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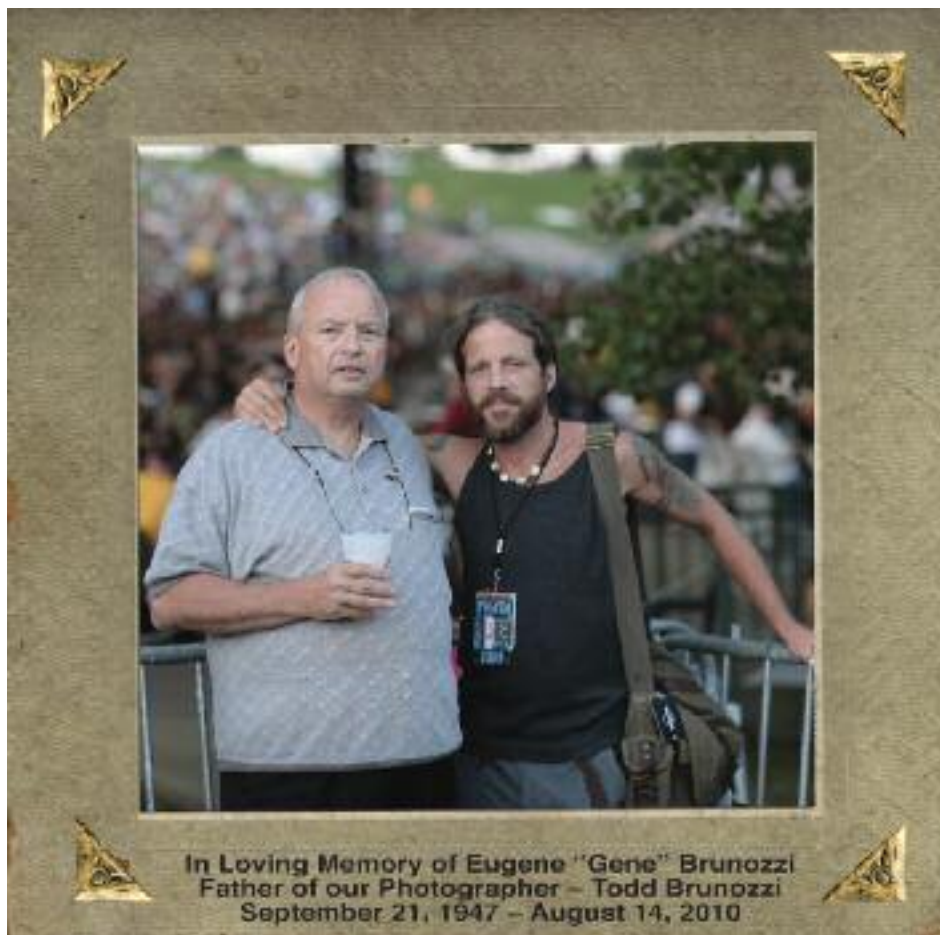
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Penns Colony

The 27th annual award winning Penn's Colony Festival is held in Saxonburg, Butler County, this annual festival brings together living history, heritage, cultural traditions and educational family fun for the entire family.

Experience a recreated colonial village in the midst of the celebration "Publick Tymes." See a full day of colonial entertainment of music, dance, living history, children's games. You can also learn how to play an instrument and take part in hands on craft making demonstrations.

Pass through the town's gates and you are transported to an early American village on market day. Scores of costumed participants provide period music, dance and comedy. Period foods and more modern fare are available to feed hearty appetites.. French trappers, frontier men and soldiers stroll the byways. Native Americans can occasionally be spotted under the boughs at the forest edge. Red-coated British soldiers march about town, tightly ranked, with rifles at the ready, while heated political discussions spring up on street corners, debating the

effect of the Stamp Act and the issuance of paper money.

In addition to celebrating the history of the region, Penn's Colony tradesmen, more than 150 juried craftsmen, offer fine quality, handmade in America, functional and decorative arts, crafts, jewelry, metal ware and furniture from their shops nestled along the village streets.

"This is also not just another craft show," according to Beth Rush, Penn's Colony co-founder. "You can see and feel the passion in the work of these artisans. Whether it's a memento from your day with us or a piece of hand-made fine furniture, any purchase you might make is a quality item. You can talk with the artisans who made it. Ask them why they do what do. They'll be glad to share their stories of how they made the decision to act on their passions to create and preserve the hand-made in America arts."

