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DECEMBER 2011

NIGHT WIRE



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It's the Holidays

Don't Let Your Holidays Turn Into A Circus By: Joyce Campisi

When the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus rode into town last month, we couldn't help but feel like kids again. We were so excited to see the elephants parading down Grant Street. Yep, elephants walking the streets of Pittsburgh, from the train station down Grant Street to the Consol Energy Center, it was an amazing and thrilling sight!

This year's performance was the Commemorative 200 Years of Barnum's Funundrum Edition and it certainly didn't disappoint. Nightwire was invited to opening night and I took my daughter, Jennifer - Nightwire's Assignment Editor to the performance. The performers and animals were amazing and the show was as dazzling and thrilling as ever. During intermission, a guest seated in front of us stood up and said, "hey, you seem to be missing something...you don't have any children with you!" We chuckled to ourselves as he was wrong.... In our minds, we were being kids, because inside all of us there's still that little kid, who given the chance can help you relive your fond childhood memories of the circus. What a thrill! We are looking forward to next year and will keep you posted on the dates... hope to see you there. Dare to be a kid again!! It's fun.

On another note, we wanted to help you not let your holidays turn into a circus so we come up with these tips for coping from the Mayo Clinic....Happy Holidays!!! And a Very Merry Christmas to All!!!



Tips For Coping: *Stress and depression can ruin your holidays and hurt your health. Being realistic, planning ahead and seeking support can help ward off stress and depression. By: Mayo Clinic staff*

The holiday season often brings unwelcome guests — stress and depression. And it's no wonder. The holidays present a dizzying array of demands — parties, shopping, baking, cleaning and entertaining, to name just a few.

But with some practical tips, you can minimize the stress that accompanies the holidays. You may even end up enjoying the holidays more than you thought you would.

Tips to prevent holiday stress and depression

When stress is at its peak, it's hard to stop and regroup. Try to prevent stress and depression in the first place, especially if the holidays have taken an emotional toll on you in the past.

Acknowledge your feelings. If someone close to you has recently died or you can't be with loved ones, realize that it's normal to feel sadness and grief. It's OK to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.

Reach out. If you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.

Be realistic. The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones. For example, if your adult children can't come to your house, find new ways to celebrate together, such as sharing pictures, emails or videos.

Set aside differences. Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all of your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.

Stick to a budget. Before you go gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts. Try these alternatives: Donate to a charity in someone's name, give homemade gifts or start a family gift exchange.

Plan ahead. Set aside specific days for shopping, baking, visiting friends and other activities. Plan your menus and then make your shopping list. That'll help prevent last-minute scrambling to buy forgotten ingredients. And make sure to line up help for party prep and cleanup.

Learn to say no. Saying yes when you should say no can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. Friends and colleagues will understand if you can't participate in every project or activity. If it's not possible to say no when your boss asks you to work overtime, try to remove something else from your agenda to make up for the lost time.

Don't abandon healthy habits. Don't let the holidays become a free-for-all. Overindulgence only adds to your stress and guilt. Have a healthy snack before holiday parties so that you don't go overboard on sweets, cheese or drinks. Continue to get plenty of sleep and physical activity.

Take a breather. Make some time for yourself. Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you enough to handle everything you need to do. Take a walk at night and stargaze. Listen to soothing music. Find something that reduces stress by clearing your mind, slowing your breathing and restoring inner calm.

Seek professional help if you need it. Despite your best efforts, you may find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, plagued by physical complaints, unable to sleep, irritable and hopeless, and unable to face routine chores. If these feelings last for a while, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional.

Take control of the holidays

Don't let the holidays become something you dread. Instead, take steps to prevent the stress and depression that can descend during the holidays. Learn to recognize your holiday triggers, such as financial pressures or personal demands, so you can combat them before they lead to a meltdown. With a little planning and some positive thinking, you can find peace and joy during the holidays.

Nightwire Magazine Last Minute Gift Guide



Lush



Golden Wonder (\$6.95)

Who doesn't love shiny golden things at Christmas time? Get ready to glow with this fizzing, multi-layer bath bomb (with a surprise on the inside), that 'unwraps' layers of sweet orange, lime and cognac to uplift your spirits.

Australian Igloo sugar scrub (\$4.95)

Scrub your skin sexy with this refreshing blend of Siberian pine, Australian eucalyptus and sandalwood oils, all packed into exfoliating Fair Trade sugar. (Vegan)



Lustre dusting powder (\$14.95)

Shine on with this jasmine-fragranced powder. It adds a fine gold shimmer to your legs, arms, décolletage, or anywhere you might need a little "sparkle."

Chilli Tingle (\$6.95)

This spicy crimson lip tint is the perfect ingredient to heat things up under the mistletoe. The chilli powder gives a spicy kick and will naturally plump and stimulate your lips! (Vegan)



Li'l LUSH Pud (\$3.95)

The day after a big night out, a spa trip is not always in the cards, so a bath at-home can be an amazing remedy from your yuletide excesses. Let spicy clove essential oils warm up your body, while bensoin stimulates blood flow and soothes aching muscles. Resist the real pudding and go for this one, you'll be feeling better in no time.



Baby, It's Cold Outside Gift (\$36.95)

For those days when it's just too cold and snowy to go outside, this delightful gift box will be your new BFF. Frosty goodies transform your shower into a haven of hangover relief, like the new Jilted Elf shower jelly that's best used frozen for a really stimulating shower and Dirty shower gel to clean up your act. Contents: Australian Igloo sugar scrub, Dirty Springwash shower gel, Jilted Elf, Northern Lights, Too Drunk.





Ro's Argan Body Conditioner (\$29.95)

A beautiful, rose jam scented body conditioner that's chock full of ingredients to feed and nourish the skin. Slip this beautiful moisturizer over your skin while you're in the shower, and let the skin-softening ingredients like capuacu butter, Brazil nut oil, cocoa butter, shea butter, almond oil and argan oil take your skin from drab to fab!

No Drought Dry Shampoo (\$12.95)

Did your hair party harder than you did? Perfect mid-day, evening or morning- after refresher, No Drought will lift both your mood and your tresses. Scented with lemon, grapefruit and lime, this powder will refresh hair and absorb grease if you don't have time for a proper wash. Apply directly into the hair or onto your hands and work through.



Lustre Dusting Powder (\$14.95)

Once your skin prepped and ready, why not go all out and apply this amazing jasmine-fragranced bronzed powder to your legs, arms or décolletage? The fine gold shimmer will give skin a light glow and it will instantly brighten. The bottle is easy to take with you so you can reapply as needed and add a hint of shimmer to the otherwise frosty winter months.

Latte Lip Tint (\$8.95)

Pop this perky lip balm into your purse for a subtle nude tint and a moisturizing pick me up all night long. If the name didn't give it away, Latte contains a hint of fair trade coffee flavoring and a blend of almond oil, organic jojoba oil and Japan wax for a nourishing boost. Smooth over lips to leave them soft and kissable.



Audio One

The perfect gift suggestion for those cold winter mornings.. Remote Car Starter – Starting at \$169 installed. Lifetime warranty, 1000' range, 2 remotes, most cars. 1998 and newer cars require additional parts. Gift certificates available. Call or stop in today! 2315 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, North Hills, PA 15237 (next to Camp Bow Wow) 412.931.1700

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Nightwire Magazine Holiday Golf Gift Guide



ptiShot Simulator by Dancin' Dogg Golf

www.dancingdogg.com

Beat the harsh winters with the perfect gift for any golfer. OptiShot (\$399) is an unbelievably realistic in-home simulator. The easy-to-use system lets casual and serious hackers play replicas of world-renowned courses without ever leaving home. A plug-and-play interface connects with Windows computers and requires only 8-½ feet of swing space. Up to four players can compete by hitting real balls, foam balls or no ball at all. A variety of packages are available that include hitting nets, stance mats and other goodies.

Club Glove TRS Ballistic Luggage

www.clubglove.com

Traveling during the holidays can be a nightmare, especially if you're still toting the same ratty luggage you've used for the past 10 years. If it is time for you to upgrade and you want to buy the absolute best, look no further than Club Glove's TRS Ballistic line. Inspired by the needs of discerning globetrotters seeking the most durable and stylish luggage, the TRS Ballistic line is constructed from 1050d CORDURA® Ballistic nylon fabric. The world's most ideal material for high-end luggage, it offers double the abrasion resistance and four times the tear resistance of other premium fabrics. The set includes the company's awesome Train Reaction System, so you can link each of the bags together to create one smoothly rolling unit. Say goodbye to the Smart Carte!



AB Golf Designs Head Covers

www.abgolfdesigns.com

Everyone likes to spice up their golf bag a little bit and there's no better way than a specialty head cover. From PGA Tour pros to the buddies in your foursome, golfers want to stand out and express something about their personalities. AB Golf Designs produces a variety of models ranging from USA-themed Boxing Gloves to the eco-friendly, retro styled Throwback Collection – which features a great black and gold combo perfect for players in Pittsburgh.

Adams Golf

Adams Golf Idea a12 OS Hybrid (\$169.99)

Adams Golf Idea a12 OS Hybrid Iron Set (\$699.99)

www.adamsgolf.com

The No. 1 hybrid on Tour for years, Adams Golf continues to dominate as the preferred choice for PGA, Nationwide and Champions Tour stars. Now they've come out with something even better for the recreational golfer. The new Idea a12 OS is the first hybrid (\$169.99) to feature Velocity Slot Technology, which promotes a trampoline-like effect to increase ball speed for greater distance and extreme forgiveness. The company's new Idea a12 OS Hybrid Iron Set (\$699.99) includes three hybrids (4-6), two patented Transitional Hybrids (7-8) and three deep undercut cavity-back irons (9-GW). You absolutely cannot go wrong with Adams gear.





Train Reaction Device

www.trainreaction.com

If you'll be dragging multiple bags through the airport this season, the Train Reaction Device (\$19.95) is here to make your life easier. It is a universal luggage stabilizer, allowing travelers to connect and roll two pieces of wheeled luggage in virtually any size and combination with half the effort. Linking bags in seconds, it creates a stable and balanced four-wheel unit that is incredibly easy to move. By using the smaller bag to leverage the larger, or connecting two of the same size, the device produces a "weightless" effect allowing users to transport their gear with a single hand -- leaving the other free for coffee, a cell phone or child.

Bocchieri Golf Heavy Putter TOUR Belly

www.bocchierigolf.com

The latest craze on the PGA Tour and probably at your local course is the belly putter. These new long-shafted options are popping up everywhere and if you're a golfer it should be adding to your list for Santa. Bocchieri Golf makes one of the most popular with its renowned Tour Series (\$259). The beautiful CNC milled head comes in either a blade or mallet option and is available in standard lengths as well. Be the envy of your foursome.



Energy Athletic Golf



www.WearEnergy.com

Ever try an ionized bracelet or necklace? Hundreds of Tour stars and elite athletes validate the electromagnetic benefits. Increase the impact with Energy Athletic Golf, the first and only company to infuse ionization into a shirt (\$69), covering 60 percent of the body. Ionization stimulates delivery of oxygen to muscles through the bloodstream and brain to fight fatigue and boost performance. Independent testing concluded that wearing IonX fabric helped golfers increase club head speed and ball speed. Sound too good to be true? Paul Azinger thought so before he tried it, now he is among a slew of pros that won't wear anything else.

Ecco Golf Street Textile

www.eccousa.com

Often imitated but never equaled, ECCO pioneered the hybrid sport-casual shoe. Golf Street (\$150) is trusted in competition by dozens of top Tour stars, including Fred Couples, and offers unmatched levels of versatility, performance and style on the course and beyond. New for 2012, the wildly popular model is available with a textile upper delivering maximum breathability and a chic, casual aesthetic. A textile lining showcases an extremely breathable open mesh, combined with an anatomical, removable, textile insole that wicks moisture and is lightweight yet provides extra cushioning and comfort.



CHAMP Zarma Cleat and FLYTee

www.champsports.com

Looking for the perfect stocking stuffer for the golfer in your life? One thing often overlooked by most players is the importance of traction. Much like the tires on your car, once cleats start to wear down, performance suffers. The #1 Brand on Tour, CHAMP has created technology-infused spikes for more than 80 years, including the new Zarma. Incorporating patented "Lotus Technology" that uses compression to soften the impact of walking, Zarma reduces spike pressure and creates a more comfortable experience. The company also recently launched its innovative FLYTee, the simplest and most cost effective way to add performance to your game. Scientific tests prove that the friction-reducing design helps maximize distance and accuracy. Its eco-friendly materials last five times longer than wood.



Nightwire Magazine

Computer Gift Guide

Each person is different and has different computing needs based on how they work and play. From full-function laptops, convenient and portable netbooks, sleek tablets for traveling and rich multimedia experiences, to an emerging hybrid category that combines tablet features with the productivity enabled by a keyboard – Intel works with industry leaders to bring choices to consumers.

Below are examples of devices powered by the Intel® Core™ processor and the Intel® Atom™ processor that address consumer needs, keeping them connected, entertained and informed.

