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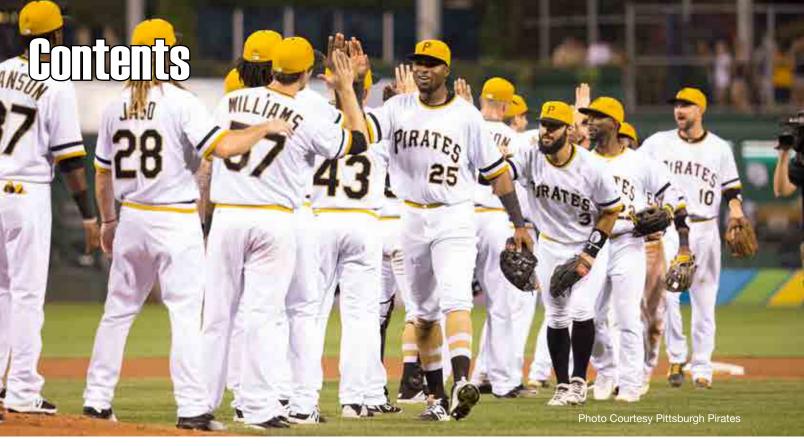
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# SPORTS:

### **Antonito Brown & What Army?**

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine Pittsburgh Steeler Photos ©2016 Pittsburgh Steelers/Karl Roser

It happened just how they drew it up. Ben Roethlisberger threw for 300 yards, Antonio Brown snagged two scores and 126 yards through the air and complimentary receivers accounted for 19 catches. Against the Washington Redskins, the season opener went exactly how it everyone predicted it would. A high-flying offense masked any defensive deficiencies in that 38-16 victory in Landover, complete with a coming out party for wide receiver, Eli Rogers.

A big question coming into the season was "how do the Steelers replace the production and big play threat that Martavis Bryant brings to the field?" Rogers' six catch, 59yard performance with a touchdown grab seemed to give us an answer. But alas. It didn't happen again. Against the Cleveland Browns in week two, he was nowhere in the neighborhood of being a "threat" with one catch for nine yards. In week three, he mustered two catches before leaving the game with a toe injury. Second year receiver Sammie Coates has demonstrated that he can stretch the field, averaging 29 yards per catch through the first three games with at least one 40-plus yard reception in each, but the consistency – or maybe it's the chemistry – just isn't there with only seven catches. It's not there with any target except Brown.





While the league's best receiver reeled in 12 passes from Roethlisberger for 140 yards, Big Ben completed just 12 of 26 to other players with an interception during the Steeler's embarrassing 34-3 loss in Philadelphia. Last season's breakout player, Markus Wheaton caught just one ball in his first game back from injury, dropping a few in the process, including a touchdown. So while the question of "who is





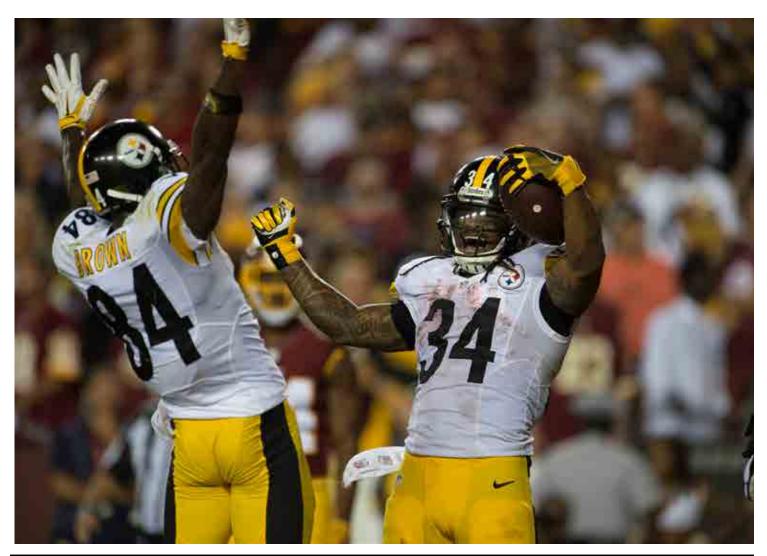
WR2?" still remains, the answer may be coming in week four against the Kansas City Chiefs. In the form the All-Pro running back, Le'Veon Bell.

In the talented tailback's only full season, Bell caught 83 passes, averaging over 10 yards a catch in 2014, good for second best behind Brown. His backfield backup, DeAngelo Williams is holding the number two spot down this season with 14 catches through 12 quarters, while racking up the sixth most rushing yards in the league, 258. With Williams' production in Bell's absence, you have to wonder if the coaching staff might incorporate packages that include both players on the field at the same time. If that is the case, Rogers may be spending more time on the sidelines instead of the slot.

The slot is a natural fit for Bell who has speed, power and vision to break plays open and turn short passes into huge gains. Brown has an unmatched skill set as a receiver, but Bell's all-around game makes him a matchup nightmare that is sure to take the heat off of A.B. and give the other receivers some breathing room.

After failing to find the end zone against Philadelphia, the offense's goal of scoring 30 points per game this season will be tough. They have to average 32 points for the remaining 13 games. If Le'Veon Bell can stay on the field, he could be the key to making Steelers nation forget Philadelphia ever happened.

Stacy Kauffman, Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire Magazine can be heard weekends on CBS Sports Radio 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.



# **Movie Reviews**

**NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE** 

### **FINDING ALTAMIRA**

It is interesting when a film presents a thought provoking theme; not one dominated by an agenda, but rather a fair and balanced approach to a controversy. Such is the case with FINDING ALTAMIRA. It is religion vs Darwin's theory of evolution. It is a topic that still causes debates today, often producing anger from closed minds not opened to possibilities.

Antonio Banderas plays Marcelino Sautuola, a scientist who rocks the established norms when he discovers a cave filled with Paleolithic drawings. The date of the artwork threatens conceived timetables for the history of man, and some of the key teachings of the church. Marcelino's discovery places him at odds with his fellow scientists, the church, his community and even his own family.

Banderas offers a reserved but masterful performance. He is backed by Golshifteh Farahani who plays his wife, Conchita; and Allegra Allen who is exceptional as his daughter Maria. Marcelino credits his discovery to Maria. His daughter takes delight and pride in the cave drawings. Her attachment to them complicates matters when the discovery is held to ridicule. Rupert Everett is the local monsignor who attempts to keep church doctrine by breaking up a family and dishonoring a man's name.



### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. OPENING DOGMA MONTAGE
- 2. THE BISON DREAM
- 3. THE PRESENTATION IN LISBON

Olivia Hetreed and Jose Luis Lopez-Linares have written an intelligent and compelling script. It is aided considerably by the editing of Pia DiCiaula who tells the entire story in ninety minutes. Most of the story is based on historical fact, but the script does not take sides, nor does it attempt to degrade one theory over the other. Director Hugh Hudson pieces together a very comfortable celluloid package.

Neither science nor religion can offer a complete tale of man, though they try. Both contain large gaps in their respective narratives. These are compounded if you add in ancient Samarian writings which attempt to fill the gaps with alien intervention, as suggested by the writings of Zechariah Sitchin. Dilemmas like this are presented in FINDING ALTAMIRA in a fashion seeking compromise rather than demagoguery.

Religion, science, evolution and even the creation of the universe are the arguments of the film, circa 1868 thought. Ironically, as the script implies, it is the scientific field that causes Marcelino his greatest agony and proves to be the more stubborn in its acceptance of new ideas and concepts and, unfortunately, subject to more political shenanigans.

There is warm cinematography by Jose Luis Alcaine, especially on the long establishing shots. Fine performances by Banderas and Allen create a pleasing narrative of Spain's lost chance in history. FINDING ALTAMIRA is succinct in its presentation, and smooth in its delivery.

### THE GRADE FOR FINDING ALTAMIRA = B

### SULLY

When I first heard of SULLY, I immediately thought it was a cheap gimmick opportunity for a film. Five years after the incident, and it already deserves a movie? But then I learned Clint Eastwood was helming the project. He is exceptionally adept at presenting the theme of the strong individual, showing resilience in overwhelming odds. This manner of showcasing the Miracle on the Hudson suddenly gained gravitas with Eastwood at the helm.

The next issue mandating my presence at the press screening was hiring Tom Hanks to star. In the early stages of my film critic career, I was covering Hanks in disposable films such as BACHELOR PARTY. I thought, in the beginning, he was going to be like Seth Rogan, Will Farrell and Adam Sandler, creating largely forgettable opening weekend comedies. Through the years, Hanks has matured, and his talents have soared. Even when he starred in quirky films, like CLOUD ATLAS, which I liked, and often used in my film classes, he offered stellar performances.

Last year, he worked with Stephen Spielberg in BRIDGE OF SPIES. He was nominated for Best Actor considerations for



his performance. Working with Eastwood in SULLY, I expected no less a recital. I was not disappointed. Hanks offers a character presentation as strong as his one in BRIDGE OF SPIES. Unfortunately, his portrayal of SULLY is very similar to his characterization of James B. Donovan. For this reason, he may not receive the acting accolades for SULLY, and it may be why the studio, Warner Bros, released the film at summer's end, rather than during awards season.

The news story is still fresh enough for everyone to remember. US Airways flight 1549 took off from LaGuardia Airport, bound for Charlotte, NC, when, moments after takeoff, a flock of birds flew head on into the plane's engines, causing both to shut down. Captain Chesley Sullenberger, drawing on his four decades of experience, realized he could not make the return flight to the airport and opted to land the plane on the Hudson River. It is the only time a water landing was attempted without loss of life.

### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. THE DREAM
- 2. THE RIVER RESCUE
- 3. THE SIMULATION HEARING

SULLY is a decent drama. The film moves quickly, clocking in at just over the ideal time of 90 minutes, thanks to Editor Blu Murray. Eastwood does not drag the film with unnecessary background, nor any agendas. The antagonists here are the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), working in conjunction with the airline's insurance company. In an effort to avoid massive lawsuits, they seek to pin the incident on Sully alone, absolving the money people from compensations.

Eastwood also allows Cinematographer Tom Stern and Production Designer James Murakami the leeway to indulge viewers with creative aspects of the incidents, selected flying experiences from Sully's past, and a rather traumatic dream sequence.

I saw SULLY in IMAX, and it definitely makes an impact, especially on the rescue scenes. These tickets are generally pricier, but in this instance, going first-class will be worth it. Both Eastwood and Hanks are in harmony. The result is an enjoyable



drama, that preserves a nice slice of history.

### THE GRADE FOR SULLY = B

### SNOWDEN

Regular readers of my reviews readily know I am not timid about intertwining political agendas to films. This is even easier when Director Oliver Stone releases a politically charged film like Snowden.

Stone is always heavy-handed. He is like a quarterback who cannot put 'touch' on his passes. Snowden is no exception. Most people either think Edward Snowden is a traitor, or a patriot. This film will do little to persuade anyone, save those ignorant of world politics, though Stone does lean heavily toward the patriot vein.

Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars as Ed Snowden. His performance is flat. He seems to be in one phase, and it carries him through the entire film. Likewise, with Shailene Woodley, who plays Snowden's girlfriend, Lindsay Mills. Outside of coy romantic scenes, her conveyance of empathy for what is happening around her is static. Costars Timothy Olyphant, Zach Quinto and Rhys Ifans are noteworthy. Ifans, especially is compelling as Corbin O'Brian, Snowden's mentor.

Screenwriters Kieran Fitzgerald and Stone provide a cursory introduction to Snowden, and his patriotism, which comes into question throughout most of the movie. Using time shift editing, provided by Alex Marquez and Lee Percy, the story brings us through the beginning of the NSA spying program under the Bush Administration after the attack of 9/11, and its corruption and political use under the Obama Administration.

The script suggests it is Obama's illegal, reprehensible and corrupt utilization of the spy network that serves as the impetus for Snowden's decision to go public. By the movie's conclusion, Stone and Fitzgerald also manage to implicate Hillary Clinton in the effort.

### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. THE ESCAPE FROM THE HOTEL
- 2. THE EXAM
- 3. THE CUBE AT THE GUARD STATION.

Like most Stone films, this one drags on a bit too long at nearly two and a half hours. There is more emphasis on Snowden's love life, than there is on his change of heart in deciding to out his country. The involvement with Julian Assange and WikiLeaks, and his acceptance in Russia are ignored or glossed over. His ability to work within the intelligence community, despite resigning, is given short shrift, and his reputation for being problematic is reduced to one, tame incident. These elements offer a different perspective on Snowden, but they would interfere with Stone's narrative.

Coinciding with the release of this film, there is a movement to have Obama pardon Snowden before his term ends in December. Even an enormous Hollywood liberal like Oliver Stone clearly laid the full blame of the NSA spying program at the feet of Obama and Clinton.

If you are a fan of Stone's films, Snowden will fit nicely into your collection. As with all his oeuvres, this one must be taken with a very large grain of salt. The co-stars upstage the main stars, and the inconvenient elements of the story are dropped. Still, it took some hutzpah to call the Obama Regime out on the carpet.

### THE RATING FOR SNOWDEN = C



### THE WAITING/ THE GOOD NEIGHBOR

Movies often go through title changes, but this one is a bit perplexing. THE GOOD NEIGHBOR is scheduled for release this coming Friday, but the title THE WAITING appears on the final screening version of the film. THE GOOD NEIGHBOR moniker makes more sense to me.

Screenwriters Mark Bianculli and Jeff Richland have pieced together a decent thriller covering a few key social issues, including: domestic abuse; the overabundance of technology; pranking; dysfunctional families; poor parenting; lack of consequences for actions; the improper functioning of our



current judicial system; and how a person of money and influence can manipulate that system.

Ethan Fleming (Logan Miller) and Sean Turner (Keir Gilchrist) opt to use their knowledge of sophisticated, yet commonplace technology, to run an experiment on one of their neighbors. The concept for the experiment spawned from one conducted in England. Officials there told a town they would be interacting with special agents for a selected period of time. These agents would not interfere with their lives, but rather would appear as passersby, clerks and other folk encountered during a normal day. The townsfolk reported profound changes in their lives, one even claimed to have found God. The ruse was there were no special agents in the town. It was all a set-up.

So, Ethan and Sean opt to apply a similar scam to the grumpy old man in the neighborhood, Harold Grainey, played by James Caan. They rig his house with cameras and devices destined to convince the curmudgeon his house is haunted. The result is deadly, and there is much more to the experiment than the boys let on.

### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. The visit by the police officer
- 2. The party
- 3. The unveiling of Grainey's past.

### I almost quit this film. The opening reels are shot in $\ensuremath{\mathsf{POV}}$

reality format. The one saving grace to the film's beginning is the camera was steady and not constantly moving like the unwatchable JASON BOURNE. Then, Director Kasra Farahani time shifts the tale to the courtroom hearing of the trial. Someone is dead; but who and why? The reality footage the viewer is seeing is actually evidence in a trial. This is a very clever technique and keeps the film moving smoothly. It is good to see Caan on the Silver Screen again. He has aged, and is now a long cry from his ROLLERBALL and KILLER ELITE days. THE GOOD NEIGHBOR does not require a lot of thespian work from him, but he is solid in the scenes that require him to hold the film together. Miller and Gilchrist are convincing as high school pranksters and reveal key foreshadowing elements to the observant viewer.

While THE GOOD NEIGHBOR is a comfortable 98-minute length, Editor Kathy Gato slows the film a tad too much just before the final reels. Stay with the movie, the conclusion is worth wading through the repetitious segments.

Outside of the slowdown just before the conclusion, I found THE GOOD NEIGHBOR quite enjoyable. The finale provides a rather scathing, but not preachy, glimpse at the lack of moral fiber of the millennial generation.

### THE GRADE FOR THE GOOD NIEGHBOR = B

### **DEEPWATER HORIZON**

Disaster films generally follow a tried and true template, and Deepwater Horizon follows the template, for the most part. We are introduced to Mike Williams (Mark Wahlberg) and his family. He is the common, everyday man, working for a living and trying to provide for his family. He embodies old fashioned values and a traditional family unit. Jimmy "Mister Jimmy" Harrell is the foreman, the kind of boss you want to work for; constantly thinking of the welfare and safety of his crew. He is played, in most excellent fashion, by Kurt Russell. And then there is the big corporation greedy antagonist, who is the root of the disaster. In Deepwater Horizon, it's BP Oil executive Donald Vindrine, played by John Malkovich. In smaller roles are Kate Hudson and Gina Rodriguez.

This is a powerhouse line-up of stars. Realize in a disaster film, the true star is always the disaster, recreated by the SFX techs. In Deepwater Horizon, they are in superb form. The destruction of the oil rig and the rescue operations dominate the screen, even with Cinematographer Enrique Chediak using the shaky, reality camera style I so despise.

### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. The shower disaster
- 2. The hotel reunion
- 3. The mud room

I, like most of the folk in the preview audience, know little about oil drilling in the ocean; however, background information is required to comprehend the origins of the disaster. Screenwriter Mathew Michael Carnahan executes an exemplary enterprise of bringing viewers up to speed with terse dialogue between the main stars.

Since Deepwater Horizon is 'based on true events' the film doesn't follow the true template for disaster films. It strays in that several of the scoundrels do not die, but rather live long and prosper.

To his credit, Berg could have launched this film into an environmental lecture, but exercised restraint. The only nod to the biohazard Deepwater Horizon caused is a scene, effectively done, with an oil soaked sea gull, flying into the bridge of the rescue ship.

Like Sully, Deepwater Horizon excels in the panoramic shots of the rig and rescue. Seeing the film in IMAX carries more dramatic impact than not. The stars all shine, especially Kurt Russell, and the film largely follows the established disaster prototype. You know what to expect going into the theatre, and the movie does not disappoint.

### THE GRADE FOR Deepwater Horizon = B

### THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

Reviewing a remake is much easier if you've never seen the original. The remake can be judged solely on its own merits and values. Unfortunately, I am very familiar with The Magnificent Seven and comparisons to the original simply cannot be avoided. As such, it pales in comparison

Denzel Washington plays Sam Chisum, a duly deputized bounty hunter. Starring with him are: Chris Pratt, who takes

the Steve McQueen role; Ethan Hawke is Robert Vaughn; Peter Sarsgaard subs for Eli Wallach; and Vincent D'Onofrio is Brad Dexter. Added to the bunch are: Martin Sensmeier as Red Harvest, the token Indian; Manuel Garcia-Rulfo as Vasquez, who takes Charles Bronson's role; and Byung-hun Lee, who personifies the part played by James Coburn.

All the stars are in fine form, in fact, if anyone is downplaying it's Washington. As a cowboy, he is lacking the fire displayed in other collaborations with Director Antoine Fuqua. Hawke and Pratt steal the show and dominate the screen time.

Cinematographer Mauro Fiore provides grand vistas and intense set shots. The musical duo of Simon Franglen and James Horner create a solid score, which dances around Elmer Bernstein's original, until finally giving way to it during the first part of the end credits.

The problems with The Magnificent Seven arise when Fuqua inserts revisionist history and current Hollywood agendas into the story.

