

GOOD MORNING: 11/07/18 Farm Direction - Van Trump Report

2 messages

Kevin Van Trump <kvt@farmdirection.com>
 To: Kevin Van Trump <kvt@farmdirection.com>
 Bcc: info@farmdirection.com

Wed, Nov 7, 2018 at 7:01 AM



"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."—George S. Patton

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 07, 2018

[Printable Copy](#) or [Audio Version](#)

Morning Summary: Midterm election results are dominating the headlines. Political insiders are calling it a split decision as Democrats win control of the House and Republicans widen their majority in the Senate. For the moment, the stock market seems comfortable with the results and is trading higher in the overnight markets. Bulls are referring to midterm election data that shows, since 1946, the S&P 500 has gotten a median bump higher of about +18% between September 30th, before the midterm election, and June 30th of the following year. Bears are pointing to the massive amount of uncertainty that will now shift in Washington as the House changes leadership. First, most anticipate Nancy Pelosi will become Speaker of the House. The other major concerns will be House committee chair positions that will swing to the ranking Democrats from their Republican counterpart. Since the Chairs set the agenda for these committees, 2019 will be decidedly different. Think about it... The House Judiciary Chair will be turned over to Jerry Nadler of New York, who openly has no love loss for President Trump. Many have called Nadler the highest and most qualified ranking Democratic member of the House to lead an impeachment. At the same time, California Democrat Maxine Waters, will become Chair of the House Financial Services. We know her and President Trump have clashed in the past and many believe she will work to actively slow Republican steps toward deregulating the banking industry. Waters to this point has also pledged to support the impeachment of President Trump, and as chair of the committee, will be able to subpoena officials at financial regulatory agencies for information and testimony. The House Oversight and Government Reform Chair will now be turned over to Maryland Democrat Elijah Cummings. Another House member with little love for President Trump, Cummings has said he will investigate the president for violating the emoluments clause of the U.S. Constitution, among other issues. Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee will more than likely become Massachusetts Democrat Richard Neal, which will have jurisdiction over taxes, trade, health care and Social Security. As chairman, Mr. Neal will try to strengthen the Affordable Care Act, and perhaps roll back some of last year's tax cuts. Neal also gains the power to obtain and analyze President Trump's tax returns, which could certainly stir up more negative political headlines. I could go on and on about the leadership changes in the House, but the point is there is going to be significant "change", which I believe eventually creates more concern and negative headlines from the media. Interestingly, I'm hearing "tech" might be a big winner as the power shift in leadership inside the House could take some heat off their sector. I will talk more "politics" as I learn and understand more. Looking ahead, many inside the trade feel like the next big hurdle will be getting past the upcoming G20 meeting in Argentina at the end of November. This is when President Trump is scheduled to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping and perhaps together take steps needed to reach a trade resolution. More nearby we have the Fed starting a two-day FOMC meeting, with an announcement scheduled to be released tomorrow. Most don't see this as any type of major hurdle as the Fed is expected to leave rates "unchanged". The trade will however be doing a deep-dive on the specifics inside their updated commentary. Bulls are hoping Fed speakers scheduled to appear the next couple of weeks will walk back some of their hawkish rhetoric, specifically Fed Chair Jerome Powell. Bears are saying, now that the midterm election is behind us, the Mueller investigation will start to resurface in the headlines. Remember, Justice Department guidelines prevent prosecutors from taking any overt actions that could influence the outcome of an election. Hence, Mueller has been on the sideline. Interestingly, there are still many rumors flying around that he is going to subpoena President Trump and bring him in front of a Grand Jury to round out his investigation

into both Russian interference and obstruction of justice. A presidential subpoena would likely kick off a lengthy constitutional battle that would go all the way to the Supreme Court and more than likely add to stock market uncertainty. Oil prices have been under heavy pressure as the Saudi's have clearly turned open the spigots in the wake of recent political pressure. There's also the "free passes" handed out to some very large buyers of Iranian crude oil, allowing them to avoid the recent sanctions. Meaning there's clearly more supply in the global marketplace, at least for now, than most inside the trade had been forecasting. Saudi Arabian leaders being directly involved in the recent death of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, has certainly added a new twist and made the Saudi's much more willing and cooperative in regard to pumping more crude oil and keeping global supplies adequate. Lots of moving parts...

Weed Voting: *Efforts to legalize recreational marijuana use saw mixed results. While voters in North Dakota blocked a proposal to permit the drug, Michigan became the 10th U.S. state to legalize recreational pot use. Its proposal also levies a 10% tax on sales, ushering in a new era of cannabis law and a burgeoning weed industry. (Source: SeekingAlpha)*

U.S. Credit Card Debt At All-Time Record High: *Credit card debt for American's pushed to \$798 billion in September, which was up +8% from last year and now at an all-time record high. Between 2011 and 2014 credit card debt stayed just slightly above \$600 billion, since then it's steadily crept higher. The seasonal tendency has been for consumers to expand credit card debt during the fourth quarter, during the holiday season, then pay some of the debt down during tax-refund season. Interestingly, at the same time credit card debt has been pushing higher, average credit card interest rates have jumped from a low of 11.8% in the summer of 2014, now up to over 17%. It was surprising for me to learn that credit card interest rates are actually higher than at any point in the last cycle (2002 to 2008) and fast approaching the sky-high rates common in the 1990s. The good news is late-payments are much lower than they were during those high rate periods. But who knows how long consumers can stay current? Keep in mind, each quarter point hike in rates, on each trillion of debt out in the field, comes to about \$2.5 billion in additional interest charges annually.*

Christmas Sales Expected to Pass \$1 Trillion First Time Ever: *Christmas holiday retail sales in the U.S. are expected to climb above the \$1 trillion mark for the first time this year, on the back of low unemployment, solid income growth and higher consumer confidence, according to a study released Tuesday. Total retail sales in the U.S. will hit \$1.002 trillion during the holiday period — which it defines as spanning November 1 and December 31 this year — an increase of almost 6 percent from the previous year, marking the "strongest growth since 2011," data from market research firm eMarketer showed. The report comes amid concerns over the future of brick-and-mortar retailers, with the likes of Sears and Toys 'R' Us facing bankruptcy — although the latter's lenders recently cancelled a bankruptcy auction and plans to revive the brand. Not to mention the fact that several retailers are closing hundreds of stores across the country as the threat of increased competition from e-commerce firms like Amazon and eBay continues to put pressure on the industry. Read more [HERE](#).*

New Smart Phones Have Worse Battery Life: *I thought it was interesting to read a new study that shows the newest Apple and Android smart phones are lasting less time than the older models. From what I understand, the new smart phones are advancing so fast and doing so much more, the lithium and ion battery technology has not been able to keep pace. Blame it on the demands of high-resolution screens or the much more complicated apps. The new iPhone XS died 21 minutes earlier than last year's iPhone X. Google's Pixel 3 lasted nearly an hour and a half less than its Pixel 2. Read more [HERE](#)*

Crude Oil Technically Touching Bear Territory: *Crude Oil prices have been under substantial pressure as of late, in fact briefly entering a bear market, after the United States took measures to allow some of Iran's biggest customers to continue importing its oil without violating U.S. sanctions against the Islamic Republic. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude ended yesterday's session down another -1.4%, to \$62.21 a barrel. At the session low, WTI touched \$61.31, falling more than -20% from last month's nearly four-year high of \$76.90.*

Dare to be Different

2018 Van Trump Conference



Strategy - Collaboration - Leadership

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

SPECIAL "MASTER MIND" SESSION



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



Crude enters bear at lows of the day

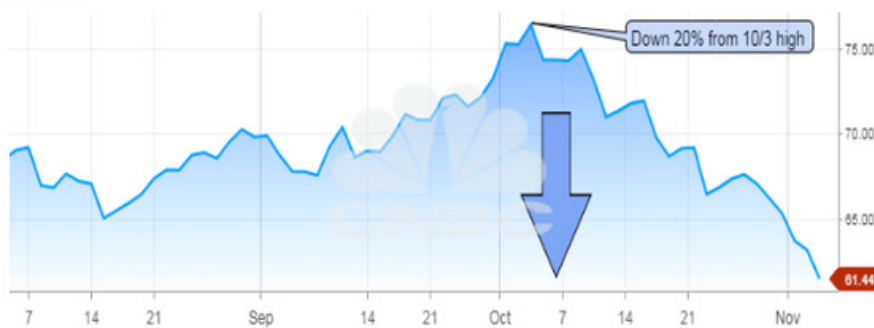
WTI Crude (Dec'18) (@CL:1:New York Mercantile Exchange)

USD

Last | 11:50:03 AM EST

61.44 -1.66 (-2.63%)

3 Month



CNBC

FARM TANK

Tweets of the Day



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 'Redeefines 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."

