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SPORTS

The Perennial Playoff Pirates

By: Stacy Kauffman Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire, Photos © 2015 Pittsburgh Pirates

The pang in your stomach. The feeling of angst. Living and dying with every single pitch. All familiar to Pirates fans, but no longer is it because the team drives you mad with constant ineptitude. No longer is it because you want to fire the manager and front office. No longer is it because you're tired of baseball being a third class sport in your proud city.

It's because there's a chance. A chance the Pirates could go deep in the postseason. A chance they could get to the World Series.

And even a chance they could – gulp – win it.

And you don't want to squander it. There's still a fear there, lurking



for some. A fear that any season now, your beloved Buccos will backslide into the depths of the division basement. Hard to blame anyone for the deeply rooted 'here we go again' residue covering the back of the mind. Two decades of futility will do that to you.

But there's good news. General Manager Neal Huntington has stayed the course in his master plan to take over the baseball world . . . to build a home grown perennial contender dotted with value based veterans, not a big money free agent heavy flash in the pan. His steadfast leadership and organizational commitment to this strategy amid a couple of late season collapse-inducing calls for change, has been rewarded with back-to-back-to-back postseason appearances. There's no flukiness to this folks.

Through 155 games, the Pirates are 95-60, sitting 3 games back of the Cardinals with the N.L. Central division lead in their sights as



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they welcome St. Louis to PNC Park for a three game series that will make or break their chances at a division title. If you're reading this, you know how that played out, but regardless of how many more games the Buccos will have won this season, the 2015 Pittsburgh Pirates will have the most wins since the 1992 team that finished with 96, and they might even have bested the 1991 squad who were two shy of the century mark. They're riding an eight road game win streak, a feat that hasn't been performed in over 75 years and for the first time in the team's storied history, they employ a pair of pitchers that have struck out two hundred or more batters in a single season. It's a darn good team.

While there is no limit to how far the Pirates can go in the playoffs, no matter how this season ends the team is built to contend for the foreseeable future.

Yearly MVP candidate, Andrew McCutchen is signed through 2018 and his outfield mates are under team control even longer. Starling Marte is inked through 2019 with two more years of club options and this is Gregory Polanco's first full season in the majors, so he won't be a free agent until 2020. At least three more years of the best outfield in baseball. Plus there are guys in the minors ready to step in when the guard changes. Top prospect Austin Meadows, for instance.

Two of the cogs in the wheel that powered the resurgence of the Pirates' relevancy are not long for the team they helped turn around, however. Pedro Alvarez has undeniable power, but is undeniably unreliable as a defender. He is a man made for hitting and with that designation, belongs in the American League. Not many hitters have the ability to change the game with one swing like El Toro – although fans wish he would strike more often with men on base – but that

hasn't been his only contribution. Alvarez was the first client of notorious big money agent Scott Boras that the Pirates drafted and signed. Infamously passing over three time all-star and gold glove catcher, Matt Wieters, for pitcher Daniel Moskos (who never started a game in the majors), in the 2007 draft because his agent was Boras, wasn't good for team image building. Drafting Alvarez was. He won't resign in Pittsburgh though so if he isn't traded in the offseason, 2016 will be his last year in black and gold.

The same can be said for hometown hero, Neil Walker. The writing is on the wall instead of on a contract extension. The fact that there





is none in place is all you need to know about the silver slugger's future with his favorite team. While watching him leave via trade or free agency will undoubtedly hurt the fandom, it's what they call business and the front office has prepared for these break ups by grooming talented replacements. Alen Hanson was moved from short stop to second base to step in when Walker departs and all-star futures game veteran Josh Bell is transitioning from outfield to first base to fill the void left by Alvarez.

The left side of the infield is in great shape, with Jung Ho Kang signed through 2018 with a team option for 2019 and Jordy Mercer also on the books through '18. Super utility man Josh Harrison just received an extension this season that keeps him a Pirate for three more years with options after that. Huntington has the players

to reload once the time comes including 2015 draftees, SS Kevin Newman and 3B Ke'Bryan Hayes.

This team is built around pitching and staff ace Gerrit Cole, another Boras client, is under control through 2019 and Francisco Liriano has two more years on his deal. Heralded prospect Tyler Glasnow will most likely be called up next year and 2010 first round pick Jameson Taillon is close to returning to action after missing two years recovering from Tommy John and then hernia surgery. Of course, there's always opportunity for pitching coach Ray Searage and his right hand man, Jim Benedict to resurrect veteran pitchers' careers to fill in the gaps.

Currently the Pirates have the best bullpen ERA (2.61) in baseball. While single season franchise leader in saves, Mark Melancon

will be a free agent in 2017 and eighth inning hurler Tony Watson the following year, if they don't resign in Pittsburgh, there will be pitchers to fall back on. For instance, flame throwing rookie, Arquimedes Caminero. You can't have a strong pitching staff without a strong catcher and Francisco Cervelli is just that. He somehow replaced the "irreplaceable" Russell Martin this year and the trade to bring him to the Pirates is a big feather in Huntington's cap. Cervelli has one more season on his current deal and if he leaves, Elias Diaz can step in and 2013 first rounder Reese McGuire is working his way through the organization.

Huntington's plan is working. All of this major league success is sustainable because it's erected on top of a sturdy foundation, laid with strong international scouting, omnipresence in Latin America through their sprawling facilities in the Dominican Republic, a focus on analytics and a draft strategy that emphasizes athleticism and character. So fear not, Pirate fans. There are plenty more years of contending baseball to come.



Stacy Kauffman, Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire Magazine can be heard on weekends on 93.7 The Fan, has appeared on numerous sports media outlets including Fox Sports Pittsburgh, CBS and ESPN Radio. She can be reached on Twitter @SportsnWhatnot or at sportsnwhatnot@gmail.com



At The Movies...

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE

BLACK MASS

The buzz in Hollywood claims Johnny Depp is already a shoe-in for a nomination for Best Actor for his performance in BLACK MASS. The trade magazines and pundits are claiming it's a done deal. Depp is always good. His, or his agent's selection of material is questionable, but his performances are always top-notch. The breakfast scene alone in BLACK MASS clearly demonstrates Depp's onscreen presence. But, really, the story here is Joel Edgerton. He is truly Oscar worthy. His performance outshines even Depp's. Unfortunately, if Depp is nominated for Best Actor, Edgerton may have to settle for Best Supporting Actor.

BLACK MASS is one of the best ensemble dramas of the year. It tells the story of famed Irish gangster James "Whitey" Bulger and his rise from small time hood to criminal kingpin. BLACK MASS deals primarily with the relationship of Bulger (Depp) and his childhood friend John Connolly (Edgerton). Raised on the streets of South Boston, Bulger and Connolly form a tight rapport that carries over into adulthood where Bulger has chosen a life of crime and Connolly is an agent for the FBI.

The cinematography by Masanobu Takayanagi is fitting for the era. He incorporates the usually troublesome New York style imagery, with its trademark grainy and gritty look. For this film, it works well. Editor David Rosenbloom made the film too long. Even though it clocks in at two hours, the latter scenes become redundant. Viewers already know Bulger is a criminal, so one or two murders, especially the sequence with the hooker, could easily have danced on the editing room floor. There is also sweeping orchestration by Junkie XL, who provides a soundtrack worthy of John Williams. This is a little out of Junkie XL's milieu. To this point, his specialty has been action films, which he scores with aplomb. This soundtrack opens a new page to his status as a Hollywood music force.

The problem with BLACK MASS is a problem often plaguing ensemble cast films; many actors give fine performances that are ignored to propel the main stars. Even stars who are reduced to extended cameos in BLACK MASS, such as Benedict Cumberbatch, Corey Stall and Kevin Bacon, offer exceptional performances. Though supporting roles, they help make BLACK MASS worthy of the price of admission.

The moral of BLACK MASS does not appear to be avoiding a life of crime. It is presented more as knowing when friendships and loyalty need to be placed on a backburner for personal good. And, of course, never mess with the Italians. Bulger's entire world collapsed after he messed with the Italians. Good lesson to learn.

RATING = 9/10

Theresa is a Mother

I must admit, I was a bit spoiled. The indie film market was vibrant with the likes of THE SUICIDE THEORY and A HARD DAY. This month, the indie film du jour is THERESA IS A MOTHER. It has all the wanton appeal of a hernia operation. It epitomizes all the elements that bring a foul connotation to indie films.

Theresa McDermott is chasing her dream of being a punk rock singer. Unfortunately, she can't sing or carry a tune and she can't write decent music. Theresa's other problem is she tried to spawn her career while giving into her lust, which produced three children. Now, the suffering artist is burdened with offspring as her 'old man' has split to much greener pastures. Probably couldn't take any more of Theresa's singing, which is abysmal.

Theresa finds herself evicted from her home for non-payment and is forced to move back in with her parents, who want her home about as much as they want Parkinson's disease. No sooner does she arrive than they try to find her a job so she can move out.

I found it difficult to identify with the film on a host of levels. First, how does the father of these three obnoxious kids manage to leave the family, take up with a new woman in a new state, and somehow escape paying child support or alimony? Lord, grant me his lawyer!

Theresa, as a single mom, has available a veritable plethora of government assistance programs at her disposal, yet she



seems clueless to all of them. This is what happens when bad times befall white folk. Had Theresa been a minority, you can rest assured she would be savvy as to how to milk the system so she would be earning more money than her deadbeat ex could ever provide.

The film stars C. Fraser Press as Theresa. She is also the film's writer and director. Edie McClurg and Richard Poe play her parents. There is no empathy for any of the film's characters. The parents have changed their lifestyles and are happy, not wanting to be cramped by raising kids again. Theresa is totally irresponsible and should not have been permitted to reproduce as she cannot raise, or educate her children properly. Out of total desperation, she tries to seduce an un-seducible neighbor who is married.

HERESA IS A MOTHER appeals to the mushy brained folk who constantly try to make heroes out of society's screw ups. If you don't fit into that category, this film will hold nothing of value for you.

RATING = 1/10

THE TRANSPORTER: REFUELED

Last summer, Luc Besson returned to the action sci-fi genre he mastered in the FIST OF FIORE AWARD winner, THE FIFTH ELEMENT, with LUCY, starring Scarlett Johansson. The film proved to be a critical and box office success. So this summer, Besson opted to bring back the iconic Frank Martin, ex-mercenary now quirky transporter with an odd, but strict set of rules. The Transporter, like Agent 47, is a great character and I certainly can't blame Besson for wanting to bring him back to the Silver Screen.

