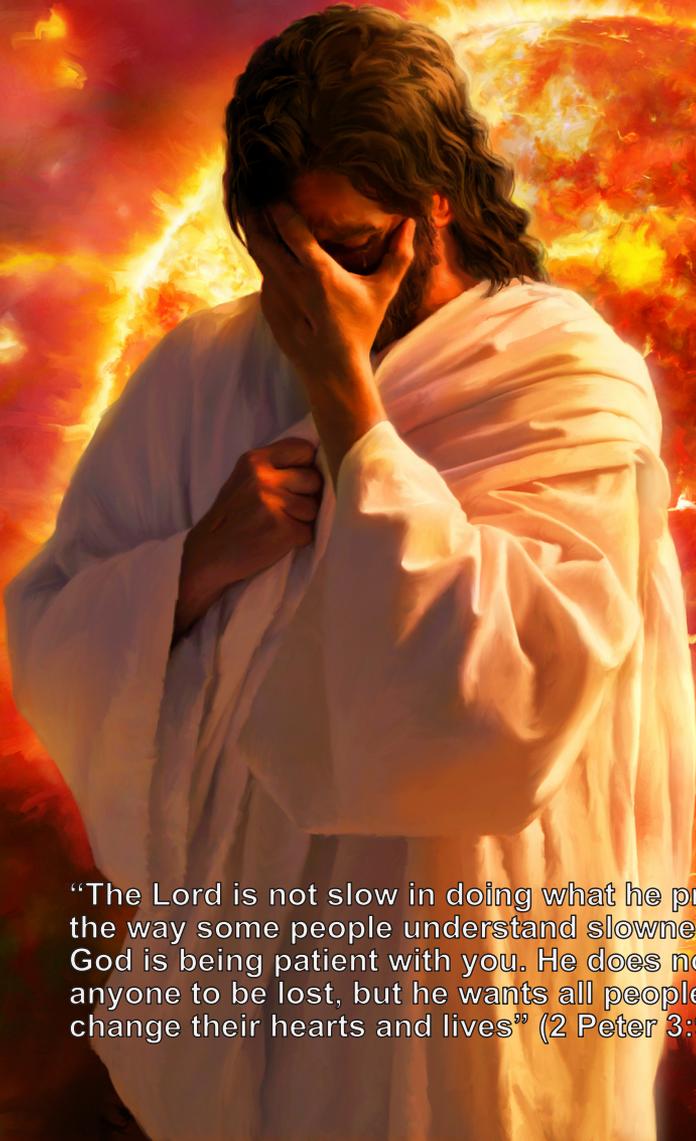


Summer 2020

THE DEAF MESSENGER



“The Lord is not slow in doing what he promised—the way some people understand slowness. But God is being patient with you. He does not want anyone to be lost, but he wants all people to change their hearts and lives” (2 Peter 3:9).

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The purpose of this magazine is to inform the deaf reader about such topics as practical Christian living; basic Bible truths; and what the past, present, and future historical events mean to each of us. This magazine attempts to cover spiritual, mental, and physical aspects in its articles and columns.

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The End of the Wicked

By John Blake



SEMONVIEW

If my memory is correct, I heard that my Grandfather had not become a Christian. Why? Because he could not understand how God could torment the wicked for all eternity in Hell. My grandfather died when I was about two years old, so I never was able to talk to him about what he had been told about God!

Many people have been told that God is merciful and just, but that this same God at the end will torment the wicked for all eternity in hell. One preacher many years

ago said that if you were not saved, it was as if you could now be on rotten boards and at any moment they could break and you would be dropped into the eternal fires of torment in hell. These ideas were to frighten people into accepting God into their life. The problem is that this error has given a false picture of God to most Christians. And our motivation for serving God must be built on trust and love, not on fear of torment.

It is true that the Bible says that “the wages of sin is

death” (Romans 6:23) and that the “soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel: 18:4). But it also says that God is “not willing that any should perish” but that all could be saved! (2 Peter 3:9). So God is really merciful and kind. The whole plan of salvation is God’s way of working to forgive sin and still not excuse sin. Justice meets mercy at the cross. Jesus took our sin on Himself and died in our place—taking our death penalty on Himself—instead of us!

We live in a universe where there is love and free choice. We can accept God’s plan of salvation—surrendering our lives to His control. Or, we can shake our fist in the face of God and say, “I’m going to do things my way. You are too strict, and I don’t like You or Your laws.” This pains God’s heart, but God gives us free choice to serve Him, or reject Him.

