

Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

November 2021

Draft Horse Passion Leads to 'Mid-Life' Investments

Around the age of four he had a set of reins in his hands and has never let go. He is often referred to as "the guy that lives over by Hay Springs with the horses". John Hahn lives and breathes draft horses. "I am the third generation Hahn to raise Percherons," said the proud Hahn, who was born in Gunnison, Colo. in addition to living in Missouri for four years before residing in Sheridan, Wyo. "There was a demand for Fox Trotters around the Big Horn Mountains, therefore my dad raised several," said Hahn. The "traveling horses" were sold to a lot of hunters. "They (Fox Trotters) always three feet on the ground which make them very smooth moving.

"I was in the sixth grade when my parents moved to the Chadron area where my dad worked for the Forest Service in addition to running a saw mill," he explained. Hahn graduated from Hay Springs High School in 1980 and married Guylia Alcorn in 1982. The young couple started in a trailer house down the road from where they now live. A few years later they moved a house from Chadron to where it is currently located. The couple raised three children there. Unfortunately Guylia lost her battle with cancer in 2002.

Hahn married Molly (Wild) Yankton 15 years ago in



John Hahn and "Bob", one of several Percherons he treats just like family. Hahn lives southwest of Hay Springs with his wife Molly in Dawes County.

June. She also has three adult children, making a blended family of six kids and 13 grandkids.

During Hahn's entire adult life he has raised Percherons and now has 15 along with one saddle horse. He is one of a few that still raises old style working and they are now in big demand. "Ever since Covid hit, the market has gone crazy," said Hahn.

Recently he confesses he has had a mid-life crisis and made some expense investments. The first of which is something he is quite proud of. While he owns a variety of horse equipment including buggies, wagons, rakes, hitchwagon, disks, plows, drills, side stacker... he found something unique that captured his attention. He found a new mower in which only seven have been built so far by an Omish man by the name of Jonas Schlabach, owner of Family Farm Innovations, located in Millersburg, Ohio. Hahn first spotted it in his Draft Horse Journal in a Horse Progression Days article. Family Farm Innovations bought components and started putting them to together to create this one of a kind device. Of the seven that have been made, about half were sold to Amish and the others to "Englishmen". The Hahns went to Ohio in May to purchase his 'mid-life crisis toy'.

"It was quite an investment and I have to hay quite a few acres to justify it," said Hahn. It has taken him most of the summer to practice with the horses and work the bugs out, but he believes he will be ready to demonstrate the new mower next summer. The push-horse mower mows 24' wide, (Continued on Page 2)



John Hahn with his grandson Rowdy Binger getting ready to drive the mower into a field this summer.

Draft Horse Passion-

(Continued from Page 1)

while a traditional tractor pull mower may vary from 14'-18', sometimes as high as 28'. "The four horse team can go about 2.5 miles per hour which averages about eight acres an hour. He was able to mow about 50 acres of his 750 acres with the horses this summer. "I would like to be able to do 250 with the horses," said Hahn. He struggled some for awhile getting with the front bar adjusted on the mower but has it figured out now. Prior to his new mower, he mowed with an International #9 high gear with his two horses, Grace and Joy. Yes, of course, all the horses have names!

Something Hahn finds fascinating is that there are countries where horse drawn equipment is the new technology.

Hahn loves his horses and is by no means ready to cut back. His midlife crisis didn't stop with the mower, he is in the process of purchasing eight more Percherons out of British Columbia. "Molly has been on the phone the past two weeks organizing the transaction," he explained. "Since I don't have all of the Covid immunizations, we have to have them transported to a party in Sweet Grass, Mont. after they have all the proper testing requirements."

John confessed to spending quite an amount of time on the phone with potential horse clients and pur-



The mower attached to a team, from left, Bob, a 4-year old stud, Belle, 12-year-old mare; Joyce, 12-year-old mare and Betsy, two-year old colt.



