, and cleanup efforts included Haz-Mat teams and hundreds of thousands of cubic feet of dirt being shipped to toxic waste facilities. The Asbestos may never be completely removed because the harmful state of the mineral is the microscopic dust-fiber, but the highest amount of it that can possibly remain is negligible and is within the margin of reasonable error. It is not enough to hurt us anymore, but it was enough back then and we do not know how many kids might have paid the price with their life or health later in life.

The idea of artificial turf, when it was invented in the late 20th century, was just awesome. It required no water and was affiliated with the trendy new idea of artificial plastic things. However, it is not a pure good thing. Artificial turf, or Astroturf, as it's sometimes called, is raising many short term and long term health concerns. The district, fortunately, has decided against the main substance of concern, the little rubber pebble fill, made of chewed up, recycled tires, that is used in most fields nowadays. Studies have shown many soccer players with exposure to rubber pebbles get cancer at startlingly young ages. But our future field still does have issues of its own.

On the field, markings are painted to show boundaries in field sports. The pigment used for white lines is titanium dioxide which has been shown to cause cancer in lab animals and is considered by the IACR as a possible human carcinogen.

Polyurethane, the material that is used in the track, is also quite dangerous. It contains chemicals called isocyanates which are used in the paints that make the track red. When it is being melted to be laid, it creates fumes, that, if inhaled, can cause countless lung diseases, and possibly cancer.

Some also wonder if the school is focusing on the wrong things. While construction workers are busy planting small succulent gardens and large flood lights (in case you wanted to play football at midnight), it appears

they have ignored the old, disintegrating retaining wall that supports the field. At any time, over 150 students attend class in the path of the potential landslide along Citizenship Lane, blissfully unaware of the looming danger. That wall collapsing and pouring athletic field dirt, Astroturf and titanium dioxide and isocyanates (not to mention all the students playing on the field) could be disastrous.

To get a better picture, The Liberator consulted two civil engineers. Suspiciously eying the degrading masonry, rusting ties, and large cracks running down the wall, they explained it is not safe -- as even a small amount of seismic activity or other disturbance could cause it to collapse, which, in turn, would cause a landslide.

But the new track has many benefits. These include health, environment, and budget upsides. For example, the new surface is immune to potholes, mud, and such problems that can cause sprained ankles, and, if you fall, concussions. Also, the field saves money on water and maintenance, and that money can be used to improve other aspects of the school. Still, when you face-plant into the shiny new field, keep this article in mind. Do not swallow or breath in the filler particles in the field. Astroturf can also cause rubber burn and heat burn, since it gets hot in the sun.



Our field is safe, as far as we could investigate. Make no mistake -- *The Liberator*, for its part, is grateful for the beautiful work done and glad we can run around on our field again.

Green food for thought: Astroturf still needs a lot of water to be washed. It does not produce oxygen, as grass does, and the plastic grass contributes to the enormous human trash production.



How this article came to be: At the beginning of the construction, a few of the school's students were looking around the construction and were curiously asking questions. They were interested, and being into sports themselves, these students knew something about the price some professional athletes had to pay for playing on artificial fields. The kids were told that it was not their business and that they should stop asking. The Liberator believes that it IS their business. They are the student athletes that are going to play on it. They are the ones whose life may be affected by it. They are the ones, who if they don't ask questions, and make things their business may pay a high price.

LESSON: Don't ever stop asking questions. A truthful answer can put your concerns to rest or it can help find a good solution. Give constructive input, if you have any. Yours and others' future may depend on it.

Book Review

In school, there are book people, movie people and video game people. Usually they don't mingle together. But recently, there has been a novel that succeeded in bringing all three types of people together.

