



Things I really miss about life these days

There are a lot of things I really miss about my life these days. Like being able to jump over a two-foot creek and being able to bend down without falling over. When a 100-yard dash wasn't considered a marathon. When big stories were scarier on Halloween than the actual truth.

When the legend gets bigger than the truth, well, go with the legend. When the truth gets scarier than big stories, well, I'm sticking with the big stories. Partly because I want to believe, as my dad said to me when I was wimping out, "there's nothing in the dark worse than you." There's a bunch about the dark that's changed in the last 60 years!

Halloween in my life was considered the start of the triple header of holidays, backed up by Thanksgiving and the best of all, Christmas, when even the heathens running the school had to give up a few days of not knocking things into my head.

Oh, we looked forward to Halloween, even if it didn't mean any days off school. Halloween was when you could get into mischief and generally get a "get out of a good whipping" card for free. Knowing that a good whipping was generally defined as "pretty darn close to drawing blood." You could still get smacked around good, though.

But, hey, it was mostly all in fun. Two parents talking: "Did you have to smack your kid around after Halloween?' "Yeah, but just for the usual stuff. Kids these days don't seem to be able to come up with anything new. No imagination.

I'm sure it was the same in every house in my neighborhood. Mothers would ask, "Do you have your costumes?" We'd hold up a mask we'd worn several years, or one traded for or handed down. "Oh, good. Those old pillow cases make good bags for treats, don't they!"





Then our dads would look serious and tell us about all the scary things we needed to look out for in the dark of Halloween. Things like witches, ghosts, goblins, devils, spooks and ghouls, and the occasional ogre, similar to the one that had taken over my sister's body when she was a baby.

We shook and trembled and rounded up every flashlight and battery to be had short of actually stealing most of them. Wrapped in our fear and excitement we were off to create begging and mayhem, neither of which were felonies or misdemeanors at one time.

Flash ahead to today. Parents bundle their kids up and put them in the family car to make the rounds of a few houses occupied by people known and trustworthy. There are no stories about ghosts and such. Nope. Now parents warn kids about being scooped up by perverts who will kidnap them, rape them, torture them, dismember them and scatter their bones in places never to be found.

HOLY CRAP! There is something in the dark that's worse than a kid! I agree. It is time we start lying to our kids and give up the truth and go with the big stories.

Oh, don't worry. There's nothing in the dark but some witches, ghosts, goblins, devils, spooks, ghouls and the rare, nearly extinct

FRACKS IN THE SAND Ken Beauchamp

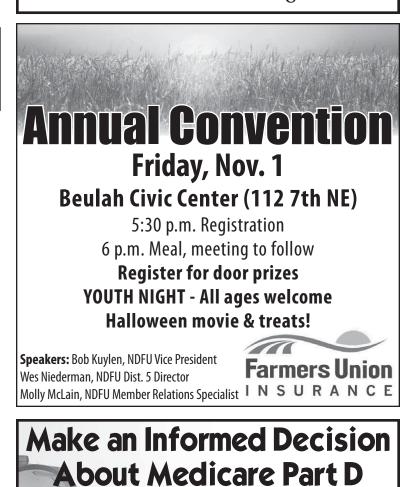
(said to be in a nursing home in Oklahoma, actually) ogres.

Who would have thought that the scary movies that began appearing in the '60s and really accelerated into things like the "Texas Chain-saw Massacre" would begin to resemble documentary presentations?

Think about it. What would a really scary costume look like these days if we went with the truth and didn't kind of stick to the traditional devils and witch get-ups? How many costume stores and even a Walmart want to have masks that look like human skin and buckets of almost life-like blood to spruce up Halloween?

Yep, when your loving school teacher, or Officer Friendly, or the neighbor next door is REALLY the scariest thing on the planet? I mean, what's the incentive to dress up like that!

