

Jill Duffy Airz 1/2/12
 "Summary of The Year"

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This is Jill Duffy, with Community Comment

The events of twenty-eleven have gone by in a blur~and if you are like me, maybe you stop to wonder....when exactly did the Rapture occur?

It was only a year ago our Nation was stunned by the shooting of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, and the killing of six others during a constituent meeting in front of a grocery store. For a brief moment partisan politics was suspended as we questioned the political polarization in our Country.

Aided largely by social media and general unrest, it was the year in which protests toppled dictators in the Middle East, and a New York Park became Occupied. Wisconsin demonstrated that Midwestern values of fairness, hard work, rallying together, standing up to bullies and persistence are alive and well.

President Obama issued the order to strike and kill Osama Bin Laden in Pakistan. A few months later, Mad Dog Qaddafi was put down by his people.

Eight committed Republican candidates emerged this year, each posturing for the 2012 primaries to determine the Republican Presidential candidate. Personally the GOP debates are the best thing going for television as candidates trump each other on this Political Survivor show.

There's no shortage of Men Behaving Badly this year. Representative Weiner resigned in disgrace, over the pictures of the same, Charlie Sheen was definitely NOT 'winning', Schwarzenegger harbored a love child and Maria did not stand by his side, and Herman Cain decided to take the long way home, but ...the scandals involving assistant coaches from Penn State, and Syracuse cause all to pale in comparison.

In a new meaning to the word Muckrakers, Rupert Murdoch's News of the World, closed after allegations of journalists hacking into voicemails belonging not only to a 13-year-old murder victim, but also the relatives of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Japan was rocked by a quake, and a region wiped out by a tsunami, and in the US we experienced the Groundhog Day Blizzard, tornados eliminated the town Joplin, drought, heat waves, wildfires, and Hurricane Irene. Eastern Trick o treaters received a snowstorm for Halloween, while here in the West we wait for the rain and snow to arrive.

The royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton staved off Reverend Harold Campings prediction of the Rapture and the end of the World. Our polarized Congress reverted to making short term deals to keep government gimping along because not even the Super Committee was able to find common ground,

After 7 long years, the Iraq War ended earlier this month, and we are on track to withdraw from Afganistan in 2014 My wish for the New Year is that these brave volunteers receive the welcoming celebrations they greatly deserve .

Indeed, when we pause for a moment to reflect, we can see it has been a year of some incredible and momentous events. With this in mind...

"In the year ahead,
May we treat our friends with kindness
and our enemies with generosity. Let us resolve to do the best we can
with what we've got. "

This has been Community Comment with Jill Duffy