Ultrabooks



Asus Zenbook UX21

The Asus Zenbook UX21 does everything – it runs all the software you know and love, plays movies, provides eight hours of battery life and is very easy to use. Not just another pretty face, this thin, light and sexy Ultrabook is full of power courtesy of its Intel Core i5 processor.

The Asus Zenbook UX21 features an always on design that gets the system up and running quickly from even the deepest sleep, saving time and battery life.

Price: Starting at \$999.

Acer Aspire S3

Don't let its featherweight looks fool you – weighing in at less than three pounds and around half an inch thick, this Ultrabook packs a powerful punch and includes a 13" HD LED and up to seven hours of active use per charge.

The Intel Core processor family provides the power the Acer Aspire S3 needs to keep consumers productive and entertained in the office, at home or on the go.

The Acer Aspire S3 makes quick work of powering on and connecting to the Internet, coming out of the sleep state in 1.5 seconds and taking consumers to their favorite websites in 2.5 seconds.

Price: Starting at \$899.



Companion Devices

Asus Eee PC X101

- Designed to be thin and lightweight for maximum portability, the Asus Eee PC X101 boasts a profile that's less than 17.6 mm thick, 10.1" LED Backlight WSVGA (1024x600) screen and an Intel Atom N435/N455 Processor.
- The Asus X101 is preloaded with the Asus App store and Chrome Webstore for downloading applications to help consumers stay both productive and entertained.
- The Asus X101 also features access to asus @vibe, which provides a fun, easy and convenient center filled with rich cloud computing content.
- As an added bonus, the popular Dropbox online storage is preloaded so you can easily and seamlessly sync files across your desktop, netbook or smartphone.
- Price: \$199 and up.



Evolve III Maestro Tablet PC

- Evolve III is a convertible design that can be used as a tablet with all the touch screen features or be turned into a traditional PC with a keyboard.
- It offers the ability to run three different operating systems – Windows, Android and Meego. Evolve III is ideal for completing work-related tasks in Windows while leveraging thousands of Android apps.
- The tablet features an impressive battery life (more than 10 hours) and a built-in camera that offers video conferencing and Wi-Fi capabilities.
- Price: \$500.



Cisco Cius

- Cisco Cius is an Android-based mobile collaboration platform built for business.
- The seven-inch tablet is designed to bring mobility to businesses with a choice of wired gigabit Ethernet connectivity through an optional high-definition (HD) media station.
- It features seamless integration of collaborative applications such as conferencing, instant messaging, email, calendar, contacts, visual voicemail and voice and video communications features.
- Cisco Cius offers HD video capability with front- and rear-facing video cameras.
- It supports virtualized computing for IT management and provides a highly secured computing environment.
- Media Station Price: \$450, Tablet Price: \$950 and up.

Intel-Powered ClassmatePC

- Intel-powered classmatePCs are rugged netbooks designed for interactive, collaborative learning. They instantly convert from clamshell to touch- optimized tablet mode, giving students expanded flexibility and micro-mobility inside and outside the classroom.
- The rugged classmatePC allows an enhanced user experience for students with up to 10 hrs battery life. The increased battery life means students may now be able to work up to 10 hrs on a single charge.
- The classmatePC offers a special digitizer stylus, and a new premium multi-touch, capacitive screen that enables “palm rejection” and “handwriting recognition,” allowing a natural and precise writing experience for students.
- It also offers a suite of educational software that enables creation and consumption of multimedia learning content.
- Price: \$450-\$650.



OpenPeak OpenTablet 7

- The OpenPeak7 is a compact Intel Atom-based tablet that provides great multimedia – video, music and photo - experience.
- Based on the Android OS, OpenPeak 7 features a front-facing camera, Bluetooth capabilities and offers connectivity via Wi-Fi with optional 3g/4g/LTE.
- OpenPeak 7 offers microSD, USB and HDMI ports with 1080p output to connect to your TV.
- The device lets you set up multiple user profiles for every member of the family so each person can maintain their own unique experience. It lets multiple users set up their own profiles with their favorite web sites, e-mail, social networking accounts, apps, etc.
- OpenPeak is working with partners in various markets – consumer, enterprise, energy and home management, retail, education and healthcare to bring tailored devices to market.
- OpenPeak is a U.S.-based company that designs end-to-end managed platforms, software and devices that enable enterprises, service providers, developers and content owners to interact with end-users in their homes, offices and while mobile.
- Price: \$300-\$400 range.



Samsung Google Chromebook

- Google Chromebooks are built and optimized for the Web and have no real hard drive.
- The Chromebook starts in eight seconds and resumes instantly.
- Websites load quickly and run smoothly, with full support for the latest web standards and Adobe® Flash®.
- It's easy to get connected anytime and anywhere with built-in Wi-Fi and 3G. Chromebooks offer 8-10 hours of active use and more than eight days in standby for battery life.
- Price: \$350-\$500 depending on the size and features.



Samsung NC215S Solar Netbook

- The world's first netbook to feature a solar panel built into the lid, the Samsung NC215S is a 10-inch netbook that offers a 1.66 GHz Intel Atom N570 dual core processor with a 1024 x 600 pixel matte display.
- Samsung NC215S includes a 6-cell battery offering 14 hours of battery life on a full charge. Charging for two hours via the solar panel will provide around one hour of battery life.
- Price: \$400.

Wine and Spirits

Here's a few favorite cocktails. These are great year round or during the holidays... and as always please drink responsibly.... Thanks to Makers Mark® for sharing these recipes. Happy Holidays!

Makers Mark® Manhattan

- 1-1/2 parts Maker's Mark® Bourbon
- 1/2 part sweet vermouth
- 1 teaspoon maraschino cherry juice
- 1 maraschino cherry
- Shake all together for 30 seconds. Strain into chilled Manhattan glass. Garnish with a maraschino cherry (served up, no ice).



Makers Mark® Old Fashioned

- 1-1/2 parts Maker's Mark® Bourbon
- 1/2 part club soda
- 2 orange slices
- 2 maraschino cherries
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Muddle 1 orange slice, 1 maraschino cherry and the sugar in an Old Fashioned glass. Fill glass 3/4 full of ice. Add Maker's Mark® Bourbon and splash of club soda. Garnish with additional orange slice and maraschino cherry.

Makers and Ginger

- 1-1/2 parts Maker's Mark® Bourbon
- Ginger ale
- Fill rocks glass with ice, add Maker's Mark® Bourbon and top off with ginger ale. For a twist, garnish with an orange slice or lime wedge.



**Midget
Madness!**
Mondays
and Saturdays

Casey's

Text MIDGET to 91944

Snow Cap

After-dinner drink for two

3 parts Maker's Mark® Bourbon

2 tablespoons powdered sugar

6 tablespoons sweet (heavy) cream

2 parts orange liqueur

Nutmeg to taste

Strip of twisted orange peel

Stir ingredients together and pour over crushed ice.

Garnish with nutmeg and orange twist. Serve in small brandy snifter.



Kentucky Coffee

- 1 part Maker's Mark® Bourbon
- 1 part cream liqueur
- Splash of Frangelico® Liqueur
- Hot, fresh coffee
- Whipped cream
- Pour Maker's Mark® Bourbon and cream liqueur into an Irish coffee glass. Add Frangelico® Liqueur and fill the glass with hot coffee. Top off with a dollop of whipped cream.



Kentucky Mulled Cider

- 1-1/4 parts Maker's Mark® Bourbon
- Hot apple cider
- 1 thinly sliced lemon with rind
- 1 dash of allspice
- 1 tall cinnamon stick
- Add Maker's Mark® Bourbon to a footed mug. Fill mug with hot apple cider and the dash of allspice. Garnish with a tall cinnamon stick and lemon slice.

Draft House

1811 E. Carson Street • South Side



Travel

10 Tips to Take the Stress Out of Holiday Travel

Crowded airports, long lines, delayed flights, and angry people. Oh sure, you love the holidays, but there is little to celebrate about holiday travel. How do you cope? Here are a few suggestions to take the sting out of your trip home.

1. Show up early! Really really early. Yeah, I know, airports can be a tad dull, but I'll gladly risk boredom over rolling up at the last minute, sprinting through a mob of travelers, only to watch sad-faced as your plane leaves the gate. And running with a carry on? Not cute. So show up early, allow yourself enough time to deal with any snags that may occur and, who knows, you may even encounter a kindly gate agent willing to put you through on an earlier flight.
2. Spend a little money on a day pass for the lounge. Hey, it's a holiday, and you deserve it, right? And should there be a delay, or a cancellation, or any other form of unwanted wonkiness, chances are you'll get better customer service in the lounge. So, grab an eggnog and a handful of those little quiches that you like so much (hey, load up, they're free!) and live a little.
3. Get the extra legroom seat! C'mon, it's not that much more, and won't you be happy without your own knees in your face for 5 hours? Yes, you will. Also? You'll actually have enough space to comfortably use a laptop, no matter how far back the guy in front of you slams his seat back. Some airlines, such as JetBlue, even throw in snazzy privileges like priority check-in and boarding. Fancy!
4. Don't check a bag! And don't try cramming everything into some mammoth heavy-as-all-heck carry on either. Send them ahead via FedEx! It's so easy! No sitting in line to check a bag, no waiting on a bag, no lugging around a bag, no fighting for overhead space...none of that! And FedEx has much better tracking, and won't cost as much! Save your cash for that extra legroom seat.
5. Don't fritter away your miles on some dinky seat in economy! Instead, use them to upgrade. 15,000 Miles on United gets you an upgrade from your \$300 coach fare to a \$1,500 (or more) business or first class seat, which is clearly a better value.
6. Be nice to airline staff, even when you don't want to be. Turning into a human geyser of F-words, rolling your eyes, or getting snippety with the agent will—in most cases—probably only make things worse. Plus, hello, too much 'tude at the airport nowadays and you could very well be hauled off by the police. And won't that make for a memorable holiday story for years to come! So if you find yourself getting steamed, find your happy place, kill 'em with kindness! Flash a little smile, ask how they're holding up during all this crazy holiday hullabaloo, offer a compliment, be nice!
7. Splurge on the noise canceling headphones. When that kid starts crying at top volume in the next row, or the guy from Accounts Payable is barking nonstop into his blackberry, you won't have to suffer through any of it! MAGIC!
8. Ok, so those neck pillows you always see at the airport? You may roll your eyes, they may look ridiculous, but they are pretty comfy. So grab one! Nobody says you have to wear it around the airport. In fact, don't. Hide it in a tote bag if you're too embarrassed to be seen with one. But trust us, when you're stuck in the middle seat, you'll be thrilled to have it. And so will your seatmates when you're not flopping around like a bobble head in your sleep. Everybody wins!
9. Load up your iPad, laptop, Kindle, whatever doohickey thingamajig gadget with plenty of good stuff to keep your attention during the flight. Now's a great time to make a dent in whatever series everyone was raving about that you have yet to see. The Wire! Lost! Family Matters! Isn't that Grandma Winslow a crack up? Just, you know, nothing risqué or NC-17. Keep it classy! And if your battery power starts to fade, have a book handy.
10. You'll get cranky on an empty stomach, so remember to eat a little something! And don't rely on the airline to feed you. Pack a few things in your carry on, such as fruit, or a granola bar, and don't forget to stay hydrated. If they do happen to offer food on your flight, avoid the crazy stuff. Eating a sweaty dish of chilaquiles at 30,000 feet may do more harm than good, so maybe just stick to the cheese plate and a ginger ale.



Christmas Pets...

Buyer Beware!

Just before the annual holiday crush of people purchasing pets in pet stores for loved ones, a new study is revealed by leading researchers showing that breeding dogs rescued from puppy mills show significant long-lasting psychological and emotional trauma.

Dogs used as breeding parents in puppy mills show significantly high levels of fear

- They have pronounced compulsive and repetitive behaviors such as spinning in tight circle and pacing
- They are less trainable They are more likely to soil a home
- They have heightened sensitivity and resistance to being touched or picked up
- Buying a puppy from a pet store contributes to the likelihood that the parents of that puppy must continue to endure a poor quality of life in a puppy mill

The dogs confined for breeding purposes in puppy mills were compared to those which were considered “standard pet dogs” raised in loving homes, in the study conducted by Best Friends and the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School of Medicine. Best Friends is a leading advocate for humane treatment of animals, and an organization which seeks to make the public aware of the danger of puppy mills for both the animals and the unsuspecting pet owner. Puppy mills are the source of most dogs sold in pet stores today.

Most previous studies have focused on the unhealthy conditions and the physical issues faced by animals raised in puppy mills, but this is the first one to look at the psychological ramifications. It will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal *Applied Animal Behavior Science*. New Study Shows Dogs in Puppy Mills Suffer Long-lasting, Severe Psychological Harm In a large-scale study that looked at more than 1,100 dogs formerly used for breeding in puppy mills, it was found that these facilities are seriously detrimental to the well-being of the dogs kept there. Study was conducted by Best Friends Animal Society <http://www.bestfriends.org> and the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School of Medicine <http://www.vet.upenn.edu/>; “We can now scientifically confirm how truly destructive these places are for the dogs kept in them.”