Sin came into the Universe through Satan and the pride and rebellion that grew in his heart (Isaiah 14:12-15). He hates God and he especially hates Jesus. Satan is trying to see as many lost as he can possibly deceive and tempt (1 Peter 5:8). God could have destroyed Satan long ago. But, if God had killed Satan,

the Universe might think Satan was right in claiming that God is evil and a tyrant. God is allowing time for sin to develop and show how terrible it is. God is now working to bring sin to an end. Jesus died in our place and is coming back again to rescue us from a world of sin and suffering (John 14:1-3).

But, what about those who reject God and the plan of salvation and who want to go their own sinful way? God cannot let sin go on for eternity. God cannot take people to heaven who would re-infect heaven with sin. Sin must be finally fully stopped! God will have to destroy everyone who is stubborn in living a sinful, selfish life. It is called God’s strange act because in love God will have to destroy all who continue in selfish ways that hurt both themselves and others (Isaiah 28:21, KJV).

Jesus said that He would return in power and glory (Matthew 26:64). The good people who have died will be resurrected (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). They, along with the good who are living, will be taken from this earth to heaven for 1000 years. During that time, they will be involved with God’s judgment of the wicked (Revelation 20:4-15). God must

demonstrate to the Universe that He has worked to save each person. The record of each sinful life will then be open and it will be decided what is a fair punishment. Surely there will be degrees of punishment, for Hitler and Lucifer must be punished more severely than the average person (Luke 12:47, 48)!

When the judgement is over at the end of the 1,000 years, the righteous come down to earth with the New Jerusalem. Revelation 21:2, 3, Nlrv: "I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem. It was coming down out of heaven from God. It was prepared like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne. It said, 'Now God makes his home with people. He will live with them. They will be his people. And God himself will be with them and be their God.'" The wicked are resurrected and Satan tries to persuade them to fight and take possession of the New Jerusalem (Revelation 20:7-10). But fire from God comes down and the wicked are completely destroyed.

Revelation 20:8
Nlrv: "They marched across the whole earth. They surrounded the place where

God's people were camped. It was the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and burned them up." There will be some differences in the length or amount of punishment, but in the end, all sinners and Satan and his angels are totally destroyed. "Fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28). God is not going to have the fires of hell tormenting people for all eternity because of a few years of sinful living here on earth!

The fires of hell cover the earth and it is purified and re-created again (Revelation 21:1). Sin and sinners are gone, and sin will never come up again. The Universe will then be clean and full of love and harmony. The "righteous" will live in the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:9-27). They will also be able to build homes in the country. Animals will be in the new earth, but will be our friends—all fear and killing will be ended (Isaiah 11:6, 7).

There will be many wonderful things to do and all will be happy, healthy and full of joy and peace. Now we have a very limited knowledge of the glories of heaven and what it will be like. We read in 1 Corinthians 13:12, Nlrv: "Now we see only a dim

likeness of things. It is as if we were seeing them in a mirror. But someday we will see clearly. We will see face to face. What I know now is not complete. But someday I will know completely, just as God knows me completely.” It says that God himself will be with them and be their God. I’m looking forward to that day. You can too. We each need to surrender our lives to God asking Him to forgive our sins and ask for His Holy Spirit to change our evil desires and make us each day like Him.

We need to ask for His Holy Spirit to help us live truly loving lives so we will be a blessing to all around us. We can then share God’s

final messages of love and warning with others, so they can also be saved for eternity!

SPECIAL NOTE: For an excellent discussion of texts that talk about the fires of hell and how completely the wicked will be destroyed, leaving them only as ashes under the souls of your feet, you can download on this subject from Amazing Facts Go To:

<https://>

[www.amazingfacts.org/
media-library/book/e/30/t/
hell-fire--a-twisted-truth-
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John Blake is a retired pastor who lives in Clive, Alberta, Canada.



GOODSALIT

The scene of Jesus’ second coming.
The righteous saved are happy to see Jesus while
the unrighteous lost are afraid and try to hide from Him.

As COVID-19 Death Numbers Pass 100,000 Are You Telling People About Jesus' Saving Love?

