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Surviving the Bad Economy

2/20/2015

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History can be humorous. A great example is this fun story by Jean Hurt in one of the TL&M Genealogy magazines from 2011. Enjoy!

Nearly everyone has been affected the last three years by the economy tanking. Many people lost their jobs, lost money they had in their 401K, and had their homes lost to bank foreclosure. While the stock market has begun to recover somewhat, a lot of people are still unemployed. People are doing whatever they can to survive. I have read a log of strategies but I received one in an e-mail that was unusual.

If you had purchased \$1000 of Delta Air Lines stock in 2007, a year later, you would have \$49.00 left. With Enron, you would have \$16.50 left of the original \$1000. With WorldCom, you would have less than \$5.00 left.

But, if you had purchased \$1000 worth of beer at the same time, drank all the beer, then turned in the aluminum cans for the recycling refund, you would have \$214.00 cash.

Based on the above, the best current investment advice is to drink heavily and recycle. It's called the 401Keg. A recent study found that the average American walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found the average American drinks, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means, on average, Americans get about 41 miles to the gallon.

I thought this was interesting but it only applies to the ones still young enough to be employed. If you are retired or have arthritis, which limits your walking to the bare minimum and have an overactive bladder, then this doesn't apply, and is more likely to be how many gallons to a mile?

--by Jean Hurt, *TL&M Magazine, Volume XIX, Number One, 2011*

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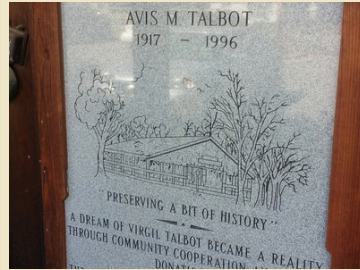
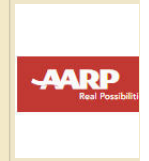
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