A landmark new study finds that dogs used for breeding in large-scale commercial breeding operations (aka ‘puppy mills’) are psychologically harmed and show the effects for years after they leave the breeding facility. The study was done by national animal welfare organization [Best Friends Animal Society in collaboration with Drs. James Serpell and Deborah Duffy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and will be published in the journal *Applied Animal Behavior Science*. Dr. Frank McMillan, lead researcher of the study and director of well-being studies for Best Friends, said, “We always suspected the dogs in these facilities suffer emotionally because of the abnormal behaviors they show when they get out, but we can now scientifically confirm how truly destructive these places are for the dogs kept in them.”

The study compared a wide array of psychological and behavioral characteristics of former breeding dogs recovered from puppy mills with those of standard pet dogs. A total of 1,169 former puppy mill dogs were included in the study.

Commercial breeding operations, or puppy mills, are large scale facilities where dogs are confined in small enclosures for their entire lives with little to no exercise or positive human contact—for the sole purpose of mass-producing puppies to sell in retail pet stores and via the Internet.

“The results of the study indicate it really doesn’t matter if the breeding operation claims to be shiny and clean, abiding by the laws, or even whether or not they are licensed by the USDA,” McMillan said. “This study gives us strong evidence that the dogs kept in these large scale breeding facilities don’t just suffer while they’re confined there, but carry the emotional scars out



with them for years even when they’re placed in loving homes. Many of the dogs show difficulty in simply coping successfully with normal day-to-day life.”

The results showed a broad range of abnormal findings in the former breeding dogs, including: significantly elevated levels of fears and phobias, pronounced compulsive and repetitive behaviors such as spinning in tight circles and pacing, house soiling, and a heightened sensitivity to being touched and picked up.

McMillan said, “The most prominent difference was in the level of fear; compared to normal pet dogs, the chance of scoring in the highest ranges for fear was six to eight times higher in the recovered puppy mill dogs. Interestingly, the heightened fear was accompanied by a decreased chance of the dogs showing aggression.”

The various exposés of puppy mills have typically focused on the filthy and unhealthy physical conditions where the dogs sometimes have only dirty water and moldy food to consume. By looking at the psychological rather than the physical harm experienced by the dogs, the new study offers a different perspective on the problem. McMillan said that, as written, current laws designed to protect the dogs from inhumane physical conditions do not provide adequate protection from the negative emotional effects.

In working with and following these dogs’ progress, McMillan said, “The majority of the dogs improve over time, and it’s important to note that many of them lead very happy lives, but many also continue to struggle emotionally for the rest of their lives—just trying to gain comfort in a world we all take for granted. To them the world and all the people in it just can’t be trusted—it is something to always fear. The damage done to these dogs is heartbreaking.”

“The saddest stories are those from the kindhearted people who adopt these dogs and work hard for years to give them love and acceptance. They’ll sometimes report that even after several years the dog will simply sit and stare blankly into space,” McMillan says. “They tell me that it’s like ‘he’s not really there,’ or that the little dog is reminiscent of a severely autistic child.”

About Best Friends Animal Society@:

Best Friends Animal Society is a nonprofit organization building no-kill programs and partnerships that will bring about a day when there are No More Homeless Pets®. The society’s leading initiatives in animal care and community programs are coordinated from its Kanab, Utah, headquarters, the country’s largest no-kill sanctuary. This work is made possible by the personal and financial support of a grassroots network of supporters and community partners across the nation. Become a fan of Best Friends Animal Society on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/bestfriendsanimalsociety> - Follow Best Friends on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BFAS>

PBS Motown Music

Human Nature Sings Motown With Special Guest Smokey Robinson

December 3, 2011 On PBS – WQED



Australia's Most Successful Vocal Group Sings Motown's Most Beloved Songs – For more than 19 years, the vocal talents of Human Nature have forged one of the most successful careers in Australian music history. The band has sold millions of CDs around the world, having released eight albums and numerous singles. Now those extraordinary voices pay tribute to the music that influenced generations and inspired Human Nature from the very beginning as they sing and dance their way through the Motown hit list. With high energy takes on the great sounds of vocal groups like the Four Tops, the Supremes, the Jackson Five, Martha and the Vandellas and others, Human Nature brings their incredible vocal harmonies to some of pop music's most enduring anthems.

With an Emmy and Grammy Award winning production team, and shot before a live audience by longtime Grammy® Awards producer Ken Ehrlich, HUMAN NATURE SINGS MOTOWN WITH SPECIAL GUEST SMOKEY ROBINSON is part of special programming premiering on PBS Stations beginning December 3, 2011. Check local PBS schedule for additional times and dates. www.wqed.org

HUMAN NATURE SINGS MOTOWN WITH SPECIAL GUEST SMOKEY ROBINSON features these performances:

- "The Tracks of My Tears"
- "Dancing in the Street"/"You Keep Me Hanging On"
- "Baby I Need Your Loving"
- "Just My Imagination"/"The Way You Do the Things You Do"
- "Stop! In the Name of Love"
- "People Get Ready"
- "Earth Angel"
- "I'll Be There"
- "Ain't No Mountain High Enough"
- "Get Ready" (duet w/ Smokey Robinson)
- "Ooh Baby Baby"
- "My Girl"
- "ABC"/"I Can't Get Next To You"/"Uptight (Everything's Alright)"/"25 Miles"
- "Reach Out (I'll Be There)"

PBS special programming invites viewers to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; hear diverse viewpoints; and take front-row seats to world-class drama and performances. Viewer contributions are an important source of funding, making PBS programs possible. PBS and public television stations offer all Americans from every walk of life the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content.



Rains

Appearing at Stage AE... Friday, November 25!



Hailing from a small town in Northern Indiana, Jeff Rains understands the meaning of hard work, struggles, and life's challenges. This talented artist is driven, serious, and committed to his beautiful young family and his career. Featuring his brother Joe on drums, Joe Pitter on bass, and Jason Anderson on guitar, Rains commands the stage with a powerful sound and raw emotion that draws the audience in from the first phrase. Rains is a band for the people, and it's about time. People need a band to get behind and a band to believe in; they need a band that can make them proud. Nothing trendy – something real. *Stories*, the debut album from Rains, offers a window into the heart and soul of “the American Dream.” The poignant lyrics reveal that Jeff Rains is wise beyond his years, a keen observer of life and human behavior. The first single, “Liar”, was a Top 15 hit on SiriusXM Octane.

Their second single, “Look In My Eyes”, is climbing the charts at rock radio stations all over the US and is steadily climbing the charts!

In our interview with Jeff, he told us that he likes to write song lyrics that have real stories to tell, he feels that today's artists have no depth, heart or feeling in their songs. His personal quest is to bring that “real rock and roll” that we grew up with in the 60's and early 70's. Much of today's song lyrics are

offensive and meaningless, Jeff puts his heart and soul and words in his lyrics that have true mean. Just listen to their music and I'm sure you'll agreed, this band is going to the top of the charts and has real staying power. Nightwire is proud to feature Rains and hopefully you'll agree, they are a truly awesome band!

Nightwire: Tell us something we would be surprised to know about you.

Rains: “I'm a hard core family man with a 4 year old daughter.” “I was a tattoo artist for 7 years, and in March of 2011 decided to quit.”

Rains: “I have tats all over my body, which I suppose is a good thing since I'm in a band, and for now, I'll probably keep them until my daughter is grown up.. they could be useful in chasing away potential boyfriends from my daughter. But, I really hate tattoos and someday, I plan on having them all removed from my body.”

Hard rockers, Rains began their Share the Welt Tour October 16th in San Francisco and will trek around the U.S. Rains is currently touring with Five Finger Death Punch, All That Remains, Hatebreed and Rev Theory and will be appearing November 25 at Stage AE.

Check out their new hit single Look In My Eyes: on youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkZ6Dh0lpE8>

Dining - Donato's

by: Suz Pisano



Veal Chops



David Pesone and Donato Coluccio

With the holidays fast approaching and a hint of celebration in the air, Nightwire is celebrating the success of Chef Donato Coluccio in his own establishment- Donato's in Fox Chapel. We first met Donato way back when the magazine was new and he was the Executive Chef at the Marriott Steelhead Grill. It was one of my most memorable dining reviews and I've followed his career ever since. Now in his own gorgeous restaurant a short drive from Downtown, in Fox Chapel, I'm thrilled to tell you all about his latest endeavor.

With a passion for excellence and a drive to provide great "real food", at Donato's the menu is quite extensive and there literally is something to please every palate and wines to go with! We started with Calamari Diavolo (\$12) which was perfectly tender and served with sautéed banana peppers. Diavolo means "devil" which will give you a hint that this dish is spicy but if you're a calamari fan- it's a nice selection. Angus Beef Carpaccio (\$15) served with truffle aioli and Parmigiano reggiano is a lighter choice and perfect paired with any number of great wines from the extensive wine list. Chef Donato is proud of his knowledgeable wait staff and feels that his restaurant functions at a high level of quality all the way around. If you're shy to choose a wine pairing, don't hesitate to ask for suggestions. An appetizer that I saw on the menu (and I was dying to try!)

was the Seared Shrimp & Prosciutto Wrapped Mozzarella (\$15) beautifully presented and so delicious it's going to be hard not to mention this as my favorite. The shrimp were gigantic in comparison to most restaurant offerings and the prosciutto, well.....prosciutto! What could be better! I'm a huge fan of expensive Italian meats; let's just leave it at that. Absolutely delicious and enough for a light meal but again, plenty to share. Donato's also offers French Fried Zucchini (\$9), Tripe (\$9), which I have to say if I was ever going to try tripe- I would try their version served with carrots, peppers & San Marzano tomato sauce. Tuna Tartare (\$14) is another of my favorites as well as Steamed Mussels (\$13). At Donato's the mussels are served in a leek, fennel & tomato broth. I'm imagining them right now with a seasonal beer! Oh yes, there are even great beers at Donato's. Throughout the year, Donato's offers tastings with special menus created to showcase different wines or beers. Two different oyster appetizers round out the appetizer menu and although I'm not a fan of oysters, the Baked Oysters (\$17) served Casino style- with roasted peppers, sweet onions, pancetta, oregano, lump crabmeat & white wine, OR Florentine with spinach, pancetta & cream, really pique my curiosity! Oysters on the Half Shell are also offered (\$13).

A daily Soup Du Jour accompanies any meal or salad. We sampled the Caesar (\$6) and the Donato's Salad (\$7) and both were delicious super fresh and hearty. Salads are generous portion and easily shared. Pasta selections are varied and with an Italian name like Coluccio, well, absolutely every single one is enticing! My old friend Armand, when he finds a restaurant he likes, will make his choices in order as listed on the menu. I think I might have to adopt his philosophy with the pasta's on the Donato's menu. I'll start at the top, and each time I return pick the next one, then the next one till I have tried them all. The White Clam Linguini (\$17) was THE best I've ever had! Donato once again sets the bar high on this dish. I can't think of anywhere I'd order this after trying Donato's! It is also served with red sauce as an option. Pasta choices are served with your choice of soup or salad, which is more than fair given the portion size and quality. Some other pasta offerings are Tagliatelle Bolognese (\$15) made with beef, pork & veal, (I call this the



Steamed Mussels



White Clams Sicilia Diablo

“real way” to make a good sauce in my house!), Cheese Ravioli (\$17), Jumbo Scampi Linguini (\$19) served with roasted garlic, spinach & oven dried tomatoes (can you say OMG?!), Eggplant Parmigiano (\$17) and Spaghetti Napolitano (\$15) served with crushed tomato, meat essence & meatball. Meatballs! Now my husband claims to make the best meatballs in town utilizing his grandmother’s recipe, but these are very close & Donato even concurred about the amount of egg that goes into the meatball recipe. The meatballs for us were almost a celebration or affirmation that the preservation of good home cooking & family tradition is not lost. I know that Donato’s grandma made the same meatballs about a hundred years ago. (My husband’s grandmother, Concetta Crognale left this earth at the age of 102. She is honored each & every time we make those meatballs.)

House cut aged meats & fresh seafood selections include everything from Filet Mignon 10oz. (\$33) Double Cut Lamb Chops (\$29) Ahi Tuna Steak (\$29) to Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes (\$25). I truly believe that the crab cakes are held together with “magic” since there was little evidence of what was holding all of the crab together! We tried the Veal Chop 14oz. (\$26) and quickly dubbed it the “Fred Flintstone” version due to its size, and the presentation. It was so tender, juicy and delicious but unpretentious at the same time. While at Donato’s, we chose to eat at a booth close to the bar, we noticed so many regulars and a feeling of warmth that is so lacking in many corporate establishments. This is definitely a nice place but without the pretention that is sometimes so distracting from the cuisine. We felt very comfortable sharing our dishes, ordering wines and



Stuffed Banana Peppers

asking questions. The experience here is really about the food.

