

It's so easy to see the bad these days. All you have to do is turn on the news or look at social media. What might be harder for us to see right now is the good that is coming from restrictions imposed on us by the protective orders. Instead of focusing on the bad, we are highlighting some of the good. Let's look at the roses hiding among the thorns.



What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, bankers, cashiers, custodians, logistics, and health care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered in place?

world quieter.

People are conscious about hygiene and health again.

We are respecting the restrictions for our safety implemented by authorities.

Money doesn't seem to make the world go around anymore.

And we now have time finally to stop and smell the roses.

We become closer to God

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life?

What if they are AHEAD?

Positive Changes

Traffic is gone, gas is affordable and bills are extended.

Kids are home with their families and parents are home taking care of their children.

Fast food has been replaced by home cooked meals.

Hectic schedules have been replaced by naps.

The air seems cleaner and the

**Please
Support
Your
Hometown
Businesses!**

Grateful

I'm feeling grateful. Not because we're under a pandemic, the situation is horrible for the entire world, and I fear the worst is still to come.

But this once in a lifetime situation gives the opportunity for a busy dad to be grateful for things that, while not taken for granted per se, are certainly more appreciated now than pre-Covid19.

I am grateful for this time with my children. Grateful for the opportunity to just hang out. Grateful for the time to teach them to ride bikes. To have them hold my feet for sit-ups and grateful to hear them laugh at me during my zoom workout, and grateful to hear them later tell their mom how strong I was (while making sure I could hear them, because they're smooth like that).

I'm grateful I've talked to my mom everyday for a month. That hasn't happened in 30 years. It has been a time of sweet reconnection.

I'm grateful to have been in contact with multiple dear friends I hadn't talked to in years, and share new laughs with old comrades.

I'm grateful to talk to my extended family more recently than ever before. My brothers, and aunts and uncles, and in-laws. Very grateful to have such a big tribe.

I'm grateful to have had many, many family meals together over the past month. I'm grateful to cook as an act of love and comfort. I'm grateful food and acts of service are my love languages.

I'm grateful my wife talked me into a dog again last year, because when it all gets to be a little much, and I need a break, he always seems to show up to keep me company.

I'm grateful for a loving and patient wife who has let me overthink all our preparation protocols, and puts up with my 72 hour mail quarantines, and amazon package garage embargo's, and is willing to let me talk and talk until I am tired enough to fall asleep.

I'm grateful that this is a nuisance and not a crisis for my family. I'm grateful for the blessing of sharing with others and helping others.

I'm grateful for a college kid willing to endure a pretty crappy quarantine experience for 14 days to make sure her grandma stays safe.

If you are reading this, then

you're a friend, and please know I'm grateful for you too.

Be kind to each other y'all. We'll be all right. Find something to be grateful for and it makes it all easier to get through.

Jon Jackson

A Different Education

Schools have been out for almost four weeks and if we go back May 1st, we would be out for over seven weeks. If they cancel the rest of the school year, students would miss 2.5 months of education. Many people are concerned about students falling behind because of this. Yes, they may fall behind when it comes to classroom education...

But what if...

What if instead of falling "behind", this group of kids are **ADVANCED** because of this? Hear me out.

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family

connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, they love to express themselves in writing.

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own backyard and sitting near a window in the quiet.

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organize their space, do their laundry, and keep a well run home?

What if they learn to stretch a dollar and to live with less?

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home.

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

**FLOYD C. PETITT
INSURANCE**

**LIFE • HEALTH • GROUP HEALTH
LONG TERM CARE • ANNUITIES
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS
AUTO • HOME • COMMERCIAL**

WE PUT YOU FIRST!

YOU'RE NOT A NUMBER TO US, BUT A MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY!

(325) 453-4551 (325) 223-1563
PO Box 184 • 715 AUSTIN 5002 KNICKERBOCKER
ROBERT LEE, TEXAS 76945 SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76904

floyd@floyddepettitinsurance.com

**For the safety of
Coke County citizens,
The Observer/Enterprise
has suspended the use of
our drop boxes indefinitely.
Items for publication
may be emailed to
ObserverEnterprise
@gmail.com.
You may also text or call
with your information to
(325) 453-2433.**

IVEY MOTORS

- 2019 Ford F-550 Chassis \$51,500**
*White w/Gray Cloth! Single Cab! Diesel! 4x2!
Only 500 Miles! Like New Condition!* #V170B
- 2016 Ford F-150 King Ranch \$32,000**
*White w/Brown Leather! Navigation, Sunroof,
& Bed Liner! 4x2! 84K Miles! Great Condition!* #7138A
- 2013 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon \$26,995**
*White w/Black Leather! 4x4! 3.6L V6! Hard Top w/
Alpine Stereo! 86K Miles! Great Looking Ride!* #7176A
- 2019 Ford Flex SEL \$25,995**
*Black w/Tan Leather! Navigation!
Like New Condition! Only 12K Miles!* #7175A
- 2018 Ford Explorer XLT \$25,995**
*White Platinum w/Tan Leather!
Navigation! Super Clean SUV! 40K Miles!* #W316A

**Free Pick Up
and Delivery
for Sales
and Service!**

453-4561

Ask For: **Cole Flanagan • Buddy Wallace • Kagan Maxcey**

