

GOOD MORNING: 10/26/18 Farm Direction - Van Trump Report

2 messages

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Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 6:02 AM









"People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are they who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them." - George Bernard Shaw

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018

Printable Copy or Audio Version

Morning Summary: Stocks are down aggressively this morning as both Amazon and Google released disappointing earnings after yesterday's close. The Nasdaq looks as if it will continue to have its worst month since the financial crisis. Also keep in mind, the market will be digesting Q3 GDP data today. I'm worried that either way it could be digested as bearish. That's just the mindset of the market right now. If the GDP number comes in too hot, the bears will run with headlines of the Fed continuing to hike rates. If the number comes in weaker than anticipated the bears will run with more "I told you so" talk that the market and the economy has already peaked. Interestingly, Amazon actually reported record setting profits for the Q3. Total revenue increased +29% from last year. North American sales were \$34.3 billion, up +35% from last year, while international sales grew +13% to \$15.5 billion. Analysts were predicting that on a pershare basis, Amazon's profit would be six times larger in the period than it had been in the same quarter a year earlier. It actually reported profits that were more than 10 times larger than the prior year quarter, but instead the trade elected to focus on Amazon guidance for next quarters earnings down -5%, which spooked many traders, especially since that's the "holiday quarter" and is expected to be filled with big buying. I hate looking backwards and talking about what happened overnight, but I think it really explains what I've been talking about for the past several weeks. The market has become much more forward looking in nature and worried about how things will play out as we move towards higher interest rates, higher inflation, rising wages, stronger U.S. dollar, and perhaps increasing tariffs??? Simply stated, the waters ahead look a little rougher than many have been floating through. Experienced guides are guick to try and lighten the load and throw everything overboard that's not tied down. Hence, companies with high flying valuations and a lot of promises and dreams quickly become less important than those trading at much cheaper valuations and generating heavy cash-flow. How long can the trade continue with this mindset? I suspect longer than I can remain solvent. I've paid dearly for that lesson through the years, and that's exactly why I've been preaching for the past several months to lighten the load, become much more selective in your holdings, narrow your scope and approach, switch from a longer-term investing mentality to a trading mentality, increase your drypowder, etc... I will continue to bargain shop on the deeper breaks in price. I will also be switching my approach back towards a longer time span. Looking to buy extremely strong names that the funds simply over-sell. With so many ETF's and computerized trading models, I have to imagine, triggered selling programs could easily throw the baby out with the bathwater. That's where I start to nibble and build longer-term positions in big names. Then I sit and wait, and wait, and wait... I've talked to a few of my stock trading buddies on Wall Street, and most tell me it can take two or perhaps even three quarters for stocks that have fallen out of favor with the algo's and quant programs to turn themselves back around. Think about it, the computers have to accumulate enough headlines and data to turn the ship completely back around. Not human emotions that can often flip-flop on a dime. In my opinion this is why we see many asset classes or markets trade in much longer patterns or directions. When the computers are going our way, we all feel like geniuses and it's great, when they are not trading our direction, it can be extremely frustrating and difficult to understand. The Jessie Livermore quote I ran yesterday was a hit amongst many readers, so I thought I would include a few of my favorites. For those who don't know the story... Jesse Livermore, was born to a poverty-stricken family and moved to Acton, Massachusetts, as a child. He started his trading career at the age of fourteen. With his mother's blessing, Livermore ran away from home to escape a life of farming his father intended for him. He then began his career by posting stock quotes at the Paine Webber brokerage in Boston. Livermore went on to make and lose millions in the market. Some have regarded him as one of the greatest traders of all time. Others point to the markets mentally getting the best of him and his suicide in 1940. There's a book that most all of us who have traded professionally in Chicago or New York have read called "Reminiscences of a Stock Operator," by Edwin Lefèvre, which reflects on many of the lessons learned and documented by Livermore. One of Livermore's favorite books was "Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds," by Charles Mackay, first published in 1841. This was also a favorite book of Bernard Baruch, another famous stock trader back in the roaring 20's. Tired of writing about the same old news, thought I would switch it up a bit... Pick a few of the quotes below and pin them up in your office. I refer to mine often. Have a great weekend!

"After spending many years in Wall Street and after making and losing millions of dollars I want to tell you this: It never was my thinking that made the big money for me. It always was my sitting. Got that? My sitting tight!" - Jesse Livermore

"There is only one side to the stock market; and it is not the bull side or the bear side, but the right side" - Jesse Livermore

"The market does not beat them. They beat themselves, because though they have brains they cannot sit tight." - Jesse Livermore

"The average man doesn't wish to be told that it is a bull or a bear market. What he desires is to be told specifically which particular stock to buy or sell. He wants to get something for nothing. He does not wish to work. He doesn't even wish to have to think." - Jesse Livermore

"Remember this: When you are doing nothing, those speculators who feel they must trade day in and day out, are laying the foundation for your next venture. You will reap benefits from their mistakes." - Jesse Livermore

"If I buy stocks on Smith's tip I must sell those same stocks on Smith's tip. I am depending on him. Suppose Smith is away on a holiday when the selling time comes around? A man must believe in himself and his judgement if he expects to make a living at this game. That is why I don't believe in tips." - Jesse Livermore



led, to be instructed, to be told what to do. They want reassurance.

They will always move en masse, a mob, a herd, a group, because people want the safety of human company.

They are afraid to stand alone because they want to be safely included within the herd, not to be the lone calf standing on the desolate, dangerous, wolf-patrolled prairie of contrary opinion.

Jesse Livermore

Dare to be Different

2018 Van Trump Conference



2018 VAN TRUMP CONFERENCE



On hand will be several leading market analyst, traders and innovators who will be providing their insight and

opinions on both short-term and long-term industry direction and outside investment ideas. You do not want to miss this years special event!

November 28 - 29, 2018



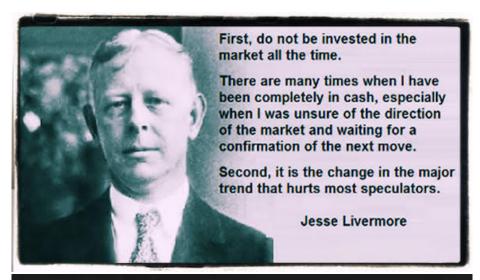
Sit front row in the boardroom with some of the best and brightest! Join us for an exclusively look behind the scenes as several of the top CEO's and leaders openly discuss their next moves in the markets, their current investments, what they see at out on the horizon, along with heated debates about our future.

