

THOUGHTS ON SELLABRATION

(Food Show) and trip to LA

I'm typing this on a tablet (Amazon Fire because it's affordable) balanced on arm of chair with my 90 lb. dog sleeping on my lap, who is more attentive since I was gone all day yesterday to our wholesaler's food show, and I didn't do my normal "check-in" at lunch time. And he had to wait until 7:30 before he could eat supper! The Fire has a blue-tooth keyboard so I can type this while balancing it on his back. Cool, huh? As we cross LA, I cannot believe the sea of cars! In front, behind, solid river! Mostly behaving, except for a few.

Josef the navigator is sitting in the back seat, watching the interactive Google map. It tracks traffic volume and tells you best route, time in transit, alternate routes as conditions change. A soothing female voice instructs you even which lane to use for the exit you want. Wonderful, right? We used to listen to KNX or KFI radio, waiting for the periodic updates, listening for the little tones that turned attention to the update. "KFI in the Sky". Remember that? Obsolete now.

Josef noticed that for the first time on the Google maps, there is a speed limit sign in the corner of the screen, and it corresponds to the speed limit signs on the street. It even changes when a new speed limit sign appears. How does it do that?? How does Google maps know what the speed limit on Rancho Rd. in Hesperia, CA, is??? And then as we traveled on toward the 15 Freeway on Hwy 138, where the speed limit is 55, my little Bread Box (Ram ProMaster City -- what a dumb name!) beeped at me and said on its screen "Speed limit exceeded" as I coasted to 70 on a down-slope. How does it do that??



My little van (Bread Box, Shoe Box, Toaster, or Itty Bitty City -- everyone who sees it has a different snarky name for it) has lots of other messages on its little screen. When the temp outside is 35 or below, it tells me "Possible ice on the road". Or when Josef opened the side door to get out, it said, "Left sliding door open". I haven't had it that long, so it keeps surprising me with these messages. Isn't that precious?

How does Google know traffic

conditions so accurately? We discussed ways it might gather data. Does it coordinate with Cal Trans (CT) and use their data collection? What is their method? Does CT have cameras stationed all over the freeway network? Or does Google collect the data some other way and pass it to Cal Trans? Does Google use the GPS from our vehicles or from our phones in a mass data collection and extrapolate from that how traffic is moving and where it is tied up? "In 3 minutes you will encounter a 19 minute delay but this is still the fastest route". Isn't that marvelous?

How big a leap is it for Google to provide enough data and interactivity with our individual phones or vehicles in order for government to know and control our movements? How long before this wonderful stuff gives government a path to tell us where we can or cannot go? What if the neat little automatic door lock on my Bread Box gets linked to this interactivity? What if the doors could be locked against my will and I'm locked in? Think that's ridiculous?

It's all so convenient and helpful. For now. But somewhere "out there", human creatures are sitting in cubicles writing code and building this complex electronic infrastructure that has so much potential, for good for now, and for -- what? -- in a not-so-distant future? Who is it that is creating all of this complexity? Who writes the code that controls the military -- the missiles, the anti-missiles, the fighter and bomber aircraft, even the vehicles used by our guys?

What happens when we have an EMP (electro-magnetic pulse) attack that can take down virtually all electronics in the entire nation all at once? Then what good are these neat little features on our phone, in our cars, on our computers? How will we communicate, or get gas, or see in the dark, or cook?

As I write this and click on "Save", I get this little message that says, "File uploaded". Where did it upload to? So helpful. But somewhere totally unknown to me, this writing is saved, and who's to say how it might be used if I were to venture into politically incorrect topics and express incorrect opinions? And "incorrect" by whose standards? Who is the puppet master calling the shots and determining who of us is good and who is bad?

Don't think this is science fiction. It isn't. It's real. It's here.



And then there was the show itself. A crowded collection of humanity, displays, and food everywhere. So many flavors and varieties and packages to catch the eye. So many brands, each competing to take that dollar out of your wallet. So much of our attention absorbed in the glitter and tasty treats and fun, fun, fun that we don't pay close attention to the questions asked above.

