



**A  
Nation  
weeps**



**Our  
Fraternity  
mourns**





May 2020

## Brethren:

We have been through quite a bit as citizens and Masons this past month. We have witnessed both the best and worst in people throughout our jurisdiction and indeed the world. Thankfully most of us have taken this situation seriously and respected what needs to be done to aid in bringing this to an end. I am so pleased to see and hear from our members and how they are dealing with these changes with positive and uplifting methods of communication. We are truly showing the spirit of our Masonic ways by adapting and reaching out to one another.

With the secession of all Masonic meetings until at least July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Grand Lodge is working hard to determine the best path forward for the still scheduled Grand Lodge Annual Communication. We will know in a few days what the plan is. If you have reservations, be prepared to cancel them once word comes.



The District has been busy with a number of initiatives and a few lodges have conducted virtual GP meetings which show the spirit and ingenuity of our membership. The district charity, NeoKids at HSN (2679) has received some very generous donations and with the year coming to an end soon, a final request for contributions is at hand. Please consider making a donation to this very worthy cause. Due to the present situation many of these programs and charities have seen a drastic reduction in donations and anything we can do to help would be that much more appreciated at this time. The district lodge reports are almost complete and I thank the lodges for their efforts to complete them in a timely manner. If you have any questions on these please advise me asap. We are planning to host a virtual district meeting at some point before mid June and will advise when that is ready.

We continue to offer support for any member or widow needing assistance, be it food or essentials picked up, or just a chat on the phone, don't be shy, just ask.

Take care, and stay strong. We are here for each other and would love to hear from you.

Fraternally,

*Robert J. Lipic*

**District Deputy Grand Master 2019-20**  
**Sudbury Manitoulin District**



## District Chaplain's Observations



*R.W. Bro. Clair Bracken*  
District Chaplain

When we look at all the things we have accumulated in our lifetimes, by hard work and saving, how much has any Spiritual Value?

Has our wealth made us more honest?

Now that we have "lots", do we share more and are we more generous?

Has the amount of things we now have increased our love for one another?

Can we reduce our efforts to accumulate, and give more time and effort to living as we know our God would want us to?

Can we organize our lives so that God and not money is at the center?

Our lives are very busy, with time rushing by; are we making time for God, our families, and friends?

When we choose to follow our God, we must discipline ourselves to focus on what we need and not on what we want. Generosity should be a trait we practice, not because of what we have, but because of how we feel. Acceptance of the knowledge that everything we have is a gift from God, makes it easier to share and help those less fortunate.



We must get away from the attitude "I earned this by hard work" and realize that our good fortune is a blessing from God that we should share. Generous people are not always faithful to God, but faithful people are always generous.

Be honest and sincere in your dealings with one another. There is no need to try and gain from a transaction. Fair is fair.

To show love and kindness to those we meet requires no wealth, just our honest concern. The temptation to cheat others in dealings, leads to ruin and destruction.

If you are focused on money or possessions, you aren't focused on God.

In every trespass against us, judge with candor, admonish with friendship, and reprehend with mercy.



***No Masonic, Concordant Body or Shrine meetings are presently scheduled for May***

***Some groups have scheduled virtual activities via formats such as Zoom***

***Please refer to your group for instructions***



## Mentor's Minute

*W. Bro. Robert Tailleur*

**Mentor / Education Lead**



### *The Mentor's Minute...plus*

It has to be fun!

The following are two clichés I remember from years past: *If at first you don't succeed...give up*; and *if you set your goals low enough, you will never fail*.

In our society today many people adopt these two pearls of wisdom as standards to live by, accepting mediocrity as "good enough" ...but not Freemasons. In our ritual and our lives we strive to turn the rough ashlar into the perfect ashlar through repeated efforts using the chisel to chip away at our flaws, the gavel to help hammer memory work into our hearts and minds and the twenty four inch gauge to pace ourselves in our duties to our lives and our lodges.

As we fulfill our obligations to attend our own lodge meetings and other lodge's meetings, delivering the memory work repeatedly to new and progressing candidates we find that the lodge is not just work, but it can be fun as well. During the hours of refreshment in the lodge building, in your homes or the local coffee shop, after the "work" is done we talk, share stories, experiences and humour.