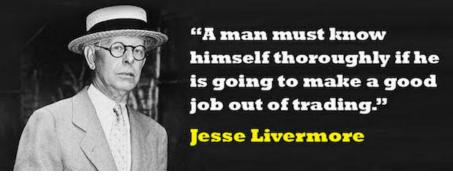
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Molly Bloom - One of the most intriguing stories of the past decade. Her story was recently turned into a major hit motion picture called



"Molly's Game[†]. The true story of "Hollywood's poker princess" who gambled







everything, won big, then lost it all.

"A captivating story that is interesting for a wide audience beyond those who enjoy poker. It's a high stakes adventure providing the layperson a peak into a world few will ever truly know or understand. Molly comes from a family of high achievers. She is no slouch. A champion skier, brains to match. Each time she hit a bump in her life she did not complain, she found a solution with a positive attitude. She offers many fantastic life lessons!"

REDEFINING THE IMPOSSIBLE: "IRON COWBOY"

Don't miss this tale of adventure as James Lawrence 'Redefines Impossible.'

"Meeting the Iron Cowboy had a lasting affect on me. I spent the next few months ruminating about what should be my own personal challenge. James has that effect on you."

"It was like a pep talk for my head. I loved all the real, raw experiences but this also gave me something else that I wasn't expecting. It touched me deeply on a spiritual level and helped me reconnect to my strongest, truest self, someone who now chooses to keep going when life is hard."

"One of the grittiest stories on perseverance I've ever heard. His epiphany that the whole reason quitting is impossible to him is his love for his kids and his wife. That struck an important nerve for me."

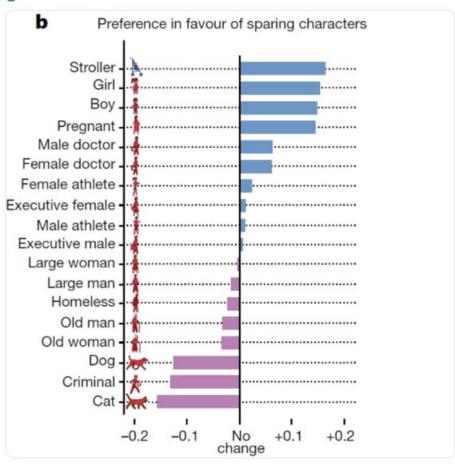
"I think of this story every time something seems too hard or impossible. It has truly changed my life! So blessed to have heard it."







Fascinating new study of millions of people's preferences re who self-driving cars should kill and spare when all lives can't be saved: go.nature.com/204eoEk



2:29 PM - 24 Oct 2018



Weather Wild-Card! Weather guru Dr. Simon

Atkins will be presenting what he is calling one of the most important weather up-

dates and forecasts in years. Join us as he reveals a possible game changer!

Network directly with some of the top CEO's and ag industry executives. Learn first hand how NEW technology and transparency is influencing today's decisions.

Early Bird Special

regular price \$500

Remember we sold out early last year!

LEARN MORE



With Washington's every move impacting our future, it's vitally important that we know the latest developments and better understand future direction. Come listen to our team of insiders provide their latest thoughts.





WILLAg.org - @SecretarySonny says...

- 1) 2nd MFP \$ payment in December
- 2) it is unlikely to vary by region
- 3) no 2019 trade disruption payment
- 4) farmers should respond to market signals adjust production

@ASA_Soybeans @NationalCorn @ilcorn @ILSoybean @ILFarmBureau



6:35 AM - 25 Oct 2018

NETWORKING COCKTAIL EVENT Wednesday, November 28th

Collaboration is the Name of the Game

I recently watched comedian Dusty Slay on the Jimmy Fallon Show, then I saw him again on Jimmy Kimmel. I thought he was funny, so we called him up and booked him for the conference. Come kick back and enjoy the show and some good conversation with friends.

Extend your Network by attending!



MARKETING ROUNDTABLE

Kevin Van Trump, Andy Daniels, Mike Mock, Matt Bennett, Chip Nellinger and Todd Gleason talk about the markets and strategies for reducing risk and improved pricing.













Today In History



1774, American Revolution - The First Continental

Congress sends a respectful petition to King George III to inform his majesty that if it had

not been for the acts of oppression forced upon the colonies by the British Parliament, the American people would be standing behind British rule. Despite the anger that the American public felt towards the United Kingdom after the British Parliament established the



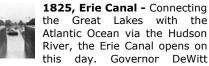


How do you celebrate the end of harvest? This photo was sent to us on Facebook today from Mark Eagleson after completing their 2018 harvest! #harvest18



6:13 PM - 22 Oct 2018

Coercive Acts—called the Intolerable Acts by the colonists-Congress was still willing to assert its loyalty to the king. In return for this loyalty, Congress asked the king to address and resolve the specific grievances of the colonies. The petition, written by Continental Congressman John Dickinson, laid out what Congress felt was undo oppression of the colonies by the British Parliament. Their grievances mainly had to do with the Coercive Acts, a series of four acts that were established to punish colonists and to restore order in Massachusetts following the Boston Tea Party. The first of the Coercive Acts was the Boston Port Act, which closed the port of Boston to all colonists until damages from the Boston Tea Party were paid. The second,the Massachusetts Government Act, gave the British government total control of town meetings, taking all decisions out of the hands of the colonists. The third, the Administration of Justice Act, made British officials immune to criminal prosecution in America and the fourth, the Quartering Act, required colonists to house and quarter British troops on demand, including in private homes as a last resort. The king did not respond to the petition to Congress' satisfaction and eight months later on July 6, 1775, the Second Continental Congress adopted a resolution entitled "Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms." Written by John Dickinson and Thomas Jefferson, the resolution laid out the reasons for taking up arms and starting a violent revolution against British rule of the colonies.



