

## MY LITTLE STORY

Do you have baking and roasting pans that you've had for decades, and that over the years have accumulated black, ugly, rock-hardened, impossible shtuff that you can't remove, even with a chisel or a jack hammer? But that old pan has been there so long that you don't even think about it. You just use it because it's there.

And then one day, as you scrub away, hoping that you're getting all of the new crud out of the pan, it occurs to you. Why am I doing this? Why don't I just replace this pan with one of the newer non-stick pans that clean like a breeze?

We have a couple of pans like that at our house. One is about 11x16x2.5" and the other is somewhat smaller. They are made of the old dark blue granite, which is really good stuff, but these two pans have been around so long, they outdate many of our own employees. And whenever we use them, which is lots, it's often for a casserole that burns more gunk on them. No amount of scrubbing makes it feel clean.

So one day, we woke up to the fact that we should replace them! Wow! What a concept! New pans that actually can be cleaned! Easily! Really!

Dutifully, since I seem to be the purchasing agent of our household, I checked Amazon for the pans. My first issue was deciding what to call them. Baking pans? Non-stick cooking pans? Whatever I searched gave me entire sets of cookware or various sizes of cake pans. I stumbled on the term "roasting pans", which finally produced a 17" pan with 3" tall sides, which seemed to approximate the old pan we were retiring. Unfortunately the pan cost \$30, and a smaller version \$26, but oh, well, we'd be using them for a long time.

It took a few days for \$55 worth of pans to arrive from Amazon. The day the "smaller" one arrived, I happened to walk down aisle 7B, the Baking Aisle, where we have a 16' section of cookware and kitchen gadgets. Right in front of me were two nonstick pans the perfect size and shape of the two old ones we were



discarding! And the price!!! The smaller one was \$7.99 and the larger one \$9.99, for a total of \$17.48, compared to the \$55 for the two from Amazon. Needless to say, I bought the two pans from good old LVM.

When I saw the first pan from Amazon, I flipped, because it hu-u-u-ge! The second one was even hu-u-u-ger. Whoa! Where in our kitchen will these fit? They don't fit, really, so one is hidden in the dark recesses of a cupboard and the other - I sold it for \$20 and took a \$10 hit. Think of it as a fine for being so stupid!

I am mortified that not even I thought to check our own store before buying something from Amazon! I can't believe my idiocy! We hear similar stories now and then from customers who look for something all over town (or used to, before the virus interrupted life) only to return home and find it here.

A couple more examples: Recently my doctor recommended I use a sinus wash to fight a persistent sinus infection. He pointed to the package of NeilMed on his table, available at Costco or Walgreens or whatever big box store. No, I don't go those places (I HATE to shop!). I don't sell out and support the big box stores. I sell out and support Amazon (yuk). So I ordered the sinus wash from Amazon, but then later, I thought to check our store. Sure enough, we were supposed to have it but were out at the time. I looked in our wholesaler's catalog and found it, ordered it, and now we have it! Duhhhhh...

One more: one of our gals told me how effective her family finds Biofreeze ointment/cream/rollon for muscle and body pain. Again, I went to Amazon and ordered it. One day, while doing paperwork, I saw that it is listed in our wholesaler's catalog, and so I ordered it, and voila! We carry it!

Never underestimate your

hometown store! It's the everything store (when we can get it)! And not even we who live here realize how much stuff we have!

*Judith Gommel*

## HOW TO BREAK THE FAKE NEWS HABIT

In case you haven't noticed (really??), there is a tsunami of information and opinion coming at us about both the virus-demic and the stolen election, and it's really really difficult to know what is true and what isn't. "Facts" change daily. Seemingly credible people say 180° opposite things. There seem to be as many opinions as there are individuals giving them to us, for free. (And you know the adage, "You get what you pay for, so when it costs nuthin, you get nuthin.")

We watch our nation become divided by the panic and by the elections, virtually sharing the same divide so that those who believe the panic are largely the same as those who believe the election. Conversely, those who refuse to panic and surrender to out-of-control government edicts curtailing long-held freedoms are largely the same as those who know the election is being stolen before our eyes.

The core of the issue is where to find actual truth about either huge subject. That is a major challenge, but one of utmost importance. At stake is our fundamental freedom to build our lives and grow our families as we see fit, and to participate in activities and groups of people who share our deepest convictions about eternal realities. That freedom, the freedom of the individual to pursue his own life, liberty, and happiness, is the cornerstone of this American way.

If we care to keep this blessing given to us by God and defended by the blood of many our our young men and women, it is paramount that we separate fake news and disinformation (aka propaganda) from news and information based on fact and reality, and also that



accompanying commentary springs from reliable sources with proven track records of common sense and basic truth.

That can be a tall order and one difficult to sell to people who are comfortable turning on the TV and leaving it on as background noise, set on a familiar channel whose voices we are used to. And then we listen uncritically, letting the stream of garbage flow into our brains, coloring and distorting our own awareness and thought.

I decided to start a list of alternative sources of news, commentary, television, and video. Some of these I have used for years; others I am going to try to use myself for the first time.

For television news available live: <https://www.newsmax.com/> This is available on some cable services, but also is on the internet. I discovered that you can stream it on your phone or tablet and cast it to your TV using Chromecast or Amazon TV or maybe others I don't know about.

<https://www.theepochtimes.com/> Both an online and an actual newspaper. Good alternative to any of the fake news sources.

<https://www.oann.com/> One America News. Similar to Newsmax. Committed to straight news and commentary labelled "Opinion".

<https://duckduckgo.com/> A search engine that provides a

### Congratulations to the winners of our free turkey contest!

- Elaine Dwire
  - Shelley Morgan
  - Tammy Kastning
  - Cheryl Thomas
  - Tonya Judkins
  - Brian Valenzuela
  - Amos
  - Charlotte Lovejoy
  - Jacqueline Avila-Barajas
  - Dean Gulla
- All from Lucerne Valley!

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good alternative to Google which is shaping search results to fit the Leftist narrative.

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<https://townhall.com/> A great conservative news and opinion site.

<https://www.americanthinker.com/> My absolute favorite, daily go-to source for commentary and news.

<https://patriotpost.us/> Excellent news digest

<https://www.rushlimbaugh.com/> Yes, I'm a dittohead, but when you don't know what to think about what's happening before your very eyes, Rush is the best at unravelling it all.

There are many more that others use, with which I am unfamiliar. These are the ones I know about. For actual links, please use our website at Lucernevalley.com, where these will appear as links.

*Judith Gommel*

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### LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.  
**ON MULTIPLE PRICING**, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).