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Please watch for our A&E section in next Friday's edition.

I think I'll need boxers

• from SHOULD on page 16

become of grave concern to me. I plan to lose the weight, but what if I don't? So far, I've put on about 10 pounds.

Now, I'm blaming editor Karen Smith for some of this. She cut out the last line of the earlier column that stated that if I quit smoking, all weight bets were off.

You can't quit smoking and lose weight, at the same time and I think that quitting smoking is more important than losing weight, so I'm officially putting that clause

back into my earlier column.

But, if something drastic happened and I was forced to walk down the street in my underwear, I'm going to need boxers. As far as I'm concerned they're shorts with nothing underneath, or even just like a bathing suit. Isn't that right?

A caring reader sent me a letter in which she suggested that I lose the weight, with people pledging the money toward a food bank, and at the same time save people the horror of seeing me in my underwear. That was a nice idea, but I figured nobody much would care about this, anyway, and who was I to think that anybody would. "I was just kidding," I said to people who asked about column.

"No way," came the replies.

This isn't a very understanding town as far as I'm concerned.

I have to say, the whole thing has made me rather nervous. Recently, I did my first act of attempted weight loss. I went for a walk — fully clothed.

The thing is, it made me hungry, and when I got back home, I made myself a sandwich. Then another one. That's not going to work. I need a better plan. Or at the very least, some better underwear.

What's in style these days? A recent style among teenagers was to wear your pants low and expose your boxers, which makes sense, because then people can actually see them. There's not much point making a fashion statement, if people can't see the fashion. The only problem is that it looks totally ridiculous.

Not that I plan on anybody seeing my underwear fashion statement on New Year's Day. But, just in case, I'm going to be shopping for boxers. Dark coloured ones. Maybe they'll have panda bears or penguins or little ducks on them.

My youngest daughter looked at me with a pained expression after seeing this column on the computer and said: "You're writing about your underwear? You know that's embarrassing for me."

I can see her point, but it would be a lot more embarrassing for me to walk down the road in my underwear.

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