Clinton of New York, the driving force behind the project, led the opening ceremonies and rode the canal boat Seneca Chief from Buffalo to New York City. Work began on the waterway in August 1823. Teams of oxen plowed the ground, but for the most part the work was done by Irish diggers who had to rely on primitive tools. They were paid \$10 a month, and barrels of whiskey were placed along the canal route as encouragement. West of Troy, 83 canal locks were built to accommodate the 500foot rise in elevation. The canal was first proposed in the 1780s, then re-proposed in 1807. A survey was authorized, and executed in Proponents of the project gradually wore down opponents; its construction began in 1817. After more than two years of digging, the 425-mile Erie Canal was opened on October 26, 1825, by Governor Clinton. It was faster than carts pulled by draft animals and cut transport costs by about 95%.[8] The canal gave New York City's port an incomparable advantage over all other U.S. port cities and ushered in the state's 19th century political and cultural ascendancy . The canal fostered a population surge in western New York and opened regions farther west to settlement. It was





Buffalo down:) another happy client and another memory from SA

#michaelkashunting #outdoorgirls #hunter #hunting #huntress ift.tt/2RahuZn



3:39 PM - 23 Oct 2018

enlarged between 1834 and 1862. The canal's peak year was 1855, when 33,000 commercial shipments took place. In 1918, the western part of the canal was enlarged to become part of the New York State Barge Canal, which also extended to the Hudson River running parallel to the eastern half of the Erie Canal. In nine years, tolls had paid back the cost of construction. Later enlarged deepened, the canal survived competition from the railroads in the latter part of the 19th century. Today, the Erie Canal is used mostly by pleasure boaters, but it is still capable of accommodating heavy barges. The canal has 34 numbered locks starting with Black Rock Lock and ending downstream with the Troy Federal Lock. Both are owned by the federal government. In 2000, the United States Congress designated the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor[9] to recognize the national significance of the canal system as the most successful and influential human-built waterway and one of the most important works of civil engineering and construction in North America. The canal has been mainly used by recreational watercraft since the retirement of the last large commercial ship, Day Peckinpaugh, in 1994. The canal saw a recovery in commercial traffic in 2008.



2001, Patriot Act - President George W. Bush signs the Patriot Act, an anti-terrorism law drawn up in response to the attacks on the Pentagon

and World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The USA PATRIOT Act, as it is officially known, is an acronym for "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism." Bush hoped the bipartisan legislation would empower law enforcement intelligence agencies to prevent future terrorist attacks on American soil. The law was intended, in Bush's words, to "enhance the penalties that will fall on terrorists or anyone who helps them." The act increased intelligence agencies' ability to share information and lifted restrictions on communications surveillance. Law enforcement officials were given broader mandates to fight financial counterfeiting, laundering smuggling and money schemes that funded terrorists. The Patriot Act's expanded definition of terrorism also gave the FBI increased powers to access personal information such as medical and financial records. The Patriot Act superseded all state laws. While Congress voted in favor of the bill, and some in America felt the bill actually did not go far enough to combat terrorism, the law faced a torrent of criticism. Civil rights activists worried that the Patriot Act would curtail domestic civil liberties and would give the executive branch too much power to investigate Americans under a veil of secrecy—a fear not felt since the protest era of the 1960s and 1970s when the FBI bugged and infiltrated anti-war and civil rights groups. The Patriot Act has faced ongoing legal



Following

Happiness is a state of mind.

#Happiness #lifejoy #Mindset #mindsetiseverything #MotivationalQuotes

Happiness is a state of mind.



2:19 PM - 19 Oct 2018

neuro mining

As we age, it gets harder and harder to create new neural pathways in the brain. It's the reason kids find it so easy to learn new things, but as adults it often gets more difficult. Doing brain teasers and solving riddles can be an important part of keeping our brain healthy. The more connections we can form, the better our brain will be. I hope this helps provide a little daily fun and exercise. The answer to each riddle or puzzle will be located at the bottom of the report.

TODAY'S RIDDLE:

A zombie and a mummy have a new house and it has all rooms except for one. What room is it?

challenges by the American Civil Liberties Union, and in recent years, some members of Congress who had originally supported the bill have come to mistrust the Bush administration's interpretation of the law. Nevertheless, a Republicancontrolled Congress passed and Bush signed a renewal of the controversial Patriot Act in March 2006. Bush exacerbated the controversy over the renewal of the act by issuing a so-called "signing statement"—an executive exemption from enforcing or abiding by certain clauses within the lawimmediately afterward.

Upcoming Events

Mon. 10/29 - Crop Progress

Wed. 10/31 - Halloween

Thur. 11/1 - Export Sales

Fri. 11/2 - Monthly Unemployment

Sun. 11/4 - Daylight Savings Time Ends (turn clocks back and gain an hour)

Mon. 11/5 - Crop Progress

Tues. 11/6 - Midterm Election

Wed.-Thur. 11/7-11/8 - FOMC Meeting

Thur. 11/8 - Export Sales, USDA Supply and Demand, Crop Production

Mon. 11/12 - Veterans Day; US Markets Open

Tues. 11/13 - Crop Progress

Thur. 11/15 - NOPA Crush

Fri. 11/16 - Export Sales

Mon. 11/19 - Crop Progress, Milk Production

Wed. 11/21 - Cattle on Feed, Cold Storage

Thur. 11/22 - Thanksgiving; US Markets Closed

Fri. 11/23 - Export Sales, Black Friday

Mon. 11/26 - Last Crop Progress, Cyber Monday

Wed.-Thur. 11/28-11/29 - 2018 Van Trump Conference

Thur. 12/6 - Export Sales

Fri. 12/7 - Monthly Unemployment

Tues. 12/11 - USDA Supply and Demand, Crop Production

Thur. 12/13 - Export Sales

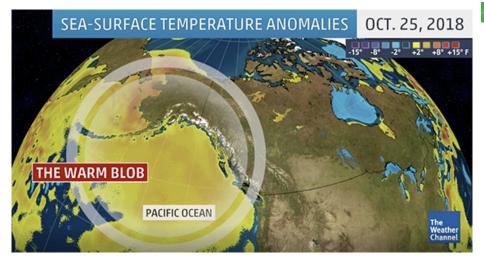
Mon. 12/17 - NOPA Crush

Thur. 12/20 - Export Sales

Fri. 12/21 – Quarterly Cold Storage, Hogs and Pigs, Monthly Cattle on Feed, Personal Income

Weather on the Corn Belt has rain returning to many areas west of the Mississippi River, bringing renewed corn and soybean harvest disruptions. On October 21, the upper Midwestern (Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas) soybean harvest ranged from 36 to 62% complete -- 21 to 36% points behind the respective state 5 year averages. On the Plains, cool but dry weather has returned to Texas, following the most recent round of rain that has slowed fieldwork and threatened cotton quality. Currently, rain has spread northward across portions of the central Plains, hampering harvest activities but generally benefiting winter wheat. A developing storm system along the Gulf Coast will turn northward and produce heavy rain and windy conditions along the middle and northern Atlantic Seaboard on October 26 - 27. Meanwhile, light rain will spread from the central Plains into the Midwest. Rainfall totals could reach 1 to 2 inches across the Southeastern and Atlantic Coast States, with higher amounts possible in coastal New England. Meanwhile, mild, mostly dry weather will prevail across the western half of the U.S., except for periods of rain and high elevation snow from the Pacific Northwest to the northern Rockies. Chilly conditions will linger, however, in most areas east of the Mississippi River.

