

Home and family

Time for a serious look at education in U.S.

Dear Ann Landers: When a letter comes back from the post office twice with a notation informing the sender that mail to Kansas requires Canadian postage, it is not merely a "gaffe" but a symptom of a more serious problem — national ignorance of geography and history.

As an international trade lawyer, I have had letters to Hong Kong returned after being routed to Guatemala. Telephone operators have asked me what state Ottawa is in, where in China Singapore is, and in which part of Yugoslavia Dusseldorf is located.

When postal workers think Kansas is in Canada and Hong Kong is in Guatemala, it's time we took a serious look at education in this country. — M.A.C. in D.C.

Advice on life



Ann Landers

Dear M.A.C.: You're singing my song. Read on:
Dear Ann Landers: Here is yet another tale of the U.S. Postal Service:
A while back, I mailed a letter

to a business acquaintance in Birmingham, Ala. A week later, I received half of the letter back. It was the half with my return address on it.

I became curious about the other half and called my colleague in Birmingham. Sure enough, he had received the other half. Don't you think the post office should give me a refund of 15 cents? — Brian K. Prejean, Brusly, La.

Dear Brian: I do and I'd like to help. How's this? Dear Postmaster Addie Crochet: Please send 15 cents to Mr. Prejean in Brusly.

Dear Ann Landers: Can you handle one more post office story? A couple of years ago, I took a leave from university teaching to do research in Italy. My mother wanted to send me a letter, but not

knowing how much postage to affix, she simply taped two quarters to the corner of the envelope and put it out for the rural postman.

Two weeks later, I received the letter at the Italian university where I was studying. It arrived with no stamps, but the two quarters were still taped on the envelope. Don't you love it? — Marc Marschark, Ph.D., professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Dear Marc: I do! Keep reading:
Dear Ann Landers: Recently I have read many derogatory remarks in your column about the U.S. Postal Service. We are humans, and we do make mistakes, but our inspectors work around the clock to see that you do

not receive mail that is dangerous. They also try hard to protect you from swindlers. We deliver mail across the street or across the United States for the same fee.

If for some reason you have a piece of mail returned that should have been delivered, check the zip code. If it has a stamped hand on it, DO NOT re-mail the same envelope because that hand will return it to you every time.

We are the only government-run service that gives the same service regardless of who you are or where you live in the United States. This includes the elderly, the poor and even those who are incarcerated.

The U.S. Postal Service is made up of many dedicated employees who work very hard. Please appre-

ciate us. — Your Postman

Dear Postman: I do — and so do many millions of Americans. The mail gets through in spite of rain, snow, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes. Count me as a booster. After all, where would I be without it?

Is alcohol ruining your life or the life of a loved one? Alcoholism: How to Recognize It, How to Deal With It, How to Conquer It can turn things around. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.65 (this includes postage and handling) to: Alcohol, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$4.45.)

Coming events

Coming Events is a free service provided by the Prince George Citizen to non-profit, volunteer groups. Announcements will be published once for each event. Information must be submitted by noon two days before the announcement is to appear. It must be brought to newsroom librarian Sharon Grams in typed, computer-printed or legibly hand-printed form. Blank Coming Events forms are available at the Citizen library.

Support groups

CO-DEPENDANTS: Co-Dependents Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Tuesday at St. Giles Presbyterian, 1500 Edmonton St. For more information phone 563-2990.

CANCER SOCIETY: The Canadian Cancer Society Prince George Unit 13 will hold its regular monthly unit meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Unit 13, 1839 First Ave. For more information phone R. Aro, 964-4017.

PG AIDS SOCIETY: The Prince George Aids Society offers a drop in centre/information centre Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the United Way Building at 1306 Seventh Ave. in the basement. For more information phone 562-1172, (leave a message).

STUTTERING: The Stuttering Support Group will meet every second Tuesday (side door) at 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Interior Health Unit. Teenagers encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information phone Linda at 963-8358 or Margery at 564-1262.

OVEREATERS: Overeaters Anonymous Heritage meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. Thursdays at the Grace Church on Goheen Street. Please use back door, no dues or weigh-ins. Newcomers welcome. For more information phone 562-8137, 563-4710, 561-1483 or 964-7288.

AL ANON: Beginner's group Al-Anon, also Alateen will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Knox United Church, 1448 Fifth Ave. Followed at 8 p.m. with a regular Al-Anon meeting. Does someone's drinking bother you? For more information phone 563-7305.

