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(54) **CARTON WITH LOCKING FEATURES, RELATED SYSTEMS AND METHODS**

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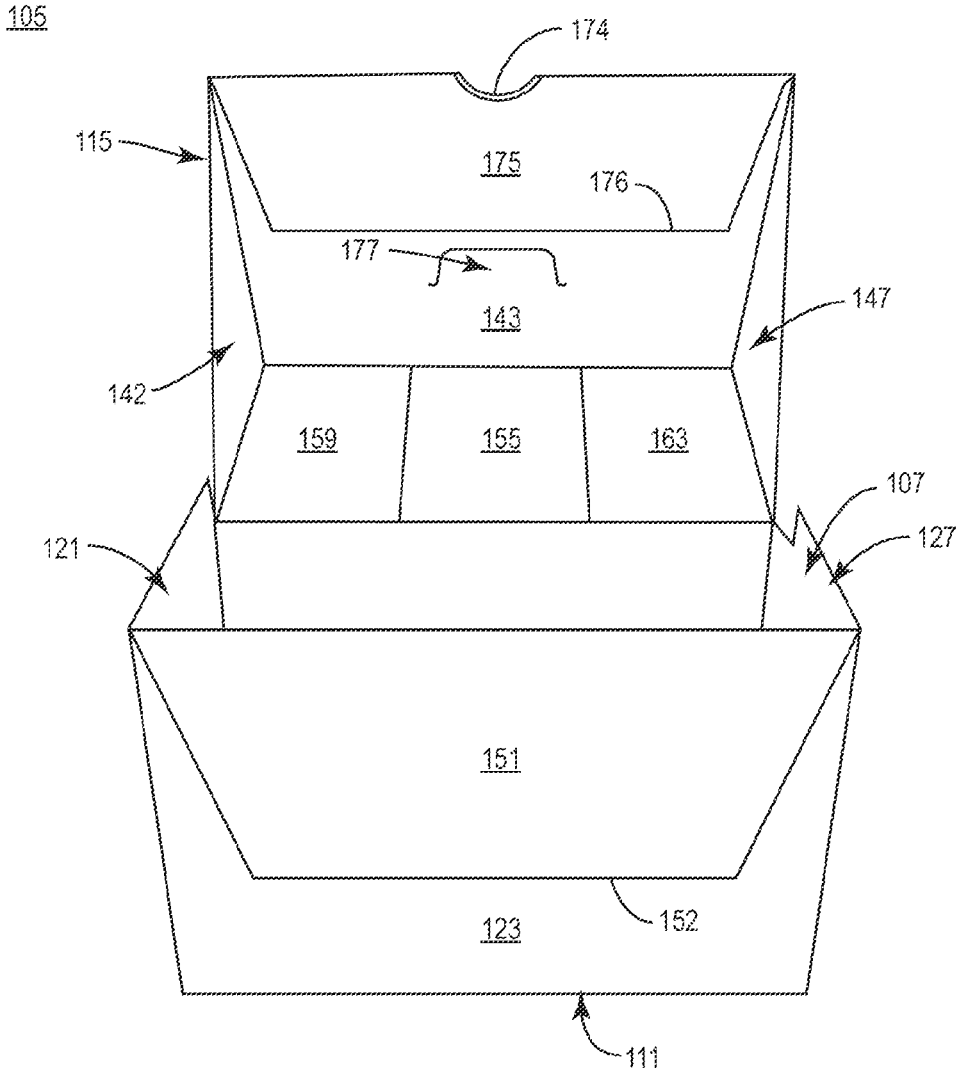
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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A carton for holding one or more articles includes a first plurality of panels extending at least partially around an interior of the carton and forming a body of the carton, and a second plurality of panels extending at least partially around the interior of the carton and forming a lid of the carton, the lid is foldably connected to the body such that the lid is repositionable between an open position and a closed position. The carton further includes a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels, and locking features for selectively maintaining the lid in a closed position, the locking features including a first locking flap foldably connected to the body and positioned for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid.



