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I WAS JUST THINKING: If money is the root of all evil, why do they ask for it at church?

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EDITOR'S RANT

Now for something so atypical for me ...some political ranting!

Am I becoming a Smith fan or just even more fed up with Trudeau? Danielle Smith has frightened me since she took over the UCP and Alberta's premiership. She contradicted or reversed her stance on issues on almost a weekly basis and left me and my kind of moderates, who also feared the NDP alternative, anxious. I was not unhappy that the UCP won the recent Alberta election saddled with the strongest opposition in most of Albertans' memories.

In recent months, Smith seems to be doing a better job concentrating on sticking to her job and working in the best interest of her province's citizens, both left and right. This is indeed fortunate. We need a strong, focused leader to counter Justin Trudeau's unwavering determination to maintain an unachievable agenda and timetable that will destroy the West's economy, employment and Canada's future as a nation

His blind, dogged, unrealistic, and disastrous view should not surprise us. He does not need a single vote from the West to continue to govern. He is willing to gamble that the country will survive the schism he has/is creating in our country. I am beginning to worry that his confidence, as he sacrifices the country's Western half, is dangerously misplaced. Talk—both private and public—about standing up to Justin's "unjust" approach to National Unity seems to be growing at an accelerating rate. What used to be a "redneck lunatic fringe"

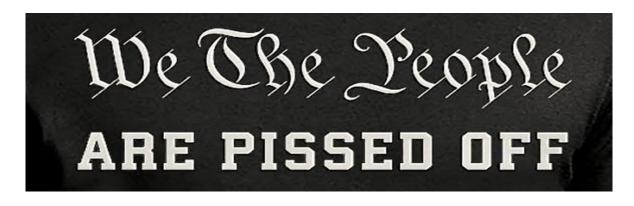
Rant contd.

movement is definitely on the minds of more and more Albertans, Saskatchewanians and Manitobans each month.

The meeting that Smith and Trudeau had during the Calgary Stampede ended with both parties returning to their corners and preparing to fight. Trudeau was intransigent, but as is his style, he kicked the can down the road by forming a committee. The Prime Minister's ego may prevent him from taking this seriously, but it is increasingly possible that he will break up the country. Smith has no choice but to fight with All options on the table.

So there you have it. In case this rant was too subtle and pulled too many punches, your editor truly wants to live out his life as a Canadian. I hope I am granted that wish.

(To be continued, maybe)



I don't like to think before I speak... I like to be just as surprised as everyone else about what I say.

July and August have been an adventure for the Brisbin's. I was tempted to soften the rant but our saga, that included a life/death experience after I wrote this rant in mid-July, made me decide to let it go as written. Hence, as our vacation attempt continued, the bulletin never got finished. So in addition to the rant, here is a summary of our epic adventure getting Calli to the lake in Quebec where she has summered for 78 of her 81 years.

Objective:

 Get Calli to a friend's funeral in the 1812 Apple Grove Cemetery where our whole family intends to reside sooner or later.

Post-rant contd.

2) Arrive in time for what could be Calli's last community family reunion on August 04th.

We first departed on July 16, shortly after 4 PM. Zero rooms were available in Saskatoon and surrounding areas due to a trifecta of large events taking place concurrently that week. Correction - there was one room available due to a last minute cancellation at the Sandman for \$2000 + tax. We passed and pressed on to Regina. Just before midnight we encountered a deer that seemed determined to jump on our windshield. Decided on evasive action to save Calli and hit the shallow ditch at 110 km/h. Spun a 360 on 2 wheels, miraculously got back on 4, accelerated up out of ditch and successfully redirected back straight, avoiding entering the opposite ditch. With zero traffic, and dark drizzly conditions, we recovered our nerves and decided to continue to our motor hotel in Regina. I went in to register, then walked around to back of the car only to find the back left quarter section and tailgate was a mangled mess! The car was loaded to the roof along with 2 geriatric humans, 2 geriatric dogs, one middle-aged dog and one middle-aged driver. And everything was bungie cord secured or seat belted. As a result we did not hear the air from the missing window, nor did the shredded rear quarter panel, tail gate or messed up bumper affect the driveability of the vehicle. Trying to figure out what had caused this much damage when there had not been any perceptible indication of a collision—nothing in the car moved, no airbags went off, no whiplash motion felt....none of the typical indicators of an impact occurred. The dogs didn't even wake up. To see the level of damage from the dance with the deer was shocking.

