



# ***BULLETIN***

## **NATIONAL TRACTOR PARTS DEALER ASSOCIATION**

"USED, REBUILT AND NEW AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL REPAIR PARTS"

SUMMER 2020

VOL. 30, NO. 2

LET YOUR DREAMS SOAR

KEEP GOING

DISCOVER YOUR STRENGTHS

PUSH YOURSELF

DECIDE TO DO

YOU CAN DO IT

POSITIVE MIND

POSITIVE VIBES

POSITIVE LIFE

LIVE YOUR OWN LIFE

CHOOSE YOUR BATTLES

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

IMAGINE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

# CONGRATULATIONS

# 2020

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

NO PRESSURE NO DIAMONDS

I CAN AND I WILL

IMAGINE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

BE IN THE NOW

DREAM BIG. PRAY BIGGER

CHOOSE TO SHINE

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

DREAM WITHOUT FEAR

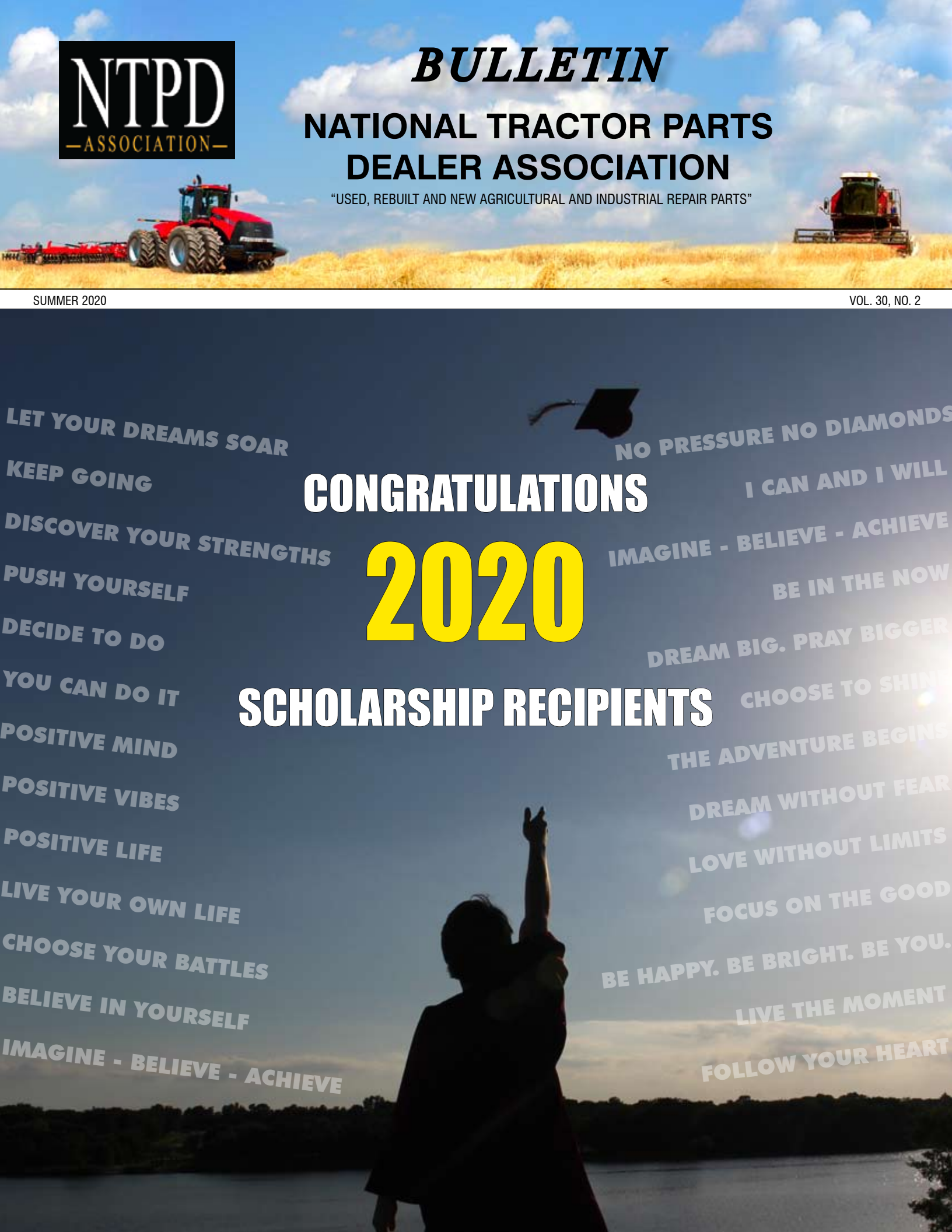
LOVE WITHOUT LIMITS

FOCUS ON THE GOOD

BE HAPPY. BE BRIGHT. BE YOU.

LIVE THE MOMENT

FOLLOW YOUR HEART





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## **INSIDE**

	Page
President's Pen .....	3
Message From Phyllis .....	5
Scholarship Recipients .....	6-7
Membership Outreach & News .....	9
<i>Michael P. Libbie</i>	
Greasy Girl .....	11
<i>Terri Stevens</i>	
In Memory .....	12-13
TSA Balances Security .....	16
The Family Farm.....	18
<i>Charles Niemann</i>	
How to Build a Rainy Day Budget .....	20
Old Farmer's Advice.....	22
Liz's Muzings.....	24
<i>Elizabeth Fawcett</i>	
Thank You Advertisers.....	31



## **BULLETIN**

PHYLLIS COX, Editor

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## From the President's Pen . . .

