THE LOCAL

Jokes, Riddles and Stories - Oh My!

23-01

How's Your Piggy Bank Doing?

When the investment world gets hectic sometimes panic starts to set in. You might put some cash in your safe or, like in the old days, hide it in a tin can in the back yard or under your mattress. In the instant global happenings of today it is extremely prudent to have someone who can switch gears quickly within your portfolio. That means you should have someone who is watching the market on a 24 hour basis and knows what they are doing, knows what to watch out for and plans accordingly.

Patrick Financial Group is just what you may be looking for. Continuing Jobie Patrick's legacy, John Pelon has years of active experience, and a knowledgeable staff making up the team. They are a professional, yet friendly group and are the ones that should be on your side in today's markets.

Getting to know your personal needs and desires and then planning on how to fulfill them is their prime concern. Of course preservation and growth of funds is included in their planning for your investment future. If your concern over your finances is growing, it might be a good idea to take some time and discuss the matter with them. It can't hurt and it might provide an answer to those concerns.

The days of having a family doctor come to your house are pretty much over, but having someone like the Patrick Financial Group taking personal care of your finances is still here. Give us a call, then stop in. We'll brew you a cup of coffee, sit down and get to know each other.

Financial Planning with Understanding

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Make Your Move Someday

I'll bet you'd like to lose 10 pounds, start working out, quit a bad habit or walk a little each day.

I had a friend who quit smoking. He said he had read a book and the book suggested to make a list of the things he hated about the habit. He did this. Then the book suggested that he promise to quit someday! Not that he was going to stop that minute, just make up his mind to quit someday. Well that someday finally came. He ran out of smokes at home - it was pouring rain outside and he didn't want to go out to the store. He made it through the night. He had a lot of support. His wife and son were always gently reminding him of his promise to quit. One day led to another and finally the chain was broken! Now after many years the smell of that smoke is an irritant. So make up your mind to quit or start your new routine SOMEDAY and tell somebody. You don't have to start it today, just someday and sooner or later you will.
I think making that list of the bad reasons why you want to break the habit or the good reasons why you want to start one is really important. It helped me and I still have the list!

Man's Best Friend

We have all read or heard somewhere that pets are really good for us. Dogs, I guess, seem to be one of the most able of pets to join the family group. Perhaps that is because they come from a hierarchy that has alpha leaders and if trained correctly will become a loyal and even hard working part of your family. They can give comfort, protect, be playful and even be sympathetic to your moods. Whole industries have risen to keep that relationship alive and well. The dog food industry has grown to produce not only nutritious and healthy food, but the pet stores that carry it have added a myriad of supplies, clothing and toys for you to develop a stronger relationship with your pet. Of course we can't forget the veterinarians that help us take care of the health issues of our dogs. These men and women play a major role in helping us keep our pets healthy.

So when your pup wants to go for a walk perhaps he is not only thinking of his health, but your good health too.

The Laughing Place

The hospital's consulting dietician was giving a lecture to several community nurses from the Livingston County area of Michigan.
"The rubbish we put into our stomachs and consume should have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is terrible. Fizzy drinks attack your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with msg. Vegetables can be disastrous because of fertilizers and pesticides and none of us realizes the long-term damage being done by the rotten bacteria in our drinking water. However, there is one food that is incredibly dangerous and we all have, or will, eat it at some time in our lives.

Now, is anyone here able to tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

A 65-year-old nursing sister sitting in the front row stood up and said, "Wedding cake."

Larry was an old piece of rope who steps into a bar one day for a drink. The bartender looks at him suspiciously and says, "Hey, Pal, we don't serve ropes here."

Larry steps outside, ties himself into a clove hitch and unravels one of his ends into a feathery mess. He goes back inside and in a low voice says, "Beer, please." Bartender says, "Hey. aren't you that rope who was just in here?" Larry replies, "No, I'm a frayed knot." GROAN. . .

This grasshopper walks into a bar and the bartender says, "Hey, I have a drink named after you!" The grasshopper looks confused and says, "You have a drink called Irving?"

A police officer attempts to stop a car for speeding and the guy gradually increases his speed until he's topping 100 mph. The man eventually realizes he can't escape and finally pulls over. The cop approaches the car and says, "It's been a long day and my shift is almost over, so if you can give me a good excuse for your behavior, I'll let you go."
The guy thinks for a few seconds and then says, "My wife ran away with a cop about a week ago. I thought you might be that officer trying to give her back."