The Transporter was Jason Statham. It's exceptionally difficult to replace Statham. Even Sly is discovering this fact with Statham's character Christmas Jones in THE EXPENDABLES series. Statham was still building his reputation as a premiere action film star when Besson tagged him for the role. He signed a three picture deal. Unfortunately, while the first endeavor was most excellent, and a FIST OF FIORE AWARD winner, the successive films slipped considerably in quality. By the time TRANSPORTER 3 hit the screens, the series had run its course. The final movie hired one of the best fight choreographers in the game, Jeff Imada, and then had Editors Camille Delamarre and Carlo Rizzo ruin all his work by short-shirting the fight scenes with GLADIATOR style cutting.

THE TRANSPORTER was made into a TV series. Chris Vance plays Frank Martin on TV. At first, he didn't seem to fit the part and it took a while for fans of the character to warm up to him. Luckily, that happened before the end of the first season, and the show is currently in its second season. Oddly, Vance was not asked to reprise the role for the movie, though that ploy would certainly help the show. This is the same twist D.C. is doing with THE FLASH. The TV show is exceptionally popular, even more so than the show that spawned it, ARROW. Grant Gustin plays the Flash on TV, and even the fanboys seem to like him, but he was not asked to play the part for the stand alone Flash movie, nor the JUSTICE LEAGUE series.

Amid all this hoopla comes Ed Skrein as Frank Martin in THE TRANSPORTER: REFUELED. He demonstrates all the fancy car maneuvers the stunt team can muster. Martin is known for engaging unique fight scenes, such as oil slicks, buses and car repair shops, and this one does the same. It utilizes a narrow file cabinet hallway, a life preserver and steel cable purloined directly from the master, Jackie Chan.

To help introduce Skrein to audiences, Besson brings in Ray Stevenson as Frank Martin, Sr. The interplay between father and son in THE TRANSPORTER: REFUELED is akin to Sean Connery and Harrison Ford in INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE.

Frank Martin is a good character. Besson is one of the best action genre film writers and producers in the game. All his standard elements are present here, including impossible car stunts, amazing fight scenes, off-guard one liners, all set to a frantic pace. It is hard to get past Statham, but it was also hard to get past Connery as Bond. Once you do though, THE TRANSPORTER: REFUELED will be a lot of fun.

RATING = 8/10



For more reviews and the latest Hollywood news, visit Fiore's web site at <http://videogod314.wix.com/outtakes>

Ligonier Highland Games 2015

On Saturday, September 26th, thousands joined in the fun and festivities of the 57th Annual Ligonier Highland Games at Idlewild Park in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. The 2015 Games drew 6000+ visitors from as far away as Michigan, Texas, and California, as well as many from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As the sun rose up over the Laurel Highlands, the day started with the individual competitions: pipers, drummers, dancers, and the heavy athletes. From the Highland Fling, to tossing the caber, it was a flurry of traditional Celtic activities!

One of the nicest features of the Games is that they cover the expanse of beautiful Idlewild Park. When you first came into the Park, you could hear hand bell ringers, and visit the 30+ varieties of dogs at the Scottish breed dog exhibit. The thump of the dancers performing the Sword Dance was a nice counterpoint to the dulcet tones of the Celtic harp competition. A path that wound throughout the (closed) waterpark featured individual pipers being tested on Piobaireachd, hornpipes, jigs, marches, the Strathspey and reels! A highlight was a stop to experience the U.S. National Mòd, which featured competitors and participants from across the country contending for prizes and awards in several categories of singing Gaelic songs, reciting Gaelic poetry and storytelling in Gaelic.

Towards the middle of the park, there were children's games and face painting, across from a Scottish military demonstration. Forty clans were there that day, sharing the legend and lore of their individual families, representing many of the oldest families in Scotland. Three stages were busy all day with performances by Celtic Roots group MacTalla Mor, troubadour Red McWilliams,



singer/songwriter Steel Clover, the talented duo Burns and Fallon, and veteran Celtic musician DruidSong. Twice, we had the chance to experience the mesmerizing tales of the Ligonier Highland Games' seannachie, or storyteller. She was celebrating her 25th anniversary of holding court in Ligonier and announced the publication of her book!

The bleacher seating around the Main Games Field, at the far end of the park, was jam-packed for most of the day. People came early to see ancient athletic events such as the stone put (similar to the shot put – except with a stone!), the hammer throw (a steel-headed hammer is twirled above the head and thrown over the shoulder for distance), the sheaf toss (throwing





a 16- or 20-pound burlap sack with a pitch fork over a cross bar), and the iconic caber toss (throwing a tree trunk end-over-end).

At noon, everyone – two- and four-legged -- met at the Games Field for the Opening Ceremonies and Massed Bands. Thirteen pipe bands, hundreds of clan representatives, and canine clansmen from the dog exhibit marched onto the field for the official start to the day. The bands were from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland and Kentucky; they perform in unison, which is an incredibly stirring sight to see and hear.

Once the ceremonial activities finished, it was time for more competition! The pipe bands, tenor drummers, and drum majors vied for medals and accolades throughout the afternoon. Those at the main field were then treated to a



demonstration of hurling, one of the oldest and fastest Celtic sports.

The moving back and forth between events meant plenty of chances to browse through the vendors, more than 20 in all, with a broad selection of items. Jewelry and kilts, crafts, clothing for both people and dogs, and music and artwork were available from a nicely-curated range of vendors. While they were all pleasantly busy, one vendor (Gaelic Imports of Ohio), had lines all day as people queued up for meat pies, sausage rolls, empire biscuits, and more Scottish delicacies. In addition, you could stop by booths of various heritage groups, including the St. Andrews Society of Pittsburgh and Bushy Run Battlefield Historical Society.

As the sun was moving closer to the horizon, the pipe bands and people gathered once again at the Main Games Field. The announcing of the winners and a final playing of Amazing Grace, and the 2015 Ligonier Highland Games came to a close.

For the Scottish, as well as for the Scottish-for-a-day, mark your calendars for September 24, 2016. Family and friends, clanspeople and athletes, will be gathering in Ligonier for the next installment of the Ligonier Highland Games. Keep an eye on www.ligonierhighlandgames.org for more details.



Meet The Dead Guy at Rogue Brewing Company

by Brian Meyer

Rogue Ales takes their name seriously. Their dedication to being a unique brewery and producing amazing craft beers makes their name more appropriate than most. Rogue Ales started back in 1988, when saying the term “craft beer” would get you some funny looks. There really wasn’t craft beer back then per se, but instead there were the standard macro breweries, and then there were these...well... rogues. People that wanted better beer and didn’t want to accept the current status as quo, so to speak.

Rogue listened and opened their first brewpub in October of 1988 in beautiful Ashland, Oregon. The first beers they brewed were American Amber and Oregon Golden. Over the years Rogue opened a second brewpub in Newport, Oregon as well as starting Rogue Farms where they grow many of the ingredients used in their beers. All in all, a very “Rogue” way of looking at the beer industry.

Today Rogue Ales makes a wide variety of beers from Sriracha Stout to the Voodoo Series to a variety of stouts, IPAs, and many other award winning ales and lagers. Heck, they even make spirits out of the same ingredients as their beer to make a perfect match.

Rogue Ales is all about innovation, trying something new, and giving back to their community, and while we may not see those as very rogue acts, in a world where most industries place the almighty dollar first and the self comes before the neighbor, it’s great to see some true Rogues making a statement, and some really great beer in an industry that truly supports both.

Dead Guy Ale

Dead Guy is somewhat of a conundrum when it comes to

description. The closest beer to compare it to is a German Maibock, but that style doesn’t quite fit, mostly because a Maibock is a lager and Dead Guy is an ale.

It’s this obduracy at meeting traditional conventions that make Dead Guy a truly interesting and amazing beer. Sure, the skeleton on the label makes it a perfect fit for Halloween, and the pseudo-Maibock style makes it perfect for the fall, but thankfully Dead Guy Ale is available all year.

Only available in Pennsylvania, the Dead Guy 12-Pack features 12 Dead Guys all lined up with some new Dead Guy artwork on the box. Of course you can always get Dead Guy Ale as a six-pack, 22-ounce bottle, or on draft but why get more of a good thing, right?

Box of Rogues

The old saying goes that variety is the spice of life, and the folks at Rogue couldn’t agree more. Because of this they decided to put together a sampler pack that’s only available in Pennsylvania. In the mixed 12-pack you get 3 each of four different Rogue beers, running the gamut in flavors.

Hazelnut Brown Nectar – Rogue decided to give a nutty twist to a traditional European brown ale. Hazelnut Brown Ale features a nutty hazelnut aroma that gives way to a bready, malty middle and a clean, somewhat dry finish. Expect to taste some caramel as this one warms slightly, giving it a nutty, caramel body that’s nearly like candy, just nowhere near as sweet.

Hazelnut Brown Nectar was actually inspired by homebrewer Chris Studach, a friend of Rogue’s John Maier. Originally brewed for the 1993 American Homebrewers Association convention, it lives on today with it’s nutty twist on a classic. Hazelnut Brown Nectar is 5.6% ABV with 33 IBUs.

Shakespeare Oatmeal Stout – Oatmeal stouts are known for being rich and creamy, and Rogue’s Shakespeare Oatmeal Stout gives these both and more in strides. Ebony in color, this beer pours with a rich creamy beige head for a presentation that’s exactly what you’d expect from a stout. You should be able to pick up on some oatmeal aroma, especially as the beer warms. Unlike other stouts, oatmeal stouts tend to lean towards the bitter side of things, and while this is true for Shakespeare, it does so in a very balanced way, with some chocolate and coffee to back things up.

Shakespeare Oatmeal Stout comes in at 5.8% ABV and a substantial 60 IBU.





Brutal India Pale Ale – With a name like Brutal, one might think this beer is more mission than pleasure, but one would be dead wrong. Surprisingly enough, the bitterness in this beer is far from brutal levels, and it is in fact a very well balanced IPA.

Brutal IPA features a big, citrusy hop flavor along with some pretty intense hop aroma. The mouthfeel on this IPA is in the medium range, giving it a nice overall feeling, as you can drink it without feeling like it's coating your tongue. The citrus comes from the Rogue Farms Alluvial hops, and the balance comes from a mix of standard and Rogue Farms hops, making this an all-around amazing beer, and at 6.3% ABV and 46 IBUs, it's easy to enjoy, too.

