

# It's Fall!

As I sit here and "write" this – that is, punch a bunch of keys (ticka tacka ticka tacka) on a computer keyboard – it is Sept. 22, the first day of Fall! Just yesterday, it seems, actually June 21 or so, I moaned to myself that the beginning of summer was at hand, my least favorite season. But hold on, I said to Me, it's only 3 months until Fall, and the way time passes these days, it will be here before you know it.

And so it is. It's here, and I don't know it! But all I have to do is to look at the announcements below to realize that the Fall is upon us. There are three events shown below, all centered in my favorite month of October: the Mega Swap Meet on October 15, Johnson Valley's Oktoberfest also on October 15, and signups for the Roadrunners' Halloween Trick or Treat Tailgate that will take place on October 31 over between the Library and the Senior Center.

On the Oct. 15 Saturday, you could make a day of it: spend the morning and early afternoon browsing all the swap meet booths all over town, and spend all your money with the hard-working locals who put their booths together. Then take a nice drive out to Johnson Valley. The Oktoberfest dinner is a real treat of fried potatoes, sauerkraut, German sausage, and soft pretzels. On top of that are several home-crafted beers to choose from, and lots of tempting homemade desserts.

On October 31 is the Halloween Tailgate, which is a genuine gift to the community by the ladies of the Roadrunners. We are so fortunate to live out here in the rural desert, but our homes are not conducive to the traditional trick-or-treating due to the wonderfulness of the open spaces here. The Tailgate provides a lot of fun for the kids in a safe environment, a perfect way to do Halloween.

Linda Gummel

## OKTOBERFEST



Traditional German Dinner Buffet at the Johnson Valley Community Center

Saturday, October 15th

\$12.00 per person.

Beer Garden opens at 3:00; dinner between 6:00 and 7:00.

Don't miss out; quantities are limited! You can also reserve your tickets online by secure credit card at [www.johnsonvalley.com](http://www.johnsonvalley.com)

## Lucerne Valley's MEGA SWAP MEET!

October 15, Saturday, 8am to 3pm

Sponsored by Lucerne Valley Chamber of Commerce

Call today to reserve your space to sell!

His Closet -- 760-412-0431

Cafe 247 -- 951-751-1039

LV Chamber -- 562-522-8775

Jack O Landia -- 760-220-6040

LV Senior Center -- 760-248-2248 (9am-1pm)

Henry's Bargains -- 760-524-8519

Lucerne Valley Mkt & Hdw -- **SOLD OUT**



## HALLOWEEN TAILGATE TRICK OR TREAT!

SIGN-UPS FOR SPONSORSHIPS & TAILGATE SPOTS SATURDAYS

Oct. 8, 15, & 22 9:00 A.M - Noon

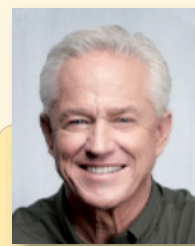
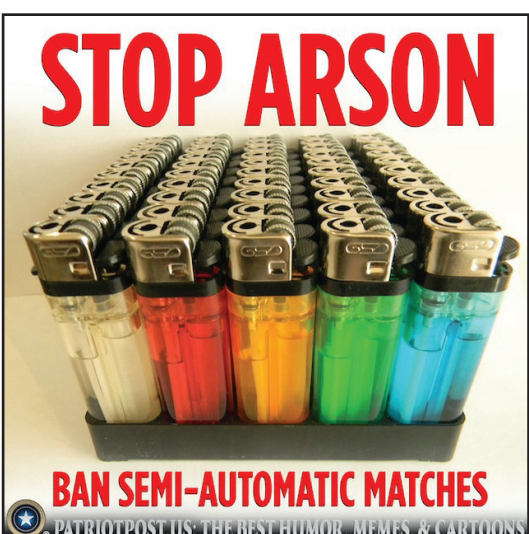
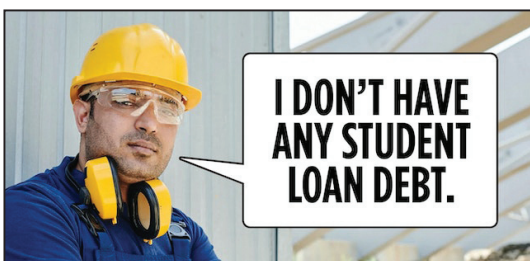
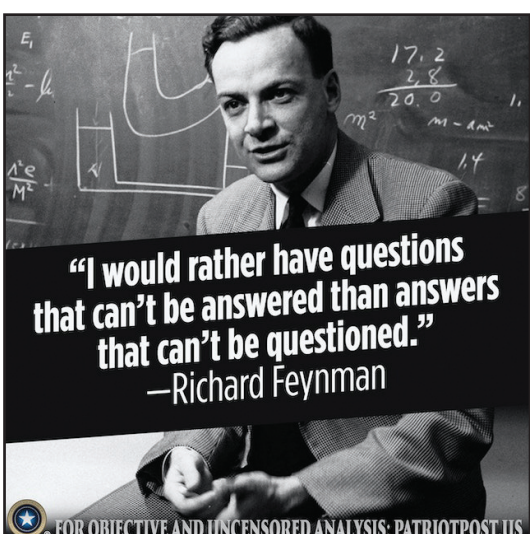


