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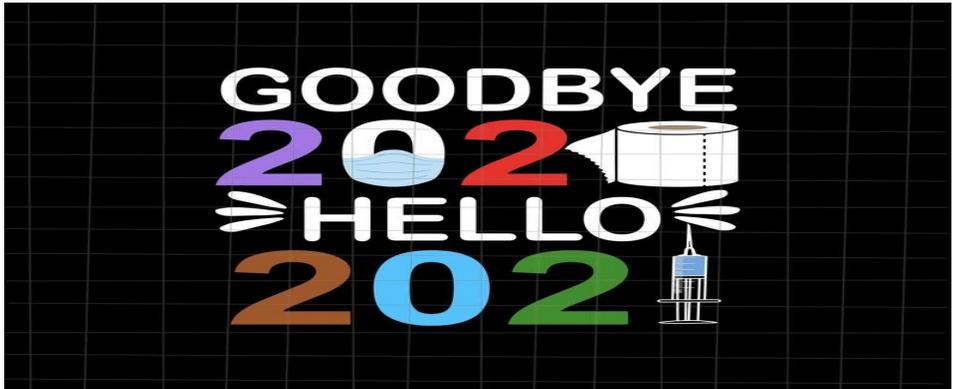


THE LATCHFORD AND AREA

MOOSE CALL



January 2021



COUNCIL MEETING FOR JANUARY TO BE HELD ON THE 21ST @ 6:30PM VIA TELECONFERENCE. MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE.

LEGION MEETING ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS.

LATCHFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS.

Just Passin Through Again

Wow! I have experienced a lot in small town politics since beginning in 1965 but 2020 gave me more firsts to deal with than all the other years combined, I believe. Ending the year in a two week lockdown, which I would not be the least bit surprised to see extended, kind of wrapped up a one of a kind year in the life of a lot of people, I am sure. It is further unfortunate that we really are not sure of what to expect in the coming year. Let us all hope that by complying with all the guidelines provided to us that we can get ahead of this Covid pandemic and get our respective lives back to as close to normal as possible and as quick as well. As it is, all of Northern Ontario is in lockdown until January 09, unless that time frame gets extended.

There is still no news on the natural gas front but communications with senior levels of government dried up considerably over the holidays so hopefully positive developments await in that regard. The funding required to install the UV treatment facility on the treated discharge from our sewage plant is being finalized and is comprised primarily of grants from senior levels so we hope to be moving on that as early as possible. This requirement is being imposed by the federal government and after having the treated effluent enter the Montreal River for 45 years with no measurable negative impact, I am little surprised by this requirement. I well recall that when Council expressed their concerns to the design firm of Knox, Martin and Kretch during the planning about the level of treatment being applied we were assured that the treated effluent was safe enough for us to drink! I also recall that none of us took them up on the offer to do a taste test at the official opening! I dare to say that some group of bureaucrats concocted the necessity of these upgrades to justify their continued positions.

The Latchford Recreation Committee, utilizing funding from the Government of Canada that was received for the 2020 Canada Day celebrations that had to be postponed, found the appropriate time to hold that celebration and it was New Years Eve. They funded a full half hour of fireworks that were very capably detonated by the Latchford Volunteer Fire Department to the rave reviews of all of us fortunate enough to watch them. Even those unable to attend were able to view the event on Face Book. And, speaking of the Fire Department, Chief Mike Beaupre and his team have completely closed in their north addition and are working on finishing the interior. It is another significant project that will realize completion in 2021 and one that all ratepayers in Latchford have to appreciate for the very cost effective manner that it was accomplished in by the LVFD. Happy New Year yet again!

Take care and stay safe. **George L.**



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RATES BY DAY/WEEK/MONTH

From the kitchen of Diana

Page 3

Happy Robbie Burns Day, January 25th

Burns Night is annually celebrated in Scotland on or around January 25. It commemorates the life of the

bard (poet) Robert Burns, who was born on January 25, 1759. The day also celebrates Burns' contribution to Scottish culture. His best known work is Auld Lang Syne.

Traditional Scottish Shortbread

Kimberly Killebrew

Perfectly crumbly, irresistibly buttery and wonderfully delicious, Scottish Shortbread has been a favorite treat for

centuries! Makes 18 pieces Prep. 10 min. Bake 30 min.

