Letter to the Editor: Mini-bike twice taken

by Mariann Cooper

Richard "Richie" Beckhorn passed away October 26, 2022 after living with his sister, Shirley Beckhorn Cuddeback, for two years. During that time, he purchased a few toys; a small go-cart, and a fat wheeled mini-bike from Tractor Supply Company.

Two weeks after Richie passed, Shirley's son, Robert Cuddeback gave Shirley a hand written note, supposedly signed by Richie (not his handwriting), that he wanted Robert to have his mini-bike. Robert took the mini-bike off the porch without a word to me, Shirley's Guardian. When I found out it was gone, I called to make a police report. I spoke with Robert on the phone from Shirley's and told him he'd better return it now or go to jail. Within a couple hours, he sent it back via two other friends. This time I put it inside the shed and closed the door.

The week of January 3-4, 2023, I got a call from Shirley telling me that Amy McWilliams had purchased the go-cart and mini-bike from Richie before he passed. (I've been told it was her brother who purchased the go-cart.) She already had the go-cart but neglected to pick up the mini-bike. She came promptly and took the mini-bike! Again, I called the police. I told the officer that she had stolen the bike. He said, "(chuckle) That's what she said you would say."

Officer DeYoung called me back the next evening and informed me that Amy McWilliams had purchased the mini-bike from Richie and came and picked it up! (Was there anything in writing to prove this? Did he take her word for it?)

Richie told me he sold the go-cart, but he didn't say he sold the mini-bike. Richie, 85, didn't plan to die, and he loved his mini-bike. I don't believe he would have sold it without me knowing.

I informed Officer DeYoung that I believed she was lying and he told me I'd have to take it to Small Claims Court for dispute. Shirley, who has inherited his few possessions, doesn't have the funds to pay for court, and I'm her Guardian as a unpaid volunteer.

After listening to my messages from Shirley on my answering machine, the first call is relaying a message from Amy asking if I would sell her the mini-bike. The second message, Shirley tells me that Amy said the bike didn't belong to me, and I have no rights to it. The third message says that Amy bought the bike from Richie. And the fourth message, Shirley says Amy bought the bike.

At this point it appears that there is no recourse. Amy took the mini-bike from an enclosed area on private property, from Shirley's house, with the approval of the officer. Amy's well-planned testimony overrides my claim of theft. I planned to sell the mini-bike and use the proceeds for Shirley's care and expenses. Her expenses exceed her income and now I can't plan on anything extra. Richie had contributed toward the expenses, but now he's gone.

Shirley is 78 years old and qualifies as a disadvantaged senior citizen. Isn't this Elder Abuse when a person takes advantage of her? I'm a senior also, and am responsible for the property at this house as long as Shirley lives there. Something doesn't feel right about this situation, and I don't

feel Officer DeYoung was justified. He asked if we had a camera? Why did we need a camera when he knew she took the mini-bike? He spoke directly to her! She evidently is a professional when it comes to the police and knowing what to say and when.

Shirley has a hard time keeping her expenses within her income. Without the extra from Richie, things are going to get tight.

I have known Shirley ever since elementary as we were in the same grade at Fruitport. When Ron and I married in 1971 and I moved back to Fruitport, Shirley and I became re-acquainted and I looked out for her and her sister, Helen Beckhorn. Richie and Shirley approached me one day and told me their 20 acres was taken from them in exchange for bathroom renovations for \$900. Their mother signed the agreement with an 'X' to give Tim Makay the property in exchange for a lifetime lease for the girls to live there without having to pay the taxes. He divided the property into separate parcels and sold them. I researched and typed up a two-page letter to Tony Tague, Muskegon County Prosecutor, explaining the situation. He never replied to my letter, but I received a call from Kathy Jeske, Department of Human Services, asking if I'd be willing to be Guardian for Helen and Shirley? I said I would because I look out for them anyway. Otherwise, they were Wards of the Court with no Guardian. Helen passed away in 2018.

Before Township Clerk Carol Hulka retired, she donated a plot at Fruitport cemetery that would hold the ashes for three. Helen was buried there, Richie will be buried there, and there's still a spot for Shirley. Others of their family are buried in Fruitport as well.

The fact remains that the mini-bike was taken right out of the enclosed shed and it's <u>MY problem</u> - if I want to do anything about it! Is this law enforcement?

Before calling 9-1-1...