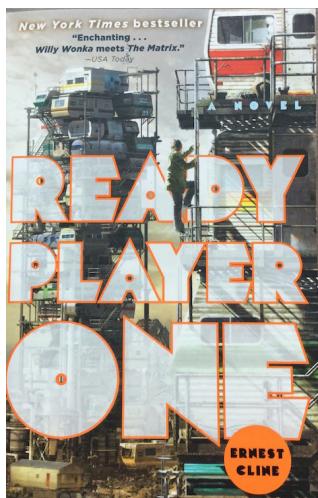
Ready Player One is about Wade Watts, a teenager in the year 2044. The world is on a downfall because of a virtual-reality game that everyone plays, the OASIS. The real world is neglected and dying, because the creator of the game embedded an Easter egg (literally) inside the game, and promised his whole inheritance to the person who would find it. This spurred a crazy, all-consuming world-wide race. The book is a warning: Do not neglect the real world, however good a virtual world might be! You still are a person, not an avatar in a game. Embrace the virtual reality technology, not become it. In addition to its philosophical message I appreciated the book because I do not necessarily watch a lot of movies, which separates me from a lot of people. But with book/movies like **Ready Player One**, I can understand their interests and connect with new people, that normally I wouldn't have much in common. Book/movies like Ready Player One can bring people together. New friendships can be made, and relationships can be improved.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline Published 2011

Recommended for people who like science fiction, video games, or books with strong protagonists.

Be aware of some violent, explicit, and sexual content that may be inappropriate for some readers.

N.K.



Truth Pseudo-science Column

An alien sighting and attempted abduction occurred in the Santa Barbara area recently. Either the alien or the abductee closely resembled one high-ranking Lincoln official. At the same time, this administrator was "unavailable on campus." Skilled Liberators investigating were also unable to pinpoint her location. A few people have formed somewhat scientifically-backed theories that she may be a spy from an extraterrestrial world. She recently changed her name for the third time since joining the school community, possibly as a scheme to hide her identity. This is probably just a coincidence, but it pays to be vigilant.

Report any suspicious behavior of staff and students on our website at www.lincolnliberator.com.

A Follow Up to Last Issue's Article The Walkout

April 20th *The Liberator* attended an event that showed true dedication, commitment, and a sense of service to the common good -- the walkout. Students from many schools, including SaMo High, University High, Crossroads, John Adams, Archer, among many others, converged together at Santa Monica's City Hall to rally and let the government know that they were fed up being afraid and just waiting for someone to take action.

A group of Lincoln students, who decided to stand up and make a difference, departed at the end of Nutrition. The group was not very big, but was truly dedicated. They faced their first test right before they left the school grounds, at the front gate, where administrators made students line up so they can get their names written down. That succeeded in intimidating most students back to class. Unlike the last walkout, this time, everyone who followed their conscience paid the price -- truancy.

The group that remained walked almost two miles, through Third Street Promenade, and eventually reached City Hall. During the whole trek, the group came together as a team while chanting and sharing opinions and feelings. Onlookers voiced their positive enthusiastic encouragement -- honking horns, revving engines, waving, chanting, walking, and singing with the marchers.

At City Hall, a student activism group called LASAC (Los Angeles Student Activist Coalition) set up a podium where many people raised their voices, sharing their opinion on gun violence.

A Lincoln student also spoke at the rally. He spoke about the need to listen to young students, because the future undeniably belongs to the youth. He said that we, the future generation, should not wait silently and passively for our lives to be ruined or abruptly ended.

There was one chant, however, that stuck with us more than others.



It simply said "**This is real education.**" It is true: this experience is awakening and activating us. Kids are realizing they matter and they are raising their voices. The Walkout student initiative across the country is starting to unite us, and will certainly make a difference in our country and ultimately in the world.

We are experiencing something greater than our parents' generation, who grew up in America, did. We are learning something that was quietly being suppressed in our young generation. We are learning how to take a core belief and knowledge and stand up for ourselves, like some of our grandparents had to do here and around the world. It's not a corny classroom simulation, but something real that's actively making a difference. Illegally, without a hearing, and against school-rules administration officials convicted of truancy all who walked out. But the lessons learned by *The Liberator*, and all those who raised their voices in the walkout, was more

valuable than anything we would have learned in class that day and we will be able to apply it throughout our lives. Our voices matter. Let's stop the ever-growing indifference and bored apathy. Our lives should be more than just obediently following orders in the classroom or escaping into video games.



World Aware

Turkmenistan - Natural Gas Extraction



Population -	5,351,277
Mean age -	27.9 years
Area -	488,100 sq. miles
Comp. Area -	Slightly larger than California.
Climate -	subtropical desert
Literacy -	99.7%
Capital -	Ashgabat
Gov. -	presidential republic; authoritarian
Main Industry -	natural gas
GDP -	\$41.67 billion
Exports -	\$7.394 billion



Joke:

-Bye Jordan,
I'll call you
later.