ON THE PORCHES HERE AT THE STORE Come sign up!

The Tailgate Trick or Treat will be held on October 31 in the parking between the Library and Senior Center.

Hosted by the Lucerne Valley Roadrunners

### On The Lighter Side . . . Contributed from the Web



### When Grace is Tangible

Ray Bentley Ministries

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS We honor Pastor Ray's life by continuing to share the daily devotions he prepared for you, his precious readers.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us... full of grace and truth."—John 1:14

There is more to grace than I ever imagined. We sing of amazing grace with the hope and longing that inspires people of all faiths and walks of life.

Theologically, grace is defined as "un-merited favor." A good, sound concept.

But there is something more tangible about grace. Something we can picture in our minds.

God once told Moses, "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion" (Exodus 33:19).

Grace, as I discovered in the Hebrew language, is more than a favor granted in spite of our failings.

When God says He will be gracious (to whomever He chooses), He used the word *chanan*, which adds a new layer to our understanding. *Chanan* means to show favor and mercy, "to bend or stoop in kindness."



God is not only granting favor and mercy, but the word picture is of Him bending down to

us in kindness, like a father getting down on his knees to embrace his child.

There's even more to this picture. The root word of *chanan* means to pitch a tent; to encamp, abide camp, dwell, rest in a tent.

This is more than God granting favor. He wants to dwell with us, to "camp out" with us! The God who is so beyond us, not of this world, desires for His glory to abide with us and in us.

God will be gracious to whomever He chooses. He will come and live with, dwell with, camp out with whomever He chooses, even when it makes no sense to anyone else. Even if it doesn't meet our standard of approval.

**The Almighty Lord desires to dwell with us. Not just rule over us. Certainly not to start a religion, but to love us and live with us in a tangible, real way. To show us the way, the truth, and the life.**

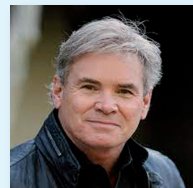
The ultimate experience of God bending down, stooping down to the ground to dwell among us is the incarnation of Jesus.

In an act of great love, Jesus bent down from heaven to lay down His life and show us eternal life in human form. He came to redeem us and join us in the trials of life. "He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap" (Psalm 113: 7).

He comes down to our level.

And He will be gracious, even unto us.

That's amazing grace.



### REAL LIFE

with Jack Hibbs

"...and there, a woman was lying at his feet." Ruth 3:8

This verse sounds a little suggestive at first glance. Ruth had been instructed to draw near to the man Boaz and assume a close, but respectful position. Little did she know that he was to become her husband. Boaz was a man of influence, a man whom people loved and looked up to. But Ruth knew only of his gentle kindness and favor shown by him in her new country.

Ruth approached Boaz in the night hours under the cover of darkness as others were fast asleep. As she lay down at his feet, Ruth understood that in doing so, she was dedicating herself to this man.

**“ LOVE HAS NO FEAR WHEN GOD IS INVITED IN.**

But there is more here than meets the eye. In the account of Ruth and Boaz, we see a beautiful picture of Christ and those who come to Him. Jesus calls us to meet Him at His feet. He delights in all those who position themselves in such a humbling manner. It is there that our love begins and where that love continues to grow.

At the feet of Jesus, He takes possession of our lives, gently guiding our steps. So strong is His desire to bless rather than discipline, that He no longer allows us to walk in places of temptation that bring pain. His ways are those of peace and safety.

**Today, may you humble yourself at Jesus' feet, as Ruth before her beloved Boaz, and enjoy the peace that comes from being where you belong.**