Wow!! What a year it has been already!

We should all feel very blessed to be part of the “essential” part of the population that puts food on the world’s table three times a day. I know from talking to some of you and from what is happening here in Iowa that life has been pretty much the same as it always is and that we have not been affected by all of the happenings in the world. I pray that is true for each and every one of you.



Scott Schelling

When the board met via phone on April 22 we talked about whether to hold the Summer Mixer that was planned for this year or if we should forego the formal meeting and just have a phone conference instead. We

decided to wait a month to see if things would settle down, but on May 20 we voted to move the summer trip to Portland, OR back to July of 2021. It was a tough decision to make! As a business owner, serving on several director boards and community events planner, I can say that never in my wildest dreams would I have to make some of the decisions that I have made this year.

So now we are focusing on the annual meeting on January 14-17, 2021 located in Nashville, TN. Plans are coming together nicely, watch your emails and social media for announcements for activities Phyllis is putting together for us. Nashville is a great town that has a lot going on and our meetings there are always well attended. Mark your calendars now. We want to see every one of you there!!!

*Scott*

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## Message from Phyllis

Wow...that's about the only thing that comes to mind right now. What a crazy few months we've had. I think for the most part our member's businesses are doing well and staying busy. The NTPDA office is functioning just fine and we were very disappointed to cancel our Summer Mixer/Board Meeting but the vote was to push it back to next year! So...

we've made all the arrangements to do that. Now we are working on our 2021 Conference and Trade Show to be held in Nashville on January 14-17. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we will be in a much better place by then.



Our next Bulletin will highlight the Conference & Trade Show and I think we have some great adventures planned for you!

In this issue we will be highlighting our 2020 Scholarship Recipients. We would like to thank our Scholarship Committee: Eric Shaul, Carol Russell, Brian Kitch, Erica Russell and Katie Shaw.

And...we would like to introduce Ms. Shaw to you. She is an agriculture instructor and FFA advisor at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls, MN. She is connected with TR Salvage and we are happy to have her join in the selection this year. Everyone please stay safe and well. We'll see you in 2021.

*Phyllis*

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# SCHOLARSHIP

## *Recipients*

Academic Year  
2020-21



**MADISON KORESH**



**TY NELDON**



**EMILY SMITH**



**JADELYNN VOPAT**



**MORGAN WOOD**

Dear NTPDA Scholarship Committee:

As a recipient of the 2020 NTPDA Scholarship, I would like to thank you for funding this scholarship! Although I plan on working this summer and through college, your contribution to my education is greatly appreciated. This fall, I will attend Washburn University to study pre-medicine; I will major in biology.

Thank you so much!

— Jade Vopat

Dear National Tractor Parts Dealers Association,

Thank you for your generous scholarship. I am very honored and grateful to be selected as a recipient of the National Tractor Parts Dealers Association Scholarship. I will use the money from the scholarship to pay for college expenses like tuition next fall as I continue to pursue my degree in biology. This money will go a long way in helping to fund college. Thank you again for the scholarship. It will help me in my future as I continue in my professional career.

Thank You,

Tate Blankespoor  
Tate Blankespoor



# SCHOLARSHIP

## *Recipients*

Academic Year  
2020-21

*The Scholarship Committee is proud to announce the 2020 scholarship recipients. The Scholarship Committee had the difficult task of awarding 9 scholarships. To everyone who submitted an application, thank you for taking the time to fill out the application and to show how committed you are to furthering your education and making your mark in the world! We are very proud of each and every one of you and we wish you the best in your future endeavors. We want to remind and encourage those of you who did not receive a scholarship this year to please try again next year.*

*A special thanks to our Scholarship Committee: The feedback we've gotten from members, their families and friends tells us that this particular member benefit is greatly appreciated and one that we hope continues for many years to come.*

### **TATE BLANKESPOOR**

Iowa State University

Degree: Biology

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Parents: Loren & Phyllis Blankespoor

### **ALICIA DENNIE**

Purdue University

Degree: Pre-Dentistry

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Bates Corporation

Parents: Cory & Teresa Dennie

### **ADDIE DICKERHOFF**

Purdue University

Degree: Nursing

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TTP – Diesel Power & Machine

Parents: Doug & Kelly Dickerhoff

### **MADISON KORESH**

Western Michigan University

Degree: Psychology – Behavior Science

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Parents: Jeffrey Koresh and Stacy Roach

### **SOPHIA LUU**

Iowa State University

Degree: Apparel, Merchandising & Design

Sponsoring Member:

Hy-Capacity

Parents: Binh & Melanie Luu

### **TY JOSEPH NELDON**

Southeast Missouri State University

Degree: Business

Administration

Sponsoring Member:

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Parents: Jamie & Jessica Neldon

### **EMILY SMITH**

California Polytechnic State University

Degree: Agricultural Business

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### **JADELYNN VOPAT**

Washburn University

Degree: Biology

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### **TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP:**

### **MORGAN WOOD**

Lancaster Career & Technology Center

Degree: Veterinarian Technology

Sponsoring Member:

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**TATE BLANKESPOOR**



**ADDIE DICKERHOFF**



**ALICIA DENNIE**





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# Membership Outreach & News

by Michael Libbie

Every weekday we reach out to our current, former and potential members just to check in, thank them for their membership, encourage membership and better explain the benefits of membership. But, long before we get into all of that we explain the reason for our call, "Hi, and thanks for taking our call. We reach out to our members, potential members and past members just to check on you and your business. Tell me, how are things with you and your family?"