-Don't call
me "later",
call me Jor-
dan!

Submitted by:

J.C.

In modern times, Natural Gas has become one of the most important extracted [natural] resources. When most of us hear "Natural Gas", we think of the invisible substance that powers our cooking, having not much power beyond that. Most people don't know or realize that Gas is quickly becoming the most versatile and industrially valuable chemical that, in recent times, became the leading source of electrical energy in the United States, and many buses now use it instead of Gasoline as a primary fuel. The reason for this is simple -- Natural Gas is by far the leading Hydrocarbon fuel, beating coal, oil, and other compounds by long shot in terms of efficiency, lower pollution, and burning clean. But still, Natural Gas is not perfect. Nowhere near. Although it produces far less CO₂ than other options, it still creates enough to be a large concern, and, if any of it leaks, it is 84 times worse than CO₂ as a greenhouse gas. And, if enough of the insidious substance fills an area, it can displace the air and cause suffocation for anyone who is trapped with it (that's why they make it smell, so people notice it). The fact that it is gaseous at room temperature makes it difficult to contain and extremely dangerous to work with. In January, an explosion in an Oklahoma drilling rig killed five workers. This is just the most recent of many similar accidents. In terms of protecting the environment, it is most definitely a step in the right direction, but it's best is nowhere near good enough. It cannot compete for sustainability with any of the major renewable energy sources. With Natural Gas demand on the rise, drilling companies are more eager than ever to find new, unexplored drilling sites to exploit and make a profit from.

So, what does this all mean for Turkmenistan? Turkmenistan has the seventh largest reserve of Natural Gas underneath it and is the ninth largest exporter in the world. As the value of Gas is steadily rising and modern drilling techniques make the process more efficient, the Government has been making greater efforts to sell the precious resource that has been waiting underground for millions of years. The people of Turkmenistan tend to be very impoverished and rarely benefit from the Natural Gas riches of the country as the majority of the drilling sites are controlled by corrupt government officials.

It is hard to say what the future will hold for natural gas in Turkmenistan, but we can be sure that it won't be all good. Evidence of this can be clearly seen in the middle of Turkmenistan's desert. Forty-seven years ago, a drilling accident led to a 70 meter wide crater that has continuously been burning ever since the event. It is dubbed the "Door to Hell" and has become a tourist attraction, of sorts, and a stark reminder of the environmental power of human actions, especially when backed up by greed.

C.G.



PRISON ESCAPE



Email us your comic or joke and we may include it in our next publication.

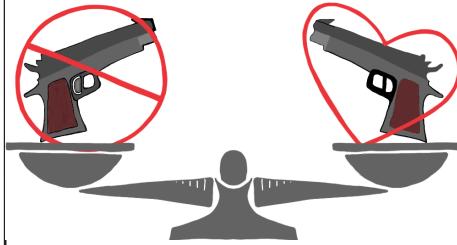
Dear Abe, Letters to the Editor

Dear Abe,

A concern that I have is about the walkout article. It basically talks about banning/lowering the amount of guns people can buy. In the library, I found a book about the second Amendment and the right to own guns. It said that in 1990 the congress passed a law for a “gun free school zone.” It says that guns should not be in an area near a school. Another law that was passed in 1989 by congress says that rifles, handguns, shotguns, and “street sweeper guns like” Uzi’s, AR-15’s, and tech-9’s were all banned. After that (from 1989-2000) there were many more school shootings than there were from 2000 to 2016. The second Amendment ITSELF was created for self-defense, so, if you get rid of the second amendment, you are basically getting rid of your protection.

Also, if you think you can get rid of gun violence by just adding a law, it won’t work, because there will still be the black market. But one thing I do agree with is that gun permits and Gun ID’s should be added and enforced.

One Concerned Student



I am glad we agree on some things. But even more important are our disagreements. They give us a chance to discuss things and find solutions. Thanks for bringing them on!