Having grown up in the relatively stable and peaceful fifties, I used to think that all would remain that way and that my life's path would be trouble-free. I trusted in our government and way of life, and believed that we would remain safe and secure in a country run by good-hearted people. It never occurred to me that our way of life would ever be threatened.

Now I don't know. Where are our heads? What are we thinking about? Where are we headed as our lives run their course?

I know where my head is. I stand with God the Father, as we know Him through Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, and I trust that all that we see happening is to be expected, with only one way out -- through Him. That's so refreshing, and gives us something indescribably great to look forward to. Wow!

ROGER STONE ARREST MORE "GOOD" NEWS

The following actually happened in this country a few weeks ago. I mentioned it in one of our weekly articles. It's shocking that this could happen in the U.S.A.! This is from an email from his wife.

By now I'm sure you have heard about the terrifying pre-dawn raid on the house in Ft Lauderdale where I live with my husband Roger Stone.

A little before 6 am twenty-nine assault-weapon-wielding FBI agents in full tactical gear and wearing night vision goggles surrounded our home. Because I am hearing impaired and I was sleeping, I did not hear the commotion when an FBI agent pounded on the door demanding my husband open it, and I did not know he had been handcuffed and taken into custody.

I woke up only when two FBI agents burst into our bedroom and

demanded at gunpoint that I get out of bed. I was marched out to the street in front of our house wearing only a night gown and in bare feet. I was instructed to stand next to my husband who was handcuffed and also barefooted. I am not charged with any crime.

This has to be the most terrifying thing I have ever experienced as FBI agents swarmed into our home after announcing they had a search warrant. . . .

The FBI used twenty nine agents, seventeen vehicles including two armored vehicles, a helicopter and two amphibious units because our rented home backs onto a canal. Every agent was carrying an AK-47



as well as a sidearm. This is a much larger force than that used to capture and kill Bin Laden or arrest El Chapo. It must have cost U.S. taxpayers a half a million dollars.

Even more humiliating, for some odd reason, A CNN camera crew had arrived at our home only fifty minutes before the FBI strike force and was allowed to film the assault on our home and my husband's arrest. . . .

My parents came from Cuba. I can understand how these kind of police state tactics can happen in a communist country but it is hard to believe . . . this kind of brutal assault on a U.S. citizen . . .

After the FBI took my husband away, I was allowed to dress under the supervision of a woman FBI agent who even had to watch me while I used the bathroom. I was not allowed to touch my cell phone even though I could see that my children and grandchildren were calling to see if I was alright. FBI agents tore through every square inch of our home and removed my husband's computers and iPads. They also took my computer which means they got many beautiful pictures of my grandchildren.

I wasn't allowed to turn on the television so I did not see the angry and hateful mob that gathered outside the federal courthouse in Ft Lauderdale where I later learned that my husband was placed in hand and foot shackles and held in a holding cell after being fingerprinted and having his mug shot photos taken.

The FBI spent seven hours tearing through our house . . .

All the charges against [my husband] have been fabricated in an obvious effort to pressure him to turn on President Trump who has been our friend for forty years and who attended our wedding in Washington D.C. 27 years ago. . . .

As my husband has made clear, he simply refuses to make up stories about the President or bear false witness against him in order to please Mr. Mueller who wants to undo the results of the 2016 election and remove our President. . . .

Linda Gammel

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

TUES. JUNE 5, 5 PM.
at the Senior Center

- Report on the Board of Supervisor's Feb. 28 action on RECE Policy 4.10
- Digitizing past L.V. Leaders.
- How to make the L.V. Leader more community oriented?

Who volunteers?

- Update on Calcite Solar Feb. 13 environmental scoping session, and comments.

- Phone meeting with State School Land Commission staff on land exchanges with BLM.

- Caltrans' plans for Hwy 18 through town.

- Set date for Workforce Development panel (County/School Dist./Mitsubishi, etc.).

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, **ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL** (including all flavors or varieties) **OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE**, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

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Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.

Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV **\$1.70/lb**

#1 Plastic CRV **\$1.29/lb**

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