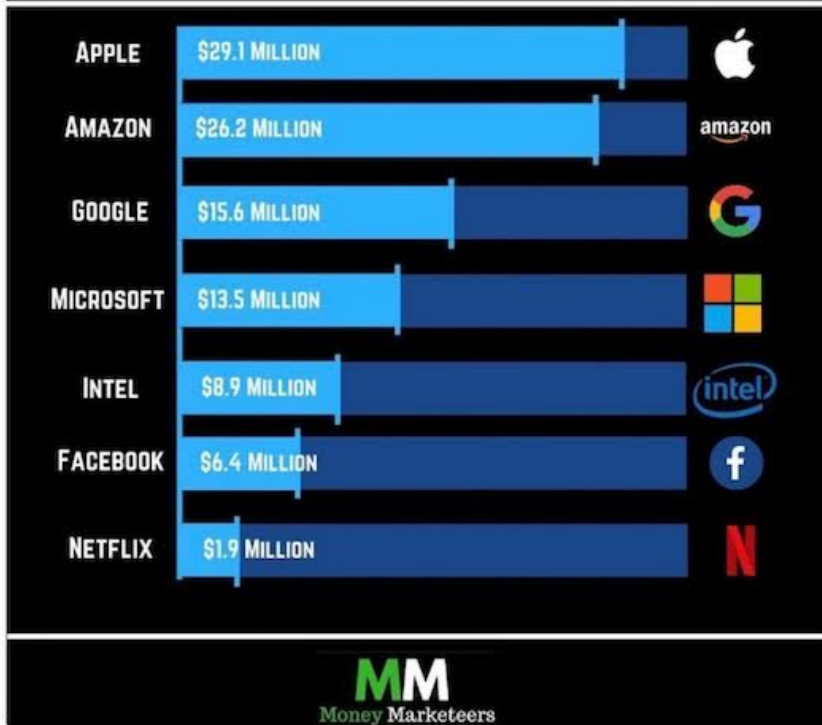




Steve Burns
@SJosephBurns

Following

REVENUE GENERATED EACH HOUR



6:26 AM - 6 Nov 2018



John Evans
@Distinctboxes

Following

Even if you're not into gardening, the plant sculptures in international Montreal Mosaiculture Exhibition will blow your mind. Pic Guy Boily



2:06 AM - 4 Nov 2018



Weather Wild-Card!

Weather guru Dr. Simon Atkins will be presenting what he is calling one of the most important weather updates 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

\$299

regular price \$500

Remember we sold out early last year!

LEARN MORE

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON



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.



Charley Plummer
@charleyplum

Following

When it's too wet to pick cotton.
[#harvest2018](#) [#oklahomacotton](#)



4:36 PM - 2 Nov 2018 from [Altus, OK](#)

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



1861, Battle of Belmont, Missouri - On this day in 1861, Union forces under Ulysses S. Grant overrun a Confederate camp at the Battle of Belmont, Missouri, but are forced to flee when additional Confederate troops arrive. Although Grant claimed victory, the Union gained no ground and left the Confederates in firm control of that section of the Mississippi River. This engagement was part of Grant's plan to



Mark Movall

@markmovs

Following



Due to the rain carpet #Harvest2018 is at a standstill today



6:38 AM - 4 Nov 2018

capture the Confederate stronghold at Columbus, Kentucky, just across the river from Belmont, by first driving away the Confederate garrison at Belmont. General Leonidas Polk, Confederate commander at Columbus, had posted about 1,000 men around Belmont to protect both sides of the river. On the evening of November 6, Grant sailed 3,000 troops down the Mississippi River from Cairo, Illinois. They landed early on November 7, just three miles above Belmont, and proceeded to attack. Upon hearing noise from the battle, Polk sent another 2,500 troops across the river to provide relief for his beleaguered Rebels. The Yankees routed the arriving reinforcements and scattered them along the river. At that point, the Union troops began to celebrate their victory and loot the Confederate camp. Grant had ordered a small Union force under General Charles Smith to advance from Paducah, Kentucky, which lay to the northeast, to provide a diversion and keep Polk from sending any more reinforcements to Belmont. Grant hoped that Polk would believe that Smith's advance was the primary attack and that Belmont was the diversion. Polk did not buy it, and he dispatched additional reinforcements to Belmont. Five Confederate regiments arrived as Grant ordered his men to return to the boats. Grant himself narrowly escaped capture but was able to get most of his force back on the river. The Yankees retreated to Cairo. Grant lost 120 dead and 487 wounded or captured, while the Confederates lost 105 dead and 536 wounded or captured. Although he gained no ground, Grant demonstrated that, unlike many other Union generals, he was willing to mount a campaign using the resources at hand rather than calling for reinforcements. This trait served Grant well during the war, and it eventually carried him to the top of the Union army.



1916 First U.S. Congresswoman -

Montana suffragist Jeannette Rankin is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She is the

first woman in the history of the nation to win a seat in the federal Congress. Born and raised on a ranch near Missoula, Montana, Rankin was the daughter of progressive parents who encouraged her to think beyond the narrow sphere of opportunities generally permitted to women of the early 20th century. After graduating from the University of Montana and the New York School of Philanthropy, Rankin worked briefly as a social worker before becoming active in the national effort to win women the vote. In 1914, her efforts brought her back to Montana, where she believed pioneer conditions had created greater respect for women's work and abilities, making it somewhat easier to convince men to grant them the right to vote. Indeed, other western states like Wyoming and Colorado had already approved women's suffrage years before, and Rankin's leadership helped Montana join them in 1914. With the vote for women secured,



All Things Bourbon

@BourbonTrends

Following

This beauty came in on Saturday. Best whiskey packaging I have ever seen 🤩🤩
 Sinatra Century @JackDaniels_US 🇺🇸 Drink more Tennessee #whiskey



7:42 AM - 29 Oct 2018

Rankin put Montana's new political dynamics to the test. She ran for one of Montana's two seats in Congress as a Progressive Republican in 1916. With strong support from women and men alike, Rankin became the first woman in history elected to that body. When she traveled to Washington, D.C., the next year, the eyes of the nation watched to see if a woman could handle the responsibilities of high office. Rankin soon proved she could, but she also demonstrated that she would not betray her own strongly held convictions for political expediency. A dedicated pacifist, Rankin's first vote as a U.S. congresswoman was against U.S. entry into World War I. Many supported her courageous stand, though others claimed her vote showed that women were incapable of shouldering the difficult burdens of national leadership—despite the fact that 55 men had also voted against the war. Rankin's vote against WWI contributed to her defeat in her 1918 reelection bid. For the next 20 years, she continued to work for the cause of peace. Ironically, she again won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1940, just as the nation was about to enter World War II. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, Rankin became the only person in the history of Congress to vote against U.S. entry into both world wars. This time, though, the principled pacifist from Montana cast the sole dissenting vote.