The next morning, an empathetic body shop owner assured us that the vehicle was probably drivable safely enough to get us back to Edmonton after he covered the back window with a plastic crash wrap and used close to a roll of duct tape to secure things. Nobody in Regina could work on it in less than a month so we took his suggestion and limped home to Sherwood Park using hand signals to replace the missing factory installed one. He found a few wood shards embedded in the damaged metal and guessed we had hit a sign post. As we retraced our route we found the scene near the village of Findlater and sure enough, there was the remains of the sign along with our path of escape. The small sign had probably righted us back onto four wheels and saved our lives. Once home, our usual body shop over the years assessed it and within the day had indicated the damage was at \$30,000 and climbing thanks to the number of plastic and aluminum parts that would require replacement. The insurance company suggested we begin the search for another vehicle.

After close to a week of looking, we found almost the identical Kia Sorento with 30,000 less kms on it. We had hoped to be able to complete the purchase and get back on the road on Monday or Tuesday, but the dealership informed us that they had not yet completed their used car certification check on it, and since their service.

(The end of the story,I swear)

department was not open on the weekend, they couldn't finalize the deal until that had been completed. We agreed to pick it up Monday afternoon. Monday came, and just before pickup time we received a call to let us know service had found some parts that needed replacing—which had to be ordered in from Toronto. The repairs would not be completed until Friday. We finally loaded it up and headed back out on the road again for round 2 on the morning of the 30th.

Our originally planned 5-6 day drive would now mean missing the reunion. We had already missed the funeral so we made a calculated decision to consolidate our travel days to a total of 4. We drove to Moosomin. Then to Thunder Bay. Then to Sudbury. Tearfully exhausted and joyful, we arrived at the cottage around supper time on the 3rd of August. The four-cottage porch crawl reunion—visiting, sharing beverages, hors d'oevres, stories and lots of laughs was successfully attended the following day. Cottage life welcomed us back with open arms for another season of memory making.

Our adventure has continued since our arrival as we have worked to optimize our accommodations to be more safe and secure for Calli and me, which has included rear ranging sites, layouts and sharing various responsibilities as a family to meet our new set of needs out here after Calli's stroke in February. All of it was well worth the arduous journey it took to get here and get settled back in to cottage life. We are so grateful to be here, and delighted to be alive to tell the story in this long delayed edition of the bulletin. The challenges ctinue daily, of course, hence the precipitating additional delays daily in getting the bulletin out, but here it is.

AGING GYROS

August produced five current Sherwood Park Gyros. Like the July guys, they missed out on the school ritual of "the bumps", being tossed up and dropped once for each year of their age. As a result, you may have better posture than the rest of us.



Bump-free Gyros include: **Ian Bannatyne** (5th); **Dorne Hunt** (9th); **John Evans** (10th); **Bernie Kropp** (16th); **Nester Chomik** (24th).

Enjoy, fellas. August is all yours.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

GYRO GOLF TOURNAMENT July 12th

The original information, including photos, were sent to me around July 15th. When I then went to access them for the bulletin, they had mysteriously disappeared. As you may have probably read, the rest of the month was pretty chaotic. I was even unsure exactly who had sent them. I sent several e-mails out to a number of people on two or three occasions but did not receive any replies. Please send me what you have and I will make sure it makes the next bullet that I hope to start working on as soon as ths one gets out.

I just discovered that the notice about **Gary Kleebaum's Bocci Afternoon** (August 10th) never did reach me either. Look for details in the next bulletin.