Think of it this way, the name Brutal should scare the lesser-read folks away, leaving this amazing beer for those of us in the know to enjoy. Just don't let them know, ok?

Dead Guy Ale – You already know about Dead Guy from above, but a beer this good is worth talking about twice. Originally brewed back in the early 1990's, Dead Guy Ale started its life as a tap sticker to celebrate the Mayan Day of

the Dead on November 1st. The design became so loved that Rogue decided it had to do something great with it, so they chose to make it the label for their Maibock ale, and changed the name to be, what else, but Dead Guy Ale.

Brewed in the style of a German Maibock lager, but with Pacman ale yeast, Dead Guy is truly a unique beer that's easy to drink and love. Dead Guy is deep honey in color with a malty, bready aroma up front with more bready taste in the middle, finishing up with a balanced mix of hop and malt.

Rogue Ales are proudly distributed in and around the Pittsburgh area by Fuhrer Wholesale.



Fall Into Spring House Brewing

by Brian Meyer

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Lancaster, PA? If you're like me, the Amish, farm country, and horse and buggies are the first to pop into your head, but with the craft beer movement there's another staple of the Lancaster area that needs to join those thoughts, and that's beer.

More specifically craft beer. In the past few years craft beer in and around Lancaster, PA has boomed with more than a dozen craft breweries in the area. Take for example Spring House Brewing. Brothers Greg and Matt Keasey started Spring House in 2007 in what else, but an old barn. Surprisingly enough, there are more than eight breweries in Lancaster County, placing Spring House in very good company.

Head brewer Matt wasn't new to the beer world with Spring House, as he started off working for Appalachian Brewing in Harrisburg for two years, and was a chemist at a local laboratory. Both jobs helped to prepare him for the demanding world of brewing on his own, which if his beers have anything to say about it, he's done an outstanding job of.

So where did the name come from? While Spring House might bring up thoughts of a farm house in the spring, with fields of flowers and even some crops in the background, this isn't exactly where the name came from. Remember that barn that Matt started brewing in? Well, the house on the same property as the barn is where Matt and his family called home, and was first settled in 1794. As you may have guessed, there wasn't too much in the way of municipal water back then so in the basement of the house an actual spring was tapped, and supplied water to the house up until 1970, hence the name Spring House Brewing.



Fast forward to today and the new brewery is going strong, and Matt doesn't have to worry about people parking in his front yard to get a taste of his beers any more.

The Beers

The story behind any brewery is great, but what really matters is the beer, right? Spring House Brewing has a solid lineup of both year-round and seasonal beers, each with their own unique taste and story behind them.

Seven Gates Pale Ale – The flagship beer for Spring House, Seven Gates Pale Ale is named for a story out of rural Pennsylvania. According to this legend, there was an insane asylum deep in the woods that was surrounded by, you guessed it, seven gates to keep the “guests” of the asylum safe and sound. One night the asylum caught fire, and to their peril the seven gates did their job and kept everyone in, where they haunt still today.

In honor of this not-so-urban legend, Spring House brewed a terrifyingly delicious beer that has a heavy focus on the hop profile while keeping the alcohol in check with 5.6% ABV. Expect a light toasted bread body with citrus and pine hop notes, finishing up with a healthy dose of bitterness. One taste and you'll see why this is their flagship beer.

Big Gruesome Chocolate Peanut Butter Stout – Scarily good, Big Gruesome is a lot friendlier once you get to know him. This creamy, malty beer uses two different types of chocolate malt with a healthy dose of cocoa nibs thrown in for good measure. Spring House could stop here and have a pretty



great chocolate stout, but instead they age it on whole vanilla beans and more raw cocoa nibs to really bring the chocolate character out.

Oh, and throughout the brewing process Matt adds peanut butter to play against the chocolate, giving us a final result that's surprisingly similar to our favorite chocolate peanut butter cups. Big Gruesome comes in at 8.5% ABV and is available year round.

She-Monster Mango IPA – Mangos and hops work far better with one another than you'd expect, and as proof of this idea Spring House brews their Astounding She-Monster Mango IPA. This 7.7% ABV beer features ripe mango as well as tropical hop aroma up front followed with some amazing hop flavor and bitterness in the middle and end. Add in some alcoholic warmth and you have yourself a dangerously delicious beer that thinks it's a mango.



Seasonal Beers

Not every beer can be around all year, and that makes them all that much more special. You need to find these seasonal beauties when you can, and enjoy them often. Each of the seasonal beers from Spring House Brewing comes in either 22oz bottles or on draft.

Braaiins! Pumpkin Ale For Zombies – Zombies need to enjoy a good beer from time to time, too and to suit their special needs, Spring House brewed their Braaiins! Pumpkin Ale just for them. Instead of using real brains, Matt chose to use real pumpkins and just pretend instead.

The pumpkin flavor is nice and subtle, enhanced by some tasty fall spices that remind us of all our favorite fall foods. Pair these with a nice sweet dough character, and this 8.5% beer will warm you up while leaving you with a crisp finish. Best of all, there's nearly no chance it will turn you into an actual zombie. Availability: August through October

The Martians Kidnap Santa Egg Nog Stout – Those pesky Martians are at it again, and this time they've gone after Santa. While we send the National Guard to go rescue him, you can take solace in Spring House's Egg Nog Stout.

This 8.3% ABV beer pairs the chocolate darkness you'd expect from a stout and the creamy booziness we all love about egg nog and places them together in a match that's way better than milk and cookies could ever be. Availability: November through December

Satan's Bake Sale Mint Chocolate Chip Stout – Smooth, dark, and absolutely evil. No, we're not talking about Beelzebub, but instead a beer that's outright evil in how delicious it is. Don't ask us why mint chocolate chip cookies are the featured item at Satan's Bake Sale, but to match his baking prowess Spring House made their stout that's aged on fresh peppermint leaves and dark Wilbur chocolate. At 8.4% ABV, it's sure to get you in some trouble, too.

These two forces work together to give this beer a powerful aroma and pronounced mint chocolate chip flavor. One drink and you'll see why it's so good it's (almost) evil. Availability: October-December

All Spring House brews are available in 22oz bottles and drafts of 1/2s and 1/6s. Watch for some new packaging in 2016.

Spring House Brewing is proudly distributed in and around Pittsburgh by Vecenie Distributing.

TRAVEL: Ann Arbor

By: Joyce Campisi

When Bob Seger wrote his song Mainstreet, he was inspired by Ann Arbor, where he grew up. This song is haunting and recalls a simpler time and place that is distinctively Midwestern. Times have changed but Ann Arbor still has that feeling of Main Street USA. It will bring back memories of how life use to be..unhurried, relaxing, and magical. Mainstreet is bustling with storerooms filled with mom and pop restaurants, small speciality shops, each one offering unique and unusual wares. The fantastic food, wine bars and coffee and tea shops will make your stroll along the streets a real experience you will never forget. With its farm to table concept, It's no wonder Ann Arbor has become home to some of the finest chefs in the world. It's a very special and unique place. You will definitely fall in love with Mainstreet!



Vin Bar - 111 W Liberty St. - a unique wine bar specializing in wines from Northern Michigan, specifically from Black Star Farms, Good Harbor Vineyards, and L. Mawby Vineyards, all on the Leelanu Peninsula near Traverse City. So yes, Michigan wines, but I have to tell you, they are excellent! Vin Bar has a very relaxing and calming atmosphere with super friendly and attentive bartenders and of course great wines offered along with small plate appetizers.

Logan - (An American Bistro) 115 W. Washington St - co-owner and chef, Thad Gillies will dazzle you with his talent and food sensations. Sommelier, Kevin Hobart has carefully selected wines from around the world to enhance your dining experience. If you are in the mood for delicious food, white table cloths, great cocktails, wine or beer, accompanied by great service and food presentation, Logan's is a great choice. One of my personal favorites.





Slurping Turtle - 608 E. Liberty St - In Japan, slurping is expected: you're suppose to "slurp the noodle." Turtles are good luck; they mean long life. The menu at the Slurping Turtle changes seasonally. Tadashi Nagura is the head chef and talent behind their amazing food. Don't let the name scare you, it truly an amazing combination of Japanese comfort foods. It's home cooking, authentic, casual, everyday street food. Simply delicious!



Mezzevino - 120 E. Liberty St - Relaxed, contemporary restaurant serving wines and small plates from around the Mediterranean. A "mezzo" is an array of small plates "placed before guests creating a display of colors, textures and aromas." Executive Chef, Brent Courson is Mediterranean inspired and emphasizes local and seasonal foods in small plate combinations influenced by Greek, Italian, French, Spanish and Moroccan cuisine. They feature wines from Mediterranean countries. This is a great place to enjoy a quiet, relaxing evening in a classy atmosphere. You can order to share at your table or enjoy by yourself. The dishes are carefully prepared with well thought out flavor and texture that are delicious and extremely enjoyable.



Mani Osteria & Bar - 341 E. Liberty St - "Mani" means handmade. This restaurant offers small plates featuring seasonal, local ingredients as well as wood fired pizza, house made pasta and small production "old world" wines. The pizza is delicious, delicate crust done to perfection with a blend of sauce and toppings to suit any taste. The wines were outstanding and the service was great. Truly a great casual dining experience and definite local favorite.





Messiah - Hill Auditorium - plan your trip now because this is a performance you won't want to miss. This year's performances are December 5 and 6 a night to remember to kick off the holiday season. Handel's Messiah is performed by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Grammy Award-winning University Musical Society Choral Union. Everyone does Messiah, but not everybody does it with a chorus like this in one of the acoustically perfect concert halls in the country. It opened in 1913, designed by renowned Detroit architect Albert Kahn and acoustical engineer Hugh Tallant. Awesome and beautifully performed to get you into the holiday spirit.

Zingerman's Deli - 422 Detroit St - The Deli is the most well-known of the Zingerman's Community of Businesses. Started in 1982 by Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig. The deli began small serving traditional Jewish dishes and a small selection of speciality foods. Today, the Deli serves thousands of sandwiches and doubles as a speciality food store, selling a mind-boggling variety of cheeses, meats, olive oils, vinegars, coffees, teas and so much more. All of their items, except sandwiches are available by mail order.