A bear walks into a bar and says, "Give me a whiskey and…(pause)…… cola." "Why the big pause?" asks the bartender. The bear shrugged. "I'm not sure; I was born with them."

WORDS & PHRASES: HOW THEY CAME TO BE.

Pull Out All the Stops

Meaning: Make a very great effort to achieve something.
Origin: Organ consoles have knobs that are called 'stops'. With them the organist can play at a much higher volume, so 'pulling out all the stops' would let the organist squeeze the maximum volume out of the instrument.

Run Amok

Meaning: Behave uncontrollably and disruptively.
Origin: The saying comes from the Malaysian word amoq, which describes the bizarre behaviour of tribesmen who, under the influence of opium, would become wild and attack people.

Rest on Your Laurels

U.S. ARMY FEMALE FIELD GRADE / GENERAL OFFICER SERVICE HAT

Meaning: Be so satisfied with what one has already achieved that one makes no further effort.
Origin: Since ancient Greece laurel branches symbolized victory and success. This plan was closely tied to Apollo, the god of music, prophecy and poetry. Laurel branches were given to victorious athletes in ancient Greece and later to generals who won important battles, thus the term 'laureates' and the phrase 'resting on laurels'. In the 19th century, the term received a negative connotation to describe those who are overly satisfied with their achievements.

Called on the Carpet

Meaning: Being severely reprimanded by someone in authority.
Origin: Like many idioms, the precise origin of this one is not entirely certain. While nowadays the expression is used to refer to a reprimand, originating from the days when a servant was called from their bare-floored quarters to get an ear-bashing from the boss in carpeted opulence, there is an alternative theory to its true origins. The word 'carpet' used to refer to a thick cloth that could be placed anywhere, often on a table. Therefore 'on the carpet' used to mean that an issue was on the table, or up for discussion.

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Talk to me about DRONES

Today drones are seen virtually everywhere. Today, these flying machines are excessively used across multiple sectors, including military, agriculture, photography, image segmentation and intelligence, construction, livestock mapping, terrain mapping, and many more. Also, we are witnessing the rise of AI drones, which is pushing drone technology into a new era. Here are some impressive stats reflecting the dominance of drones in today's world;

The total number of drones in the USA is expected to reach nearly 9 million by the end of 2021.

AI drones is expected to become the mainstay of precision agriculture in the next five years, which is crucial to meet the future food security for the growing global population.

Currently, nearly 10% of Americans own a drone.

50% of Americans are expecting drone deliveries to become the norm in coming years.

The global drone industry is expected to reach over 100 billion USD by 2021, the military being the primary user of the technology.

The agriculture drone market stands at over 1.5 billion USD and is expected to reach 5 billion USD by 2024.

Excerpted from an article by Muhammad Imran in Folio3

Not only are drones being used militarily, but there are some unique uses. Take for instance thermal images taken by drones can be used to check out apartment buildings for below average heat in the winter. These facts can then be crossed checked with occupants that are over a certain age. People aged over 75, living alone in poorly insulated houses are very likely to require an emergency admission to hospital within the next 12 months, so are perfect for proactive preventative action.

Airports have long had to deal with the issue of birds flying near airports to prevent bird strikes. It is not uncommon for planes to suck in a bird or flock of birds (think "Miracle on the Hudson") and lose control of the plane due to engine damage.

Not only is this extremely costly, it is obviously also very dangerous for the passengers and plane.

Some airports use specially trained falcons to control bird populations. One company went a step further: they use electronic falcon drones to chase away unwanted birds! These specialty UAVs are actually shaped like peregrine falcons, painted like falcons and even fly like falcons!

They are built by Dutch company Clear Flight Solutions and recently employed by Canadian company Aerium Analytics at the Edmonton International Airport with great success!

How to Communicate with Your Group

The art of communication is really an art - a lost art!
I don't know of anyone who has the perfect way to get in touch with their members in a short period of time. Oh of course we have smart phones, texting, phone calling, e-mailing and for each of these methods there are reasons for many why they don't work. How many times have you heard - "you didn't get my email ? - check your spam box!"

I don't know about you but I get text messages that don't give a name, I don't recognize the phone number, are not in my contact list and so I don't respond. Mail, although slow, gives you a good chance of getting your message at least in the hands of the person intended.

Tame your technology. It's great to send e-mails, texts and IMs to your remote group, but if you really want to get the best from them, give the best of yourself with an occasional handwritten note of appreciation or a grateful voice message. Going old school can get you new, improved results.