Freemasonry is a well-rounded complete organization: work...yes; striving for excellence...yes; striving to have a bit of honest fun...yes!

I am certain we are all looking forward to the time when we can meet in the lodge again. Until that time please stay safe and stay healthy.





## Did You Know?

*R.W. Bro. Rob Fleming*



Our Grand Lodge recognizes brethren who have rendered outstanding service to their lodge, to the Craft in general, to their place of worship, their community and their country.

After a Grand Lodge Committee has conducted an extensive evaluation of their contributions, successful candidates are awarded the **William Mercer Wilson Medal**.

Named after our first Grand Master, this Medal – the highest honour which can be bestowed on a brother in our Jurisdiction – is given to a Mason who represents the Craft well.

This individual is one who looks for no reward or publicity for the work that he performs on behalf of Freemasonry. He is often a modest man, who for reasons of his own, has not gone on to become a Worshipful Master of his Lodge but has typically unselfishly given that opportunity to many others in his Masonic career. Generally, he is a mild mannered, soft spoken individual who labours quietly and patiently in the pursuit of brotherly love and in making life better for all with whom he comes into contact. His presence makes a difference in his lodge. These qualities are what distinguish a William Mercer Wilson Medal recipient from the rest of us.

You can recognize a William Mercer Wilson Medal (“W.M.W.M.”) recipient by the distinctive medal hanging from his breast pocket. He also wears a white collar, without a jewel attached. (The collar comes with braided silver ornamentation at its end.)\*

*Prepared by the Grand Lodge P. & E. Committee Issue No. 9 – December 2010*

**\*Note:**

In 2014 the collar changed to a blue collared ribbon with the medal affixed to the apex at bottom of the collar

Our District History indicates that we have had four recipients of this honour. Following are snippets from that history



**Bro. Robert Pascoe** joined Algonquin Lodge in August 1925. He was an ardent member of the Craft, giving instruction to his younger brethren and he became a charter member of Friendship Lodge No. 691; where he continued to assist the members there. At the May 25th 1960 meeting of Friendship Lodge, he was presented with the William Mercer Wilson Medal. He was the 74th recipient since the medal's inception in 1945. It is believed that Bro. Pascoe had given instruction to almost 100 candidates in Algonquin and Friendship Lodges since his being admitted into Freemasonry.

At the Sudbury Lodge meeting on September 17th 1962, The William Mercer Wilson Medal was presented to their Chaplain, **Bro. James Broadley** in recognition of his meritorious service to the Lodge and to the craft in general. Bro. Broadley was blind; but carried out his duties as Chaplain of the Lodge, as well as delivering many of the charges in the various degrees and delivered many topics for Masonic Education. The Presentation was made by R.W. Bro. J. Russel Horne. (658)

In 1991, Grand Lodge recognized **Bro. Nellis Bowerman** of Doric Lodge for his contributions to his community and Freemasonry and presented him with the William Mercer Wilson Medal. (455)

On February 4th 2004, M.W. Bro. Donald H. Mumby attended and assisted by R.W. Bro. John W. Hodder, D.D.G.M., Sudbury-Manitoulin and W. Bro. Albert Stonier, invested **Bro. Marven Firth** with his William Mercer Wilson Medal, a special certificate of recognition and a copy of The First Grand Master. Bro. Firth read a poem of thanks and then returned to his seat in the East. Only five are presented each year, and Bro. Firth was the first to receive one this year. A committee of three Past Grand Masters acting independently determines who may qualify for such recognition. Their decision has to be unanimous.

On November 15th 2010, the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Raymond S.J. Daniels from Grand Lodge recognized **Bro. Robert G. Bryson** of Sudbury Lodge for his contributions to the community and Freemasonry and presented him with the William Mercer Wilson Medal. Sudbury Lodge hosted a dinner following the short meeting. Extra chairs had to be set up in the Lodge Room and the Banquet Room was full.