Zingermans.com was founded in 2000, The Creamery in 2001, and the Roadhouse in 2003. While they specialize in "local, natural, and slow" they have invested in global foods from all over the world. Their selection, quality and food is second to none. Their approach to their businesses could best be described as "genuine and honest, global, and extremely well balanced."



Roadhouse - 2501 Jackson Ave

- this stylish diner is known for farm-fresh comfort foods and for letting their customers sample before ordering. Head Chef and Managing Partner, Alex Young was winner of the James Beard Foundation award for Best Chef: Great Lakes. Their food is fantastic best buttermilk chicken I've ever had. You must stop in and be sure and meet Chef Alex, tell him your from Pittsburgh. Chef Alex was Head Chef when the Fish Market first opened in downtown Pittsburgh, so he has fond memories of the Burg!

Chef Alex has a passion for local and natural foods. He has his own "chef garden" growing vegetables (especially tomatoes) that he uses for specials and special dinners at the Roadhouse. He has over 40 varieties of heirloom tomatoes, and a section devoted to the "three sisters" - corn, beans and squash - all growing together, as well as peppers, potatoes, leeks, onions, melons," and just about any kind of vegetable that grows in Michigan.

Adventura - 216 E. Washington - featuring simple, traditional Spanish comfort food. Owner Sava Lelcaj wanted a restaurant that would appeal to a wide range of guests. It's meant to be comfortable: "I want to be that spot that is the staple, it's safe to go." The serving staff makes dining an "adventure" guiding enthusiastically their guests on a culinary journey through the menu, so that it's friendly ("safe") and not intimidating. The food, presentation, atmosphere and staff are truly fantastic. A roasted pig....Oh my, so succulent and delicious.





The Brinery - 2531 Jackson Ave - the Brinery specializes in all natural brine fermented vegetables like sauerkraut, kimchi and pickles. All products are made from locally sourced family farms. Finished products are available at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market and other local outlets in Ann Arbor. The Brinery is the brain child of "chief fermenting officer" David Klingenberger.

Kerrytown - KindleFest 2015 - Friday, December 4 - Farmer's Market - this Christmas Market is spectacular and one thing you should definitely put on your list of things to do. The whole town is aglow with fire pits on Mainstreet to kick off the holiday season and sales and gifts galore.

At the KindleFest you will find something for everyone on your list. An unbelievable truly great event. I wish it were more than one day. Plan your trip now. Or Visit Ann Arbor all year round, it's a pleasant drive from Pittsburgh at only 281 miles approximately 4 hrs 28 mins. Great weekend getaway with so much to do and see. For mor information on Ann Arbor go to www.annarbor.org

After-Dinner Treats Little-Known Dessert Wines of the World

by PA Wine and Spirits

Considering America's infamous sweet tooth, it is surprising how many of the world's dessert wines have fallen into obscurity. Most wine-producing countries have sweet gems that remain mysterious to an entire generation of wine-lovers.

A glass of rich red Port A glass of rich red Port.

The satisfaction of relaxing after a meal with a digestif is steeped in history and tradition. Long ago, it was deemed medically necessary to have a small morsel after a big meal. In some cultures, the morsel was cheese; in others, it was something sweet, like fruit or a confection. Although science eventually disproved the theory, the tradition continued, giving families and friends extra time to enjoy each other's company and extend the pleasure of eating. Decadent dessert wines are the perfect cap to an evening's end.

Dessert wines are made in almost every wine-growing region of France. Vin doux naturel, a fortified wine, is made in the southern Rhône and Languedoc-Roussillon regions using a process called mutage, which stops fermentation with the addition of neutral grape spirits. This results in strong, rich and engaging wines replete with residual sugar. White versions are made with the Muscat grape, while Grenache is largely responsible for the red. Muscat Blanc à Petits Grains, the oldest and finest variety of Muscat, is employed in the production of the Rhône's Muscat de Beaumes de

Venise. This fragrant wine is hailed for its pale gold color and delicate yet luxurious flavors of orange and spice. The appellations of Banyuls and Maury in Roussillon use the Grenache grape to make wines of exceptional depth and flavor that age extremely well.

Rasteau makes a vin doux naturel from Grenache. Wines labeled as Rasteau Rancio have been exposed to oxygen and/or heat, creating a Madeira-like effect with flavors reminiscent of candied and dried fruit.

Italy's dessert wine traditions date to antiquity, and passito is the name given to the dried-grape wines made here. The harvested grapes are spread out to dry, traditionally on straw mats, with the goal of evaporating most of the water in the fruit, thus concentrating grape sugars. The resulting wines are rich, complex and sweet. Red grapes are used for Umbria's Sagrantino Passito and Veneto's Recioto della Valpolicella, while whites are used for Tuscany's Vin Santo, Friuli's Picolit, and Recioto di Soave from Veneto. Classically made Recioto della Valpolicella and Vin Santo are produced in an oxidative style that increases complexity and depth in the finished wine. Picolit and Recioto di Soave are lighter in style with an accent on delicate fruit aromas and a buoyant sweetness.

The Achaia region of Greece, on the northern coast of the Peloponnesus, is home to the aromatic Mavrodaphne of Pátras.





This fortified wine is somewhat similar to Port, with a slightly oxidized character. Mavrodaphne, also the name of the grape, means “black laurel” and is a red, dark-skinned variety. The wine was invented by a man named Gustav Clauss in the 19th century, and is traditionally served as an aperitif with fruit or an almond biscuit.

On the Island of Cyprus, a wine called Commandaria has been treasured for centuries. Made of partially raisined Mavro (red) and Xynisteri (white) grapes in a strictly defined production area of just 14 villages, it is meant to be drunk in the spring after bottling and is prized for its honey-raisin flavor.

Virtually every other winemaking country has a dessert wine to call its own. Austria is famed for its Ausbruch. Spain makes late-harvest Monastrell, Malaga and PX. Australian “stickies” include Muscats and Tokays.

When pairing these wines with confectionary, it is important that the wine be sweeter than the food, otherwise unpleasant flavors may develop on the palate. Fruit desserts tend to pair best with fruity wines, while those with chocolate or caramel are terrific with oxidized wines. However, the best pairing of all may just be a full stomach and time to relax.



Humor

Wife vs Husband

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."

Words

A husband read an article to his wife about how many words women use a day... 30,000 to a man's 15,000. The wife replied, "The reason has to be because we have to repeat everything to men... The husband turned to his wife and asked, "What?"

Creation

A man said to his wife one day, "I don't know how you can be so stupid and so beautiful all at the same time." The wife responded, "Allow me to explain. God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me; God made me stupid so I would be attracted to you."

Who Does What?

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee." The husband said, "You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee." Husband replies, "I can't believe that, show me." So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says, "HEBREWS"

The Silent Treatment

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment. Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight. Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, "Please wake me at 5:00 AM." He left it where he knew she would find it. The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 AM and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said, "It is 5:00 AM. Wake up." (Men are not equipped for these kinds of

contests.) God may have created man before woman, but there is always a rough draft before the masterpiece.

Famous Quotes

Bisexuality immediately doubles your chances for a date on Saturday night. Rodney Dangerfield "There are a number of mechanical devices which increase sexual arousal, particularly in women. Chief among these is the Mercedes-Benz 380SL." Lynn Lavner

"Sex at age 90 is like trying to shoot pool with a rope." Camille Paglia

"Sex is one of the nine reasons for incarnation. The other eight are unimportant." George Burns

"Women might be able to fake orgasms. But men can fake a whole relationship." Sharon Stone

"Hockey is a sport for white men. Basketball is a sport for black men. Golf is a sport for white men dressed like black pimps." Tiger Woods

"My mother never saw the irony in calling me a son-of-a-bitch." Jack Nicholson

"Ah, yes, divorce, from the Latin word meaning to rip out a man's genitals through his wallet." Robin Williams

"Women need a reason to have sex. Men just need! a place" Billy Crystal

"According to a new survey, women say they feel more comfortable undressing in front of men than they do undressing in front of other women. They say that women are too judgmental, where, of course, men are just grateful." Robert De Niro

"There's a new medical crisis. Doctors are reporting that many men are having allergic reactions to latex condoms. They say they cause severe swelling. So what's the problem?" Dustin Hoffman

"There's very little advice in men's magazines, because men think, 'I know what I'm doing. Just show me somebody naked!'" Jerry Seinfeld

"See, the problem is that God gives men a brain and a penis, and only enough blood to run one at a time." Robin Williams

"It's been so long since I've had sex, I've forgotten who ties up whom." Joan Rivers

"Sex is one of the most wholesome, beautiful and natural experiences money can buy." Steve Martin

"You don't appreciate a lot of stuff in school until you get older. Little things like being spanked every day by a middle-aged woman. Stuff you pay good money for in later life." Elmo Phillips

"Bigamy is having one wife too many. Monogamy is the same." Oscar Wilde

"It isn't premarital sex if you have no intention of getting married." George Burns

Crisco:

Crissssssco!

An old lady is walking around in a supermarket calling out, "Crisco, Crissssssco!" Soon a store clerk approaches and says, "Lady, the Crisco is in aisle D." The old lady replies, "Oh, I'm not looking for the cooking stuff. I'm calling my husband" The clerk is astonished. "Your husband's name is Crisco?" The old lady answers, "Oh no, no, no. I only call him that when we're out in public." "I see," said the clerk. "What do you call him at home?" "Lard ass."

Vacation:

A man and his ever-nagging wife went on vacation to Jerusalem. While they were there, the wife passed away. The undertaker told the husband, "You can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here, in the Holy Land, for \$150." The man thought about it and told him he would just have her shipped home. The undertaker asked, "Why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your wife home, when it would be wonderful to be buried here and you would spend only \$150?" The man replied, "Long ago a man died here, was buried here, and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance."

Peanuts

A tour bus driver is driving with a busload of seniors down a highway when he is tapped on his shoulder by a little old lady. She offers him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munches up. After about 15 minutes, she taps him on his shoulder again and she hands him another handful of peanuts.

She repeats this gesture about five more times. When she is about to hand him another batch again he asks the little old lady, "Why then don't you eat the peanuts yourself?" "We can't chew them because we've no teeth", she replied. The puzzled driver asks, "Why do you buy them then?" "The old lady replied, "We just love the chocolate around them." It pays to be careful around old people.

The Good, The Bad and the Ugly

Good : Your wife is pregnant.

Bad : It's triplets.