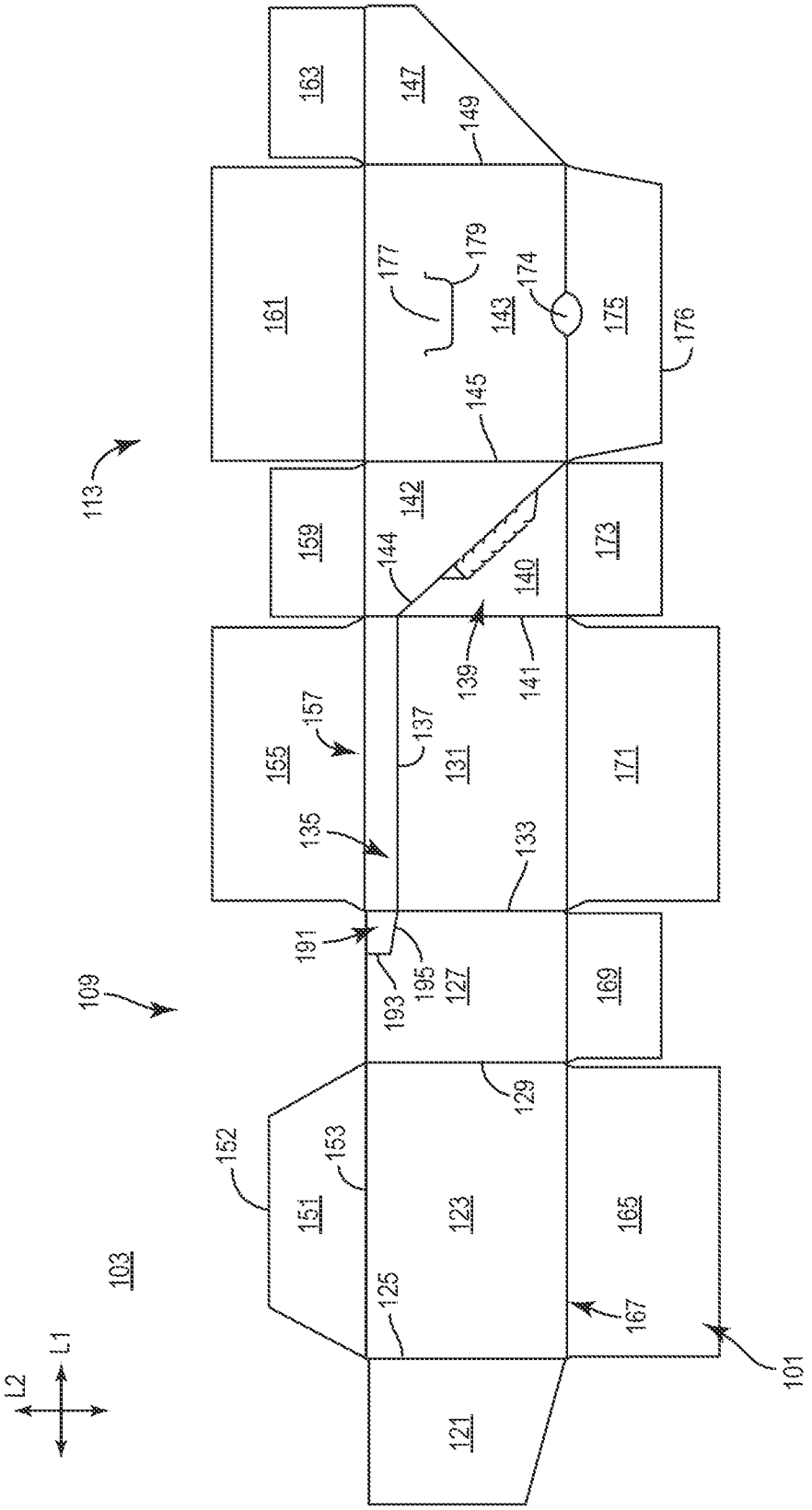

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FIG. 1

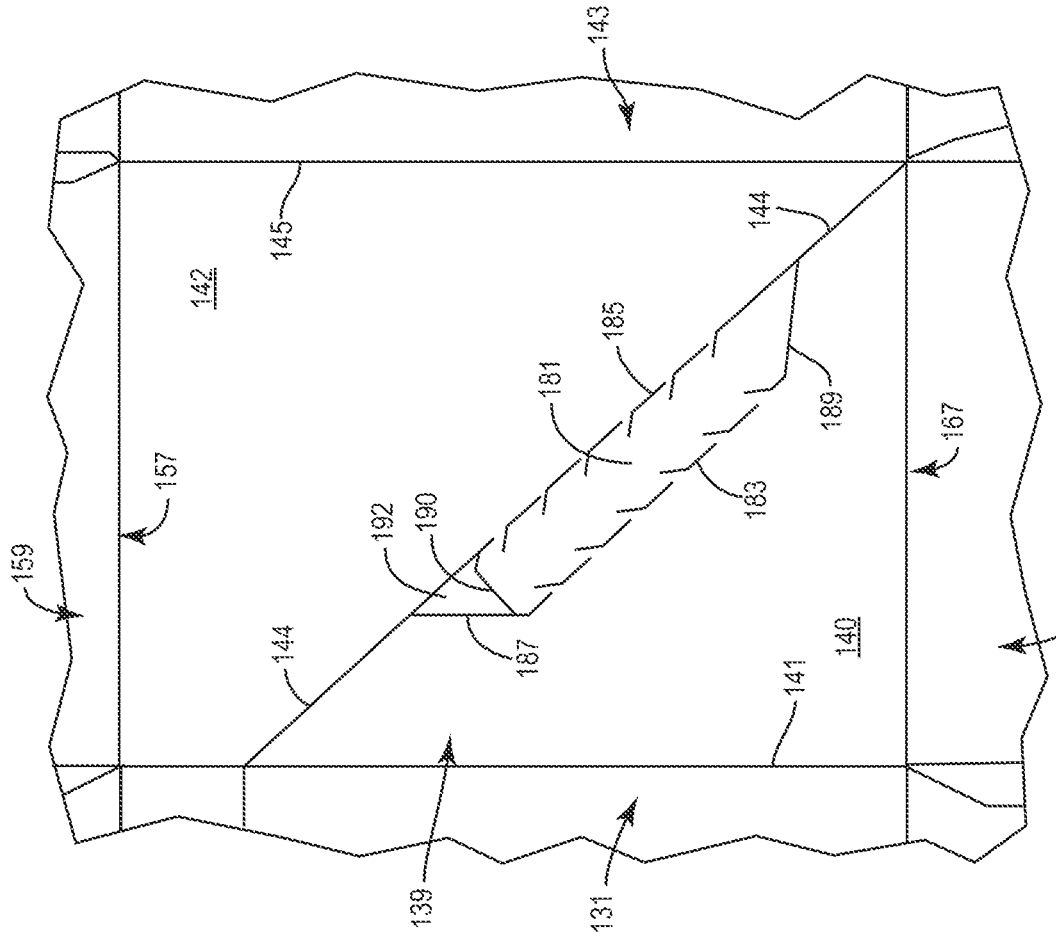

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FIG. 1A

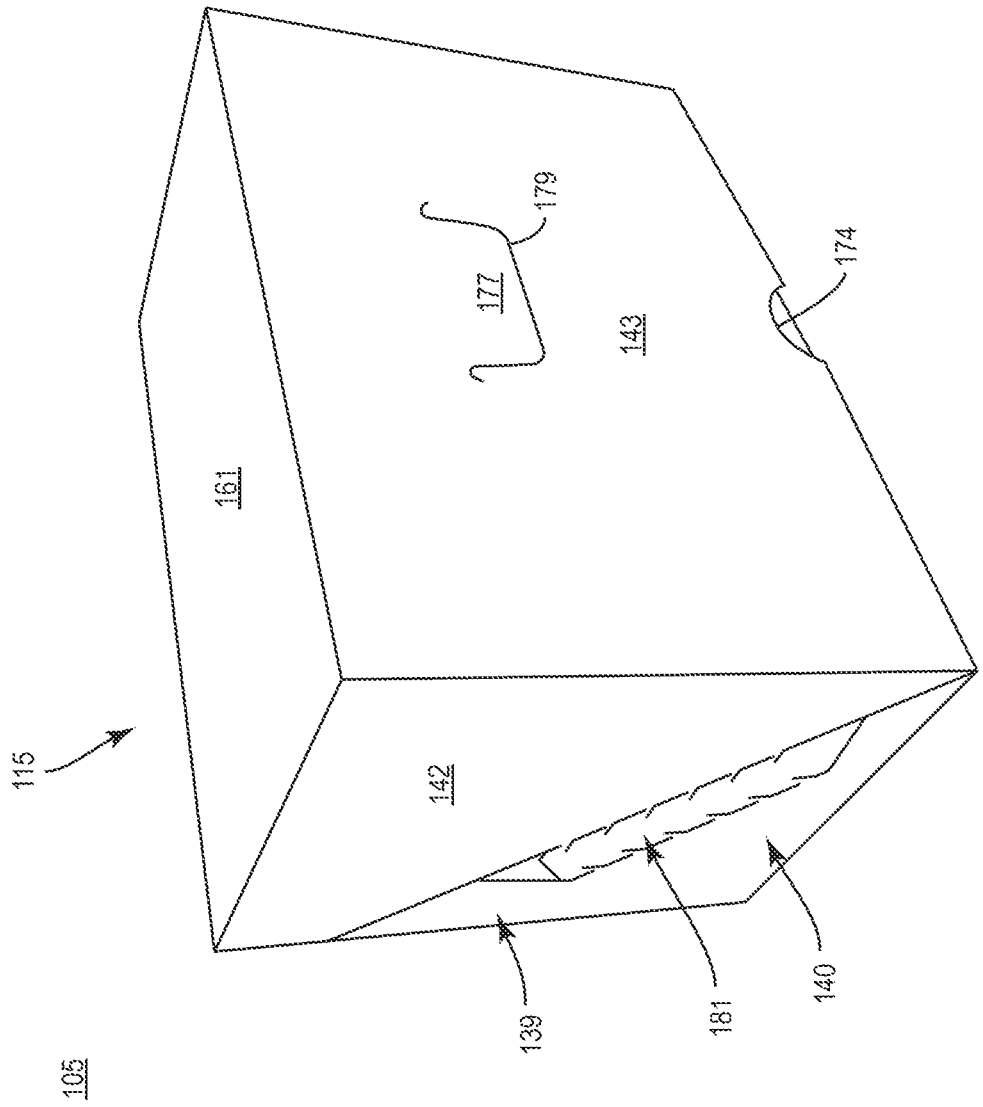


FIG. 2

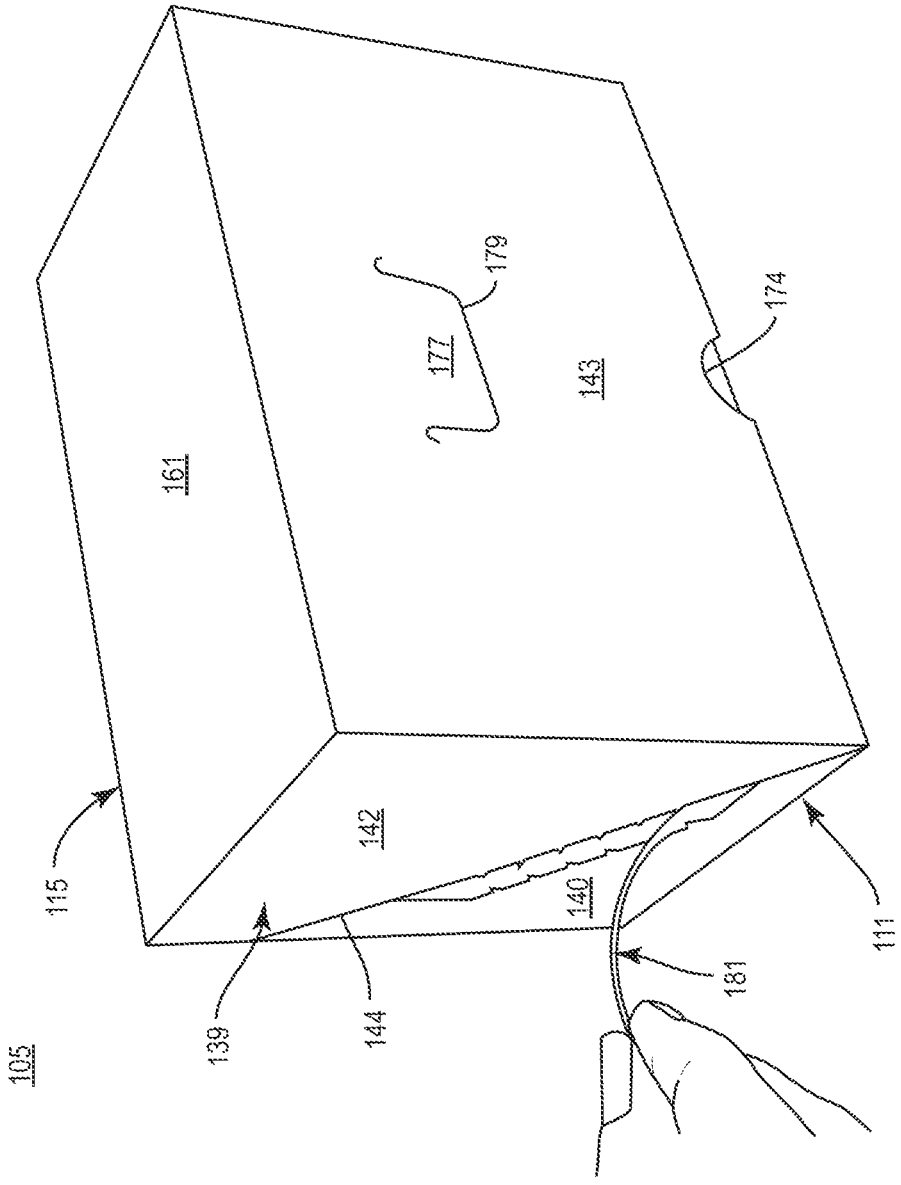


FIG. 3

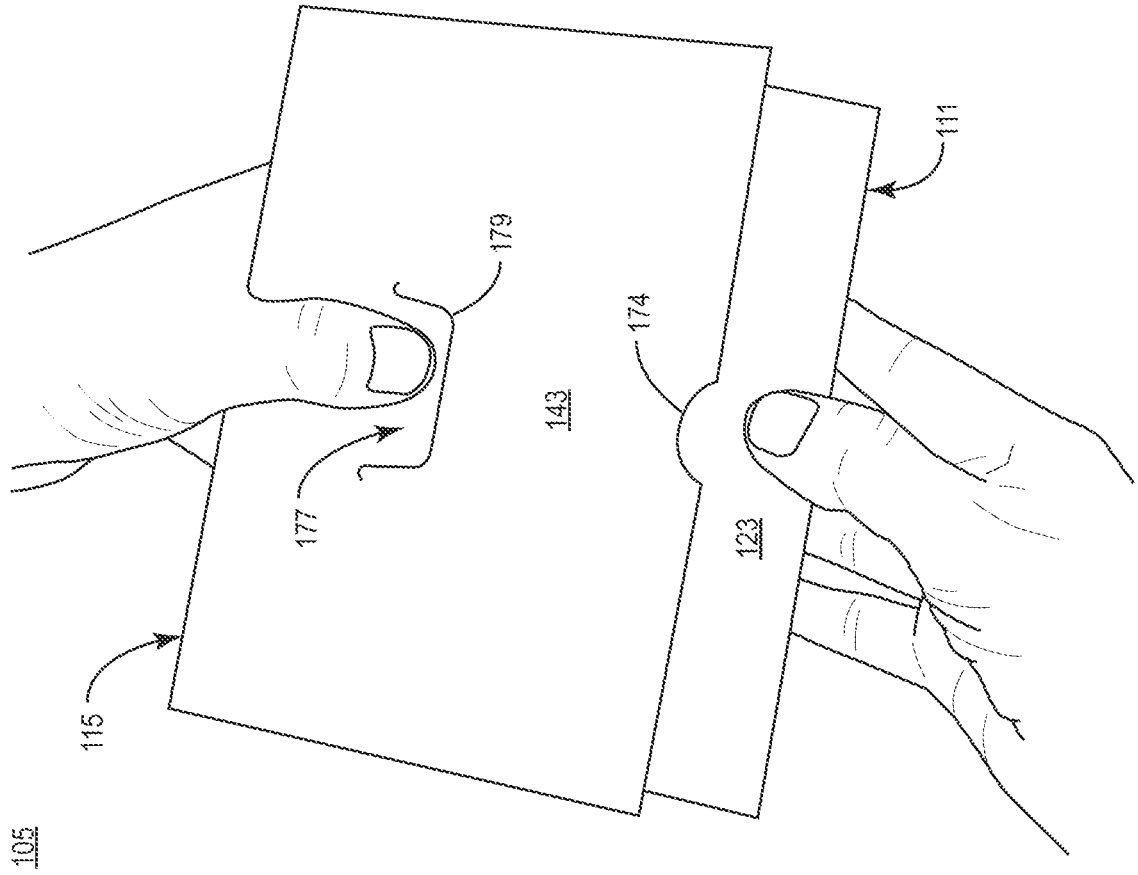


FIG. 4

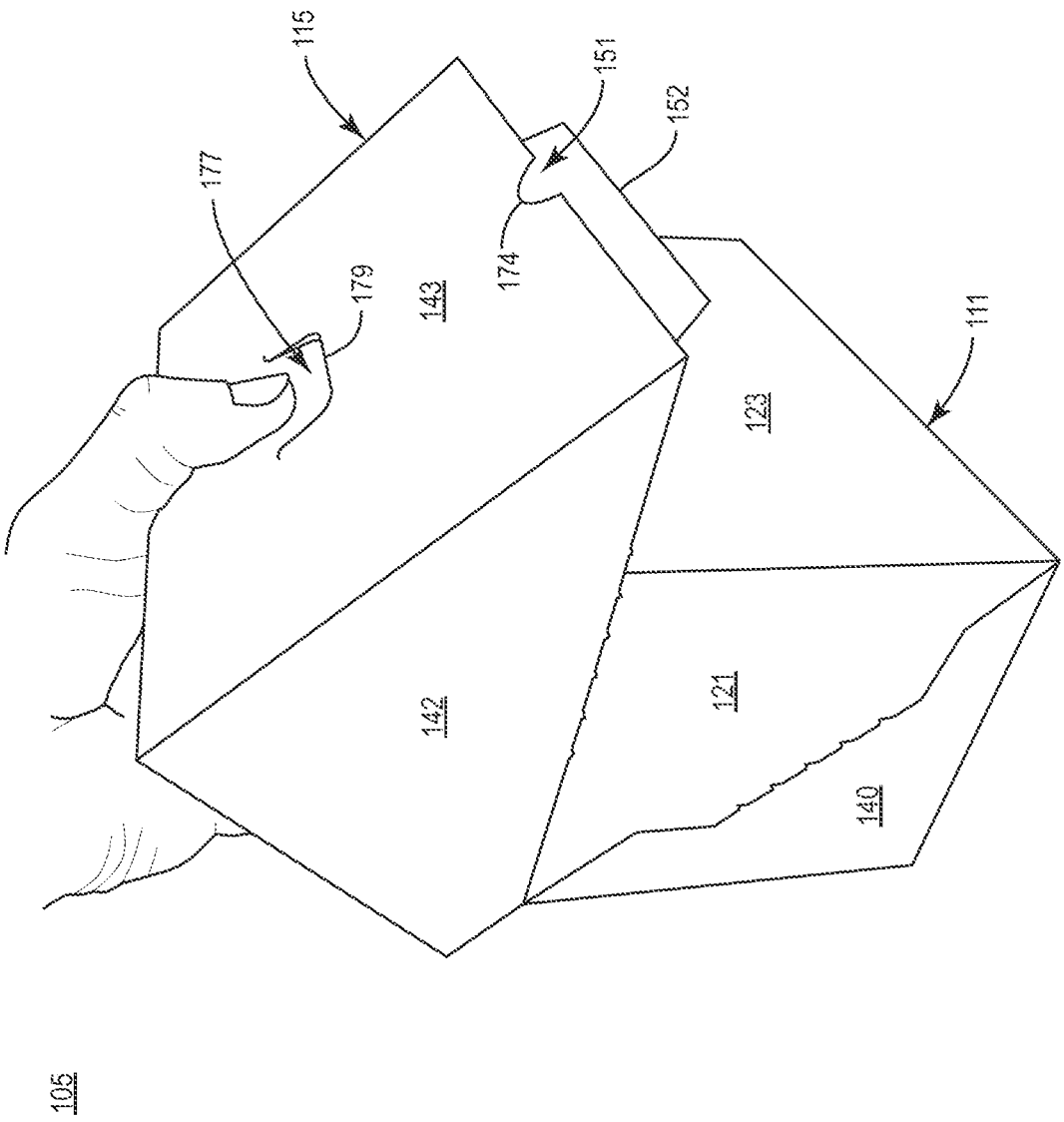


FIG. 5

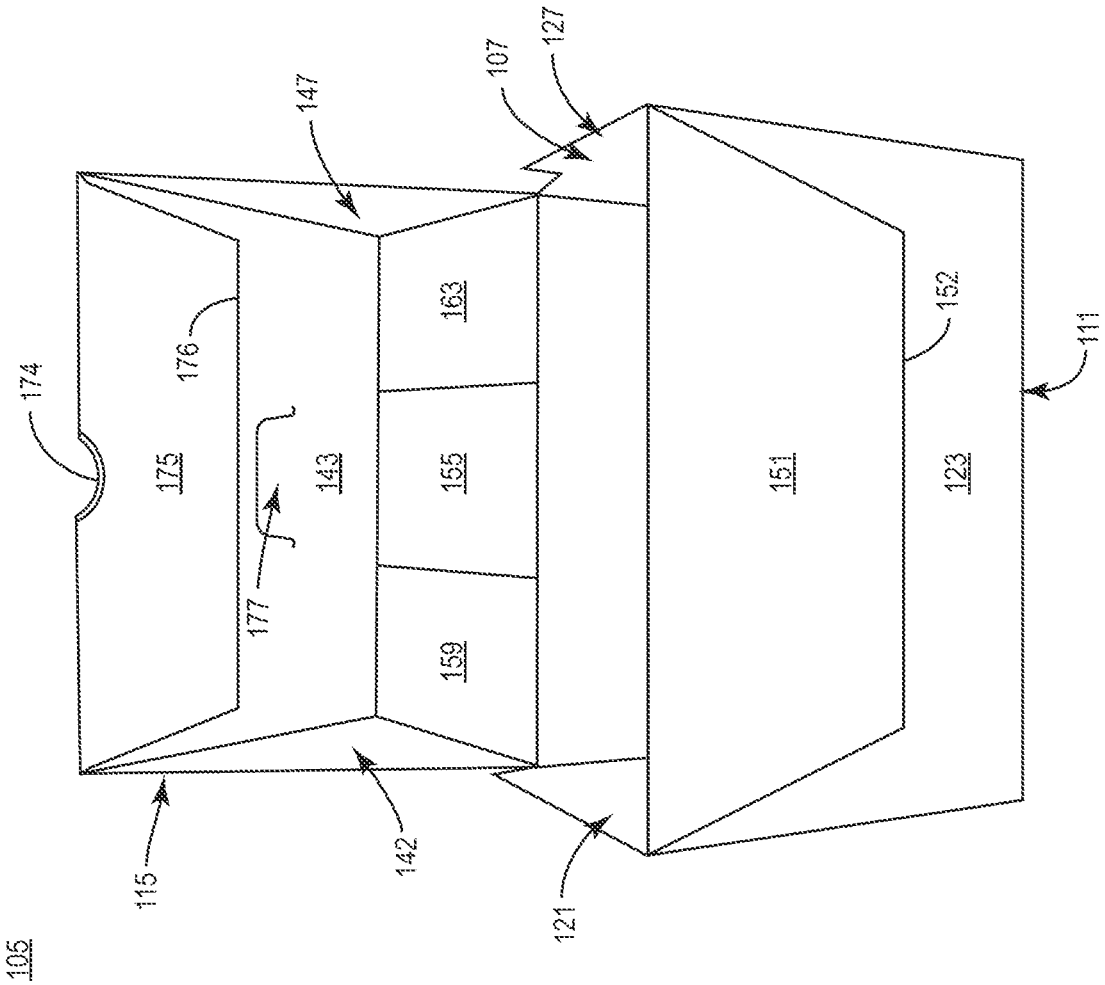

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FIG. 6

CARTON WITH LOCKING FEATURES, RELATED SYSTEMS AND METHODS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 63/425,831, filed on Nov. 16, 2022.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

[0002] The entire disclosures of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 63/425,831, filed on Nov. 16, 2022, and U.S. Design patent application Ser. No. 29/906,942, filed on Nov. 14, 2023, are hereby incorporated by reference for all purposes as if set forth in their entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0003] The present disclosure generally relates to containers for