



Recipe Corner

Yes, I am still using my pasta machine for egg spaghetti with sweet Italian sausage and my basil infused special sauce.



Son Chris and sidekick Finley had great luck with Iowa pheasants. Looking to trying my air fryer rotisserie.



My sidekick Duke and great luck we had with MN grouse in 1969. Golden Retrievers and hunting are obviously family traditions.



11.18.2023 #409

*All the news I see fit to print.
Freedom of the press belongs to those who own one.*

Politicians seem to screw up everything they touch. Their monopoly on governing has no incentive to be efficient, effective, accountable nor to improve our lives because they are funded by taxes we pay involuntarily, or we get put in prison. Here are egregious examples:

The problem: Oakland has too many guns!

Their solution: Offer \$250 for every gun.

It turns out a lot of guns aren't worth \$250. But they were that day! People drove for hours—even from other states—to sell their old junk that had been collecting dust, generally not the kind of weapons used to perpetrate a crime. The program was estimated to cost \$50,000, but the police department quickly ran out of cash and had to issue IOUs totaling roughly \$170,000. Some guns were bought by guys who walked the line offering to buy specialty items.

The problem: Farmers in Afghanistan growing poppies for the illegal drug market.

Their solution: Cash for Poppies, a \$30 million program to pay farmers \$700 an acre to destroy their crops.

Turns out, you can't get paid to destroy your poppy crop if you don't have a poppy crop. Poppy cultivation exploded, with many thoughtful Afghans making sure to harvest and sell the valuable sap on the black market before destroying the remaining plants to comply with the program—getting paid twice for the same crop.

I will briefly mention the ban on the AR15 rifle the government tried when there were 400,000 “known”.

There are now more than 20 million “known”.

No wonder that poor citizen can't sleep while congress is in session.

ON BULLSHIT

Harry G. Frankfurt

This was written by Emeritus Professor Harry G. Frankfurt of Princeton University. It's a small book with big ideas. Still available from Amazon books. My copy came to me decades ago and prompted me to try my hand. I'm still refining it from the 1994 first effort to the recent update in 2019.

Current title: **How To Start (or fix) Your Business** and includes the internet as the newest tool for entrepreneurs.

The intro states very firmly:

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all.

I've worked with literally hundreds of startups and shaky companies (300+ as an SBA certified counselor within SCORE) and came up with 23 steps in four categories that includes the mistakes and the absolutely necessary things I discovered over the years.

Like this newsletter, The Book is a source of enjoyment for me. I'm retired so won't take on clients but will provide pro bono advice to any brave entrepreneur willing to tackle a new venture in the current political and economic chaos. Free pdf copy (245 pages/4mb) for those brave souls...or anyone curious about the subject.

Just shoot me an email requesting a free copy.



**If you follow your heart,
take your brain with you.**

**No, it's not a disorder.
It's my personality.**

**No amount of evidence
will ever convince an idiot.**
(Mark Twain)

**Life's two problems:
Difficulty sleeping.
Difficulty waking up.**

**Computers are like
snowmobiles: six hours of
maintenance for
ten minutes of riding.**

**People who claim to know
everything don't know
when to shut up.**

**Startup company could
convert landmines into
prayer rugs...prophets
through the roof!**

**Most people don't know
what's happening and don't
even know they don't know.**

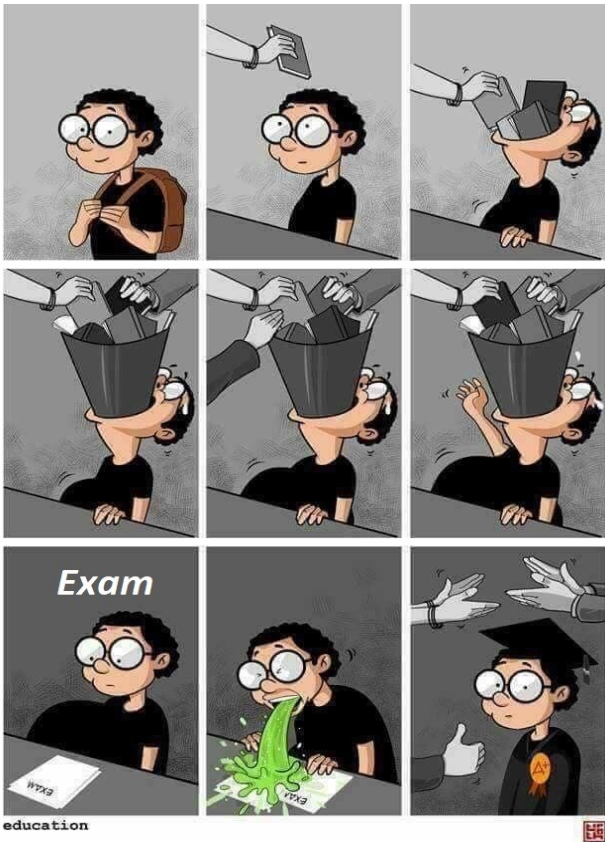
**If someone shows you
their true colors,
don't try to repaint them.**

**Why do people who form
opinions without proof
demand proof
that they are wrong?**

**When will Republicans
check into rehab for their
addiction to losing?**

**Most colleges charge a lot
to isolate their students
from reality.**

**And to repeat:
it's the opposite
of kidnapping. If you don't
pay the tuition, they send
your kids back home.**



The average inflation-adjusted cost of private K–12 schools in the 2019–20 school year was \$9,709 per student. In contrast, the cost for public schools was \$17,013 per student—or 75% more than private schools. The cost of public schools continues to rise (your property tax) even while some states will experience a drop of over 10% in the number of students. ACT test scores drop to lowest level in 30 years. The average scores in three of the four subjects featured on the test - mathematics, reading and science - were below the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. The benchmarks are the minimum ACT test scores required for students taking the test to have a high probability of success in college.

The average ACT test score for students in the class of 2022 dropped to its lowest level in more than three decades 42% of students failed to meet any of the ACT's subject benchmarks in English, reading, science and math, which are minimum test scores required for students to have a reasonable chance of success in typical first-year college courses.

Homeschooled students score about 72 points higher than the national average on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). The average American College Test (ACT) score is 21, while the 19.5 for public schools is their sixth consecutive year of declines in average scores. 85% of students are enrolled in public schools, 9.6% attend private schools, and the 5.4% for homeschooled up from 3.3% pre-Covid.

Our Department of Education hard at work.

Tidbits

(a small and particularly interesting item of gossip or information)

You could fill a line of dump trucks 8,333 miles with the road salt used in the United States annually. That's more than 22 million tons used each winter. **Now you know why your car is rusting.**

Catholic Church Will Now Allow Transgenders to be Baptized and Serve as Godparents; transgender children Can Also Be Baptized.

$35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V0.16) + 0.4275T(V0.16)$ is the equation used to compute wind chill.
Have at it Gracie!

MN prosecutor claims George Floyd died from asphyxiation because Officer Chauvin's knee was on his neck. Then why could George talk to Officer Chauvin?

Auto thefts are a record 7,000 year-to-date in Minneapolis; crime is up in seven of eleven categories. Voters installed a new city council for a "more nuanced" approach to law enforcement. *Duh?*

Despite plans to improve profitability, the U.S. Postal Service has revealed that it lost \$6.5 billion.

Just a damn minute!
It's a SERVICE established before we even had a nation.
(thanks Ben Franklin).

Name any other bureaucracy that "makes a profit". That \$6.5 billion is a subsidy by the government for a great Postal Service!

Until next week...

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*This newsletter is published Saturday mornings by subscription. email me requesting to be added. Or visit my blog.
Please feel free to pass it on.*