Chef Donato wanted us to try some featured dishes, which include Veal & Spinach Cannelloni (\$22) with béchamel & Napolitano sauce, Veal Saltimbocca (\$26) with prosciutto, mozzarella, sage, spinach & natural jus. Veal dishes are quite often my favorite and with alot of veal choices you won’t be disappointed. Also offered as featured selections of the restaurant are: Chicken Piccata (\$21) with capers, white wine & lemon butter and Zuppa Di Mare (\$32) with Chatham cod, scallops, shrimp, mussels, & calamari over linguini. They even offer Osso Bucco (\$26) served with asparagus, parmesan risotto & gremolata. I always say if a restaurant offers you Osso Bucco order it! It’s something you don’t see on very many menus. All dinner selections are also served with your choice of soup or salad. There are also many delicious vegetarian offerings.

After sampling so many fantastic and delectable dishes, sharing our foods, chatting with the Chef, I couldn’t leave Donato’s without also trying some desserts. Amazingly, I was suddenly less full when the trio of custards arrived! Desserts are not listed on the menu and seem to change daily so that there is always something to look forward to!



Custards

Donato’s is open Monday through Friday for lunch and dinner. Saturdays and Sundays offer dinner only. Saturdays and Sundays lunches are for private parties only. You can find Chef Donato teaching classes at the Market District in Robinson but ask about private cooking classes in his kitchen! Private parties are available as well as catering. One thing that you must know is - reservations are required on the weekends so plan ahead. Weekdays are not so crowded and tables are usually available. But it’s always a good idea to call ahead to guarantee your table even during the week.

In closing, I’d like to offer my sincerest CONGRATULATIONS to Chef Donato & his staff on a wonderful experience, excellent atmosphere, and delicious cuisine. It’s awesome to see someone work hard; achieve success and maintain a level of quality and integrity throughout their career. This WAS the easiest dining review I’ve ever had to write not only because of my admiration for Chef Donato Coluccio but for my love of good food in an atmosphere that is both comfortable and welcoming. I look forward to many meals at his establishment. I will remember to make reservations!

Donato’s is located at 46 Fox Chapel Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Call them at 412.781.3700 Check out the website at donatosrestaurant.com and as always....Tell them your friends at Nightwire sent you!

**To All Our Military and Their Families...
Thank You for Your Service!!
Nightwire and Staff Wish You a Very Merry
Christmas and Happy Holiday Season to All!!**

Tw'as the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,
In a one bedroom house made of plaster & stone.
I had come down the chimney, with presents to give
and to see just who in this home did live
As I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.
No stocking by the fire, just boots filled with sand.
On the wall hung pictures of a far distant land.
With medals and badges, awards of all kind,
a sobering thought soon came to my mind.
For this house was different, unlike any I'd seen.
This was the home of a U.S. Marine.
I'd heard stories about them, I had to see more,
so I walked down the hall and pushed open the door.
And there he lay sleeping, silent, alone,
Curled up on the floor in his one-bedroom home.
He seemed so gentle, his face so serene,
Not how I pictured a U.S. Marine.
Was this the hero, of whom I'd just read?
Curled up in his poncho, a floor for his bed?
His head was clean-shaven, his weathered face tan.
I soon understood, this was more than a man.
For I realized the families that I saw that night,
owed their lives to these men, who were willing to fight.
Soon around the Nation, the children would play,
And grown-ups would celebrate on a bright Christmas day.
They all enjoyed freedom, each month and all year,
because of Marines like this one lying here.
I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
on a cold Christmas Eve, in a land far from home.
Just the very thought brought a tear to my eye.
I dropped to my knees and I started to cry.
He must have awoken, for I heard a rough voice,
"Santa, don't cry, this life is my choice
I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more.
My life is my God, my country, my Corps."
With that he rolled over, drifted off into sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.
I watched him for hours, so silent and still.
I noticed he shivered from the cold night's chill.
So I took off my jacket, the one made of red,
and covered this Marine from his toes to his head.
Then I put on his T-shirt of scarlet and gold,
with an eagle, globe and anchor emblazoned so bold.
And although it barely fit me, I began to swell with pride,
and for one shining moment, I was Marine Corps deep inside.
I didn't want to leave him so quiet in the night,
this guardian of honor so willing to fight.
But half asleep he rolled over, and in a voice clean and pure,
said "Carry on, Santa, it's Christmas Day, all secure."
One look at my watch and I knew he was right,
Merry Christmas my friend, Semper Fi and goodnight.

*Written by Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt in 1986.
Printed in Leatherneck (The Magazines for the Marines) in December 1991.*



Pittsburgh Public Theater



Pittsburgh Public Theater Welcomes 2012 with Comedy. The Second City returns with their new show Laugh Out Loud! Ted Pappas takes a fresh approach to Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.

If you've resolved to put more fun in your life, make plans to start the year at Pittsburgh Public Theater. From January 5–7, The Public welcomes back famed Chicago comedy troupe The Second City. Then from January 19–February 19, director Ted Pappas takes his cast of rustics and royals on a wild romp through the Forest of Arden in Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy, *As You Like It*.

From the company that launched the careers of Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell and many others, the next generation of the comedy world's brightest will perform The Second City's trademark improvisation and hilarious sketch comedy in *Laugh Out Loud!* Showtimes: Thurs, Jan. 5 at 8 pm; Fri, Jan. 6 at 8 pm, and Sat, Jan. 7 at 5:30 & 9 pm. Cabaret seating at tables of four is available on the floor (\$220) and a cash bar will be open during each performance. Ticket prices range from \$48 to \$15.75 for students and age 26 and younger.

Ted Pappas and his design team will give *As You Like It* a stylish makeover by setting it in Edwardian England, that short golden age at the dawn of the 20th century when social change promised to be the new fashion. It's a perfect time period for *Rosalind*, Shakespeare's smartest, feistiest,

and funniest female. The Public is thrilled to announce that *Rosalind* will be played by Gretchen Egolf, who last appeared at The O'Reilly as Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy in *The Secret Letters of Jackie and Marilyn*.

For more details or to buy tickets call 412.316.1600 or go to ppt.org



Seneca Casino

New Branding “Worth Sharing”

Excitement Worth Sharing theme featured in new television commercial



NIAGARA FALLS, NY – Seneca Casinos in Western New York recently unveiled a new branding campaign to match its award-winning resort properties. The theme of “Excitement Worth Sharing” is part of widespread marketing throughout New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Southern Ontario, and runs across multiple mediums such as billboards, radio, newsprint, magazines, online, social media and television – including new 30-second commercials for the Seneca Niagara and Seneca Allegany casino resorts.

“There’s great Excitement here; we see Worth or Value throughout our properties, and; the experience is one which guests will want to Share with others,” said Jim Wise, senior vice president of marketing, Seneca Gaming Corporation. “From the excitement of our new slot machines and thrilling table games, to the delicious tastes of our many restaurants, to the luxury of our AAA Four Diamond Award-winning hotels, and the energy of our fabulous entertainment – a trip to a Seneca Casino is truly Excitement Worth Sharing.”

The theme creates flexibility for use in promoting various aspects of the resort properties. For example, a web page of dining specials at Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel incorporates the header, “Flavors Worth Sharing.”

The new branding coincided with a massive photo and video shoot throughout the Seneca casinos. Updated photos will replace existing imagery throughout all on-property and outbound marketing materials, and new 360-degree videos will provide website visitors an in-depth look at hotel rooms,

entertainment venues and select restaurants.

In addition, Seneca Casinos’ television commercials debuted in late October throughout various stations and programming in the Northeast U.S. and Southern Ontario, Canada. The spot for Seneca Niagara Casino is airing in Buffalo, Rochester, Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara Falls, Ontario markets. Meanwhile, the spot for Seneca Allegany Casino is airing in the Erie, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Binghamton and Buffalo markets. Both versions are available at the Seneca Casinos’ recently-launched YouTube page, www.youtube.com/SenecaCasinos.

The new branding was spearheaded by the Seneca Casinos’ marketing unit and The Media & Marketing Group, a full-service integrated marketing communications agency based in Voorhees, NJ.

About Seneca Gaming Corporation

Seneca Gaming Corporation operates Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel in Niagara Falls, NY, Seneca Allegany Casino & Hotel in Salamanca, NY, Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino in Buffalo, NY and Seneca Hickory Stick Golf Course in Lewiston, NY on behalf of the Seneca Nation of Indians. Since opening Seneca Niagara Casino in 2002, Seneca Gaming Corporation has grown to employ more than 3,700 people. Seneca Gaming Corporation operates world-class facilities offering more than 6,500 slot machines, 140 table games, 800 hotel rooms, a championship golf course and other related amenities. For more information, visit www.senecacasinos.com.

Politically Correct Version of the Night Before Christmas:

Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...
How to live in a world that's politically correct?
His workers no longer would answer to "Elves"
"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves
And labor conditions at the north pole
Were alleged by the union to stifle the soul
Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety
Released to the wilds by the Humane Society
And equal employment had made it quite clear
That Santa had better not use just reindeer
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid
Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!
The runners had been removed from his sleigh;
The ruts were termed dangerous by the E P A
And people had started to call for the cops
When they heard sled noises on their roof-tops
Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite
frightened His fur trimmed red suit was called "Unenlightened"
And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows
Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose
And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation
Demanding millions in over-due compensation
So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife
Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life
Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz
Demanding from now on her title was Ms
And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion
That making a choice could cause so much commotion
Nothing of leather, nothing of fur
Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her
Nothing that might be construed to pollute
Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot
Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise
Nothing for just girls. Or just for boys
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific
Nothing that's warlike or non-pacific
No candy or sweets ... they were bad for the tooth
Nothing that seemed to embellish the truth
And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden
Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden
For they raised the hackles of those psychological
Who claimed the only good gift was ecological
No baseball, no football ... someone could get hurt;
Besides; playing sports exposed kids to dirt
Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passé;
And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away
So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed;
He just could not figure out what to do next
He tried to be merry, tried to be gay

But you've got to be careful with that word today
His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;
Nothing fully acceptable was to be found
Something special was needed, a gift that he might
Give to all without angering the left or the right
A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision
Each group of people, every religion;
Every ethnicity, every hue
Everyone, everywhere ... even you
So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth ...
"May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth"

Twas the Night Before Finals:

Twas the night before finals, and all through the college,
The students were praying for last minute knowledge.
Most were quite sleepy, but none touched their beds,
While visions of essays danced in their heads.
Out in the taverns, a few were still drinking,
And hoping that liquor would loosen their thinking.
In my own room I had been pacing,
And dreading exams I soon would be facing.
My roommate was speechless, his nose in his books,
And my comments to him drew unfriendly looks.
I drained all the coffee, and brewed a new pot,
No longer caring that my nerves were all shot.
I stared at the notes, but my thoughts were muddy,
My eyes went a blur, I just couldn't study.
"Some pizza might help," I said with a shiver,
But each place I called refused to deliver.
I'd nearly concluded that life was too cruel,
With futures depending on grades made in school.
When all of a sudden, our door opened wide,
And Patron Saint Put-It-Off ambled inside.
His spirit was careless, his manner was mellow,
All of a sudden, he started to bellow.
"On Cliff's notes, on Crib notes, On Last Year Exams.
On Wing-It and Sling-It and Last Minute Crams."
His message delivered, he vanished from sight,
But we heard him laughing outside in the night.
"Your teachers have pegged you, so just do your best,
Happy Finals to All, and to all a Good Test."

Rules for Christmas Calories:

1. if you eat something and no one sees you eat it, it has NO calories
2. If you drink a diet soda with a candy bar, the calories in the candy bar are canceled out by the diet soda
3. When you eat with someone else, calories don't count if you do not eat more than they do
4. Food used for medicinal purposes NEVER count, such as hot chocolate, brandy, toast, and cheesecake
5. If you fatten up everyone else around you, then you look thinner

6. Cookie pieces contain no calories (Breaking causes calorie leakage)
7. Things licked off of knives and spoons have no calories if you are in the process of preparing something
8. Foods that have the same color have the same number of calories. Examples are: spinach and pistachio ice cream; mushrooms and mashed potatoes
9. Chocolate is a universal color and may be substituted for any other food color.
10. Anything consumed from someone else's plate has no calories since the calories rightfully belong to the other person and will cling to his/her plate!

Immediate Downsizing Measures Employed:

The recent announcement that Donner and Blitzen have elected to take the early reindeer retirement package has triggered a good deal of concern about whether they will be replaced, and about other restructuring decisions at the North Pole. Streamlining is due to the North Pole's loss of dominance of this season's gift distribution business. Home shopping channels, the Internet, and mail order catalogs have diminished Santa's market share. He could not sit idly by and permit further erosion of the profit picture. The reindeer downsizing was made possible through the purchase of a late model Japanese sled for the CEO's annual trip. Improved productivity from Dasher and Dancer--who will retrain at the Harvard Business School--is anticipated. Reduction in reindeer will also lessen airborne environmental emissions for which the North Pole has received unfavorable press. I am pleased to inform you that Rudolph's role will not be disturbed. Tradition still counts for something at the North Pole.