John Hahn demonstrating some of the controls on his new Family Farm Innovation horse drawn mower which lift and steer the mower which is operated by a 20 hp Honda motor. It is equipped with safety equipment so if his foot comes off the pedal it automatically stops since the last thing you want is a runaway.

chasing studs themselves. They have done some extensive travelling delivering horses the past few years, one recent trip to Alabama.

The Hahns have been known to take horses and carriages to many parades in the area including, Chadron, Hay Springs, Crawford, Gordon and Gering. He has had requests for funerals and weddings. "I enjoy showing off the horses," said Hahn. "Next summer I want to be able to demonstrate the new mower with the horses, not so much to promote the machine just be able to share it with area draft horse owners and anyone else that is interested."

"With the modern technology, there is still a day and time horses are beneficial," he ended.

John's children include Jake who lives in Gillette, Wyo.; Jenni Anderson, Rapid City, S.D.; Jessi Mackey, Douglas, Wyo. Molly's children include Jessi Binger, Hay Springs; Shay Yankton, Chadron; and Cody Yankton, Salt Lake City, Utah.



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Along The Garden Path

-by Karen Runkle, Master Gardener

Time for Thanksgiving

November is a month of Thanksgiving. Not only the holiday but I hope you spend time being thankful for the many blessings that you receive each day of the year. It seems that we notice that nasty hailstorm or the crop that failed and those things do affect our lives but now I want to look at the things for which we can be thankful. It seems every day I can find blessings that I certainly didn't deserve or work for but they seem to be there just the same.



As a gardener I am thankful for many things. I am thankful for the pumpkins, gourds and colored corn I am using now to decorate my home. I am thankful for the mums and gaura that seem to continue to bloom despite the colder weather. I am thankful for the wild places and the people who work to keep them wild. I am thankful for the animals and birds that take shelter in those wild places. My gardening gratitude journal continues:

I am grateful for

- The stinky smell of manure as it becomes the sweet black gold of compost.
- The smell of freshly turned soil on that warm spring day.
- The taste of the first strawberry of the season
- The taste of the warm tomato right out of the garden
- The first fall frost so I can put my garden to bed and rest
- Garden catalogues that pile up in the winter so I can dream of next year's flowers and vegetables.

- That bears and rattlesnakes are not on my list of garden pests
- The fresh green salad harvested all from my spring garden.
- The squash and potato soups we enjoy in the fall, all products of my garden
- Sitting in the evening on the lawn chairs enjoying the night coming in.
- The bees that buzz happily in my gardens as they pollinate my crop
- Spring flowers that pop up magically after a long cold winter
- The 10 foot pampas grass that grew so majestically.
- The rows of canned produce that will be enjoyed all winter
- The wild berries such as gooseberries, chokecherries, and plums that grow without any of my help.
- The four seasons of gardening: spring – hurry and get it planted; summer – water, weed, and harvest; fall – more planting, more weeding and more harvesting; and winter – finally time to rest, reminisce and plant next year's "do over".
- Plants that thrive despite my neglect
- That eating machines called caterpillars miraculously turn into exquisite flights of fanciful butterflies.
- The freedom to grow vegetables because we want to, not because we have to
- For my failures so I can learn
- For my loving husband who smiles and supports me through my next hairbrained idea.
- The beautiful rainbow at the end of a welcoming rain.

May this season bring you rest, joy and May you find yourself thankful for life in the garden.



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Northwest Rural recommends that all disconnects on your irrigation system be shut off during the off-season. Temperature shutdown safeguards may protect you "providing they work".

Shutting your system off is the only truly dependable safeguard. This will prevent systems equipped with auto-restart switches from inadvertently starting should a bump or surge occur on the main power line. Besides preventing unwanted system startup, this may also prevent electrical equipment damage.

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Use Precautions While Decorating Your Home for the Holidays

Cherished family memories often involve the twinkling lights of decorations inside and outside the home. Don't let the bright and colorful sparkle of the season distract you from taking the precautions you need to stay safe when decorating. Northwest Rural P.P.D. and Safe Electricity offer these tips as you prepare for the holidays.

