

BULLY PULPIT

The old ways

Modern civilization has its definite perks; for instance, I walk into a room and reach for the switch and light comes on. Once the light comes on, the water faucet produces clean, drinkable water when it is activated.

We open our garage doors with the punch of a button that sends a sound wave or electric pulse; amazing – until its not. The vast majority of us have faced major power outages where we were left, literally, in the dark ages. My house for instance, has a Google nest, great for programming to the minute how warm or cool you want your house. It knows when you leave the residence so it can go into an eco-mode – but without power, you might as well have a stick. I managed to figure out how to override it one time; pain in the rear didn't describe it well enough.

My dad and I attended an Amish auction a few weeks ago; now there is a group of people that have it going on. They live comfortable lives without the necessity of modern conveniences.

If the United States were to be attacked by an electro-magnetic pulse (EMP) bomb; the Amish would go about their business like nothing happened. The rest of us would be flailing like whales on a beach.

But, many of us realize that we are one bomb, trigger, etc. away from disaster and we'd better prepare for a worst-case scenario. Everything sold at the Amish auction was mechanical or gas powered, nothing modernized with electricity.

A person that is thinking beyond today was able to purchase a few gems that would provide great comfort if the need ever arises. I purchased another kerosene lantern, after being gifted one by friends. Another goodie I'd been looking for came my way when I managed to purchase a Dutch oven.

Those type of cast iron cooking pots can be used in an oven or in a camp fire; and, as shown by one of my friends, some awesome meals can be prepared in them without one ounce of modern invention necessary.

Back to the basics comes in many ways; one of my friends put a post on Facebook about her venture in making redbud blossom jelly. Last week, I hit my road and picked two quarts of redbud blossoms and managed to produce some tasty jelly. I'd never heard of redbud jelly; but I'll guarantee you I could make it again, and over an open flame if worst comes to worst.

Many of us are oblivious to the "what ifs" in life. So, you drive to grandma's house and have a breakdown in the middle of nowhere. How do you survive if conditions are terrible and help is not on the way for hours? Days?

I am a junkie for survival tidbits; I find the old ways interesting and knowledge that could save my life or my family's life in the future a bonus for longevity.

My daughter-in-law and son gifted me with an herbal remedy book for Christmas – well used is an understatement. I've found that using herbal remedies seems to lessen the severity of whatever ails me and keeps me from the whims of the pharmaceutical industry. I'm not saying that one of these days I won't need medicine; but right now, if I can use something natural, I'm all about it.

There's a show on Nat Geo called "Alone." It takes approximately 20 survival experts and drops them in northern Canada to survive 100 days without food, shelter or other necessities. They get certain tools, maybe an archery set, knife, string with fish hooks, etc. to begin gathering meat, making shelter and more for the long winter days and nights.

What is interesting about the entire competition is that many hardcore survivalists succumb to their own mental weakness. They begin missing family and friends and their health deteriorates at a rapid pace.

If, we in the United States, were to be hit by an EMP and civilization was cast back into the 1800s without choice; how many of us would survive 100 days until power could be reestablished in our homes?

Thinking ahead to a disaster situation could save your life; or, it could add items to the garage sale your kids may have to hold when you pass on.

My son asked me that he not have to deal with 500 pounds of wheat at my death; I've managed to keep that promise.

