

Writer's decisions are based on her judgment



LORENE GREEN

Ms. Green, I've been told that you are really good at analyzing handwriting. I would really appreciate it if you would analyze mine for me. I've always been curious to see what someone would say about me.

Thank you for taking the time to do mine. I really appreciate it and look forward to seeing it in the paper.

I am a female, 22 years old and right-handed.

A.B.,
Ypsilanti

The delicate formation of the words in today's handwriting skims the page like a hummingbird. This young woman is re-

fined and sensitive. This is an inordinate amount of caution being outwardly, she is the picture of poise and control. Impulsive she is not. Feelings are carefully guarded. Most decisions are based on judgment rather than emotions.

Twelve things may not be as calm. On the day this letter was written, she was experiencing anxiety and discouragement.

Several factors in this handwriting cause me to wonder if she may have experienced something very sad or traumatic in the past. Ostensibly, she wants to move away from it and yet is apprehensive, either about the future or of the people in it. This causes her to feel immobilized in the present.

It might help her to better understand herself, if we look back to the formative years. One's past has strong influence on the present as well as the future. It appears that her early life was spent

in an environment where she perceived disparity between the parents. The double messages she received from them taught her to quickly adapt to the demands of the moment. Did she feel more acceptable if she did not make waves?

The female influence from the early years was strong. And while she is independent and self-sufficient in some areas, she tends to lean on the mother figure for emotional support.

A dislike of authority figures developed early for her. Unfortunately, this pattern seems to have continued and could be a problem when relating to others.

I see two main things that can be beneficial in helping her to cope more successfully. Her handwriting shows resiliency which can help her bounce back. In addition, the tenacity she has going for her can cause her to keep pressing on and not give up.

Our writer has a need for social involvement as well as needing quiet time by herself. She prefers to work out her thoughts alone. She does not allow others to get any closer than she wants them. Conscious choices are made of the people with whom she wishes to share her time, talent and/or resources.

In a structured atmosphere, she is most comfortable. Her scope of interests seems limited to practical everyday matters. Her work, home, clothes, appearance and friends are her world. She tends to be somewhat self-oriented and concerned with protecting her own interests. Emotional reserve enables her to calculate her responses so as to avoid situations which might threaten her privacy.

The impression she makes on others is a concern of hers. Since she is not always certain of the effect she has on others she may calculate the impression she

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wishes to make. A need for stroking can be seen here.

In the area of work, she is usually a self-starter. She works methodically, precisely and carefully. She dislikes being rushed. Occasionally, however, a lazy or "down" time may come into play.

This young woman has an eye for the aesthetic. She enjoys constructing and is probably good at working with her hands.

If you would like to have your handwriting analyzed in this newspaper, please write to Lorene C. Green, a certified graphologist, at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please use a full sheet of white, unlined paper, writing in the first person singular. Age, signature and handedness are helpful and can not be determined in the handwriting. And objective feedback is always welcomed.

Doctor sheds light on a new cheaper laser procedure

A new laser procedure used to treat enlargement of the prostate that causes difficulty urinating is safer and costs less than traditional surgery.

Visual Laser Ablation of the Prostate, or VLAP, uses a laser beam to vaporize overgrown prostate tissue. The laser coagulates the blood vessels while vaporizing the tissue which eliminates bleeding.

The procedure can be performed under local anesthesia so there is no need for hospitalization. The patient can go home a

few hours after the procedure.

Dr. Larry Siris, a urologist at Henry Ford Hospital, has completed a cost analysis and efficacy review comparing traditional surgery for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia with VLAP. He presented his findings at the recent North Central Section American Urological Association meeting in Boca Raton, Fla.

"VLAP is now the standard of practice in the treatment of BPH at Henry Ford Hospital," Siris said. "The all-around benefits far outweigh those of traditional surgery."

The prostate is a gland that is wrapped around the urethra. When it enlarges, as in BPH, it squeezes the urethra.

This causes symptoms such as difficulty starting the urine stream, a weak urinary stream, and the feeling that the bladder is not completely emptied. Patients often complain of feeling the need to urinate frequently, especially at night.