If you are using an artificial tree, make sure you choose one with fire resistance protection. With a real tree, make sure the needles are green and sturdy with a trunk that is sticky with resin. These are indicators that your tree is well-hydrated. Keep your tree stand filled with water so the tree does not become overly dry and present a fire risk.

Never place your tree near heat sources, such as fireplaces, space heaters, or radiators, which can become fire hazards. Also, keep your tree away from drapes or curtains. And always know the location of your fire extinguisher.

Person inspecting a strand of holiday lights Any lights to be hung either inside or outside the home should have a label indicating they have been certified by an accredited independent testing laboratory. Make sure the lights are rated for the location in which they will be used, whether indoors or outside. Before hanging your lights, check the strands for broken bulbs as well as fraying or bare wires that could pose electrical dangers. Always replace damaged products.

If you need to reach overhead, do not stand on a chair or desk;

use a step stool or ladder. Use one with a study base, and place it on a stable surface. After mounting the ladder, always climb facing toward the rungs.

Typically, one extension cord should have only three strands of lights connected to it at most, but you should also check that the extension cord is rated for its intended use. If you need to use extension cords for outdoor decorating, use only heavy-duty cords designated for outdoor use. Never run extension cords under carpets, through doorways, or where they could be damaged by furniture.

When decorating outside, always be sure to look up and double check that you and any equipment, such as a ladder or a light strand, are a minimum 10 feet away from overhead power lines. This includes the service connection to your home.

When securing light strands, never staple or nail them into place, as this could damage the product. Instead, rest the cords on the nails or tacks, or use plastic clips instead to avoid problems.

Ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlet Outdoor lights and decorations should be plugged into an outlet with ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection. GFCIs are inexpensive electrical devices which can be installed in a home's electrical system or built into a power cord to protect against electrical shock. A GFCI constantly monitors the flow of electricity through a circuit and will shut the circuit down if it senses a ground fault.

Be sure to turn off all lights before leaving the home or going to sleep. A timer can help you do this. Leaving your lights on continually presents the risk of lights shorting out and resulting in an electrical fire.

Northwest Rural and Safe Electricity hope your season will be merry, bright, and safe. For more information on electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Article and images courtesy of SafeElectricity.org. with modifications by NRPPD.



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Northwest Rural Territory Activities

Gordon-Rushville Mustangs

Wed., Nov. 3 ASVAB Juniors, 8 a.m.
Thurs., Nov. 4 WR (MS) G-R Invite, 1 p.m.
 Nov. 5-6 State Volleyball at Lincoln
 Sat., Nov. 6 Unified Bowling Tourney at Scottsbluff, 12 p.m.
 Tues., Nov. 9 WR (MS) at Valentine Meet
Thurs., Nov. 11 GBB (MS) vs. Bennett County, 6 p.m.
 WR (MS) at Hemingford Invite, 11 a.m.
 Nov. 12-13 FFA - Pathway to Careers Conf.
 Sat., Nov. 13 GBB (MS) at Bennett Co. Jamboree, 10 a.m.
 WR (MS) at Chadron Invite, 10 a.m.
 United Bowling Tourney at Alliance, 11 a.m.
Mon., Nov. 15 Start of Winter Practice
Tues., Nov. 16 GBB (MS) vs. St. Agnes, 5:30 p.m.
 Wed., Nov. 17 FFA District LDE at CSC, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Nov. 18 GBB (MS) vs. Hay Springs, 5 p.m.
 Sat., Nov. 20 GBB (MS) at Valentine Invite, 10 a.m.
 WR (MS) at Alliance Invite, 10 a.m.
 United Bowling Tourney at North Platte, 11 a.m.
 Mon., Nov. 22 GBB (MS) at Chadron, 5:30 p.m.
Nov. 24-26 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
Mon., Nov. 29 Classes Resume
 WR (MS) at Bayard Invite, 10 a.m.
Tues., Nov. 30 GBB (MS) vs. Valentine, 5 p.m.
 Wed., Dec 1 Unified Bowling Districts, tba
 Thurs., Dec. 2 WR (MS) at Bennett Co. Invite, 5 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 3 GBB (MS) at Hemingford, 6 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 4 G&B BB (JV-V) at Hemingford, 3 p.m.
 WR (JV-V) at Broken Bow, 9:30 a.m.
G&B BB (JV-V) vs. Ainsworth, 2 p.m.
 Mon., Dec. 6 Unvited State Bowling at Lincoln
 Tues., Dec. 7 WR (MS) at Mitchell Invite, 2 p.m.
 G&B BB (V) at Crawford, 6 p.m.