Is There a Santa?

A few days after Christmas, my six year son and I were talking. He asked, "Mom, is there a Santa Claus?" "Well, what do you think?" I asked him. He replied, "Well, my X Box that I got and my gifts from Santa were wrapped in the same kind of wrapping paper." He thought for a minute and said, "I'll tell you what ... you and Dad can go on buying me presents and let's just forget we ever had this talk!"

Annual Office Christmas Party:

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director
TO: All Employees
DATE: December 1
RE: Annual Office Christmas Party

I'm happy to inform you that the company Christmas Party will take place on December 23, starting at noon in the private function room at the Grill House. There will be a cash bar and plenty of drinks! We'll have a small band

playing traditional carols. Feel free to sing along. And don't be surprised if our CEO shows up dressed as Santa Claus! A Christmas tree will be lit at 1:00 p.m. Exchange of gifts among employees can be done at that time, however, no gift should be over \$10.00 to make the giving of gifts easy for everyone's pockets. This gathering is only for employees! A special announcement will be made by our CEO at that time! Merry Christmas to you and your family.
Patty

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director
TO: All Employees
DATE: December 2
RE: Holiday Party

In no way was yesterday's memo intended to exclude our Jewish employees. We recognize that Chanukah is an important holiday, which often coincides with Christmas, though unfortunately not this year. However, from now on we're calling it our "Holiday Party." The same policy applies to any other employees who are not Christians or those still celebrating Reconciliation Day. There will be no Christmas tree present. No Christmas carols sung. We will have other types of music for your enjoyment. Happy now?
Happy Holidays to you and your family.
Patty

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director
TO: All Employees
DATE: December 3
RE: Holiday Party

Regarding the note I received from a member of Alcoholics Anonymous requesting a non-drinking table... you didn't sign your name. I'm happy to accommodate this request, but if I put a sign on a table that reads "AA Only" you wouldn't be anonymous anymore. How am I supposed to handle this? Somebody? Forget about the gift exchange, no gifts are allowed since the union members feel that \$10.00 is too much money and executives believe \$10.00 is a little chintzy. NO GIFT EXCHANGE WILL BE ALLOWED.
Patty

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director
TO: All Employees
DATE: December 7
RE: Holiday Party

What a diverse group we are! I had no idea that December 20th begins the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which forbids eating and drinking during daylight hours. There goes the party! Seriously, we can appreciate how a luncheon at this time of year does not accommodate our Muslim employees' beliefs. Perhaps the Grill House can hold off on serving your meal until the end of the party or else package

everything for you to take it home in a little foil doggy baggy. Will that work? Meanwhile, I've arranged for members of Weight Watchers to sit farthest from the dessert buffet and pregnant women will get the table closest to the restrooms. Gays are allowed to sit with each other. Lesbians do not have to sit with gay men, each will have their own table. Yes, there will be a flower arrangement for the gay men's table. However, to the person asking permission to cross dress, no cross dressing allowed. We will have booster seats for short people. Low-fat food will be available for those on a diet. We cannot control the salt used in the food we suggest for those people with high blood pressure to taste first. There will be fresh fruits as dessert for Diabetics, the restaurant cannot supply "No Sugar" desserts. Sorry! Did I miss anything?!?!?

Patty

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director

TO: All Employees

DATE: December 10

RE: The Holiday Party

Vegetarians!! I've had it with you people!!! We're going to keep this party at the Grill House whether you like it or not, so you can sit quietly at the table furthest from the "grill of death," as you so quaintly put it, and you'll get your salad bar, including organic tomatoes. But you know, tomatoes have feelings, too. They scream when you slice them. I've heard them scream. I'm hearing them scream right NOW! I hope you all have a rotten holiday! Drive drunk and die, you hear me?

Patty

FROM: Joan Bishop, Acting Human Resources Director

DATE: December 14

RE: Patty Lewis and Holiday Party

I'm sure I speak for all of us in wishing Patty Lewis a speedy recovery and I'll continue to forward your cards to her. In the meantime, management has decided to cancel our Holiday Party and give everyone the afternoon of the 23rd off with full pay. Happy Holidays!

PS: HAVE A FANTASTIC WEEKEND!!!

Mistletoe:

It was the beginning of December. The trip had gone reasonably well, and he was ready to go back. The airport on the other hand had turned a tacky red and green, and loudspeakers blared annoying elevator renditions of cherished Christmas carols. Being someone who took Christmas very seriously, and being slightly tired, he was not in a particularly good mood. Going to check in his luggage (which, for some reason, had become one suitcase with entirely new clothes), he saw hanging mistletoe. Not real mistletoe, but very cheap plastic with red paint on some of the rounder parts and green paint on some of the flatter and "pointier" parts, that could be taken for mistletoe only in a very Picasso sort of way.

With a considerable degree of irritation and nowhere else to vent it, he said to the lady attendant, "Even if I were not married, I would not want to kiss you under such a ghastly mockery of mistletoe." "Sir, look more closely at where the mistletoe is." (pause) "Ok, I see that it's above the luggage scale, which is the place you'd have to step forward for a kiss." "That's not why it's there." (pause) "Ok, I give up. Why is it there?" "It's there so you can kiss your luggage goodbye."

Dear Santa:

My son and Santa Claus have been pen pals every Christmas since he first learned to write. Traditionally, letters to Saint Nick are stuffed in the stockings hanging over the wood stove we call our "fireplace," and are answered via the same mysterious process that allows the jolly old elf to descend down a six-inch stove pipe every Christmas Eve.

Here is this year's exchange:

Dear Santa: For Christmas this year I would like a guinea pig. I have other stuff I want, but I wanted to get the guinea-pig request in early.

Signed, the Best Boy in the World

Dear Best Boy: You are not getting a guinea pig. Are you forgetting what happened to the goldfish you had, and also to the mice you were given for your birthday? Please ask for something reasonable, like a new rake to help your father in the yard. That request I can fill immediately.

Dear Santa: Well the directions never said you can't take goldfish into the bathtub with you so how was I supposed to know? And the thing with the mice was not my fault, it was the cat's fault. I also want a go-cart.

Dear Pet Boy: Surely you knew that sitting on the fish would not be good for them. And I hardly think the cat can be blamed for its instinctive pursuit of the mice once you left the cage door open. I'm sorry, but you may have no more rodents, and that's final. Regarding your new request: You have already demonstrated an unnerving tendency to succumb to the gravitational pull of the earth, hurling yourself headfirst off of your bicycle and your skate board. A go-cart would merely accelerate this process. How about instead of a go-cart you get a wheelbarrow to help haul the leaves you'll be raking.

Dear so-called Santa: A guinea pig is not a rodent, it is a member of the pork family. How about you get me a little trailer for my go-cart and I'll haul leaves in that. Plus I also want a drum set. Oh, and I think you should know, my dad is not using the exercise bike you got him last Christmas. I guess it goes against his instinctive pursuit of getting fat.

Dear Drummer Boy: No pigs of any kind, including those related to rats. No catapulting yourself headfirst from a go-cart into the emergency room. No banging on drums, or doing anything to create any noise except the sounds of yard work. And your father is planning on starting his exercise program just as soon as his schedule settles down.

Dear Saint Nick Picker: Well excuse me for thinking that Christmas was for something besides better homes and

gardens. If I can't have a go-cart, I want a snowmobile. Oh, and I think you'd better take another look at my dad: All he has on his schedule is watching TV and drinking beer. If he settles down any more, he's going to slide off of his chair and onto the floor. Mom says the only way to tell that he's still alive is by his belches.

Dear Incorrect Boy: Your father works hard and occasionally takes in a game on TV to relax. There is nothing wrong with this. And a snowmobile? Are you crazy? Not only are they dangerous, do you have any idea how much a snowmobile costs? Please pick something affordable.

Dear Santa Flaws: Well why do you care what it costs? I thought you had a bunch of dwarfs working for you who built everything in your workshop. If I can't have a guinea pig I want a monkey.

Dear Boy: A monkey? You cannot have a monkey.

Dear Chris Crumple: I'm the only kid in my school without a pet.

But Son, I refuse to believe anybody in your school has a monkey. It is illegal.

Dear Santa Laws: Well then can I have a guinea pig?

Dear Son: Well... we'll see.

Try This Holiday Recipe:



You'll need the following:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 4 large eggs
- 2 cups dried fruit
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- lemon juice
- 1 cups nuts
- 1 bottle whiskey

Sample the whiskey to check for quality.

Take a large bowl. Check the whiskey again. To be sure it's the highest quality, pour one level cup & drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer, beat 1 cup butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 tsp. sugar and beat again.

Make sure the whiskey is still OK. Try another cup. Turn off the mixer. Beat two eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Mix on the tuner. If the dried fruit gets stuck on the beaters pry it loose with a drowscriver.

Sample the whiskey to check for consistency. Next, sift 2 cups of salt. Or something. Who cares? Check the whiskey. Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table spoon of sugar or something. Whatever you can find.

Grease the oven. Turn on the cake to 350 degrees. Don't forget to beat off the tuner. Throw the bowl out the window. Check the whickey again and go to bed. Happy Holiday!!

The Christmas Tree Angel

Santa was ticked. It was Christmas Eve and NOTHING was going right. Mrs. Claus had burned all the Christmas cookies. The Elves were griping about not getting paid for the overtime they had while making toys. And the reindeer had been drinking all afternoon and were dead drunk. They had taken the sleigh out for a spin earlier in the day and crashed it into a tree, breaking off one of the runners. Santa was beside himself with anger. "I CAN'T believe it! I've got to deliver millions of presents all over the world in just a few hours from now and all my reindeer are drunk and my Elves are on strike. I don't even have a Christmas tree! I sent that stupid Little Angel out HOURS ago to find a tree and he isn't even back yet! What am I going to do?" Just then, the Little Angel opened the front door and stepped in from the snowy night, dragging a Christmas tree. He says: "Yo, fat man! Where do you want me to stick the Christmas tree this year?" And thus the tradition of angels atop the Christmas trees came to pass.....

Top 10 Santa Pick Up Lines:

- 10 "I'll make you shake like a bowl full of jelly."
- 9 "I put the 'scroo' in Scrooge."
- 8 "I've got something you can hang a wreath on."
- 7 "One hour with me, honey, and you'll see flying' reindeer!"
- 6 "Buy you a Bud?"

- 5 "That is a candy cane in my pocket, and I am glad to see you."
- 4 "Uh -- yeah, that's right, I'm Kenny Rogers."
- 3 "I got your stocking stuffer right here, Shirley!"
- 2 "Giddy-up over here and say 'howdy' to your fat, bearded cowboy of love!"
- 1 "I've got an elf in my pants!"

The Golfers:

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with those blokes? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!" The priest said, "Here comes the greens keeper. Let's have a word with him." He said, "Hello, George! what's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" The greens keeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind fire fighters. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime." The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything he can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

Eggs:

A wife was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her husband. Suddenly, her husband burst into the kitchen. "Careful ... CAREFUL! Put in some more butter! Oh my GOD! You're cooking too many at once. TOO MANY! TURN THEM!! TURN THEM NOW!!! We need more butter. Oh my GOD! WHERE are we going to get MORE BUTTER? They're going to STICK! Careful ... CAREFUL! I said be CAREFUL! You NEVER listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you CRAZY? Have you LOST your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the salt. USE THE SALT! THE SALT!" The wife stared at him. "What the hell is wrong with you? You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?" The husband calmly replied, "I wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm driving."

On Drinking:

"Sometimes when I reflect back on all the wine I drink I feel shamed. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the vineyards and all of their hopes and dreams If I didn't drink this wine, they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. Then I say to myself, "It is better that I drink this wine and let their dreams come true than be selfish and worry about my liver."
~ Jack Handy

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may leave you wondering what the hell happened to your bra and panties.

"I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day. " ~Frank Sinatra

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.