One other issue I would like to caution people about. When Richie died and I called 911, there were several people who showed up. The First Responders (Fire, Police, Ambulance), the Coroner, and then the funeral home people to collect his body. It doesn't seem like this should be a problem, however, Shirley said Richie had a Shelby Bank envelope on his bed with several bills in it at 1:00am the night before. He was going to give her \$10 for helping him, but the smallest he had was a \$20, so he gave her that. No one else had been in the house, but after his body was taken away, I looked all over the bed for the folded bank envelope. In hind-site, I wish I would have checked for it before letting anybody else in the room. Also, Richie's body was almost face-down when he died. After the First Responders left, his body was flipped and his arm was left in the air, obviously rigormortis had set in already. Why did they have to flip his body when it was obvious he was already dead? However, it did make it easier to access his right pants pocket!?!

A couple days later, I asked the mortuary to check his pockets and they didn't find anything.

It's not okay to pick up somebody's money after they die. Judgment Day is coming, but not everybody seems to be worried about that, sad to say.

Hugh B. Alger



Hugh B. Alger, 82, passed away on April 3rd in Okeechobee, FL, where he resided for the last 20 years. Hugh, along with his twin sister Sue Ann, were born in a farmhouse in Coopersville, MI, August 10, 1940. After high school, Hugh served 4 years in the

U.S. Navy. Upon his discharge, he worked as a salesman for most of his career. He was a very active Mason, reaching the rank of Master Mason. In 2013 he served as Worshipful Master of the Okeechobee Lodge. He was also a Shriner. Hugh was preceded in death by his wife, Kathy Alger, his two sons Tracy and Fred, parents Fred and Marge Alger, his twin sister Sue Ann and Sue Ann's husband Burt Aurich. Hugh is survived by his daughter Traca, brothers David and Jerry, and his sister Melissa Carden.

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Do we want to buy products from countries who say that they want to destroy us?

Does it make cents?

Countries Who Say They Want to Destroy Us:

- Afghanistan

- North Korea

- China

- Russia

- Iran

Countries In Question:

- Egypt

- Pakistan

- India

- Syria

- Iraq

- Venezuela

If you don't agree with this list or if you have others that should be on this list, just email the country name and reasons to *info@checkthelabel.info*.

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Thursdays beginning May 18 @ 7pm First Congregational Church 3212 Pontaluna Rd. Fruitport, MI 49415

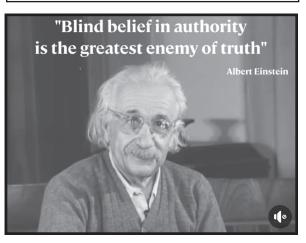
Ivermectin 09/2022

submitted by Joni Olovson

Ivermectin is now on the NIH website for treating Covid-19. How many people died because they didn't post this to begin with??

Just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

submitted by Donna Phelps



from Conservative HQ

History tells us that American intervention abroad is brought with unintended, unforeseen and unforeseeable consequences and our greatest conservative Presidents, statesmen and thinkers back to the foundation of the Republic recognized this and advised against involving the United States in the disputes of other nations.

With Over 80 billion Doses...

Orthomolecular Medicine News Service, Jan 23, 2023

by Andrew W. Saul, Editor

Throughout the entire year, coast to coast across the entire USA, there was not one single death from a vitamin or mineral supplement. If supplements are allegedly so "dangerous," as the FDA, the news media, and even some physicians still claim, then where are the bodies?

Sensible Gun Logic

Source not verified

- 1 Eleven teens die each day because of texting while driving. Maybe it's time to raise the age of Smart Phone ownership to 21.
- 2 If gun control laws actually worked, Chicago would be Mayberry, USA
- 3 Legal gun owners have 300 million guns and probably a trillion rounds of ammo. Seriously, folks, if gun owners were the problem, you'd know it.
- 4 When JFK was killed, nobody blamed the rifle.
- 5 The NRA (National Rifle Association) murders 0 people and receives nothing in government funds. Planned Parenthood kills 350,000 babies every year and receives \$500,000,000 in tax dollars annually.
- 6 There is a legitimate argument for vigorous background checks when it comes to firearms. While we're at it, let's do the same when it comes to immigration, Voter I.D., and candidates running for office.
- 7 Folks keep talking about another Civil War. One side knows how to shoot and probably has a trillion rounds of ammunition. The other side has crying closets and is confused about which bathroom to use. How do you think that would work out?
- 8 A man who left 300,000 guns for the Taliban is lecturing folks on gun control.