The Blob is Back and What It Could Mean For Winter Temperatures: A mass of warm water in the northern Pacific ocean known as "the blob" has returned, and it may have some major implications for winter in the Lower 48 if it sticks around. This blob has been a standout feature of North American climate this decade and will give us something to watch this year as a potential clue to how this winter may unfold. The blob has been associated with abnormally warm and dry conditions in the West and cold and stormy conditions in the East. The last time the blob appeared was in 2016, when multiple cold outbreaks were expected in its wake, but the blob was washed away. We'll have to see if this similar thing happens this year.



Corn bulls backpedal on the second consecutive week of poor export sales data. The USDA showed weekly corn exports at around 13.8 million bushels, which is significantly below the 36 million bushel per week average that most inside the trade believe we need to see to reach the current export forecast. This is also substantially below the 50 million bushels that were exported last year during the same week. As I've been mentioning, we absolutely can't afford to have any doubts or holes punched in the demand story. From my perspective, it's been the massively strong demand story for U.S. corn that has kept prices somewhat supported and from being pulled lower by soybeans. Bears are also pointing to production estimates in both Argentina and Brazil starting to creep higher. Bulls continue pointing to less available supply inside China and less supply floating around globally compared to the past few years. In fact, the domestic Chinese corn auction this week was the strongest of the year and prices are inching higher. From what I've heard, China has auctioned off almost 100 MMTs of corn from their domestic reserves this year. From a technical perspective, many traders I know believe corn will continue to trade between \$3.50 and \$3.90 per bushel between now and yearend. If you're a producer, and you're keeping a close eye on the new-crop DEC19 contract, most think we will continue to trade between \$3.85 and \$4.15 per bushel. As a producer, I'm happy for the moment, that I used the rally to build a floor and eliminate all my remaining 2018 price risk. I'lll be monitoring the market closely for a time to lift my hedges or perhaps even re-own some previously sold bushels. As a spec, I still want to see a bigger break before I'm a buyer.

2018 Fall Harvest Price: Corn \$3.69^2

Mon. 12/24 - Christmas Eve; Market Closes at Noon CST

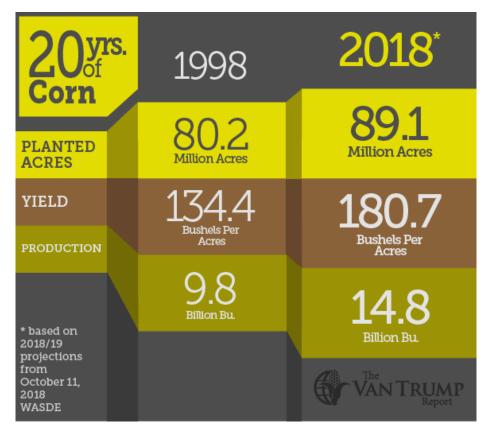
Tues. 12/25 - Christmas Day; US Markets Closed

Fri. 12/28 - Export Sales

Kevin's Song of the Week



Kevin's Song of the Week



Soybean bears are pointing to another round of weak export sales data. For the week, the USDA showed soybean sales at just 7.8 million bushels, which is well below the 30 million bushels per week that's needed to meet the current USDA forecast. It's also massively below the 78 million bushels exported last year during the same week. Bottom-line, the Chinese are out of the market and nobody knows exactly how long the current trade conflict is going to last. Bears are also able to point to cooperative weather in South America, keeping the door open for perhaps all-time record production? I will also be keeping a close eye on the Brazilian presidential election scheduled to take place this Sunday. There's a lot of questions and uncertainty brewing in the marketplace about a possible far-right Bolsonaro victory and how an abrupt swing in leadership in the opposite direction will impact the nation, more specifically how it will impact agriculture. From what I keep hearing, Bolsonaro, the former army captain, is the farmers choice, and has talked about changing some rules and regulations that would benefit the farmers and allow them to breakout more ground. On the flip side, I've heard he is much more of a hardliner against China, and has campaigned as a nationalist, saying China shouldn't be allowed to own land in Brazil or hold position in some of their key industries. I suspect some of that strong rhetoric will walk itself back once he is elected president. But it does create more moving parts and pieces in a market that already feels overwhelmed. From a technical perspective, the NOV18 contract closed below psychological support at \$8.50 per bushel. There's now talk in the trade that we could eventually retest the previous lows down between \$8.10 and \$8.20 per bushel.

2018 Fall Harvest Price: Soybeans \$8.67^6

NEXT level THINKING

My goal at "The Van Trump Report" is to help readers better identify the moving parts and dynamics associated with the financial markets, geopolitical events, economics, media and culture that is currently influencing and shaping the direction of the agricultural markets. I like to believe I "Challenge the Traditional" and encourage our readers to think outside the box.

I use story telling techniques that are written in an easy to read format to help convey my current thoughts about business, markets, technology, weather, sports and life. I also like to include links, filter the noise, and pass along in-depth research and information that I believe could challenge your current thought process and help you make more informed decisions. In addition I include valuable lessons I have learned from other traders, executives and investors, along with an occasional inspirational piece about life, family and faith.

What I do not do in "The Van Trump Report" is give specific financial advice or tell individuals how to invest or how to specifically hedge. Remember, this information is being read by hedge fund managers, bankers, CEO's, and Ag leaders around the globe, therefore it's NOT tailored to fit your specific individual needs. For specific investment or hedging advice please seek the help of a licensed representative that can better understand your particular situation, individual needs and overall risk tolerance. This information should ONLY be used for educational and entertainment purposes.

My family and I would like to thank you again for your support!

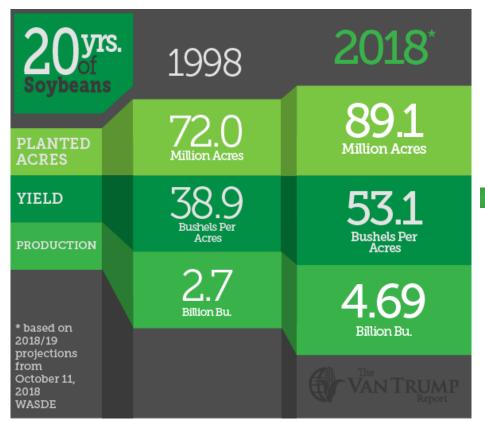
Kevin Van Trump

What Others Are Saying

"I am a recent subscriber to Kevin's newsletter, but I'm a long-time reader of many other high-profile marketing services. I am particularly impressed with the thorough manner in which Kevin evaluates every economic aspect, both nationally and internationally, that influences commodity prices. His analysis and conclusions are highly thought out and conveyed in layman's terms so that the reader can comprehend the numerous and often complex interrelationships that impact the markets. Kevin is a real attribute to the agricultural sector."