We can tell you that the overwhelming response has been very positive. Somebody actually cares and is willing to take the time to reach out. And nearly every call we've been making we're hearing reports that business in the agriculture world is solid. It could be a combination of farmers/ranchers having the time to focus on repair or it could be lower prices are forcing many do DIY or it could be that they are seeing value in their relationship with their parts supplier.

In other words...business is good.

We share that with you for a reason. On each call we learn more about our members and their unique place in their

community and how they reach out to customers old and new.

Just like with everything else, if you stay in touch with your customers and keep your business "top of mind" they will more likely continue to do business with you. Of course, just like we're doing with our membership, it all takes time. But, the rewards can be very positive.

One other thing. Have you got news for us?

From time to time our membership forgets to let us know about what's going on so that we can share that through our robust social media efforts, here in our business blog or with other news outlets.

So, if you've got a story send it along, we'd love to share. You can send it to [Michael@NTPDA.com](mailto:Michael@NTPDA.com)

Thanks for taking the time to read...we'll visit soon!



*Michael P. Libbie is the owner of Insight Advertising, Marketing & Communications and does the only daily business news broadcast, Insight on Business the News Hour, in the Midwest. [Michael@InsightCubed.com](mailto:Michael@InsightCubed.com).*



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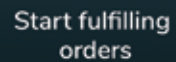
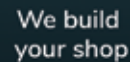
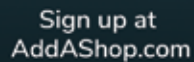
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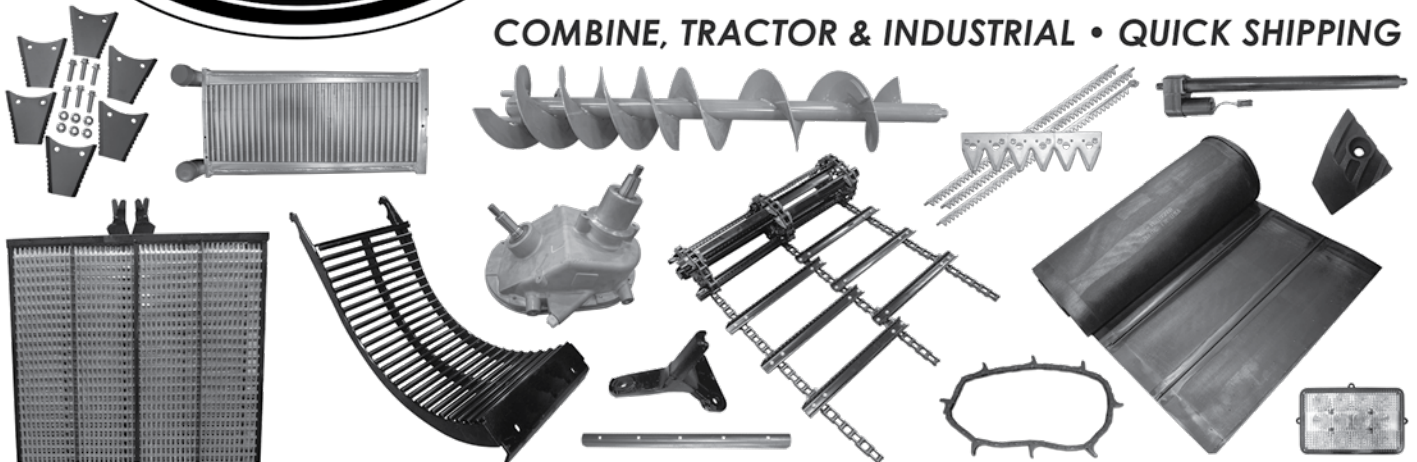
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Greetings from

# Greasy Girl

By Terri Stevens

Dear Friends,

I have been thinking about what I wanted to write about with all the crazy things going on in our world.

I want to encourage all of you. It is a time that we never thought we would experience. So many different opinions and not enough truth. So that brings me to what I know to be true and that is God's word. In Psalm 46:1 it says, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." I hope during this time that you have been able to reflect on the goodness of God. One of the things that I try to do every day is go thru the alphabet and find the attributes of God.



-Peace



-Quiet



-Righteous



-Sovereign



-Trustworthy



-Uncreated



-Victorious



-Way maker



-Xcellent



-Yahweh



-Zealous



-Almighty



-Beginning and the End



-Christ



-Deliverer



-Everlasting



-Faithful



-Great I Am



-Holy



-Immortal



-Jealous



-Kind



-Loving



-Merciful



-Never Ending



-Overflowing with Goodness

This is something to do when you are feeling stressed. Set your mind and your heart on Jesus. He loves you and He is with us in this storm. I pray that you all are doing well and are keeping your focus on the main thing.

Look Up, Pray Hard, and Press On. It's not about the storms in life; it is about learning to dance in the rain. Blessings and Love

Greasy

# *In Memory . . .*



Larry Ken Bozeman, 70, of Idalou passed away at home in Idalou on June 11, 2020 after a brave battle with cancer.