1980, "King of Cool" - Steve

McQueen dies On this day in 1980, the actor Steve McQueen, one of Hollywood's leading men of the 1960s and

1970s and the star of such action thrillers as Bullitt and The Towering Inferno, dies at the age of 50 in Mexico, where he was undergoing an experimental treatment for cancer. In 1979, McQueen had been diagnosed with mesothelioma, a type of cancer often related to asbestos exposure. It was later believed that the ruggedly handsome actor, who had an affinity for fast cars and motorcycles, might have been exposed to asbestos by wearing racing suits. Terrence Steven McQueen was born on March 24, 1930, in Beech Grove, Indiana. After a troubled youth that included time in reform school. In 1947, McQueen joined the United States Marine Corps and was promoted to private first class and assigned to an armored unit. Initially he reverted to his prior rebelliousness and was demoted to private seven times. He took an unauthorized absence by failing to return after a weekend pass expired, staying with a girlfriend for two weeks until the shore patrol caught him. He resisted arrest and spent 41 days in the brig. After this he resolved to focus his energies on self-improvement and embraced the Marines' discipline. He saved the lives of five other Marines during an Arctic exercise, pulling them from a tank before it broke through ice into the sea. He was assigned to the honor guard, responsible



Dani

@xyzwtf_55

Following

Sometimes u need someone else to pick u up.
 Not cause ure lazy, just cause u need to be reminded that someone cares for u when ure down 😊

#TuesdayThoughts
 #TuesdayMotivation



4:17 AM - 6 Nov 2018

for guarding the yacht of US President Harry Truman. McQueen served until 1950, when he was honorably discharged. He later said he had enjoyed his time in the Marines. He then studied acting and began competing in motorcycle races. He made his big-screen debut with a tiny role in 1956's *Somebody Up There Likes Me*, starring Paul Newman. McQueen went on to appear in the camp classic *The Blob* (1958) and gained fame playing a bounty hunter in the TV series *Wanted: Dead or Alive*, which originally aired on CBS from 1958 to 1961. During the 1960s, McQueen built a reputation for playing cool, loner heroes in a list of films that included the Western *The Magnificent Seven* (1960), which was directed by John Sturges and also featured Yul Brynner and Charles Bronson; *The Great Escape* (1963), in which McQueen played a U.S. soldier in World War II who makes a daring motorcycle escape from a German prison camp; and *The Sand Pebbles* (1966), a war epic for which he received a Best Actor Oscar nomination. McQueen played a detective in one of his most popular movies, 1968's *Bullitt*, which featured a spectacular car chase through the streets of San Francisco. That same year, the actor portrayed an elegant thief in *The Thomas Crown Affair*. In the 1970s, McQueen was one of Hollywood's highest-paid actors and starred in hit films such as director Sam Peckinpah's *The Getaway* (1972) with Ali MacGraw, to whom McQueen was married from 1973 to 1978; *Papillon* (1973), with Dustin Hoffman; and *The Towering Inferno* (1974), with Paul Newman, William Holden and Faye Dunaway. In the summer of 1980, McQueen traveled to Rosarito Beach, Mexico, where he underwent an unorthodox cancer treatment that involved, among other things, coffee enemas and a therapy derived from apricot pits. On November 6, 1980, he had surgery to remove cancerous masses from his body; he died the following day. His final films were *Tom Horn* and *The Hunter*, both of which were released in 1980.

Upcoming Events

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

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:

What 8 letter word can have a letter taken away and it still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left. What is the word?

Weather on the Plains will be dry except for some light snow in Montana and the Dakotas. However, very cold weather on the northern Plains contrasts with favorable warmth across the southern half of the region, where wet soils continue to hamper fieldwork. On November 4, winter wheat planting and emergence were more than 10% behind the respective state 5-year averages in Kansas and Oklahoma. In the Corn Belt, a low-pressure system over the Great Lakes region is producing widespread rain showers. Rain has changed to snow in parts of the upper Midwest. Meanwhile, dry weather is returning across the southern Corn Belt, accompanied by cool, breezy conditions. On November 4, the corn harvest was just 49% complete in North Dakota and 59% complete in South Dakota, more than 10% points behind average. In the South, showers and thunderstorms stretch from the southern Appalachians to the central Gulf Coast. Dry weather has returned across the mid-South, although fieldwork delays persist in the wake of recent downpours.

Blast Of Cold Air Is Coming: *A prolonged cold outbreak will bring the coldest temperatures so far this fall to the Plains, Midwest and Northeast later this week and will linger into much of next week. A trough -- southward dip in the jet stream -- will be in place in the central U.S. this week, and several disturbances will track from the Plains and Midwest into the East. Late this week, a cold front will move through the central and eastern U.S. late-week, reinforcing the cold conditions and bringing the chance for rain and snow. Temperatures look to be 10 to 25 degrees below average through the plains Midwest and Great Lakes region by the end of the week. These below-freezing temperatures will come with a chance of snow as an upper-level disturbance moves through the Plains and Midwest. Below is the 6 to 10 day outlook for November 11 - 15 which is calling for below normal temperatures nationwide, except for the West Coast states and Florida Panhandle. Meanwhile, near to a move normal precipitation across the central and eastern U.S. will contrast with drier than normal conditions in much of the West.*

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

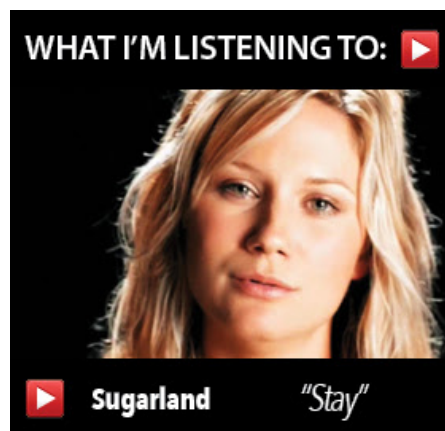
Fri. 12/21 - Quarterly Cold Storage, Hogs and Pigs, Monthly Cattle on Feed, Personal Income