A.M., FDIC

"As a national federal farm policy administrator and commodity producer, I find it critical to keep updated with what is going on in the real world of agriculture and with the domestic and global markets. Of all the services I've have been privy to or have subscribed to over the past 20 years I've found in the past several months of engaging in your "Farm Direction" services to be the best perception and analysis of what is really



Wheat continues to struggle as prices fall below nearby technical support. The DEC18 SRW wheat contract is at lows not seen since January and is only about -20 cents from it's year low at \$4.68^2. The HRW wheat contract is similar, trading down to lows not seen since late-December, and we are now within -10 cents from the year low at \$4.78^2. As both a spec and a producer, I've been saying for a few weeks that we could see some nearby downward pressure before pushing back higher in late Q4 or early Q1 of 2019. I eventually want to be a buyer, but want to remain patient for the moment. I'm worried the market might try to test the \$4.50 range before finding more stable footing. I would also like to see more time come off the clock before I jump in with both feet. There's really not a lot of fresh or new fundamentals to report or discuss. U.S. export sales are nothing to write home about and not strong enough to shake the bears. Russian and European exporters remain in the game as low-cost providers. The production problems in Australia have been well advertised. The U.S. dollar remains strong and at its highest level in weeks. Macro global growth bulls are nowhere to be found. And there's more talk of global wheat acres increasing next year. Hence, bears remain up to bat... timing for the bulls is just not here as of yet!

happening in today's world. Not only here in the United States, but across the globe as well. US farmers need this type of help and information to assist them in their daily efforts. I commend you for a job well done. Please let me know if I can ever be of any help or assistance to you in the future..."

L.T., Assistant Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs USDA

My Own Personal Truisms

"Not To Trade, is often considered a good trading decision..."

"First Rule of HOLES: When you are in one stop digging..."

"Every looser in Vegas, always walks away from the table thinking he could have done better, the winners on the other hand leave while on top..."

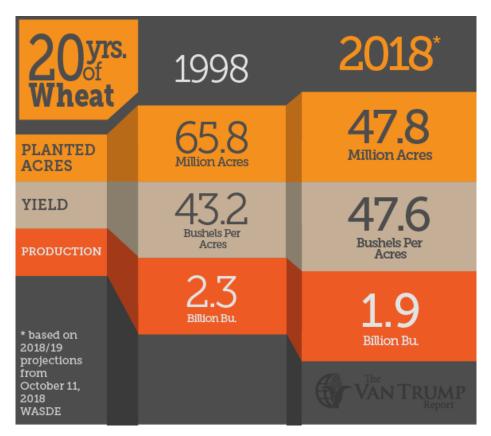
"Bulls make money, Bears make money, but pigs get slaughtered..."

"The markets ability to remain irrational can often times last much longer than your ability to remain solvent..."

I'm more of a long-term player, therefore you will not see me give many short-term suggestions or trade ideas. One of my most important rules is that I always follow my long-term direction. Therefore, as long as I am "bullish" a market I will only play that particular market in one of three ways.

- Option #1 Conservatively long.
- Option #2 Aggressively long.
- Option #3 Sitting on the sideline.

I never initiate a "short" position in a market that I am "bullish" longer-term, nor do I initiate a "long" position in a market I am "bearish" longer-term.



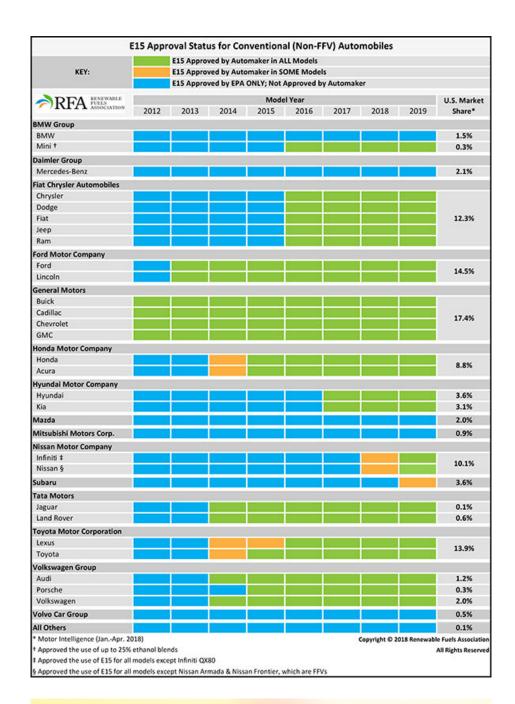




- > China Must Have a Plan For Talks to Continue: Trade tensions have taken another negative turn, with the U.S. demanding that China come up with a specific plan to stop allegedly stealing technology. Until Beijing does so, the U.S. will not resume trade negotiations, according to a report Thursday in The Wall Street Journal. The latest impasse jeopardizes a meeting between President Donald Trump and China's Xi Jinping scheduled for the end of November at the G-20 meeting. There had been some hope that Trump and the Chinese president could make progress on the myriad trade issues between the two sides, a major focus being forced technology transfers. China has sought to resume talks but the U.S. has refused until Beijing addresses the tech issue. Read more HERE.
- > Weather Drops Argentine Wheat Estimates: Wheat production estimates were dropped by -300,000 MT to 19.4 MMT for 2018-19 according to the Buenos Aires Grain Exchange. From what I understand, frost and hail were the cause of the downgrade. It's worth noting that exchange reports that 2% of the 44.2 million acres it expects farmers to plant to soybeans for 2018-19 are in the ground.
- > Dairy Is Asking For More Help With Trade Aid: The National Milk Producers Federation and U.S. Dairy Export Council have met with officials from USDA to present them with funding from recent studies that estimate milk producers could lose upward of \$1 billion in income this year. From what I am seeing, their \$127 million in trade aid equates to about 1 cent a gallon of milk for producers. It's apparent, the dairy lobby doesn't think the Agriculture Department's initial trade assistance package for farmers is enough support for the sector.
- > Soft Wheat Crop Estimates Lowered Corn Raised by EU Commission: Estimates for the EU soft wheat production are now 127.4 after a -1.3 MMT cut to the original forecast by the commission. Exports are expected to be maintained at 20 MMT after the decrease in production. I'm told the EU Commission did raise the corn estimate by +400,00 MT taking it to 62.3 MMT
- > Grain Inspections Down From Past Week: For the week ending October 18, total inspections of grain (corn, wheat, and soybeans) for export from al major U.S. export

regions reached 2.55 MMTs; down -6% from the previous week, down -24% from last year and down -16% from the 3-year avg. (Source: USDA, GTR)