The original had an aura of hopelessness. Civilization was becoming progressive; so six gunslingers, realizing they are a dying breed with skills no longer needed, opt to take one last suicide mission because they have become totally useless in the current society. Not in this version. All seven are essentially mercenaries and head into town, not feeling like dinosaurs about to become extinct, but rather like Seal Team Six.

The original featured Eli Wallach as the antagonist. He was a Mexican bandito who preyed on a local village to supply his militant army. But, we simply can't do that in today's cinema! Mexicans are a sacrosanct group. So this antagonist is the tried and tired greedy capitalist. As such, The Magnificent Seven views more like Clint Eastwood's Unforgiven.

In the original, the script never delved into the crew's backgrounds. It was apparent they were familiar with one another, and each had their own personal reasons for tagging along, but it was Steve McQueen's laconic verse: "It seemed like a good idea at the time" that explained their motivation. In this version, it is revenge. At this juncture, The Magnificent Seven bears more of a resemblance to Clint Eastwood's For A Few Dollars More.

### **KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:**

- 1. THE MAGIC TRICK
- 2. THE FIRST VISIT TO THE TOWN

### 3. THE END CREDITS WITH THE ORIGINAL THEME SONG

Westerns are fun, and certainly Hollywood does not produce enough of them. Fuqua and the band have conjured up a rousing tale that is enjoyable to watch, but pales in comparison to the original.

### THE GRADE FOR THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN = C

The New Look of Dogfish Head



There's a saying that goes "it's what's on the inside that matters," and while that's definitely true for beer, it never hurts to look good, too. It may hurt to admit, but a beer's packaging has to look as good as the beer inside tastes for it to be truly successful. With hundreds of craft breweries making thousands of different beers, it's that first impression that helps make a beer love at first sip.

Sam Calagione founded Dogfish Head Craft Brewery with the need to make beers that were different from the rest of the crowd. His goal was to brew beers that used culinary ingredients in a way that made as much sense as hops and malt all the while making beers that were off-centered while staying true to the roots of brewing history.

Not one to go with the flow, the design of Dogfish Head's lineup of beers hasn't changed much since the brewery's inception and for good reason. Calagione and crew loved simple, descriptive designs that let the beer speak for itself. Years later, the "shark and shield" that marks every bottle, case, keg, and glass from Dogfish Head and has become one of the most notable examples of design in the craft beer world.

It's hard to change a design that everyone knows while assuring

your loyal fans that the beer inside is the same amazing ale that they've come to love. Sticking with the tried and true design is fine when you're producing a handful of beers, but when you're talking about a brewery like Dogfish Head that has more than 30 beers available in 2016 alone, having a design that signifies it as a Dogfish Head beer while showing the difference between those beers can be quite complex, especially with the constant addition of new beers.

The designs that worked for Dogfish Head early on weren't so easy to adapt to their growing lineup of beers in a meaningful and recognizable manner. It was time for a change.

This change comes in the way of a complete redesign of the core beers that Dogfish Head offers, with more redesigns to come soon.

#### **The New Design**

The key to any product redesign is to make it a big enough change that it's useful while keeping it familiar enough as to not confuse the people that love your beer. With this in mind the shark and shield are hanging around for the redesign as well as that unique Dogfish Head font that's adorned every bottle of



their beer for the majority of the brewery's existence.

Beyond this, the new design showcases the ingredients that make the beer special while showing you everything you'd want to know about the beer you're drinking including ingredients, size, ABV, and of course the beer name and style. No hunting for facts or spinning a bottle to read everything. It's all right there for you to read.

The six-pack carriers even put the key ingredients for the beer illustrated over the carrier handle so you literally have a handful of hops or other ingredients as you take your beer home. In short, it's a perfect mix of new and old that gives Dogfish Head's beer lineup a look that's similar to each other while being just different enough to stand out.

### The Beers

Dogfish Head is kicking the new design off with seven of their current beers, with more to follow. The beers getting the first

crack at a redesign are:

- 60 Minute IPA
- 90 Minute IPA
- Flesh & Blood IPA
- Indian Brown Dark IPA
- Midas Touch Ancient Ale
- Namaste White Belgian-Style Witbier
- SeaQuench Ale Session Sour

### 60 Minute IPA

Dogfish Head's flagship beer is by and far their 60 Minute IPA. This well-balanced IPA is continually hopped IPA features citrusy hop character while keeping the bitterness in check with a malt bill that helps to round this beer out to make it the complete package.

60 Minute is named for the length of the boil and the length of the corresponding continuous hop addition. 60 Minute is



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golden amber in color with a piney, citrus hop-forward aroma, a hoppy, malty balanced taste, and a crisp medium mouthfeel that leaves a slight bitterness behind. 60 Minute comes in at 6% ABV and 60 IBU.

### 90 Minute IPA

The first beer to be continually hopped by Dogfish Head's founder Sam Calagione, 90 Minute IPA is the big kind on the block when it comes to year-round IPA's from Dogfish Head, and rightfully so.

90 Minute sits at 9% ABV and 90 IBUs, and while this may seem a little imposing, this beer has a strong malt backbone that helps to even things out in the way of flavor and aroma. Instead of being overpowering, 90 Minute features the pine and citrus aroma and flavor that's found in its little brother, just with a little more prominence. 90 Minute is fuller bodied with a slightly more robust mouthfeel than 60 Minute, but in a way that keeps the drinkability of this beer high while making sure you respect the 9% ABV.

### Flesh & Blood IPA

While 60 and 90 Minute may be the seniors of this lineup, Flesh & Blood IPA is the freshman on campus. Originally released in 2016, this IPA features a hearty dose of real citrus including lemon flesh and orange juice as well as orange and lemon peel.

Flesh & Blood balances the American IPA style with zesty fruitiness to give it the bitterness that hopheads love and the drinkability that those less hop-inclined need. Coming in at 7.6% ABV and 45 IBUs, Flesh & Blood IPA is just about perfect, even if it's only available in the summer months.

### Indian Brown Dark IPA

What do you get when you cross an IPA with a brown ale? Well, if you're Dogfish Head you get Indian Brown Dark IPA. Somehow Indian Brown balances the two seemingly opposing styles of beer into one amazing beer. The malty toastiness of the brown ale balances out the mild hop bitterness, leaving you with caramel and brown sugar notes that finishes dry.

Indian Brown Ale comes in at 7.2% ABV and 50 IBUs, and is available year-round. While you can get this beer throughout the year, fall seems to be the perfect time of the year to either revisit this beer, or to discover it for the first time.

### **Midas Touch Ancient Ale**

Beer has been around for literally thousands of years, making it one of the oldest alcoholic beverages in the world. That means there's a vast history of beer spread throughout the ages. In an attempt to explore this rich history while respecting the brewers that have come before them, Dogfish Head worked with the University of Pennsylvania to determine the ingredients used to brew a beer that was brewed 2,700 years ago via traces found in a drinking vessel in none other than King Midas' tomb.

Midas Touch is sweet yet somehow dry and is brewed using barley, honey, white muscat grapes, and saffron to give this beer a unique mead-like character while still remaining a beer through and through. Midas Touch is 9% ABV and a meager 12 IBUs, meaning it's big, slightly boozy, and sweet up front with a crisp, clean finish.

### Namaste White Belgian-Style Witbier

When it comes to Belgian-style witbiers, finding one that's truly unique can be hard to do. Borrowing a word commonly used by our yoga-practicing friends, Namaste means "the spirit in me acknowledges the spirit in you," which is Dogfish Head's way of thanking all their fans that've turned their fellow beer-loving souls onto the off-centered brewery.

Namaste White is 4.8% ABV and comes in at 20 IBUs. This strawyellow ale features aromas of citrus and cloves with just a hint of coriander in the background. This is carried through to the taste, with sweet malt notes added in as well as a slightly spicy finish. Exceedingly refreshing, Namaste White is crisp and perfect for chilly days as much as for hot ones, and thankfully it is available year round.

### SeaQuench Ale Session Sour

Finishing up our list of newly designed beers is another member of the freshman class, and it's one of the more unique beers on the list, too. SeaQuench Ale is a session sour beer that's brewed with lime peel, black limes, and sea salt to give you a tart, citrusy merger of three different German styles of beer. SeaQuench Ale starts its life as a straightforward Kölsch with lots of wheat and Munich malt. From here a salty Gose (pronounced go-sa) is brewed with the black limes, coriander, and sea salt. Finally, the last beer is a tart Berliner weisse brewed with lime juice and lime peel. These three beers are combined, and just like Voltron, they become more than the sum of their

parts once combined. SeaQuench Ale kicks off a partnership between Dogfish head and the National Aquarium located in Baltimore, Maryland, and their logo can be found on the SeaQuench Ale label.

SeaQuench Ale is 4.9% ABV and 10 IBUs. Expect a tart, slightly sour character that's light, refreshing, and all-around great. SeaQuench Ale is available in August and September each year.

Look out for the new labels for your favorite Dogfish Head beers and enjoy the beer you love with a fresh, new design.

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# Pitt/burgh Public Theater Pre/ent/: The Fanta/tick/

Ted Pappas opens The Public's 42nd season with a sparkling new production of this musical theater phenomenon.

Pittsburgh Public Theater begins its 42nd season with a new production of The Fantasticks, with book and lyrics by Tom Jones and music by Harvey Schmidt. Directed by The Public's Producing Artistic Director, Ted Pappas, the legendary musical runs Sept. 29 – Oct. 30, 2016 at the O'Reilly Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theater's home in the heart of Downtown's Cultural District. For tickets call 412.316.1600 or visit ppt.org.