holding one or more articles. More specifically, the present disclosure relates to cartons for holding one or more articles and that include locking features for maintaining a closed configuration thereof.

[0004] SUMMARY

[0005] According to one aspect, the disclosure is generally directed to a carton for holding one or more articles, the carton comprising a first plurality of panels extending at least partially around an interior of the carton and forming a body of the carton, a second plurality of panels extending at least partially around the interior of the carton and forming a lid of the carton, the lid is foldably connected to the body such that the lid is repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton, a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels, and locking features for selectively maintaining the lid in the closed position, the locking features including a first locking flap foldably connected to the body and positioned for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid.

[0006] According to another aspect, the disclosure is generally directed to a blank for forming a carton for holding one or more articles, the blank comprising a first plurality of panels for extending at least partially around an interior of the carton formed from the blank and for forming a body of the carton formed from the blank, a second plurality of panels for extending at least partially around the interior of the carton formed from the blank and for forming a lid of the carton formed from the blank, the lid is for being foldably connected to the body when the carton is formed from the blank such that the lid is repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton formed from the blank is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton formed from the blank, a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels, and locking features for selectively maintaining the lid in the closed position when the carton is formed from the blank, the locking features including a first locking flap foldably connected to the body of the carton formed from the blank and for being positioned for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid of the carton formed from the blank.

