

A BUNCH OF TURKEYS

by [Steve Brown](#)

The good thing about Thanksgiving is that there is plenty to eat. That can also be a bad thing, however, as people will tend to overdo it a bit. As one of the unfortunate souls stuck in the office today still trying to digest the prior day's meal, we thought a sprinkling of humor might help things along. So without further ado: 1) A man in San Diego calls his son in New York the day before Thanksgiving and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough. "Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her." Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls San Diego immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" As she hangs up her phone, the old man hangs up on his side and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way." 2) If April showers bring May flowers what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims! 3) Why did they let the turkey join the band? Because he had the drumsticks! 4) One hour after Thanksgiving dinner was eaten a teenage son turns to his mother and says, "See mom, I told you they wouldn't notice that the turkey was four months past its expiration date. You were worried for nothing." 5) For the first time ever, a blonde an executive from a national bank was eating Thanksgiving dinner without her family. Trying to re-enact the tradition, she prepared a dinner for herself. The next day, her mother called to see how everything went. "Oh, mother, I made myself a lovely dinner, but I had so much trouble trying to eat the turkey!" said the daughter. "Didn't it taste good?" her mother asked. "I don't know," the blonde said. "It wouldn't sit still!" 6) Just before Thanksgiving, the holding pen was abuzz as Mother Turkey scolded her younger birds. "You turkeys are always into mischief," she gobbled. "If your grandfather could see the things you do, he'd turn over in his gravy." 7) Can a turkey jump higher than a tall building? Yes, a building can't jump at all! 8) What kind of music did the Pilgrims enjoy? Plymouth Rock! 9) Why can't you take a turkey to church? Because they have fowl language! 10) What happened to the turkey that got into a fight at school? He got the stuffing knocked out of him! 11) Which side of the turkey has the most feathers? The outside! 12) What's blue and covered with feathers? A turkey holding its breath! 13) When the Pilgrims landed, where did they stand? On their feet! 14) What did the turkey say to the hunter? Quack, Quack! Finally, we close this article of joviality by asking one final question - how do you hold a turkey in suspense?

BANK NEWS

M&A

A new survey of banking executives indicates 64% expect to see increased M&A activity over the next year, as heavy competition drives more consolidation.

Housing

The latest study shows housing activity dropped in 38 states over the summer. Nine of those states saw declines of at least 20%. Some of the biggest declines were in AZ (-36%), FL (-34%) and CA (-29%).

Customers

A new study by the census department finds about 50% of small businesses are run from homes and that 66% of these owners use their own money to start the business. Other findings: 31% of business owners were older than 55 years old and 14% were veterans.

Reverse Mortgages

A new study finds the popularity of reverse mortgages is soaring. Since 2001, reverse mortgages endorsed by the FHA have increased 881%.

Customers

A study of credit card spending by Nilson Report finds affluent households earning more than \$100k per year make up 1.5% of all credit card holders, but account for 20% of total spending.

Sly Like A Fox

Given that overdraft fees account for 90% of all service charges on deposit accounts, it is not shocking to find out that 80% of the largest national banks are still processing checks from the largest to smallest amounts despite outcry. By processing in this fashion (instead of the order received), analysis indicates these banks are able to generate more overdrafts.

Competition

Following in the footsteps of JPMorgan and others, US Bank said they will begin testing their "contactless" credit card in Denver. The cards allow users to pay for purchases by holding the plastic inches above a secure reader instead of swiping it.

Holiday Spending

A new study by Deloitte & Touche indicates 82% of consumers feel secure in their jobs, 68% expect the economy to stay the same or improve in 2007, 92% say changes in the market value of their home will have no impact on their holiday spending, 38% say they will not use credit cards when buying gifts, 66% say they will give gift cards and 70% will do some holiday spending online.

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