About the second amendment -- there is a common misconception that it was created to support home safety. That is not the case. At the time of the Bill of Rights, America was new and under continuing threat from England and did not have much of an army. The hope with creating that law was that regular people could offer military support to the country if needed. Today the US has the most powerful military in the world and most definitely does not need support from civilians. The law that you referenced was not actually a complete ban on guns, but rather a ban on manufacturing and importing certain types of civilian firearms for recreational use. The research that was done was performed by a gun-supporting party and, not following proper scientific practices, conveniently turned a blind eye to many pieces of evidence, and research done by the CDC shows exactly the opposite.

Once again, I appreciate your input and thanks for sending in your opinion.

Sincerely, Abe

Read the rest of the letter and the answer on the website: www.lincolnliberator.com

Giant River Otters Near Extinct

In the year 1879, the Amazon rainforest saw its economy stretch like an elastic band (made of rubber). It was the rubber “boom”. The industrial revolution caused an increased demand for rubber, and the rubber trade was forced to grow. Thousands of native Americans were enslaved and forced to work on the newly created rubber plantations, sowed on their indigenous land. The production of South American rubber inflated like a balloon (also made of rubber), until 1912, when it suddenly burst. As automobiles were created, and the demand for rubber grew, rubber plantations began to pop up in places like Malaysia, with similar climates to the Amazon. The South American plantation started to lose steam due to foreign competition and the rise of synthetics, and suddenly thousands of people found themselves in poverty. In order to support themselves and their families, they started to hunt giant otters.

The giant river otters are social animals -- easy to hunt -- and it was legal to hunt them and sell their furs until 1973. They are literally giant -- up to 6 feet in length -- and their furs were valued because of their density. They were mass-hunted, and, because their population relies on “couples” that mate for life and never re-mate, their numbers greatly decreased.

Thus, LOVE spells DEATH for the otters.

Dear Concerned Student,

Dear Abe,
I am very depressed.
My pet blobfish has died. Please help....

-Gigi B.

Dear Gigi,

I am so sorry about your blobfish! First of all, I sympathize with you. I have had many pets in my time. As I mentioned last issue, I had turkeys, dogs, pigs, the list goes on. But I have never had a blobfish! After a brief search in the library, I did find photographs of one. They are very odd! I truly wish I had one when I was your age. You were very lucky to have it.

Everyone goes through grief in a different way. It is important that you remember that everybody in your community is here to support you in this time of great sadness. I have heard that mindlessness -- I mean mindfulness -- can help. I hope you feel better and please reach out if you need further support.

Sincerely, Abe
R.I.P. Blobby!



Even today -- long after the end of the fur trade, the otter population is still dying. But all hope is not lost. The otters can be recovered if we all pitch in. Their biggest threats are habitat loss due to deforestation and mercury pollution due to unsustainable gold mining. You can help by always making sure that you, your family and friends are buying gold and wood products only from trackable, eco-friendly sources, and by supporting recycled paper products.

As a top predator The Giant River Otter plays a critical role in keeping a river ecosystem in balance and its population can indicate whether that ecosystem is healthy. They live in extended families and work cooperatively, even babysit for each-other. Otter families respect each-others' territories and do not fight. A pair bonds for life, so if one is killed - generations of otters are eliminated. Being inquisitive creatures they curiously approach boats and become easy targets. Their best and kindest traits are being used by humans to drive them to extinction. This is not right. What do you think?



Businesses, Events, and Other Things to Support and Enjoy



In this day of big franchises and corporatization of almost everything, there are few local or community centered businesses left. Still, there are some who do hold out in the difficult market. They manage to create an environment where people can not only shop, but socialize with similarly minded people from all creeds of the world. Many of these places, incidentally, were created by immigrants.

When Mory immigrated to Santa Monica from Iran over thirty years ago, he wanted a way to support his family financially and to provide the other Persian families in the community with good, ethnic food that could remind them of their roots. Just one block away from LMS, this small, family-operated shop not only survived, but has become more than just a grocery store for the ethnic Persian residents that live in the Santa Monica area. Recently, Mory's younger business partner, Sohieh, who immigrated from Iran more recently, has taken over the day-to-day operation of the store, but the store's cozy familiar feeling remains. We spoke with him while he was scooping pistachios for one customer, cutting feta cheese for another, and pointing a third customer in the direction of a particular exotic spice. Sohieh told us that he gets shoppers not only from Middle Eastern and Mediterranean origin, but Indian, Mexican, European, and every other ethnicity imaginable. Even non-ethnically defined Americans find their way to this small, Middle-Eastern market seeking delicacies and fine breads. Here friendships are forged, new cultures accepted, and recipes exchanged.