***Editor's Note: Brother Bryson passed to the Grand Lodge Above on 21 April 2020  
We cherish his memory in our hearts....***



For your browsing pleasure....

**Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario Website**

**<https://grandlodge.on.ca>**

***Sudbury – Manitoulin District Website***

**<http://www.smmasons.com>**

***Sudbury – Manitoulin District Blog***

**<http://sudburymanitoulinmasons.blogspot.com>**

***Sudbury Shrine Club Blog***

**<http://sudburyshriners.blogspot.com>**





## *The District & Beyond*

### *Elam Council No. 5*



*On March 7 in Espanola the Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon*

*Ex. Comp Armand Pitre.*

*It was the official visit of the Grand President, M. Ex. H.P. Stephen Thomson, but he was unable to attend so M. Ex. H.P. Paavo Liukko filled in on his behalf.*

*Ex. Comp Armand Pitre has his certificate in his hands*



I am pleased to announce that the MFO is in the process of finalizing arrangements to provide the sum of \$150,000 over three years (\$50,000 per year) beginning in 2020 to Feed Ontario the umbrella organization for Food Banks in Ontario (including the Sudbury Food Bank)...

The funding by the MFO was approved at a Zoom Meeting of our Board this past week...

It is expected that the 2020 amount will be directed to the relief and recovery activities organized in response to COVID-19...

You may be aware that the MFO must advance its funding through provincial entities...Feed Ontario supports food banks in 128 communities and by extension to over 1,100 affiliated food bank organizations...Bro. Geoff Lougheed is a former Board Member of Feed Ontario...

There will be formal joint announcement in the coming weeks...just thought I would let you know...

S&F

*Brian Koivu*

President, The Masonic Foundation of Ontario



Rob Fleming – President  
Masonichip Foundation of Ontario

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**Masons Helping You  
Protect the Ones You Love**

Website: [www.masonichip.ca](http://www.masonichip.ca)

08 April 2020

**IMPORTANT and URGENT**

To the MASONICH.I.P. Depot Coordinators

Gentlemen;

In consultation with the Masonichip Foundation Board of Directors, we have decided to distribute the unopened boxes of gloves held at each of the depot locations to local first responders.

Our central depot, located in Woodstock will be donating their stock to the ambulance service. Thank you to Ray Dobbs for coordinating that effort.

Please determine first responder needs in your location, select a service, and distribute your stock of unopened boxes to that service.

Please inform Zavar Byramjee by email both the service you donated to, and the number of boxes donated. Zavar's email address is: [zavar@regalpresscanada.com](mailto:zavar@regalpresscanada.com)

Every bit helps, and this effort follows our theme:

***Masons Helping Protect the One You Love***

Thank you for doing this expeditiously.

Sincerely,

**Rob Fleming**

Cc: Masonichip Foundation Board of Directors



***Apparently, R.W. Bro. Hodgins has started a storybook setting around his home.***

***Bullwinkle made an appearance recently***



***..and Winnie the Pooh decided that the flag pole should not be perpendicular to the ground!!!***



**THE MASONIC FOUNDATION OF  
ONTARIO**

**R. W. Bro. R. J Lipic's  
2019 – 2020 District Charity  
is the Neo Kids Foundation  
located at Health Sciences  
North serving the Region**

Please contact W. Bro. John Miszczak  
Masonic Foundation Representative  
for information.  
cell (705) 507-6969  
email [jm.miszczak@hotmail.ca](mailto:jm.miszczak@hotmail.ca).



**Sudbury and Manitoulin  
District  
DDGM Charity 2019-2020  
No. 2679**

**WHY DONATE**

Your donations to NEO Kids Foundation directly contribute to existing programs and services currently provided by NEO Kids. Your donation will also help us in achieving our ultimate goal, of building a bigger home to accommodate the growing needs for the children in Northeastern Ontario.

Children are not small adults. Just like them, their health care needs are unique. Your donation will help to purchase vital pieces of equipment, conduct life-changing research and increase awareness for children's health needs.