Larry was born on February 28, 1950, in Lubbock to Corky and Margie Bozeman. He was named after his grandfathers, Lawrence Fleming and Kenneth Bozeman. He was the first grandchild on both sides and

the self-proclaimed favorite of his adoring (and adored) grandmothers, Allie Fleming and Myrtle Bozeman. He took his role as big brother to his siblings Vick, Terri, and Jim very seriously, both growing up, and especially after the death of their father in 1986.

Larry's passion for agriculture began as a young boy. He grew up farming with his father and spending time at Bozeman Machinery, the farm equipment business started by his grandfather and father in 1954, the first and oldest salvage yard in the U.S. In high school, he was active in FFA and was an Area Officer. He graduated from Idalou High in 1968.

In high school he met his future wife, Helen Jones. They married on August 1, 1970, and have been devoted to one another for almost 50 years.

Larry went to college at Lubbock Christian College, then Texas Tech University. He began farming full time in 1972. He later acquired a ranch in Dickens County and enjoyed raising and breeding cattle. He loved the land he stewarded, valued the hard work and honest living it provided, and enjoyed passing on those values to his children and grandchildren. He was recognized by the FiberMax One Ton Club in 2018, one of only 1,000 cotton growers so recognized since the program's inception.

He took charge of Bozeman Machinery in 1984 and grew it steadily over the last 36 years by being obedient to working hard, treating people fairly, and doing the right thing. He was enormously proud that his sons joined him in the business and continued the family tradition. He was a founding member of the National Tractor Parts Dealers Association and received the Pioneer Award in 2004. His other business endeavors included 3B Hardware and B&E Ice House.

Larry loved his community. He served as President of the School Board, supported the Idalou and Lubbock County Stock Shows, Lubbock Children's Home and Texas Boys Ranch, and was quick to sponsor youth sports teams and many other causes for the good of the community.

While Larry had a mind for business and a commitment to community, he had a heart for his church and family. He was a lifelong member of the Church of Christ. He was married in the Idalou Church of Christ, raised his children there in their early years, and it was a great blessing to him to return and participate in the church's resurgence and flourishing over the last 10 years. He was particularly fond of teaching youth Sunday school classes.

Larry and Helen had four kids: Lori, Derek, Mindi, and Heath. He taught his children to work on the farm, enjoyed raising pigs with them and traveling to stock shows, and made it a priority to be present at their numerous sporting events. He lost count of the times he moved them in his stock trailer after high school and remained an involved father as they reached adulthood. It was his great joy to work daily with his sons, and he treasured his daughters, offering wisdom, visiting them, and encouraging them.

Larry valued integrity, humility, honesty, a strong work ethic, faith, and family. If he gave you his word, you could count on it. He was old fashioned about handshakes, looking people in the eye, holding doors open, and saying 'yes sir' and 'no sir'. He was purposeful in teaching his grandchildren these values.

Larry was an exceptional "Pop" to his dozen grandchildren: Brileigh, Kamryn, Bailey, Landry, Brody, Cassidy, Kinley, Blaze, Bo, Brooks, Bronte, and his caboose, Kate. He was a fixture at their sporting events, stock shows, and recitals. While it brought him great sadness to realize he would not watch them all grow up, the lessons he taught them, the values he lived, and the memories he created will remain with them.

Larry was preceded in death by his father, V.C. "Corky" Bozeman, and his brother, James K. "Jim" Bozeman. Those remaining to carry on his memory are his wife, Helen Jones Bozeman, his children and their spouses, Lori and Denver Cole, Derek and Jennifer Bozeman, Mindi and Jonathan Zanowiak, and Heath and Amber Bozeman, his grandchildren, Brileigh, Kamryn, and Brody Cole, Bailey, Landry, Cassidy, and Kinley Bozeman, Bozeman and Katherine Zanowiak, and Blaze, Brooks, and Bronte Bozeman, his mother, Margie Bozeman, his brother Vick (Susan) Bozeman, his sister, Terri (Dick) Laird, his sisters in law, Kathryn (J.T.) Benton, Bonnie (John) Whittle, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations in his memory can be made to Texas Boys Ranch, The Children's Home of Lubbock, or to a favorite charity.

Please visit [www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com) for more information.



***William Edwin Meuser, Springdale, Arkansas passed away on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas at the age of 87.***



Bill was laid to rest in a private graveside service at Maplewood Cemetery in Rantoul, IL on Saturday, June 27, 2020. Baier Family Funeral Services, Paxton assisted with local arrangements.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held at a later date in Arkansas for family and friends.

Bill married Norwista Gault in Wichita Falls, Texas. They were blessed with a daughter Cinda Freitas on February 4, 1958. Norwista passed away in February of 1971. In December of 1973, he met Pansy Bolain Gastineau. They were together for 47 years until his death.

Bill was a proud Veteran having served in the U.S. Army for 2 years. After the Army, Bill worked on pipelines across the United States operating heavy equipment. It was during this time he picked up the nickname "Yank" and most old timers still called him that. He owned and operated Meuser Material and Equipment, which started with him moving the earth to build large projects in Northwest Arkansas. Eventually he changed the business to buying and selling heavy equipment parts. Bill and Pansy traveled all over the world buying heavy equipment parts for the business. They were both avid travelers and at the age of 51 Bill obtained his pilot's license and a plane.