- > Alabama Faces Big Cotton Losses From Hurricane Michael: The high-powered storm destroyed an estimated 106 million lint pounds of cotton, taking out 100% of the crop in at least one county. (Source: AL.com)
- > Did You Know the USDA Bankrolls Jails: In the past two years, the USDA has approved roughly \$106 million in rural economic development funds for building jails. USDA's sponsoring of jail projects is not entirely new. The agency first embraced building jails as a rural economic development tool in 1996. Since then, USDA has pitched in \$360 million for jail projects. I had no idea...
- > Developing A Strategy For Coming 5G Wireless Tech: President Trump wants the Commerce Department to develop a long-term strategy to prepare for the introduction of next-generation 5G wireless networks. AT&T, Verizon, Spring and T-Mobile are working to acquire spectrum and beginning to develop and test 5G networks, which are expected to be at least 100 times faster than current 4G networks and cut latency, or delays, to less than one-thousandth of a second from one-hundredth of a second in 4G. (Source: CNBC)
- > McDonald's New \$6 Meal Deal: On November 1, McDonald's will debut its new \$6 Classic Meal Deal for a limited time. This \$6 Classic Meal Deal will allow customers to pick from one of four classic entrées, including a quarter pounder with cheese, a Big Mac, a 10-piece McNuggets, or Filet O Fish. This entree will also come with a small fry, a drink or sweet tea of any size, and an apple or seasonal pie. Looks like Wendy's 4 for \$4 and KFC's \$5 Fill Ups are finally catching up to McDonald's.
- > Yeti Going Public! Yeti Coolers opened for trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday at \$16.75. This is Yeti's second attempt at an IPO, which they initially filed for an IPO in 2016. The company released 20 million shares yesterday during their IPO, which only 2.5 million belong to the company and 17.5 million from selling shareholders. The company plans to sell up to \$460 million of shares with an expected value of \$1.7 billion.
- > Portrait Made By A.I. Sold For \$432K: "Edmond de Belamy, from La Famille de Belamy" is the first portrait generated by an algorithm to be sold by a major auction house. Christie's Auction expected the A.I. portrait to fetch \$7,000 to \$10,000, but it went for over 40 times its value selling for \$432,500. The portrait was made using ink, an artificial intelligence algorithm, and was signed with a math equation. This painting is 1 of 11 AI paintings made by Obvious.
- > Burger King Launches Philly Cheese King: The new Philly Cheese King at Burger King is a cross between a cheeseburger and a traditional Philly cheesesteak and will sell for about \$5.99. The sandwich uses more than half a pound of beef for the burger, caramelized onions, and American cheese. One Burger King at 15 S. Eighth St. in Philadelphia will not feature the Philly Cheese King out of "respect" for classic steaks.
- > A New Cold War? Russian President Vladimir Putin is warning this week of a new arms race and threatening to target European nations that may host U.S. midrange nukes, in response to National Security Adviser John R. Bolton's trip to Moscow this week where he confirmed President Trump's intention to pull out of the Cold War-era Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. Speaking at a news conference Wednesday in Moscow after the American adviser departed, Mr. Putin promised a "very fast and very effective" response if Mr. Bolton and Mr. Trump follow through on their threat. Putin questioned what the U.S. intended to do with the missles, meaning if we deliver them to hosts in Europe, they would be putting themselves at risk of a counterstrike. Read more HERE.
- > 93% of All New Vehicles in 2019 Can Run E15: More than 93 percent of 2019 model year (MY) vehicles are explicitly approved by the manufacturer to use 15 percent ethanol blends (E15), according to the results of an annual analysis of warranty statements and owner's manuals conducted by the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA). That is up from last year, when approximately 89 percent of MY 2018 vehicles were formally approved by automakers to use E15. (Source: RFA)





Northcentral Illinois - We run our own acres as well as a few elevators. Strangely, it doesn't feel busy at the terminal but when we add up the numbers they are really adding up. Yields are coming in good for most. We look to set record yields on both our corn and beans. Ethanol plants in the area are running a basis around .20 cents under and the beans are looking at .67 cents under. We will continue forward with our corn acres which far outweigh the beans. Looking ahead there isn't much to change with our adoption of tech as well as our management practices. There are not many other things guys are doing in our area besides a little bit of solar arrays. Some of the grain dryers and hog operations have been stepping into the space and I did read that the Walmarts in the area are planning on operating 100% on solar energy produced on site. I hear there will be some acres for sale soon, and it sounds like it is from investors groups looking to make better margins. Acres are still selling for 9 - 10K and rent from \$200 - \$400.

Central Nebraska – We got another little rain overnight that stopped progress for the next 24 hours, but we should be out there again tomorrow. I think the rain amounted

to about 20 hundredths and it might stick around to about noon. We are about half done at this point. We usually see 235 on our irrigated but we are averaging closer to 200. Our low, and heavier ground just sat in to much water for too long. The hills are all good but it's just not enough to bring us up to our usual 235. The soybeans on a typical year bounce between 72 and 75 bushels per acre but like the corn they just sat to long in over wet conditions. Most of our fields are averaging in the mid to upper 60's so this year is not a disaster by any stretch of the imagination but it's just not the typical. We had 4-5 inches of rain around the 4th our July and I thought I was staring at the best crop I have ever seen but conditions changed. The non-irrigated guys around here are having one of their best years they have seen as far back as I can remember.

Northern Iowa – We finally finished corn Wednesday and we are happy with the results. We battled the rain, the wind, the hail, and our patience were tested many times over. I would say this was the hardest harvest we have faced in my many years of farming. When all the mud settled we beat our APH by more then 25% and we only had to hook the chains to one piece of equipment to pull out of the mud. We didn't get the combine stuck but one of my guys made the mistake of pulling the semi into the field, lucky for us he was coming back after dumping it, so it wasn't loaded. I gave him a pass since he's young and good hired men are hard to find, for the most part he doesn't make foolish decision like that. The beans were ugly, a lot of mold, some sprout. We are going to see what insurance will do to help us out on this because the elevators are getting a little testy on quality beans.