I always thought of my dad as the ultimate realist and wonder what he'd say today if he was sending me out for a night of Halloween fun today. Probably something like, "Okay, kid." Remember, don't trust anybody you've never seen me drink whiskey with. And hang onto your flashlight, and don't use this gun unless you absolutely have to. And try to get me a few Almond Joys. I love those!"



October 15 - December 7

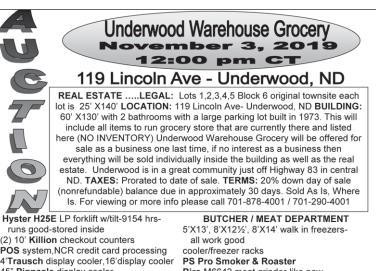
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Berkel V14-4150 meat band saw Berkel M 909/1 meat slicer meat tenderizer-elect. Colosimo press Dick sausage stuffer, patty maker 2 & 3 sink stainless steel sinks 2', 5', 6', 8' stainless steel counters freezer wrap & dispensers, string 71/2' butcher block counter, lots knives Metlar Toledo scale, cutting boards mixing tubs, butcher knives, meat saw BAKERY Nu-Vu full height convection oven/proofer

(2) Nu-Vu full height proofing cabinets (3) Nu-Vu full ht end bun/full sheet pan racks
(2) Alfa M 625-A Hot Seal wrappers Whirlpool stove, Smart Touch scale 4'7" donut display 2 door cabinet 50+ full & 60+ half baking sheets muffin tins, bread pans, pie pans, foil pans foam trays, cake boxes, styrofoam cups misc disposable food storage containers CATERING RELATED APW Wyott 2 soup cooker/ warmer Tru 3 burner slow cooker buffet server 2 propane turkey fryers, coffee pots 11 electric roasters, 3 elect skillets 3 Hamilton Beach crock pots-NIB

7 crock pots, pressure cooke 2 lge soup kettles, microwave

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Friday, Oct. 25 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. • Hazen City Hall

Fall Luncheon

Soup, sandwiches and assorted pies

Hosted by Linda Beyer and Rosemary Sailer

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 Catering and Homemade Baked Goods Bee's • Holiday pies • Christmas candy trays • Wedding Package Deals

Any questions please call 745-3733

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Nov. 6 – 11 a.m. Loren and Kristen Henke Auction, Baymont Inn & Suites, Mandan. Pifer's Land Auctions, pifers.com • 877-700-4099.

December 7th, 2019 @ 10 AM MT Offering: 161 Guns, Buckskin Bar & Grill, 64 Central Ave S, Killdeer, ND. Wolff Auctioneers

by December 15 for new coverage to start January 1, 2020. CCCHC has Certified Application Counselors to assist you with finding quality coverage at a price you can afford. Please call Kara at 873-7486 for more information!

FESTI-FALL CRAFT SHOW & COAT GIVEAWAY – November 9

Festi-Fall Craft Show & Coat Giveaway will be held in the SMC Main Galleria on Saturday, November 9th from 10 AM - 4 PM. Enjoy your favorite Holiday shopping while supporting local charities. SMC employees would also like to encourage those in need of a warm coat to come and grab one! Bring the family to visit with Santa from 12-2 PM.



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Event sponsored by: Thrivent Financial



Traveling duo brings song and laughs

By Daniel Arens

Clashes and harmonies come together as the Double Double Duo comes to Hazen next week.

The performance is the second concert of the four Mercer County Concert Series shows in the 2019-20 year. The concert will be held Oct. 31 at Hazen High School, starting at 7 p.m.

The duo consists of clarinet/piano player Kornel Wolak balancing out the music of accordion/piano player Michael Bridge. Wolak and Bridge used comedy, virtuosity and musical sensitivity to bring their broad repertoire of music to life. Of Polish origin, Kornel Wolak is currently involved with research on the role of oral articulators in clarinet playing for the Speech-Language Pathology Department at the University of Toronto. Michael Bridge hails from Alberta, and was named one of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's "30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30." Both have entertained people around the world, performing their all-original arrangements of classical showpieces, sensitive jazz ballads and fiery folk music.



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