As many know, a long and difficult political and violent struggle has been going on in the Middle East, arousing fear in all other parts of the world, as well. Judging by some graffiti close by, there are many people in the community that are much less accepting than we would hope. The crisis has also made it more difficult for Mory and Sohieh to source the products that they have imported from Asia for years. The market proudly uses the capital of Iran in their name, and their business card displays a famous imperial monument. Sohieh is worried that this can be asking for trouble, but Mory doesn't think so and we agree with him. It stands as a symbol of hope and resilience for change in the dark world in which we live.

We encourage readers to go support the Tehran Market, real life evidence that a business does not necessarily have to be corporate to succeed and that diversity and community are synonyms.



Fun Facts

- Catnip can affect the small, as well as the big cats, like tigers and lions (but test it only at your own expense).
- The garden snail sleeps the most of any animal on Earth - up to three years at a time.

Food for Thought

1. Why do you drive on a parkway but park on a driveway?
2. When we "skate on thin ice" why is it that we can "get in hot water"?
3. If pro and con are opposites, what is the opposite of progress?

Real Timewarp



Inspirational Quotes

There were official attempts made on our newspaper to be kidnapped, censored, even banned. But we persevered because we have voices that need to be heard. Because even though we are kids -- we are the future. And the constitutional right of freedom of speech applies to us too, even if leaders or administrators are confused sometimes. This week's quotes reflect our struggle:

"We Generate Fears While We Sit. We Overcome Them By Action." – Dr. Henry Link

"I haven't failed, I've just found 1,000 ways that won't work." - Thomas A Edison

"The Pessimist Sees Difficulty In Every Opportunity. The Optimist Sees Opportunity In Every Difficulty." – Winston Churchill

So come and take action with us!

The Lincoln Liberator

A Kettle Curiosity in Santa Monica

On the corner of 34th and Pearl Street, in the least suspecting place, there is something interesting to see and to think about. It is an unusual, eccentric site, it's almost awkward, yet brings people together in the nicest way. A sweet elderly lady, who lived pretty much all her life in the same neighborhood, and who watched her own community change and disconnect in the hurdle of rush-hour traffic and technological advancements, did something unusual with an old-world item that positively impacted the neighborhood. She simply hang one of her broken teapots on a tree branch by her house and thus a tradition began.

At first only neighbors would hang their discarded kettles on her tree, then passerbys and strangers would take a notice and return with a kettle. Today the tree and bushes around her house are covered with



kettles of all sorts and kinds. The tradition became a conversation starter and a community builder. People stop to check it out during the congested hours and often end up making a friend, as we did, others meetup with old friends by the kettle-house for a stroll around the neighborhood. Susan, the lady of the house, is always willing to spend some time connecting with old acquaintances or getting to know someone new.

For centuries teapots have been symbols of the human yearning for slowing down, listening to one another and discussing community matters. A teapot and a cup of afternoon tea is a ritual that almost disappeared from the western world. Yet the symbol of it, used as a unique decoration, unexpectedly turned into something meaningful by surprising people. It slowed people down just enough to allow them to take a notice and connect with their community.

Every time we pass by her house this lady has friends in her yard. They are BBQing, talking, laughing. This old world symbol of slowing down time and connecting, used in a new way, manages to do just that and even some more:

All these discarded teapots could've ended up in the landfills, but instead they are bringing friends together and forcing us to think of the concept of time, rituals, and art.

"Liberator's Circle" is an honorary society whose mission is to celebrate those who exemplify extraordinary efforts to positively influence their school, city, or world community. Anybody can be awarded membership any time they do something inspiring or positively influential.

Members receive an honorary certificate.