By Jessica McGowan-Smith



JUSTJUNISTOCK

On Sunday, May 24th, the New York Times front page was covered with the names and details of 1,000 of the COVID-19 victims including "Mary Minervini, 91, Oak Lawn, Ill., Sign Language interpreter." The 1,000 people in the New York Times article represent just 1% of the total deaths in the United States.

We need to remember as the death numbers go up, that each of these numbers represents real people who are now dead from this deadly virus. How many of the people who died were Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing or

Deaf-Blind? How many other interpreters have been killed by this disease?

Now is a time when we need to remember to pray for each other. Please pray for the people who are sick from Coronavirus (COVID-19) and for people who have experienced death from this disease in their family.

We also need to share about Jesus' saving love with our friends and family in the Deaf community. Now more than ever before we need to be sure that we have given our heart to Jesus and that we are ready for His soon coming. Now more than ever

we need to be active in telling people about Jesus.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, we all need to be prepared and to give our lives to Jesus because any of us could get sick from this deadly disease. Suppose if you got sick from COVID-19 and died, do you have confidence that you would be saved?

Jesus wants to save us all, including people who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Deaf-Blind. 2 Peter 3:9 in the Bible says, "The Lord is patient with you. He doesn't want anyone to die or be destroyed. Instead, He wants all people to turn away from their sins and to be saved." God wants to save everyone, yes, even people in the Deaf community. God also wants to save you.

The Bible also says in John 3:16, "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life." This is good news! The Bible says that anyone who believes in Jesus can have eternal life.

To be saved, all we must do is believe in Jesus, give Him our heart and follow Him. If we do this, we do not need to worry about COVID-19. We also can know that

whatever happens, we will be saved. This is good news that we must share with our friends and family who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard-of-Hearing. They deserve to know this and have peace in Jesus as same as anyone else.

Many people who are unable to hear lack access to information—both information about COVID-19 and information about Jesus. Are you doing all that you can to share the good news about Jesus with people who are part of the Deaf Community? Please look for ways every day to share about Jesus with the people you love.

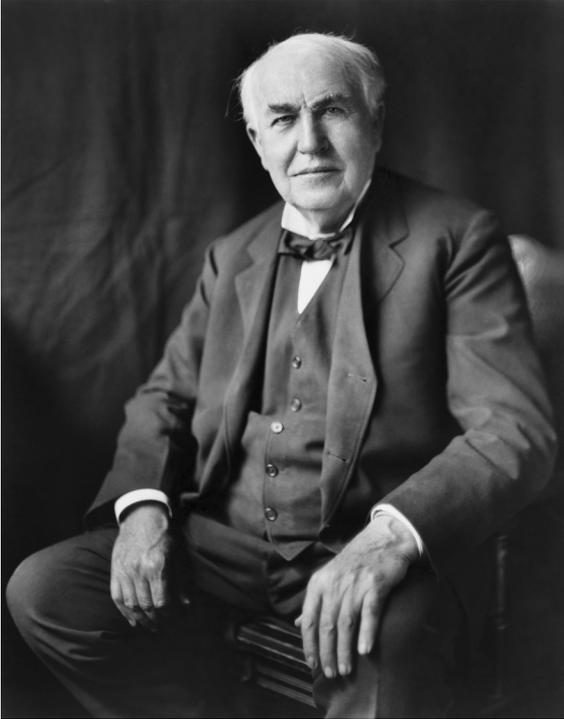
Would you like to learn more about Jesus and how to be saved? You can learn more by studying the Bible. The Deaf Bible School offers free lessons for Deaf people by Deaf people that will lead you step by step to the great truths of the Bible and change your life!

Here is the link: <https://www.deafbibleschool.com/>

Jessica McGowen-Smith is the director of a Deaf ministry—Deaf Everywhere Is A Family and she lives in Worcester, MA.

Picked Up By His Ears

By Elton A. Jones



he could not hear as he used to. Thomas Edison said that that experience was the reason why he was deaf.

There is a different story. One is that when Thomas Edison was a young boy he was working as a newsboy on a train that went between Port Huron and Detroit, Michigan. He had set up a little laboratory in a corner of the baggage car where he kept his papers,

The train had already started to move, and Thomas was supposed to be on it. He ran fast across the station platform, but the train was going faster. He reached for a handrail to pull himself up—and missed. A train conductor bent down to help him. He grabbed whatever he could—and it happened to be the boy's two ears. The conductor gripped them firmly and pulled him onto the train.

Almost immediately Thomas began to notice that

magazines, candies, and peanuts. Later he added a little printing press and printed the weekly Herald and sold it to the stations on his route.

