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March

March has its share of noteworthy dates, starting with Ash Wednesday on the 6th. The restart of daylight savings time occurs on the 10th (1 am in the morning, if you plan on being precise.)

Saint Patrick's Day is March 17th, a Sunday this year. Finally, spring begins officially on the 20th.

In all, March should be a happy month. Make it a successful one!



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CAPSULED COMMENTS

Most of us gathered our knowledge of the country’s two giant insurance companies, The Met and The Pru, long before the European and Asian insurers came onto the scene. It was always Met and Pru or Pru and Met. But in today’s recognition of size neither is in the top spot or even number two spot.

What follows should be a revelation to most;

1. Allianz SE of Germany
2. AXA S.A. of France
3. Prudential Financial Inc. of the United States
4. Japan Post Insurance Co., LTD of Japan
5. Met Life Inc of the United States

As a matter of fact, only three other U.S. companies appear in the top 25; Berkshire Hathaway (6); American International Group, Inc. (18); and New York Life Insurance Company (25).

These numbers are based on total assets and 2017 annual reports, so the positions may change when the results of 2018 are known worldwide.

TWISTED

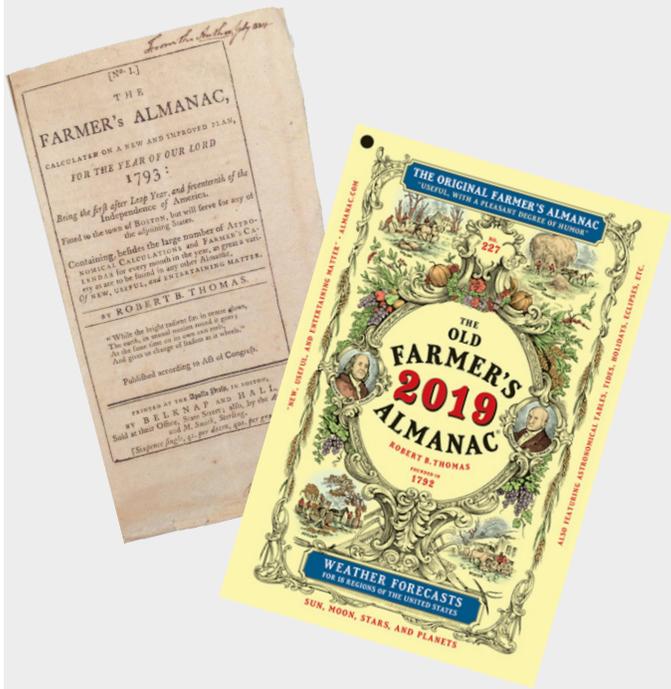
Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He’s all right now.

A bicycle can’t stand alone; it’s just two tired.

When a clock is hungry it goes back for seconds.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.

He had a photographic memory which was never developed.



ALMANACS DUEL OVER WINTER

A stormy rivalry started in 1818 when the Farmers’ Almanac burst onto the scene and threatened the hegemony of the Dublin, N.H. based Old Farmer’s Almanac, which began its publishing in 1792.

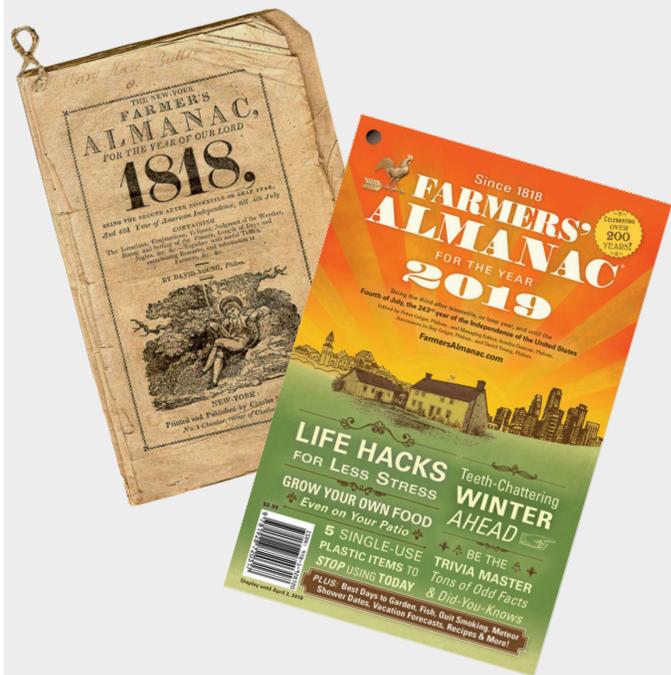
It’s unusual for these dueling almanacs to release winter forecasts that conflict so starkly. But now it has happened. One promises an early spring, the other says winter will hang on.

