



**Tricia Propson
Silver Pen Commentary
Post Crescent**

Kindness makes the world a little brighter
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Fumbling in my purse and realizing I did not have any cash, I found myself in a predicament. I was standing in line at Chipotle Grill and had just heard a marvelous description of the food buffet from the friendly server. My daughter and I were on a special date and wanted to enjoy a nice lunch. I had lost my credit card the day before and quickly asked the manager if they would take a personal check. She said no so we thanked them, explained the situation, and turned to leave. The manager didn't hesitate. She asked us to please stay and allow her to buy our lunch for us. I blushed a bright red and politely said, "No thank you." She insisted and bought our lunch for us before we could resist. We enjoyed a lovely meal and left feeling a little bit better about the world.

The next day I was in line behind a woman, who did not have enough money to pay for her purchase, I was able to make up the difference for her. Her reaction was the same as mine the day before, "No thank you." But I insisted and she finally accepted.

So what did I learn from my lunch at Chipotle Grill? In this crazy world with rising unemployment, hurting families, and greater financial instability, we need each other more than ever before. A little kindness to a stranger can make a huge impact.

So if you see a stranger in need and are able, extend kindness to them. If you find yourself on the receiving end of the giving, accept it graciously and know that together, we can make the harsh world we live in a little brighter.