Studies prove fluoridation is effective'

DISTURBED

Continued from page 8

for optimal dental health. • The U.S. Public Health Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has established the optimal concentration for fluoride in water supplies to be 0.7 parts per million (ppm). At 1 ppm, one part of fluoride is diluted in a million parts

Throughout years of research and practical experience, the overwhelming weight of

credible scientific evidence consistently indicates that fluoridation of community water supplies is the single most effective, safe and cost-effective public health measure to prevent dental decay and repair early tooth

• Studies prove water fluoridation is effective in reducing dental decay by 20-40%, even in an era with widespread availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste.

 For seven been the cornerstone of tooth decay prevention in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recognized water fluoridation as "one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century."

 Community water fluoridation benefits everyone, especially those without access to regular dental care. It is the most efficient way to prevent one of the most common

dental decay (five times is an effective strategy as common as asthma and seven times as common as hay fever in 5- to 17-yearolds). Without fluoridation, there would be many more than the estimated 51 million school hours lost per year in this country because of dental-related

Fluoridation benefits middle-aged adults with reductions in tooth decay that occurs on tooth enamel surfaces and also on root surfaces that become exposed as gums recede.

in efforts to eliminate health disparities among populations since the benefits of fluoridation are available to the entire community. • Adjusting community

water supplies to optimal The average annual cost for fluoride levels is similar to fortifying salt with iodine, milk with vitamin D and orange juice with vitamin

cost of dental treatment, community fluoridation actually provides cost savings. The

person to fluoridate a water system is less than the cost of one dental filling. Communities that invest in water fluoridation save an average of \$32.19 per capita in dental treatment costs. a community to fluoridate its water is estimated to range from approximately \$0.50 a year per person large communities • Compared to the to approximately \$3.00 ost of dental treatment, per person in small communities. Respectfully.

average lifetime cost per

'One of the greatest success stories in public health'

POISON

Continued from page 8

adding fluoride to public water supplies for over 75 years and it is considered one of greatest success stories in public health. Scientists in the U.S. and around the world have studied the safety and August of 2016. The with adverse health effects.

referenced at the recent meeting, this issue was previously weighed in

benefits of fluoridated water city council, at that time, for a century and have not unanimously voted to reap found any evidence that the many health benefits of links water fluoridation adding fluoride to our water.

I hope that our local As Councilman Brynes leaders on the city council will not let this issue fade into obscurity and bring it to a vote before the council.

This decision should not Research: be made lightly, based on misinformation, nor by one individual without council and public input.

Useful information on fluoride and dental health fluoridation can be found online:

• National Institute of Association: Dental and Craniofacial www.awwa.org/Policy-

https://www. nider.nih.gov/health-info/ fluoride

• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: https://www.cdc.gov/ • American Water Works

Advocacy/AWWA-Policy-Statements/Fluoridationof-Public-Water-Supplies

While this isn't a comprehensive list, it is a great start if you'd like to learn more about water fluoridation

> Sincerely, Santina Deming

I do not want a robot in my home'

PASSING PARADE Continued from page 8

While automation can boost productivity, it may also result in job loss on an unprecedented scale. The disruption to society and livelihoods could be catastrophic if not managed carefully, leading economic instability and social unrest.

Lastly, the existential threat of super-intelligent AI looms on the horizon. The development of a machine with cognitive surpassing capabilities, known as artificial general intelligence (AGI), could be humanity's most significant achievement, but also its greatest downfall.

Without proper safeguards, a superintelligent AI could rapidly outpace human control, leading to unforeseeable consequences that we may not be able to contain.

In light of these dangers, it is imperative that we approach the advancement of AI with a vigilant and ethical mindset to protect

As our world begins to be introduced to advanced intelligence, the development of new versions and technology has already surpassed the comprehension of most human minds.

The latest technology is still hidden from mass public consumption, but there is new information available on what is called "Artificial General Intelligence" or AGI.

AGI is not trained totally by humans, but instead by other bots. To the best of my understanding, this next generation of AI has the capability to surpass the capacity of AI that already surpasses human capacity for knowledge.

This AGI can reason and perform tasks that only humans have done in the

These new robots can walk, talk, sweep and mop your house. They can make your bed or check your blood pressure and analyze whether you need to be transported to the

The bots being designed by AGI are like storm troopers in the Star Wars movies and can build a house, mow your grass and maintain your yard - with a pre-determined tolerance for height, moisture and fertilization.

It can make repairs to

automobiles and wash and wax them.

It also will have the capacity to express emotions for comforting and even happiness. While it cannot feel physical pain, it can detect issues -- just like the "check engine" light on your car - and fix

If it can express emotion, does that mean it can get mad and vengeful like we humans do? Maybe it can get jealous or envious.

Now, just suppose it got mad at you and believed you were the cause of a malfunction.

capacity incomprehensible, and can only be compared to space, infinity, and eternity by the human mind.

There is good news found in the Bible, for those

of us who believe, but many will use these changes to frighten us into making impulsive decisions, so be

All the people I know

can not afford one of these robots, as they are in the innovative stages, just like we cannot afford a private jet or helicopter. But, there are those who

can, just like there are those

who can take sightseeing

trips to outer space or view

the Titanic at the bottom of the ocean. I do not want a robot in my home, thank you!

Ultimately, like invention of the tractor and advanced farming techniques that frightened sharecroppers, or robotic automated machines that build products, it most likely will reduce the cost of the amenities we use and

The world will embrace cheap labor and the synthetic products it makes to improve the quality of life -- until the robot realizes we produce too many carbon emissions.