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

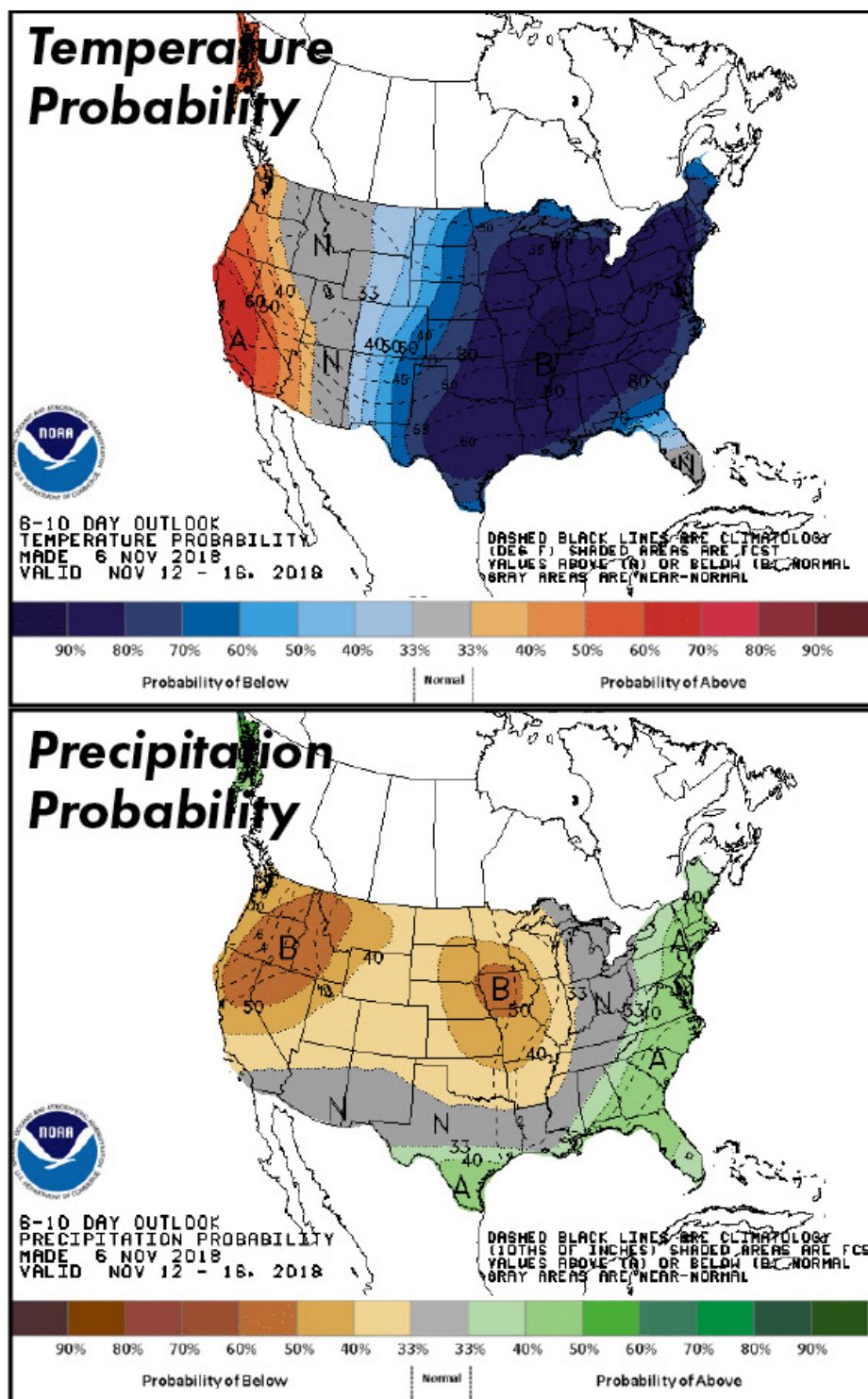
Tues. 12/25 - Christmas Day; US Markets Closed

Fri. 12/28 - Export Sales

Kevin's Song of the Week



Kevin's Song of the Week



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

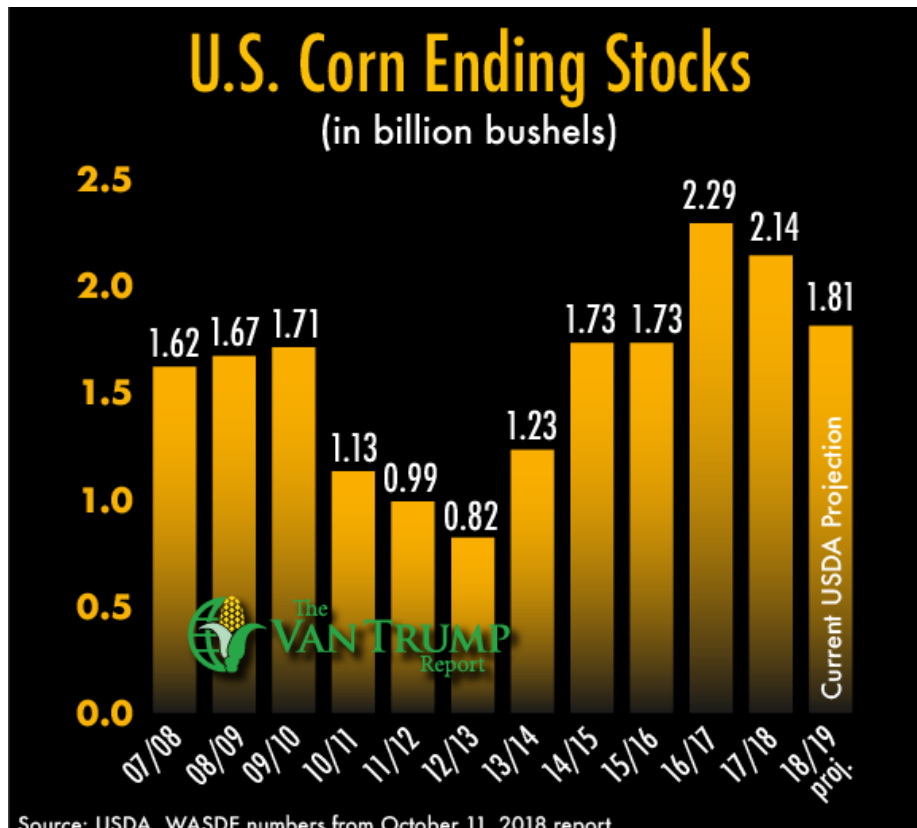
"I am a recent subscriber to Kevin's newsletter, but I'm a long-time reader of many other high-profile marketing services. I am particularly impressed with the thorough manner in which Kevin evaluates every economic aspect, both nationally and internationally, that influences commodity prices. His analysis 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

Corn continues to consolidate ahead of tomorrow's USDA report. Most in the trade are looking for another reduction in the U.S. corn yield. As I said yesterday, a -0.5 to -1.5-bushel reduction seems to be what the trade is anticipating. I don't think anyone is looking for any major adjustments on the demand side of the equation. Bears point to stiffer competition the past three weeks from Ukraine and South America, but I'm not sure that will cause the USDA to make a substantial adjustment just yet. There's also some talk that the USDA could trim its corn used for ethanol estimate, so pay attention. As always, the feed and residual numbers will be a "wild-card". I didn't see them lowering the feed and residual numbers last month by -25 million. In fact, during the last few years, I've rarely been right on my guesses for feed and residual. I'm also interested in seeing if the USDA makes any early adjustments to the South American crop. I doubt there will be much change in the Argentina estimate. I could argue some rough weather in select locations to the north and south, but it's still very early and probably no reason for adjustment. Keep in mind the USDA already has the Argentine crop estimated at 41 MMTs vs. just 32 MMTs last season. I should note, Argentina actually harvested a 41 MMT corn crop back in the 2016-17 crop year. As for Brazil, there are some who have already started moving their corn estimate higher based on the record number of soybeans that were planted and the record early pace of planting.

In other words, there's a lot more talk that we could see a significant bump in second-crop corn acres. Bulls argue that it's still way too early to make that call, and we could actually see a larger portion of those acres going into cotton than many are anticipating, it's just too early to know. I'm probably most aligned with that camp of thinking, but I could also understand a bump higher in the USDA forecast based on extremely cooperative weather early in the game. The USDA currently has the Brazilian crop forecast at 94.5 MMTs vs. just 82 MMTs last year. Again, I should note, Brazil actually harvested a 98.5 MMT crop back in the 2016-17 crop year, so it is possible that the USDA's current estimate could work itself significantly higher if the weather continues to cooperate. I suspect once we move past tomorrow's USDA report, the trade will start to focus more and more attention on South American weather. Here at home, it seems like the extended forecast is looking much more cooperative into the end of the month. As everyone's been reporting, there are clearly more signs of an El Niño developing as temperatures rise in the Pacific. Agricultural impacts associated with the El Niño tend to be greater in the southern hemisphere because it tends to peak during their summer (our winter). A few of the typical areas that can be impacted are centered over southeastern Brazil (soybeans), northern Argentina (corn, wheat), northeast South Africa (corn), and northwestern Australia (wheat). Here at home, El Niño's generally bring weaker severe weather conditions to the central U.S. The areas of Oklahoma, northeast Texas, and southeastern Kansas tend to have the strongest responses to La Nina and El Nino conditions. During El Nino events, the southern jet (subtropical jet) is more active than the northern jet, thus reducing the spin in the atmosphere and available cold air aloft to support thunderstorm development. (Source: Nebraska State Climate Office) I will be keeping a close eye on this weather pattern as it builds and develops.