[0007] According to another aspect, the disclosure is generally directed to a method of forming a carton for holding one or more articles, the method comprising obtaining a blank comprising a first plurality of panels, a second plurality of panels, a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels, and locking features comprising a first locking flap and a second locking flap, positioning the first plurality of panels extending at least partially around an interior of the carton and forming a body of the carton, positioning the second plurality of panels extending at least partially around the interior of the carton and forming a lid of the carton such that the lid of the carton is foldably connected to the body of the carton and repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton, and positioning the first locking flap foldably connected to the body for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid such that the lid selectively maintainable in the closed position.

[0008] Those skilled in the art will appreciate the above stated advantages and other advantages and benefits of various additional embodiments reading the following detailed description of the embodiments with reference to the below-listed drawing figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] According to common practice, the various features of the drawings discussed below are not necessarily drawn to scale. Dimensions of various features and elements in the drawings may be expanded or reduced to more clearly illustrate the embodiments of the disclosure.

[0010] FIG. **1** is a plan view of an exterior surface of a blank for forming a carton according to an exemplary embodiment of the disclosure.

[0011] FIG. **1**A is an enlarged portion of the blank of FIG. **1**.

[0012] FIG. **2** is a perspective view of a closed configuration of a carton formed from the blank of FIG. **1** according to an exemplary embodiment of the disclosure.

[0013] FIGS. **3-6** are sequential perspective views of an opening of the carton of FIG. **2** according to an exemplary embodiment of the disclosure.

[0014] Corresponding parts are designated by corresponding reference numbers throughout the drawings.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

[0015] The present disclosure generally relates to containers such as cartons, cartons, carriers, clips, or the like, and packages for shipping and dispensing articles that hold one or more articles such as personal care items (e.g., soaps, lotions, cosmetics, medicinal products, rinses such as mouthwash, etc.), household products (e.g., detergents, soap, hand or surface sanitizer, etc.), food products, or other articles. As described herein, such articles can be provided within a dedicated packaging, or the containers described herein can be configured to directly hold the material associated with such products.

[0016] It will be understood that it may be desirable to restrict access to some articles, which can include those to be disposed in containers described herein, by particular

users. In some cases, these users can be children or other individuals whom parents/guardians/providers of consumer products may wish to avoid providing unduly simple access to articles such as those that provide a choking hazard, sweets or other indulgences, nonfood products that may be accidentally ingested, etc. At the same time, it is desirable to provide restricted access to contained articles to such selected individuals or groups of individuals while maintaining ease of access to intended end users of such articles. Accordingly, there is a need for a container solution that provides access restricting features while maintaining general ease of use for intended end users.

[0017] Containers according to the present disclosure can accommodate articles of any shape. For the purpose of illustration and not for the purpose of limiting the scope of the disclosure, the following detailed description describes product holding containers (e.g., paperboard trays and sleeves). In this specification, the terms "inner," "interior," "outer," "exterior," "lower," "bottom," "upper," and "top" indicate orientations determined in relation to fully erected and upright cartons.

[0018] As described herein, cartons may be formed by multiple overlapping panels, end flaps, and/or other portions of blanks. Such panels, end flaps, and/or other portions of the blanks can be designated in relative terms to one another, e.g., "first", "second", "third", etc., in sequential or non-sequential reference, without departing from the disclosure.

[0019] FIG. **2** is a plan view of an exterior surface **101** of a blank **103** used to form a carton **105** (FIG. **3**) according to an exemplary embodiment of the present disclosure. The carton **105** defines an interior **107** (FIG. **6**) within which one or more articles can be held. FIG. **1**A is an enlarged portion of the exterior surface **101** of the blank **103**.

[0020] As shown, the blank **103** has a longitudinal axis L**1** and a lateral axis L**2**. It will be understood that, in some embodiments, the longitudinal axis L**1** and lateral axis L**2** can be transposed.

[0021] The blank **103** can have a body portion **109** for forming a body **111** of the carton **105** formed from the blank **103**, as well as a lid portion **113** for forming a lid **115** of the carton **105** formed from the blank **103**. As described further herein, the lid portion **113** of the blank **103** can be foldably connected to the body portion **109** of the blank **103** such that the lid **115** is foldably connected to the body **111** of the carton **105** formed from the blank **103**, and such that the lid **115** repositionable between an open position and a closed position corresponding to a respective open configuration and closed configuration of the carton **105**.

[0022] The blank **103** has a plurality of panels for at least partially extending around the interior **107** of the carton **105**. In particular, the body portion **109** of the blank **103** can have a first plurality of panels that include a body first side panel **121**, a body front panel **123** foldably connected to the first body side panel **121** at a lateral fold line **125**, a body second side panel **127** foldably connected to the body front panel **123** at a lateral fold line **129**, and a body back panel **131** foldably connected to the body second side panel **127** at a lateral fold line **133**.

[0023] The lid portion **113** of the blank **103** can have a second plurality of panels that can include a back hinge panel **135** foldably and/or separably connected to the body back panel **131** at a longitudinal line of weakening **137**, a first lid side panel **139** foldably connected to the hinge panel **135** and the body back panel **131** at respective portions of a lateral fold line **141**, a lid front panel **143** foldably connected to the lid side panel **139** at a lateral fold line **145**, and a lid second side panel **147** foldably connected to the lid front panel **143** at a lateral fold line **149**. As described further herein, the hinge panel **135** can be foldably connected to each of the body back panel **131** and a respective end flap of a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the plurality of panels of the blank **103**/carton **105**.

[0024] As described further herein, the first lid side panel **139** can include a base or attachment portion **140** separably connected to a distal or lid portion **142** at an oblique line of weakening **144**.

[0025] In the illustrated embodiment, at least one end flap can be foldably connected to a respective panel of the plurality of panels of the blank **103**. With regard to the body portion **109** of the blank **103**, a first locking end flap or first locking flap **151** can be foldably connected to the body front panel **123** at a longitudinal fold line **153**.

[0026] With regard to the lid portion **113** of the blank **103**, a first top end flap **155** can be foldably connected to the hinge panel **135** at a respective portion of a longitudinal fold line **157**, a second top end flap **159** can be foldably connected to the side panel **139** at a respective portion of the fold line **157**, a third top end flap **161** can be foldably connected to the front panel **143** at a respective portion of the fold line **157**, and a fourth top end flap **163** can be foldably connected to the side panel **147** at a respective portion of the fold line **157**.

[0027] As also shown, a first bottom end flap **165** can be foldably connected to the body front panel **123** at a respective portion of a longitudinal fold line **167**, a second bottom end flap **169** can be foldably connected to the body second side panel **127** at a respective portion of the fold line **167**, a third bottom end flap **171** can be foldably connected to the body back panel **131** at a respective portion of the fold line **167**, and a fourth bottom end flap **173** foldably connected to the first lid side panel **139** at a respective portion of the fold line **167**.

[0028] As described further herein, a second locking end flap or second locking flap **175** can be foldably connected to the lid front panel **143** at a respective portion of the fold line **167**. As shown, the portion of the fold line **167** can be at least partially interrupted by an opening or notch **174**.

[0029] In this regard, the end flaps **151**, **155**, **159**, **161**, **163** can be a first plurality of end flaps positioned along a first marginal portion of the blank **103**, and the end flaps **165**, **169**, **171**, **173**, **175** can be a second plurality of end flaps positioned along a second marginal portion of the blank **103**.

[0030] It will be understood that the blank **103** and carton **105** formed therefrom can have a different number, configuration, and/or arrangement of panels, end flaps, and/or associated features without departing from the disclosure. For example, in some embodiments, one or both of the body side panel **121** and the second lid side panel **147** can be considered end flaps of the blank **103**/carton **105**.