The Fantasticks premiered Off-Broadway in 1960 and ran continuously for 42 years. After just a four-year break it was revived at New York's Jerry Orbach Theater (named for The Fantasticks' original star), where it continues today. The musical has always appealed to sophisticated theater-goers and younger audiences as well.

The charm of The Fantasticks is in its humorous and tender story, memorable music, and imaginative staging. For The Public's production Ted Pappas has assembled an amazing group of actors, musicians, and designers.

At the center are a young man and woman just awakening to love. In these roles The Public welcomes Jamen Nanthakumar (Matt) and Mary Elizabeth Drake (Luisa). As their meddling fathers are Daniel Krell (Bellomy) and Gavan Pamer (Hucklebee). Bringing great theatricality to the show are the dashing narrator, El Gallo (Josh Powell); The Mute (Jason Shavers); Mortimer, known as The Actor Who Dies (Tony Bingham), and Henry, The Old Actor (Noble Shropshire).

Musical Director Douglas Levine leads a versatile ensemble featuring harpist Marissa Knaub Avon, bassist Justin Bendel, and percussionist R.J. Heid. Songs in The Fantasticks include the now-classic "Try to Remember" and "Soon It's Gonna Rain." The design team is James Noone (Scenic), Amy Clark (Costumes), Kirk Bookman (Lighting), and Zach Moore (Sound). Casting is by Cindi Rush Casting and the Production Stage Manager is Ruth E. Kramer.

Among The Fantasticks' varied pleasures are its nods to Shakespeare, especially Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream; its moments of vaudevillian energy; it's journey from romance to disillusion and back to true love; and the handmade quality of its production design. According to The Wall Street Journal, The Fantasticks is: "The perfect musical."





Pittsburgh Public Theater Presents The Fantasticks September 29 – October 30, 2016

Performance Schedule Tuesdays at 7 pm Wednesdays thru Saturdays at 8 pm (no show Wed. Oct. 12) Saturdays at 2 pm (except Oct. 1 & 8) plus 2 pm on Thurs. Oct. 27 Sundays at 2 & 7 pm (except Oct. 30 when the final performance is at 2 pm) Press Night is Thursday, Oct. 6. Opening Night is Friday, Oct. 7 Ticket prices: \$30 - \$66. Tickets for students and age 26 and younger are \$15.75. Discounts for groups of 10+ are available by contacting Casey Helm at 412.316.8200 ext. 704 or chelm@ppt.org. For tickets call 412.316.1600, go to ppt.org, or visit The O'Reilly Theater Box Office



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# Pittsburgh Redbud Project Brings Trees and Pink to Downtown's Riverfronts



You probably thought the stunning view of downtown Pittsburgh from Mt. Washington couldn't get any better. Well, it can and will, thanks to a new greening initiative from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to plant native redbud trees along sections of trails, hillsides, parks and open spaces along the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers.

The Pittsburgh Redbud Project officially launched on April 26, 2016, and attracted hundreds of volunteers, partners and students to plant redbuds along the Three Rivers Heritage Trail. Since the launch, more than 500 trees have been planted to add natural color in these places.

The Eastern redbud tree (*Cercis canadensis*) is among the first native tree to bloom each spring. These trees have pink heartshaped buds and flowering occurs before the trees' leaves form. Some wildlife feed on redbud seeds, and bees use the trees' flowers for honey production. The Conservancy is also planting evergreen trees along with the redbuds to provide tree diversity and encourage tree health.

The idea for the project came from Frank Dawson, a landscape architect from Pittsburgh who believes redbuds are a great way to bring color to the riverfronts and potential tourism opportunities to Pittsburgh.

"I recall traveling from Pittsburgh to New York in early spring and seeing the soft hues of pink along the hillsides while everything else remained brown and grey," he said. "Redbuds have a way of capturing your attention and saying, 'spring is coming,'" he said. "It's great these beautiful trees will now adorn our precious





riverfronts. Instead of cherry blossoms, Pittsburgh will one day be celebrated for its redbuds."

Jeff Bergman, director of WPC's community forestry and TreeVitalize Pittsburgh, said Frank's idea is creative and would continue WPC's ongoing work to green downtown Pittsburgh. "The idea captured our attention as a project that had so many great components. And any time we can include more native plants and natural color along our waterways is a win-win," Jeff said.

After months of brainstorming, identifying ideal planting locations and securing a grant from Colcom Foundation, the project's first trees were planted in April and May of this year with the help of 277 volunteers who contributed a total of 830 hours of service. These trees are already adding natural beauty to the riverfronts and will also contribute to ongoing reforestation and stormwater management efforts.

John Rohe, vice president of philanthropy at Colcom Foundation, attended the launch and believes that the project helps further enhance Pittsburgh's livability and sense of place. "To build a place worth caring about is to bring out the best in a community," explained John. The project is funded by the foundation in celebration of its 20th anniversary. Riverlife and the City of Pittsburgh are also project partners. Help plant a tree with the Pittsburgh Redbud Project! You can get involved with the Pittsburgh Redbud Project during one of the upcoming workdays to plant hundreds of new redbud and other trees this fall and in the spring of 2017. The Conservancy provides tools, safety vests and planting instructions for all volunteers. Please contact **Marah Vecenie, community forestry project coordinator for WPC, at 412-586-2386 or mvecenie@paconserve.org** for more information or to sign up to volunteer. At these planting events, WPC will give away 1,000 additional redbud and other native tree seedlings to community residents and volunteers to plant at home.

#### **Point State Park:**

Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 87 trees to be planted

#### 10th Street Bypass:

Friday, October 28, 9 a.m. – noon 30 trees to be planted

### Gateway Islands (Liberty Avenue near Gateway Towers):

Saturday, November 12, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. 51 trees to be planted

## Lake Geneva: "Newport of the West"

By Suzanne Ferrara



Once you arrive at the city of Lake Geneva, you are immediately struck with the notion this place is matchless and doesn't exist anywhere else in the country; you will be awed by its natural splendor of rolling hills, glacier-formed spring-fed lake, and stunning architecture. Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, has been the destination for Midwestern millionaires since the 19th century. The history and lavish lifestyles are still evident today, but you don't have to dig deep into your pocket to have this breathtaking and one-of-a-kind experience.

Native Americans and wealthy Americans alike were not only awed by its natural beauty, but knew the value of this stunning Midwestern site's natural resource which sits on the eastern shore of Geneva Lake. Fast forward to the 1960s, and Lake Geneva was the site of glamour and Hollywood entertainment with the opening of Hugh Hefner and Playboy Enterprise's Playboy Club resort. Guests were served food and libations by Playboy Bunnies outfitted in the nostalgic corsets and bunny ears, and Chicago visitors could fly direct to the resort thanks to a private airstrip with service from the O'Hare airport. Upon arrival, guests were transported around the resort on the hotel's "Bunny Tram".

Lake Geneva has managed to maintain its unmatched splendor for hundreds of years. The area was untouched by European Settlers until the early 1800s because of its remote lake location; before that, however, Native Americans, who knew first-hand the value of this hidden jewel and its pristine lake, inhabited the land early on. This grand display of nature still exists today. (History Tip: Amazingly, archeological evidence shows the lost ancient Oneota Tribes made these shores their home dating back to 1,000 B.C. until the United States Army led Chief Big Foot and the local Potawatomi Tribe out of its primeval home in 1836). You can experience this lake just as the Native Americans, European settlers and wealthy Midwesterners did. That's because the lake is surrounded by an ancient foot path that's been used for several hundred years, and you can walk completely around Geneva Lake on this gorgeous 21-mile trail.



The awesome views along the path are ones you'll never forget. This historic shore path is unlike anything in existence because of its unusual public access which includes not only the pathway but also access up to 20 feet of the land from the shoreline. What you experience along the path is unforgettable, from historic Victorian mansions from a bygone era to uniquely constructed and decorated pathways, some of which tell stories all their own. A guided walking tour of the pathway is one way to take in all the history, or you can opt to take it alone as you ponder amid the amazing scene.

Dozens of grand estates (many belonging to notable millionaires), plus Frank Lloyd Wright-styled mansions and three beaches can be found all along this public lake path. Every hundred feet or so, the pathway changes in design, shape, and character, and adds to the fairytale-like atmosphere. Estate owners take great pride in making sure their segments of the lake trail, which literally cut through their property, exquisitely exhibit unique character and charm. This path, once used by the Potawatomi Indians, stretches across the palatial estates of the Schwinns (founders of the Schwinn Bicycle Company) and the Wrigleys (Chewing gum entrepreneur), and many others.

And don't forget to ring the "Miracle Bell" along this trail; it's been rung by thousands of locals and visitors all hoping for a bit of divine intervention. The Expect A Miracle House is equally inspiring, and has many poems and positive sayings written along its white picket fence railings. Be sure to sit on the



October 2016 • NIGHTWIRE 19



bench along the path, and as you soak in this beauty, view the inspirational quote, "Expect a Miracle" on a bench seat.

Taxi boats provide great ways to cut across the lake to reach particular points of interest along the shoreline. Speaking of... try a walking tour which uncovers the history and evolution of Geneva Lake, or take the unforgettable journey to "Black Point Estate", a classic example of Queen Ann architecture (and contains four generations of furnishings and other personal possessions). This summer cottage, which is a true time capsule that belonged to the Conrad Seipp family and was built 1888, invites its visitors to take in the gorgeous grounds and look at the intricate details of Black Point's fascinating historical Victorian dollhouse.