Crawford Rams

Tues., Nov. 2 Life Touch Picture Retakes
 Nov. 4-6 State Volleyball at Lincoln
 Mon., Nov. 8 One Act Play at Scottsbluff, tba
Health & Dental Screenings, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
 Thurs., Nov. 11 WR (JH) at Hemingford, 10 a.m.
Fri., Nov. 12 GBB (JH) vs. Edgemont, 4 pm
Mon., Nov. 15 Winter Sports Practice Begins
 Tues., Nov. 16 GBB (JH) at Hemingford, 4 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 18 GBB (JH) vs. St. Agnes, 4:30 p.m.
 Fri., Nov. 19 One Act PanCo at Morrill
 WR (JH) at Morrill, 9 a.m.
 Tues., Nov. 23 G BB (JH) at Sioux County, 3 p.m.
Nov. 24-26 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
 Mon., Nov. 29 WR (JH) at Bayard, 9 a.m.
 Thurs., Dec. 2 G&B BB (V) at Sioux County, 3 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 4 WR (V) at Hemingford, 5 p.m.
 WR (V) at Mullen, 9:30 a.m.
 G&B BB at Bayard, 2 p.m.
 Mon., Dec. 6 WR (JH) at Bayard, 2 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 7 G&B BB (V) vs. Gordon-Rushville, 5 p.m.

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NORTHWEST RURAL ACTIVITIES

Hemingford Bobcats


Nov. 4-6 State Volleyball
 Thurs., Nov. 4 WR (JH) at Gordon-Rushville, 1 p.m.
 Tues., Nov. 9 FCCLA Mind Bending Conference
Thurs., Nov. 11 WR (JH) Hemingford Invite, 10 a.m.
 Fri., Nov. 12 GBB (JH) at Hay Springs, 2 p.m.
 Sat., Nov. 13 WR (JH) at Niobrara County Invite
 Mon., Nov. 15 WR (JH) at Kimball Invite, 10 a.m.
Tues., Nov. 16 GBB (JH) vs. Crawford, 4 p.m.
 Wed., Nov. 17 FFA District Leadership at Chadron, 9 a.m.
Thurs., Nov. 18 FFA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 Fri., Nov. 19 WR (JH) at Morrill Invite, 9 a.m.
 GBB (JH) at Sioux Co., 4 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 22 GBB (JH) vs. Bayard, 3 p.m.
 Tues., Nov. 23 WR (JH) at Sidney, 3 p.m.
 GBB (JH) at Morrill, 4 p.m.
 Wed., Nov. 24 BB (JH) Jamboree at Crawford, 8:30 a.m.
Nov. 24-26 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Vacation
 Mon., Nov. 29 WR (JH) at Bayard Invite, 9 a.m.
Thurs., Dec. 2 GBB (JH) vs. Gordon-Rushville, 5 p.m.
WR (V) Dual vs. Morrill, 6 p.m.
 Dec. 3-4 WR (V) at Custer Invite
Fri., Dec. 3 G&B BB (V) vs. Gordon-Rushville, 3 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 4 G&B BB (V) at Hyannis, 1 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 6 GBB (JH) vs. St. Agnes, 4:30 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 7 JH-HS Winter Concert, 6 p.m.

