

SENTINEL-TIMES

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Sentinel-Times Submission Policy

The Sentinel-Times strives to provide its readers with a fair and accurate recording of our local community, government and school activities, as well as promote businesses, organizations and events through advertising.

As per our policy, we consider "news" as that which has already happened, and "advertising" as that which is used to draw attention to an event, product or service to promote sales or attendance, regardless of whether or not there is a charge. News is printed in the newspaper for free, while there is a charge for advertising.

We encourage the submission of news, whether it be a birth, engagement, wedding, obituary, church or club article, etc., and there is no charge. However, we reserve the right to edit these items for length (as space allows), grammar, punctuation and spelling. Rewriting may be necessary to make the items conform to the Sentinel-Times' adopted style.

We will do our best to include all the local and area news submitted each week, but due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee if or when these items will be published.

Obituaries which do not follow our basic format, thank yous, card showers, open houses, poems, tributes, etc. will be charged. Photos that accompany the obituaries, card showers, tributes, will run for free. Any item requested to run twice will be charged for the second run.

News releases promoting something that hasn't happened will require a paid ad. The article and ad must run in the same issue.

OUR POLICY ON LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- All letters may be edited for length and clarity. Letters must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number for verification. The writer's name may be withheld from publication, but will be given out if requested by a reader.
- All letters received through email or by FAX must be verified by your phone call before publication.
- Political endorsements must be paid for.
- We reserve the right not to print a letter.

Letters will reach us at the Sentinel Times, 414 Main Street, Stockton, KS 67669, or email them to sentineltimesnews@gmail.com



SENTINEL-TIMES
LAUGH LINES
WEEKLY JOKE COLUMN

WHERE ROOKS COUNTY SHARES A GOOD LAUGH!

Have Any Laugh Lines To Share?
Email to: sentineltimesnews@gmail.com

A Sentinel-Times subscriber sent us the following...

Sauna Tech Showdown

Three women—two younger and one senior citizen—were sitting naked in a sauna.

Suddenly, a beeping sound started. The young woman pressed her forearm, and the beeping stopped.

The others looked at her questioningly, "That was my pager," she said. "I have a microchip under the skin of my arm."

A few minutes later, a phone rang. The second young woman lifted her palm to her ear. When she finished, she explained, "That was my mobile

phone. I have a microchip in my hand."

The older woman felt very low-tech. Not to be outdone, she decided she had to do something just as impressive. She stepped out of the sauna and went to the bathroom. She returned with a piece of toilet paper hanging from her rear end.

The others raised their eyebrows and stared at her.

The older woman finally said..."Well, will you look at that...I'm getting a FAX!!"

Dad Jokes

Mr. Fred, the guy who helps New Orleans keep holding onto the title of party capital of the Gulf

Coast, loves dad jokes.

- Did you hear about the guy who was addicted to the hokey pokey? He turned himself around.
- Did you hear about the guy who's afraid of escalators? He takes steps to avoid them.
- I put my old car in reverse and thought, "Wow, this really takes me back."
- I told my mom I'd call her later, but she said she prefers "Mom."
- I was going to tell a sodium joke; then I thought, "Na."
- I told a bad chemistry joke once. I got no reaction.
- I adopted a dog from a blacksmith. As soon as I brought him home, he bolted for the door.
- I've never been a fan of facial hair. But it's starting to grow on me.
- Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. His summer wasn't too bad either.
- I wanted to take a bath, but decided to leave it where it is.
- Getting paid to sleep would be my dream job.
- Have you heard about the bossy man at the bar, who ordered everyone around?
- Never trust atoms because they make up everything.
- Which month has 28 days? All of them.
- My boss told me to have a good day. So I didn't go to work.
- Once, I read a book about glue. I couldn't put it down.
- Dogs can't operate MRI machines—but cats can.
- Never use a dull pencil. It's pointless.
- Our vacuum cleaner is getting old. It's just gathering dust.
- I have an inferiority complex, but it's not a very good one.
- It was an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.
- The past, present, and future walked into a bar. It was tense.

That's Funny

These came in over the transom.

- The other day, I was in a supermarket, and the old lady in front of me was three bucks short of the money she needed to pay her \$11.54 bill.

Knowing I'd have liked some Good Samaritan to help my own mother if she were in similar straits, I took pity on the old dear and decided to help her out.

No biggie really. We had the extra \$3.30 worth of goods she couldn't afford back on the shelves in just a couple of minutes.

- A drunk guy comes home late one night...

His wife asks, "Where were you?"

He replies, "At the cemetery."

"Oh, really, huh, who died?" She questioned.

"Everybody," he says.