But one day he had bad luck. A stick of phosphorus [a very flammable chemical] fell on the floor of the car and quickly started a fire. The conductor put it out, but he was angry. He threw out the laboratory, printing press and all, and hit Edison's ears hard.

Most people think this is

why he was deaf, but Edison himself believed it was because he was picked up by his ears. (Editor's note: Today some doctors believe Edison became deaf because of scarlet fever when he was very young. He had ear infection often. That might weakened his ears as he got older.)

Despite his deafness Thomas grew up to be a very interesting and famous man. Mr. Edison bought thirteen or fourteen acres of land in Florida and drew up plans for a two-story house. Shop workers in Maine took Mr. Edison's plans and cut every piece of timber, sawed every board, made all the doors, the windows, the stairs, roof—everything, but they did not put it together. Instead, every piece was carefully marked, bundled up and shipped by a ship to Mr. Edison's land in Florida in 1886. This kind of construction is called prefabrication today. Mr. Edison's house was prefabricated house No. 1.

When the ship sailed up the river beside Mr. Edison's land, it was found that the water was too shallow for the ship to dock nearly half a mile long in order that this new house could be unloaded. The dock is still there, though during the war

it has to be shortened.

The new house was two stories high with a porch all around it. You can visit it today as a museum. The house is preserved just as it was when Mr. and Mrs. Edison lived in it. The fireplace in living room is cozy, and a painting of Mrs. Edison hangs above it. The bookcases are full of books—just as he left them. The furniture is comfortable.

The laboratory is near the house. Thomas' office is full of interesting things: phonographs with their colorful "morning glory" horns, Mr. Edison's desk, and in one corner an old cot at the foot of which is a pair of well-worn carpet slippers. Mr. Edison worked very long on his problems, and when he got tired—or had found the solution he sought—he would lie down on this cot and sleep awhile.

Did you ever try to do something and fail to do it? Once? Four times? A dozen times? Did you then give up?

Edison was working on the electric light bulb. At that time it was called the "incandescent lamp." He had a man working with him, and they tried and tried, but each time—no success. Finally the assistant said, "We aren't getting anywhere. We have tried seven hundred different

things and none of them work!” Edison replied, “We are making progress. We have found seven hundred different things that won’t work. We didn’t know that before!” Edison was a positive person who would not quit. He was willing to learn what did not work and what did work.

In the main room of the laboratory there were about thirty chemists kept busy at one time. Today we can see the tables, test tubes, chemistry apparatus, and physics appliance that they used.

Henry Ford was a friend of Edison’s, so he built a winter home beside Mr. Edison’s house. One day Mr. Ford gave Edison one of his automobiles, the famous Model T Ford. Edison began to experiment on making rubber tire made from other plants. He worked on 16,000 plants looking for one that would make rubber. Finally he found it—the goldenrod! [The goldenrod is a weed that gives yellow flowers.]

In the little museum that stands near the laboratory there is Mr. Edison’s Ford with a goldenrod tire on the running board. Goldenrod made a high-grade rubber, but it was too expensive to be put into general use.

Thomas Edison attended

public school for only a very short time. The longest period was only three months. His teacher thought he was not a smart boy who could not learn. He was upset, of course, and his mother Nancy was so angry that she did not force him to go back to the school. She had been a teacher and now she taught him at home.

People would think that he had little or no education because he went to school only for a short time. That is not true! During his lifetime he won over a thousand patents on things he had invented, and nearly half of these were in countries other than the United States.

He did not feel that his deafness was all bad. He believed that deafness was a blessing in disguise because it shut out the bothersome noise of the world about him. This made it easier for him to give complete, undivided attention to whatever problem he was working on.

Thomas A. Edison was not only a great scientist, but he was a true lover of God’s nature. Just outside the laboratory there is a great banyan tree. Mr. Harvey Firestone, who was a close friend, gave him this banyan tree in 1925. It was a little tree when he got it. But it grew so large that on the

marker it says “root circumference 72 feet.” You can easily see the “roots” dropping to the ground from the branches.

There are hundreds of kinds of flowers, plants, shrubs, and trees in Edison’s garden. They come from many countries—Australia and Madagascar, China and Mexico, Brazil and India, Africa and Hawaii, Taiwan and Polynesia.