**For Masons giving to a cause.  
We request your donation to this  
worthy charity supporting our  
DDGM.**

Please make cheques payable to:  
"The Masonic Foundation of Ontario"  
Memo section: DDGM Project No. 2679



## ***Editor's Note:***

***The following section is not intended to make light of, or trivialize the current pandemic.***

***It is still a serious situation.***

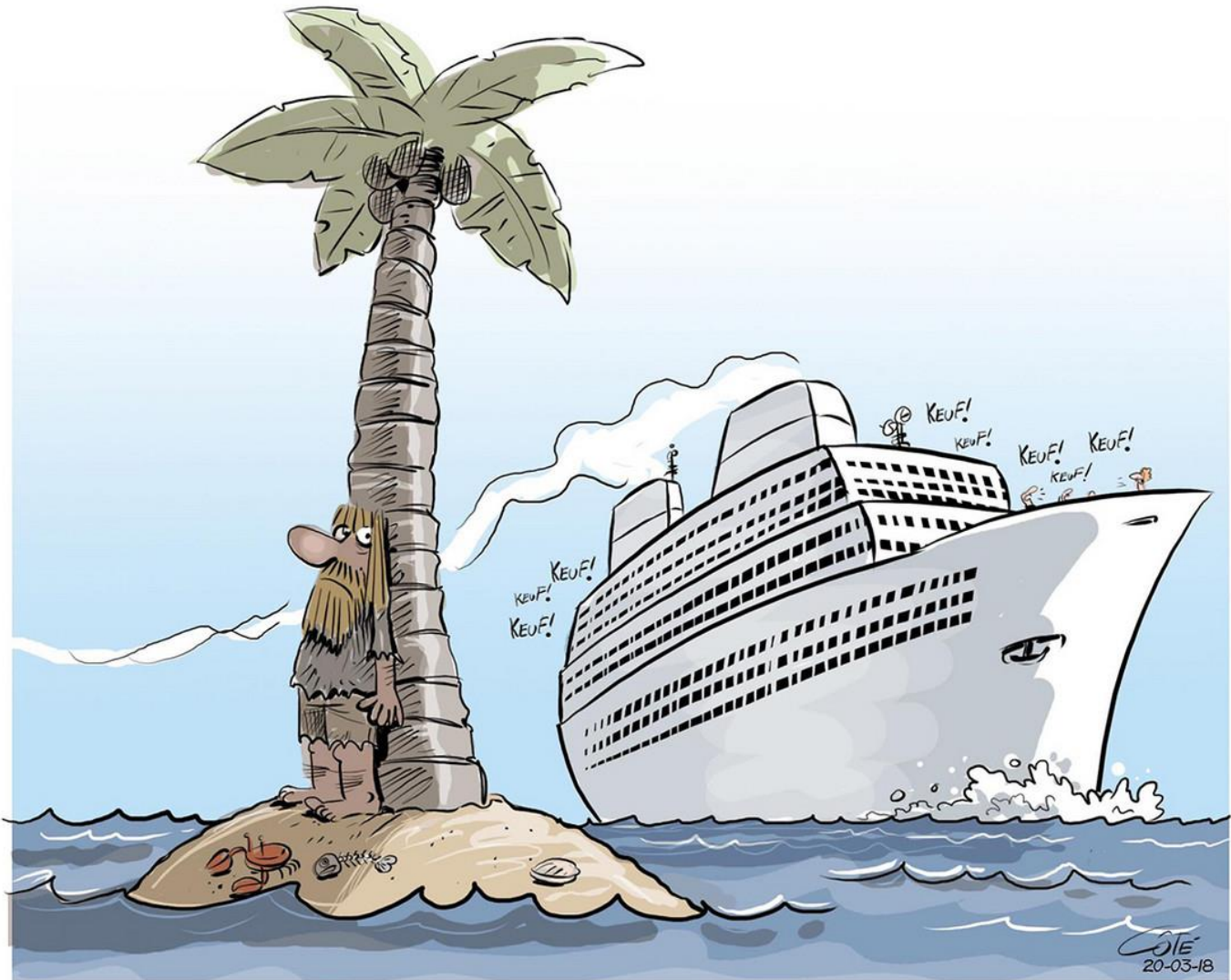
***It is an attempt to add a little humour into your day.***