Chadron Cardinals

Nov. 4-6 State Volleyball at Lincoln
 Thurs., Nov. 4 WR (MS) at Gordon-Rushville, 1 p.m.
 Sat., Nov. 6 WR (MS) at Scottsbluff, tba
Mon., Nov. 8 Winter Sports Meeting, 6 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 11 GBB (8th) vs. Alliance, 4 p.m.
 GBB (7th) in Alliance, 4 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 12 One Act Dinner Theater, 5:30 p.m.,
HS Auditorium & Commons
 Sat., Nov. 13 One Acts WTC at Alliance, tba
WR (MS) Chadron Invite, 9 a.m.
Tues., Nov. 16 3rd-4th Music Vocal, 6 p.m., HS Aud.
Transition to College, 6 p.m., HS Library
Thurs., Nov. 18 GBB (8th) vs. Scottsbluff, 4 p.m.
 GBB (7th) at Scottsbluff, 4 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 20 GBB (MS) Chadron Tourney, tba
7th at Middle School 9 a.m.; 8th Grade
at High School, 9 a.m.
 Theatre Festival, HS Aud., Gering host
 WR (MS) at Alliance Invite, 9 a.m.
Mon., Nov. 22 GBB vs. Gordon Rushville: 7th-4 p.m.,
8th- 5:30 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 23 WR Scrimmage, MS Gym, 6 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 29 BB Jamboree vs. Bayard, 5 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 30 GBB vs. Hot Springs: 7th Grade A&B:
4 p.m.; 8th Grade A&B: 5:30 p.m.
 Dec. 2-3-4 G&B BB at Scottsbluff Conf. Tourney, tba
 (Continued on Page 8)

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NRPPD AREA ACTIVITIES

(Chadron continued from Page 7)

Thurs., Dec. 2 WR (V) at Gering Dual, 6 p.m.
 Fri., Dec. 3 G&B BB (V) at Conf. Tourney
 WR (MS) at Torrington Invite, 9 a.m.
 WR (V) at Cozad Invite, 9:30 a.m.
 Mon., Dec. 6 WR (MS) at Mitchell Invite, 1 p.m.
 Tues., Dec. 7 **GBB (MS) vs. Gering, 7th A&B in Chadron,**
4 p.m.; 8th A&B in Gering, 4 p.m.

Hay Springs Hawks

Wed., Nov. 3 **PanCo Honor Band at Hay Springs,**
 Thurs., Nov. 4 WR (JH) at Gordon-Rushville, 1 p.m.
 Sat., Nov. 6 WR (JH) at Scottsbluff, 9 a.m.
GBB (JH) vs. Sioux County, 10 a.m.
GBB (JH) vs. Morrill, 4 p.m.
 Tues., Nov. 9 WR (JH) at Hemingford, 10 a.m.
 Thurs., Nov. 11 **GBB (JH) vs. Hemingford, 2 p.m.**
 Fri., Nov. 12 WR (JH) at Chadron, 9 a.m.
 Sat., Nov. 13 **Start of Winter Practice**
 Mon., Nov. 15 FFA - P2C Career Conf. at Kearney
 Tues. Nov. 16 **FFA District Leadership at Chadron**
 Wed., Nov. 17

Hawk Talk at Senior Center, 8 a.m.
 Thurs., Nov. 18 GBB (JH) at Gordon-Rushville, p.m.
 Fri., Nov. 19 WR (JH) at Mullen, 10 a.m.
 Sat., Nov. 20 WR (JH) at Alliance, 9 a.m.
 Mon., Nov. 22 GBB (JH) at Alliance St. Agnes, 5 p.m.
Nov. 24-26 NO SCHOOL - No Thanksgiving
 Mon., Nov. 29 WR (JH) at Bayard, 9 a.m.
GBB (H) vs. Oelrichs, 4 p.m.
 Thurs., Dec. 2 GBB (JH) at Cody-Kilgore, 5 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 3 G&B BB (V) vs. Cody-Kilgore, 3 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 4 WR (V) at Mullen, 8 a.m.
 G&B BB (V) at Arthur County, 3 p.m.
 Tues., Dec. 7 G&B BB (V) at Morrill, 4 p.m.