2 cups (240 grams) all-purpose flour

2 sticks (230 grams) quality unsalted butter, cubed and softened at room temperature (the better the butter, the better the shortbread)

1/2 cup (120 grams) caster sugar (or pulse granulated sugar in a blender until very fine. Do NOT use powdered sugar)

1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Butter a 8x8 or 9x9 inch square baking pan. You can also use a round cake can and cut the shortbread into triangles.

Place the caster sugar, flour, salt and butter in a food processor and pulse until it's combined and looks like coarse breadcrumbs but is soft and pliable and comes together in a dough when you press it together between your fingers. If it's too dry and crumbly it needs to be pulsed a bit longer. (If using any add-ins, stir them in at this point.)

Pour the mixture into the greased baking pan. Use your fingers and hands to firmly press down the mixture.

Note: If the mixture is too dry to work with, including pricking with a fork (see below), then it

was not pulsed long enough in the food processor.

Optional: Prick the shortbread with the tines of a fork, creating rows. Some people also like run a knife between each row of fork tines to make cutting the shortbread easier after it's baked.

Place the shortbread on the middle rack and bake for 30-35 minutes or until light golden and firm. Let cool. Cut and serve. Store the shortbread in an airtight container for up to several weeks. Its flavor and texture improves over time.

Scotch Broth

800g lamb on the bone

3 medium sized carrots, peeled, diced

1 turnip, diced (or a swede which would be more traditionally used in Scotland)

2 onions, peeled, diced

1 leek, white part only, sliced

100g pearl barley

100g dried peas, soaked in water for 4-5 hours, drained.

salt

freshly ground black pepper

Chopped parsley

One splash of Scotch whisky (optional)

Place Lamb in a large pan and cover with water, place heat to around medium. Dice the turnip, 1 of the carrots and the onions, grate the other 2 carrots and slice the leek. When the pot is simmering add the above veg and skim off any froth as it cooks. Rinse the barley and peas (post soak) and add to the pan together with the chopped parsley.

Leave to simmer for around 2-3 hours, remembering to stir occasionally and skim of fat and froth with a wooden spoon. Add the salt and pepper. Stir more often towards the end of cooking time as barley may stick to base of pan. Remove the lamb 15mins from the end and let it cool a little before **Continued on page 11...**

To state that 2020 was a very tough year for Legion Branches across Ontario, at least, would be an understatement to the extreme. There were times when we were denied many of our revenue sources such as our bar, events including cards, darts and Horseshoes. We were unable to host suppers which is a significant fund raiser for our Branch and hall rentals were out as well so we were open sporadically but, like the rest of Temiskaming, ended the year in lockdown. While all of this is transpiring, we still have fixed costs to deal with from utilities and insurance to regular essential maintenance. There has been a commitment from Dominion Command to assist all Branches and that funding has been applied for but as of this writing has not been forthcoming. A recent article in the North Bay Nugget indicates that North Bay's Branch 23 is closing as they are unable to respond to difficulties that, while they started before the pandemic, have apparently been finished by it. A core group of members are doing their utmost to ensure the continuance of Branch 629 so please wish us well.

Lest we forget
Comrade Sheila Belanger
1st Vice
Ladies Auxiliary
President George Lefebvre
Branch 629

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Leslie-Ann Thomas
(Montessori, OCT)
Ontario, Canada



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GLOBAL WARMING AND ME

When I arrived from England at Toronto Airport in 1969, we had to walk across the tarmac to the Customs and Immigration Building. A heat wave was going on at the time, and the sun hit me on the back as I walked. My reaction to this was: "Wow! Free heat!"

You see, in England, you had to pay through the nose for every single B.T.U. of heat you ever used. I remember my daughter paddling into our bedroom on a winter's morning and huffing a circle in the frost so she could see the world outside. My girlfriend's father was a doctor who home-visited old people and he told me they were so cold, the regular medical thermometer couldn't read their temperature. He had to use a photographic one.

When we were in our rented house in Burlington, I thought the thermometer on the wall was broken as the temperature it showed was so high. "I'll take it," I thought. The fact that I was earning four times the money for the same job was insignificant compared to this.

Now, after years of living in the bush, I feel the cold more than I did before, which I suppose is the price of living as long as I have. However, I was still able to shovel our first snowfall out of the driveway, so I guess I'm not old yet. But the world is warmer than it was.