[0031] The blank **103** and the carton **105** formed therefrom can also include locking features for selectively maintaining a closed/locked configuration of the carton **105** in which the lid **115** is in a closed position. In the illustrated embodiment, the locking features can include the locking flap **151** and the locking flap **175**. Further, the locking features can include a locking release tab **177** at least partially separable from the lid front panel **143** at a generally U-shaped cut line **179**.

[0032] In addition, the blank **103** and the carton **105** formed therefrom can include access features to facilitate transitioning the carton **105** from an initially closed configuration to an open configuration. As best shown in FIG. **1**A, the access features can include a tear strip **181** positioned to interrupt the line of weakening **144** along the lid side panel **139**. In the illustrated embodiment, the tear strip **181** can be separably connected to the base portion **140** of the lid side panel **139** at an oblique line of weakening **183** and from the distal portion **142** of the lid side panel **139** at an oblique line of weakening **185** that is collinear with the line of weakening **144**. As also shown, respective oblique lines of weakening **187**, **189** can extend from a respective endpoint of the line of weakening **183** to a respective endpoint of the line of weakening **185**. In some embodiments, the tear strip **181** can be at least partially bisected by an additional oblique line of weakening **190** to form an access tab **192** therealong.

[0033] Access features of the blank **103** and carton **105** formed therefrom can also include an access tab **191** separably connected to the body side panel **127** at a generally lateral line of weakening **193** extending from a free edge of the panel **127** to an endpoint of a generally longitudinal or oblique line of weakening **195** that intersects the fold line **133**.

[0034] It will be understood that the blank **103** and the carton **105** formed therefrom can include a different number and/or arrangement of access features without departing from the disclosure. For example, in some embodiments, the locking release tab **177** and associated features can be considered access features of the blank **103** and carton **105** formed therefrom.

[0035] Turning to FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment, the carton **105** can be formed from the blank **103** by positioning the blank **103** on a supporting surface, with the exterior surface **101** facing downwardly and with an interior surface thereof facing upwardly. The locking flap **175** can be folded at the respective portion of the fold line **167** into at least partial face-to-face contact with the lid front panel **143**.

[0036] The body front panel **123** can be folded at the fold line **129** into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the body side panel **127**, the back panel **131**, and the hinge panel **135**, and such that the body side panel **121** is carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the back panel **131** and the hinge panel **135**. Furthermore, a respective portion of the locking flap **151** can be carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with a respective portion of the top end flap **155**, and the bottom end flap **165** can be carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the bottom end flaps **169**, **171**.

[0037] The locking flap **151** can then be folded at the fold line **153** into at least partial face-to-face contact with a respective portion of the exterior surface **101** of the blank **103** along the body front panel **123**.

[0038] The lid side panel **139** can be folded at the fold line **141** into at least partial face-to-face contact with the body side panel **121**, and such that the top end flap **159** is carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with the top end flap **155**, and such that the bottom end flap **173** is carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with a respective portion of the bottom end flap **171**. As described further herein, the base portion **140** of the lid side panel **139** can be attached to a respective portion of the body side panel **121**.

[0039] Simultaneously or thereafter, the lid side panel **147** can be folded at the fold line **149** into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the lid front panel **143** and the locking flap **175** and such that the top end flap **163** is carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with the top end flap **161**. In this regard, when the lid front panel **143** is moved upon folding of the lid side panel **139** at the fold line **141** as described above, a respective portion of the lid front panel **143** and the lid side panel **147** are carried into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the locking flap **151** and the body front panel **123**.

[0040] Such an arrangement can be considered an at least partially folded configuration of the blank **103** or a collapsed configuration of the carton **105**. This arrangement can be at least partially maintained via one or more applications of an adhesive such as glue. In one embodiment, an adhesive such as glue can be applied to the exterior surface **101** of the blank **103** along a portion of the body side panel **121** (e.g., such that the exterior surface of the body side panel **121** is adhered to the interior surface of the lid side panel **139**) and to the interior surface of the blank **103** along a portion of the locking flap **175** (e.g., such that the interior surface of the locking flap **175** is adhered to the interior surface of the lid front panel **143**).

[0041] Such an arrangement can provide an open sleeve configuration of the carton **105**, in which the overlapped lid front panel **143**, locking flap **175**, locking flap **151**, and body front panel **123** are positioned in spaced and parallel relation with the back panel **131** and hinge panel **135**, with the overlapped lid side panel **139** and body side panel **121** extending from the front panel **143**, **123** to the back panel **131** and the hinge panel **135** and in spaced and parallel relation to the overlapped lid side panel **147** and body side panel **127** that also extend from the front panels **143**, **123** and locking flaps **175**, **151** to the back panel **131** and the hinge panel **135**.

[0042] In this configuration, the panels **121**, **123**, **127**, **131**, **135**, **139**, **143**, **147** extend at least partially around the interior **107** of the carton **105**, with the end flaps **155**, **159**, **161**, **163**, **165**, **169**, **171**, **173** extending away therefrom.

[0043] FIG. **2** illustrates an initially closed configuration of the carton **105**, which can be formed by further folding the top end flaps **159**, **163** at respective portions of the fold line **157** toward the interior **107** of the carton **105** (e.g., in generally perpendicular relation to the panels **121**, **123**, **127**, **131**, **135**, **139**, **143**, **147**), folding the top end flap **161** at a respective portion of the fold line **157** into at least partial face-to-face contact with respective portions of the top end flaps **159**, **163**, and folding the top end flap **155** at a respective portion of the fold line **157** into at least partial face-to-face contact with the top end flap **161** so as to be in at least partial overlapping relation to at least partially form a closed top end/the lid **115** of the carton **105**.

[0044] Similarly, the bottom end flaps **169**, **173** can be folded at respective portions of the fold line **167** toward the interior **107** of the carton **105** (e.g., in generally perpendicular relation to the panels **121**, **123**, **127**, **131**, **135**, **139**, **143**, **147**) and can be positioned in at least partially overlapping relation to form a closed bottom of the carton **105**.

[0045] In view of the foregoing, the first plurality of panels of the blank **103**/carton **105** and the second plurality of panels of the blank **103**/carton **105** can each extend at least partially around the interior **107** of the carton **105**.

[0046] In the initially closed configuration of the carton **105**, the locking flap **151**, which is folded downwardly toward an exterior surface of the body front panel **123** and positioned between the body front panel **123** and the lid front panel **143**, can be positioned to engage the locking flap **175** that is folded into at least partial face-to-face contact with the interior surface of the lid front panel **143**. In particular, a free edge **152** (FIG. **1**) of the locking flap **151** can be positioned for at least partial edge-to-edge engagement with a free edge **176** (FIG. **1**) of the locking flap **175** and/or an exterior surface of the locking flap **175**. In view of the foregoing, each locking flap **151**, **175** can be positioned between the body front panel **123** and the lid front panel **143** when the lid **115** is in the closed position.

[0047] In such an arrangement, the lid **115** of the carton **105** can be in a closed position or first position at least partially overlying the interior **107** of the carton **105** so as to inhibit and/or prevent access to articles in the interior **107** of the carton **105**. In some embodiments, the closed position of the lid **115** of the carton **105** can include at least partial contact with one or more portions of the body **111** of the carton **105**.

[0048] With additional reference to FIGS. **3-5**, in order to facilitate repositioning of the lid **115** to transition the carton **105** from an initially closed configuration to an open configuration, a user can engage the tear strip **181**, for example, by pinching the access tab **192** between his or her fingers and pulling the tear strip **181** away from the lid side panel **139** such that the tear strip **181** at least partially separates from the lid side panel **139** at one or more of the lines of weakening **183**, **185**, **187**, **189**, and such that the distal portion **142** of the lid side panel **139** is freely separable from the base portion **140** of the lid side panel **139** along the line of weakening **144**.