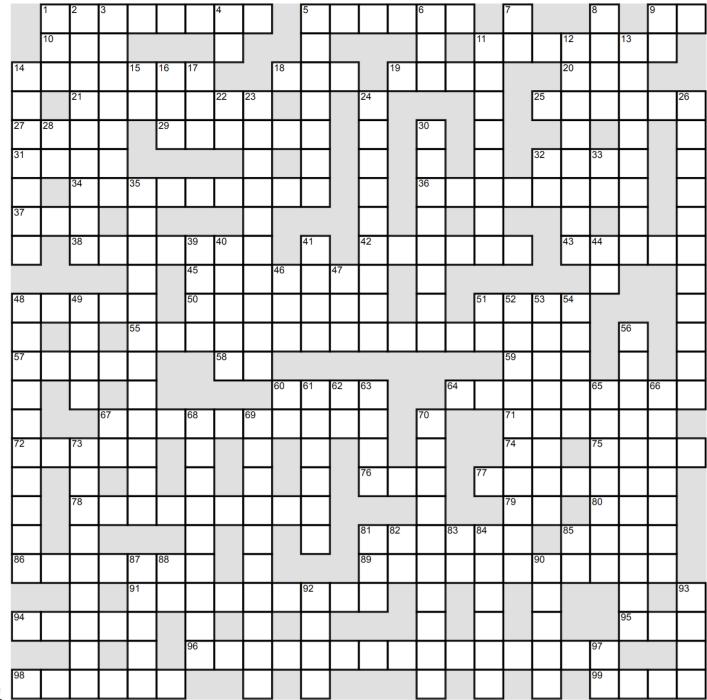
If you believe that somebody in the school or in the community deserves membership in Liberator's Circle, you can nominate them online or with an email.

We hope that this helps to inspire everyone to step up, in ways big or small. Susan, above, is honored for her quirky idea that brought positive change.



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Down
1. Indigenous people of Panay, Philippines
2. Referring to a very large business or association having qualities (such as commercialism or lack of originality) due to their size, influence or control
3. Infectious disease for which we get vaccinated every 10 years
4. Symbol of chemical element 34 in the periodic table
5. One of the free end-papers of a book
6. The first or eighth note in the solfège musical scale
7. Disapproving gash, the opposite of sigh of relief
8. The eighth note in the solfège musical scale
9. "Marvelous" feeling singing in the rain
10. The qualities and traits that distinguishes one from another
11. Dominion of a lord; royalty honor
12. Mythical creature of the night
13. Roman 52
14. Bovine animal
15. A gaseous mixture of mostly Methane, but also higher length hydrocarbons, used for heating, cooking and electricity
16. Someone who liberates
17. A city on Ob river in Russia. Its Zoo holds the world record in captive breeding programs for endangered species
18. Japanese writer Kenzaburo..
19. An insulating material, known to cause lung cancer
20. Pertaining to
21. Exists
22. A country in northern Asia
23. To hit with a sharp blow
24. Prefix, meaning physician, medicine, healing
25. Feeling of closeness, compassion and care
26. Not down; lovely animated movie
27. A set of tools or equipment for a particular purpose
28. United Arab Republic
29. To steal a dog especially to obtain a reward for its return to tell to a scientific laboratory
30. Beauty is in the ., of the beholder.;
31. Job as a public relationship rep at a company
32. Activities, play or a battle on a computer for entertainment
33. Maurice C... -renown French scientist, biologist 1868-1958
34. Slip or move smoothly
35. An old instrument for performing calculations by sliding counters along rods used in a new way imploring light and photocells
36. A place to purchase goods
37. Alien creature
38. Latest information
39. Showing the effects of war or military service : ruined, ravaged
40. Convert waste into usable material
41. Being in agreement or harmony
42. A person who is enthusiastic about hi-fi sound reproduction
43. What protects the individual to speak up or write a newspaper
44. Steadfast in devotion to ones lawful monarch or government
45. Large primate
46. Leading Edge abbreviated
47. Our group
48. To follow a straight course
49. Japanese writer Kenzaburo ..
50. The distinguishing character, sentiment, moral nature, or guiding beliefs of a person, group, or institution
51. Where ambulances take emergency patients
52. Unit of magnetic induction; famous inventor; electric car
53. Wise through reflection and experience, also aromatic herb
54. Land surrounded by water
55. Informal greeting
56. Make stable or stationary
57. Country in Western South-America
58. James .. - American statesman in Revolution
59. Fake grass
60. A rare deep sea fish that has gained popularity for its blob-like body structure
61. Someone who is not loyal or who tricks you, also rodent
62. The landmass of Europe and Asia
63. To help someone
64. A small port town in North Ghana on the White Volta river
65. An event that involved students leaving a school campus to protest guns
66. MLK had one
67. Password to our secret scavenger hunt, learn more on the website
68. PolyVinyl Chloride System
69. A being from another world
70. People who care about our planet love this color
71. Symbol of Chemical element with atomic number 76
72. The crime of driving a vehicle while drunk
73. An occurrence or phenomenon, believed to foreshadow a future event
74. Work on a large, grassy area
75. An ester of isomeric cyanic acid used in plastic, dye in rubber tracks
76. Salt or ester of oleic acid
77. To place in the ground to grow
78. Popular electronic company
79. Music most popular in the 20th century
80. 4WD vehicle
81. An open landscape highway
82. A sliding down of a mass of Earth
83. Belonging or related to me
84. Alphabet
85. To make indirect reference to previous discussion
86. Not written but spoken history
87. A slogan that encourages people to be eco-friendly
88. Standing by an opinion or continuing a course of action in spite of difficulty
89. An island of trash the size of France in the middle of the Pacific Ocean
90. Giving knowledge
91. Internationally recognized distress signal
92. Process for communication at a distance by electric transmission over wire
93. Someone who makes paintings, sculptures, music, etc.
94. Double-reed woodwind instrument

