

Yew can't put this genie back in the bottle

Contributed by Cobina
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Sweetness, ol' Cobina is a bit under the weather. She'd like to say it was from carousing and making merry, but the fack of the matter is she's been doin' nuthin' but chores, chores and more chores fer quite a while. Finally, the strain got to her. She came up with a bit of heat stroke, and now is fightin' the effects of a nice end-of-summer cold to beat the band.

That don't mean she don't have a lotta stuff to tell yew. Nope. It takes more than a bit of a cold to keep her from her weekly task to let yew know whot's goin' on in the Asylum by the Sea. The foist thing to tell yew is the Chamber of Commerce is gonna flex its membership muscle – or at least would have flexed it by the time yew git this missive. Y'see, the new ordinance put forth by the Building Oversight Committee goes before a public hearin'. The catch in this new ordinance is that local vendors won't git the break they now have. Effen yore within 10 percent of the lowest bid, the local merchant or business gits the contrack. The members of the Oversight Committee, witch have been doin' a lotta things people like, has hit right smack into the business community, witch likes things the way they are. The BOC thinks the taxpayers will save kopecks, the business community challenges that contention. Keep yore eyes on this one. It takes a lot fer the Chamber o' Commerce to marshal its forces for anything. The fack they got their stuff together on this one means a lotta the membership is against the new idea. ~~~ There's another press conference as I yam writing this and its that a bank is gonna git involved with the renovation of the downtown area. Gene Sullivan and his minions in the Downtown Merchants Association are really excited about this projeck. And, like I told yew last week, all this has to do with the choo-choo station comin' into town. There are people and developers who are chompin' at the bit lookin' at whot could be effen the train station comes in and the type of workers that are gonna be comin' in with it. T'would be nice to see some gentrification o' the areas around there, no? Maybe the downward toin the city took after the housing bubble burst in the 1980s will finally be toined around. It jest seems like good things are happening. ~~~ I see the local daily had yet another look-see into the consolidation isshe. Overall it was perty fair, accordin' to Iva Lootey who is our resident expert on the matter. However, effen anybody thinks this is gonna happen in one or two years, fuhget about it. T'ain't gonna happen. As we've been sayin', it's gonna take a long time fer the districks to dissolve themselves and then they have to be debt-free. Effen yew think the people o' this berg are gonna take on more debt and allow the city to bond for one more pension fund, you've been eatin' the mushrooms. Iva has been in contact with several people in the various fire brigades over the years, and he sez that effen this thing can be handled in five years, that a short period o' time. By the way, that's effen the Charter Revision Commish is able to pass a change in the city charter that allows the city to git involved in the fire departments' business. That could be the first – and biggest – hurdle. ~~~ Yikes, whot kind of a can of woims did Mark Milano open? And why did he open it? His comments in the local daily concernin' the state ethics dog and pony show a couple weeks back has more than a few people in a tizzy. He made mention of gifts and commissioners and reception of gifts that aren't disallowed in the West Shore and yew'd think he called George Washington a traitor. With Milano, one can be allowed to wonder effen this was a comment made by design, but he's got the prexy of the fireman's local in a lather, and he's got Jimmy Burns, the former chief, now-executive-assistant-to-hizzoner ready to chew railroad spikes. Whilst I don't think whot Milano said was libelous as the union head says, it wasn't a great commint to make effen one is tryin' to bring one over to yore side. And once it's out there it becomes urban legend. Yew can't put this genie back in the bottle, no matter how much yew try. ~~~ Well, it seems the kiddies at the high school are puttin' together their Homecomin' Festival this weekend at the Old Grove Park. There's gonna be a lotta fun and frolic, and kids that are talented are gonna be able to show off those talents. It's been one o' the more successful fall festivals in town, so let's hope that all involved git a nice big turnout. Right now, the weather is supposed to be OK, so things might go along swimmingly. It's always good to know that nice things are happenin' over at McDonough Plaza. ~~~ With that bit o' chatter, I'll close this time till next, mitt luff und kizzez,