[0049] Upon such removal of the tear strip **181**, the aforementioned engagement of the locking flaps **151**, **175** can be at least partially overcome by a user by pressing on the locking release tab **177** to cause at least partial separation thereof from the lid front panel **143** at the cut **179** and toward the locking flap **151** aligned there beneath. Accordingly, pressing on the locking release tab **177** can move the locking flap **151** away from engagement with the locking flap **175** attached to the lid front panel **143**. In this regard, the locking flap **151** is movable toward and away from the body front panel **123** via the foldable connection thereto at the fold line **153**.

[0050] Upon such disengagement of the locking flaps **151**, **175**, the lid **115** of the carton **105** can be lifted away from the body **111** of the carton **105** to an open position from which articles in the interior **107** of the carton **105** can be accessed. In some embodiments, the notch **174** can provide a conspicuous location along which a user can place his or her finger or knuckle to engage the lid **115**.

[0051] The lid **115** of the carton **105** can move via folding at the respective portion of the fold line **157** that foldably connects the top end flap **155** to the hinge panel **135** and/or at the line of weakening **137** that foldably connects the hinge panel **135** to the back panel **131** such that the lid **115** has an articulable hinge arrangement that can fold at multiple points of attachment to the remainder of the carton **105**. Such a lid configuration can be advantageous as compared to, for example, a lid configuration that is pivotable at only one foldable connection relative to a remainder of a carton.

[0052] The lid **115** can thus be lifted away from the body **111** of the carton **105** into the open position or second position in order to allow one or more users to access and/or retrieve one or more articles from the interior **107** of the carton **105**. When it is desired to again close the carton **105**, a user can lower the lid **115** over the interior **107** of the carton **105** by folding the lid **115** at one or both of the fold lines **157**, **137**. Furthermore, such lowering of the lid **115** onto the body **111** of the carton **105** can position the locking flaps **151**, **175** in locking engagement as described above to provide not only an openable and reclosable configuration of the carton **105** via the lid **115**, but also a lockable and unlockable configuration of the carton **105** via the engagement of the locking flaps **151**, **175** and subsequent release thereof via the locking release tab **177**.

[0053] The locking features and access features described above can be configured such that intended user's having requisite physical characteristics, e.g., strength, dexterity, etc., are provided convenient access to open/unlock and close/lock the carton **105** in a relatively easy manner, while users lacking such physical characteristics can experience one or more barriers to at least opening/unlocking the carton **105** and one or more articles in the interior **107** of the carton **105**. In some embodiments, such physical characteristics can include the capability to grasp the carton **105** with two hands simultaneously as described above and the dexterity to engage the locking features and lift the lid **115** as described above.

[0054] It will be understood that, in some embodiments, for example, situations may arise in which restricted access to the interior **107** of the carton **105** to certain users is not necessary or not desired. In such situations the lid **115** and associated locking functionality of the carton **105** can be removed from the carton **105** via engaging the access tab **191**, separating the tab **191** from the side panel **127** at the lines of weakening **193**, **195**, and further tearing the hinge panel **135** from the back panel **131** at the line of weakening **137** to partially or fully remove the lid **115** from the body **111** of the carton **105**.

[0055] It will be understood that one or more features of the carton **105** can have an alternative configuration and/or arrangement without departing from the disclosure.

[0056] In general, the blanks of the present disclosure may be constructed from paperboard having a caliper so that it is heavier and more rigid than ordinary paper. The blank can also be constructed of other materials, such as cardboard, or any other material having properties suitable for enabling the carton to function at least generally as described above. The blank can be coated with, for example, a clay coating. The clay coating may then be printed over with product, advertising, and other information or images. The blanks may then be coated with a varnish to protect information printed on the blanks. The blanks may also be coated with, for example, a moisture barrier layer, on either or both sides of the blanks. The blanks can also be laminated to or coated with one or more sheet-like materials at selected panels or panel sections.

[0057] As an example, a tear line can include: a slit that extends partially into the material along the desired line of weakness, and/or a series of spaced apart slits that extend partially into and/or completely through the material along the desired line of weakness, or various combinations of these features. As a more specific example, one type of tear line is in the form of a series of spaced apart slits that extend

completely through the material, with adjacent slits being spaced apart slightly so that a nick (e.g., a small somewhat bridging-like piece of the material) is defined between the adjacent slits for typically temporarily connecting the material across the tear line. The nicks are broken during tearing along the tear line. The nicks typically are a relatively small percentage of the tear line, and alternatively the nicks can be omitted from or torn in a tear line such that the tear line is a continuous cut line. That is, it is within the scope of the present disclosure for each of the tear lines to be replaced with a continuous slit, or the like. For example, a cut line can be a continuous slit or could be wider than a slit without departing from the present disclosure.

[0058] In accordance with the exemplary embodiments, a fold line can be any substantially linear, although not necessarily straight, form of weakening that facilitates folding there along. More specifically, but not for the purpose of narrowing the scope of the present disclosure, fold lines include: a score line, such as lines formed with a blunt scoring knife, or the like, which creates a crushed or depressed portion in the material along the desired line of weakness; a cut that extends partially into a material along the desired line of weakness, and/or a series of cuts that extend partially into and/or completely through the material along the desired line of weakness; and various combinations of these features. In situations where cutting is used to create a fold line, typically the cutting will not be overly extensive in a manner that might cause a reasonable user to incorrectly consider the fold line to be a tear line.

[0059] The above embodiments may be described as having one or more panels adhered together by glue during erection of the carton embodiments. The term "glue" is intended to encompass all manner of adhesives commonly used to secure carton panels in place.

[0060] The foregoing description of the disclosure illustrates and describes various embodiments. As various changes could be made in the above construction without departing from the scope of the disclosure, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense. Furthermore, the scope of the present disclosure covers various modifications, combinations, alterations, etc., of the above-described embodiments. Additionally, the disclosure shows and describes only selected embodiments, but various other combinations, modifications, and environments are within the scope of the disclosure as expressed herein, commensurate with the above teachings, and/or within the skill or knowledge of the relevant art. Furthermore, certain features and characteristics of each embodiment may be selectively interchanged and applied to other illustrated and non-illustrated embodiments of the disclosure.

What is claimed is:

1. A carton for holding one or more articles, the carton comprising:

a first plurality of panels extending at least partially around an interior of the carton and forming a body of the carton;

a second plurality of panels extending at least partially around the interior of the carton and forming a lid of the carton, the lid is foldably connected to the body such that the lid is repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton;

a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels; and

locking features for selectively maintaining the lid in the closed position, the locking features including a first locking flap foldably connected to the body and positioned for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid.

2. The carton of claim **1**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a body front panel, a body back panel, and at least one body side panel, the first locking flap is foldably connected to the body front panel.

3. The carton of claim **2**, wherein the second plurality of panels comprises a lid front panel and at least one lid side panel, the second locking flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel.

4. The carton of claim **3**, wherein each of the first locking flap and the second locking flap is for being positioned between the body front panel and the lid front panel when the lid is in the closed position.

5. The carton of claim **4**, wherein the first locking flap is movable toward and away from the body front panel.

6. The carton of claim **5**, wherein a free edge of the first locking flap is for contacting a free edge of the second locking flap when the lid is in the closed position.

7. The carton of claim **6**, wherein the second locking flap is in at least partial face-to-face contact with the lid front panel.

8. The carton of claim **5**, wherein the locking features further comprise a locking release tab at least partially defined by a cut in the lid front panel, the locking release tab is movable relative to the lid front panel to disengage the first locking flap from the second locking flap when the lid is in the closed position.