"When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading."
~ Henny Youngman

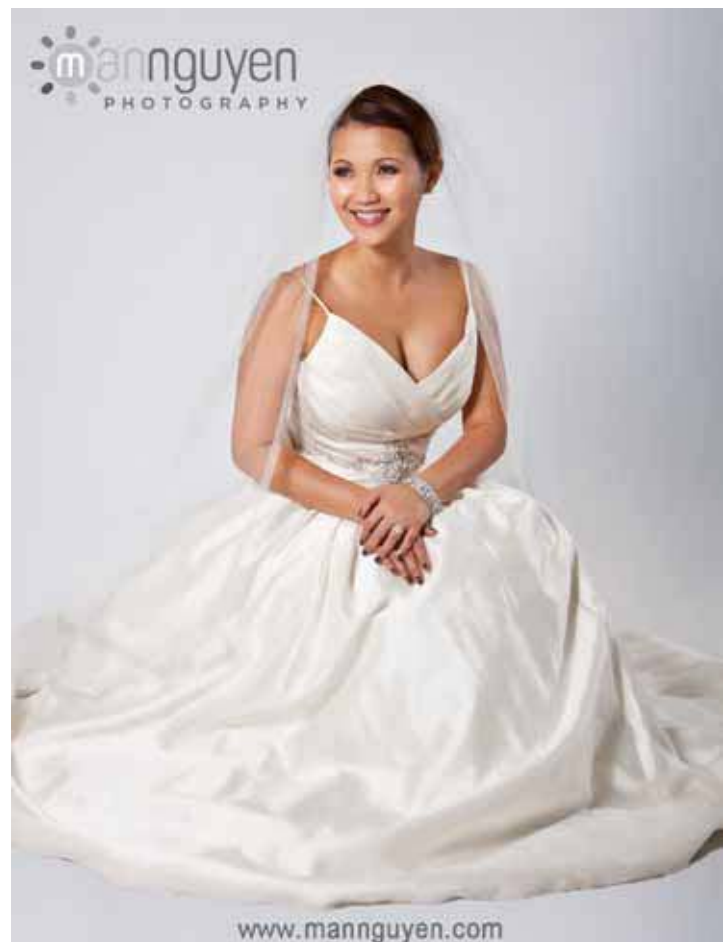
WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may lead you to think people are laughing WITH you.

"24 hours in a day, 24 beers in a case. Coincidence? I think not." ~ Stephen Wright

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause you to think you can sing.

"When we drink, we get drunk. When we get drunk, we fall asleep. When we fall asleep, we commit no sin. When we commit no sin, we go to heaven. So, let's all get drunk and go to heaven!" ~ Brian O'Rourke

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause pregnancy.



“Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy.” ~ Benjamin Franklin

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol is a major factor in dancing like a retard.

“Without question, the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you that the wheel was also a fine invention, but the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza.” ~ Dave Barry
WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them.

To some it's a six-pack, to me it's a Support Group. Salvation in a can! ~ Dave Howell

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may make you think you can logically converse with members of the opposite sex without spitting.

And saving the best for last, as explained by Cliff Clavin, of Cheers. One afternoon at Cheers, Cliff Clavin was explaining the Buffalo Theory to his buddy Norm. Here's how it went: “Well ya see, Norm, it's like this... A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers.”

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may make you think you are whispering when you are not. . Help keep Bartender's Employed - Drink more Alcohol!

Understanding Woman's Problems:

Okay, Okay, it finally all makes sense now.. I never looked at it this way before:

MENtal illness

MENstrual cramps

MENtal breakdown

MENopause

GUYnecologist

AND

When we have REAL trouble, it's a HISterectomy.

Ever notice how all of women's problems start with MEN?

Things I've Learned from my Kids:

For those who already have children past this age, this is hilarious. For those who have children nearing this age, this is a

warning. For those who have not yet had children, this is birth control. The following came from an anonymous mother here in Pittsburgh, PA!

Things I've learned from my children (Honest and No Kidding):

1. A king size waterbed holds enough water to fill a 2,000 sq. foot house 4 inches deep.
2. If you spray hair spray on dust bunnies and run over them with roller blades, they can ignite.
3. A 3-year-old's voice is louder than 200 adults in a crowded restaurant.
4. If you hook a dog leash over a ceiling fan, the motor is not strong enough to rotate a 42 pound boy wearing Batman underwear and a superman cape. It is strong enough, however, to spread paint on all four walls of a 20 X 20 foot room.
5. You should not throw baseballs up when the ceiling fan is on. When using the ceiling fan as a bat, you have to throw the ball up a few times before you get a hit. A ceiling fan can hit a baseball a long way.
6. The glass in windows (even double pane) doesn't stop a baseball hit by a ceiling fan.
7. When you hear the toilet flush and the words “Uh-oh,” it's already too late.
8. Brake fluid mixed with Clorox makes smoke, and lots of it.
9. A six-year-old can start a fire with a flint rock even though a 36-year-old man says they can only do it in the movies. A magnifying glass can start a fire even on an overcast day.
10. Certain Lego's will pass through the digestive tract of a four-year-old.
11. Play Dough and Microwave should never be used in the same sentence.
12. Super glue is forever.
13. No matter how much Jell-O you put in a swimming pool you still can't walk on water.
14. Pool filters do not like Jell-O.
15. DVD Players do not eject PB&J sandwiches even though TV commercials show they do.
16. Garbage bags do not make good parachutes.
17. Marbles in gas tanks make lots of noise when driving.
18. You probably do not want to know what that odor is.
19. Always look in the oven before you turn it on. Plastic toys do not like ovens.
20. The fire department in Pittsburgh has a 5 minute response time.
21. The spin cycle on the washing machine does not make earth worms dizzy. It will however make cats dizzy and cats throw up twice their body weight when dizzy.

Washington Post's Style Invitational:

The Washington Post's Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or

changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Recent winners:

- Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
- Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.
- Foreplay: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.
- Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
- Sarcasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
- Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
- Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.
- Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease.
- Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.
- Glibido: All talk and no action.
- Dopeler effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
- Ignoranus: A person who's both stupid and an asshole.

HR Director:

One day while walking down the street a highly successful HR Director was tragically hit by a bus and she died, Her soul arrived up in heaven where she was met at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter himself. Welcome to Heaven," said St. Peter. "Before you get settled in though, it seems we have a problem. You see, strangely enough, we've never once had a Human Resources Director make it this far and we're not really sure what to do with you." "No problem, just let me in" said the woman. "Well, I'd like to, but I have higher orders. What we're going to do is let you have a day in Hell and a day in Heaven and then you can choose whichever one you want to spend an eternity in." "Actually, I think I've made up my mind, I prefer to stay in Heaven," said the woman. "Sorry, we have rules..." And with that St. Peter put the executive in an elevator and it went down-down-down to hell. The doors opened and she found herself stepping out onto the putting green of a beautiful golf course. In the distance was a country club and standing in front of her were all her friends -- fellow executives that she had worked with and they were all dressed in evening gowns and cheering for her. They ran up and kissed her on both cheeks and they talked about old times. They played an excellent round of golf and at night went to the country club where she enjoyed an excellent steak and lobster dinner. She met the Devil who was actually a really nice guy (kinda cute) and she had a great time telling jokes and dancing. She was having such a good time that before she knew it, it was time to leave. Everybody shook her hand and waved good-bye as she got on the elevator. The elevator went up-up-up and opened back up at the Pearly Gates and found St. Peter waiting for her. "Now it's time to spend a day in heaven," he said. So she spent the next 24 hours lounging around on clouds and playing the harp and singing. She had a great time and before she knew

it her 24 hours were up and St. Peter came and got her. "So, you've spent a day in hell and you've spent a day in heaven. Now you must choose your eternity," he said. The woman paused for a second and then replied, "Well, I never thought I'd say this, I mean, Heaven has been really great and all, but I think I had a better time in Hell."

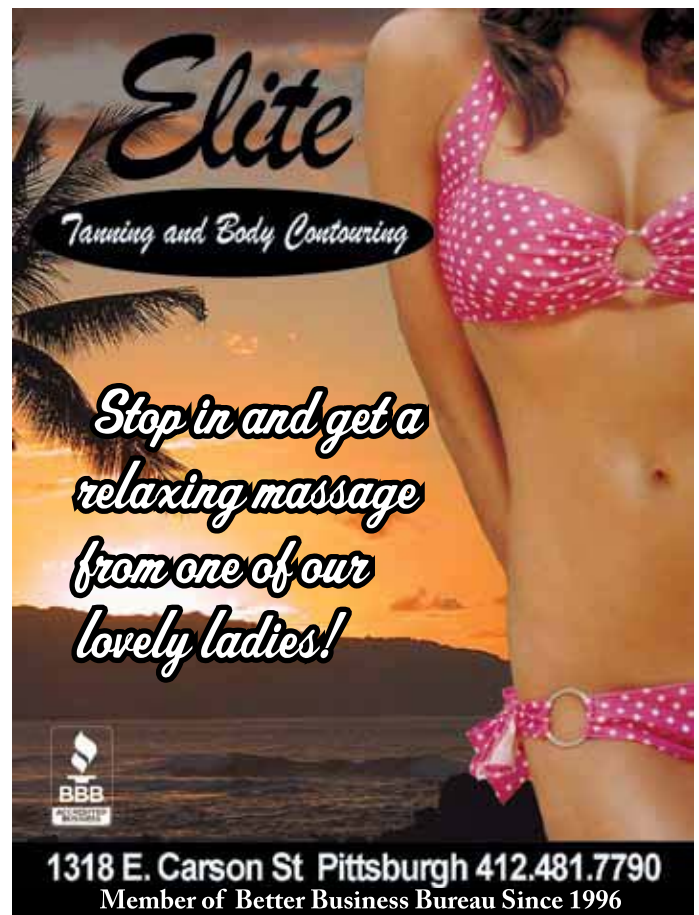
So St. Peter escorted her to the elevator and again she went down-down-down back to Hell. When the doors of the elevator opened she found herself standing in a desolate wasteland covered in garbage and filth. She saw her friends were dressed in rags and were picking up the garbage and putting it in sacks. The Devil came up to her and put his arm around her. I don't understand," stammered the woman, "yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and a country club and we ate lobster and we danced and had a great time. Now all there is, is a wasteland of garbage and all my friends look miserable." The Devil looked at her and smiled. "Yesterday we were recruiting you, today you're staff..."

Dear God: From the Dog!

Dear God: Why do humans smell the flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another?

Dear God: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?

Dear God: Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the



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cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the “Chrysler Eagle” the “Chrysler Beagle”?

Dear God: If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?

Dear God: We dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent ID's, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?

Dear God: More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.

Dear God: Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.
3. I will not munch on “leftovers” in the kitty litter box, although they are tasty.
4. The diaper pail is not a cookie jar.
5. The sofa is not a “face towel”. Neither are Mom and Dad's laps.
6. The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.
7. My head does not belong in the refrigerator.
8. I will not bite the officer's hand when he reaches in for Mom's driver's license and registration.
9. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.
10. Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying “hello”.
11. I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table.
12. I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house - not after.
13. I will not throw up in the car.
14. I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.
15. I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch when we have company.
16. The cat is not a “squeaky toy” so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.

And, finally, My last question . . .

Dear God: When I get to Heaven may I have my testicles back?

An Interesting Observation About People and Sports!

1. The sport of choice for the urban poor is BASKETBALL.
2. The sport of choice for maintenance level employees is BOWLING
3. The sport of choice for front-line workers is FOOTBALL.
4. The sport of choice for supervisors is BASEBALL.
5. The sport of choice for middle management is TENNIS and....
6. The sport of choice for corporate executives and officers is GOLF.

The Amazing Conclusion:

The higher you go in the corporate structure, the smaller your balls become.

Russian Couple:

A Russian couple are walking when it begins to precipitate. The man, Rudolph tells his wife it is raining but she insists that it is snowing. Again and again she says that it is snowing but again and again he says that it is raining. Once more she says to him, Rudolph, it definitely is snowing to which he replies, “Rudolph the red knows rain dear”.

Poinsettia is an Undead Curse from the Holidays

Some of you are probably in the same predicament as me. You don't want to throw the thing in the trash because that seems wasteful, even mean. It was a gift after all. But watching that Christmas poinsettia die a slow, tortured death on the kitchen table isn't what you'd call a day-brightener, now is it? Friends who've observed my Addams Family centerpiece with its dry, curly leaves fall into two categories: They either say: “For heaven's sake, put the poor thing out of its misery! They'll be, what, a buck fifty at Wal-Mart next year?” Or they say: “You can't throw it away; it's still alive and it'll bloom next Christmas if you just take care of it a little bit.” There ought to be some kind of Kervorkian house call guy who just handles this sort of thing. He would tell you when he could come, then you'd leave the door ajar. Go for a walk and by the time you get back, there's no sign of the poinsettia and a bill's on the fridge under the “Don't Tell Me To Have A Nice Day” magnet, right beside that stupid reminder to watch the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes announcement because YOU MAY ALREADY BE A WINNER. As if. And while we're on the subject of sweepstakes, why do they always put your name on the “You may already ...” letter with two goobers from Salted Slug, Alaska, or Deliveranceville, Mississippi? What are you gonna do? Call them? Exchange Spam Casserole recipes? I don't care who wins, so long as it's me. Face it. Anybody who's actually got that TV tag reminder to watch the sweepstakes announcement on their TV is pretty much telling the world,

“Why, yes, as a matter of fact, I am a loser.” That’s why I keep mine on the refrigerator. You don’t look so gullible. I don’t want to be one of those people who hollers, “Buford, tell Buford Junior to get out yonder to the corner so he can spot the Prize Van when it passes the Dairy Queen.” But back to this poinsettia thing. It was awfully pretty when I got it as a hostess gift right after Thanksgiving. The plant was, in contrast to its current condition, uh, alive. The leaves were luscious scarlet instead of the sad, yellowy-beige color they are now. And don’t ask me what that gross stuff that looks like oatmeal is on the stems. Lately, I swear I can hear the thing screaming when I walk by. The cats, originally concerned because they’d read somewhere that poinsettias are poisonous to them (they’re not) have stopped giving the plant a wide berth because they see it’s in no condition to hurt them. Now they sit staring at the stemmy, oatmealy, yellow-brown former plant in the green foil-wrapped pot with the same look they reserve for lizards that are long dead but they think, in their kitty brains, that they’re going to somehow rise from the dead like Super Fly. The same dead fly been on my screen porch floor for three weeks now and the cats still hiss at it. Mo-rons. Anyway, for a couple of weeks after Christmas, I watered the thing. The poinsettia, not the fly. Somebody told me I shouldn’t water it very much and somebody else told me I should water it a lot so I split the difference and one day I’d water it a quarter-cup or so and the next day I’d give it a couple of gallons. Despite this hard work, the stupid thing kept shedding leaves like crazy. Then,

last week, I stopped watering altogether, because I thought it was only prolonging the agony. It was becoming like one great big Lamar Alexander campaign. Well-meaning types fuss and cluck over my poinsettia and tell me in cheery tones that if I’ll just “water moderately, prune severely, place it in the sun for five hours a day, then keep it in a pitch-black room for no more than 14 hours a day beginning around October, it will bloom again.” Right. I’m the kind of person who takes the frozen dinner out of the microwave 2 minutes early; patience isn’t my thing. Free poinsettia to good home.