Personally I like the way the Senior Centers do it. They mail a monthly calendar to each member. This is something that each recipient can keep on their desk or table for future reference. This is often supported by advertisers who target seniors for their services. Here's another thing that works **- Robo-Calls.** These short messages of important information when heard are always very effective. Yes, they cost money, so do stamps and postcards - but what does it cost you not to get your message out? Look at it this way if your message isn't getting heard maybe the folks don't want to hear it! Those that do want to hear it will find a way. Just don't make it too tough for them to get through to you!
The best chance of getting your message heard and understood is face to face.

Every ten years, monks in a monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words. Ten years go by and it's one monk's first chance. He thinks for a second before saying, "Food bad." Ten years later, he says, "Bed hard." It's the big day, a decade later. He gives the head monk a long stare and says, "I quit." "I'm not surprised," says the head monk. "You've been complaining ever since you got here."

Art Corner

jOHN WILLIAMS
Master Musical Artist

John Towner Williams is an American composer, conductor and pianist. Williams was born in 1932 in New York City. In 1948, the family moved to Los Angeles where John attended UCLA, and studied composition privately with an Italian composer.

In 1951, Williams joined the U.S. Air Force, where he played the piano and brass and conducted and arranged music for the U.S. Air Force Band. In 1955, following his Air Force service, Williams moved to New York City and entered the Juilliard School, where he studied piano. During this time Williams worked as a jazz pianist in the city's many jazz clubs. After his studies at Juilliard and the Eastman School of Music, Williams returned to Los Angeles, where he began working as an orchestrator at film studios.

In Hollywood he gained notice for his versatility in composing jazz, piano, and symphonic music. In 1974, director Steven Spielberg approached Williams to compose the music for his directorial debut, ***The Sugarland Express***. They teamed up again a year later for Spielberg's second film, ***Jaws***.

John Williams directing Star Wars

During the same period, Spielberg recommended Williams to his friend and fellow director George Lucas, who needed a composer to score his 1977 space epic film ***Star Wars***, for which Williams won an Academy Award. In a career that has spanned seven decades, he has composed film scores that are considered the epitome of film music and he is considered among the greatest composers in the history of cinema. In the new millennium, Williams scored the first three film adaptations of the ***Harry Potter*** series, and the score to Spielberg's next film ***The Fabelmans***, which was recently released.

Williams has announced his intention to retire from film score composing after the release of ***Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*** in 2023 to focus on composing independent orchestral and symphonic pieces. Williams has composed numerous classical orchestral works, and from 1980 to 1993 he served as the Boston Pops' principal conductor, and has been a guest conductor around the world.

In 2005, the American Film Institute selected Williams's score to 1977's ***Star Wars*** as the greatest film score of all time. He has composed the score for nine of the top 25 highest-grossing films at the U.S. box office, and has been nominated for 52 Academy Awards, winning five. With 52 Oscar nominations, Williams currently holds the record for the most Oscar nominations for a living person and is second only to Walt Disney for total nominations!

WE SUPPORT THE ARTS

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THE LOCAL
People, Places and Things - Oh My!

For a lot of reasons you may miss a copy of **The LOCAL**. I will guarantee you get yours by just e-mailing me at **wizardpmb@provide.net** and I will send it out to you each month.

Ralph LeRoy - Editor

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? RIDDLE ME THIS ?

1. - George, Helen, and Steve are drinking coffee. Bert, Karen, and Dave are drinking soda. Using logic, is Elizabeth drinking coffee or soda?

2. - Two fathers and two sons went fishing one day. They were there the whole day and only caught 3 fish. One father said, that is enough for all of us, we will have one each. How can this be possible?

3. - Some months have 30 days, some months have 31 days. How many have 28?

4. - Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday?

5. - Eight years ago, Bill was eight times the age of his son Bill Jr. Today, if you add their ages together, they add up to 52. How old are Bill and his son?

6. - Three playing cards in a row. Can you name them with these clues? There is a two to the right of a king. A diamond will be found to the left of a spade. An ace is to the left of a heart. A heart is to the left of a spade. Now, identify all three cards.

Answers Below

1. - Elizabeth is drinking coffee. She has the letter "E" in her name twice like the other coffee drinkers.
2 - There was the father, his son, and his son's son. This equals 2 fathers and 2 sons for a total of 3!
3 - They all do
4- Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.
5 - Bill is 40, and Bill Jr. is 12.
6 - Ace of Diamonds, King of Hearts, Deuce of Spades