Our nearest neighbour in the bush chatted about his truck starting when it was fifty below and the mercury hit thirty two below a couple of times our first winter there. The snow was on the ground from the first of October to the end of April. I learned the hard way there's a difference between "As soon as the soil can be worked" and "When the frost is out of the ground." What price a packet of seeds for that lesson, huh? Not my first taste of Humble Pie.

But there's no doubt that the world's warming up and warming fast, too. I heard on C.B.C. Radio that they predict there'll be no

summer ice in the Arctic in ten years time. Sea front property in Florida, anyone? It's really cheap right now. The mind boggles.

I'm so glad I live here, in the Near North. Some tree expert on the radio was rattling on about global warming causing forest fires to happen so frequently that the jackpine will not have time to grow big enough to make seed cones in between. Having lived close to the forest for fifteen years, I dispute this. The first trees to grow after a fire, or after clearcutting for that matter, are poplars, masses of them. These are so wet, they're pretty well unburnable compared to conifers, so they'll form a protective blanket for the jackpine and the rest to grow and reach maturity. Booklearning doesn't always cut it, you know. I learned that in the first three months of my job as a Metallurgical Engineer.

I was on a steelmaking floor and the Sample Passer, the king of the whole operation, took me to one side and said: "Charlie. I've been here thirty years and you've been here less than a couple of months, and you're telling me how to make steel?" A better lesson in three minutes than any number of years of schooling.

So where all this global warming will really take us, nobody knows. I suppose all we can do is pray for the best and hope it works out somehow.

**Hoping for a Happy New Year, everyone,
Charlie by the lake.**

P.S. I'd like to thank everyone for following Covide 19 health guidelines. We have one or two cases reported here on C.J.T.T., as opposed to thousands every day in Southern Ontario and hundreds of thousands daily in the U.S.A. Well done, folks, I'd say. C.W.E.J.

Rhonda's Garden Tip

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Garden Tools Reinvented Cont.d

I'm not quite finished with Christmas yet, here below are pictures of a garden tool reinvented to fit the season. The saying is "I'm not asking you to reinvent the wheel", but for this month's tip, that's exactly what I'm suggested to do to reinvent something that you already have or create something designed for a different purpose. In this project below the traditional purpose of a metal garden rake is to be used as a tool to work and maintain the garden. However, if we reinvent the design, it then becomes something totally different, like a deer.

It starts by loosening the metal clamp around the base of the rake's fingers. The face of the deer can now be pushed outward. The clamp now becomes the nose of the reindeer, fastened into place. The once was fingers of the rake can be left straight to become the antlers, or bent and spread out to be able to hold lights (shown in pictures). Next, let's create the neck and body of the deer. Starting at the head go less than half way down and squeeze the handle pole with a vice or pliers to flatten the bar, but not all the way. Flatten just enough, so you can bend the neck upward. The tail is done the same way. Leave the body of the deer the longest section. Then squeeze and bend the bar upward to create the tail as the smallest section (see photo). The legs are the final part of this project. The legs are simply 2 metal handles pinched and flattened in the center to bend in half. Do not flatten the handle all the way or else the metal will split when you try to bend it. Once the bend is done, clamp the legs down, so you can drill holes through all four metal sides about an inch down from the bend. Then, drill 2 more holes on the body where the legs will be fastened. Choose a long enough nut and bolt (14/20 threaded rod) that will go through the leg and body to secure into place. Angle the front legs forward and the back legs backward to balance the weight of the deer, and to stop the head from toppling over on its face. You may want to add a heavier wire between the legs to strengthen the position of the legs. All done. The tail already has a plastic piece on it from the original handle, and so do the feet. All that is left to do is add lights and a Rudolph nose, or leave as is to enjoy anytime of the year! Thanks to the helpers Bill and Trev for their help assembling this project.

Material Needed: Small metal rakes from the Dollar Store, 2 metal handles from any hard ware store (not too thin of metal), 14/20 threaded bolts and nuts to fasten legs to the body.



Bye for now
Rhonda

Subscribers News

Despite being in lockdown the weather we have been enjoying has provided a great start to the New Year here in Latchford. We have had very mild temperatures and snowfall has been minimal. The sledder's and ice fishermen have had a rough start to their season as the ice is thin and the slush is very prevalent at this time. Needless to say the snow depth is a long way from the needed level to groom the snowmobile trails in this area. That avoids one problem that has reared its head further north, as in the Cochrane area, where the trails are groomed and attracting sledder's from southern Ontario where Covid is much more prevalent.