Bill was involved with many fund raising projects around the Northwest Arkansas area and was awarded The Man with 40,000 Sweethearts from Beta Alpha Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and involved with the Elks Lodge. He loved doing large barbeques for family and friends, politics, roller skating, dancing and going to the casino.

He is survived by his daughter, Cinda Freitas of Fayetteville, AR, Pansy's children Brenda (Dennis) Williams of Weatherford, OK, Gwen (Robert) Edmundson of Pea Ridge, AR, and Wayne (JoAnna) Gastineau of Rogers, AR. His nephew Fred (Lisa) Magers of Paxton, IL who was more like a son to him and nephews Chuck Magers of Vallejo, CA., Chris Meuser of Wake Forrest, NC and Greg Meuser of Florida.

Also surviving are grandchildren Christopher Freitas of Palm Springs, CA, Laurin Dragomire of Mexico and Christopher Elderton of Springdale, AR. He is also survived by Pansy's grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother James Meuser, daughter Melinda Meuser, daughter Linda Elderton, and brother-in-law Elmer Magers. After Bill passed away on June 9, 2020, Pansy also died on June 12, 2020.

***Pansy Pearl Gastineau, Springdale, Arkansas, died on June 12, 2020 at NWMC Bentonville, Arkansas at the age of 85.***



Celebration of life memorial services will be held at a later date under direction of Sisco Funeral Home of Pea Ridge, Arkansas.

Pansy married Allan Franklin Gastineau in March 1953 and they had a daughter Brenda Kaye in December 1953. Later they moved to Tulsa and were blessed with another daughter Glenda Faye (Gwen) in September 1955. After moving to Pea Ridge, Arkansas the union produced a son Jimmie Wayne in December 1969.

August 6, 1973 Allan died at the age of 40 leaving Pansy a widow at the age of 38. In December that same year she met William E. (Bill) Meuser and they were together for almost 47 years, until he died on June 9, 2020.

Pansy was the organizer and founder of Beta Alpha Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority in Pea Ridge. She was a Life Active Member of E.S.A., having held all chapter offices and Arkansas State Offices within the organization. She was a certified Bob Ross and Dorothy Dent oil painting instructor and taught out of her studio in Springdale. She also served several years as Chairman of the Salvation Army Doll Project and hosted the annual Doll Tea in Fayetteville. She gathered food and clothing for those less fortunate her entire life. She took pride in helping other people improve their lives. At the age of 83 Pansy embroidered a wall hanging for her new Great Grandson Benny's room. Pansy enjoyed playing slot machines and rarely passed up a chance to go to the casino.

Pansy is survived by daughters Brenda Williams and husband Dennis of Weatherford, Oklahoma; Glenda (Gwen) Edmundson and husband Robert of Pea Ridge, Arkansas; son Jimmie Wayne Gastineau and wife Joanna of Rogers, Arkansas; Bill's daughter Cinda Freitas of Fayetteville, Arkansas and her daughter by choice, Pat Clayton of Anderson, Missouri.

Also surviving are grandchildren Erick Wilkerson and wife Vanessa of Canon City, Colorado; Kennda Miller of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Blake Allan Gastineau and wife Becca of Rogers, Arkansas; Hayley Gastineau of Rogers, Arkansas; Kelly Pyle and husband Chad of Van Buren, Arkansas; Jason Edmundson of Fort Smith, Arkansas; Chris Zander and Laurin Dragomire both of San Diego, California. Great grandchildren Emma and Benicio Gastineau of Rogers, Arkansas; Olivia Wilkerson of Canon City, Colorado; Ethan Pyle of Fort Smith, Arkansas; Daniel Wilkerson of Tomball, Texas; Jonathon Ray Wilkerson of Oklahoma; Chase, Austin and Blake Sizemore of Canon City, Colorado.

Great great grandchildren Ava Pride Wilkerson of Pea Ridge, Arkansas; Shawn Xavier and Paizlee Rae Wilkerson of Claremore, Oklahoma; Wyatt Lonestar and Teegan Wildflower Wilkerson of Tomball, Texas. In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials be made to Food Bank at The Ridge Church, 836 N Curtis Ave, Pea Ridge, AR 72751.

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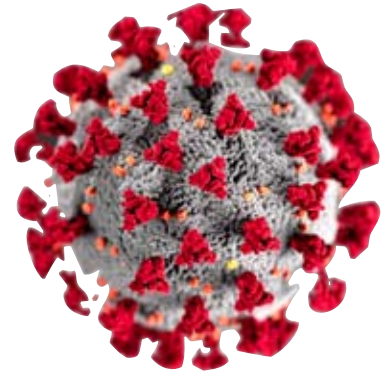
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# With No Mask Rules, TSA Balances Security With Virus Risk



*The agency has updated its procedures for the pandemic, but it doesn't require passengers to wear masks.*

By Courtney Rozen and Shaun Courtney

Getting screened at the airport by the Transportation Security Administration is not a socially distant experience. Your electronics and shoes go right into a plastic bin that ferried someone else's through the X-ray machine just minutes before. You hand your ID to an officer sitting much closer than 6 feet away. And if something doesn't look right, there's the ultimate close contact with a stranger: the pat-down.

With airlines slowly restoring flights and more people navigating checkpoints, the federal agency responsible for the safety of the traveling public says it's going to great lengths to make its screening process safer during the coronavirus pandemic. It's spacing flyers apart in queues, reducing the number of "touch points" at the start of screening, putting up plastic barriers at bag-drop points, wiping down bins, and requiring screeners to wear masks.