Ugly : You had a vasectomy five years ago.

Good : Your wife's not talking to you

Bad : She wants a divorce.

Ugly : She's a lawyer.

Good : Your son is finally maturing.

Bad : He's involved with the women next door.

Ugly : So are you.

Good : Your son studies a lot in his room.

Bad : You find several porn movies hidden there.

Ugly : You're in them.

Good : Your hubby and you agree, no more kids.

Bad : You can't find your birth control pills.

Ugly : Your daughter borrowed them.

Good : Your husband understands fashion.

Bad : He's a cross-dresser.

Ugly : He looks better than you.

Good : You just gave "the birds and the bees" talk to your daughter.

Bad : She keeps interrupting.

Ugly : With corrections

Good : Your son is dating someone new.

Bad : It's another man.

Ugly : He's your best friend.

Good : Your daughter got a new job.

Bad : As a hooker.

Ugly : Your co-workers are her best clients.

Way Ugly : She makes more money than you do.

Humor

Golf's Famous Quotes:

Jack Benny: "Give me the fresh air, a beautiful partner, and a nice round of golf... and you can keep the fresh air and the round of golf."

Lee Trevino: "You can make a lot of money in this game. Just ask my ex-wives. Both of them are so rich that neither of their husbands work."

Hank Aaron: "It took me seventeen years to get 3,000 hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course."

Lee Trevino: "I'm not saying my golf game went bad, but if I grew tomatoes, they'd come up sliced."

Sam Snead: "These greens are so fast I have to hold my putter over the ball and hit it with the shadow."

Paul Harvey: "Golf is a game in which you

yell "fore," shoot six, and write down five."

Tommy Bolt: "Putting allows the touchy golfer two to four opportunities to blow a gasket in the short space of two to forty feet."

Jimmy Demaret: "Golf and sex are about the only things you can enjoy without being good at."

Jack Lemmon: "If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball"

Unknown: "Fifty years ago, 100 white men chasing one black man across a field was called the Ku Klux Klan. Today it's called the PGA Tour."

John Updike: "Golf appeals to the idiot in us and the child. Just how childlike golf players become is proven by their frequent inability to count past five."

P.G. Wodehouse: "The least thing upsets him on the links. He missed short putts because of the uproar of butterflies in the adjoining meadows."

Ken Harrelson: "In baseball you hit your home run over the right-field fence, the left-field fence, the center-field fence. Nobody cares. In golf everything has got to be right over second base."

Chi Chi Rodriguez: "The first time I played the Masters, I was so nervous I drank a bottle of rum before I teed off. I shot the happiest 83 of my life."

Chi Chi Rodriguez: "After all these years, it's still embarrassing for me to play on the American golf tour. Like the time I asked my caddie for a sand wedge and he came back ten minutes later with a ham on rye."

Tommy Bolt, toward the end of one of his infamous high-volume, temperamental,

club-throwing rounds, asked his caddie for a club recommendation for a shot of about 155 yards. His caddie said: "I'd say either a 3-iron or a wedge, sir." "A 3-iron or a wedge?" asked Bolt. "What kind of stupid, #*!~%^^ choice is that?" "Those are the only two clubs you have left in the your bag, sir." said the caddie.

Corporate Ingenuity (American Style)

A Japanese company (Toyota) and an American company (General Motors) decided to have a canoe race on the Missouri River. Both teams practiced long and hard to reach their peak performance before the race. On the big day, the Japanese team won by a mile. The Americans, very discouraged and depressed, decided to investigate the reason for the crushing defeat. A management team made up of senior management was formed to investigate and recommend appropriate action. Their conclusion was the Japanese team had 8 people rowing and 1 person steering, while the American team had 8 people steering and 1 person rowing. So American management hired a consulting company and paid them a large amount of money for a second opinion. They advised that too many people were steering the boat, while not enough people were rowing. To prevent another loss to the Japanese, the American's rowing team's management structure was totally reorganized to 4 Steering Supervisors, 3 Area Steering Superintendents and 1 Assistant Superintendent Steering Manager. They also implemented a new performance system that would give the 1 person rowing the boat greater incentive to work harder. It was called the "Rowing Team Quality First Program," with meetings, dinners and free pens for the rower. There was discussion of getting new paddles, canoes and other equipment, extra vacation days for practices and bonuses. The next year the Japanese won

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by two miles. Humiliated, the American management laid off the rower for poor performance, halted development of a new canoe, sold the paddles, and canceled all capital investments for new equipment. The money saved was distributed to the Senior Executives as bonuses and the next year's racing team was outsourced to India.

Elderly Sex:

An elderly couple, who were both widowed, had been going out with each other for a long time. Urged on by their friends, they decided it was finally time to get married. Before the wedding, they went out to dinner and had a long conversation regarding how their marriage might work. They discussed finances, living arrangements and so on. Finally, the old gentleman decided it was time to broach the subject of their physical relationship. "How do you feel about sex?" he asked, rather trustingly. "Well," she said, responding very carefully, "I'd have to say, I would like it infrequently." The old gentleman sat quietly for a moment, then, looking over his glasses, he casually asked,..... "Is that one word or two?"

Restroom Use Policies:

In the past, employees were permitted to make trips to the restroom under informal guidelines. Effective immediately, a Restroom Trip Policy will be established to provide a more consistent method of accounting for each employee's restroom time and ensuring equal treatment of all employees. Under the policy a "Restroom Trip Bank" will be established for each employee. The first day of each month, employees will be given twenty Restroom Trip Credits. These credits may be accumulated. Within four to six weeks, the entrance doors to all restrooms are being equipped with personal identification stations and computer-linked voice print recognition devices. Before the end of the month each employee must provide two copies of voice prints (one normal and one under stress) to the Human Resources Department. The voice print recognition station will be operational but not restrictive during the entire month. Employees should acquaint themselves with the stations during that period. If the employee's Restroom Trip Bank balance reaches zero, the doors to the restrooms will not unlock for that employee's voice until the first of the next month. In addition, all restroom stalls are being equipped with time paper roll retractors. If the stall is occupied for more than three minutes, an alarm will sound. Thirty-seconds after the alarm sounds, the roll of paper will retract into the wall, the toilet will flush, and the stall door will open. If the stall remains occupied your picture will be taken. The picture will then be posted on the bulletin board located in the Employee Relations Office. Anyone's picture showing up three times will immediately be terminated. If you have any questions about this policy, please ask your supervisor. They have all received advanced instructions.

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Humor

Subject: Boss's Rules

To: All Employees

Effective immediately the following rules will be adhered to.

1. If you can't get your work done in the first 24 hours, work nights.
2. A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.
3. Don't be irreplaceable, if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.
4. It doesn't matter what you do, it only matters what you say you've done and what you're going to do.
5. After any salary raise, you will have less money at the end of the month than you did before.
6. The more crap you put up with, the more crap you are going to get.
7. You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.
8. Eat one live toad the first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.
9. When the bosses talk about improving productivity, they are never talking about themselves.
10. If at first you don't succeed, try again. Then quit. No use being a damn fool about it!

11. There will always be beer cans rolling on the floor of your car when the boss asks for a ride home from the office.
12. Keep your boss's boss off your boss's back.
13. Everything can be filed under "miscellaneous."
14. Never delay the ending of a meeting or the beginning of a cocktail hour.
15. To err is human, to forgive is not our policy.
16. Anyone can do any amount of work provided it isn't the work he/she is supposed to be doing.
17. Important letters that contain no errors will develop errors in the mail.
18. If you are good, you will be assigned all the work. If you are really good, you will get out of it.
19. You are always doing something marginal when the boss drops by your desk.
20. People who go to conferences are the ones who shouldn't.
21. If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.
22. At work, the authority of a person is inversely proportional to the number of pens that person is carrying.
23. When you don't know what to do, walk fast and look worried.
24. Following the rules will not get the job done and getting the job done is no excuse for not following the rules.
25. When confronted by a difficult problem you can solve it more easily by reducing it to the question, "How would the Lone Ranger handle this?"
26. No matter how much you do, you never do enough.
27. The last person that quit or was fired will be held responsible for everything that goes wrong.

Signed: The Management

Management Secrets:

A new manager spends a week at his new office with the manager he is replacing. On the last day the departing manager tells him, "I have left three numbered envelopes in the desk drawer. Open an envelope if you encounter a crisis you can't solve." Three months down the track there is a major drama, everything goes wrong - the usual stuff - and the manager feels very threatened by it all. He remembers the parting words of his predecessor and opens the first envelope. The message inside says "Blame your predecessor!" He does this and gets off the hook. About half a year later, the company is experiencing a dip in sales, combined with serious product problems. The manager quickly opens the second envelope. The message read, "Reorganize!" This he does, and the company quickly rebounds. Three months later, at his next crisis, he opens the third envelope. The message inside says "Prepare three envelopes".



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Rule for Work:

1. Never give me work in the morning. Always wait until 4:00 and then bring it to me. The challenge of a deadline is refreshing.
2. If it's really a rush job, run in and interrupt me every 10 minutes to inquire how it's going. That helps. Even better, hover behind me, and advise me at every keystroke.
3. Always leave without telling anyone where you're going. It gives me a chance to be creative when someone asks where you are.
4. If my arms are full of papers, boxes, books, or supplies, don't open the door for me. I need to learn how to function as a paraplegic and opening doors with no arms is good training in case I should ever be injured and lose all use of my limbs.
5. If you give me more than one job to do, don't tell me which is one has priority. I am psychic.
6. Do your best to keep me late. I adore this office and really have nowhere to go or anything to do. I have no life beyond work.
7. If a job I do pleases you, keep it a secret. If that gets

out, it could mean a promotion.

8. If you don't like my work, tell everyone. I like my name to be popular in conversations. I was born to be whipped.
9. If you have special instructions for a job, don't write them down. In fact, save them until the job is almost done. No use confusing me with useful information.
10. Never introduce me to the people you're with. I have no right to know anything. In the corporate food chain, I am plankton. When you refer to them later, my shrewd deductions will identify them.
11. Be nice to me only when the job I'm doing for you could really change your life and send you straight to manager's hell.
12. Tell me all your little problems. No one else has any and it's nice to know someone is less fortunate. I especially like the story about having to pay so many taxes on the bonus check you received for being such a good manager.
13. Wait until my yearly review and THEN tell me what my goals SHOULD have been. Give me a mediocre performance rating with a cost of living increase. I'm not here for the money anyway.