Soybean bulls are trying to hold their recent gains. The JAN18 contract touched \$9.00 per bushel back on Friday but has backpedaled a bit since. There's the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Chinese trade relations and the market's uncertainty surrounding the recent Trump comments. Are we actually nearing a trade resolution with China or are those simply optimistic comments made as political jockeying ahead of the midterms? I continue to hear talks and rumors that groups in Brazil might be trying to influence the newly elected President to add an additional export tax on soybeans in order to help domestic end users. I don't know if there's any truth to this, but it would certainly be digested as bullish by the trade should it ever be confirmed and implemented. Tomorrow the trade will be digesting the latest USDA numbers. Similar to corn, most are looking for the USDA to lower their yield forecast and total U.S. soybean production. As for demand, most inside the trade still believe the USDA is overly optimistic with their current forecast and will need to trim their numbers. U.S. exports are obviously in the cross-hairs. I'm also interested in the USDA's view on South America. The Argentine crop is currently estimated at 57 MMTs vs. just 37.8 MMTs last year. The Brazilian crop is currently estimated at 120.5 MMTs vs. 119.80 MMTs last year. The Brazilian producers have enjoyed very cooperative weather and already have over 60% of their crop planted which is well ahead of their tractional pace.

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..."

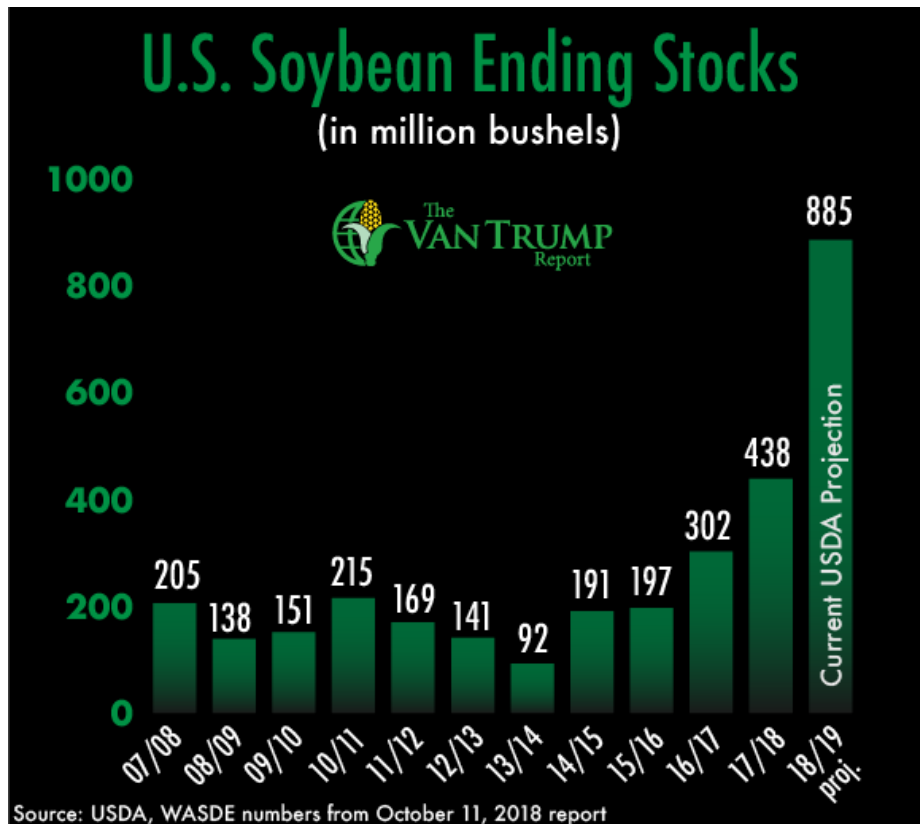
"The markets ability to remain irrational can often times last much longer than your ability to remain solvent..."

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.

Meagan not only are they going to plant a record number of acres, but they are going to get it into the ground way ahead of schedule with very few problem areas. Hence, the reason some can justify the USDA bumping their estimate higher. As a producer, I'm obviously hoping we catch a bullish surprise and the market jumps higher. If it happens I'll be looking to reduce some longer-term price risk, as I'm doubtful the rally can hold. Bullish spec's argue that we could continue to see short-side liquidation into the G20 meeting, where President Trump is scheduled to meet with Chinese President Xi at the end of November to discuss a trade resolution. If this is true, it could certainly help keep prices supported during the next few weeks. Bottom-line, I'm using any optimism and breakouts to the upside as an opportunity to reduce additional risk. As a spec, I have no desire to be a buyer on strength, only looking to buy on another leg lower. Staying patient.



Wheat bulls continue to talk about less than ideal U.S. crop conditions, cold weather, and thoughts that the USDA will be reducing production numbers in a few key global growing nations, i.e. Australia, Canada, parts of the European Union, and perhaps a couple of additional countries. Last month the USDA lowered their Australian production estimate from 20 MMTs down to 18.5 MMTs. In 2016-17 Australia harvested 31.82 MMTs of wheat. Last month the USDA left their Canadian production estimate at 31.5 MMTs vs. 29.98 last year. There's more talk circulating inside the trade that the Canadian production number needs to be trimmed. Last month the USDA elected to leave their European Union estimate unchanged at 137.5 MMTs vs. 151.68 MMTs produced the year before. Last month the USDA lowered their Russian crop estimate from 71 down to 70 MMTs. Keep in mind, this is significantly below the 85 MMTs Russia produced the previous year. U.S. production last month was adjusted slightly higher from 51.08 to 51.29 MMTs. The previous year the U.S. produced 47.35 MMTs. The year before that 2016-17, we produced 62.83 MMTs. I remain a conservative bull and will be looking to add to my length should the USDA deliver a bearish pitch. As a producer, I am in no hurry to make additional new-crop sales.

Farm Direction

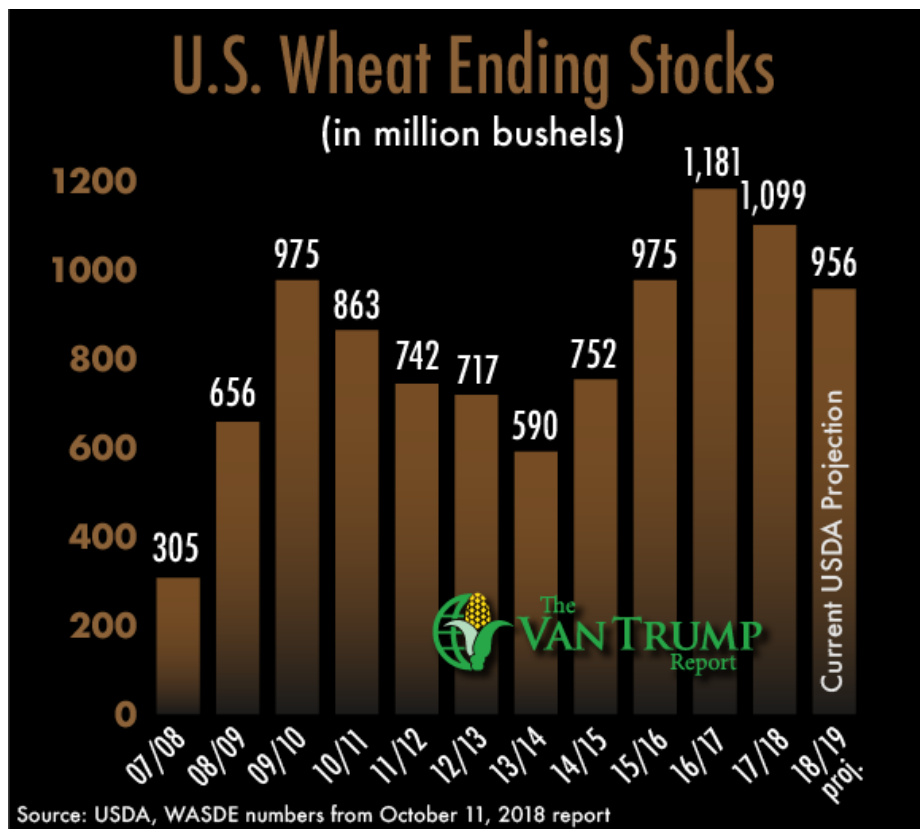
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★ FAMILY ★ FAVORITES