Lead to a Better World

Become a citizen of a country that needs you to get itself destroyed!



So much plastic has ended up in the ocean that the ocean's currents had formed giant "trash islands". Some are over twice the size of Texas. They are made mostly of micro-particles of plastic that have been broken to tiny bits.



Nobody wants to take responsibility or initiative to clean up humanity's mess. So out of the box thinking people (they must be kids or were kids once) came up with an original solution to push governments to a clean-up. A British media firm "LADbible" lobbied the U.N. to accept "Trash Isles" as an official country. A few months ago, Al Gore became its first citizen. **Trash Isles** already submitted a declaration of independence to the U.N.

Here is the tricky, but ingenious and caring part: By becoming a country and joining the U.N., it will fall under the protection of U.N. environmental codes, one of which states that "all members [of the U.N.] shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem." This pretty much means that if Trash Isle gets registered, all U.N. members need to pitch in and clean up the trash.

This brings us to an interesting point. What makes a country, a country? Are there rules? It turns out there are.

According to the U.N., a country needs to:

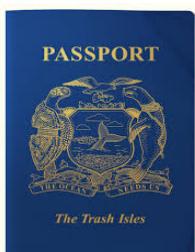
- Define a territory (In this case, the mid-pacific garbage patch, bigger than France)
- Have a population (this is the only rule that is in the way)
- Form a government and be capable of interacting with other states (Trade, diplomatic relations, etc.)

Trash Isles has a flag, its currency is the debris, it offers passports, and is forming a national football team. If you ever dreamt of having dual citizenship - here is your chance and for a good cause. You can become a citizen online!

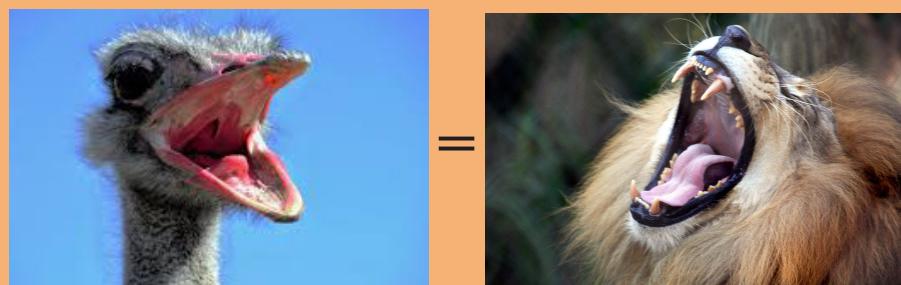


Thousands of animals are adversely affected by human trash and by the global warming. Even as a single individual you can do a lot if you put your mind to it. Get involved!

You could talk with your friends, write a song to inspire, and/or pick up your trash.



Wierd



A male ostrich can roar like a lion.



Gorillas burp when happy.

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