

# What's the truth about Columbus? This writer relates easily through friendship

**MORAL PERSPECTIVES**

Five hundred years ago, Europeans discovered the Americas. Spectacularly shops are creating all kinds of items to commemorate this event in 1492. Books and articles are being written about Christopher Columbus. What is our moral perspective upon all of this?

As children, we learned about Columbus. He was a man of adventure. He was the one, we were told, who made it possible for us to be here in this land of opportunity and plenty. Only now is the whole truth being revealed.

In reality, it was a very nasty business. Today's parallel would be a story of space invaders who came to this planet and said "We have arrived. Everything belongs to us, including all you earth beings. The laws of our empire allow us to do anything we wish with you on the planet earth."

Let's face it, 1492 was a business venture. It was also a desire for empire. The two went together. Money was invested in Columbus' voyage and the investors expected a large return.

Gold and silver were discovered among the peoples of the Americas. Soon African slaves were brought from Spain and north Africa to

work in the mines. This was especially significant because Africans were resistant to several fatal diseases of European origin. These diseases, such as smallpox, killed a majority of the native peoples of the Americas.

As we know, slaves of color were brought to the sugar industry, and later to cotton production. The Portuguese, Spanish and English were the main beneficiaries of the slave trade. According to one account, the profit was often more than 100 percent on each trip of the slave ships.

The state churches paid no attention to this evil. First Quakers and then Mennonites opposed slavery. One hundred years later, in 1780, American Methodists opposed all forms of slavery as "contrary to the laws of God, of man, and of nature." John Wesley's anti-slavery manifesto of 1774, "Thoughts Upon Slavery," was inspired by a Quaker, Anthony Benezet.

What is our moral perspective upon the 500th anniversary of Columbus' arrival in the Americas? We must reflect upon this terrible chapter in our history. It is a story of slavery extending from 1500 until the 1830s and 1860s. We must ask ourselves what is the continued impact of this long and terrible history upon our society? What is its impact upon the lives of Native Americans and blacks? Asking this question connects us with the current struggles we see among blacks and Native Americans in our society.

We must speak the truth about 1492 and the agony that followed.

**GRAPHOLOGY PROFILES**

Dear Mrs. Green,  
Thank you for sending my handwriting. I have always been fascinated with graphology. I truly believe it tells of the real person.

I am a right-handed female of 44 years. I love life and being a wife and mother. Your column is very much appreciated. Thanking you,

K.M.,  
Plymouth

The handwriting we are studying today quickly points up a people-oriented young woman. She relates easily to other people by way of friendship, compassion and caring.

In addition, she is adaptable, natural, spontaneous and amiable. She tries to avoid conflicts as she interacts with others. Her kind

heart is ever in sympathy with the underdog. These traits are gleaned from the combination of right slant, garland connections between letters, and word endings that reach out to others. And they do, indeed, confirm her "love of life and being a wife and mother."

The maternal instinct is noted. She realizes how very important a mother's role is. She freely offers emotional support of her family and friends. She is also dependent upon others for their emotional support.

Her eye for aesthetics is probably put to good use in creating an attractive and comfortable home for the family.

A woman who is rather well organized in her daily routine is suggested in this handwriting. She plans and then carries out the planning.

But she can also become restless and needs diversion in her routine. She enjoys an active social life and is ever ready to lend a helping hand where needed. At times, she becomes overly involved and may need to extricate herself from some

regular needs. I happened to see a picture of a copy sent to me and read your editorial paragraph. I'm so glad and right kind of

of these activities.

Determination rides on her goals. Seemingly, she has a subconscious need to achieve. She is dependable and a sense of pride influences all she does.

Criticism of her personal appearance seems to strike a sensitive note in her. Perhaps, she received too much of it earlier in life. The sarcasm I see here is a defense mechanism. I suspect it is used to defend against criticism. However, when it is combined with the sprinkling of humor here it can make her entertaining and witty.

Her manner of thinking and problem solving is usually logical and less toward common sense.

Our writer tends to view life through rose colored glasses much of the time. She sees the cup as half full as opposed to half empty. This amount of optimism probably includes faith in a higher being.

If you would like to have your handwriting analyzed in this newspaper, write to Lorene C. Green, a certified graphologist, at 35251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please use a full sheet of white, unlined paper, writing in the first person, singular. Age, handedness and full signature are helpful. And objective feedback is always welcome.

## Romance

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The relationship has not been without strife. Ill health blew the courtship off course when Balsamu came down with pneumonia. He was hospitalized and then later was moved to another facility.

Ruby's son would take her to see him, but it wasn't the same. Even Hamilton noticed Ruby's wasn't her usual cheerful self during the two-month period. Ruby says her heart ached.

"It was terrible," she says. "It was like someone took part of your arm."

In April, her pangs turned to joy when he returned to American House. Balsamu immediately took up residence across the hall from his sweetheart, but he says it's still not close enough.

"We'd like to be in the same room," he says. "Being that we're not married, we can't do it."

Says Ruby to clarify the state of their intimacy: "At our age, it's a different kind of closeness than when you're young."

## Helpful agencies: toll-free numbers

A number of agencies and government departments offer free information or advice on a wide variety of subjects of interest and service to older adults and their families. Following is a list of toll-free numbers. Operators will be happy to answer your questions or direct you to other proper information sources.

AT&T Special Needs Center 800-233-1222  
Alzheimer's & Related Disorders Center 800-621-6379  
American Cancer Society 800-ACS-2345  
American Council for the Blind 800-424-8666

American Diabetes Association 800-232-4372  
American Parkinson's Disease Association 800-223-2732  
Arthritis Foundation 800-283-7800  
Auto Repair Complaints 800-292-4204  
Cancer Information Center 800-422-6237  
Center for Independent Living 800-482-0222  
Energy Assistance 800-292-5650  
Hospice 800-331-1620  
Housing Discrimination, HUD 800-424-8590  
Lawyer Referral 800-968-0738



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Sale Extended Thru Saturday, June 20th

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Infants & Children's Boutique  
• Preemie-6x Girls • Preemie-7 Boys

### 20% - 60% OFF Storewide

SUMMER BLOW-OUT  
(up to 60% Off)  
Including layette, bedding, clothing, gifts, accessories

Fall Preview  
20% OFF All New Merchandise • Arriving Daily!

Visa and Mastercard Welcome

**BOUTIQUE**

31150 Haggerty Rd. (Just S. of 14 Mile Rd.)  
Farmington Hills • 661-CUTE (296-31)

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**PERMANENT LOWER EYELINER \$150.00**  
Includes full procedure and one follow-up visit  
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT 685-2427

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5640 W. Maple West Bloomfield

## BOTSFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL

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### There are a lot of little reasons why we treat minor injuries quickly.

Innocent play time can sometimes lead to minor injuries. So it's good to know you can get the health care you expect at our newly expanded Urgent Care Department. In most cases, patients with minor injuries or illnesses are cared for in under 90 minutes. And to make life easier, convenient parking is provided.

Boisford General is a full service hospital with Board Certified/Residency Trained Emergency Specialists on staff. Urgent Care hours are 10 am to 11 pm, 7 days a week. Emergency care is available 24 hours a day.

Save valuable time in an emergency by pre-registering. Call Community Relations at 442-7986 for an Emergency/Urgent Care pre-registration form.

Emergency/Urgent Care 471-8556

**boisford general hospital**

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## MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE

### FRIDAY, JUNE 19

### 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Chico's □ Sundance □ Escapades □  
Benetton □ Hersch's □ Zeza □ Chantel Gifts  
The Male Room □ Expecting The Best □  
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Peanuts □ New York Bagel □ R. Grumet

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