Startup Produce Pay Securitizes Perishable Produce: Agribusiness marketplaces are a hot trend in agrifood tech at the moment as entrepreneurs look to offer farmers more options than existing distribution channels to give them more flexibility. By doing so they are hopefully creating opportunities for more money in their pockets by opening up new markets. Produce Pay's unique selling point is its financial offering, which ensures farmers are paid for their produce the day after it's shipped through a lending platform; farmers are often left waiting for produce to sell before they're paid, leaving them in a risky financial position post-harvest. The Los Angeles-based company claims to have created the first ever means of securitizing perishable produce as a financial asset through the use of technology. Its platform provides immediate access to financing for farmers and distributors in the US, Mexico, Canada, Honduras, and Chile for fresh produce sold in the US. Learn more HERE.

What is Your State's Favorite Holloween Candy: As Halloween is fast approaching, not all Americans agree on which candy is best this trick-or-treat season. The Candy Store, an online seller of bulk candy, has been tracking candy sales in every state for the past 11 years, and it released an annual list of the most popular Halloween candy in every state, based on the number of pounds ordered over a given year. Some classics — Milky Way, Candy Corn and Skittles — are beloved across the country, but other states have particular favorites: Connecticut residents love Almond Joy, and Louisianans can't get enough Lemonheads. See if your favorite matches your state's choice HERE.

Facebook Wants to Make Augmented Reality Glasses Too: Facebook has a huge investment in virtual reality, most prominently in its ownership of Oculus, but the social media giant has confirmed that it's working on augmented reality glasses, too, according to TechCrunch. "Yeah! Well of course we're working on it," commented Facebook's head of augmented reality Ficus Kirkpatrick to TechCrunch. "We are building hardware products. We're going forward on this . . . We want to see those glasses come into reality, and I think we want to play our part in helping to bring them there. As augmented reality glasses would be asking for an even more personal lens into your life I suspect Facebook will have to work hard to earn consumer's trust. Read more HERE.

Strange New "Polio-Like" Disease is Stumping Doctors: Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. Anthony Fauci, says he doesn't know what's causing the polio-like illness that's leading to paralysis in children around the U.S. It's called acute flaccid myelitis, also known as AFM, and it's a virus that starts as a cold but then attacks the nervous system, causing different forms of paralysis. Officials with the CDC announced this week that they are aware of 155 cases of AFM reported so far this year. One of those cases includes a toddler from Jacksonville, Florida. Amira Faircloth was an energetic child who suddenly couldn't walk. Read more HERE.

On a Beer Budget... Here's What a Pint Costs Around the Globe: If you're looking to save money on beer while you're traveling you might want to avoid some of these cities. Deutsche Bank recently released its annual "Mapping the World's Prices" series, which compares the cost of everything from iPhones to sneakers in 50 cities around the world. According to the report, the most expensive beer in the world is found in Dubai, where an average pint will run you \$12. The next-costliest city was Oslo, Norway, where an average pint costs \$10.30. And two cities in the United States, New York City and San Francisco, cracked the \$7 mark for an average beer. Check out the full list below, and see other lists from the "Mapping the World's Prices" series here. Check out the full list below, and see other lists from the "Mapping the World's Prices" series HERE.





VAN TRUMP CONFERENCE 2018 IN THE SPOTLIGHT

MetLife...Trusted Ag Real Estate Lender For Over 100 Years

We are looking forward to working with Jake Espenmiller and his team at MetLife Ag. As a trusted lender for over 100 years, MetLife's Agricultural Finance Group ranks among the most active private agricultural, agribusiness and timberland mortgage providers in North America. It's fair to say that the company has a love for the agricultural community which began with their first ag investment in 1917, when they purchased 13 farm loans for \$118,000 from the Walton Trust Co. in Bates County, MO. It's my understanding, that year they originated roughly \$3 Million of ag loans, and from those humble beginnings, MetLife Ag has grown their portfolio to a nationwide platform with over \$16.5 billion, and annual deal flows north of \$4 billion for 2018. They clearly take pride in their farming heritage and see their partnership with the farmer as a key to their long-term success. Specializing in long-term real estate loans, they are backed by the full resources of MetLife, one of the nation's leading insurance and financial services companies. MetLife also prides itself on having one point of contact, meaning a dedicated MetLife agricultural mortgage professional will originate and underwrite your loan, assist with the closing, and serve as your primary contact for servicing. Thanks to their +30 regional network of professionals, they are better positioned to serve both your immediate and long-term financing needs. MetLife's long-term view and personal touch have allowed them to continue to grow and steer families through past and current volatile times. Jake was sharing with me the other day that he had just returned from a visit to an Indiana client family-farm who has been with MetLife since 1968, when they assisted the family in the purchase of their first farm which continues to operate into the fourth generation. Give Jake and his team a visit to see what MetLife Ag can do for your operation or learn more HERE.



How Hab Aquatics is Dealing With "Legacy Phosphorous"

John Holz spent 23 years at the University of Nebraska studying algae blooms and set himself apart from other researchers after realizing that simply dialing down phosphorus inputs to lakes, by culling fertilization and infiltrating stormwater into soil, was not enough to halt the blooms. According to Holz, the issue was hiding beneath the water itself. From what I understand, lake-bottom sediment can grow saturated with phosphorus over time, from all the excess fertilizer runoff from fields and yards over the years. I'm told, even when new sources of phosphorous are kept out of the water, "legacy phosphorus" already banked in the sediment can rise back into the water under low-oxygen

conditions, haunting the lake with algae blooms for years. While at Nebraska, Holz learned about a possible fix in 2010 and left the University to start Hab Aquatics and address the problem. His research led to the finding that Aluminum sulfate or alum has an affinity for phosphorus, meaning it will grab the phosphorous as it makes its way to the bottom. From what I hear, the results for the surface bloom are almost immediate as the chemical transforms the murky green water back into its clear beginnings. More impressively is the alum floc, short for flocculation will rest in the sediment continuing to bind phosphorus for years, even decades. Key to Holz's success has been his finetuning of the process in order to deliver a precise amount of alum to the right part of the lake at the optimal time of year. I hear that after 76 treatments, Holz has never had an unhappy customer. It's worth noting that as with any method of ecosystem restoration, dumping thousands of gallons of alum into a lake is not risk-free. I'm told if pH plummets during an alum treatment, the usually benign chemical can turn toxic for wildlife. After a parks department in Washington state shelled out a typical \$100,000 for an alum treatment in 2008, a botched application killed hundreds of fish. Bottom line is that done at the right time of year, in the right amounts, and in the correct locations, infected lakes can be returned to providing the safe recreational opportunities they were intended for. Imperative in the whole process will be finding better ways to keep the phosphorous out in the first place as the alum in the sentiment has no effect on that. You can learn more about Hab Aquatics and what they do HERE. (Source: NationalGeo, habaquatics)





"I'm Your Huckleberry..."