Renewals continued throughout the holiday season with Marjorie (Lingenfelter) Boucher of London, ON renewing for two more years and gifting her friend JoAnne (Proulx) Jelly of New Liskeard with a two year subscription. Jim Saunders from over in Sault Ste Marie renewed for two more years as did Brendan Latchford of Stoney Creek. Of note is the fact that Brendan is a descendant of Judge F. R. Latchford for whom our town is named.

Our realtor lady, Laurie Christo of New Liskeard renewed for another year as did Terry (my nephew) and Sharon St Jean of Calgary. Also in this month was a renewal from Deborah Rancuk of Cobalt who owns and operates White Mountain Publications in the Silver Town. Worth mentioning is the fact that Deborah carries many of the titles that used to be available from the Highway Book Shop making a visit there well worthwhile. Rounding out the month was a one year renewal from a long time subscriber and my former neighbour, Norman Faulkner of Larder Lake.

I want to extend a big thanks to all for your continued interest and support as well as the extra so many send. On the health and fitness front it took on a bit of a personal touch this month when my baby brother, Basil, entered hospital on Christmas Eve and was discharged on New Year's Eve. Well on the road to recovery now under the guidance of Frannie. Not so lucky and still in hospital at this writing is Debbie McKenzie who had the misfortune to break her ankle immediately following Christmas. Adding to Deb's misfortune is that she had to go to North Bay for surgery. To the foregoing and all others who may be ailing or infirm, a speedy return to good health is wished by all readers.

In closing, please take care, stay safe and join me in hoping that the rest of 2021 remains lockdown free and a year from now the pandemic will be in our rear view mirror!

George L.

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NOTICE

The Latchford Recreation Committee would invite residents to consider joining their group, as several members have resigned and some are moving away, so very few members will remain. Should they not be able to recruit more people, this organization could very easily fold and this would be very detrimental to the children and adults of Latchford as they provide many activities for all ages throughout the year. Call Sharon @ 705-676-1115 Town Office @705-676-2416 to join up!

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C l a s s i f i e d s

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All ads must be in by the 23rd of each month to be published in the following month's newsletter. Articles may be edited for space

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S u b s c r i p t i o n s

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CONTRIBUTURS: Sharon Lefebvre, George Lefebvre, Monique O'Shaughnessy, Edith Rabillard, Sheila Belanger, Bill Vandenhooogen, Laurel Gadoury, Jaime Allen, Frances Lefebvre, Rhonda

Editorial Policy

: We will not print any news, items, letters, or otherwise containing slanderous, defamatory, or injurious information in reference to the character of any person or entity. The writer of all articles must be identified when items are submitted but may request to remain anonymous in print. All such requests will be honoured.



The Latchford Volunteer Fire dept. would like to thank everyone who has donated pop cans and aluminum products over the years. We will no longer be accepting any more of these donations. Please put your pop cans out with your regular recycling. Thank you again for your support.

PUBLIC NOTICE

STORAGE AVAILABLE

Winter Storage available for boats, cars, trailers, ATVs etc.
Fees are \$15.00 per foot


Diane Armstrong's book *Over the Hill III - \$20 Mud, Muskeg & Mosquitoes*
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Letters to the call.

Hi Sharon;

I have enclosed a cheque for my subscription for two years and I would like to add a subscription for JoAnne Jelly for two years as well.

Happy New Year and let's hope it will be a better one!

Take care,

Marjorie Boucher

Dear Sharon;

Please find enclosed payment for the Moose Call for the year 2021. The extra is for the coffee fund.

Hoping to make it down there for a visit come the end of this pandemic! To all of you down there and all of the Moose Call readers a Merry Christmas and the best in the new year.