There is much we can learn from the story about this great man. He is the person we can find in him good example for us to follow. For example, think of

his ability to stay with whatever he started no matter how difficult they were. His little education and deafness did not stop him to be a successful businessman who invented many things that are very helpful to us today. Mr. Edison did not find any excuses because of his problems because of his little education and deafness. He was courageous and positive.

Adapted from Junior Guide, volume 4, Number 12, March 21, 1956.



Thomas Edison and one of his many inventions

Handling Loneliness

By Francisca Trexler



FIZES/ISTOCK

What is loneliness?

Loneliness means sadness because a person has no friends or no companions, and isolation. Isolation means a person is separated from other people. It is like when a person is on an island with no people around. That is isolation.

Loneliness can cause a person to feel empty, sad, and even feel unwanted and rejected. For the person who experiences loneliness it can lead to different kinds of mental health problem. When a person is lonely, he tends to think negatively.

Loneliness can cause the following health problems: heart diseases, decreased memory, depression, drug abuse risks, higher stress,

negative changes in the brain chemistry, inactivity, oversleeping, apathy, suicidal thought, high blood pressure and reduced mental activity.

A lonely person can become frustrated about not being able to control his life and future. For example this person would say: "Will I be alone forever?", "Will I be an old maid?," "Where should I go to meet some people?" These questions could go on without stopping.

What are the remedies (treatment or cure) to solve the problem of loneliness? Here is a list of advice for lonely people:

1. Focus on present (now), not in imagination,

and not thinking about the problems in the future.

2. Know what is true and what is not true, and focus on something that is positive.

3. Be active in different plans like having a hobby to keep your thought focused on something that is positive and worthwhile.

4. Be active in physical exercise like joining a running group, riding a bike along bike trails, or joining a group of people once a week at a park.

5. Get involved with the community like being a volunteer at a homeless shelter, a center for abused men or women, or visiting a patient in a hospital or a person at a nursing home. It will help to focus on the needs of the people instead of yourself.

6. Ask yourself some questions such as “How much do I know about myself?” “Who am I?” “Where do I come from?” It is a good time to spend time getting to know yourself and finding something new about yourself. That is personal growth that will develop positive thinking of yourself.

7. Learn to love yourself the same as God loves you. Understand that you are special, even if you are alone.

There is advice for

helping a lonely person.

1. A lonely person needs a friend to keep him in company. A church member can keep in touch with the lonely person once a while or twice a month to check on how he is doing. Sometimes it is a good idea to ask your friends in different locations or from other states to contact the lonely person for a chat on Videophone (VP) or FaceTime (FT). Chat time should be short to respect each person’s time. A lonely person needs to understand that calling or texting too often can annoy other persons. It is a good idea for the lonely person to make a schedule to call or text once a week or twice a week. It would be wonderful to make a plan of going out to a restaurant or other places to keep the lonely person happy.

2. A lonely person usually wants to be with someone to work together to clean rooms or do other activities to keep this person busy in order to avoid negative thinking. Sometimes the lonely person wishes to live with someone in order to have company. But, it is still not advisable for this person to live in the same apartment or house because it will develop co-dependence causing the lonely person to depend on

you all the time. It is not helpful or healthful for both sides.

A lonely person may have a serious mental health issue called Autophobia. It means the person is scared of being alone. The person with autophobia must have someone to be around to feel safe and be happy. So, these persons with autophobia really need to see a counselor. A counselor can treat the person. Once treated, the person can be a great worker such as being a cleaning maid, taking care of the elderly people in a nursing home or being involved with painting and other hobbies.

Monophobia is similar to Autophobia, but in a different way. For example: a person may not want to go to bed early due to being alone in a room. It is often that the person with monophobia looks so tired from not having enough sleep. It can harm the body seriously. Sometimes the person with autophobia or monophobia tends to bother other people by demanding to be with them. They usually have anxiety about being alone in the next moment. Also, they tend to ignore home errands

such as washing clothes, washing dishes, cleaning rooms, or making bed.

It is very important for lonely persons to know that they need to trust the wonderful God because He will take care of them. “Give your worries to him [Jesus Christ], because he [Jesus] cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7, ICB). God is able to help them as long as they need to believe in God completely. Also, they need to know who is the Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ personally.