Doc Holiday, Wyatt Earp and his brothers Morgan and Virgil faced off against the Clanton gang in one of the most prolific gun fights in American history back on this day in 1881. The legendary shootout took place at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, Tombstone had become a booming town shortly after silver was discovered back in 1877. Things had gotten a bit wild so the town folk sought the help of Wyatt Earp and his brother to bring about a little "law and order". Historians say the Earp's were certainly not a group to doubt and would often shot first and ask questions later. On the flip side, the Clantons and McLaurys were a rough group of cowboys who lived on a ranch outside of town and sidelined as cattle rustlers and thieves. In October 1881, the struggle between these two groups really started to escalate and at around 1:30 p.m. on October 26, Ike Clanton's brother Billy rode into town to join the party, along with Frank McLaury and Billy Claiborne. The first person they ran into in the local saloon was Doc Holliday, who was delighted to inform them that their brothers had both been pistol-whipped by the Earps a while earlier. Frank and Billy immediately left the saloon, vowing revenge. A couple of hours later the Earps and Holliday spotted the five members of the Clanton gang in a vacant lot behind the OK Corral, at the end of Fremont Street. Though it's still debated who fired the first shot, most reports say that the shootout began when Virgil Earp pulled out his revolver and shot Billy Clanton point-blank in the chest killing him, while Doc Holliday fired a shotgun blast at Tom McLaury's chest killing him. Though Wyatt Earp wounded Frank McLaury with a shot in the stomach, Frank managed to get off a few shots before collapsing, as did Billy Clanton. When the dust cleared, Billy Clanton and the McLaury brothers were dead, and Virgil and Morgan Earp and Doc Holliday were wounded. Ike Clanton and Claiborne had run for the hills. Ironically a higher county Sheriff charged the Earps and Holliday with murder. A month later, however, a Tombstone judge found the men not guilty, ruling that they were "fully justified in committing these homicides." Following the Tombstone shootout and trials, Virgil Earp was maimed by hidden assailants and Morgan Earp was murdered. Unable to get justice through the courts, Wyatt Earp took matters into his own hands. In the process, and acting as Deputy U.S. Marshal, Wyatt Earp, formally deputized Holliday and others and as a federal posse, they pursued the outlaw cowboys they believed were responsible. The Earp party guarded Virgil Earp and his wife Allie on their way to the train for California. In Tucson, the group spotted an armed Frank Stilwell and Ike Clanton, whom they thought were lying in wait to kill Virgil. A few days later, Frank Stilwell's body was found at dawn alongside the railroad tracks, riddled with buckshot and gunshot wounds. Wyatt credited himself as the one who fatally shot Stilwell with a shotgun; other bullets placed into him may have been fired by Doc Holliday. The Earp posse killed another three during late March and early April, 1882. By mid-May, Holliday was arrested in Denver on a Tucson warrant for murdering Frank Stilwell. When Wyatt Earp learned of the charges, he feared his friend Holliday would not receive a fair trial in Arizona. Earp asked his friend Bat Masterson, Chief of Police of Trinidad, Colorado, to help get Holliday released. Holiday was then charged with a couple of crimes in Denver and not allowed to leave the state. Holliday spent the remaining few years of life in Colorado and died in his bed at the Glenwood Springs Hotel of tuberculosis at age 36. As for Wyatt Earp, he remained a lifelong gambler and was always looking for a quick way to make money. After leaving Tombstone, Earp went to San Francisco where he reunited with Josephine Earp. She became his common-law wife. They joined a gold rush to Eagle City, Idaho, where they owned mining interests and a saloon. They left there to race horses and open a saloon during a real estate boom in San Diego, California. They moved briefly to Yuma, Arizona before they joined the Alaskan Gold Rush to Nome, Alaska. They opened the biggest saloon in town and made a large sum of money. Returning to the lower 48, they opened another saloon in Tonopah, Nevada, the site of a new gold find. In about 1911, Earp began slowing down and actually retired with Josephine to Los Angeles. Wyatt Earp passed away at the age of 80 in 1929. I'd say Wyatt Earp defiantly got his moneys worth out of life, don't forget he also had some wild times in his younger years back in Wichita and Dodge City, Kansas. For what it's worth, back in history, especially down south in Georgia, where Doc Holiday originated, the men who would bear (carry) your coffin in a funeral procession wore small huckleberry branches in their lapels. They became know as the "Huckle Bearers". When Doc says "I'm your huckleberry" in the movie Tombstone, he means that he is your coffin bearer, or more to the point, he will be just the man to put you in your coffin! (Sourcce: Wiki; History)





"Life" is a Gift... The Way You Live It is Your Gift to Those Who Come After!

Consider the following: today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be. Enjoy today and be thankful for all it offers. Over time, we grow used to what we already have and we even start losing appreciation for it as we keep ourselves immersed in a cycle of endless wants. Sometimes it just becomes easier to focus on what we don't have, rather than what we do have. It's important to take time out and remember all of the things to be thankful for that many of us take for granted. Worrying is a part of life. It's an inevitable fact, and sometimes it's something we simply can't control. We're only human, after all. But we don't do ourselves any favors when we pour all of our heart and soul into our worries and concerns. It's a hard cycle to break. But when things get tough, it's always helpful to try and find things to be thankful for. I hope a few of the items below help spark a smile:) Have a Great Weekend!

- ~Going out is good... Coming home is better!
- ~You forget names... But it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!!!
- ~The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.
- ~You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep".
- ~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch...
- ~You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?"..." when?"... ???
- ~Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.
- ~You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!!!
- ~Everybody is starting to whisper.
- ~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet... 2 of which you will probably never wear again.
- ~But getting old is good in some things... Old Songs, Old movies, and best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!

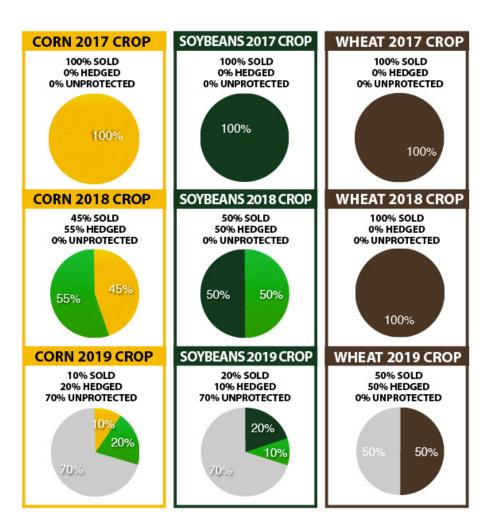
Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.

MELODY BEATTIE

ANSWER to riddle: A living room

CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS

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