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Humor

Subject: Prospective Employee Assessment

To: All Managers

The following guidelines shall be used when hiring new personnel.

Take the prospective employees you are trying to place and put them in a room with only a table and two chairs.

Leave them alone for two hours, without any instruction. At the end of that time, go back and see what they are doing.

If they have taken the table apart in that time, put them in Engineering.

If they are counting the butts in the ashtray, assign them to Finance.

If they are screaming and waving their arms, send them off to Manufacturing.

If they are talking to the chairs,

Personnel is a good spot for them.

If they are sleeping, they are

Management material.

If they are writing up the experience,

send them to Tech Pubs.

If they don't even look up when you enter the room, assign them to Security.

If they try to tell you it's not as bad as it looks, send them to Marketing.

And if they have left early, put them in Sales.

Office Phrases:

It is in process - So wrapped up in red tape that the situation is almost hopeless.

We will look into it - By the time the wheel makes a full turn, we assume you will have forgotten about it too.

A Program - Any assignment that can't be completed by one telephone call.

Expedite - To confound confusion with commotion?

Channels - be trail left by the interoffice memo.

Coordinator - me guy who has a desk between two expeditors.

Consultant (or Expert) - Any ordinary guy more than 50 miles from home.

To Activate - To make carbons and add more names to the memo.

To Implement a Program - Hire more people and expand the office.

Under Consideration - Never heard of it.

Under Active Consideration - We're looking in the files for it.

A Meeting - A mass mulling by master minds.

A Conference - A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labor and the loneliness of thought.

To Negotiate - To seek a meeting of minds without knocking together of heads.

Re-orientation - Getting used to working again.

Reliable Source - The guy you just met.

Informed Source - The guy who told the guy you just met.

Unimpeachable Source - The guy who started the rumor originally.

A Clarification - To fill in the background with so many details that the foreground goes underground.

We Are Making A Survey - We need more time to think of an answer.

Note and Initial - Let's spread the responsibility for this.

See Me, or Let's Discuss - Come down to my office, I'm lonesome.

Let's Get Together on This - I'm assuming you're as confused as I am.

Give Us the Benefit of Your Present

Thinking - We'll listen to what you have to say as long as it doesn't interfere with what we've already decided to do.

To Give Someone the Picture - A long, confused and inaccurate statement to a newcomer.

Will Advise You in Due Course - If we figure it out, we'll let you know.

Employee Horoscopes:

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 13)

You have an inventive mind and are inclined to be progressive. You lie a great deal. On the other hand, you are inclined to be careless and impractical causing you to make the same mistake over and over again. People think you are stupid.

PISCES (Feb. 14 - March 20)

You have a vivid imagination and often think you are being followed by the CIA or FBI. You have minor influence over your associates and people resent you for your flaunting of your power. You lack confidence and are generally a coward. Pisces people do terrible things to small animals.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19)

You are the pioneer type and hold most people in contempt. You are quick tempered, impatient and scornful of advice. You are not very nice.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)

You are practical and persistent. You

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have a dogged determination and work like hell. Most people think you are stubborn and bull-headed. You are a Communist.
GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

You are a quick and intelligent thinker. People like you because you are bi-sexual. However, you are inclined to expect too much for too little. This means you are cheap. Gemini's are known for committing incest.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)

You are sympathetic and understanding to other people's problems. They think you are a sucker. You are always putting things off. That is why you'll never make anything of yourself. Most welfare recipients are Cancer people.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)

You consider yourself a born leader. Others think you are pushy. Most Leo people are bullies. You are vain and dislike honest criticism. Your arrogance is disgusting. Leo people are known thieves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

You are the logical type and hate disorder. This nitpicking is sickening to your friends. You are cold and unemotional and sometimes fall asleep while making love. Virgo's make good bus drivers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

You are the artistic type and have a difficult time with reality. If you are a man, you are more than likely queer. Chances for employment and monetary gains are excellent. Most Libra women are good Prostitutes. All Libra's die of Venereal Diseases.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You are shrewd in business and cannot be trusted. You shall achieve the pinnacle of success because of your total lack of ethics. Most Scorpio people are murdered.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You are optimistic and enthusiastic. You have a reckless tendency to rely on luck since you lack talent. The majority of Sagittarius's are drunks or dope fiends. People laugh at you a great deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You are conservative and afraid of taking risks. You don't do much of anything and are lazy. There has never been a Capricorn of any importance. Capricorn's should avoid standing still too long as they tend to take root and become trees.

Jive Medical Dictionary

Barium - what you do when the patient dies

Bunion - Paul's surname

Cat Scan - when the Secret Service looks for Socks

Cauterize - made eye contact with her

Constipation - endangered feces

Coronary - domesticated yellow bird

D&C - where Washington is

Dilate - to live a long time

Enema - opposite of a friend

Fibrillate - to tell a small lie

Genital - non-Jew

Hernia - pertaining to a female's knee

Humerus - to tell us what we want to hear

Intestine - currently taking an exam

Node - was aware of

Outpatient - a person who has fainted

Ova - finished; done with

Pap smear - to slander your father

Pelvis - the evil twin of Elvis

Paradox - two doctors

Penis - someone who plays the piano

Rectum - dang near killed him

Sacrum - holy

Seizure - Roman Emperor

Sperm - to reject, look away from

Urine - the opposite of "you're out!"

White Count - the number of Caucasians



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The Fart Chart

- The Vain Person - One who loves the smell of his own farts
- The Amiable Person - One who loves the smell of other people's farts
- The Proud Person - One who thinks his farts are exceptionally fine
- The Shy Person - One who releases silent farts and then blushes
- The Imprudent Person - One who boldly farts out loud and then laughs
- The Scientific Person - One who farts regularly but is truly concerned about pollution
- The Unfortunate Person - One who tries awfully hard to fart but shits instead
- The Nervous Person - One who stops in the middle of a fart.
- The Honest Person - One who admits he farted and offers a good medical reason
- The Dishonest Person - One who farts and then blames the dog
- The Foolish Person - One who suppresses a fart for hours and hours
- The Thrifty Person - One who always has several food farts in reserve
- The Anti-Social Person - One who excuses himself and farts in complete privacy
- The Strategic Person - One who conceals his farts with loud laughter
- The Sadistic Person - One who farts in bed and fluffs the covers over his head
- The Intellectual Person - One who can determine from the smell of his neighbor's fart precisely the latest food items consumed
- The Athletic Person - One who farts at the slightest coercion
- The Miserable Person - One who would truly love to, but can't fart at all
- The Sensitive Person - One who farts and then starts crying
- The Sneaky Person - One who quietly farts and then quickly walks away

**Help make their dreams come true...
Adopt one of our waiting pets today.**

Okay, will do...

Tell them - I'm Barnacle, a 5 year old American Staffordshire Terrier mix. I would prefer to be your only animal. I'm no longer a puppy, but I have a huge amount of energy & love attention from people. I would be best suited with an owner that can handle my high energy level and is willing to exercise me regularly. I am unsure of children as of right now but would probably do great with teenagers and other older kids.

Hey, I'm Felicia I am a very sweet tabby who loves to be held and brushed. My entrancing green eyes are sure to get me noticed! I get along with the other cats here at the shelter but we are not sure about dogs. I would also do well with children. I am spayed, up to date on my vaccinations and microchipped.

Tell them - I'm Mammy, a six year old Shih Tzu mix. I am super sweet & I love walking with our staff & volunteers. I look older than I am because of an eye condition that has left my sight impaired. I arrived at the shelter as a stray & I looking for my new home as soon as possible!

Hi! my name is Cora. I am an 8 year old grey tabby who is very small and vocal. I've been teaching the kittens a thing or two about finding a forever home, & it's working! Now it's my turn! I love all people & get along with the cats here at the shelter. My favorite place is sitting in the window or on your lap. I would do well in any home, including one with children and other animals. I am spayed, up to date on my shots & microchipped.

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MARRIAGE SEMINAR

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor, "It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes." He addressed the man, "Can you name your wife's favorite flower?" Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "It's Pillsbury, isn't it?"

Why it's good to be a woman:

1. We got off the Titanic first.
2. We can scare male bosses with the mysterious gynecological disorder excuses.
- 3 Taxis stop for us.
4. We don't look like a frog in a blender when dancing.
5. No fashion faux pas we make, could ever rival the Speedo.
6. We don't have to pass gas to amuse ourselves.
7. If we forget to shave, no one has to know.
8. We can congratulate our teammate without ever touching her rear end.
9. We never have to reach down every so often to make sure our privates are still there.
10. We have the ability to dress ourselves.
11. We can talk to the opposite sex without having to picture them naked.
12. If we marry someone 20 years younger, we are aware that we will look like an idiot.
13. We will never regret piercing our ears.
14. There are times when chocolate really can solve all your problems.
15. We can make comments about how silly men are in their presence because they aren't listening anyway.

Credit Cards

Be sure & cancel your credit cards before you die. This is so priceless, and so easy to see happening, customer service being what it is today. A lady died this past January, and Citibank billed her for February & March for their annual service charges on her credit card, and then

added late fees & interest on the monthly charge. The balance had been \$0.00, now it's somewhere around \$60.00.

A family member placed a call to Citibank:
Family Member: "I'm calling to tell you that she died in January."

Citibank: "The account was never closed and the late fees & charges still apply."

Family Member: "Maybe you should turn it over to collections."

Citibank: "Since it is two months past due, it already has been."

Family Member: So, what will they do when they find out she is dead?"

Citibank: "Either report her account to the frauds division or report her to the credit bureau; maybe both!"

Family Member: "Do you think God will be mad at her?"

Citibank: "Excuse me?"

Family Member: "Did you just get what I was telling you . . . the part about her being dead?"

Citibank: "Sir, you'll have to speak to my supervisor"

Supervisor gets on the phone.

Family Member: "I'm calling to tell you, she died in January."

Citibank: "The account was never closed and the late fees & charges still apply."

Family Member: "You mean you want to collect from her estate?"

Citibank: (Stammer) "Are you her lawyer?"

Family Member: "No, I'm her great nephew." (Lawyer info given)

Citibank: "Could you fax us a certificate of death?"

Family Member: "Sure." (the fax number is given) After they get the fax ...

Citibank: "Our system just isn't setup for death. I don't know what more I can do to help."

Family Member: "Well, if you figure it out, great! If not, you could just keep billing her. I don't think she will care."