On the Move

Electricity is the proven home energy safety leader, but you still have to be careful around it. Always look up for power lines when you're moving large equipment. Keep at least 15 feet between you, your equipment and any power line.

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Recipes

**Do you have a recipe
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Army SOS Creamed Ground Beef

- 1 pound ground beef
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cube beef bouillon
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 1 pinch ground black pepper
- 2 ¼ cups milk
- ¼ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Brown beef in a large skillet over medium high heat. Stir in flour, bouillon, salt and pepper. Saute all together for about 5 minutes or until flour is absorbed. Gradually stir in milk and Worcestershire sauce. Bring all to a simmer, stirring constantly. Serve on toast, potatoes or noodles! Cook until thickened, about 5 to 10 minutes. Serve hot!

* * * * *

Blue Cheese Fried Potatoes

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 russet potatoes, sliced into 1/4 inch slices
- 1 large onion, cut into 1/4-inch thick rings
- 1 (4 ounce) package blue cheese crumbles
- 3 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the potatoes and onions. Cook until the onions are golden brown and the potatoes are tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Stir in the blue cheese and bacon, continue to cook until the blue cheese begins to melt. Season with salt and pepper.

Blue Berry Pie

- ¾ cup white sugar
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 4 cups fresh blueberries
- 1 recipe pastry for a 9 inch double crust pie
- 1 tablespoon butter

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Mix sugar, cornstarch, salt, and cinnamon, and sprinkle over blueberries.

Line pie dish with one pie crust. Pour berry mixture into the crust, and dot with butter. Cut remaining pastry into 1/2 - 3/4 inch wide strips, and make lattice top. Crimp and flute edges.

Bake pie on lower shelf of oven for about 50 minutes, or until crust is golden brown.

* * * * *

Slow Cooker Chicken and Dumplings

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 (10.75 ounce) cans condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 2 (10 ounce) packages refrigerated biscuit dough, torn into pieces

Place the chicken, butter, soup, and onion in a slow cooker, and fill with enough water to cover.

Cover, and cook for 5 to 6 hours on High. About 30 minutes before serving, place the torn biscuit dough in the slow cooker. Cook until the dough is no longer raw in the center.

* * * * *

Thanksgiving Refreshment

- ½ cup ice, or as desired
- 8 fluid ounces cranberry juice cocktail, chilled
- 2 fluid ounces sparkling water
- 1 lime wedge

Fill a tall glass with ice; add cranberry juice and top with sparkling water. Garnish drink with a lime wedge.

* * * * *

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November 1: National Family Literacy Day, National Cinnamon Day.

November 2: National Deviled Egg Day, Traffic Director's Day.

November 3: National Sandwich Day, National Housewife's Day.

November 4: National Chicken Lady Day, National Men Make Dinner Day (Must cook. No barbecue!)

November 5: National Doughnut Day, National Love Your Red Hair Day.

November 6: National Nachos Day, Play Outside Day

November 7: National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day, Daylight Saving Time Ends.

November 8: National Cappuccino Day, National Harvey Wallbanger Day.

November 9: National Scrapple Day, Microtia Awareness Day.

November 10: Marine Corps Birthday, National Forget-Me-Not Day.

November 11: Veterans Day, National Sundae Day.

November 12: National Pizza with the Works except anchovies Day, Chicken Soup for the Soul Day.

November 13: National Indian Pudding Day, World

Kindness Day.

November 14: National Seat Belt Day, National Pickle Day.

November 15: National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day, America Recycles Day.

November 16: National Fast Food Day, National Button Day.

November 17: National Take a Hike Day, Education Support Professions Day.

November 18: Mickey Mouse Birthday, Great American Smokeout.

November 19: National Carbonated Beverage with Caffeine Day, Play Monopoly Day.

November 20: Peanut Butter Fudge Day, National Adoption Day.