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A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

Volume 1  
Issue 9

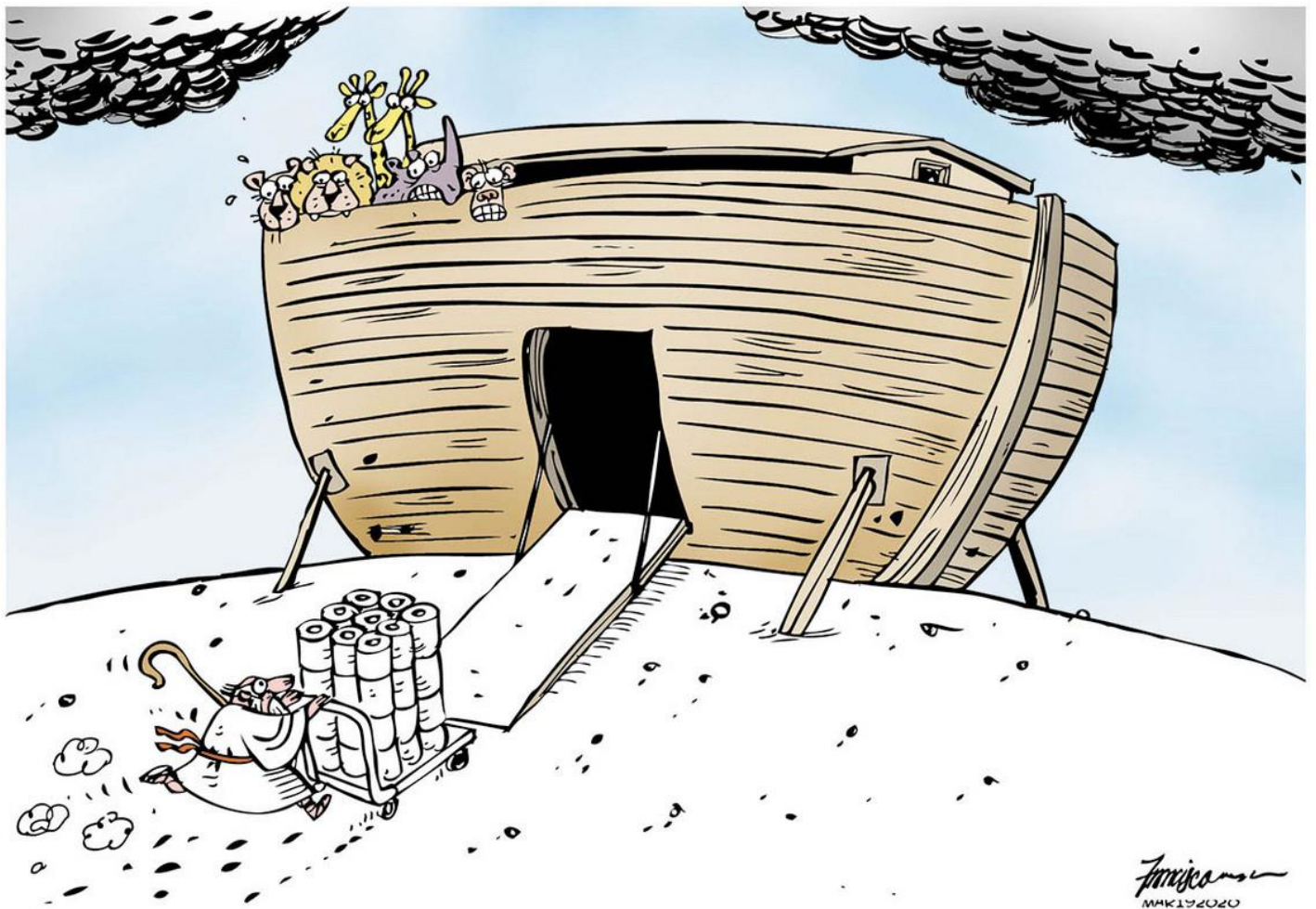




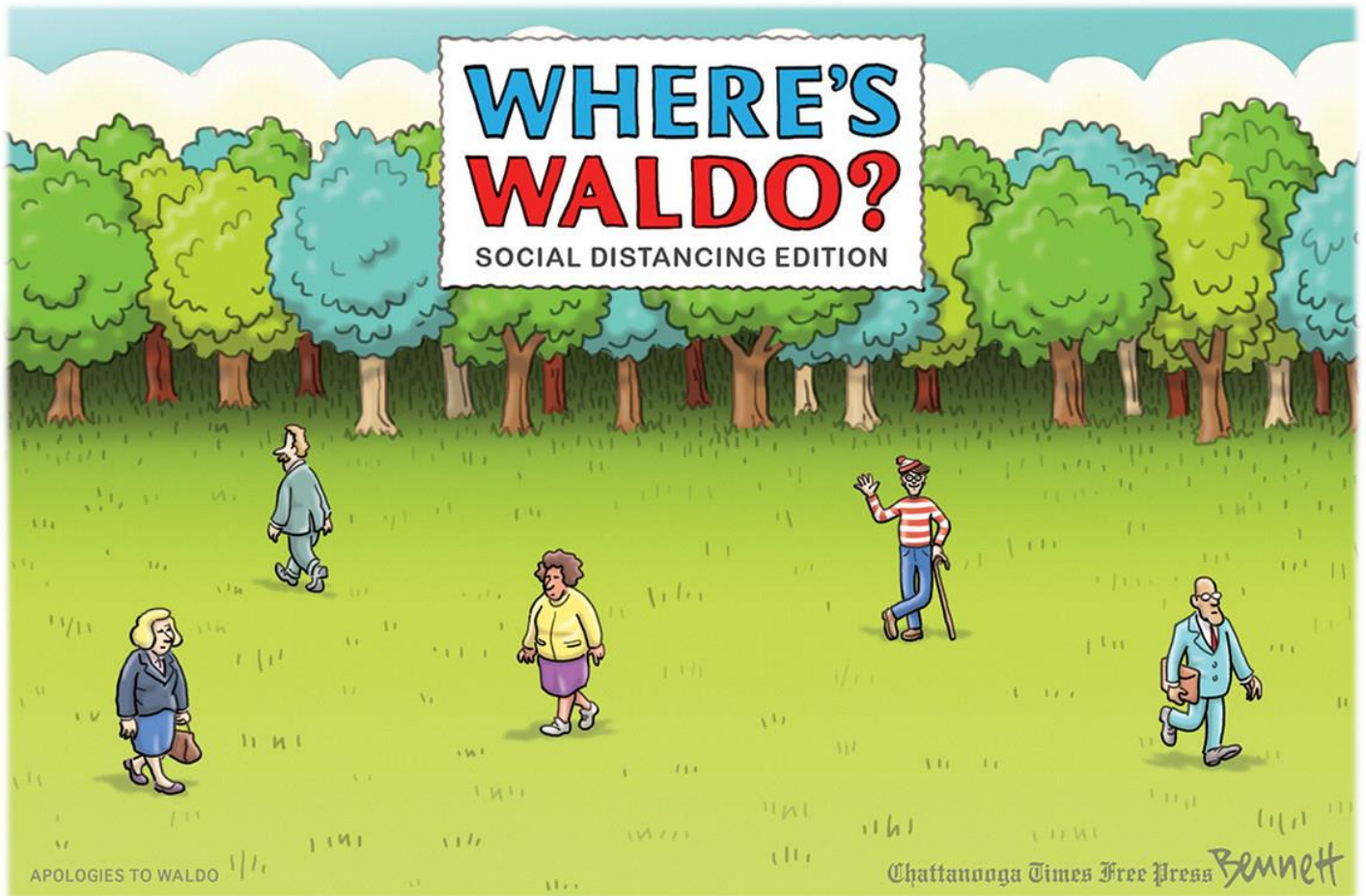
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Are you drinking more while in lockdown ?

yes

no



boredpanda.com



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STAR TRIBUNE  
**SOCK**





***And from a Brother in Chapleau:***

*Helping one person might  
not change the world,  
but it could change  
the world for  
one person.*

