

Readers Respond

THE DARK SIDE

The day after I read “Inside the Dark Web” [Cover Story, September], I went online and froze my credit. I’ve used a credit monitoring service for years and recommend it to everyone. Banks will often provide this service for a fee. It’s worth a few dollars each month to potentially save thousands. I thought I was safe. After reading your article, I think I need to do more. Credit needs to be monitored and frozen. Thank you for this eye-opening article.

BARBARA SMITH, SOUTH GLENS FALLS, N.Y.



THE MEDICALIZED LIFE

Yay! I took great delight in the Q&A with Barbara Ehrenreich [“It Doesn’t Matter if You Do Everything Perfectly”]. It’s what I’ve been trying to explain to my primary physician for nearly three years. Living well is about quality of life, not doctor visits, endless procedures, labs and “necessary” prescriptions that earn money for pharmaceutical providers. I elected to stop taking “necessary” meds. The only thing I’m not able to do now that I used to enjoy is look good in a bikini, and I’m OK with that. I work, play and enjoy a high quality of life, free from the tether of what someone else thinks they know is best for me.

BARBIE HEAVRIN
NEWBURY PARK, CALIF.

Barbara Ehrenreich is so pragmatic. I felt as though I had written the article myself because my friends, family and doctors all know that I feel the same way. She makes such good sense and looks like so much fun. I’d like to have her as a friend.

IRENE McDONALD
MELBOURNE, FLA.

MISLEADING INVESTMENT BELIEFS

Thanks to Allan Roth for his excellent article “Investing Truths That Aren’t” [Your Money]. Despite what he says about investing not being complex, most people aren’t comfortable moving large amounts of money around, so they put their trust

in an investment company to do it for them. Predictably, in the absence of strong regulation, many financial advisers put their own profit-driven interests first. There is no “truth in investing” act like there is for lending.

BETH CALVO
SEATTLE

STAMP OF DISAPPROVAL

Your “99 Great Ways to Save” [July/August] urged people to stop buying stamps. That would destroy the U.S. Postal Service, which uses earned revenue (not taxpayer money) to offer Americans the most affordable delivery network. This would hurt the very people you represent. Retirees would not receive their checks, medicines, magazines or greeting cards. USPS is the nation’s largest employer of military veterans, who would be disproportionately affected, along with small towns and rural areas. The Postal Service, based in the Constitution because the founding fathers understood its role in unifying this vast nation, is a national treasure as well as a secure resource for seniors; it’s not something to be dismissed.

FREDRIC ROLANDO
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF LETTER CARRIERS

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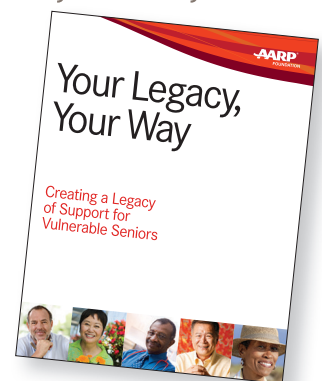


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