Then what? Just saying...

Always remember that God is in control, and he measured the universe with the span of His hand – the distance between the thumb and little finger stretched

Nothing that is made is made without Him.

God does have the whole world in his hand. "He's got you and me brother, in His

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." - Luke 21:28

LEGALS

(Continued from page 9)

nursaay, 14, 2023 at 3:00 p.m., at the Taylor County Public Library, in Perry,

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. Please be Board with respect to any matter considered at such hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is

"Person with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (850) 838-3506 (Voice & TDD) or via Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771."

ESCAMBIA COUNTY HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY 2023 SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGE CREDIT **CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

The Escambia County Housing

Finance Authority (the "Authority") hereby announces its intention to sponsor a program to reduce home loan financing costs within Escambia County, Florida (the "County") and several other Counties, including Taylor County (each a "Participating County, the "Participating Counties"). The Authority intends to establish a 2023 mortgage credit certificate program which will entitle first-time homebuyers to a federal income tax credit (the "Program"). A tax credit is a direct reduction homebuyer would receive a mortgage credit certificate entitling ten percent (10%) to fifty percent (50%) of the amount of interest paid on their home loan (not to exceed \$2,000 per year if the credit percentage exceeds 20%). The tax credit is available each year Program. In order to qualify for the Program, federal law requires that a homebuyer satisfy each of the following guidelines: In order to

each of the following guidelines: 1. Principal Residence. homebuyer must occupy the home

qualify for the Program, federal law

requires that a homebuyer satisfy

her principal residence within a days, after the financing is provided. A principal residence is a home occupied primarily for residential purposes. A principal residence does not include a home used as an investment property, as a recreation home or a home 15 percent or more of the total area of which is used in a trade or business. 2. First-Time Homebuyer. Each

homebuyer must be a first-time homebuyer. Any person who has not owned his/her principal residence at any time during the three years $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1$ prior to closing a loan financed in connection with the Program is considered a first-time homebuyer. This requirement does not apply to loans in certain areas designated as targeted areas (collectively, the "Targeted Areas"). Under the

3. Purchase Price. Program, the purchase price for residences may not exceed 90 percent (110 percent with respect to residences located in Targeted Areas) of the average area purchase price applicable to the residence. For this purpose, the "average area purchase price" is based upon the average purchase price of singleresidences determined family pursuant to applicable federal law with respect to both new and existing one-unit residences. The current maximum purchase prices for homes under the Program in each of the Participating Counties is

> **Taylor County News and Existing Homes** One Unit

> > Non-Targeted Areas \$481,176.00 Targeted Area \$588,104.00

These limitations are subject to adjustment periodically.

4. New Mortgage. The mortgage loan financed in connection with the Program is required to be a new mortgage loan and may not replace a prior mortgage loan on the home (whether or not previously repaid). The mortgage credit certificates are available in connection with any not to exceed 30-year, fixed rate mortgage loan which is (i) a government loan eligible for purchase by GNMA, (ii) a conventional loan eligible for purchase by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or (iii) a special loan offered by lending institutions and approved by the Authority. Any lending institution is eligible to provide mortgage loans in connection with the Program as long as they are willing to follow

financed under the Program as his/ Program requirements. A list of lenders that has agreed to follow at www.ehousingplus.com.

> 5. Income. Under the Program, the maximum family income for households of 3 or more persons may not exceed 115 percent (140 percent with respect to residences located in Targeted Areas) of the applicable median family income, subject to adjustment for high housing cost areas. For a family of $\boldsymbol{2}$ or fewer persons, the maximumfamily income may not exceed 100 percent (120 percent with respect to residences located in Targeted Areas) of the applicable median family income, subject to adjustment for high housing cost areas. The current limits on annual gross income for households under the Program in each Participating County (after adjustment for high housing cost areas) are as follows:

> > **Taylor County**

Families of 1 or 2 persons Families of 3 or more persons **Non-Targeted Area** \$85,500.00 \$98,325.00

Targeted Area \$102,600.00 \$119,700.00

These limitations are subject periodically. adjustment Gross income includes salary and wages, including overtime, as well as dividends, alimony, public assistance, social security, unemployment compensation and investment income.

6. One Family Home. residence financed in connection with the Program must be a one A one-family family residence. residence includes a detached home, one unit of a duplex, a townhouse, or a condominium unit. Land adjoining the home is considered part of the home only if it maintains the home's livability and is not, other than incidentally, a source of income to the owner.

7. Program Area. In order to be eligible for a certificate, the home financed in connection with the Program must be located in a Participating County. 8. Homebuyer Education Class.

Each Homebuyer must agree to participate in a Homebuyer Education Class approved by the Authority prior to being eligible to receive a mortgage credit certificate. Under the Program, mortgage credit certificates will be issued to eligible borrowers on a first-come, first-served basis. The certificates

are available in connection with

only those types of new mortgages

as discussed in paragraph 4 mortgage loans in connection with above. Any lending institution that or which otherwise confirms to the satisfaction of the Authority its agreement to follow Program requirements is eligible to provide

the Program.

summary of the requirements under the Program. Additional information about the Program is available from: eHousingPlus

15175 Ludham Road, Suite 203 Miami Lakes, FL 33014 Phone: 954-217-0817 email: sue@ehousing.co Published [Taylor County] August 30, 2023





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