Ten Thoughts to Ponder

Number 10 Life is sexually transmitted.

- Number 9 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- Number 8 Men have two emotions: Hungry and Horny. If you see him without an erection, make him a sandwich .
- Number 7 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won’t bother you for weeks.
- Number 6 Some people are like a Slinky-not really good for anything, but you still can’t help but smile when you shove them down the stairs.
- Number 5 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals, dying of nothing.
- Number 4 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

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- Number 3 Why does a slight tax increase cost you \$800.00, and a substantial tax cut saves you \$30.00?
- Number 2 In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- And The Number 1 Thought Life is like a jar of Jalapeno peppers--what you do today, might burn you're a** tomorrow.- - - and as someone recently said to me: "Don't worry about old age--it doesn't last long."

The Elderly Irish Virgin!!!

In a tiny village on the Irish coast lived an old lady, a virgin and very proud of it. Sensing that her final days were rapidly approaching, and desiring to make sure everything was in proper order when she died, she went to the town's undertaker (who also happened to be the local postal clerk) to make proper 'final' arrangements. As a last wish, she informed the undertaker that she wanted the following inscription engraved on her tombstone: 'BORN A VIRGIN, LIVED AS A VIRGIN, DIED A VIRGIN' Not long after, the old maid died peacefully. A few days after the funeral, as the undertaker--postal clerk went to prepare the tombstone that the lady had requested, It became quite apparent that the tombstone that she had selected was much too small for the wording that she had chosen. He thought long and hard about how he could fulfill the old maid's final request, considering the very

limited space available on the small piece of stone. For days, he agonized over the dilemma. But finally his experience as a postal worker allowed him to come up with what he thought was the appropriate solution to the problem. The virgin's tombstone was finally completed and duly engraved, and it read as follows: 'RETURNED UNOPENED'

Red Tomatoes

A beautiful woman loved growing tomatoes, but couldn't seem to get her tomatoes to turn red. One day, while taking a stroll, she came upon a neighbor who had the most beautiful garden full of huge red tomatoes. The woman asked the man, "What do you do to get your tomatoes so red?" The man responded, "Well, twice a day I stand in front of my tomato garden naked in my trench coat and flash them. My tomatoes turn red from blushing so much." Well, the woman was so impressed; she decided to try doing the same thing to her tomato garden to see if it would work. So twice a day for two weeks she flashed her garden hoping for the best. One day the man was passing by and asked the woman, "By the way, how did you make out? Did your tomatoes turn red?" "No", she replied, "but my cucumbers are enormous."

The Man Rules

At last a guy has taken the time to write this all down. We always hear " the rules "From the female side. Now here are the rules from the male side. These are our rules! Please note.. these are all numbered "1 " ON PURPOSE!

1. Men are NOT mind readers. FIRST & FOREMOST RULE
1. Learn to work the toilet seat. You're a big girl. If it's up, put it down. We need it up, you need it down. You don't hear us complaining about you leaving it down.
1. Sunday sports, It's like the full moon or the changing of the tides. Let it be.
1. Crying is blackmail.
1. Ask for what you want. Let us be clear on this one: Subtle hints do not work! Strong hints do not work! Obvious hints do not work! Just say it!
1. Yes and No are perfectly acceptable answers to almost every question.
1. Come to us with a problem only if you want help solving it. That's what we do. Sympathy is what your girlfriends are for.
1. Anything we said 6 months ago is inadmissible in an argument. In fact, all comments become Null and void after 7 Days.
1. If you think you're fat, you probably are. Don't ask us.
1. If something we said can be interpreted two ways and one of the ways makes you sad or angry, we meant the other one
1. *** You can either ask us to do something Or tell us how you want it done. Not both. If you already know best how to do it , just do it yourself.
1. Whenever possible, Please say whatever you have to say during commercials...

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1. Christopher Columbus did NOT need directions and neither do we.
1. ALL men see in only 16 colors, like Windows default settings. Peach, for example, is a fruit, not A color. Pumpkin is also a fruit. We have no idea what mauve is.
1. If it itches, it will be scratched. We do that.
1. If we ask what is wrong and you say "nothing," We will act like nothing's wrong. We know you are lying, but it is just not worth the hassle.
1. If you ask a question you don't want an answer to, Expect an answer you don't want to hear.
1. When we have to go somewhere, absolutely anything you wear is fine.... Really.
1. Don't ask us what we're thinking about unless you are prepared to discuss such topics as Football or Hockey.
1. You have enough clothes.
1. You have too many shoes.
1. I am in shape. Round IS a shape!
1. Thank you for reading this. Yes, I know, I have to sleep on the couch tonight; But did you know men really don't mind that? It's like camping.

Birthday Present:

My neighbors are two attractive thirty something women that I believe are having a romantic relationship. As I was talking to them one day the conversation turned to birthdays and I

mentioned my birthday was only a week away. They asked me "what do you want for your birthday?" Since I am a voyeur, I replied "I wanna watch." I think there was a miscommunication because at my birthday party their present to me was a very nice Timex.

A Coincidence:

A man was sitting at the bar when a woman sat near him at the bar and ordered a Champagne cocktail. He remarked "What a coincidence, I'm having a Champagne cocktail also." The woman said, "I'm celebrating. I was just at my doctor's office and I'm pregnant. My husband and I have been trying for years and now I'm finally pregnant." The gentleman replied "What a coincidence, I'm a chicken farmer and for a long time my hens were not getting pregnant." She asked "what happened that now they are pregnant?" The chicken farmer replied, "I changed the cock." She replied, "what a coincidence."

A True Story:

My neighbor Fred, unfortunately developed Macular degeneration (an eye disorder that slowly destroys sharp central vision) and was slowly going blind. He entered a guide dog program in the Midwest and was paired with a black Labrador Retriever dog. The conclusion of the training program was for Fred and his dog to fly to New York city to



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practice what they learned. Fred was sitting in coach with his dog at his feet. The lady next to him called the flight attendant over and complained she did not pay the airfare to sit next to a dog. The flight attendant stated there was room in first class. The lady was very happy and started to gather her things when the flight attendant stated, "sir, would you and your dog like to sit in first class?"

Office Humor:

The young executive was working late one evening. As he stepped out of his office to get some coffee he saw the boss standing by the office shredder, a piece of paper in his hand. "Do you know how to work this thing?" the older man asked. "My secretary's gone home and I don't know how to run it." "Yes sir," the eager underling replied. He turned on the machine, took the paper from the other man and fed it in. "Oh, thanks," his boss said, "One copy will be fine."

Computer Virus of the Month:

The PBS. Your programs stop every few minutes to ask for money.

Drugstore Humor:

A 60-year old man walked into a drugstore and asked the girl at the checkout, "Do you have condoms here?" "Sure, What size are you?" "I'm not really sure." "Well, just let me check,"

she said walking around the counter. She unzipped his pants, took a feel and then picked up the microphone. "Extra-large condoms to the checkout." A stock boy brought the condoms and the man paid and left. A while later, a 30 year old man walked up to the checkout. "Do you sell condoms here?" he asked. "Sure, but what size do you need?" "Well, I don't know." "Well, just let me check." She unzipped his pants, took a couple of tugs and then picked up the microphone, "Large condoms to the checkout." The stock boy brought the condoms, the man paid and left. Later, a 16 year old came into the store. "Um, ah, do you guys sell condoms here?" he asked the girl at the checkout. "Yep, she said, "what size do you need?" "I don't know, he replied. She unzipped his zipper for a feel and then pickup up the microphone. "Cleanup at the checkout please. Cleanup at the checkout."

Horsey Ride:

As the six year old passed his parents' bedroom he heard a lot of moaning, groaning and thumping coming from within. Taking a peek, the boy caught his parents in the act. But before his dad could even react, the boy cried, "Oh boy, horsey ride! Daddy can I have a ride?" Relieved that he would get out of a lengthy explanation, dad eagerly agreed and let his son hop on his back. Before long, the tempo picked up and soon mom resumed moaning and gasping. "Hang on tight, daddy," the boy cried out. "This is the part when me and the paperboy usually get bucked off."

Sunbathing:

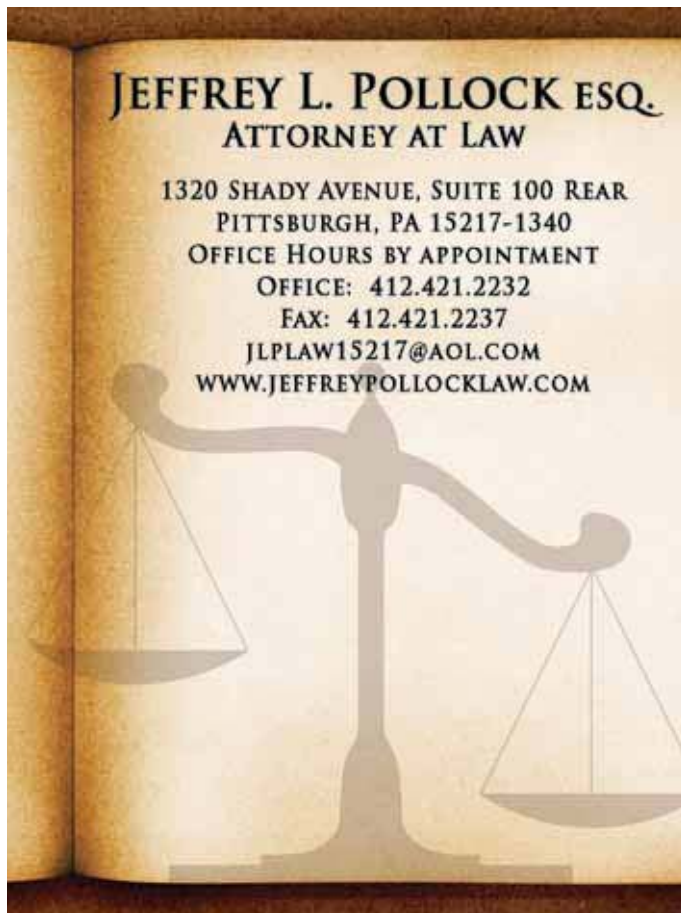
A young lady on vacation headed for the deck of the hotel's roof for some sun. Since no one was around, she slipped off her bathing suit to get an overall tan. Lying on her stomach, nearly asleep, she heard someone running up the stairs and quickly grabbed a towel. "Excuse me, miss," the flustered hotel manager panted. "The hotel doesn't mind you sunning on the roof, but we would very much appreciate you wearing your bathing suit." What difference does it make? No one can see me up here." "Not quite true," said the embarrassed man. "You're lying on the dining room skylight."

S.O.B.

The ailing business magnate announced the completion of his will. His young wife would be well provided for, but the family home would revert to his four children in the event she remarried. "I don't want another S.O.B. warming his hands around my fireplace." "And," his wife muttered, "what makes you think I'd marry another S.O.B.?"

Church:

At the conclusion of a church service, three young members of the congregation met outside and began to introduce



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themselves. "I'm Paul," the first said, "but I'm no apostle." "My name's Peter," the second said, "but I'm not saint." "Well, my name's Mary," the third said, "and I don't know what to say."

Consultant:

What's the definition of a consultant? A guy who knows 50 ways to make love but doesn't know any woman.

