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Maudie's Naughties



New Year's Eve

On New Year's Eve, Daniel is in no shape to drive, so he sensibly leaves his van in the car park and walks home. As he is wobbling along, he is stopped by a policeman.

"What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?" asks the police officer.

"I'm on my way to a lecture," answers Roger.

"And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?" inquires the constable sarcastically.

"My wife," slurred Daniel grimly.

The Big Boys

An elderly gentleman is walking down the street when he sees a young lad who is crying so hard that he is shaking.

Taking compassion, the old gent bends over and pats the boy on the head, saying, "There, there. What seems to be the problem?"

The young man raises his tear streaked face and blurts out, "I can't do the things the big boys do."

So, the elderly gentleman sits down on the curb next to him and cries with him.

Dead Donkey

A minister awakens one morning to find a dead donkey in his front yard. He has no idea how it got there, but he knows he has to get rid of it. So, he calls the sanitation department, the health department, and several other agencies, but no one seems able to help him. In desperation, the good reverend calls the mayor and asks what should be done.

The mayor must have been having a bad day. "Why bother me?" he asks. "You're a clergyman. It's your job to bury the dead."

The pastor loses his cool. "Yes," he snaps, "But I thought I should at least notify the next-of-kin."

New Kittens

A three-year-old boy goes with his dad to see a new litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informs his mother, "There were two boy kittens and two girl kittens."

"How did you know that?" his mother asks.

"Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replies. "I think it's printed on their bottom."

Choosing Hymns

One Sunday a pastor tells his congregation that the church needs some extra money, and he asks the people to consider donating a little more than usual into the offering plate. He says that whoever gives the most will be able to pick out three hymns. After the offering plates are passed, the pastor glances down and notices that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in offering.

He is so excited that he immediately shares his joy with his congregation and says he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate. A very quiet, elderly, saintly lady all the way in the back shyly raises her hand. The pastor asks her to come to the front.

Slowly she makes her way to the pastor. He tells her how wonderful it is that she gave so much and in thanks asks her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brighten as she looks over the congregation, points to the three most handsome men in the building and says, "I'll take him and him and him."

Man at The Bar

There's a man sitting at a bar just looking at his drink. He stays like that for half an hour. Then, a big trouble-making truck driver steps next to him, takes the drink from the guy, and just drinks it all down.

The poor man starts crying.

The truck driver says, "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't stand seeing a man crying."

"No, it's not that. This day is the worst of my life. First, I fall asleep, and I'm late to my office. My boss, in an outrage, fires me. When I leave the building to my car, I found out it was stolen. The police say they can do nothing. I get a cab to return home and when I leave it, I remember I left my wallet and credit cards there. The cab driver just drives away. I go home and when I get there, I find my wife sleeping with the gardener. I leave home and come to this bar. And when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison."

Letter to the Editor

Remember to vote on November 6th

Dear Estill County Newspaper Editors,

It's been a little more than a year since I was elected to serve as Chair for Estill County Democrats. As I look back on the past year and consider the importance of voting on Nov. 6, I realized what I've learned about politics can be found in lessons from The Wizard of Oz.

1. Dorothy always had the power to have her heart's desire, but she wouldn't have believed it until she learned for herself.

Voting gives us the power to create the change we want to see, but it seems so simple it's difficult to believe. Voting is easy and powerful, but it takes a tremendous amount of effort to convince people of their own power.

2. Dorothy found help from friends, even though they needed something different.

We all have different needs and when we find common ground we can all get what we need by working together and trusting each other.

3. Never give up on your dreams.

Dorothy and her friends focus on a single goal and persevere when times get hard. Never stop working for what you believe in, even if some people don't want you to succeed.

4. "Some people without brains do an awful lot of talking"

Scarecrow's statement showed us he really did have a brain but he'd convinced himself he was powerless. In a similar way, negative political ads make voters feel powerless and brainless. Wise voters look past the attack ads and mailers to decide for themselves who deserves their vote.

5. The Wizard of Oz needed people to believe in him

The Wizard hid behind a curtain because he didn't have power on his own. Pulling back the curtain reveals voters give politicians their power and voters can just as easily take those powers away. We should expect our elected officials to show up, humbly listen to our needs, and not hide behind curtains.

6. There's no place like home

Dorothy says, "If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own backyard, because if it isn't there, I never really lost it." Big national issues act as wedges to convince us we're lost. In reality, your votes matter most when you focus on solving problems right here in Estill County. We shouldn't look further than own backyards to find our heart's desire.

If you would like information about issues or Democratic candidates, please email estillcountydemocrats@gmail.com. And please remember to vote on November 6!

Victoria Stevens, Estill County
Democratic Executive Committee Chair

Farming News

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the October Crop Production report today, showing a potential record yield forecasts for corn.

"Based on producer reports, Kentucky corn are forecast at 180 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from the record high set last year," said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. "The soybean yield forecast remained at 57 bushels per acre this month, which would also be a record high. Unfortunately, heavy rains in September took a toll on burley tobacco, dropping the yield 300 pounds per acre."

Corn production in Kentucky is forecast at 223 million bushels, up 4 percent from the September forecast and up 3 percent from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 180 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from last month and up 2 bushels from the 2017 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.24 million acres, up 20,000 acres from 2017. The U.S. corn production is forecast at 14.8 billion bushels, down slightly from the September forecast and up 1 percent from 2017. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 180.7 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushels from last month and up 4.1 bushels from 2017. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, down slightly from the September forecast and down 1 percent from 2017.

Soybean production for Kentucky is forecast at 113 million bushels, down 5 percent from the September forecast and up 10 percent from 2017. Yield was estimated at 57 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month and up 4.0 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 1.99 million acres, up 50,000 acres from the previous year. U.S. soybean production is forecast at 4.69 billion bushels, down slightly from the September forecast and up 6 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 53.1 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushels from last month and up 3.8 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 88.3 million acres, down 1 percent from the September forecast and down 1 percent from 2017.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 90.1 million pounds, down 15 percent from the September forecast and down 30 percent from 2017. Yield was projected at 1,700 pounds per acre.

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