But TSA is at heart a security agency, and there's no substitute in its screenings for some person-to-person contact—even though that's how the novel coronavirus spreads. The TSA's roughly 50,000 agents, working in more than 400 airports, now have to balance security concerns with infection risks in the absence of any federal standards on mask-wearing or social distancing. The agency is also under pressure to screen passengers for symptoms of Covid-19, something in which it lacks expertise.

Earlier this month, Jay Brainard, the top TSA official in Kansas, turned whistleblower and accused the agency of not doing enough to protect employees or passengers. He said the TSA was slow to require employees to wear masks (it did so in early May) and implement stronger sanitizing protocols.

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Already, roughly 700 TSA employees have tested positive for Covid-19, and five had died as of mid-June, according to the agency's website.

Among other things, Brainard criticized the agency, which is part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, for requiring screeners to change gloves only every half hour, or when passengers ask. "Oftentimes, passengers will stick their boarding pass and ID in their mouth as they're getting ready to hand documents to our people," Brainard said in an interview. "If we don't change those gloves, if we don't sanitize those gloves, then we're going to potentially infect the next people in line."

The agency said in a statement that personnel change nitrile gloves "after each pat-down," and noted that it "developed plastic barriers for use at several locations within the checkpoint area" as a safety measure.

The coronavirus is more often transmitted between people in close physical proximity via respiratory droplets than through shared surfaces, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, although both can lead to infection. "Physical distancing is incredibly important for this specific virus," says Surili Sutaria Patel of the American Public Health Association.

Members of Congress and the Airports Council International-North America, a group that represents about 300 U.S. and Canadian airports, have called on the federal government to mandate face coverings in airports. But so far, there's no federal standard, either from the Federal Aviation Administration or the TSA. (Airlines and an increasing number of airports are requiring masks, however.)

TSA officials wouldn't directly answer whether the agency has the authority to require passengers to wear masks, or whether that should be required. The FAA said in an emailed statement that it won't force people to wear masks, nor will it require airports to enforce social distancing.

The result is different rules from airport to airport—even within airports—and confusion over who is setting and enforcing them. "It's like an amoeba; you can't grab it and

figure out who has what responsibility for doing what,” says Steve Alterman, president of the Cargo Airline Association and chair of the TSA’s aviation security advisory committee. At Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, for example, the Port of Seattle’s policy explicitly says face coverings must be worn in public areas but says travelers “should” wear them during the TSA screening process.

As more travelers return to airports, social distancing will be a challenge during TSA screenings, for which there is also no federal standard. The space designated for security within airports is finite. At Seattle-Tacoma, officials have roped off every other lane so passengers can spread out in the screening line. But that won’t necessarily work with larger numbers of people: The airport has a relatively small physical footprint for the number of passengers it serves, says Perry Cooper, airport media relations manager.

Meanwhile, major airlines want the TSA to expand its screenings to check for symptoms of Covid-19. Airlines for America, which represents carriers such as JetBlue Airways Corp., American Airlines Group, and United Continental Holdings Inc., is pressuring the TSA to check passengers’ temperatures. The agency hasn’t publicly said it will do that, and a number of former TSA officials and members of Congress say it’s ill-equipped to add health screenings to its mandate.

“TSA, as its name implies, is a security agency, designed to keep bad guys—bad people—off planes,” former agency Administrator John Pistole says. Burdening agents with unfamiliar new duties could detract from that focus. “The consequences, if there was a successful terrorist attack and the first one in the U.S. on a plane since [Sept. 11]—what that would do? It would probably put some small carriers out of business, and just wreak havoc with the economy,” says Pistole.

Representative Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.), chairman of the Homeland Security Committee in the House of Representatives, asked Acting DHS Secretary Chad Wolf to provide his committee with a legal justification for any proposed airport-based federal temperature check program in a June 16 letter. He also questioned the effectiveness of temperature checks, citing CDC guidance, and called on the agency to perform the checks in a way that protects workers, maintains passenger privacy, and prevents discrimination.

“Given that COVID-19 disproportionately affects certain demographics, any such protocols must be designed to guard against passengers from certain racial or ethnic minorities being targeted for screening in a discriminatory fashion,” Thompson wrote.

The potential for discrimination also complicates an additional strategy that could reduce overall physical interaction with passengers: risk-based screening, which focuses on high-risk passengers. Janai Nelson, associate director-counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, points to studies that show that Black women are more often pulled aside for additional screening because scanners cannot properly read their hair.

Likewise, what counts as suspicious behavior is based on an individual officer’s perception and could be affected by virus-related anxiety. “People might be nervous because it’s the first time they’ve flown since the pandemic struck, and that’s a typical ‘tell’ of a suspicious activity previously. And that, I think, is not dispositive now in this new normal,” says Pistole.

The TSA was making changes to screening procedures before the onset of the coronavirus. It had started using scanners to validate IDs and verify passenger boarding information. In some airports, passengers now hand only their ID—not their

boarding pass—to an officer at the front of the checkpoint. That eliminates one touch point between passengers and workers, the agency said in a statement. As of mid-June, the agency had set up about 550

scanners, roughly 35% of the total number they’d need to use the technology at airports nationwide.