Citibank: "Well, the late fees & charges do still apply."

Family Member: "Would you like her new billing address?"

Citibank: "That might help."

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Family Member: "Odessa Memorial Cemetery, Highway 129, Plot Number 69."

Citibank: "Sir, that's a cemetery!"

Family Member: "What do you do with dead people on your planet?"

What fun it is dealing with "customer service"

Funny Quotes About Marriage

- "In my house I'm the boss, my wife is just the decision maker." -Woody Allen.
- "My wife and I were happy for twenty years. Then we met." -Rodney Dangerfield.
- "Ah, yes, divorce...from the Latin word meaning to rip out a man's genitals through his wallet." -Robin Williams.
- "A married man should forget his mistakes; no use two people remembering the same thing." -Duane Dewel.
- "When you see a married couple walking down the street, the one that's a few steps ahead is the one that's mad." -Helen Rowland
- "Eighty percent of married men cheat in America... The rest cheat in Europe." -Jackie Mason
- "Marriage is like putting your hand into a bag of snakes in the hope of pulling out an eel." -Leonardo Di Vinci.
- "I don't think I'll get married again. I'll just find a woman I

don't like and give her a house." -Lewis Grizzard.

- "I'm the only man in the world with a marriage license made out to whom it may concern." -Mickey Rooney.
- "I haven't spoken to my wife in years. I didn't want to interrupt her." -Rodney Dangerfield.
- "The difference between divorce and legal separation is that legal separation gives a husband time to hide his money." -Johnny Carson

MAKE LOVE TO ME

A woman was in the kitchen doing the boiled eggs for breakfast. Her husband walks in and she says, "You've got to make love to me this very moment." The husband, thinking it's his lucky day, makes love to her on the kitchen table. Afterward he says, "What was that all about?" She says, "The egg timer's broken!"

OCEAN OF BEER:

Two Irishmen were adrift in a life boat following a dramatic escape from a burning freighter. While rummaging through the boat's provisions, one of the men stumbled across an old lamp. Secretly hoping that a genie would appear, he rubbed the lamp vigorously. To the amazement of the castaways, a genie came forth. This particular genie, however, stated that he could only deliver one wish, not the standard three. Without giving much thought to the matter the man blurted out, "Make the entire ocean into beer!" The genie clapped his hands with a deafening crash, and immediately the entire sea turned into the finest brew ever sampled by mortals. Simultaneously, the genie vanished. Only the gentle lapping of beer on the hull broke the stillness as the men considered their circumstances. One man looked disgustedly at the other whose wish had been granted. After a long, tension filled moment, he spoke: "Nice going idiot! Now we're going to have to piss in the boat!"

LAWS MURPHY MISSED:

Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease your nose will begin to itch or you'll have to pee

- Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.
- Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
- Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.
- Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.
- Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will start to move faster than the one you are in now. (works every time)



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- Bath Theorem: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.
- Law of Close Encounters: The probability of meeting someone you know increases when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
- Law of the Result : When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.
- Law of Biomechanics: The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
- Theatre Rule: At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last.
- Law of Coffee: As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
- Murphy's Law of Lockers: If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
- Law of Dirty Rugs/Carpets: The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/ rug.
- Law of Location: No matter where you go, there you are.
- Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.
- Brown's Law: If the shoe fits, it's really ugly.

- Oliver's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.
- Wilson's Law: As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it

THINGS TO PONDER:

1. The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
2. Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
3. If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.
4. Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
5. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
6. How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
7. Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.
8. Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?
9. Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.
10. No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.



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11. There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.
12. There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 AM. It could be a right number.
13. Think about this..., No one ever says "It's only a game." when his team is winning.
14. I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap
15. Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.
16. The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.
17. Do you realize that in less than 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos? (And RAP music will be the Golden Oldies!)
18. Money can't buy happiness -- but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Corvette than in a Yaris.
19. After a certain age, if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you are probably dead.

Priest Retirement Speech

A priest was being honored at his retirement dinner after 25 years in the parish. A leading local politician and member of the congregation were chosen to make the presentation and give a little speech at the dinner. He was delayed, so the priest decided to say his own few words while they waited. "I got my first impression of the parish from the first confession I heard

here. I thought I had been assigned to a terrible place. The very first person who entered my confessional told me he had stolen a television set and, when stopped by the police, had almost murdered the officer. He had stolen money from his parents, embezzled from his place of business, had an affair with his boss's wife; taken illegal drugs, and gave VD to his sister. I was appalled. But as the days went on, I knew that my people were not all like that and I had, indeed, come to a fine parish full of good and loving people. Just as the priest finished his talk, the politician arrived full of apologies at being late. He immediately began to make the presentation and give his talk "I'll never forget the first day our parish priest arrived," said the politician. "In fact, I had the honor of being the first one to go to him in confession." Moral: DON'T EVER BE LATE

Winter Forecast

It was early November and the Indians on a remote reservation asked their new Chief if the coming winter was going to be cold or mild. Since he was a Chief in a modern society he had never been taught the old secrets. When he looked at the sky he couldn't tell what the winter was going to be like. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side he told his tribe that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that the members of the village should collect firewood to be prepared. But being a practical leader, after several days he got an idea.

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He went to the phone booth, called the National Weather Service and asked, "Is the coming winter going to be cold?" "It looks like this winter is going to be quite cold," the meteorologist at the weather service responded. So the Chief went back to his people and told them to collect even more firewood in order to be prepared. A week later he called the National Weather Service again. "Does it still look like it is going to be a very cold winter?" "Yes," the man at National Weather Service again replied, "it's going to be a very cold winter." The Chief again went back to his people and ordered them to collect every scrap of firewood they could find. Two weeks later the Chief called the National Weather Service again. "Are you absolutely sure that the winter is going to be very cold?" "Absolutely," the man replied. "It's looking more and more like it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever." "How can you be so sure?" the Chief asked. The weatherman replied, "The Indians are collecting firewood like crazy."

WHEN GIRLS DRINK TOO MUCH.....

1. We have absolutely no idea where our purse is.
2. We believe that dancing with our arms overhead and wiggling our butt While yelling "woo-hoo!" Is truly the sexiest dance move around?
3. We've suddenly decided that we want to kick someone's ass

and honestly believe we could do it too.

4. In our last trip to pee, we realize that we now look more like a homeless hooker than the goddess we were just four hours ago.
5. We start crying and telling everyone we see that we love them sooooo much.
6. We get extremely excited and jump up and down every time a new song plays because "oh my god! Oh my god! I love this song!"
7. We've found a deeper/spiritual side to the geek sitting next to us.
8. We've suddenly taken up smoking and are really good at it.
9. We yell at the bartender, who we believe cheated us by giving us just lemonade, but that's just because we can no longer taste the gin.
10. We think we are in bed, but our pillow feels strangely like thekitchen floor (or the mop?)
11. We fail to notice that the toilet lid's down when we sit on it.
12. We take our shoes off because we believe it's their fault that we'rehaving problems walking straight. Share this with all the women you know, who like to have fun. Makethem laugh at themselves like you probably did....Sadly, most of the above points are so true!!



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GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

- 1) Growing up is mandatory; growing old is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

SUCCESS:

- At age 4 success is . . . not peeing in your pants.
At age 12 success is . . .having friends.
At age 16 success is . . . having a drivers license.
At age 35 success is . . . having money.
At age 50 success is . . .having money.
At age 70 success is . . . having a drivers license.
At age 75 success is . . .having friends.
At age 80 success is . . . not peeing in your pants.
Take the time to live!!!
Life is too short

OFFICE POLICY:

Dress Code:

- You are advised to come to work dressed according to your salary.
- If we see you wearing Prada shoes and carrying a Gucci bag, we will assume you are doing well financially and therefore do not need a raise.
- If you dress poorly, you need to learn to manage your money better, so that you may buy nicer clothes, and therefore you do not need a raise.
- If you dress just right, you are right where you need to be and therefore you do not need a raise.

Sick Days:

We will no longer accept a doctor's statement as proof of sickness. If you are able to go to the doctor, you are able to come to work.

Personal Days:

Each employee will receive 104 personal days a year. They are called Saturdays & Sundays.

Bereavement Leave:

This is no excuse for missing work. There is nothing you can do for dead friends, relatives or co-workers. Every effort should be made to have non-employees attend the funeral arrangements. In rare cases where employee involvement is necessary, the funeral should be scheduled in the late afternoon. We will be glad to allow you to work through your lunch hour and subsequently leave one hour early.

Bathroom Breaks:

Entirely too much time is being spent on the toilet. There is now a strict three-minute time limit in the stalls. At the end of three minutes, an alarm will sound, the toilet paper roll will retract, the stall door will open, and a picture will be taken. After your second offense, your picture will be posted on the company bulletin board under the "Chronic Offenders" category. Anyone caught smiling in the picture will be sanctioned under the company's mental health policy.



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Lunch Break:

- Skinny people get 30 minutes for lunch, as they need to eat more, so that they can look healthy.
- Normal size people get 15 minutes for lunch to get a balanced meal to maintain their average figure.
- Chubby people get 5 minutes for lunch, because that's all the time needed to drink a Slim-Fast.

Thank you for your loyalty to our company. We are here to provide a positive employment experience. Therefore, all questions, comments, concerns, complaints, frustrations, irritations, aggravations, insinuations, allegations, accusations, contemplations, consternation and input should be directed elsewhere.

The Management

Final Exam:

Two football players were taking an important final exam. If they failed, they would be on academic probation and not allowed to play in the Sugar Bowl the following week. The exam was fill-in-the-blank. The last question read, "Old MacDonald had a _____." Bubba was stumped. He had no idea of the answer. He knew he needed to get this one right to be sure he passed. Making sure the professor wasn't watching, he tapped Tiny on the shoulder. "Pssst. Tiny. What's the answer to the last question?" Tiny laughed. He looked around to make sure the professor hadn't noticed then he turned to Bubba. "Bubba, you're so stupid. Everyone knows Old MacDonald had a farm." "Oh yeah," said Bubba. "I remember now." He picked up his No. 2 pencil and started to write the answer in the blank. He stopped. Reaching to tap Tiny's shoulder again, he whispered, "Tiny, how do you spell farm?" "You are really dumb, Bubba. That's so easy. Farm is spelled: E-I-E-I-O."