Balcony room view from Grand Geneva Resort and Spa

For a one-of-a-kind experience from a bygone era on Geneva Lake, witness the "sport" of mail-boat delivery! For 100 years mail carriers have jumped on and off a moving boat with great precision, and visitors can board the vessel and take part in this practically obsolete form of government service. Watch the 'mail jumpers' hop onto the docks, put mail in the boxes and then jump back on. (Note: Today it's considered a prized job, and





applicants have to physically try out for the position). The mailboat excursion is also a scenic tour.

For more outdoor adventure fun, there are helicopter tours of the lake, kayaking, sailing, fishing and boat excursions of every kind. On land, meanwhile, if you love golf, this is your place: you can tee-off at eleven area golf courses.

Whether or not you love astronomy, the Yerkes Observatory is a must-see. It houses the largest lens telescope in the world—a 63-foot long tube--and observatory operators say Yerkes is the birthplace of modern astrophysics. Fun fact: Albert Einstein



chose to visit Yerkes instead of Niagara Falls during his visit to America.

After working up your appetite, head to Pier 290 at Gage Marina for grand views of Geneva Lake and some of the area's finest cuisine (A must try: Wisconsin White Cheese Soup!). The history behind this place--it was built from salvaged scraps of area buildings and boats--adds to this mystique of this premier restaurant. If that doesn't work for you, head to the Egg Harbor Café, a local hot-spot, for a gourmet breakfast or lunch.

Rest assured you will sleep very well at the historic Grand Geneva Resort and Spa. This AAA Four-Diamond resort housed the legendary Playboy club owned by Hugh Hefner and welcomed entertainers such as Tony Bennett, Peggy Lee and Sonny & Cher. (History note: back in the day, Playboy bunnies outfitted in the nostalgic corsets and bunny ears served guests food and libations and guests were transported around the resort via the hotel's "Bunny Tram"). Today the award-winning resort (which also has a bit of a Frank Lloyd Wright design) is chock-full of alluring amenities. Family entertainment isn't lacking here, either; there's horseback riding, hay rides and a large-scale indoor waterpark on the grounds. Kids of all ages will no doubt be smiling after a full day of fun.

Want more? Tee-off at two of the resort's stunning championship golf courses or head to The Fitness Center at Grand Geneva where you can partake in cycling and yoga classes. The center also includes a 35-foot-tall climbing wall, basketball court, indoor tennis courts, and an indoor pool. After working up an appetite, head to the resort's Ristorante Brissago and tempt your taste buds with Executive Chef Michael Sawin's mouthwatering Italian dishes, amidst views of the countryside. (Note: The Grilled Calamari Steak and Bufala Mozzarella are musts.)

For ultimate relaxation, melt your cares away at the Well Spa and Salon. The spa offers a wide range of services sure to rejuvenate and reinvigorate. You will rest easy inside the resort's well-appointed rooms with warm soothing décor. Be sure to choose one of many rooms or suites with balconies overlooking the vast golf courses and beautiful grounds. For more information go to: tourinfo@travelwisconsin.com



Oktoberfest..... At Kretzler's Every Thursday and Saturday in October!!

Oktobertest

Kick off the Oktoberfest season with authentic German food at Kretzler's beginning Thursday, October 6th and continuing every Thursday and Saturday only throughout the month of October. This family restaurant tradition has been an event diners wait all year to enjoy!

Specialties include classic authentic German food made fresh in the Kretzler's kitchen from family recipes that have been handed down from generation to generation. The latest generation of Kretzler's, owners, third generation, Jason and Brandon Kretzler are looking forward to cooking and serving the best German food in Pittsburgh. Kretzler's uses only the freshest and finest ingredients coupled with their cooking expertise and family recipes make this a truly authentic German meal experience. Stop in any Thursday or Saturday for dinner starting at 4pm to enjoy some German favorites like Weiner Schnitzel, tender veal cutlet breaded to perfection in light panko breadcrumbs and then gentle pan fried (\$15.99). Or perhaps Breaded Pork Cutlet, Kretzler's uses only tender center cut pork chop loins dredged in specially seasoned breadcrumbs and then pan fried to perfection (\$13.99).

For you sausage lovers how about their Sausage Platter, featuring grilled bratwurst, smoked German sausage and knockwurst topped with homemade German sauerkraut or peppers and onions (\$13.99). Rounding up their German menu they offer Sauerbraten, tender top round beef marinated in Kretzler's secret recipe a German brine then slow cooked until tender and juicy served up smothered in ginger snap gravy (\$12.99). They also offer Jagarschnitzel, center cut point loin, coated in course ground bread crumbs and pan fried to a golden brown served smothered in German style mushroom gravy (\$14.99). And the all-time classic German dish, Roast Pork and Sauerkraut, center cut port loans slow roasted in their homemade German sauerkraut (\$12.99).

All of the above specialty German dishes come with you choice of three of any of the following: Red Cabbage, German Potato Salad, Vegetable, Spätzle's, Soup, Salad, Potato Pancakes, French Fries, Cottage Cheese or Applesauce. Generous portions, with three sides with prices ranging from only \$15.99 to \$12.99.

For those wanting a sandwich, they offer a Grilled Bratwurst Sandwich, made with fresh natural casing bratwurst grilled and topped with homemade German style sauerkraut or peppers & onions and comes with one side for only \$7.99. Or how about a Braunschweiger Club Sandwich? Fresh Braunschweiger served on marble rye bread with Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato and onion. Comes with one side only (\$7.99).

# Every Thursday and Saturday in October!!

Kretzler's will also be featuring German beers along with fall and pumpkin beers all month long, so hurry in before they are all gone. Mark your calendars as these specialty meals will only be offered for 8 days in October so save the dates as this only happens once a year! Once you've tried one of these specialty meals, you'll definitely want to try more, so get started early because remember Oktoberfest only happens once a year and Kretzler's has the very best authentic German food in the burg!

Kretzler's is located in the North Hills 10 minutes from downtown and easy access from I279N at 2240 Babcock Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, (412)821.1601, www.kretzlerstaven.com



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### Funny, Clean Halloween Jokes

- What would you get if you crossed a vampire and a teacher? Lots of blood tests!
- Why did Dracula's mother give him cough medicine?
   Because he was having a coffin fit.
- What did Dr. Frankenstein get when he put a goldfish brain in the body of his dog?
  - I don't know, but it is great at chasing submarines.
- Why wasn't there any food left after the monster party?' Cos everyone was a goblin.
- Why did the vampire's lunch give him heartburn? It was a stake sandwich.
- Dracula decided he need a dog, which breed did he choose?

A bloodhound.

- What would you call the ghost of a door-to-door salesman? A dead ringer.
- What do skeletons always order at a restaurant? Spare ribs!
- Who was the most famous French skeleton? Napoleon bone-apart.
- Who won the skeleton beauty contest?
- No body.

### **Halloween One-liners**

- What do you call serious rocks? Grave stones.
- What do you call pretend rocks?
   Shamrocks.

### **Trip to Walmart**

It was mid-October and I was waiting for my wife, Julie, at the checkout at Walmart supermarket in Worcester, Massachusetts, USA, I noticed that someone had left behind their broom. When no one came to claim it, I went outside to search for a couple I remembered seeing at the cashier's desk. I spotted them getting into their truck and hurried over. 'Excuse me,' I said to the young woman, 'but did you by any chance leave your broom inside?' 'No,' she retorted quickly and with a smile, 'we came by truck.'

### **Funny Halloween Quotes**

Here are Halloween quotes to share with your friends.

- Those who believe in telekinetics, raise my hand. Kurt Vonnegut
- Ghosts, like ladies, never speak till spoken to. Richard H. Barham
- Where there is no imagination there is no horror. Sir Arthur

### Conan Doyle

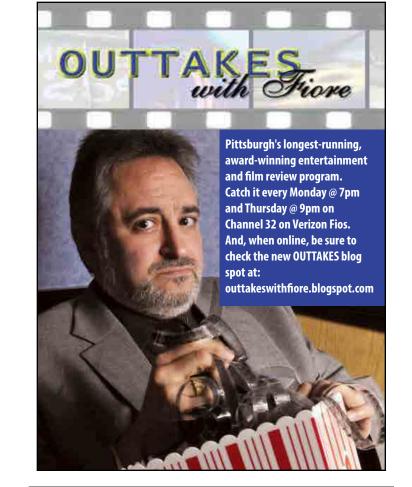
- At first cock-crow the ghosts must go
- Back to their quiet graves below. Theodosia Garrison
- If a man harbors any sort of fear, it makes him landlord to a ghost. Lloyd Douglas
- If you haven't found something strange during the day, it hasn't been much of a day. John A. Wheeler
- We live in a Newtonian world of Einsteinian physics ruled by Frankenstein logic. David Russell

### **Clean Halloween Jokes for Your Kids**

- Kids are great at telling, devising and modifying Halloween jokes
- What is a vampires favorite holiday? Fangsgiving.
- What do skeletons say before they begin dining? Bone appetite!
- What is a ghoul's favourite drink? Slime juice
- What does Mrs Ghost serve for dessert? Ice scream.
- What do fishermen say on Halloween?
   'Trick-or-trout!'
- Where do spooks go to post a parcel? The ghost office.
- What did the vampire say to the Invisible Man?
   'Long time, no see!'
- Why is Dracula so unpopular? Because he's a pain in the neck!
- What runs around a cemetery but doesn't move? A fence!
- Why do demons and ghouls hang out together?
   Because demons are a ghouls best friend! (Diamonds ... Girls!)
- What did the mother ghost say her children? Don't spook until you're spooken to.'

### Witches Jokes for Halloween

- Why do witches wear name tags? So that they can tell witch is which!
- What do you call a witch who lives at the beach? A sand-witch.
- Why do witches fly on brooms?
   Vacuum cleaner cords aren't long enough.
- What do you call a witch's garage? A broom closet.
- Why don't angry witches ride their brooms? They're afraid of flying off the handle.
- What do witches put on their hair?