Obviously I am not just having distraction problems but technical difficulties as well. If some of you could send me a brief (one word?) email that you received this bulletin, it may help my detective work.

OUT OF TOWN MEETINGS:

Gyro International Gyro District VII Convention "Summer

Nights & Northern Lights" August 23-27 Winnipeg

http://winnipeg.gyro.org/

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Ted Ewanchuk reports that his recovery from knee replacement surgery is progressing nicely. He is walking 2 km a day, although it still does produce some pain.

Peter Elzinga: As reported in the last bulletin his bone marrow biopsy indicated he was progressing toward a type of leukemia but not fully there at this point. . He spent a couple of days in hospital for more tests last week and they are going to try some new medication. We are all pulling for you, Peter, and are confident the treatment will respond well.

GIDDDY GASTRONOMY





A woman with a salad walked past me in the restaurant and said you know a cow died so you could eat that beefburger. I said if you weren't eating its food it might have lived.

IF MCDONALD'S SOLD
HOT DOGS, WOULD YOU
BE ABLE TO, WITH A
STRAIGHT FACE, ORDER
A MCWIENER AND TELL
THEM TO SUPERSIZE IT?

The Correct term for gluten-free sugarless vegan brownies is "compost".



BEVERAGE BANTER



My hobbies include drinking and hanging out with my parrot

Apparently, when you drink a pint of beer, you shorten your lifespan by 9 minutes.

So according to my calculations, I died sometime in 1644.





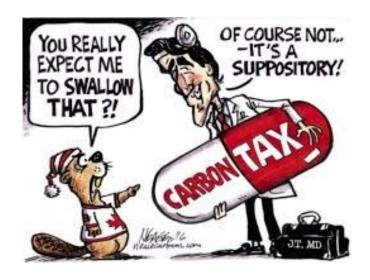


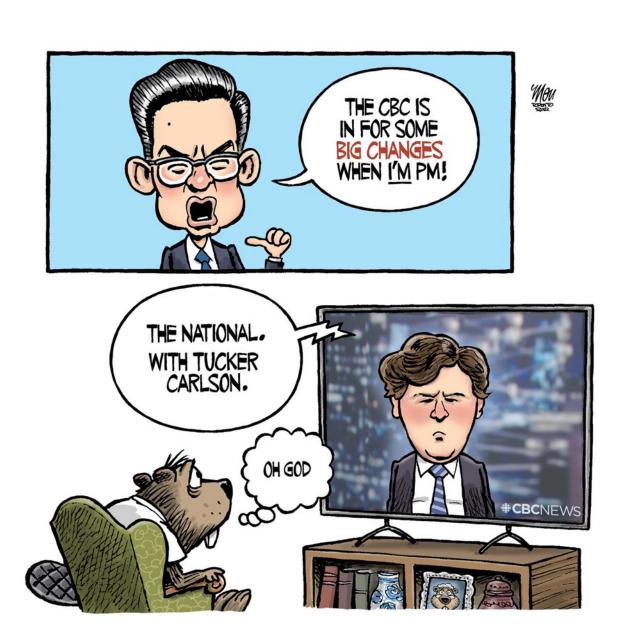
Never in my whole life would I imagine my hands would consume more alcohol than my mouth!!