Jorhena Thomas, a national security professor at American University, says “Band Aid-type of changes” won’t be sufficient in the long term. “What they need to do is anticipate how terrorists and other people that may be a threat are going to take advantage of this current situation,” with the virus and changing procedures, “and then come up with a sustainable strategy that meets public health needs and also meets security needs,” she says.

The TSA received \$100 million under the coronavirus relief package signed into law in March. It had spent less than \$1 million of that as of early June, according to a senior congressional Republican aide. It hasn’t asked congressional appropriators for more resources to handle the virus.

“One of the things that we are responsible for, and that’s our primary mission, is security,” Brainard, the TSA supervisor-turned-whistleblower, says. “But now, an equal part of our responsibility is to make sure that we’re giving attention to safety.”

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**As more travelers return to airports, social distancing will be a challenge during TSA screenings, for which there is also no federal standard.**

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# THE FAMILY FARM

By Charles Niemann

Each morning my two cousins and I would get our 22 rifles off of my grandfather's porch and head out onto family land for a day of exploration. My grandfather and my two uncles owned adjoining farms and we could wander all day and into the night without leaving family territory. There was a good size river and a couple of creeks that ran through the property and a large portion was not used for farming. My cousins and I managed to use the whole place one way or the other.

On one occasion we stayed out a little too late on a no-moon night and were stuck in the pitch black a few feet from the river. We could not see each other and we were a long way from any house. We had a few matches and groped around for sticks we could use for a fire. It was very scary and I accidentally stepped in the river since I could not see anything. We managed to start a fire. But we could not leave that spot in the dark. By the firelight we found enough limbs to make a small lean to. We had our guns. But, that did not make us feel safe since there were a lot of water moccasins near the river and it was too dark to see them.

We were really starting to worry after a couple of hours without having anyone come to our rescue. We realized that no one knew which way we had gone or how far. Finally we saw a lantern in the distance. My Uncle Jack had found us and somehow knew how to get back to my grandfather's place. Everyone else was still looking for us since they had no way of knowing my uncle had found us. But, eventually everyone came back and we thought we were in big trouble. But, they all decided we had learned a big lesson and did not need any more trouble.

Sometimes we would get surprised at how remote the area was. We were about 15 miles from the nearest town and back then there was no electricity or plumbing. I remember being in bad thunderstorms and near tornadoes that took down a couple of barns a couple of miles away. Those things can be frightening in the light of a kerosene lamp in an otherwise dark house. I remember my grandmother making us get behind a door against the wall during some bad weather. That was the safest place in the house if a tornado came through. One family a few miles down the road did have a phone and they shared it with neighbors when it was needed.

We seemed to spend a lot of time at one of the creeks that snaked through near my grandfather's house. We built dams to form swimming holes and used the high banks to play trench warfare. We would pack creek bed clay around cherry bombs and let it harden in the sun. Then we would lob them at each other in the next curve of the creek as if they were hand grenades. They were. It is hard to believe we never were injured.

There were a lot of corn fields and contrary to popular belief, you can get lost in them. Sure they are all in a row. But, what happens when the rows turn with the terrain and you come out someplace you are not familiar with. Tobacco was in short supply so we would dry corn silk and roll cigarettes. The stuff was awful. But, it did produce smoke.



Barns with hay bales were great places to create a secret fort. You just had to rearrange the bales so it had a hollow area inside what looked like a solid pile. The problem was how to have a concealed entrance. The secret is to stack the bales with a small separation on the bottom row just wide enough for one kid to wiggle through. Enough hay sticks out the sides that the opening is not noticeable. Ours was always two bales deep so it got kind of scary going through that long tunnel.

Every year on the fourth of July the whole family would pack up a couple of trucks and head out to a part of my Uncle James' land that was very isolated and located on the high banks of the river. It was a place no one went except on that holiday. People would come from all over and drive back across the fields to get to the spot for celebration. I did not know a lot of the people who came, but most of them were relatives. The men built a huge pile of wood for a bonfire after dark. Tables and chairs would be set up and the kids would head for the river to swim. My Uncle Jack would take up a position on the cliff overlooking the swimming area with his rifle and a beer. It was his job to shoot moccasins that came near the kids. He was a real marksman and could actually hit the snakes. There would be firecrackers all day and at night fireworks over the river along with the bonfire. Now those were real celebrations!

I think that kind of life has pretty much disappeared in America and it is a great loss.

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# How to Build a Rainy Day Budget

Many Americans know the importance of building an emergency fund, but few are able to do so successfully. Research from the AARP found that 53% of American households lacked an emergency savings account.

Not only are Americans unprepared for emergency expenses, but most households would struggle with an unexpected \$400 expense, according to the Federal Reserve. These findings indicate that few people have invested in either a rainy day budget or an emergency fund, relying instead on loans and credit card debt when unplanned expenses pop up.

It doesn't have to be painful to build a rainy day budget or an emergency fund. We'll walk you through a few tips to illustrate how to save money, as well as provide a budget calendar to help you stay on track with your savings goals.

## What is the purpose of a budget?

A rainy day fund is slightly different than an emergency fund, but the two often get conflated. A rainy day fund is something you can draw from to pay for smaller expenditures – if a major appliance in your house needs to be replaced, or if your child needs braces, for instance. A rainy day fund is important to have to avoid going into debt to cover small inconveniences that will pop up and disrupt your careful budgeting.