First Day of School:

On his five year olds first day of school, the concerned dad gave last-minute instructions. "You can't baby talk at school like you do at home," he said, "so don't say bow-wow, say dog. Don't say moo-moo, say cow. And ask to go to the bathroom, not to go tinkle." The boy nodded and off he went. An hour later, the school principal called and asked the father to come in for a conference about his son. "What's the problem?" the worried dad asked. "Well, Mr. Hall," the administrator said, "your son is using inappropriate language in class." "I don't believe it," the father protested. "What did he say?" "When the teach asked what story he'd like her to read aloud, you son said, well, ahem, ah...." "What?" the anxious father demanded. "He said," the principal blurted out, "that he wanted her to read Winnie the Shit."

IBM:

Graffiti spotted in an IBM headquarters' washroom: Xerox Never Comes Out with Anything Original!

Divorce:

The uneducated young woman stood before the judge, pleading for a divorce after only seven days of marriage. "Your honor, he saw fit to pleasure himself three times after we was hitched, three more times after dinner, twice before bedtime and five times before the rooster crowed," she cried. "I'm only one woman. I can't go on no longer!" The judge signed a paper and handed it to her. "Take this to the front office and file your affidavit." "File it?" she whimpered. "I can't even pat it with a powder puff."

Blonde Joke:

What do you call a blonde walking from geology class to math class? Between a rock and a hard place.

Sexual Dysfunction:

"Your sexual dysfunction can be corrected," the physician said, "but it would be very expensive. One procedure costs \$14,000 and is about 70 percent effective. Another procedure, costs \$20,000 and is 100 percent effective." The doctor advised the dejected fellow to go home and talk it over with his wife before making a decision. "Come back in a few days," he suggested. The next morning the man returned to the doctor's office. "well, I'm surprised to see you back here so quickly," the medic said. "Which procedure have you decided on?" "Neither," the fellow replied. "We've decided to remodel the kitchen."

Auto Accident:

When a car skidded on wet pavement and struck a light pole, several bystanders ran over to help. A woman was first to reach the victim, but a man rushed in, pushed her back and barked, "Step aside, lady. I've had a course in first aid." The woman watched his procedures for a few minutes, and then tapped him on the shoulder. "Pardon me, but when you get to the part about calling a doctor," she said, "I'm right here."

Jennifer's Wedding:

Jennifer's wedding day was fast approaching. Nothing could dampen her excitement - not even her parent's nasty divorce. Her mother had found the PERFECT dress to wear, and would be the best-dressed mother-of-the-bride ever! A week later, Jennifer was horrified to learn that her father's new, young wife had bought the exact same dress as her mother! Jennifer asked her father's new young wife to exchange it, but she refused. "Absolutely not! I look like a million bucks in this dress, and I'm wearing it," she replied. Jennifer told her mother who graciously said, "Never mind sweetheart. I'll

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get another dress. After all, it's your special day." A few days later, they went shopping, and did find another gorgeous dress for her mother. When they stopped for lunch, Jennifer asked her mother, "Aren't you going to return the other dress? You really don't have another occasion where you could wear it." Her mother just smiled and replied, "Of course I do, dear.....I'm wearing it to the rehearsal dinner the night BEFORE the wedding." (NOW I ASK YOU - IS THERE A WOMAN OUT THERE, ANYWHERE, WHO WOULDN'T ENJOY THIS STORY?)

About Women:

Women are like phones: They like to be held, talked to, and touched often. But push the wrong button and your ass is disconnected! Women are Angels. And when someone breaks our wings.... We simply continue to fly On a broomstick..... We are flexible like that.

Looking to Buy a Frog?

A man walks into a bar and asks the bartender, "If I show you a really good trick, will you give me a free drink?" The bartender considers it, then agrees. The man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a tiny rat. He reaches into his other pocket and pulls out a tiny piano. The rat stretches, cracks his knuckles, and proceeds to play the blues.

After the man finished his drink, he asked the bartender, "If I show you an even better trick, will you give me free drinks for the rest of the evening?" The bartender agrees, thinking that no trick could possibly be better than the first. The man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a tiny rat. He reaches into his other pocket and pulls out a tiny piano. The rat stretches, cracks his knuckles, and proceeds to play the blues. The man reaches into another pocket and pulls out a small bullfrog, who begins to sing along with the rat's music. While the man is enjoying his beverages, a stranger confronts him and offers him \$100,000.00 for the bullfrog. "Sorry," the man replies, "he's not for sale." The stranger increases the offer to \$250,000.00 cash up front. "No," he insists, "he's not for sale." The stranger again increases the offer, this time to \$500,000.00 cash. The man finally agrees, and turns the frog over to the stranger in exchange for the money. "Are you insane?" the bartender demanded. "That frog could have been worth millions to you, and you let him go for a mere \$500,000!" "Don't worry about it," the man answered. "The frog was really nothing special. You see, the rat's a ventriloquist."

Money:

A man in a bar sees a friend at a table, drinking by himself. Approaching the friend he comments, "You look terrible. What's the problem?" "My mother died in August," he said, "and left me \$25,000." "Gee, that's tough," he replied. "Then in



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September,” the friend continued, “My father died, leaving me \$90,000.” “Wow. Two parents gone in two months. No wonder you’re depressed.” “And last month my aunt died, and left me \$15,000.” “Three close family members lost in three months? How sad.” “Then this month,” continued, the friend, “absolutely nothing!”

Wife:

A serious drunk walked into a bar and, after staring for some time at the only woman seated at the bar, walked over to her and kissed her. She jumped up and slapped him silly. He immediately apologized and explained, “I’m sorry. I thought you were my wife. You look exactly like her.” “Why you worthless, insufferable, wretched, no good drunk!” she screamed. “Funny,” he muttered, “you even sound exactly like her.”

Nun At the Bar:

John was sitting outside his local pub one day, enjoying a quiet pint and generally feeling good about himself, when a nun suddenly appears at his table and starts decrying the evils of drink. “You should be ashamed of yourself young man! Drinking is a Sin! Alcohol is the blood of the devil!” Now John gets pretty annoyed about this, and goes on the offensive. “How do you know this, Sister?” “My Mother Superior told me so.” “But have you ever had a drink yourself? How can you be sure that what you are saying is right?” “Don’t be ridiculous--of course I have never taken alcohol myself” “Then let me buy you a drink - if you still believe afterwards that it is evil I will give up drink for life” “How could I, a Nun, sit outside this public house drinking?!” “I’ll get the barman to put it in a teacup for you, then no one will ever know.” The Nun reluctantly agrees, so John goes inside to the bar. “Another pint for me, and a triple vodka on the rocks”, then he lowers his voice and says to the barman “and could you put the vodka in a teacup?” “Oh no! It’s not that Nun again is it?”

New Alcohol Warnings:

The Pittsburgh Board of Health has proposed that warning signs be placed on all alcohol bottles to tip off drinkers about the possible peril of drinking a one or two of any alcoholic beverage.

1. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to wake up with a breath that could knock a buzzard off a wreaking dead animal that is one hundred yards away.
2. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is a major factor in dancing like an idiot.
3. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell the same boring story over and over again until your friends want to assault you
4. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to thay shings like thish.
5. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell

the boss what you really think of him.

6. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol is the leading cause of inexplicable rug burn on the forehead.

7. WARNING: Consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, handsomer and smarter than some really, really big guy named Psycho Bob.

A Neutron:

A neutron walks into a bar. “I’d like a beer” he says. The bartender promptly serves up a beer. “How much will that be?” asks the neutron. “For you?” replies the bartender, “no charge”

Reason To Allow Drinking at Work:

The below are valid reasons as to why drinking should be allowed at work. If you use them wisely, you may even be able to convince your boss into allowing alcohol.

1. It’s an incentive to show up.
2. It reduces stress.
3. It leads to more honest communications.
4. It reduces complaints about low pay.
5. It cuts down on time off because you can work with a hangover.
6. Employees tell management what they think, not what management wants to hear.
7. It helps save on heating costs in the winter.
8. It encourages carpooling.
9. Increases job satisfaction because if you have a bad job you don’t care.
10. It eliminates vacations because people would rather come to work.
11. It makes fellow employees look better.
12. It makes the cafeteria food taste better.
13. Bosses are more likely to hand out raises when they are wasted.
14. Salary negotiations are a lot more profitable.
15. If something does something stupid on the job, it will be quickly forgotten.

Spelling of COW Joke

Can you spell “COW” in thirteen letters??

Ans: “SEE O DOUBLE YOU...”

Husband and Wife

Husband asks: Do you know the meaning of wife?
‘Without Infomation Fighting Everytime’.

Wife on hearing replies,

It also means ‘With Idiot For Ever’.

Submitted by Sai mahesh on 29-Aug-2009

God and Man

Man:what s million years 2 u?

God:only a second.

Man:what s billion Dollars 2 u?

God:only a Coin.
Man:k give me a Coin.
God:wait a second

A Kiss...

A pretty young woman approaches the man behind the fabric counter and asks how much some material costs. "One kiss per metre" came the reply. "Okay, I will take five metres". The man in anticipation quickly measured, wrapped the material and handed it to the young woman who seized the package and pointed to the little old lady beside her and said "Grandma's paying the bill."

Try To Explain Women

A man dies and goes to Heaven. He gets to meet GOD and asks GOD if he can ask him a few questions.

"Sure," GOD says, "Go right ahead". "OK," the man says. "Why did you make women so pretty?" GOD says, "So you would like them." "OK," the guy says. "But how come you made them so beautiful?" "So you would LOVE them", GOD replies. The man ponders a moment and then asks, "But why did you make them such airheads?" GOD says, "So they would love you!"

Reward For Goodness

Three men died in a car accident and met Jesus himself at the Pearly Gates. The Lord spoke unto them saying, "I will ask you each a simple question. If you tell the truth I will allow you into heaven, but if you lie...Hell is waiting for you. To the first man the Lord asked, "How many times did you cheat on your wife?" The first man replied, "Lord, I was a good husband. I never cheated on my wife." The Lord replied, "Very good! Not only will I allow you in, but for being faithful to your wife I will give you a huge mansion and a limo for your transportation. To the second man the Lord asked, "How many times did you cheat on your wife?" The second man replied, "Lord, I cheated on my wife twice." The Lord replied, "I will allow you to come in, but for your unfaithfulness, you will get a four- bedroom house and a BMW. To the third man the Lord asked, "So, how many times did you cheat on your wife?" The third man replied, "Lord, I cheated on my wife about 8 times." The Lord replied, "I will allow you to come in, but for your unfaithfulness, you will get a one-room apartment, and a Yugo for your transportation. A couple hours later the second and third men saw the first man crying his eyes out. "Why are you crying?" the two men asked. "You got the mansion and limo!" The first man replied, "I'm crying because I saw my wife a little while ago, and she was riding a skateboard!"

Represent Christmas

Three men die in a car accident Christmas Eve. They all find

themselves at the pearly gates waiting to enter Heaven. On entering they must present something relating or associated with Christmas. The first man searches his pocket, and finds some Mistletoe, so he is allowed in. The second man presents a cracker, so he is also allowed in. The third man pulls out a pair of stockings. Confused at this last gesture, St. Peter asks, "How do these represent Christmas?" "They're Carol's."

Each Man Gives A Story

Three men were standing in line to get into heaven one day. Apparently it had been a pretty busy day, though, so Peter had to tell the first one, "Heaven's getting pretty close to full today, and I've been asked to admit only people who have had particularly horrible deaths. So what's your story?" So the first man replies: "Well, for a while I've suspected my wife has been cheating on me, so today I came home early to try to catch her red-handed. As I came into my 25th floor apartment, I could tell something was wrong, but all my searching around didn't reveal where this other guy could have been hiding. Finally, I went out to the balcony, and sure enough, there was this man hanging off the railing, 25 floors above ground! By now I was really mad, so I started beating on him and kicking him, but wouldn't you know it, he wouldn't fall off. So finally I went back into my apartment and got a hammer and started hammering on his fingers. Of course, he couldn't stand that for long, so he let go and fell -- but even after 25 stories, he fell into the bushes, stunned but okay. I couldn't stand it anymore, so I ran into the kitchen, grabbed the fridge and threw it over the edge where it landed on him, killing him instantly. But all the stress and anger got to me, and I had a heart attack and died there on the balcony." "That sounds like a pretty bad day to me," said Peter, and let the man in. The second man comes up and Peter explains to him about heaven being full, and again asks for his story. "It's been a very strange day. You see, I live on the 26th floor of my apartment building, and every morning I do my exercises out on my balcony. Well, this morning I must have slipped or something, because I fell over the edge. But I got lucky, and caught the railing of the balcony on the floor below me. I knew I couldn't hang on for very long, when suddenly this man burst out onto the balcony. I thought for sure I was saved, when he started beating on me and kicking me. I held on the best I could until he ran into the apartment and grabbed a hammer and started pounding on my hands. Finally I just let go, but again I got lucky and fell into the bushes below, stunned but all right. Just when I was thinking I was going to be okay, this refrigerator comes falling out of the sky and crushes me instantly, and now I'm here." Once again, Peter had to concede that that sounded like a pretty horrible death. The third man came to the front of the line, and again Peter explained that heaven was full and asked for his story. "Picture this," says the third man, "I'm hiding inside a refrigerator..."

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