Surgical treatment for BPH is the second most common surgical reimbursed procedure under Medicare, behind cataract sur-

gery. In the U.S. alone, 400,000 prostatectomies are performed annually.

Traditional surgical treatment for BPH, called Transurethral Resection of the Prostate (TURP), allows the urologist to scrape away the overgrown prostate tissue. This causes bleeding in the prostate. It is done under general anesthesia and the patient has to remain in the hospital for two to four days after the procedure.

Also, physical activity after TURP is restricted up to four

weeks. Risk of additional bleeding episodes can require another trip to the hospital.

VLAP offers a safe alternative for patients with high risk medical conditions such as heart disease or patients taking blood thinners.

Traditional surgery is too dangerous for them and therefore not considered an option. Additionally, VLAP patients are able to return to their normal activity within two to five days after the procedure.

Siris' study found that the

costs of performing the two procedures are similar in terms of operating room time, equipment and anesthesia. But because the patient can go home the same day, nearly \$2,000 per patient is saved in direct hospital costs.

"With the high rate of prostatectomies, saving \$2,000 per patient will make a significant difference to patients, insurance companies and health care providers," Siris said. "The cost savings along with the health benefits of VLAP are an important improvement in the treatment of BPH."

Getting through holidays after cancer takes a loved one

The holidays can be difficult for anyone who has recently lost a loved one to cancer.

To help family members cope with their loss, Hospice of Michigan Cancer Foundation is hosting "Managing the Holidays."

The program will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, at the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Blvd., on the corner of Sixth and Hendrie.

"Managing the Holidays" offers participants a better understand-

ing of the grief recovery process, ideas on how to cope during the holidays and an opportunity to share the experiences with others.

According to bereavement coordinator Cathy Dominici, the grief that occurs after the death of a loved one creates a variety of emo-

tions for family members trying to adjust to the loss.

"People may not understand their feelings and reactions, or they may expect themselves to adjust to the loss fairly quickly," she said.

Michigan Cancer Foundation, a

United Way agency, operates the Meyer L. Prentiss Comprehensive Cancer Center of Metropolitan Detroit, one of only 27 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive centers designed to provide cancer information, education, care, treatment and to

conduct advanced cancer research.

It is affiliated with the Detroit Medical Center and Wayne State University.

For more information call Dominici, (313) 833-0715, Ext. 763.

Local museum buys giant hoax to display

He stands almost 10 and a half feet tall, weighing in at nearly 9,000 pounds and remains to this day one of the biggest hoaxes in history.

The giant was recently purchased by Marvellous Marvin's Mechanical Museum owner and curator Marvin Yagoda at a Sotheby's auction.

"Try explaining this guy to the airline baggage people," he said.

On Oct. 16, 1969, a Cardiff, N.Y., farmer, Stub Newell, hired workmen to dig a well on his

property for his livestock. The men pulled up what was soon to be called Stub Newell's Giant.

As word spread, the giant had between 300 and 600 visitors daily.

Before long, word had spread and the streets of Cardiff were buzzing with talk of the wondrous man of stone.

Hotels and shops were soon filled with tourists eager to visit the small town.

Newell claimed the giant was a fossilized man, which he had the good fortune to find on his property. Skeptics discovered, however, that the claim was a hoax.

Shortly afterward, two Iowa sculptors admitted that they made the giant for George Hull the previous year. Hull admitted to the hoax.

Although it was a hoax, people still wanted to see the giant and one such visitor wanted to buy the giant, the visitor P.T. Barnum.

Most Americans considered Barnum the greatest showman and promoter of the century. Barnum asked Hull and Newell if he could rent the giant for three months for \$8,000 and they said "no."

The Cardiff giant can now be

seen in Farmington Hills at Marvellous Marvin's Mechanical Museum on Orchard Lake Road.

Yagoda bought the giant in September 1994 from P.T. Barnum's estate at a Sotheby's auction. The giant joins the world's largest collections of vintage coin-operated games, neon signs, children's rides, nickelodeons and memorabilia.

Admission is free at the museum on 31005 Orchard Lake Road. It is open 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

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