

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017 COMMUNITY COMMENT Mike Goldsby, January 6, 2017

Happy New Year! Out with the old and in with the new. This is my annual Predictions Comment, and, for a change, this Community Comment will be Trump-free.

Jeanne Mayell is a professional intuitive and author. On her website, she issues a warning: "Do not read this if negative visions of the future distress you." And, she points out you can send her an e-mail for an individual reading if you are distressed.

Anyway, she and her group foresee a huge tumultuous downward spiral that will continue through 2020, at which point life will begin to turn towards balance, peace and calm. A year ago, she had visions of a bear walking through people's homes and she interpreted this as Russian involvement in the business of the United States. She also thinks it foretells a bear market and symbolizes California flexing its muscles in the worldwide economy and in politics.

Fortune Magazine asked financial leaders for their predictions. Many of them predict an increase in inflation and interest rates. Several more predict a volatile stock market, good for hedge funds but risky for investors. Several predict that Tweet-slamming will have an increased negative effect on certain companies.

Forbes magazine compiled some predictions for the California marijuana industry. Forbes predicts that Los Angeles will quickly over take Denver as the self-proclaimed marijuana capital of the United States. Forbes believes this will be one more economic boost for the entire state.

New York Gossip Columnist Cindy Adams predicts Madonna will enter a monastery with a vow of nudity. She predicts economic hardship for McDonalds, from golden arches to fallen arches.

She predicts Amazon will develop a way for you to buy politicians from the privacy of your own home. And she predicts a quickly built ballroom for the White House.

International Business Times correspondent Jason Le Miere polled international leaders. He predicts North Korea will increase nuclear and ballistic missile testing as a response to what they see as military provocation from the U.S. And he predicts Vladimir Putin will get increasingly aggressive with NATO member countries.

Ericka Chickowski is a columnist for Information Week newsmagazine. She polled leaders in the IT industry. She predicts an increase in drone-jacking. "As drones become more widely used by businesses for deliveries, filming and surveillance, attackers are going to see them as a prime hijacking candidate." She predicts the biggest threat is from hackers, not shotguns. She also predicts several worldwide shutdowns of the internet.

My predictions?

I predict a wall will be built between the US and Mexico, at no expense to the American taxpayer. In some places, the wall will be just a fence, or a line on Google Earth. But there will be a wall. I predict Congress will not repeal Obamacare, once they learn what it really is. But they will be under intense pressure to rename it.

This is Mike Goldsby for Community Comment.