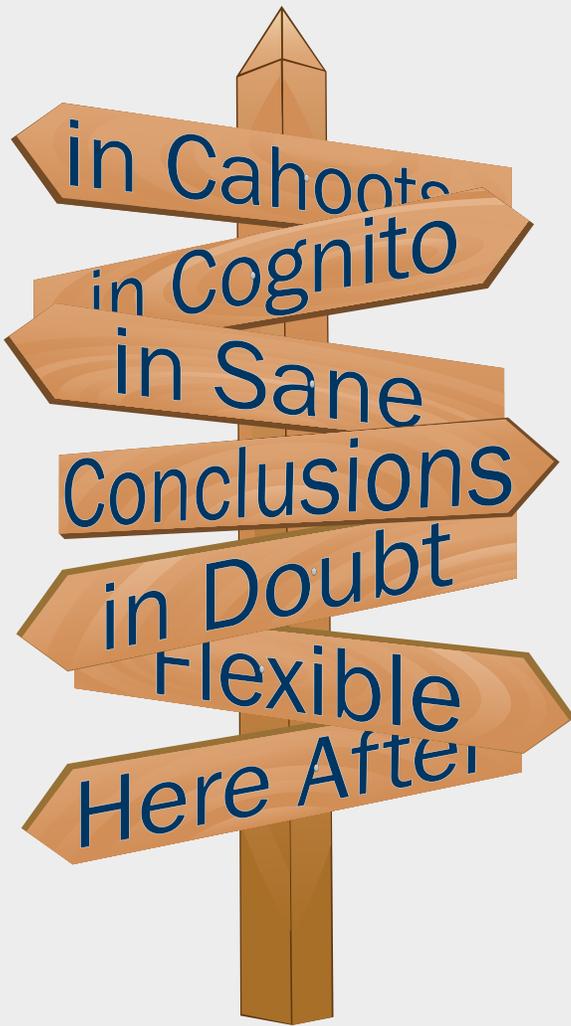
As the two publications released dueling forecasts, a Farmers’ Almanac headline hurled a snowball at its foe: “Frosty Forecast Melts Rumors of Mild Winter.”

This winter, we will “shake, shiver & chatter” and endure plentiful snow, according to the Farmers’ Almanac. Or we are in for “warm and wet” weather, according to Old Farmer’s.

Readers took to social media and the publications’ websites seeking answers about whom to trust. The 226-year-old Old Farmer’s Almanac or the more newfangled 200-year-old Farmers’ Almanac. “What I don’t understand, is how can this forecast map be 180 degrees different than the ‘other’ Farmers’ Almanac map that is out there?” a reader wrote on the Old Farmer’s website.

The Old Farmer’s Almanac portrayed the Farmers’ Almanac’s “teeth-chattering” forecast as simplistic. “It’s an attention getter.” The Farmers’ Almanac’s Maine editor, Mr. Geiger, stood by the bitter forecast. He referred to his rival as “the other almanac, who will go nameless.”





WHERE I HAVE AND HAVE NOT BEEN

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. I was unable to go alone...apparently, you have to be in Cahoots with someone else.

I've been in Cognito before, but no one recognized me there.

Like many before me, I have been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

Some place I would like to go is to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too keen on jumping anymore.

I have never been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Additionally, more often than not I think of the Here After. Several times a day, in fact, I enter a room and think, "What am I here after?"

March Birthdays

- 4 Rob-Ann Stein
- 9 Matthew Knudson
- 14 Ponni Nainar
- 14 Beth Remington
- 15 Logan Cooper
- 15 Ron Fischer
- 18 Steve Navulis
- 25 William P. Bruce
- 25 Michael Barron
- 26 Bharati Patel
- 28 Andrea Slove
- 28 Susan Kostal

Any agent wanting to be included in future birthday greetings please email your name and your birthday to: Sue.Mazur@elcomutual.com.