Miscellaneous

COFFEE BREAK: The Christian Reformed Church will hold its bible study and coffee break Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Church on Willow Street. For more information phone 563-2639.

BROWN-BAG-IT: The Prince George Art Gallery will hold its brown-bag-it series Feb. 3 at 12:10 p.m. at 2820 Fifteenth Ave. Video: J.W. Morrice. This film charts the journeys and accomplishments of a Canadian painter whose work

District institutes fall school break

GUYSBOROUGH, N.S. (CP) — High absenteeism among teachers and students has prompted a school board to institute a fall break.

Superintendent Jack Sullivan said Guysborough district school board endorsed the idea of a fall break next year to compensate for time lost during the flu season.

"We have just completed a five-year study into the high rate of absenteeism among staff and students and have decided it is a smart move, both economically and for morale to try a break at that time."

The break, Nov. 8-12, is expected to save the board between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in substitute teacher salaries, while not reducing the length of the school year.

bridged significant art movements at the turn of the century.

PARENT ADVISORY: The Kelly Road Secondary School will hold its parent advisory meeting Feb. 2 from 7-9 p.m. Guest speaker: Mr. Scott Bonner from Intersect will speak on their community services and teenage violence. For more information phone Alyce at 962-6072 or Sue at 962-6450.

HEART/STROKE: The Heart and Stroke Foundation will hold its Residential Campaign Feb. 15 to 28. For more information phone 562-8611.

AIR CADETS: The Royal Canadian Air Cadets 396 Squadron will meet every Tuesday from 6:45 to 9:45 p.m. at the Connaught Youth Centre, Seventeenth and Victoria Street. Ages 12 to 18. The Air Cadets invites new members to join at no cost. Tuesday evening phone 562-0039 and for other times phone 964-8408.

TAI CHI: The Silk and Jade Tai Chi groups will hold classes every Tuesday and Friday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at 425 Brunswick St. Come and learn this graceful art form for health and friendships. Open to members 60 years and older. For more information phone 564-3287.

30 SOMETHING: 30 Something is a social club designed for single persons ages late 20's to late 30's. Meet every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the YM-YWCA to plan social events on a group level. There are no membership fees and everyone is welcome. For more information phone Donna at 563-5361 or Kathy at 964-6016.

LANDLORD/TENANT CLINIC: Deborah O'Leary will be conducting landlord/tenant clinics, in conjunction with Active Support Against Poverty. The clinics will be held every Wednesday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Active Support Against Poverty office, 38-1306 7th Ave. Cost is free. For more information phone 563-6112.

TAI CHI: Two Rivers Tai Chi Association meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 425 Brunswick St. with refining and recall

of previous and present known forms. New members of all ages welcome. For more information phone 563-3529 or 563-6527.

SOCIAL: The Elder Citizen's Recreation Association, Branch 135, will hold a social every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at 1692 10th Ave. Dancing, cards, pool etc. Lunch served. Cost \$3. Everyone welcome. For more information phone 565-9381.

CADETS: Rocky Mountain Ranger 2618 Cadets will meet from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays at the Connaught Youth Centre. Cadets are geared to youths age 12 to 19 years. For more information phone Rick or Rosanne Lewis at 964-2415.

SOCIAL/ACTIVITIES: The Community Special Needs Recreation Club will hold its social together and activities for people of all disabilities every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. in the basement at the Legion. For more information phone Judith at 962-2394.

Clubs

TOASTMASTERS: The Spruce Capital Toastmasters Club meets every Wednesday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. as posted at the Holiday Inn. Guests are welcome. For more information phone 563-6149.

COOKING CLUB: The Prince George Cooking Club has a community kitchen on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at the Knox United Church for people with allergies to food. Come share ideas on what we can cook and how to cook it. For more information phone Carolyn at 561-2689.

BRIDGE CLUB: The Prince George Bridge Club invites all bridge players to try an evening of fun, duplicate bridge. Regular games are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 — 10:30 p.m. at 425 Brunswick Street. Novice games are held on Thursdays. Lessons are available. Bring a partner or phone to have one arranged. For more information phone Gerry at 964-0919.

Volunteers

GIRL GUIDES: Wanted, a few good women. Girl Guides of Canada need volunteers. If interested and for more information phone Marveen at 962-9795.

Recreation

LADIES' MORNING BAD-MINTON: The sessions for Tuesday, Feb. 2 and Thursday, Feb. 4 have been cancelled. Play resumes Tuesday, Feb. 9 at the usual time.

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE!

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