

Two-Minute Check Could Spot Cancer

... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

Leonardo da Vinci has been in the news again. It was reported this week that the portrait of Ginevra dei Benci by Leonardo was sold to the National Gallery in Washington, D. C. It was a reported price of \$5 million but that is difficult to understand, when Prince Franz Josef of Liechtenstein turned down \$6 million for it in 1965. Norton Simon made that offer, but was refused.

Liechtenstein is a 61-square-mile hereditary monarchy nestled between Austria and Switzerland just below Lake Constance. Much of its revenue is derived from the country's main industry — artistically designed postage stamps. Prince Franz Josef II, who inherited the throne in 1938, makes most of his spending money from art — by selling off a painting or two from his inherited art collection of over 1,300 paintings, the world's greatest private collection of old masters.

Leonardo's portrait of the young Florentine maiden, Ginevra, is highly reminiscent of the "Mona Lisa." Ginevra displays the same inscrutable stare, the same refinement of line, the same purity of composition as her famous contemporary, which hangs in the Louvre.

THE KING of the ring was a Spaniard known only as the Marquis de Halfierno. Based in Buenos Aires, he employed a young French artist, Yves Chaudron, who made a handsome living by turning out fraudulent Murillos. Chaudron not only was a master copier, but he could add to his work a seemingly authentic patina of age through the ingenious use of electric fans and vacuum cleaners. The con game was completed by the Marquis, who palmed off the Murillos to Argentine collectors as a real commodity.

When the Marquis was ready for the big time — selling a forged "Mona Lisa," he knew that he would indeed have to steal the real painting. First of all, Chaudron prepared six undetectable forgeries — then the Marquis and a conspirator, who had American connections, took a business trip to the United States. There they closed deals with six separate buyers, promising each art lover they would deliver the genuine "La Gioconda" immediately after the theft. The six copies were dispatched to the Marquis for storage until the proper moment.

Vincenzo Perugia was the man who actually stole the painting. After the crime, the ring broke up and its members went in different directions to spend their loot. Perugia headed for the French Riviera and managed two years of riotous living there. All the while, he had been carrying the real Mona Lisa in the trunk of his car. When he finally ran out of money in 1913, he decided to sell the real painting. He tried to sell it to an art dealer named Geri in Florence. He was caught when he showed up to complete the transaction. Perhaps there are many more secrets hidden behind the Mona Lisa smile than we imagine — we'll never know.

REMBRANDT'S portrait of his son Titus, that resides in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, has a huge room of its own. It was no wonder that I was so surprised when I first saw the "Mona Lisa" in the Louvre — just about hidden among all the other paintings. Luckily, it was covered with glass to protect it against vandals and screwballs.

It has been so long ago that

(This is one of a series of articles on dental health prepared by the Harbor Dental Society, an affiliate of the American Dental Association.)

Your dentist has a simple, painless test called "oral cytology" that may lead to early discovery of a curable mouth cancer.

Combine this test with a 2-minute monthly test of your own, and you'll be assured of detecting mouth cancer early enough for treatment. Early detection of oral cancer is extremely important because it spreads easily to other parts of the body, and unless treated early results in a high death rate.

SOME 36,000 Americans get oral cancer each year. One in every 1,000 men over 45 and a substantial number of women develop it.

Two out of three whose cancer is not discovered early may be expected to die of the disease within five years and among those who fail to obtain treatment, 80 per cent will die within 18 months after the cancer is discovered.

When your dentist checks for cancer, he'll take an oral smear — a sample of the suspected lesion (sore) obtained by scraping the area with a cotton-tipped applicator, tongue depressor or metal blade. A clinical test, similar to that conducted to detect uterine cancer, determines whether oral cancer is present.

HERE'S THE monthly test you can do at home as a supplement to your dentist's:

1. Look for white patches, bleeding cracks, and lumps.
2. Inspect your lips for a ragged lip line and a dry and scaly condition.
3. Pull your lower lip down and inspect your gums inside and out, front to back. If you see anything peculiar, put your finger to it, to see if it's mushy.
4. Throw your head back and look at the roof of your mouth. It should be a solid pink.
5. Open your mouth wide and look at the inside of your cheeks.
6. Stick your tongue out and inspect it on all sides. Lift it high and look at the bumpy floor of the mouth.
7. Check your breath to be sure it has no more than the usual odor of early morning or strong foods.
8. Run your finger under your lower jaw to see if there are any unusual bumps.

YOU'LL WANT to remember, however, that this monthly test is no substitute for a regular and thorough examination by your dentist. Beginning cancers are painless for a long time, and many are unlikely to be detected by self-examination.

Discovered early — as they can be by your dentist — they can be treated successfully.

Fills Top Post

Raphael M. D'Elia of 1136 W. 213th St. has been elected assistant treasurer of Beneficial Standard Life Insurance Co. He and his wife, Kaaren Michele, are parents of three children.

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Guitarist To Appear At College

George Sakellariou, Greek concert guitarist, will be featured in the second in a series of four classical guitar concerts in the El Camino College Campus Theater at 3:30 p.m. today.

Because his country has a great partiality for the dance as well as the historic association of the guitar with dance, Sakellariou emphasizes this element in his concerts.

Graduating with first prize money from the Conservatory of Music in Athens, Greece, Sakellariou studied with Char Ekmetsoglou. Besides recitals, Sakellariou also makes television and radio appearances in Greece and Canada where he has appeared with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

He started his career in America with Maestro Andres Segovia's Master Class performing in Sacramento, San Francisco, and at Merced College and the College of Marin. Sakellariou is a faculty member at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Tickets for the concert are available at the El Camino College bookstore for \$1 and will also be sold at the box office at the time of the performance. Tickets are 50 cents for students with activity books.

Auditions Slated in Long Beach

Open auditions for the Long Beach Civic Light Opera Association production of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" will be held Saturday and Sunday.

The auditions, scheduled to begin at 1 p.m., will be held at 518 E. 4th St., Long Beach. Saturday auditions are for dancers and Sunday auditions are for singers. Only non-union performers are eligible.

The production, which will open the 1967 Long Beach Civic Light Opera season, will run from May 4 to 21. Ron Hogue is the director and Cris Timmons is the choreographer. Musical director is Jack Kroesen.

Personnel Man Seaman Michael M. Hughes, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. David J. Hughes of 2645 W. 235th St., is helping the U.S. Pacific Fleet Service Force (SERVPAC) celebrate its 25th anniversary this month, while serving aboard the gasoline tanker Kishwaukee.

Begun in February, 1942, the force is now 45,000 men strong, and operates 117 ships of 21 different types, as well as 13 shore bases in the Western Pacific. SERVPAC units supply Naval forces afloat and ashore within an area equal to nearly half the earth's surface, with food, fuel, ammunition and other essential needs.