9. The carton of claim **8**, wherein the at least one lid side panel comprises a base portion at least partially separable from a distal portion at a line of weakening, the base portion of the at least one lid side panel attached to the at least one body side panel, the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel for being separated from the base portion of the at least one lid side panel when the lid is in the open position.

10. The carton of claim **9**, wherein line of weakening is interrupted by a tear strip for being at least partially separated from each of the base portion and the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel to facilitate repositioning of the lid from the closed position to the open position.

11. The carton of claim **8**, wherein the plurality of end flaps comprises a first top end flap foldably and a second top end flap foldably connected to a respective panel of the second plurality of panels, the first top end flap and the second top end flap at least partially overlapped to at least partially form the lid.

12. The carton of claim **11**, wherein the at least one body side panel is a body first side panel, the first plurality of panels comprises a body second side panel, the at least one lid side panel is a lid first side panel, the second plurality of panels comprises a lid second side panel, the second top end flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel, and the plurality of end flaps comprises a third top end flap foldably connected to the lid second side panel and at least partially overlapping the second top end flap to at least partially form the lid.

13. The carton of claim **12**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a hinge panel foldably connected to each of the body back panel and the first top end flap for facilitating repositioning of the lid between the closed position and the open position, the first top end flap foldably connected to the hinge panel.

14. A blank for forming a carton for holding one or more articles, the blank comprising:

a first plurality of panels for extending at least partially around an interior of the carton formed from the blank and for forming a body of the carton formed from the blank;

a second plurality of panels for extending at least partially around the interior of the carton formed from the blank and for forming a lid of the carton formed from the blank, the lid is for being foldably connected to the body when the carton is formed from the blank such that the lid is repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton formed from the blank is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton formed from the blank;

a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels; and

locking features for selectively maintaining the lid in the closed position when the carton is formed from the blank, the locking features including a first locking flap foldably connected to the body of the carton formed from the blank and for being positioned for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid of the carton formed from the blank.

15. The blank of claim **14**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a body front panel, a body back panel, and at least one body side panel, the first locking flap is foldably connected to the body front panel.

16. The blank of claim **15**, wherein the second plurality of panels comprises a lid front panel and at least one lid side panel, the second locking flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel.

17. The blank of claim **16**, wherein each of the first locking flap and the second locking flap is for being positioned between the body front panel and the lid front panel when the lid of the carton formed from the blank is in the closed position.

18. The blank of claim **17**, wherein the first locking flap is for being movable toward and away from the body front panel when the carton is formed from the blank.

19. The blank of claim **18**, wherein the locking features further comprise a locking release tab at least partially defined by a cut in the lid front panel, the locking release tab is movable relative to the lid front panel for disengaging the first locking flap from the second locking flap when the lid of the carton formed from the blank is in the closed position.

20. The blank of claim **19**, wherein the at least one lid side panel comprises a base portion at least partially separable from a distal portion at a line of weakening, the base portion of the at least one lid side panel attached to the at least one body side panel, the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel for being separated from the base portion of the at least one lid side panel when the lid of the carton formed from the blank is in the open position.

21. The blank of claim **20**, wherein line of weakening is interrupted by a tear strip for being at least partially separated from each of the base portion and the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel to facilitate repositioning of the lid of the carton formed from the blank from the closed position to the open position.

22. The blank of claim **19**, wherein the plurality of end flaps comprises a first top end flap foldably and a second top end flap foldably connected to a respective panel of the second plurality of panels, the first top end flap and the second top end flap for being at least partially overlapped to at least partially form the lid of the carton formed from the blank.

23. The blank of claim **22**, wherein the at least one body side panel is a body first side panel, the first plurality of panels comprises a body second side panel, the at least one lid side panel is a lid first side panel, the second plurality of panels comprises a lid second side panel, the second top end flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel, and the plurality of end flaps comprises a third top end flap foldably connected to the lid second side panel and for at least partially overlapping the second top end flap to at least partially form the lid of the carton formed from the blank.

24. The blank of claim **23**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a hinge panel foldably connected to each of the body back panel and the first top end flap for facilitating repositioning of the lid of the carton formed from the blank between the closed position and the open position, the first top end flap foldably connected to the hinge panel.

25. A method of forming a carton for holding one or more articles, the method comprising:

obtaining a blank comprising a first plurality of panels, a second plurality of panels, a plurality of end flaps foldably connected to a respective panel of the first plurality of panels and the second plurality of panels, and locking features comprising a first locking flap and a second locking flap;

positioning the first plurality of panels extending at least partially around an interior of the carton and forming a body of the carton;

positioning the second plurality of panels extending at least partially around the interior of the carton and forming a lid of the carton such that the lid of the carton is foldably connected to the body of the carton and repositionable between an open position, in which the interior of the carton is accessible, and a closed position, in which the lid at least partially overlies the interior of the carton; and

positioning the first locking flap foldably connected to the body for engagement with a second locking flap foldably connected to the lid such that the lid selectively maintainable in the closed position.

26. The method of claim **25**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a body front panel, a body back panel, and at least one body side panel, the first locking flap is foldably connected to the body front panel.

27. The method of claim **26**, wherein the second plurality of panels comprises a lid front panel and at least one lid side panel, the second locking flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel.

28. The method of claim **27**, wherein each of the first locking flap and the second locking flap is for being positioned between the body front panel and the lid front panel when the lid is in the closed position.

29. The method of claim **28**, wherein the first locking flap is movable toward and away from the body front panel.

30. The method of claim **29**, wherein a free edge of the first locking flap is for contacting a free edge of the second locking flap when the lid is in the closed position.

31. The method of claim **30**, wherein positioning the second plurality of panels comprises positioning the second locking flap in at least partial face-to-face contact with the lid front panel.

32. The method of claim **29**, wherein the locking features further comprise a locking release tab at least partially defined by a cut in the lid front panel, the locking release tab is movable relative to the lid front panel to disengage the first locking flap from the second locking flap when the lid is in the closed position.

33. The method of claim **32**, further comprising positioning the lid in the closed position.

34. The method of claim **33**, further comprising moving the locking release tab to disengage the first locking flap from the second locking flap.

35. The method of claim **34**, further comprising positioning the lid in the open position.

36. The method of claim **32**, wherein the at least one lid side panel comprises a base portion at least partially separable from a distal portion at a line of weakening, the base portion of the at least one lid side panel attached to the at least one body side panel, the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel for being separated from the base portion of the at least one lid side panel when the lid is in the open position.

37. The method of claim **36**, wherein line of weakening is interrupted by a tear strip for being at least partially separated from each of the base portion and the distal portion of the at least one lid side panel to facilitate repositioning of the lid from the closed position to the open position.

38. The method of claim **32**, wherein the plurality of end flaps comprises a first top end flap foldably and a second top end flap foldably connected to a respective panel of the second plurality of panels, and the method further comprises at least partially overlapping the first top end flap and the second top end flap to at least partially form the lid.

39. The method of claim **38**, wherein the at least one body side panel is a body first side panel, the first plurality of panels comprises a body second side panel, the at least one lid side panel is a lid first side panel, the second plurality of panels comprises a lid second side panel, the second top end flap is foldably connected to the lid front panel, and the plurality of end flaps comprises a third top end flap foldably connected to the lid second side panel, and the method further comprises at least partially overlapping the second top end flap and the third top end flap to at least partially form the lid.

40. The method of claim **39**, wherein the first plurality of panels comprises a hinge panel foldably connected to each of the body back panel and the first top end flap for facilitating repositioning of the lid between the closed position and the open position, the first top end flap foldably connected to the hinge panel.

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