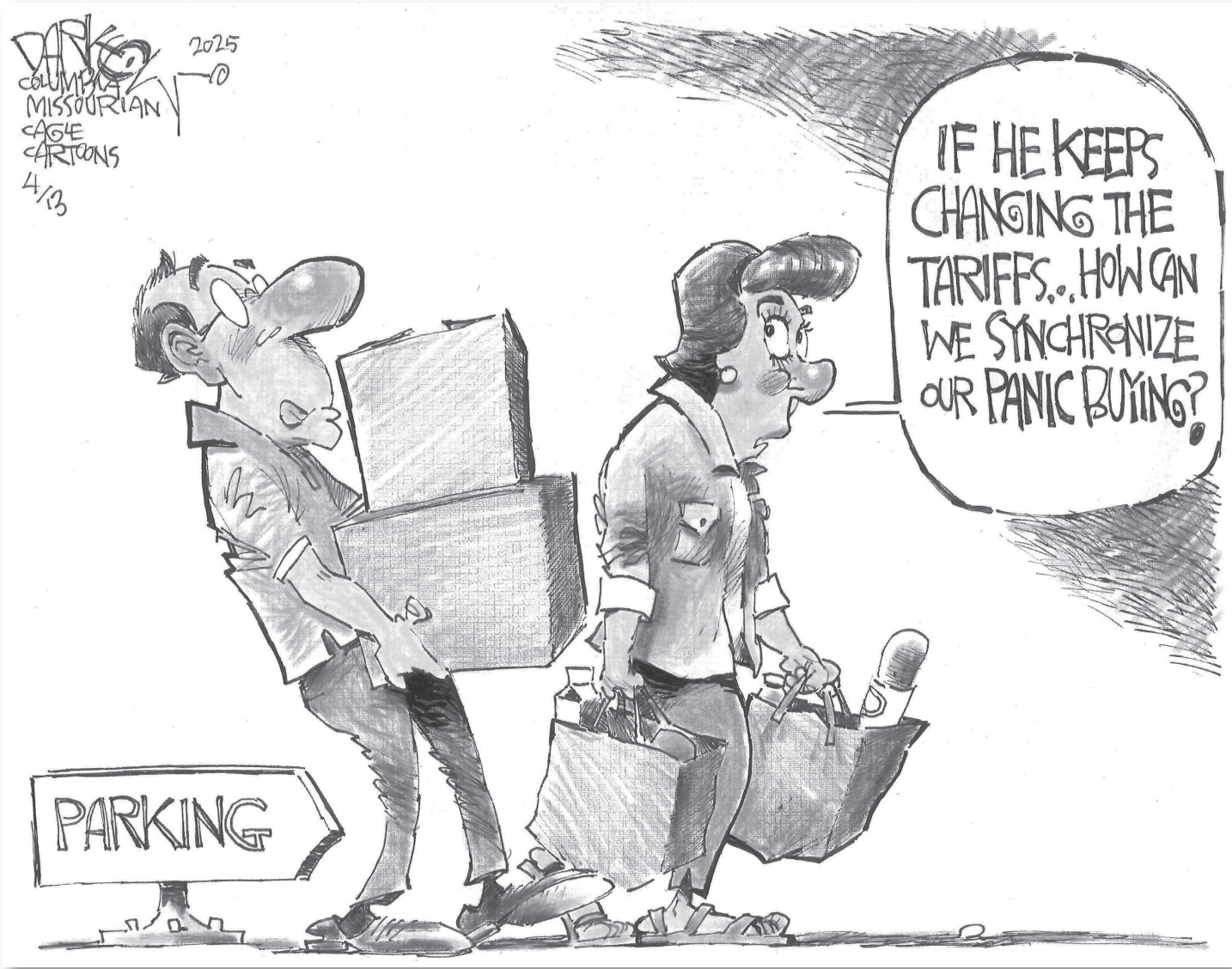
Meanwhile, here's to flipping a switch and having lights turn on.

Jackie Taylor
Linn County News
Jackielcn1@gmail.com

NC Supreme Court rules family can sue over forced COVID-19 shot

RALEIGH, NC – Last week, the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled 5-2 that a mother can sue a public school system and a medical provider for allegedly forcing her 14-year-old son to get the COVID-19 shot without his

and her consent and without her knowledge. The ruling reverses the state trial court and appeals court decisions that considered state actors who forcibly vaccinate a child as protected under a federal health emergency law. The



Trump is playing hardball with China

MAKING SENSE
BY MICHAEL REAGAN

You may have noticed there was a really good sale on stocks this week.

Hope you were able to grab some bargains after the markets crashed on Tuesday and before they bounced back on Wednesday.

The Trump tariff global roller-coaster hurtled down 3 or 4 percent again on Thursday afternoon, so it's safe to say that our wild stock market ride is not over yet.

My simple advice – and I'm not a registered stock broker, by any means – is not to panic.

Don't sell your stocks when they go into a sudden free fall. Hold on, trust the market and try to take advantage of the temporary flash sale on solid stocks like Microsoft.

The last century has been dotted with crashes. But in the medium-to-long run

stocks have always recovered, just like they did after 9/11, the financial crisis of 2008 and the covid lockdowns of 2020.

Historically, trusting the American stock market has been a much safer bet than trusting our political leaders.

But in the case of President Trump, I think we should trust him to get us out of what he's gotten us into with the global tariff war he's started.

