

December 31, 2018

Well here it is, the last day we can say 2018 so get ready to saying 2019. There is no turning back, its going to happen and we have no control over it another year come and gone. 2018 had its challenges, disappointments and victories we can all point to the good, the bad and the ugly for the year.

I have been thinking about how monumental 2019 actually is. It is the end of a decade for next year we welcome 2020 and all that goes with the beginning of a new decade. I'm not sure what happened to 2016 or 2017 or for a matter 2012 but I do know they have come and gone and quite quickly I might add.

So during the last two decades much has happened, if you recall the year 2000 had a very foreboding prediction of a massive computer shutdown due to the computers not recognizing the change from the 19 to 20. There were warnings of cataclysmic shutdowns that could paralyze the planet for years.

Warnings of food shortages, people were advised to store large amounts of dry goods so they could survive if this were to happen. Survivalist companies made millions by supply those needs and demands. I've heard that some people actually have some items left from 2000. Those of us who were around then recall that the year 2000 came in without a hitch, no shutdowns or need for all the food, fuel and first aid supplies stored for the big event.

Then on September 11, 2001 we did have a cataclysmic event when the world trade towers were brought down by a group of terrorists using commercial aircraft. Our world changed on that day, dramatically and led to two wars one of which we are still involved in, Afghanistan.

We also experienced a very significant financial crisis, where many people became unemployed and lost their homes and life savings. Many retirees had to go back to work in order to survive. During that time there were numerous bail outs and a massive accumulation of debt by the government.

We have also witnessed four presidencies during this time as well a back and forth control of the house and senate between the democrats and republicans. Not to sure if any have been that much better than another but I do hope the future holds some good things for our country in regards to our government.

So lets enjoy the final day of 2018 and begin, what we hope to be, a great 2019. The future looks promising with the unemployment rate at the lowest level in decades and the stock market doing so well. Optimism should be very high.

So have a great day today and a good time tonight. Some will stay home, others will go out and celebrate and many will just get together with family to welcome in the New Year.

So whatever you do enjoy yourself and get prepared for January 2, 2019 when it starts all over again. Happy New Year, this has been Mike Downey for Community Comment