In Matthew 22:39—“Love your neighbor as you love yourself” (NCV). It is very important to love and accept yourself in order to solve the loneliness problem. It is impossible to love other people when you don’t love yourself or hate yourself. The lonely person needs to accept himself as God loves him. God values all people including the lonely persons. In addition, Jesus promises to the lonely person: “I will be with you always, even until the end of this age” (Matthew 28:20, NCV). Make Jesus your best friend!

Francisca Trexler is the Deaf Assistant Director of Three Angels Deaf Ministries. She lives in Seabrook, MD.

What Will People Think?

By Unknown Author



LAMFAH/ISTOCK

The story is told about a prince who was arrested and put in a prison for a crime he had committed. His father, the king, came to his prison room and promised to release him. But at noon he must be led through the streets in his prison clothes. "Oh," said the young man, "I cannot stand seeing the people mocking at me!"

The king replied, "You still don't know how you will be led."

At noon the next day, the king gave his son a glass filled with milk and instructed him to carry it through the streets. He warned him that if

he spilled a drop, he would die. The young man took the cup and began to walk. When he had finished the walk successfully, his father asked him, "What kind of faces did the people make?" [Did you see people mocking at you?]

His son replied, "I didn't see anyone! I saw only my life in my hands!"

The lesson is a good one. We should not go through life worried about what people will think.

Adapted from Signs of the Times, March 5, 1896.

Detox Your Cookware

By Sue Radd

Could we get toxic (poisonous) chemicals from pots and pans when cooking foods?

Recent research suggests that what you cook and store your food in—not just the ingredients you use—may have a great effect on your health and well-being.

Avoid aluminum. Aluminum cookware is light-weight and cheap, but it is very sensitive to acidic foods placed in it, such as tomatoes. There is concern that aluminum is linked to Alzheimer's disease.

Avoid PFOAs. There is concern about using non-stick cookware such as Teflon, Silverstone and other brands. Such cookware can produce poisonous fumes of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) when it is heated to high temperatures.

It has been known for many years that PFOAs kill pet birds and harm small animals. In humans PFOAs can cause infertility, cancer, and thyroid problems. PFOA has been found in the blood of adults and babies.

So, instead of using aluminum and common non-stick cookware, choose low-risk options such as glass, ceramic, cast iron, enameled cast iron, stainless steel, and lead-free glazed earthenware. If you prefer a very slippery cooking surface, try PFOA-

free nonstick brands such as Green Pan, Neoflam, and Scanpan.

Avoid bisphenol A (BPA). Many plastics, such as bottles, boxes, and the lining of most canned foods, have BPA. This chemical gets into your food and drinks if they are packed or stored in such containers. Even organic and apparently healthy canned products, such as vegetable soup and baby food, can be contaminated with BPA at low levels.

Low levels of exposure over time are linked to infertility, attention deficit disorder (ADD), thyroid malfunction, obesity, breast and prostate cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. BPA is also an endocrine disrupter. It might cause early puberty (too early for the child's body to become an adult). Pregnant women, babies, and young children are most vulnerable.

Keep food in glass containers, not plastics. In particular, avoid plastics labeled with recycle codes 3 and 7. Use more fresh produce and reduce depending on canned products. Blood and urine levels of BPA drop a lot if you switch to a fresh-food diet.

*Dr. Sue Radd, PhD is the award-winning author of *The Breakfast Book* and coauthor of *Eat to Live*.*

Veggie Lasagna

By Earnestine Finley

- 1 package multigrain whole wheat or spinach lasagna noodles or Gluten-free noodles
- 2 quarts tomato pasta sauce or spaghetti sauce
- 4 cups tofu “ricotta” cheese

Method:

- Cook noodles in boiling water for approximately 4 minutes (for Gluten-free noodles—10 minutes or more).
- Pour a layer of tomato sauce (or spaghetti sauce) on the bottom of 9 X 13-inch baking dish.
- Put a layer of noodles on top of the sauce. Cover with tomato sauce. Crumble a layer of tofu “ricotta” cheese over the sauce.
- Repeat process until baking dish is full. End with tomato sauce or spaghetti sauce.
- Bake at 350 degrees for about 35 minutes.

Tofu “Ricotta” Cheese

- 2 lb. firm tofu, mashed well
- 2 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 3 tsp. onion powder
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. sweet basil
- 1 tsp. finely chopped fresh parsley
- 1 Tbsp. Nutritional yeast flakes (optional)

- Mix all ingredients well before you pour it to mashed tofu.

Lasagna dish is very good and delicious!

Adapted from Natural Lifestyle Cooking