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*Maudie's Naughties*



**Christmas Program**

Well, Pa is in church on Sunday night before Christmas to watch the grandchildren's play. This is one of only two times a year that Ma is able to drag Pa into the church house (Christmas and Easter). But, Pa nearly slips up.

The pastor opens the program with a greeting saying, "I guess you all have been in the Christmas spirits this holiday season!"

Pa jumps up from the back row and says, "Did Ma tell on me, preacher?"

**Christmas Holler Days**

A city cousin is visiting with Ma and Pa up at Needmore, and Emmerline tells her how much she dreads the holler days. The city cousin decides to correct her, telling her it is "holidays," and not "holler days."

"Oh yeah!" says Emerline. "You just wait 'till Christmas Day when Ma starts hollering from the kitchen, 'Keep your fingers out the food until meal time,' and Pa will be hollering at the kids for messing with his tools, Flora will be hollering at the kids to not open the presents and Junior will be hollering for them to stay away from his pickup truck."

**Christmas Presents**

Pa decides to buy Ma a mirror for Christmas but he's had nothing but bad luck since. He gets her one of those full length mirrors and puts it behind the seat in his pickup. However, while driving home, he looks around and sees his own reflection and thinks it's a carjacker so he jumps out and lets the truck roll over the hill into the ditch. The truck isn't hurt but the mirror is broken.

He goes back and buys her another and hides it behind the door in Ma's bedroom.

But Ma pulls the door back and, seeing her own reflection, says, "So, you're the old bag that Pa's been sneaking around with," and blasts it with her 12-gauge.

I think Pa's going to end up getting Ma a big box of candy for Christmas.

**Sunday Morning Service**

Lucy Smith grabs her son by the collar after church Sunday morning and tells him she is going to take him behind the church and give him a good spanking.

"What for, Mom," asks her surprised son?

"For talking too much during congregational singing and moving around while prayer is being said," she replies.

"But, Mom," says the son. "I'm 42 years old and I'm the pastor of this church!"

"Yep," says Lucy, "That's why you're going to get a couple of extra licks. And that associate of yours is going to get whatever you get from his mom."

**Nature's Call**

Pa and Junior drive over in the next county to a country general store where Pa is having some corn ground into meal. While they are there, Pa notices that Junior has gone to their old outhouse several times.

"Junior," says Pa. "Have you got the trots or something? I'll bet I've seen you go to that outhouse five times."

"Nah, Pa," replies Junior. "I only had to go once. The other four times were so I could look at their catalog for something for Emmerline for Christmas."

**Narrow Road**

A man is driving up a steep, narrow mountain road. A woman is driving down the same road. As they pass each other, the woman leans out of the window and yells "Pig!!"

The man leans out of his window and replies, "Cow!!"

They each continue on their way, and as the man rounds the next curve, he crashes into a pig in the middle of the road.

If only men would listen . . .



The fund expires on December 31, 2020 or when funds run out

**Time Running Out to Receive Utility Assistance**

Gov. Andy Beshear and Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Goodman highlighted an approaching deadline for eligible families to receive assistance to pay overdue utility bills.

The \$15 million Healthy at Home Utility Assistance Fund helps those who are struggling to pay water, sewer, electric or gas bills due to COVID-19. Those who qualify can receive up to \$500 for water and wastewater bills and up to \$400 to pay gas or electric utility bills.

The fund expires on December 31, 2020, or earlier if the fund is depleted, so eligible Kentuckians should apply now. To date, \$6.81 million has already been requested.

Team Kentucky is partnering with Kentucky's Community Action Network to distribute these funds statewide. To receive funds, households must have an income up to 200% of the federal poverty line, have past due utility bills and have been economically impacted due to COVID-19.

"We know that many of the people who have been hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic also face the highest utility bills relative to their total income," Gov. Beshear said. "These one-time pay-

ments can make a huge difference in keeping the lights, water or heat on this winter. Kentuckians shouldn't have to choose between feeding their families and keeping them warm."

Applications can be found online by going to the Community Action Network of Kentucky website at www.capky.org or by calling 800-456-3452. Applications and the documentation needed to apply also can be obtained by visiting a Local Community Action Network of Kentucky office.

"We know there is great need and we are urging everyone who thinks they are eligible to apply for this funding," said Secretary Goodman. "But please do it quickly. We don't want you to miss out."

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