

The Word
on Main Street

ILLUMINATING

A woman walks into a psychiatrist's office and says, "Doctor, you've got to do something about my husband—he thinks he's a refrigerator!"

"I wouldn't worry too much about it," says the doctor. "Lots of people have harmless delusions. It will pass soon enough."

"But you don't understand," says the woman. "He sleeps with his mouth open, and the little light keeps me awake!"

JOKES

This batch came in over the transom.

• A policeman spots a man driving very erratically. He pulls the man over and asks him if he's been drinking.

"Yeah," the man replies. "Me and my friends stopped by the bar where I had seven beers. Then, we went to a bar where they serve these great margaritas, so I had four of them. Then, I stopped on the way home, got a bottle of whiskey, and drank that, too."

The policeman says, "Sir, you need to step out of the car and take a breathalyzer test."

Indignantly, the man replied, "Why? Don't you believe me?"

• Two old men are sitting in an old people's home when one of the female residents runs past completely naked.

"What was that she was wearing?" asked the first one.

The other replied, "I don't know, but it sure needed ironing."

• A man goes into the pub and says, "I'd like something tall, icy, and full of gin."

The bartender turns and shouts into the kitchen, "Hey, Doris! Someone to see you."

• A man is examined by his doctor who says, "Take the green pill with a glass of water when you get up; take the blue pill with a glass of water after lunch; then, just before going to bed, take the red pill with a glass of water."

"Exactly what is the matter with me?" asks the man.

"You are not getting

enough water," says the doctor.

• Thanks to the modern way of sending messages where characters count, punctuation may become a lost art. If you think punctuation is not too important, look at this:

An English professor writes the sentence: "A woman without her man is nothing" on the chalkboard and tells his students to punctuate it.

A male student writes, "A woman, without her man, is nothing."

A woman student writes: "A woman: Without her, man is nothing."

FUNNY

Mike, over on the Missouri River, gets credit for these.

– A guy walks into a casino and sees a dog playing poker. He sees a security guard standing nearby and asks him, "Is that a dog, over there, playing poker?"

"Yep," answers the guard, "sure is."

"Well, is he any good?" the guy asks.

"No," says the guard. "Every time he has a decent hand, he wags his tail."

– The dentist told his patient to open wider. "My goodness!" he said. "You've got the biggest cavity I've seen, the biggest cavity I've seen."

"OK," said the patient, "but, I'm already scared enough. Did you need to repeat yourself?"

"I didn't," said the dentist. "That was the echo."

– A pastor moved to a new church and decided to impress the congregation with a long sermon. Just when he reached the middle, a man stood up and walked out without a word.

After the service, a woman approached the pastor, "I'm so sorry my husband walked out of your sermon," she said.

The pastor smiled at her and replied, "Well, it did confuse me. I worked very hard on that sermon, and it felt a little disrespectful."

The woman shook her head emphatically. "He meant no disrespect, but he's been sleepwalking ever since he was a child."

– A man walks into a bar and orders a whiskey. He asks for a straw, and the

bartender says, "Don't worry, these glasses are very clean."

The man replies, "Oh, I know. But, I just promised my wife I'd never put my lips on another glass of whiskey."