For more information a full schedule please visit: www.pennscolony.com





What Exactly Is A Bengal Cat

For all the talk you hear about the amazing beauty of the Bengal cat, you could be forgiven for assuming that a Bengal possesses normal domestic cat behavior, just with wonderful markings as well. However, ask a Bengal owner why they bought their second Bengal (as so often happens...) and you'll find out the real reason why a Bengal cat is such a wonderful addition to many homes: It is that many Bengal cats are delightful characters who light up your life with entertainment, interest and affection.

The general personality - At the simplest level, most Bengals, have a lot of personality! In a manner similar to the oriental cat breeds, they are intelligent, lively, interactive cats, with whom you have a very genuine two-way relationship. They are typically neither an 'aloof' cat who ignores you haughtily, nor a dull quiet cat. They are very much a dynamic and active part of the family group. Bengals however are not the same as Orientals, nor any other breed, but have various key characteristics which make very special and different.

The amazing athlete! - For 40% of the time at least, Bengals are astounding athletes. They can rush around with great glee, climb doors and cupboards, and leap to huge heights. My Bengal will land on my shoulder in a single leap from a couple of feet away, in order to assist me in any interesting activity such as answering the door, or looking in a cupboard. They will bounce about, roll around, switch lights on and off (!) and even do full somersaults whilst in high spirits. Kittens in particular can be all over the place, in a veritable stampede.

The big softy - But fear not - there is some peace to be had! Perhaps fortunately, the flip side of Bengal behavior is that for much of the time, Bengals go to the other extreme, and become total softies. They flop over and roll on their backs in ecstasy, come up to you and nuzzle your face, purring wildly, then finally curl up into happy little balls and fall fast asleep. They genuinely crave affection and will spend many happy hours resting piled up on top of you purring. They will wake you in the night, rubbing their head against you and paddling happily on the covers with their paws, then sleep silently with you till morning. They have ridiculous stretchy moods when they roll and writhe around on their backs in a most uninhibited manner. This makes a lovely complement to the Bengal's energetic moments.

The Bengal's voice - So what does a Bengal sound like? Well in truth, they can sound like all sorts of things. Perhaps the most obvious noise they make is a melodic but very insistent "YOWWWLLLL!!!" when they want to draw your attention to something. Shades of YOWWWLLLL will mean "open that door!", "Hello again", "FOOD!", "turn the tap on please", and particularly loudly "LET ME OUT OF THIS CAGE!!!!". This noise

varies in volume from loud to unbelievable, but is easily stopped by either giving them what they want, or making them realize it won't do them any good.

At the other end of the spectrum, Bengal purrs are laced with all manner of trills and chirrups. And they have much wider vocabulary including "I've just seen something to chase" chatters, and even a lovely frustrated short "nya!" grumble when they can't reach something they are jumping for. Bengals aren't especially noisy cats. They don't constantly commentate on your life like some Siamese, but they do have a varied range of outspoken calls which they use when they feel the need.

Food glorious food! - Oh yes Bengals like their food. They have to be first to get to it! The main trouble with feeding Bengals can be that they tend to climb inside the food bag before you can pour it out, and treats such as chicken pieces are carried off and guarded proudly with a low growl!

Are Bengals 'fierce'? - Some people have assumed that 'wild animals are fierce', so any pet with wild blood must be more likely to be 'fierce'. It is true that one of the differences between a domesticated animal and a wild one is its ability to interact happily with humans, though more often than not small wild cats are more likely to be scared of humans than to attack them. However, a Bengal is not a wild animal. It is most definitely a domestic animal which has been selectively bred over several generations for character as well as appearance, and Bengals today should be no more aggressive (or defensive) than any other cat. There are reports of some difficulties with temperament very early in the Bengal's development but for many years breeders have been working very hard on Bengal character, and these reports are no longer heard. You should, of course, always get to meet kittens and their parents to evaluate their character before making a purchase, as you would any other cat.

Bengals can be quite easily trained not to do things you don't like, simply by hissing at them to say 'stop'. This seems a lot more effective than shouting "NO!" etc. since it is 'cat language' for 'stop' and shows them who is boss. Any hissing must, of course, be balanced by lots of affection, so they know you still love them! In summary, Bengals have very engaging, energetic, loving characters and this is one of the main reasons they are wonderful pets. Their character would not make them ideal pets for someone who wants a quiet, low key companion, but makes them amazing pets for people who want a more 'dog-like' member of the family, along the same lines as oriental cats, but with many special features that make them unique and rewarding pets.



Oak Crest Pet Crematory...

A Very Special Place

Nestled on Cemetery Lane in the North Hills is a very special place called Oak Crest Pet Crematory. I happened upon this place just recently when I was asked by a dear friend to pick up the remains of her beloved cat of 14 years. I have lived in the North Hills for over 20 years and have driven by thousands of times and never once did I notice its presence.