Norm Faulkner

Fun Facts

1. Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
2. No number from 1 to 999 includes the letter "a" in its word form.
3. Edgar Allan Poe married his thirteen-year-old cousin.
4. Jupiter is twice as large as all the other planets combined.
5. The Super Soaker was designed and invented by a NASA engineer.
6. Flamingos can only eat with their heads upside down.
7. Salt used to be a currency.
8. Alaska is the only state whose name is on one row on a keyboard.
9. There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.
10. There are 32 muscles in a cat's ear.
11. The chicken and the ostrich are the closest living relatives of the Tyrannosaurus rex.
12. Junk food is as addictive as drugs.
13. The largest bill to go into circulation in the U.S. was a \$10,000 note.
14. In most advertisements, including newspapers, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10.
15. A cubic inch of human bone can bear the weight of five standard pickup trucks.
16. A dragonfly has a lifespan of only one day.
17. Honey is the only food that does not spoil.
18. Toy Story helped sell the Etch-a-Sketch.
19. 4 out of 5 children recognize the McDonald's logo at 3 years old.
20. Barbie and Ken broke up in 2004. (Don't worry. They got back together in 2011.)
21. One single teaspoon of honey represents the life work of 12 bees.
22. It's impossible to tickle yourself.
23. It's also impossible for you to lick your own elbow.
24. Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.
25. Pope John Paul II was an honorary Harlem Globetrotter.
26. Mulan has the highest kill-count of any Disney character.
27. 3.6 cans of Spam are consumed each second.
28. The average American looks at eight houses before buying one.
29. Chalk is edible.
30. Most pandas in the world are on loan from China.
31. Oreo has made enough cookies to span 5 back and forth trips to the moon.
32. Dr. Seuss invented the word "nerd."
33. A giraffe can go longer without water than a camel can.
34. Due to a genetic defect, cats can't taste sweet things.
35. Queen Elizabeth II is a trained mechanic.
36. Cap'n Crunch's full name is Captain Horatio Magellan Crunch.
37. Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.
38. The average American spends about 2.5 days a year looking for lost items.
39. Apple seeds contain cyanide.

Over the Hill by Diane Belanger Armstrong

Fond memories a prevailing theme during these holidays

As we enter another new year, the coronavirus is still in our future for the immediate present, so there isn't much to think about except remembrances of the past. That was the prevailing theme of most conversations over the holidays as we chatted with friends and family. Of course, many of those memories included ways we remained in contact before and during the festive season.

Lucky for one family, for they recalled someone meeting them at the local train station, then travelling by horse and buggy to the farm, where they were greeted warmly by grandparents and shown their beds in a loft over the kitchen. The next day, with the turkey roasting in the oven, aunts, uncles and cousins arrived, all bearing gifts and food which had been prepared in their own kitchens. It was a time long ago when transportation included a train and horses.

As the calendar moved forward, transportation included buses and cars. Locally in town we walked to houses of friends and shared our holiday greetings in person.

Later on, our families grew and moved far away. For those able to drive the long distances from a city to their homes in the small towns they left behind, it was often through blizzard conditions of blowing snow and travel delays. Those more fortunate could buy airline tickets and still arrive home for the holidays, but for those with several children, costs determined a change of plans. But we still had that desire to communicate with our loved ones.

Some families would wait until 6 o'clock when the long-distance telephone rates were lower. Everyone in the family was instructed on what to say, and to say it quickly so that the bill which came in January wouldn't be competing with the next month's rent payment. Others sent their telegram of greetings to family. Yes, those were the days when Morse Code was used by telegraphers along the rail lines and the telegraphers were on

duty – even on Christmas Day.

We also kept in touch with old friends and neighbours with Christmas cards. The cards were bought in large quantities in November and between baking holiday goodies, it was usually the task of the females to begin writing individual notes in each card, putting them in envelopes and attaching stamps. Mailed in early December, all families welcomed the newsy cards as they arrived in mailboxes.

As we entered the age of electronics, we were introduced to cassette tapes. Cousins talked to cousins, siblings sent greetings to siblings and the tapes were mailed. Because these recordings were made on unpredictable radios with on/off buttons, start/record buttons, quite often an announcer's voice would interrupt to tell the temperature in downtown Calgary or Halifax or there would be snippets of music, but they were treasured for their personal contact with those "from home" – in spite of the recording errors.

Computers came along and sending a mass e-mail of holiday greetings replaced the huge volume of cards once mailed by Canada Post. For those still sending cards, it was easier to buy pre-printed greeting cards with the family names already printed on the inside. Computers also made it easier to make a master list of names and addresses, print the list on a sheet of self-sticking labels, ready to apply to the front of the envelopes. No hand-written notes. A hundred or more cards could be ready for mailing in less than a half-hour. Gone was the personal touch.