-SENT IN BY OUR READERS-

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Hot Cocoa**

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U.S. Harvested Acres 2018 (in million acres)

	Nov. #	Avg. Trade Est.	Trade Range	USDA Sep. 2018
Corn	???	81.749	81.500 - 81.800	81.767
Soybeans	???	88.303	87.900 - 88.350	88.348

U.S. Yields 2018 (in Bushels Per Acre)

	Nov. #	Avg. Trade Est.	Trade Range	USDA Sep. 2018
Corn	???	180.0	178.2 - 181.0	180.7
Soybeans	???	52.9	52.5 - 53.5	53.1

U.S. Production 2018 (in billion bushels)

	Nov. #	Avg. Trade Est.	Trade Range	USDA Sep. 2018
Corn	???	14.721	14.576 - 14.806	14.778
Soybeans	???	4.676	4.637 - 4.698	4.690

U.S. Ending Stocks 2018/19 (in billion bushels)

	Nov. #	Avg. Trade Est.	Trade Range	USDA Sep. 2018
Corn	???	1.773	1.688 - 1.841	1.813

Soybeans	???	0.898	0.833 - 1.010	0.885
Wheat	???	0.958	0.925 - 0.981	0.956

World Ending Stocks 2018/19 (in million metric tons)

	Nov. #	Avg. Trade Est.	Trade Range	USDA Sep. 2018
Corn	???	158.82	157.00 - 160.20	159.35
Soybeans	???	110.91	109.50 - 113.50	110.04
Wheat	???	259.45	257.50 - 261.20	260.18



> 50th Case of African Swine Reported in China: China confirmed a new case of African swine fever in southern Hunan province, marking the 50th outbreak of the highly contagious disease in the world's top pork producer. The disease has reached 14 provinces and municipalities in China since it was first detected in early August. China has not give a cause for the outbreak. But analysts believe the country's feed sector might have been contaminated, and that is why the disease has continued to spread quickly.

> The Wet Fall Weather Brings Concern Of Vomitoxin In Corn: Farmers throughout North America are finding increased levels of a plant toxin known as vomitoxin in this year's corn harvest. Vomitoxin sickens livestock and can also make humans and pets fall ill, and grain buyers can reject cargoes or fine farmers for shipments that contain it. More cases than normal are likely in the corn crop because wet weather this autumn caused the fungus to develop while delaying harvests. Smithfield, the world's biggest pork producers, has detected vomitoxin in corn in Iowa and Nebraska, but has not yet officially commented on the situation yet. (Source: Reuters)

> Smallest Cotton Stockpile in China in Seven Years: Thanks to robust demand, the global stockpile of cotton will shrink by nearly 9% this trade year and China will have its smallest inventory since 2011/12. Decreases are expected in planted areas, yields and production in 2018/19 for global cotton. Despite this, India will remain the world leader in cotton plantings with 11.9 million hectares (29.4 million acres). The U.S. is expected to remain the world's top exporter at 3.5 million metric tons and the second and third largest importers (after China) are expected to be Bangladesh and Vietnam at 1.8 million metric tons and 1.7 million metric tons respectively. (Source: ICAC)

> Trade War Dents Pork Exports to Mexico: The value of U.S. pork exports to Mexico dropped to \$1 billion from January through September -- down 8% from the same period in 2017, according to USDA data compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation. European and Canadian pork producers are filling the gap in pork supplies. (Source: AP)

> Perdue Positioning to Take More of the Organic Chicken Market: The Maryland-based agribusiness will spend \$30 million to open an organic grain storage and processing facility. Perdue CEO Randy Day said the company needs new access to organic grains in order to produce more organic chicken. The grain receiving and storage facility will be built at Tradepoint Atlantic in eastern Baltimore which will put them strategically near a number of major interstate, rail lines and the Port of Baltimore. The facility will also include grain and oilseed processing/milling and support more than 25 new jobs. (Source: Perdue Farms)

> Disney Gets EU Approval To Acquire Fox for \$71 Billion: The European Union granted conditional approval Tuesday for Disney to buy Twenty-First Century Fox's entertainment assets. In the deal, Disney has committed to divest in channels including History and Lifetime. Disney secured approval from the U.S. Justice Department for the deal in June on condition after agreeing to sell Fox's 22 regional sports networks. Disney owns ABC, ESPN, Pixar, Marvel Studios and "Star Wars" producer Lucasfilm, plus

an array of theme parks. The Fox assets being acquired include a cable group with FX Networks, National Geographic and 300-plus international channels, plus Fox's stake in Hulu. (Source: CNBC)

> **The Most Profitable Industry in Every U.S. State:** This graphic uses data from GO Banking Rates and the U.S. Census Bureau to map out the most profitable industry in each U.S. state. Whatever industry has staked its claim in your particular state, it has a direct link to your state exports and local economy. It's important to note that the most profitable industry is not necessarily the biggest industry in each state. The following figures are based on the value of top-selling industry products in 2017, using Harmonized System (HS) codes and U.S. Census Bureau data. Interestingly, you don't see much diversity: 50 states share a mere 11 major industries. When those industries are touched by market volatility or trade disruptions, it can prompt a ripple effect across several state economies. Click [HERE](#) for a larger graphic. (Source: Visual Capitalist)



Northwest Iowa – *We were wet is the understatement of the year. I have been talking to the elevator guys and they are agreeing when I tell them we didn't produce nearly what everyone is saying. We have half a corn crop and maybe 60% of a soybean crop here. I would have bet like everyone else in my area that we were going to produce a normal to slightly better than normal crop. I was wrong on that one. We still have about 25% of corn and 15% of beans left to harvest, and at least half of the remaining crops aren't worth harvesting because we have a fair amount of river bottom ground. A lot of the crop is laying on the ground.*

Northwestern Ukraine - *Thought it might be good to share some growing practices from another part of the world. I am farming 100% rented ground in North Western Ukraine. Climate "here" is somewhat like North Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota. This year we were lucky with timely rains at critical growth stages. Soils are mainly sandy clay with less than 2% organic matter, so fertility is the most limiting factor. All fields were tilled by inline ripper at fall. This year I had several Dekalb and Pioneer early maturity hybrids planted at the end of April through beginning of May by 8-row 30-inch planter. Planting population - 32 000 per acre. All seeds have been treated with fungicide, insecticide and micros. Corn was harvested second half of October, yielding on average 152 bpa @ 19% moisture with best field yielding 180 bpa. Of course, it is not something to be proud of... However, looks adequate to soils I farm and fertility program I could afford this year. In addition to that we have done corn field trials for 7 hybrids in four replicated random design blocks. Still waiting from seed supplier to disclose coded hybrid names.*

Central Missouri - *We finished harvest with first crop beans and are now working on the second crop. The weather has changed on us recently, as it was very dry for some time and now, we are being kept out of the fields due to wet conditions. We are all*

dryland acres and our first crop did ok with yields in the 45-50 bpa area. Second crop beans haven't done so well as they caught the brunt of the dry weather when they needed a drink. If we are lucky, we will see 20 bpa. Our corn did ok come in at 150 - 180 bpa. On good years we will average 180 - 200 bpa with and only 80-100bpa when we do not receive the moisture. We have seen the benefit of genetics in our yields during out dry years. We hold off marketing most of our grain until it is in the bin so unfortunately this year, we are sitting on lots of bushels to price well below the highs of the year.