Trusting Trump sounds a little crazy. But in case you haven't noticed, he doesn't think and act like a typical politician.

Sure, he occupies the White House. Sure, he likes to sign those executive orders. Sure, he knew how to get elected – twice.

But he still thinks and acts like what he is and always was – a hard-nosed New York City real estate tycoon who's had a lot of financial ups and

downs himself before ending up a billionaire.

For some reason, Trump loves tariffs and William McKinley's 19th century protectionist trade policy.

Every famous economist you've never heard of says tariffs are bad. But Trump has been calling for them to be used to protect American manufacturing since the 1980s when he was buying full page ads in the New York Times to say it.

Until he proves otherwise, I'm going to bet on him and his team making the global economy a freer and fairer place for America to do business.

As for Trump singling out China for extra-high tariffs, I think there are parallels between what he is doing with China and what my father did with the old Soviet Union.

In the mid-1980s my father had to negotiate a nuclear

arms agreement with the USSR and its leader, Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Democrats in Congress, the liberal mainstream media and virtually every one of my father's advisors thought he should go to Iceland and do what all the presidents before him had done in the Cold War – be nice, give the Soviets whatever they wanted and shortchange the U.S.

But my dad didn't play nice. When he refused Gorbachev's request to trade away the development of our "Star Wars" anti-ballistic missile system, everyone, including Gorby, was shocked.

All of my dad's enemies thought he had made a nuclear war impossible to avoid.

But Gorbachev, who knew my father's long-range goal was to wreck the USSR's weak economy by forcing it into an arms race it couldn't

SEE **HARDBALL**, A3

Sabotage or Neglect?

nese involvement in British steel making."

Over the weekend, the UK Government seized British Steel, with Reynolds explaining that "he was forced to seek emergency powers to prevent owners Jingye" from "shutting down its two blast furnaces, which would have ended primary steel production in the UK."

"They wanted to close down steel production in Britain," argues Nigel Farage, an MP and leader of Reform UK, "This is a big strategic

decision by the CCP."

Asked if he was accusing the Chinese owners of "lying about the numbers," the fiery Farage replied, "Yes, absolutely," adding, "Lying about everything."

In a single day, Saturday, Parliament passed emergency legislation to facilitate the Business Secretary's request.

One opposition MP called it a "botched nationalization," as the company is still in Chinese hands. It seems more

a rescue attempt for Chinese owners who don't want to be rescued.

Takeaway? Maybe China isn't such a great economic partner after all.

Free countries are reluctantly rediscovering that we still live in a dangerous world, in which we better be able to protect ourselves and not depend on the sworn enemies of freedom.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

LETTERS POLICY

Linn County News encourages letters to the editor. They may be mailed, emailed, faxed or hand-delivered. To be published, the letter must:

- Be hand signed.
- Include writer's name, city and phone number as letters will be verified for authenticity.
- Be 500 words or less.
- Be received by 5 p.m. Monday to appear in that week's edition.
- We reserve the right to print or not print reader's contributions. No malicious, slanderous or threatening letters will be allowed.
- Letters with political content will not be accepted the week preceding an election as it does not allow time for a response.

Corrections/Clarifications Policy:

- Any corrections or clarifications that need to be published in the Linn County News are published on the Opinion page after such corrections or clarifications are deemed necessary by the publisher.

Linn County News

Jackie Taylor Publisher | Editor

Reporters Barbara Proffitt Legal Publication/Circulation/Accounting
..... Tony Furse Meredith Johnson
Sports ReporterAdam Holt Graphic Arts.....Angela Holt



www.linncountynews.net

Linn County Residents: \$49.28 • Kansas Residents: \$62.56 • Outside Kansas: \$67.33 • Subscriptions are nonrefundable
PO Box 478 • 808 Main St. • Pleasanton, KS 66075
(913) 352-6235 • Fax (913) 352-6607 • E-mail lcn@ckt.net • USPS No.: 435-920
Published by Walker Publishing, Inc. • PO Box 478, Pleasanton, KS 66075

Published each Wednesday, Periodical Class Postage • Paid at Pleasanton, KS

Linn County News reserves the right to edit all submitted articles. Submissions become the property of Linn County News and we reserve the right to publish submitted articles, including birth announcements, weddings, obituaries and letters on our web site. It is the newspaper's policy not to include personal invitations and thank yous in the editorial content.