An emergency fund, on the other hand, is your safety net in the event of a big financial emergency; loss of employment, illness, or a global recession, for instance. Most experts recommend building an emergency fund with at least six months' take-home pay, e.g., your paycheck less taxes and other obligations for benefits and retirement.

How much do you need in your rainy day and emergency funds? The numbers vary depending on your living expenses and income level. "To cushion against a simultaneous spike in expenses and dip in income, a middle-income family needs about \$5,000 in a rainy-day fund but has just \$2,000 — a gap of \$3,000. Lower-income families need about \$2,500 but have just \$700," reported the New York Times. The AARP recommends a slightly higher budget of \$10,000 – \$50,000 for your emergency fund.

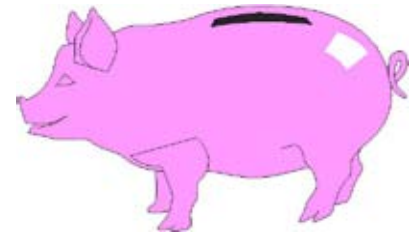
Typically, a rainy day fund is smaller: between \$500 and \$2,500. There's no amount too small to start with when you begin saving money. Start somewhere, and make saving a habit – here's how.

## How to save money

If you're living on a shoestring budget, building both a rainy day budget and an emergency fund can feel daunting. Most experts suggest focusing on your existing expenses first.

"Creating a rainy day savings strategy starts with getting a handle on any future expenses. For most people, monthly expenses such as house payments,

utilities, insurance and groceries stay steady. Other costs are less frequent but not technically emergencies. Make a list of the expenses you'll probably have to pay in coming years. In addition to car maintenance or house repairs, this could include kids' braces or veterinary bills," wrote Nerdwallet.



A good way to track your expenses is to use a budget calendar. Use a budget calendar to log every bill due: from utilities to rent or mortgage to paycheck. Log each amount in your calendar to see what's going out when.

From there, you can start to estimate how much you need in your rainy day fund and in your emergency fund. For your emergency fund, The Balance recommends that you set a goal and then put aside a small amount each month. "Figure out how much money you'd like to have in your fund, then work backward from there. Divide the amount you'll need to adequately fund your account by how much you can afford to put aside each month. Then, you'll be left with the number of months it will take you to reach your goal."

When you first start out, you may need a little lift to help get your savings off the ground. Consider working with a community like LiftRocket.

This article is contributed by LiftRocket.



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A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.

Meanness don't just happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about, ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good and honorable life, then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with something' that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinking' you're a person of some influence, try ordering' somebody else's dog around.

Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and enjoy the ride.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just shoot you!



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## Life in 2020

In the words of Leslie Jordan, “Well hello, fellow hunker-downers.”

We are half-way in and 2020 has proved to be a year deserving its own chapter in the history books – maybe even its own book.

Between a global pandemic and a war on racism, heads are spinning and hearts are torn as countries and communities try and sort out where their heads and hearts are.

On a local culture-equality level, I have never been so uncertain to voice my thoughts on a topic as there is such a high risk of being labelled a ‘hater’ no matter what; I’m not sure my knowledge and understanding is deep enough on the topic to voice a valuable word on it anyway. Some folks have been unjustly victimized, others don’t believe racism exists, and somewhere in the middle we find the positive in humanity; the folks who don’t identify each other by skin colour, ethnic backgrounds, cultural traditions, or bank accounts and opportunities. Most people enjoy sharing about their heritage with pride, interest and some heartbreak; maybe we all just need to listen and learn with respect and love in our hearts.

On a local pandemic level, some businesses are doing better than ever as they find new, innovative ways to fulfill customer orders or provide services. It’s amazing to see the community spirit in full force as folks lean on each other for emotional, social, and financial support – all from the safety of their homes or sanitized businesses. Some businesses haven’t fared as well when their services

were deemed unessential and forced to close their doors. Some countries generously provided stimulus packages for both workers and small businesses while affording all businesses that are impacted a delay in taxes. Canada, specifically Ontario, is maintaining this support until (at least) the end of August. This is called deferred tax increases... While I jest, we are blessed to be living in first-world countries that can support small

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**... some businesses are doing better than ever as they find new, innovative ways to fulfill customer orders or provide services.**

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businesses in any capacity. I believe we will be seeing the ripple effect of the COVID-era for a few years to come.

How has the salvage and parts business fared? The word from a few like-minded businesses tells me that most of us are operating at a higher sales volume! I’m not shocked by this as I go out on a limb and suggest that a positive of being on lock-down is

the ability to get some way-laid projects worked on. Yes, this means that maybe for the first time in history, farmers and mechanics are getting repairs done before the unit breaks in the field.... Maybe that’s just wishful thinking.

Overall, our lives have all been impacted by the craziness of 2020. I’m starting to see some traditional things brought back that my generation was starting to lose touch with. Family dinners are no longer a thing of the past as our evenings have been limited to avoid extracurricular activities. There has been an increase in things Grandma and Grandpa used to do such as gardening and preserving things, knitting, and home renovations and betterment. When all this sorts out, I hope we all come out with a greater understanding of who we are as individuals, family units, businesses, and members of a global community.

Be well friends,

*Liz*

*When it rains, look for rainbows. When it's dark, look for stars.*





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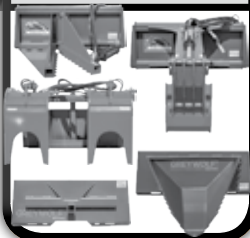




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