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- What do they teach at witches school? Spelling.
- When is it bad luck to meet a black cat? When you're a mouse.
- What does a witch ask for in a hotel? Broom service.

### Ghost, Vampire, Mummy and Spook Halloween Gags

- What happened when a boy vampire met a girl vampire? It was love at first bite!
- How does a girl vampire flirt?
   She bats her eyes.
- What's did the girl say when a vampire kissed her? It was a pain in the neck.
- What do you call a skeleton who won't work? Lazy bones.
- What's a skeleton's favourite musical instrument? A trom-bone!
- Where do baby ghosts go during the day? Dayscare centres.
- Why don't skeletons like parties?
   They have no body to dance with.
- What was the favourite game at the ghosts' birthday party? Hide and shriek.
- What do the birds sing on Halloween? Twick or tweet.
- Why do mummies make good employees? They get all wrapped up in their work.
- Who did the ghost invite to his party? Anyone he could dig up!
- Who did Frankenstein take to the prom? His ghoul friend.
- Why did the game warden arrest the ghost? He didn't have a haunting license.
- How can you tell if a vampire likes baseball? The night that he goes into a bat.
- Where do spooks water ski? On Lake Erie.
- Where do mummies go for a swim? To the dead sea.
- What kind of streets do zombies like to haunt? Dead end streets.
- What has webbed feet, feathers, fangs and goes quack-quack? Count duckula.
- What's a monster's favourite Shakespeare play? Romeo and ghouliet.

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### Who does Dracula get mail from? His fang club.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire Frostbite.

### **Pumpkin Jokes**

- Why Pumpkins are better than Men? Each year you get a brand new crop to choose from. Also, pumpkins are always on the doorstep there waiting to greet you.
- Speaking with Pumpkins
- What did one Jack-o-lantern say to the other? Cut it out!
- What is a pumpkin's favorite sport? Squash
- Why do Jack-o-lanterns have stupid smiles on their faces? You'd have a stupid smile, too, if you had just had all your brains scooped out!
- What's the ratio of a pumpkin's circumference to its diameter? Pumpkin Pi (3.1428571428571428571428571428571428571)
- What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frostbite!
- How do you repair a broken Jack-o-lantern? Buy a pumpkin patch!
- What's black, white, orange, and waddles? A penguin carrying a Jack-o-lantern.
- Why do pumpkins never quarrel? Because they have no stomach for fighting.

### **Best Use of a Pumpkin Patch**

John, a city slicker from Boston, bought a pumpkin patch. He thought that he could make more money from chickens than the previous owner made from pumpkins, so he went to a poultry farm and bought 50 chickens.'50 is a lot of chickens for that little pumpkin patch,' commented the proprietor. 'I am used to big business' John replied.' A week later John was back at the farm. 'I need another 50 chickens,' he said. 'Boy, you are serious about this chicken farming,' the poultry farmer told him. 'Oh yes,' John replied. 'It' will be Ok if I can just iron out a few problems.' 'Problems?', asked the farmer. 'Yeah,' replied the John, 'I think I planted that first batch too close together.'

### **How to Grow Pumpkins**

Farmer Smith was driving his tractor along the road with a trailer load of fertilizer. Alex a little boy of nine was playing ball in his yard; he saw the farmer and asked:

'What've you got in your trailer?' 'Manure,' farmer Smith replied.





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'What are you going to do with it?' asked Alex.

'Put it on my pumpkins,' answered the farmer.

Alex replied, 'You ought to come and eat with us, we put icecream on our pumpkin pie.'

### **Top Pumpkin Sayings**

- 1. Pumpkin pie, if rightly made, is a thing of beauty and a joy while it lasts ...
- 2. I would rather sit on a pumpkin, and have it all to myself, than be crowded on a velvet cushion - Henry David Thoreau
- 3. My favourite word is "pumpkin." You are a pumpkin. Or you are not. I am. Harrison E. Salisbury
- 4. To dream of pumpkins is a very bad omen.
- 5. If you're in a war, instead of throwing a hand grenade at the enemy, throw one of those small pumpkins. Maybe it'll make everyone think how stupid war is, and while they are thinking, you can throw a real grenade at them.
- I will keep moving forward, forever forward, towards and endless dream, and a thousand pumpkin lights. - Former President George Bush
- 7. I don't know about you but my family would stage a mutiny if

I didn't have a pumpkin pie for dessert at Thanksgiving.

- Men are like pumpkins. It seems like all the good ones are either taken or they've had everything scraped out of their heads with a spoon.
- Homer Simpson gets into the pumpkin business. 'This year I invested in pumpkins. They've been going up the whole month of October and I got a feeling they're going to peak right around January.' ...DOH.

### **Pumpkin Deterrent**

Mrs Jones was proud of her pumpkin patch, so she was real disappointed when some of the local kids were taking them to make Jack-o-Lanterns. One evening while Mrs. Jones was soaking in the bath, the answer to the pumpkin thefts came to her. After supper she went out and put up a sign: 'Beware, one of these pumpkins is coated with a special colorless rat poison!' A day or two later when Mrs Jones checked out her pumpkin patch she was pleased to see that no more had been stolen. Then she saw a second sign next to hers which said: 'NOW THERE ARE TWO!!'



### Why Pumpkins Are Better Than Men?

If you don't like the way your pumpkin looks, you can just carve another face. or From the start you know a pumpkin has an empty head.

### **Halloween One-liners**

- 1. Doctor, doctor, I'm so ugly. What can I do about it? Hire yourself out for Halloween parties.
- What do you say to a fishermen say on Halloween? Trick-or-trout!"
- Why did the boy carry a clock and a bird on his shoulder? It was for time for 'tick or tweet'!

### **Classic Halloween One-liners**

- What kind of alley does a ghost prefer to haunt? A dead end.
- Why wasn't the vampire working? He was on his coffin break.
- What's a ghosts favorite ride at the carnival? The roller ghoster

What did the mother ghost say to the baby ghost?
 Fasten your sheet belt.

### **More Halloween Gags**

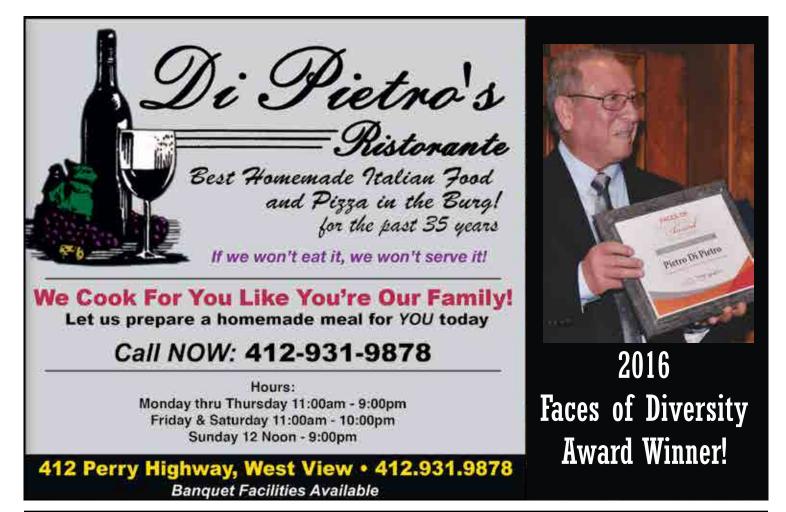
- What is a vampires favorite type of ship? A blood vessel.
- What was a witch's favorite subject when they were in school?

Spelling!

- What musical instrument does a skeleton play? A trombone.
- Why don't skeletons like parties? They have no body to dance with.
- Why did the mummy call the doctor? Because her baby was coffin.

### **FLIGHT ATTENDANT:**

I was being served by an obviously gay flight attendant, who seemed to put everyone in a good mood as he served us food and drinks. As the plane prepared to descend, he came swishing down the aisle and told us that "Captain Marvey has asked me







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to announce that he'll be landing the big scary plane shortly, so lovely people, if you could just put your trays up, that would be super."On his trip back up the aisle, he noticed this well-dressed Arabic woman hadn't moved a muscle. "Perhaps you didn't hear me over those big brute engines but I asked you to raise your trazy-poo, so the main man can pitty-pat us on the ground."She calmly turned her head and said, "In my country, I am called a Princess and I take orders from no one." To which (I swear) the flight attendant replied, without missing a beat, "Well, sweet-cheeks, in my country I'm called a Queen, so I outrank you. Tray-up, Bitch."

Airline ticket - \$550.00, Snack - \$5.00, Wine - \$10.00, Gay Flight Attendant - priceless!

### **JUST A FEW!**

Four old retired guys are walking down a street in Ft Myers, Florida. They turned a corner and see a sign that says, " Old Timers Bar - all drinks 10 cents." They look at each other, then go in, thinking this is too good to be true. The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room, "Come on in and let me pour one for you! What'll it be, Gentlemen?" There seemed to be a fully-stocked bar, so each of the men ask for a martini. In short order, the bartender serves up four iced martinis... Shaken, not stirred, and says, "That'll be 10 cents each, please." The four men stare at the bartender for a moment, then look at each other... They can't believe their good luck. They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced with the bartender again saying "That's 40 cents, please" They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand. They have each had two martinis, and so far they've spent less than a dollar. Finally one of the men says, "How can you afford to serve martinis as good as these for a dime apiece?" "I'm a retired tailor from Boston," the bartender said, "and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the Lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs a dime - wine, liquor, beer, it's all the same." Wow!!!! That's quite a story," says one of the men. The four of them sipped at their martinis and couldn't help but notice three other guys at the end of the bar who didn't have drinks in front of them, and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there. One man gestures at the three at the end of the bar without drinks and asks the bartender, "What's with them?" The bartender says, "Oh, they're from Cleveland. They're waiting for happy hour, when drinks are half price."