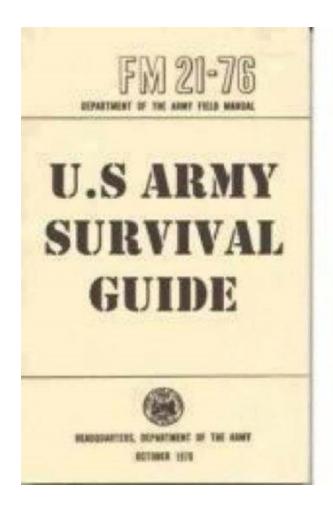
MEANWHILE IN CANADA

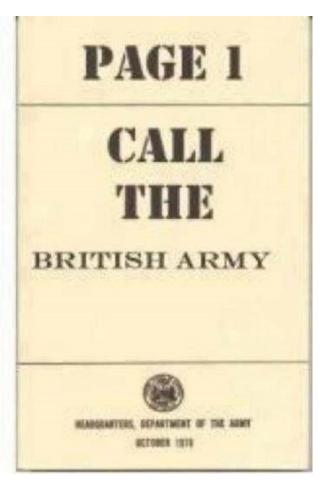






MEANWHILE NOT IN CANADA







AWWWTOMOBILES



Wisconsin couple were treated for minor injuries at the local hospital emergency. After their Smart Car hit a squirrel on highway 8. The squirrel refused treatment and left the scene!

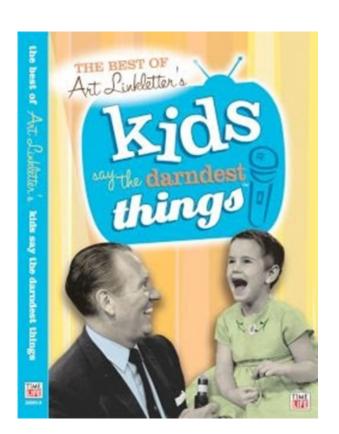




THOSE WERE THE DAYS



Still have a couple of these '60's beauties at the lake.





Plastic bag warnings apply here. Baby farts were a problem in the '50's



OK in the summer. Not so fun in the winter

SIGNS OF OUR TIMES (Sadly)



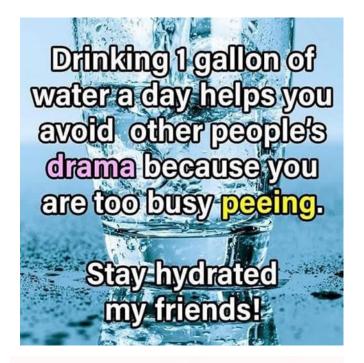








AGING GRACELESLY

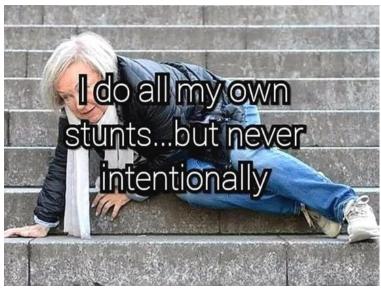


a scammer called my grandma and said he had all her passwords

she got a pen and paper and said 'thank god for that, what are they'







I USED TO ENVY PEOPLE WHO
COULD DO A CARTWHEEL BUT NOW
I'M JEALOUS OF ANYONE WHO CAN
GET UP OFF THE FLOOR WITHOUT
MAKING GRUNTING NOISES AND
HOLDING ONTO FURNITURE

~THOUGHTS FROM AISLE 4

AGING GRACLESSLY 2

"Getting older. I used to be able to run a 4-minute mile, bench press 380 pounds, and tell the truth."

- Conan O'Brien

*

"I don't do alcohol anymore—I get the same effect just standing up fast."

- Anonymous

"You know you are getting old when everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work."

- Hy Gardner

"When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign you're getting old."

- Mark Twain

"You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks."

- Joel Plaskett

"There's one advantage to being 102, there's no peer pressure."
- Dennis Wolfberg

"At my age 'getting lucky' means walking into a room and remembering what I came in for."

- George Burns

"Old age is when you resent the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated because there are fewer articles to read."

-George Burns

"You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there."

- George Burns

"People ask me what I'd most appreciate getting for my eighty-seventh birthday.

I tell them, a paternity suit."

- George Burns

"When I turned 75, I started telling people I was 85 just so they would tell me how great I look for my age."

TRUTH BEATS FICTION, and that's the truth

(Do you hear that, politicians?)