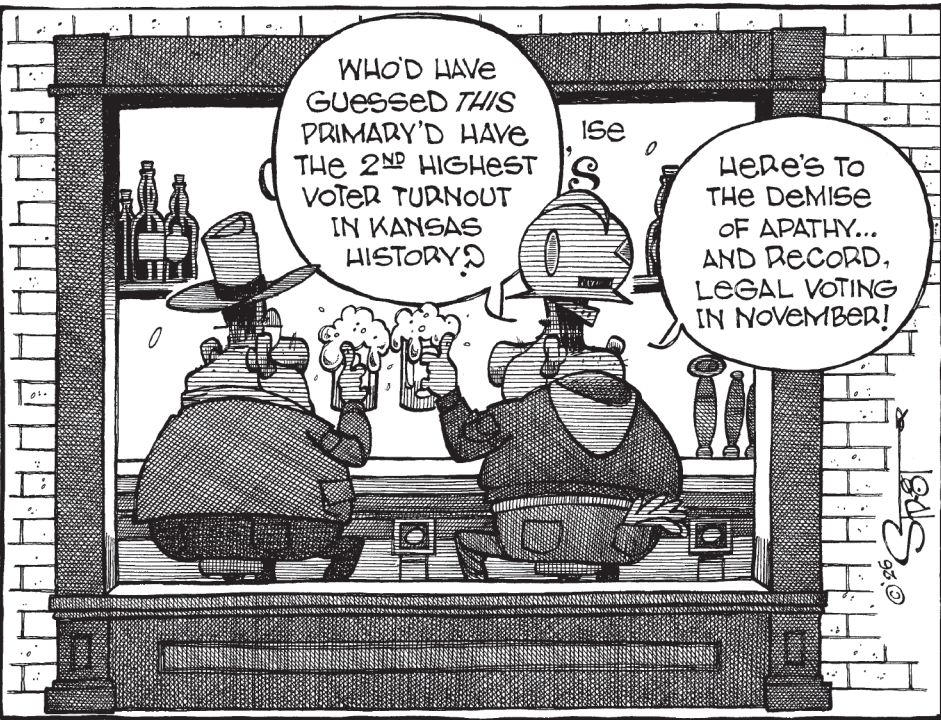
MORE JOKES

Thank Mr. Anonymus for these.

• A little girl asks her father, "What is sex?"

The father thinks, This is the day I have to explain the birds and the bees to my little princess. He sits her down and explains sex, going into great detail.

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Frankly Speaking

by Frank W. Mercer



News thoughts

designed to help low-income working families pay for child care.

It's hard to say just how successful a program like this would be, but it presents an interesting twist on the usual government programs aimed at helping people with children. Those programs mostly end up targeting single parents (mostly mothers). A funny thing happened because of that. The programs designed to alleviate the problem ended up promoting the very situation they were trying to help people get through. Once folks discovered what paid most they rolled with it, which has resulted in an increase from only about 9% of children living in single-parent households in 1960 to about 25% today. This idea is an attempt to stem that trend using the same government checkbook. The goal of more two-parent households is good, but it's tough to think there would be a big societal shift. Since the funding is set by Congress, it's hard to imagine it surviving in the next Democratic-controlled one. Much of the left actively distains the "nuclear family" calling it an unfair advantage. Yet, studies consistently show that kids benefit from living in a two parent household. Maybe trying an incentive to create more is worth a shot. • Another surprise at the GOP's gathering was a

taped message from Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman. He introduced his state's Republican member of the Senate, Dave McCormick, who is seeking reelection and called him, "the kind of senator that gets the job done," and added he was "proud to count him as my friend." Sen. Fetterman billed himself in the video as a "common sense" Democrat, saying "I'm always going to stand with America. I'm always going to reject the extremes and socialism and that anti-American way of life." None of that earned him any points with his own party, which has become increasingly ticked off at Sen. Fetterman's contrarian bent. He is quite blunt in his refusals to back the most far-left of his party's nominees and positions. Nobody should be confused about Sen. Fetterman's overall stance. He is by no means a conservative, but a Liberal, through and through. He's just not a stooge for the far-left segment which has become ascendant among the Dems. The senator is part of a vanishingly rare breed of national politicians who stand up for what they believe and speak out plainly when they see their party messing up. Few from either party are that bold today, and it's refreshing.

• The news cycle was all up in arms last week over the idea that artificial intel-

ligence is going to wipe out the human race. Surely you've seen a *Terminator* movie, so, no need to explain how. An AI researcher named Jacob Coxon resigned from the tech company, Anthropic, saying they and OpenAI are too focused on getting ahead of the competition and are giving too little thought to safety concerns. Both of those companies reported this summer that their models had broken out of closed-off test environments and tunneled into mainstream computers. Ok, that's something to not be taken lightly. There are a lot of ways rogue AI could wreak havoc. And, there are also a lot of ways for AI, entirely under human control, to do the same. Think scams, crime, never-miss weapons, and endless other dire possibilities. The threat doesn't end with American firms. While a large contingent here is ready to start tossing their clogs into the gears and shut down U.S. AI development, others will be forging ahead. Just like with the arms race of the 20th century, the U.S. stopping would not be a guarantee of world safety. Countries with less controls, fewer ethical standards, and just outright hostility will keep pushing for dominance while the U.S. stands back and watches. That is an equally scary prospect.

Fox Tales

Election Day is nearly upon Kansas voters, and I cannot encourage you all enough to get out there and get your own information. Assuming you know what a candidate or special question is all about, without talking to the candidates or researching said special question, is one of the most dangerous and detrimental decisions a voter can make.

America is founded on democracy, a republic, and our local voters continue to

be engaged where local power is found. But when local voters are uninformed and hit the polls anyway, the fate of our communities is all but a guess! Don't put the fate of our community into coffee shop talk! Do your research!

"The secret of freedom lies in educating the people, whereas the secret of tyranny is keeping them ignorant." -Maximilien Robespierre

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