### THINGS WE LEARN AS WE GET OLDER:

I've learned that I like my teacher because she cries when we sings "Silent Night".

Age 5

I've learned that our dog doesn't want to eat my broccoli either.

Age 7

I've learned that when I wave to people in the country, they stop what they are doing and wave back. Age 9

I've learned that just when I get my room the way I like it, Mom makes me clean it up again. Age 12

I've learned that if you want to cheer yourself up, you should try cheering someone else up. Age 14

I've learned that although it's hard to admit it, I'm secretly glad my parents are strict with me. Age 15

I've learned that silent company is often more healing than words of advice. Age 24

I've learned that brushing my child's hair is one of life's great pleasures. Age 26

I've learned that wherever I go, the world's worst drivers have followed me there. Age 29 I've learned that if someone says something unkind about me, I must live so that no one will believe it. Age 30

I've learned that there are people who love you dearly but just don't know how to show it. Age 42

I've learned that you can make some one's day by simply sending them a little note. Age 44

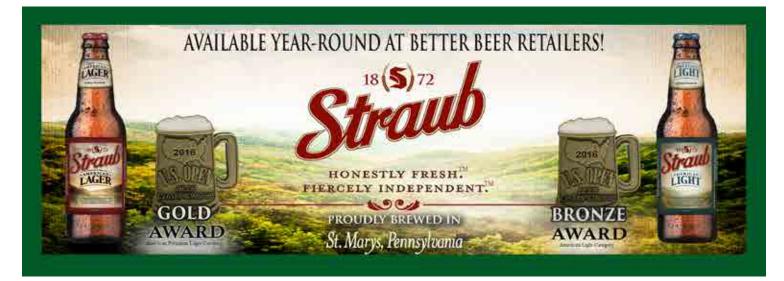
I've learned that the greater a person's sense of guilt, the greater his or her need to cast blame on others. Age 46

I've learned that children and grandparents are natural allies. Age 47

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow. Age 48

I've learned that singing "Amazing Grace" can lift my spirits for hours. Age 49

I've learned that motel mattresses are better on the side away from the phone. Age 50



I've learned that you can tell a lot about a man by the way he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights. Age 51

I've learned that keeping a vegetable garden is worth a medicine cabinet full of pills. Age 52

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you miss them terribly after they die. Age 53

I've learned that making a living is not the same thing as making a life. Age 58

I've learned that if you want to do something positive for your children, work to improve your marriage. Age 61

I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

Age 62

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back. Age 64

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But if you focus on your family, the needs of others, your work, meeting new people, and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you. Age 65

I've learned that whenever I decide something with kindness, I usually make the right decision. Age 66

I've learned that everyone can use a prayer. Age 72

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. Age 82



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I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love that human touch-holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back. Age 90

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn. Age 92

#### **RELIGIOUS PARROTS**

A lady goes to her priest one day and says, "Father, I have a problem. I have two female parrots, but they only know how to say one thing. "What do they say?" the priest inquired. They say, "Hi, we're hookers! You want to have some fun?""That's obscene!" the priest exclaimed. Then he thought for a moment."You know," he said, "I may have a solution to your problem. I have two male talking parrots, which I have taught to pray and read the Bible. Bring your two parrots over to my house, and we'll put them in the cage with Francis and Peter. My parrots can teach your parrots to pray and worship!" "Thank you," the woman responded, "this may very well be the solution."The next day, she brought her female parrots to the priest's house. As he ushered her in, she saw that his two male parrots were inside their cage holding rosary beads and praying. Impressed, she walked over and

placed her parrots in with them. After a few minutes, the female parrots cried out in unison, "Hi, we're hookers! You want to have some fun?" There was stunned silence. Shocked, one male parrot looked over at the other male parrot and exclaimed, "Put the beads away, Francis, our prayers have been answered."

#### Works every time!

Two married buddies are out drinking one night when one turns to the other and says, "You know, I don't know what else to do. Whenever I go home after we've been out drinking, I turn the headlights off before I get to the driveway. I shut off the engine and coast into the garage. I take my shoes off before I go into the house, I sneak up the stairs, and I get undressed in the bathroom. I ease into bed and my wife STILL wakes up and yells at me for staying out so late!" His buddy looks at him and says, "Well, you're obviously taking the wrong approach. I screech into the driveway, slam the door, storm up the steps, throw my shoes in the closet, jump into bed, slap her on the butt and say, "Who's horny.....?!!!" and she acts like she's sound asleep.





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Connecticut Like Massachusetts, only smaller

Delaware We Really Do Like The Chemicals In Our Water.

Florida Ask Us About Our Grandkids And Our Voting Skills.

Georgia We Put The Fun In Fundamentalist Extremism.

Hawaii Haka Tiki Mou Sha'ami Leeki Toru (Death To Mainland Scum, Leave Your Money)

Idaho More Than Just Potatoes... Well, Okay, We're Not, But The Potatoes Sure Are Real Good

Illinois Please, Don't Pronounce the "S"

Indiana 2 Billion Years Tidal Wave Free Iowa We Do Amazing Things With Corn

Kansas First Of The Rectangle States

Kentucky Five Million People; Fifteen Last Names

Louisiana We're Not ALL Drunk Cajun Wackos, But That's Our Tourism Campaign.

Maine We're Really Cold, But We Have Cheap Lobster

Maryland If You Can Dream It, We Can Tax It

Massachusetts Our Taxes Are Lower Than Sweden's And Our Senators Are More Corrupt! Michigan First Line Of Defense From The Canadians

Minnesota 10,000 Lakes... And 10 Zillion Mosquitoes

Mississippi Come visit And Feel Better About Your Own State

Missouri Your Federal Flood Relief Tax Dollars At Work

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North Carolina Tobacco Is A Vegetable

North Dakota We Really Are One Of The 50 States!

Ohio At Least We're Not Michigan



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Oregon Spotted Owl.. It's What's For Dinner

Pennsylvania Cook With Coal

Rhode Island We're Not REALLY An Island

South Carolina Remember The Civil War? Well, We Didn't Actually Surrender Yet

South Dakota Closer Than North Dakota

Tennessee Home of the Al Gore Invention Museum

Texas Se Hable Ingles

Utah Our Jesus Is Better Than Your Jesus

Vermont Too liberal for the Rest of You

Virginia Who Says Government Stiffs And Slack jaw Yokels Don't Mix?

Washington Our Governor can out-fraud your Governor!

West Virginia One Big Happy Family...Really!

Wisconsin Come Cut the Cheese!

Wyoming Where Men Are Men... And The Sheep Are Scared Home of Brokeback Mtn. The District of Columbia The Work-Free Drug Place!

#### **The Perfect Woman**

When I was 14, I hoped that one day I would have a girlfriend.

When I was 16, I got a girlfriend, but there was no passion. So I decided I needed a passionate girl with a zest for life.

In college, I dated a passionate girl, but she was too emotional. Everything was an emergency; she was a drama queen, cried all the time and threatened suicide. So I decided I needed a girl with stability.

When I was 25, I found a very stable girl but she was boring. She was totally predictable and never got excited about anything. Life became so dull that I decided that I needed a girl with some excitement.

When I was 28, I found an exciting girl, but I couldn't keep up with her. She rushed from one thing to another, never settling on anything. She did mad, impetuous things and made me miserable as often as she made me happy. She was great fun initially and very energetic, but directionless. So I decided to find a girl with some real ambition.

When I turned 31, I found a smart ambitious girl with her feet planted firmly on the ground and married her. She was so ambitious that she divorced me and took everything I owned.

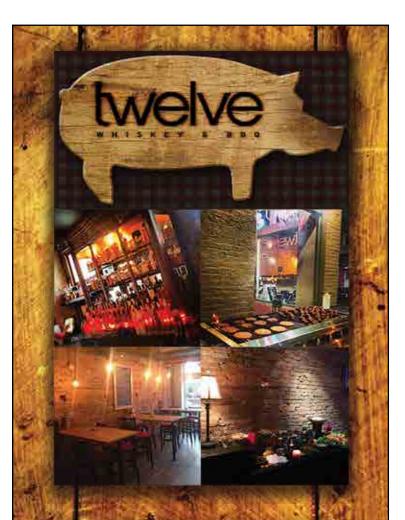
I am now 40, and am looking for a woman with very big breasts.

#### Abbot and Costello

If Bud Abbott and Lou Costello were alive today, their infamous sketch, "Who's on First?" might have turned out something like this:

#### COSTELLO CALLS TO BUY A COMPUTER FROM ABBOTT

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you? COSTELLO: Thanks. I'm setting up an office in my den and I'm thinking about buying a computer. ABBOTT: Mac? COSTELLO: No, the name's Lou. ABBOTT: Your computer? COSTELLO: I don't own a computer. I want to buy one. ABBOTT: Mac? COSTELLO: I told you, my name's Lou. ABBOTT: What about Windows? COSTELLO: Why? Will it get stuffy in here? ABBOTT: Do you want a computer with Windows? COSTELLO: I don't know. What will I see when I look at the windows? ABBOTT: Wallpaper. COSTELLO: Never mind the windows. I need a computer and software. ABBOTT: Software for Windows? COSTELLO: No. On the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and run my business. What do you have? ABBOTT: Office. COSTELLO: Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything? ABBOTT: I just did. COSTELLO: You just did what? ABBOTT: Recommend something. COSTELLO: You recommended something? ABBOTT: Yes. COSTELLO: For my office? ABBOTT: Yes. COSTELLO: OK, what did you recommend for my office? ABBOTT: Office. COSTELLO: Yes, for my office! ABBOTT: I recommend Office with Windows. COSTELLO: I already have an office with windows! OK, let's just say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need? ABBOTT: Word. COSTELLO: What word? ABBOTT: Word in Office. COSTELLO: The only word in office is office. ABBOTT: The Word in Office for Windows. COSTELLO: Which word in office for windows? ABBOTT: The Word you get when you click the blue "W."



