

Stop Talking!!

Rocky, my beloved mutt, lets me know in spades what he wants, what he's thinking, and how he feels. He tells me I'm his person and expresses his affection often. Cynics could say that I bought his favor by becoming his exclusive feeder and caretaker. Yes, I did. Shamelessly.

He does try to talk, and I have no idea how to type his high-pitch singing when I get home.



It's just part of his whole body language that communicates loud and clear, "You're home! You're mine! I'm excited!" (Of course, he does that when he thinks there's a cat nearby, also. Oh, well.)

On the other hand, we humans seem to think we have to express everything in words. Words, words, words, sometimes in a continuous stream, as if the more words, the more your listeners get what you're trying to say. Actually your listeners may have tuned you out at about the second sentence, and your words are lost somewhere in space.

My dad used to say, "The more words, the less truth." I so agree with that! And so now I see that this paper is just filling up with words, so I'm either a liar or a hypocrite! Probably a little of both.

Therefore, I'll stop talking and hope you get the message. . . .



. . . Well, that didn't last long, did it? Unfortunately the written word requires, uh, words. The spoken word involves many other types of communication, including facial expression, voice intonation, body English and more. And as Rocky (and your dogs, too!) so clearly demonstrate, these other modes of communication are often enough, WITHOUT words.

Another type of communication that shouts much louder than words is our actions and the example of our lives. We can talk a good game, and act like we live that, but then if/when we don't live our good words and back them up with our lives, others understand what we just shouted beyond our words: "I am a blithering hypocrite!"

Words can be wonderful or devilish. They can communicate truth and good spirit, or they can be a cover for bad, even murderous spirit. What they can't cover is who we are.

Gommel, my dad, preached a sermon once, "Words are Empty Shells." They become filled with meaning by how we live and what we honestly communicate by our actions and attitudes. Words alone are a poor means of communication, at best, and need to be validated by other means of communication.

"Preach the Gospel, and when necessary, use words." Ain't that the truth? Jesus Himself preached the Gospel, but first performed miracles of healing to signify the validity of His words. The Apostle Paul himself struggled with the issue:

O For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness? (1 Corinthians 4:20-21)

And Jesus' disciple John recognized the importance of our actions as opposed to talk:

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does his love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:16-18)

So now my words must end!

Linda Gommel

On The Porches

Lucerne Valley Fireworks'

QUARTERMANIA

TICKET SALE

February 3, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lucerne Valley Roadrunners'

BAKE SALE

February 3, 2024

8:00 a.m. til Sold Out

HERE'S A FACT ABOUT BACON:



People who eat bacon are less likely to blow themselves up in the name of Allah.

They installed Biden to make the controlled demolition of America appear as incompetence.

You know that, right?

@TheFreeThoughtProject



WE LIVE IN A SOCIETY WHERE PEOPLE USE A \$800 PHONE



TO CHECK THEIR FOOD STAMP BALANCE

Baby Boomers will get this - Too Funny!



I BORROWED THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR AN ART STUDIES DEGREE



NOW THEY WANT ME TO PAY IT BACK!

HOW IS THIS OK?



AND THIS IS NOT?



WHAT HAPPENED TO AMERICA?

I'm not particularly fond of people who fly in private jets to a meeting where they discuss how to take away my car and feed me bugs... but that's just me.



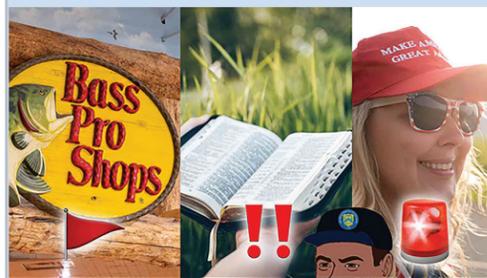
Are YOU a Right-wing Domestic Terrorist?

The following is from "Not the Bee", the straight news site of Babylon Bee, which uses satire to make you laugh at the unfunny news of the day. What is shown here is unfortunately serious and true.

By coincidence, we are entering a new program offered by our grocery (!) wholesaler that involves being able to carry merchandise from Bass Pro Shops. I wonder what they will do to retailers like us who sell stuff from Bass Pro Shops; who sell Bibles (gasp! Did you know we have Bibles here?); and who support MAGA, with or without Trump? We even sell ammo.

Are we ever a target! If someday soon you see a column of smoke and fire where the store used to be, you'll know what happened and who to blame. Not really funny, is it? -- LG

Report: Treasury division told bank to flag terms like "MAGA" AND "Trump" on statements, note Bible and Bass Pro Shop purchases to find "domestic terrorists"



Did you buy a Bible recently? Have you shopped at Bass Pro Shop? Checked into a Trump hotel?

Congratulations! You just made it on a government watchlist! . . .

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is a division of the US Treasury and it wanted financial institutions across the country to turn over customer and client information that could be tied to "domestic extremism."

In other words, FinCEN urged large financial institutions to comb through private transactions of their customers for suspicious charges on the basis of protected political and religious expression.



In other, other words, they specifically targeted religious conservatives.

They also asked to track Americans who spent money on guns and ammo, infringing on 2nd Amendment rights and essentially assuming that people who buy guns are domestic terrorists.

And what legal grounding do the Feds have for this? You guessed it. None!

They just nicely asked banks to turn over this info because of suspected "domestic extremism."