This past holiday season has forced us to slow down and reflect on the past. We have realized that in spite of all the restrictions surrounding us today, we still need to communicate. We need to feel the comfort of family and friends. Therefore, as we have left the world of trains or horse and buggy and plunge into the era of Facetime, ZOOM, Skype and Messenger, that gap has been bridged beautifully. Seniors living alone have been able to share in the joy of seeing, for the first time in months, great-grandchildren squealing with delight **continued on page 11....**

From the kitchen continued.....

removing the meat from the bones. Discard the bones. Cut the meat into small pieces and add to the soup. Taste the soup, season with salt and pepper if necessary and serve.

Note about last month's Coconut Ice candy recipe. I made it on December 19th and it turned out very good. Hope yours did too if you decided to try it. With a half tin of condensed milk left over, I wished I had doubled the recipe. I didn't have any pasteurized egg whites or meringue powder, so I boiled an egg for 3 and a half minutes keeping the water at a constant 142 degrees using a candy thermometer and managed to sterilize the egg white without cooking the egg which was the goal. This white and pink candy would be a sweet and attractive treat for Valentine's Day.

Fond memories continued.....

over gifts brought by Santa. Computer screens cannot replace real hugs, but as the 1965 long-distance telephone commercial once said, "It's the next best thing to being there." And today you don't have to talk fast or be afraid of the bill that will come next month, for next month you can tune in and do it all over again.

A wise person once told me, "This is not the year to get everything we want. This is the year to appreciate everything we have."

That's my view from Over the Hill.

Funny

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" "That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies. After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

Q: Why couldn't the leopard play hide and seek?

A: Because he was always spotted.

Q: What starts with E, ends with E, and has only 1 letter in it?

A: Envelope.

In a Catholic school cafeteria, a nun places a note in front of a pile of apples, "Only take one. God is watching." Further down the line is a pile of cookies. A little boy makes his own note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Math Teacher: "If I have 5 bottles in one hand and 6 in the other hand, what do I have?"

Student: "A drinking problem."

My friend told me he had the body of a Greek god. I had to explain to him that Buddha is not Greek.

THE DAM DEPOT

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Funny

During lunch at work, I ate 3 plates of beans (which I know I shouldn't). When I got home, my husband seemed excited to see me and exclaimed delightedly, "Darling I have a surprise for dinner tonight." He then blindfolded me and led me to my chair at the dinner table. I took a seat and just as he was about to remove my blindfold, the telephone rang. He made me promise not to touch the blindfold until he returned and went to answer the call. The beans I had consumed were still affecting me and the pressure was becoming unbearable, so while my husband was out of the room I seized the opportunity, shifted my weight to one leg and let one go. It was not only loud, but it smelled like a fertilizer truck running over a skunk in front of a garbage dump! I took my napkin from my lap and fanned the air around me vigorously. Then, shifting to the other leg, I ripped off three more. The stink was worse than cooked cabbage. Keeping my ears carefully tuned to the conversation in the other room, I went on releasing atomic bombs like this for another few minutes. The pleasure was indescribable! Eventually the telephone farewells signaled the end of my freedom, so I quickly fanned the air a few more times with my napkin, placed it on my lap and folded my hands back on it feeling very relieved and pleased with myself. My face must have been the pic-

ture of innocence when my husband returned, apologizing for taking so long. He asked me if I

had peaked through the blindfold, and I assured him I had not. At this point, he removed the blindfold, and twelve dinner guests seated around the table, with their hands to their noses, chorused, "Happy Birthday!"

A mom texts, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?" He texts back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later." The mom texts him, "It's ok, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too."

Three dead men go to hell at the same time. There is a white man, a Chinese man, and a Mexican man. Satan tells them that they can only leave hell if he can't do what they ask. The white man asks for the fastest sports car in the world; he goes to into hell. The Chinese man asks for the most advanced computer in the world; he goes into to hell. The Mexican man gets a glass soda bottle, farts into it, closes the lid, pokes many holes in the lid, and asks Satan which hole the fart came from. After pointing to every hole on the lid, the Mexican turns around, points at his butt hole, and says, "Nope, this one."

Teacher: "Which book has helped you the most in your life?"

Student: "My father's check book!"



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Contact Me:

Mobile: (705) 648-0011

Main Office: (705) 647-6444

Email: lchristomrg@gmail.com

Fax: (705) 647-6419

Website: www.mrgi.ca