

## Thinking Out Loud



with  
Lucie  
Trutnau

### More questions I don't know the answers to . . .

What's the difference between a doll and an action figure? It may be a hold-over from the gender-stereotyping of the past, but dolls were something girls played with. If it was a baby doll, then it was so little Susie could be just like mommy, practising for the day when she had a real baby to look after. "Barbie" taught girls how to be fashionable, with clothes and accessories, all designed to attract "Ken." So what did boys get? "GI Joe" complete with weaponry and uniforms—an "action" figure. What would happen if Barbie came in camouflage gear, armed with a grenade launcher—would she still be a doll?

What exactly does the government buy for my tax contributions every year? If we have to report every penny of our income, shouldn't the government also be required to tell us what they're doing with all that cash? I wouldn't

mind my money going to filling potholes in the Trans-Canada Highway or upgrading the out-houses at government campgrounds or hiring a few more people to answer phones at the tax office, but I would object quite strongly to paying Justin Trudeau's dry-cleaning bills or new china in the MP's dining room.

What exactly is "pickleball?" I was reading my favourite comic strip and one of the characters mentioned playing in a pickleball league. Is it played with an actual pickle? If so, a dill or a gherkin? Perhaps a pickled beet or onion? Maybe even a pickled herring or rollmops? Can anyone enlighten me?

How long is "just a second" or "just a minute?" How often have you heard that and realized that time is something that can't be defined. If you call someone and they tell you they have to put you on hold for a moment, I hope you have a good book handy and maybe a snack. One person's "soon" may be another person's "some-

## What Are All of Us Belonging to the Boomer Generation Going to Do With All Our "Stuff" When We Have to Downsize? The Grandkids Laugh At It

time next Tuesday." And, apropos of waiting, what's the record length of being "on hold" on the phone?

What are all of us belonging to the Boomer generation going to do with all our "stuff" when we have to downsize? For years we've filled up our homes with the "latest" fashionable things,

which nobody now wants. The kids don't want it, the grandkids laugh at it, antique stores say it's not "old" enough, even second-hand thrift stores can't sell it. Whether it's furniture or ornaments, we can't give it away. I recently did a cull of my china cabinet—but can't think of anyone who'd want a pile

of crystal or other bits and pieces. Any takers?

Does anyone know what Penny's last name is? My favourite show (other than Coronation Street) is "The Big Bang Theory," but in all the years I've been watching it I've never heard Penny's last name mentioned. Can anyone tell me?

Why will this be my last column for a while? At least, I can answer this one. I'll be busy over the next few months being hauled back and forth to have my eyes replaced so I can see well enough to read and write. So I'm taking a little break, but I'll be back—take that as a promise or a threat.

### Round-up • Baby, Man and Woman Taken From Residence

RCMP report that extensive investigation continues into the events leading up to a two vehicle collision which occurred Nov. 6 at 9:47 in Nisku (see last week's paper). The incident began at a residence in Leduc County at approximately 9:30 a.m. when a woman and a man along with a 6-week-old baby were taken from a residence and forced into a

vehicle. While the car was being driven, the man, who was in the trunk escaped. Then the woman escaped with the baby. A passerby helped and secured all three in his truck. The suspect vehicle rammed the rear of the truck and ended up in a ditch. RCMP arrested five people at the site. Leduc RCMP says five people were arrested. Charges were pending for kidnapping and resist arrest. The three people forced into the vehicle were not injured. RCMP say that all parties were known to each other.



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