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COSTELLO: I'm going to click your blue "W" if you don't start with some straight answers. What about financial bookkeeping? You have anything I can track my money with? ABBOTT: Money. COSTELLO: That's right. What do you have? ABBOTT: Money. COSTELLO: I need money to track my money? ABBOTT: It comes bundled with your computer. COSTELLO: What's bundled with my computer? ABBOTT: Money. COSTELLO: Money comes with my computer? ABBOTT: Yes. No extra charge. COSTELLO: I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much? ABBOTT: One copy. COSTELLO: Isn't it illegal to copy money? ABBOTT: Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money. COSTELLO: They can give you a license to copy money? ABBOTT: Why not? THEY OWN IT! A few days later:

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you? COSTELLO: How do I turn my computer off? ABBOTT: Click on "START"...

#### You know you are living in southern California

\*Your monthly house payments exceed your annual income (and you think it's normal)

\*You drive next to a Rolls Royce and don't notice it.

\*You don't know anyone's phone number unless you check your cell phone.

\*You speak Spanish, but you're not Mexican.

\*You begin to "lie" to your friends about how close you are when you know darn well that it'll take you at least an hour to get there (see below).

\*Getting anywhere from point A to point B, no matter what the distance, takes about "twenty minutes".

\*You drive to your neighborhood block party.

\*In the "winter", you can go to the beach and ski at Big Bear on the same day or mow your lawn in your shorts on New Years Day, and maybe sunburn.

\*You eat a different ethnic food for every meal.

\*If your destination is more than 5 minutes away on foot, you're



#### definitely driving.

\*Calling your neighbors requires knowing their area code.

\*You know what "In-'N-Out" is and feel bad for all the other states because they don't have any.

\*Stop signs stand for, Slow To Observe Police.

\*You go to a tanning salon before going to the beach.

\*You eat pineapple on pizza.

\*Your cell phone has left a permanent impression on the side of your head.

\*You think that Venice is a beach.

\*The waitress asks if you'd like "carbs" in your meal.

\*You know who the Tinsel Underwear dude at Venice Beach is.

\*You classify new people you meet by their Area Code. An "818" would never date a "562" and anyone from "323" or "213" is ghetto/ second class. Best area code: "949/714." Nobody likes anyone from the "909/951" because it stinks there.

\*You call 911 and they put you on hold.

\*You have a gym membership because it's mandatory.

\*The gym is packed at 3 pm...on a workday.

\*You think you are better than the people who live "Over the Hill". It doesn't matter which side of the hill you are currently residing, you are just better than them, for whatever reason.

\*You know that if you drive two miles in any direction you will find a

McDonald's, Subway or a Starbucks. (Do we have to go two miles for a

Starbucks?)

\*You know what "Sigalert", "PCH", and the "Five" mean.

\*You know the meaning behind the name of the 405 freeway....

because it takes

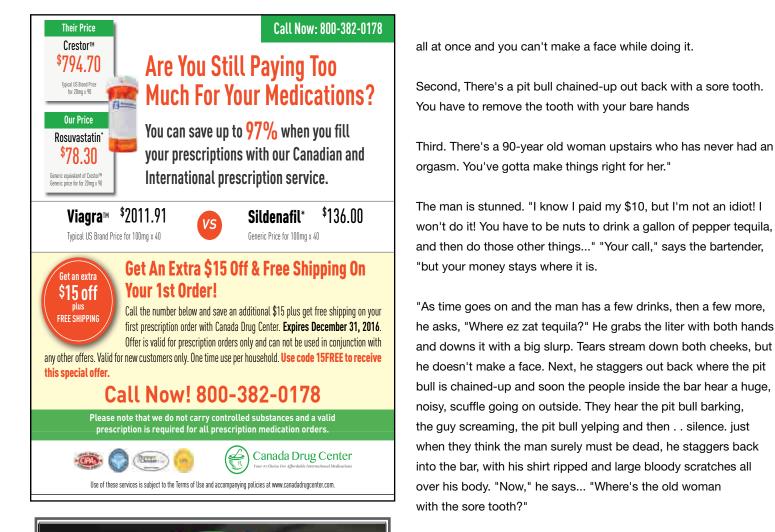
4 hours to get one way, and 5 hours to get back.

\*It's barely sprinkling rain and there's a report on every news station: "STORM WATCH".

#### A GUY AND TEQUILA:

A guy walks into a bar, notices a very large jar on the counter, and sees it's filled to the brim with \$10 bills. He guesses there must be a thousand dollars in it He approaches the bartender and asks, "What's with the jar?" "Well, you pay \$10 and if you pass three tests, you get all the money and the keys to a brand new CORVETTE Z07. The man certainly isn't going to pass this up. "What are the three tests?" "Pay first, those are the rules," says the bartender. So the man gives him the \$10 and the bartender drops it into the jar. "OK," the bartender says, " Here's what you need to do: First - You have to drink that entire liter of pepper tequila, the whole thing,





#### **New Supermarket**

The new supermarket near our house has an automatic water mist to keep the produce fresh. Just before it goes on, you hear the sound of distant thunder and the smell of fresh rain. The veggie department features the smell of fresh buttered corn. When you approach the milk cases, you hear cows mooing and experience the scent of fresh hay. When you approach the egg case, you hear hens cluck and cackle and the air is filled with the pleasing aroma of bacon and eggs frying......I don't buy toilet paper there anymore.

#### **STONED MONKEY:**

A monkey is sitting in a tree smoking a joint when a lizard walks past and looks up and says to the monkey 'hey! what are you doing? 'The monkey says 'smoking a joint, come up and have some.' So the lizard climbs up and sits next to the monkey and they have a few joints. After a while the lizard says his mouth is ' dry 'and is going to get a drink from the river. The lizard is so stoned that he leans too far over and falls into the river. A Crocodile sees this and swims over to the lizard and helps him to the side, then asks the lizard, 'What's the matter with you??' The lizard explains to the crocodile that he was sitting with the monkey in a tree smoking a joint, got too stoned and then fell into the river

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while taking a drink. The crocodile says he has to check this out and walks into the jungle, finds the tree were the monkey is sitting, finishing a joint, and he looks up and calls to the monkey ' Hey! 'The Monkey looks down and says 'How much freakin water did you drink??'

#### **Blonde Astronaut?**

A blond, a brunette, and a redhead were trying out for a new NASA experiment on sending women to different planets. First, They called the brunette in and asked her a question. "If you could go to any planet, what planet would you want? To go to and why?" After pondering the question she answered, "I would like to go to Mars, because it seems so interesting with all the recent news about possible extra terrestrial life on the planet." They said "well okay, thank you." And told her that they would get back to her.Next, the redhead entered the room and the NASA people asked her same question. In reply, "I would like to go to Saturn to see all of its rings." Again, "thank you" and they would get back to her. Finally, the blond entered the room and they asked her the same question they asked the brunette and the redhead. She thought for a while and replied, "I would like to go to the Sun." The people from NASA replied, "Why, don't you know that if you went to the sun you would burn to death?" The blond smirked and put her hands on her hips. "Are you Guys dumb? I'd go at night!"

#### **Dating vs. Marriage**

When you are dating..... Farting is never an issue. When you are married .....You make sure there's nothing flammable near your husband at all times.

When you are dating..... He takes you out to have a good time. When you are married ....He brings home a 6 pack, and says "What are you going to drink?"

When you are dating..... He holds your hand in public. When you are married ....He flicks your ear in public.

When you are dating..... A Single bed for 2 isn't THAT bad. When you are married ....A King size bed feels like an army cot.

When you are dating..... You are turned on at the sight of him naked.

When you are married ....You think to yourself "Was he ALWAYS this hairy????"

When you are dating..... You enjoyed foreplay. When you are married ....You tell him "If we have sex, will you leave me alone???" When you are dating..... He hugs you, when he walks by you for no reason.

When you are married .... He grabs your boob any chance he gets.

When you are dating..... You picture the two of you together, growing old together.

When you are married .... You wonder who will die first.

When you are dating..... Just looking at him makes you feel all "mushy."

When you are married ....When you look at him, you want to claw his eyes out.

When you are dating..... He knows what the "hamper" is. When you are married ....The floor will suffice as a dirty clothes storage area.

When you are dating..... He understands if you "Aren't in the mood."

When you are married ....He says "It's your job."

When you are dating..... He understands that you have "male" friends.

When you are married ....He thinks they are all out to steal you away.

When you are dating..... He likes to "discuss" things. When you are married ....He develops a "blank" stare.

When you are dating..... He calls you by name. When you are married ....He calls you "Hey" and refers to you when speaking to others as "She."

#### **Pirate Captain**

There once was pirate captain who, whenever it looked like a battle would be imminent would change into a red shirt. After observing this behavior for a few months, one of the crew members asked him what it meant. "It's in case I get shot. I don't want you crew members to see blood and panic." "That's very sensible, sir." At that moment, the crew member spotted eight man-of-war on the horizon. The captain all of a sudden looked very concerned. "Get my brown pants."

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