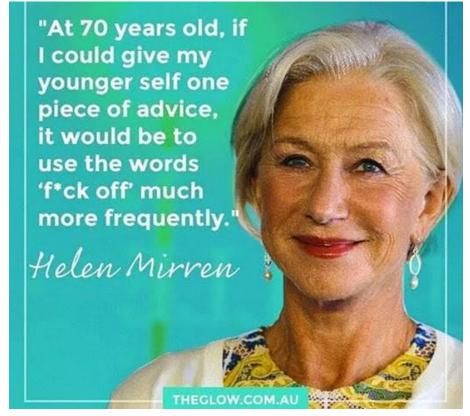




POSITIVE THOUGHTS



LIFE IS TOO SHORT
TO WORRY ABOUT
WHAT OTHERS SAY
OR THINK ABOUT
YOU. SO, HAVE
FUN AND GIVE
THEM SOMETHING
TO TALK ABOUT.



GYRETTE GIGGLES

Imagine meeting your soulmate only to find out they replace toilet paper like this



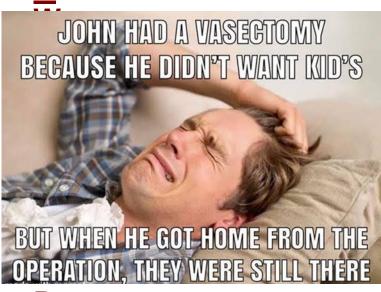
Seamus went on a Safari
with his wife and Mother-in-law.
One morning the wife awakes
to find her mother missing.
In a worried state, she wakes up
Seamus and they both go looking
for her! Suddenly they come to a
clearing, where they find the
mother-in law, standing
face-to-face with a ferocious
lion... "Quick darling, do
something!" screams the wife!
"Oh no, no says Seamus... The
lion got himself into this mess....
He can get himself out!!"

She asked her husband for 18 carat necklace



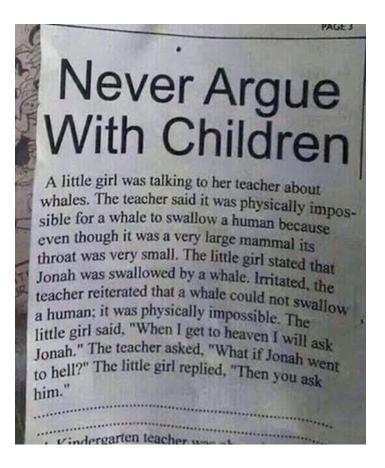


MD'S KOMEDY





Our Dog Peed On Our New Couch. My 6 Year Old Daughter Documented The Events, Including My Reaction



Attention: anyone missing a child in an orange coat...come to the Lingerie dept. Your child is hungry!



ANXIETY MEDICINE

In these uncertain times it is easy to let your anxiety start to creep up. Perhaps while we are in various forms of lock-down, some images from our amazing world will help remind us that regardless of how things may look right now, we are indeed so lucky to be inhabiting this beautiful planet.





Hmmmm....



Never in recorded history has a four year old found his father's loaded book and accidentally killed his younger sister.

But we ban books.



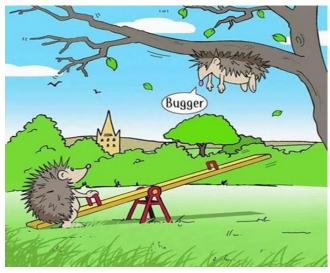
ANIMAL INSTINCTS (Dog-free edition)











SNICKERS AND GUFFAWS

Two days until payday...







Drunk wife
Engineer husband



Friend: "Look. Your husband is talking to another girl."

Me: "Let him. I want to see how long he can suck-in his stomach."

I have opened a can of worms. They just sit there, the worms. Hardly the chaos that's been advertised.

Research has shown that laughing for two minutes is just as healthy as a twenty -minute jog. So now I sit in the park and laugh at all the joggers

GYRO FRIENDSHIP PICTURE OF THE WEEK



AND THE LAST WORD....