How Marginal Land can Become a Win for Farmers: In a project that's been underway since 2011, researchers at Argonne National Laboratory have been studying how shrub willow and switchgrass in sandier, easily dried-out patches of land can not only control erosion but also suck up excess fertilizer chemicals that could otherwise contaminate surface water and groundwater. Many farms have areas where the ground either floods or does not retain enough water or fertilizer for crops to thrive. Such marginal lands could become useful and potentially profitable if they are planted with perennial bioenergy crops such as shrub willow and switchgrass. From what I understand, their results show that since the willows were planted in 2013, the trees have significantly reduced concentrations of fertilizer nitrate in the soil water compared to the soil water in the adjacent cornfields. Read more [HERE](#).

Harvard Astronomer's Suggest "Oumuamua" is an Alien Probe: "Oumuamua" has confounded researchers since it was first spotted last year by the Pan-STARRS1 telescope atop Mount Haleakala in Maui, Hawaii. The name "Oumuamua" is Hawaiian for "scout" or "messenger." The object puzzled astronomers because of its long shape and unusual acceleration. According to NASA, "Oumuamua" is up to a quarter-mile long and has reached speeds of 196,000 miles per hour. In June, a study led by astronomer Marco Micheli of the European Space Agency found the object was a comet, noting "Oumuamua" was not slowing down as much as expected because of gravitational forces. The other possibility? It comes from aliens. "A more exotic scenario is that 'Oumuamua' may be a fully operational probe sent intentionally to Earth vicinity by an alien civilization," according to the paper. Read more [HERE](#).

588th Night Bomber Regiment... Russia's All-Female Airforce: During the Second World War, the Soviet Air Force initially barred women from serving in combat. That was until October 1941 when the pilot Marina Raskova personally convinced Joseph Stalin to deploy the world's first all-female air force units to fight against Axis powers. Primarily made up of volunteers in their late teens and early 20s, these regiments flew wood-and-canvas Polikarpov U-2 biplanes, aircraft originally intended for crop-dusting and hardly equipped for warfare, lacking guns, radio, radar and even parachutes. Check out this short video [HERE](#) to learn the interesting story of these little-known pilots who wreaked havoc over Germany.

Long-Life is not Inherited: In 2013, GOOGLE cofounder and CEO Larry Page announced the formation of a new Alphabet entity dedicated to solving the pesky puzzle of mortality. Since then, the billion-dollar longevity lab known as Calico—short for California Life Company—has been trying to tease apart the fundamental biology of aging in the hopes of one day defeating death. The hyper-secretive research venture has released few details about what it actually does inside its Silicon Valley lab, but there have been hints. One of the company's first hires was renowned geneticist Cynthia Kenyon, a UC San Francisco researcher who 20 years ago doubled the lifespan of a lab roundworm by flipping a single letter in its DNA. Read more about what Kenyon is uncovering at Calico [HERE](#).

Hublot's Tribute to Bitcoin's Anniversary: Swiss luxury watchmaker Hublot is celebrating the 10th birthday of Satoshi Nakamoto's Bitcoin whitepaper with a watch that screams "Bitcoin." The Hublot Big Bang Meca-10 P2P, as it's unironically called, is a 45mm wristwatch with a case made out of micro-blasted and polished black ceramic, with a skeleton dial, meaning you can see the watch's innards and 10ATM water resistance. If you're a watch geek, you know what all this means... it's a very luxurious gadget, perhaps not extravagantly so but definitely at the higher end in the luxury watch spectrum. Hublot didn't announce the watch's price, but based on other Hublot watches with similar features, expect it to be in the tens of thousands of dollars. Interestingly, the Big Bang Meca-10 P2P also has a number of Bitcoin-related features and details that should make it attractive to fans of the popular cryptocurrency. You've probably noticed the Bitcoin logo on one of its gears. It's also limited to 210 pieces, a reference to Bitcoin's total supply of 21 million coins. Definitely very cool and you can only buy it with Bitcoin! Read more [HERE](#).



HUBLOT - BIG BANG MECCA-10 P2P



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FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

Kevin Van Trump



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WEBINAR | 11/8 AT 3PM CT
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Learn More About "VakSea"

Title: Proven Immune-Boosting Proteins for Aquaculture

Time: Thursday, November 08 @ 3:00 pm CT

Disease outbreaks cause billions of dollars in losses for the \$170 billion aquaculture industry annually, including a \$22 billion loss in 2017. At the same time, demand for seafood products is growing every day, as world population growth is outpacing what terrestrial agriculture can support and focus is increasingly turning to aquaculture. The industry needs a solution to its disease problem if it hopes to scale efficiently. VakSea seeks to protect high-value fish and shrimp species from disease. Its first product is an immune-boosting protein to protect Whiteleg Shrimp against White Spot Disease caused by White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV). VakSea's products are the first immunoprotective products for shrimp and can be delivered orally as part of feed, eliminating the need for expensive, labor-intensive, and invasive injection vaccines. The end result is healthier, more disease resistant shrimp and fish. Learn how one company is working to create healthier fish farms at "Proven Immune-Boosting Proteins for Aquaculture," a webinar to be held at 3 pm CT on November 8th featuring Mihir Pershad, CEO of VakSea.



840 NEW Millennial-Based Words Added to the Dictionary

While your high school English teacher might not have appreciated the use of slang words in the classroom, the reality is our language is constantly evolving and dictionaries expanding to keep up with the times. In its most recent update, Merriam-Webster added a ton of millennial-worthy words to its online dictionary. Back in September, Merriam-Webster unveiled about 840 new words that it has added to its database. Thanks to these additions, words like "marg," "bougie," "adorbs," "hangry," "guac," and "avo" are now dictionary-approved usages of the English language. Also included in the update were several tech terms, like "Instagramming," "biohacking," and "force quit." In their [blog post](#) announcing the new words, Merriam-Webster wrote that dictionary should be a "glossary of life." The post stated that words are introduced to the dictionary only after a large number of people have regularly used them. For each reader, some of the new words inevitably seem already familiar, but others will be encountered for the first time, which Webster's says probably means they are doing it just about right. Below are a few examples of words that Merriam-Webster says have been accepted into the language and culture. (Source: Merriam-Webster)

1. **BOUGIE** (ADJ.) *Short for bourgeois, this term means "Marked by a concern for wealth, possessions, and respectability."*
2. **TL;DR** (ABBREV.) *"Too long; didn't read—used to say that something would require too much time to read."*
3. **BINGEABLE** (ADJ.) *"Having multiple episodes or parts that can be watched in rapid succession."*
4. **HANGRY** (ADJ.) *informal : irritable or angry because of hunger.*
5. **HAPTICS** (N.) *"The use of electronically or mechanically generated movement that a user experiences through the sense of touch as part of an interface (such as on a gaming console or smartphone)."*
6. **FORCE QUIT** (V.) *"To force (an unresponsive computer program) to shut down (as by using a series of preset keystrokes)."*
7. **AIRPLANE MODE** (N.) *"An operating mode for an electronic device (such as a mobile phone) in which the device does not connect to wireless networks and"*

cannot send or receive communications (such as calls or text messages) or access the Internet but remains usable for other functions."

8. **INSTAGRAM** (V.) "To post a picture to the Instagram photo-sharing service."