Steeler Sunday:

I normally watch TV in the family room. Yesterday, I was on the couch in my usual Sunday-football-watching position when I wandered the wifely person. "Waiting for the Steeler game, honey?" she asked. "Nope. They're off this week." "Well, isn't there another game on you want to see?" "Not really." "Then why are you sitting here with the TV off?" she wondered.

"Habit," I said.

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Steeler Fan in Cleveland:

Game day arrives in Cleveland, and everyone's gearing up for the big showdown between the Browns and the Steelers. Seems this Steeler fan goes to have a few beers before the game and, in his befuddled state, ends up in the wrong end of the stadium. Poor guy's wearing his colors and he's surrounded by Browns' fans who are giving him the evil eye. Too late! He's in too deep and figures the best thing he can do is try and wait 'til the game's over and make a quiet exit. The game starts and boom, boom! 2 TDs for the Steelers! The Browns' fans are grumbling and staring long and hard at the enemy in their midst. Finally, one of the biggest of the group calls over to him. "Go get me a beer!" At last, he can get away! "Ah, no, no, no... Don't try to run away! Leave one of your shoes!" Well, he doesn't have much choice, so he gets the beer, comes back and goes to put on his shoe, but there's a rather large turd sitting in it. "Put. It. On." comes the command. ("Ha ha ha!") Half time comes and goes and the 2nd half starts the same way! Boom, Boom! 28-0! It's a wash-out, and he's really getting evil stares now! "Go get me another beer! And leave your other shoe!" Well, he comes back and finds a similar situation. ("Ha ha ha!") The game finally ends and our hero makes his way home feeling rather sorry for himself. On his

way out, he bumps into a NBC camera crew who are interviewing people about football violence in general. "Excuse me, sir? We're here asking people if they feel football violence is still a problem today, since today's game seemed fairly calm in the stands. The fans were quite well-behaved, and we were wondering if you had any comments on the issue?" It's all too much for him, and he grabs the microphone and screams, "You're damn right I do!" He stares directly into the camera. "Football violence", he starts, "will never end in this country, so long as they are shittin' in our shoes, and we're pissin' in their beers!!"

What The Hell's a Brown?

A Bengal is a tiger and a fast plane is a jet. A cowboy comes from Texas and a raider's tough, I'll bet. A Viking's from the frigid north, Seahawks live near the sea... All are names of football teams, just like they ought to be. But there's one name that makes no sense. It causes me to frown... Can anyone enlighten me? What's a Cleveland Brown? I don't know if it's true, but I think I've heard a theory; That Cleveland named it's team after the color of Lake Erie... Brown does not describe a big and strong athletic man. It's what's inside the diaper of a baby Steelers fan.



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Football Poetry:

The guy who named this football team must be the Cleveland clown. Who else would think to call a football warrior a Brown? If I'd been born in Cleveland, and there my life was spent, I'd find another team to cheer from pure embarrassment! I, myself, have always loved the Steelers 'Black and Gold, I did when I was very young and I will when I am old. But why's this name an adjective when it should be a noun? Can anybody tell me, what the hell's a Cleveland Brown?????

New Draft Picks:

Following yet another losing season, the football team decided to give new draft picks an intelligence test. The coach asked the prospective Line Backer, "What do you think of the Middle East?" "Well..." the player pondered, "I like Ohio pretty much." The coach replied, "Yeah, I guess Ohio's OK, but personally I like Kentucky better."

Child in Divorce Battle:

A lawyer is talking to an only child, whose parents are in the middle of a divorce. he asks the child, if he would like to live with his father to which the child replies, "No, he beats me!" The lawyer asks if the child would rather live with his mother and the child replies, "No, she beats me, too!" The surprised lawyer asks the child where he would like to live, since both parents beat him, and the child replies, "I want to live with the Cincinnati Bengals they don't beat anyone!"

Smart Ass

Mike was going to be married to Karen, So his father sat him down for a little chat. He said, "Mike, let me tell you something. On my wedding night in our honeymoon suite I took off my pants, handed them to your mother and said 'Here - try these on.' She did and said, 'These are too big, I can't wear them.' I replied, 'Exactly, I wear the pants in this family and I always will.' Ever since that night we never had any problems." "Hmmm," said Mike. He thought that might be a good thing to try. On his honeymoon, Mike took off his pants and said to Karen, "Here - try these on." She tried them on

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and said, "These are too large. They don't fit me." Mike said, "Exactly. I wear the pants in this family and I always will. I don't want you to ever forget that." Then Karen took off her pants and handed them to Mike. She said, "Here-you try on mine." He did and said, "I can't get into your pants." Karen said, "Exactly. And if you don't change your smart ass attitude, you never will."

Be Careful When You Take a Man's Drink...

There's this guy in a bar, just looking at his drink. He stays like that for a half-hour. Then, this bully steps up to the bar, takes the guy's drink, and just drinks it all down. The poor man starts crying. The bully says: "Oh, come on, man! I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I can't stand to see a man crying." The troubled fellow replies, "This day is the worst of my life. First, I get fired for over-sleeping and getting to work late. Then, as I'm leaving the building, I find out my car was stolen. I get in a cab to return home and I forget my wallet and credit cards in the cab. Then, I find my wife in bed with the gardener. So I end up at this bar, and just when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison."

Ah, Face Lifts.....

A woman decides to have a facelift for her 50th birthday. She spent \$15,000 and feels pretty good about the results. On her way home,

she stops at a newsstand to buy a newspaper. Before leaving, she says to the clerk, "I hope you don't mind my asking, but how old do you think I am?" "About 32," is the reply. "Nope! I'm exactly 50," the woman says happily. A little while later she goes into McDonald's and asks the counter girl the very same question. The girl replies, "I'd guess about 29." The woman replies with a big smile, "Nope, I'm 50." Now she's feeling really good about herself. She stops in a drug store on her way down the street. She goes up to the counter to get some mints and asks the clerk this burning question. The clerk responds, "Oh, I'd say 30." Again she proudly responds, "I'm 50, but thank you!" While waiting for the bus to go home, she asks an old man waiting next to her the same question. He replies, "Lady, I'm 78 and my eyesight is going. Although, when I was young, there was a sure-fire way to tell how old a woman was. And this may sound very forward, but it requires you to let me put my hands under your bra. Then and only then can I tell you EXACTLY how old you are." They wait in silence on the empty street until her curiosity gets the best of her. She finally blurts out, "What the hell, go ahead." He slips both of his hands under her blouse and begins to feel around very slowly and carefully. He bounces and weighs each breast and he gently pinches each nipple. He pushes her breasts together and rubs them against each other. After a couple of minutes of this, she says, "Okay, okay. How old am I?" He completes one last squeeze of her breasts, removes his hands, and says, "Madam, you are 50." Stunned and amazed, the woman says, "That was incredible, how could you tell?" The old man says, "Promise you won't get mad?" "I promise I won't" she says. "I was behind you in line at McDonald's."

Senior Moments

At 85 years of age, Wally married Lou Anne, a lovely 25 year old. Since her new husband is so old, Lou Anne decides that after their wedding she and Wally should have separate bedrooms, because she is concerned that her new but aged husband may overexert himself if they spend the entire night together. After the wedding festivities, Lou Anne prepares herself for bed and the expected "knock" on the door. Sure enough the knock comes, the door opens and there is Wally, her 85 year old groom, ready for action. They unite as one. All goes well, Wally takes leave of his bride, and she prepares to go to sleep. After a few minutes, Lou Anne hears another knock on her bedroom door, and it's Wally. Again he is ready for more "action". Somewhat surprised, Lou Anne consents for more coupling. When the newlyweds are done, Wally kisses his bride, bids her a fond goodnight and leaves. She is set to go to sleep again, but, aha, you guessed it - Wally is back again, rapping on the door, and is as fresh as a 25-year-old, ready for more "action". And, once again they enjoy each other. But as Wally gets set to leave again, his young bride says to him, "I am thoroughly impressed that at your age you can perform so well and so often.? I have been with guys less than a third



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of your age who were only good once. You are truly a great lover, Wally.” Wally, somewhat embarrassed, turns to Lou Anne and says:”You mean I was here already?”

The moral of the story: Senior moments have their advantages!

ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

First ~ Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know “why” I look this way. I’ve traveled a long way and some of the roads weren’t paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth ~ I don’t know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Eighth ~ One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

Ninth ~ Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Tenth ~ Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it’s called golf

And finally ~ If you don’t learn to laugh at trouble, you won’t have anything to laugh at when you are old. ‘

Grandma’s 100th Birthday

The family wheeled Grandma out on the lawn, in her wheelchair, where the activities for her 100th birthday were taking place. Grandma couldn’t speak very well, but she would write notes when she needed to communicate. After a short time out on the lawn, Grandma started leaning off to the right, so some family members grabbed her, straightened her up, and stuffed pillows on her right. A short time later, she started leaning off to her left, so again the family grabbed her and stuffed pillows on her left. Soon she started leaning forward, so the family members again grabbed her, and then tied a pillowcase around her waist to hold her up. A nephew who arrived late came up to Grandma and said, “Hi, Grandma, you’re Looking good! How are they treating you?” Grandma took out her little notepad and slowly wrote a note to the nephew..... “Bastards won’t let me fart.”

Important Message About Growing Old

Well Shoot! Now I forgot what I was gonna tell ya!



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Eggs, Bacon, French Fries, Chorizo, Sour Cream, Green Onion, Flour Tortillas \$10

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Waffles (3), Fresh Strawberries, Strawberry Sauce, Butter, Powdered Sugar \$9

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Over Easy Eggs (2), Choice of Chorizo Or Brisket, Onion, Potatoes, Green Pepper, Garlic, Hot Pepper Relish, Toast \$10

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Cinnamon Sour Dough French Toast, Maple Syrup, Black Berries, Powdered Sugar \$10

CHEESE OMELET

Eggs, Cheddar, Home Fries, Toast \$8

SIOX CITY OMELET

Eggs, Cheddar, Mushroom, Onion, Green Pepper, Angry Corn, Home Fries, Toast \$10

MAC N OMELET

Eggs, Classic Mac (Yes in your Omelet), Home Fries, Toast \$11

MEXI-MAC N OMELET

Eggs, Classic Mac, Chorizo, Goat Cheese, Green Onion, Home Fries, Toast \$12

CRAW-MAC N OMELET

Eggs, Classic Mac, Green Onion, Blackened Crawfish Trinity, Home Fries, Toast \$11

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