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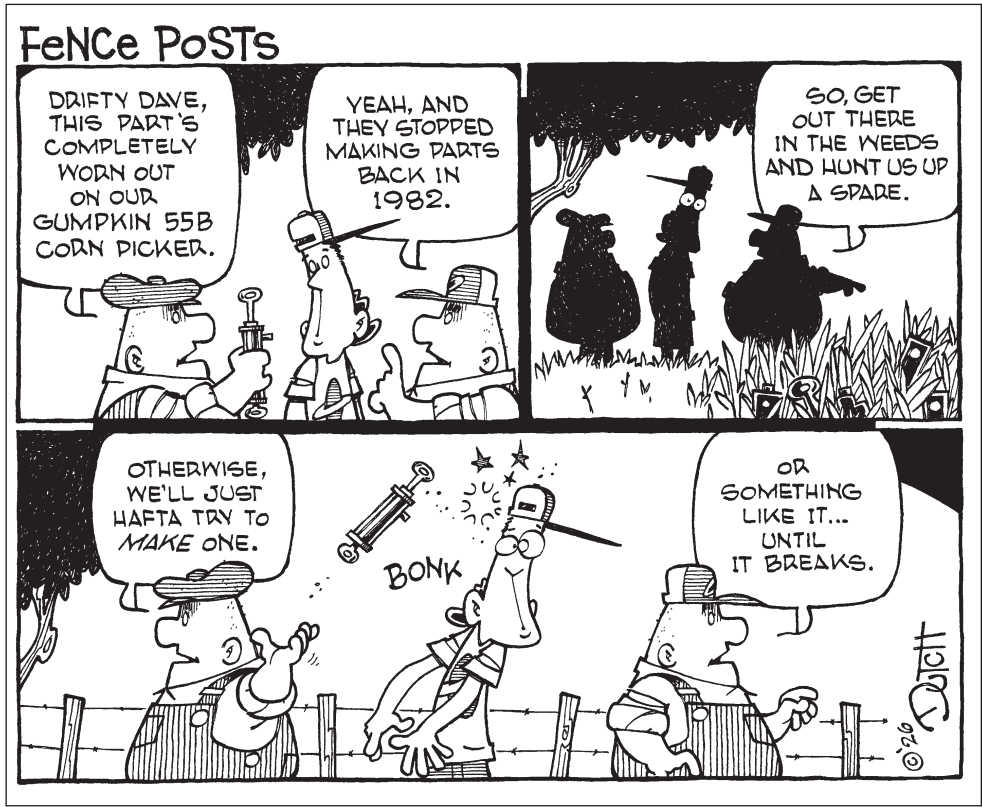
ANSWERS TO THE OCT. 8 PUZZLES

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N	J	R	N	I	C	T	B	E	R	G	O	N	O	M	I	C	S	D	W

SEE LAUGH, 26A

opinions

Fence Posts



Virgi's Views On This 'n That

By Virgi Laska



This And That

- * Sometimes you just have to give it all to the Lord.
- * I usually don't like to brag about taking expensive trips, but I just got back from the grocery store.
- * Love this one! Don't you hate it when you go into the kitchen only to find out you are the only snack in the house?
- * Can we skip to the rich part?!
- * Instead of Parmesan cheese, why not call it spaghetti confetti?
- * Kids today don't believe we wrote ten page papers without using AI. And not only was it ten pages long, we wrote them

without reading the book, the night before the paper was due, by hand and in cursive. We are not the same.

- * If some server ever asks me if I would like a plant based burger, I am going to ask them if Monopoly money is okay.
- * Doing nothing is hard. You never know when you are done.
- * I had the most special birthday celebration. I spent it with my family.
- * The most wonderful thing about being alive is that you never know which ordinary moment will matter later!
- * Many failed bikini season this past

SEE VIRGI'S VIEWS, 27A

A Town Without a Newspaper Loses More Than News

During National Newspaper Week, we should all ask what would happen if our local newspaper suddenly disappeared.

Our community would lose more than headlines.

We would lose the public record of who voted for what, how tax dollars were spent, and which promises were kept. We would lose the watchdog that asks the hard questions.

We would also lose the chronicle of daily life: obituaries, births, honor rolls, ballgames, county fairs, veterans programs, business openings, retirements and the small acts of service that hold a town together.

A newspaper is not just paper and ink. It is part of the civic fabric that holds a community together.

That is why the crisis facing local newspapers should concern everyone, not just people in the news business.

According to Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, close to 3,500 newspapers have disappeared in the United States since 2005. In the past year alone, another 148 vanished through closures or mergers. About 50 million Americans now have limited or no access to local news. Nearly 80% of the nation's news deserts are in predominantly rural counties.

This did not happen because people stopped needing local news. It happened because the old business model broke down.

For generations, readers, advertisers, and public notices supported newspapers. That worked when downtowns were strong, businesses were locally owned, and people who lived in town

made advertising decisions.

The local hardware store bought an ad because its owner lived here, knew the newspaper and understood that supporting local institutions was part of doing business in the community.

When that store becomes one location in a regional or national chain, the advertising decision may be made hundreds or thousands of miles away — if there is any local advertising at all.

The store may still be here. The advertising dollars are not.

At the same time, more local advertising dollars are flowing to social media and other digital platforms. Those companies can sell clicks. But they don't cover city council meetings, county budgets, school boards, youth baseball, or print every kid on the honor roll.

Newspapers must modernize. We have to improve our websites, strengthen our digital products, reach readers in new ways, and become more efficient.

But technology alone cannot replace a strong local business base.

Philanthropy can help. Foundations can fund reporting projects, student journalism, technology, and innovation. But grants are a bridge, not a permanent road for most community newspapers.

Another part of the equation deserves more attention.

Local newspapers have spent decades providing public-service information that government agencies and nonprofit organizations need communities to see — often at no cost.



SEE NEWSPAPER, 4A

JOURNALISM, QUALITY JOURNALISM...



... LIKE SOCKS & UNDERWEAR ON CHRISTMAS MORNING —



NOT ALWAYS APPRECIATED WHEN YOU GET IT...



... BUT PROVES ITS VALUE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.



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