9. **BIOHACKING** (N.) "Biological experimentation (as by gene editing or the use of drugs or implants) done to improve the qualities or capabilities of living organisms especially by individuals and groups outside of a traditional medical or scientific research environment."

10. **FINTECH** (N.) "Products and companies that employ newly developed digital and online technologies in the banking and financial services industries."



The Greatest Female Guitarist Ever

Roberta Joan Anderson, later known to the world as Joni Mitchell, was born on this day in 1943, in Fort MacLeod, Alberta, Canada. Her mother Myrtle was a teacher, while her father Bill was a Royal Canadian Air Force flight lieutenant. A young Joni Mitchell moved with her parents to various bases in western Canada. After the war she settled with her family in Saskatchewan then to the city of Saskatoon, which she considers her hometown. She later sang about her small-town upbringing in several of her songs. At school Mitchell struggled; her main interest was painting. She responded badly to formal education, preferring a freethinking outlook. During this time she briefly studied classical piano, she was very good at it, but didn't enjoy the structure. When the folk-music revival of the late 1950s and early 1960s came to Saskatoon—the college town in which she spent most of her childhood—Mitchell resolved to learn the guitar in order to become a competent accompanist at sing-alongs. This was the time when country music began to eclipse rock, and Mitchell wanted to play the guitar. But her mother disapproved of its hillbilly associations and refused to chip in, citing Joni's earlier abandonment of the piano, the woman Rolling Stone would later name the greatest female guitarist of all time saved up and purchased a baritone ukulele. A bout with polio at age nine left Mitchell unable to form the chords with her left hand that her ear wanted to hear, so early on she began experimenting with non-standard guitar tunings that would later become part of her signature sound. This improvised approach later helped her break free of standard approaches to harmony and structure in her songwriting. Mitchell started singing with her friends at bonfires around Waskesiu Lake, northwest of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Her first paid performance was on October 31, 1962, at a club in Saskatoon. At age 20, she dropped out of school, a decision that much displeased her parents, who could remember the Great Depression and valued education highly. Later that same year, she told her mother that she intended to be a folk singer and needed to leave western Canada and head for Toronto. On the three-day train ride there, Mitchell wrote her first song, "Day After Day". Lacking the \$200 needed for musicians' union fees, Mitchell managed a few gigs at the Half Beat and the Village Corner in Toronto's Yorkville neighborhood, but she mostly played non-union gigs "in church basements and YMCA meeting halls". Rejected from all of the major folk clubs, she had to resort to working in the women's wear section of a downtown department

store to pay the rent. Mitchell began singing in small nightclubs in her hometown of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and throughout western Canada, before busking in the streets and nightclubs of Toronto, Ontario. In 1965, she moved to the United States and began touring. It was not as performer, however, but as a songwriter that Mitchell would initially make her name. Even many of her biggest fans first heard Joni Mitchell's music as interpreted by Judy Collins, who made a hit out of "Both Sides Now" (1967) fully two years before Mitchell released her own recording of that song herself. In later years, Crosby, Stills and Nash would score a bigger hit with the Mitchell-penned "Woodstock", as would hard-rockers Nazareth with their 1973 cover version of "This Flight Tonight". Her 1971 album *Blue* is often cited as one of the best albums of all time; it was rated the 30th best album ever made in Rolling Stone's list of the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time", the highest entry by a female artist. In 2000, The New York Times chose *Blue* as one of the 25 albums that represented "turning points and pinnacles in 20th-century popular music". In 2017, NPR ranked *Blue* Number 1 on a list of Greatest Albums Made By Women. She has received many other accolades as well, including nine Grammy Awards. I should also note, Mitchell is a very good artist, actually designing most of her own album covers. She describes herself as a "painter derailed by circumstance". Another interesting item, many who were close to the superstar, say she was a smoker by the age of 10, she denies the claims that smoking has affected her voice. On a final note, despite Joni Mitchell's prominence among the young musicians of the 1960s and 1970s, she did not align herself with the Baby Boom era's protest movements or its cultural manifestation, that associated with 1960s counter-culture. She has said that the parents of the boomers were unhappy, and "out of it came this liberated, spoiled, selfish generation into the costume ball of free love, free sex, free music, free, free, free we're so free." But "I was not a part of that," she explained in an interview. "I was not a part of the anti-war movement, either. I played in Fort Bragg. I went the Bob Hope route because I had uncles who died in the war, and I thought it was a shame to blame the boys who were drafted." Even Bob Dylan, one of the most iconic musicians of the Baby Boom generation, has not escaped Mitchell's generational critique: "I like a lot of Bob's songs. Musically he's not very gifted." To put it simply, Joni Mitchell did it her way, and that's what allowed her to become one of the greatest the world has ever seen. I included below, the song "Help Me", which Joni released in 1974. It was one of my Mom's favorites and I always remember her playing it around the house, Click [HERE](#) to listen. You can listen to her famous song "Big Yellow Taxi" Clicking [HERE](#)

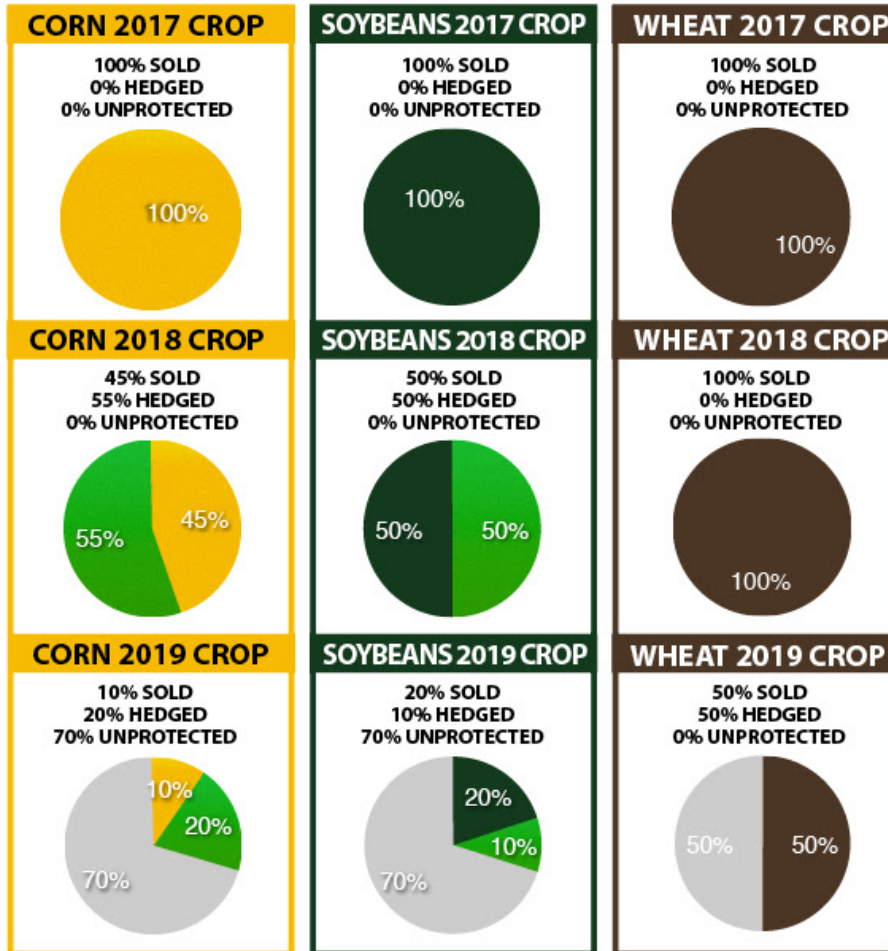


ANSWER to riddle:

The word is starting! starting, staring, string, sting, sing, sin, in, I.

CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS

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Kevin Van Trump <kvt@farmdirection.com>
 To: Kevin Van Trump <kvt@farmdirection.com>
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