A Bridge Over Not So Troubled Water

I received a cool picture via email the other day — a river bridging over another river! It's man-made of course, but what a feat! It bridges the River Elbe in Germany and connects two important shipping canals. The project was put on hold indefinitely when Germany was split during the last century and was finally completed in 2003. I think this is pretty cool, so I'll share it and thank fellow tangents.org blogger $\underline{\mathtt{Jamiahsh}}$ for sending it to me. I don't know why he didn't put it on his blog, but I figure he probably would have gotten a chance by now if that's what he wanted to do with it \square Check it out:





For more information about the bridge, click here.

The New Bonnie & Clyde

This story is so sweet, I just had to share it.

Blind border collie gets his own guide dog

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By Aidan McGurran 24/07/2009



Collies usually round up sheep not each other... but as the eyes of her blind canine companion, little Bonnie steers Clyde away from trouble.

The five-year-old long-haired border collie, who has lost his sight because of a degenerative disease, relies entirely on Bonnie as his quide dog. He follows her everywhere.

And like the American gangster lovers they have been named after, the friendly dogs are on the lookout for a safe, new hideaway.

They were recently dumped in the street during a storm and are currently being cared for at Meadow Green Dog Rescue Centre in Hales Green, near Loddon in Norfolk.

The centre's Cherie Cootes said: "If Clyde's unsure where he is, he will suddenly go behind Bonnie and put his face on the back of her so she can guide him. He totally relies on her.

"And when she walks she tends to stop and make sure he's there — she does look out for him. When she's about you wouldn't notice he is blind, but when she's not about he refuses to move. There's no option of homing them separately. They've got to go as a pair."

A driver found the dogs running through Blundeston, near Lowestoft, Suffolk, during a storm three weeks ago. Neither Clyde nor Bonnie — a short-haired border collie aged two or three — had identifying collars or chips.

Cherie, 40, added: "They've got very nice manners and they walk well on the lead.

"They really are a very sweet pair of dogs."

If you can give Bonnie and Clyde a home, call the centre on 01508 548 216.

A New HOPE From The Evil Empire

No, no this post has nothing to do with the original *Star Wars* film (or as it is officially known: Episode IV: A New Hope). Such rather derogatory names have inundated my favorite baseball team for as long as I can remember and definitely beyond that. This week, The New York Yankees have been on the streets, in apartment buildings, and in the new stadium giving back to the community that they call home. Whether it be something seemingly trivial like throwing pop flies to a ten year old or participating in an event honoring a Navy veteran who is afflicted with Lou Gehrig's disease, the NOW solo first place American League East sluggers have been receiving praise both on and off the field.

HOPE (Helping Others Persevere and Excel) week began Monday and has included the following events:

• Alex Rodriguez and pitchers Joba Chamberlain and Andy Pettite were in Greenwich Village and visited a young boy who has Cerebral Palsay. The sixth grader is

- confined to a wheelchair; however, the Bombers conducted a clinic for him and his little league teammates.
- Ace closer Mariano Rivera, second baseman Robinson Cano, and outfielder Melky Cabrera visited a small Washington Heights apartment where a couple open their home to children for lessons in community and leadership.
- Captain Derek Jeter and first baseman Mark Teixeira (who my mother claims closely resembles our admin... I don't see it... sorry I cannot find a photo good enough to compare) participated in a ceremony honoring a Navy veteran with Lou Gehrig's Disease and his wife.

Say what you will about the Yankees… overpaid, overprivileged. The new stadium is a homerun hitters paradise. Any team who takes time out off the field to help and inspire (yes, even if the team happens to be from Bean Town) deserves some appreciation.

Welcome To The Craziness

The family received news today that our extended family has grown by one. Around 3PM, we got a phone call from Alaska informing us that my cousin Charnel had delivered a 6lb. 3oz. baby girl, Chloe Mae who is being welcomed I am sure by her big 2 year old sister, Kyli Nicole. 20 inches long and has a thick head of black hair (can she mail some to me…or just send it back with grandma and grandpa when they fly up on Saturday). One very cool thing, the proud papa who is on deployment in Afghanistan was on the phone listening as their second daughter made her entrance into the world. When Charnel called and talked to Mom, she told her to call everyone. Well… everyone but two people she called had already heard via text messaging or were called by someone

else whom it seems tells everyone in the world after she hears any juicy gossip. But all is well — healthy baby girl with ten fingers, ten toes, and healthy mama. Won't be able to see and spoil her until March when Rich returns from Afghanistan and they come South for a visit. I'm surprised there haven't been any pictures sent over cyberspace. What are you waiting for?!

Welcome Chloe (I like that name)



Humor From The Bulletin

I recently received two HILARIOUS emails. The subject of the two was religious but I am going to share anyway they are so funny. I laughed so hard at the following that I cried. It is so true. I have read many a bulletin that could be misinterpreted or have a little typo that creates total hilarity.... ENJOY!

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick in our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off — let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early nd listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.