November 21: National Gingerbread Cookie Day, National Stuffing Day.

November 22: National Cranberry Relish Day.

November 23: National Cashew Day, National Espresso Day.

November 24: National Sardines Day, Tie One on Day - Day Before Thanksgiving.

November 25: Thanksgiving Day, Shopping Reminder Day.

November 26: Black Friday, Buy Nothing Day - Day after Thanksgiving!

November 27: National Craft Jerky Day, Small Business Saturday.

November 28: National French Toast Day, Chanukah Begins.

November 29: Electronics Greetings Day, Cyber Monday

November 30: National Personal Space Day, Stay Home Because You're Well Day.

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Winter Weather Safety and Survival

Winter Weather Safety Kit

The National Weather Service advises you to prepare a readiness kit to prepare for winter storms.

Be prepared, before the storm strikes!

At home and at work, primary concerns are the potential loss of heat, power, telephone service and a shortage of supplies if storm conditions persist.

You should have available:

- A flashlight and extra batteries.
- Battery-powered NOAA weather radio and portable radio to receive emergency information. These may be your only links to the outside.
- Extra food and water. High-energy food, such as dried fruit or candy, and food requiring no cooking or refrigeration is best.
- Extra medicine and baby items.
- First aid supplies.
- Heating fuel. Fuel carriers may not reach you for days after a severe winter storm.
- Emergency heating source, such as a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, etc. Learn to use properly to prevent a fire, and be sure to have proper ventilation.
- Fire extinguisher and smoke detector. Test your units regularly to ensure they are working properly.

In cars and trucks, plan your travel and check the latest weather reports to avoid the storm! Fully check and winterize your vehicle before the winter season begins.

Carry a winter storm survival kit including the following items:

- Blankets/sleeping bags
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Knife
- High-calorie, non-perishable food
- Extra clothing to keep dry
- A large empty can and plastic cover with tissues and paper towels for sanitary purposes
- A can, candles and water-proof matches to melt snow for drinking water
- Sack of sand (or cat litter)
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper and brush
- Tool kit
- Tow rope
- Booster cables
- Water container
- Compass and road maps.
- Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.

Try not to travel alone, and be sure to let someone know your travel plans - your timetable and route.

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Bits 'n Pieces...

Things I'm Super Good At

1. Forgetting someone's name 10 seconds after they tell.
2. Buying produce... and throwing it away two weeks later.
3. Digging through the trash for the food box I just tossed, because I already forgot the directions.
4. Making plans. And then immediately regretting making plans.
5. Leaving laundry in the dryer until it wrinkles. Then turning on the dryer to dewrinkle. Then forgetting it again.
6. Calculating how much sleep I'll get if I can just "fall asleep right now".

* * * * *

Ten things I want my kids to know:

1. Happiness is a lot of work. You can't be lazy or entitled to achieve it.
2. You will make mistakes and they will only define you if you give it that kind of power. If the lesson is learned, the mistake is worth it. It's your choice whether or not it wins. You are not a prisoner to your past and you are allowed to grow.
3. The world owes you nothing. It does not care who you are, where you come from or what you think you deserve. Everything you achieve will have to come from your own dedication to what you love. It will not be handed to you easily.
4. People do not get to tell you who you are. Make peace with your own soul and give no one the power to tell you that you're something you're not. Know who you are and be okay when others do not understand you.



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5. Work hard. Never go into anything with half your heart. Respect is earned by how you did the job and not the title by your name.
6. Show up for your people. No matter what has happened, show up. That's what people will remember about you in the end of all of this.
7. Choose grace for others and for yourself. No one gets it right. You won't either. Bitterness is the anchor to the soul but grace sets you free.
8. Have fun. Be adventurous. None of us are getting out of this alive so make the time you have count with the people who actually matter.
9. Laugh in the good times and the bad. Your sense of humor and your ability to take a punch will set a strong foundation of stability.
10. Love God! He's the most consistent thing you'll ever have!

Happy Thanksgiving!

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Monday- Thursday
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