I was so impressed that I felt compelled to share my story and what I learned with you, dear readers. Pets have always been and will continue to be an important part of my life. They are truly members of our family, sharing unconditional love and devotion in their own very special unique way. The loss of a loved family pet is always an emotional and difficult experience. I know, because I have experienced it first hand. The loss of a pet can be devastating. But, having a place where they truly understand and respect your pet can make all the difference in the world. Oak Crest is definitely that special place.

From the moment I arrived, I felt the warmth, care and respect that this family has for not only pets but, for us, the owners. I was only a friend and they treated me like I would have wanted to be treated had I just lost my pet. I thought back to a very sad day when we lost one of our pets and I remember wishing I could have done more to give our pet a special memorial and here it was all along, had I only known... how comforting that would have been! I now own two sheepdogs and often I have worried about what to do if something happens to them. It's extremely comforting and wonderful to know that I can call Oak Crest and they will be there for me in my time of need, taking care of my pets in a truly fitting and respectful manner. I believe the act of memorializing will help cope with the grief plus it offers a permanent tribute to help with the healing process.

Oak Crest provides private cremation and they handle each pet individually with respect and care. Philip Donatelli, the youngest son is the director of Oak Crest, one of several mainstays of their growing family businesses. All family owned and operated by his father and founder, Fred Donatelli. brothersFred (Corky) and Phillip. They also own Fred Donatelli Memorials and Pittsburgh Cremation Services.

Oak Crest offers professional and efficient services. They understand the importance of you knowing where your pet is, who they are with, how they are being cared for, your desire to have them home with you in a timely manner, and how their services are a positive part of the healing process for you and your family. They can even provide transportation from your residence or veterinarian's office. If you choose to bring your pet to them, they have a very comfortable waiting room on site, a lovely place to wait so that you can take your pet back home with you the same day. They offer a beautiful selection of urns and

markers, from bronze, marble, wood, granite in all shapes, patterns, colors and sizes. Oak Crest can personalize or engrave your urn or marker. If you choose burial, they also stock a full line of burial supplies for your pet.

When experiencing the loss of a pet make sure to ask the right questions concerning the after-death care of your pet. You wouldn't think of leaving a deceased member of your family at the doctor's office or hospital. Why would you leave your pet?

Here are seven very important questions you need to ask.

How, specifically, will you dispose of my pet? (Did you know that most pets end up in a land fill?)

Who will handle the disposal of my pet? (Will that person be kind and caring and show respect to my pet?)

If I choose cremation, will my pet be cremated with other animals? (I know I wouldn't want my pet cremated with other people's pets)

Can you guarantee that my pet will be cremated and provide me with a written guarantee? (If you don't know where your pet is going, how can you be assured it will be cremated and not end up in a land fill?)

How can I be sure I am getting my pet and only my pet's cremation? (I know I want to be assured that I am getting my pet and not the remains of someone else's pet)

May I inspect the facility where the cremation will be performed? (At Oak Crest their crematory is right on site, you can stay and wait for your pet so that they can go home with you the same day)

Can my pet be returned to me within 48 hours?

If the answers to any of these questions are not satisfactory, your pet is not getting the care and respect they deserve.... Call Oak Crest Pet Crematory, you can trust that your pet will be treated with the dignity and respect they deserve and you desire for them.

It's so comforting knowing that when the time comes for my pets, Oak Crest will be there for me and I will definitely be utilizing Oak Crest Pet Crematory. They accept Mastercard and Visa, plus they will discuss and keep you fully informed of their fees prior to providing any service.

Where Is It?

Oak Crest Pet Crematory is located at 143 Cemetery Lane, North Hills, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 – off Exit 5 of Rt 279 - Check them out on the web at www.OakCrestPetCrematory.com or for more information call them at 412-939-3255



15 Delicious Wine Pairing Suggestions

Wine rules are more like the pirate's code: more of a set of guidelines. There's considerable room for experimentation and expression of your own personality in pairing food and wine. The rules for wine pairing have relaxed a bit, but the fact remains that certain flavors of food and wine mix better together than others. Remember, rules are meant to be broken and the best pairings are the ones that bring you joy.

Syrah: Matches with highly spiced dishes

When a meat is heavily seasoned—like Asian-Spiced Pork Shoulder and Cumin-Spiced Burgers—look for a red wine with lots of spicy notes. Syrah from Washington, Cabernet Franc from France and Xinomavro from Greece are all nice choices.

Grüner Veltliner: Pairs with dishes that have lots of fresh herbs

Austrian Grüner Veltliner's citrus-and-clover scent is lovely when there are lots of fresh herbs in a dish. Other go-to grapes in a similar style include Albariño from Spain and Vermentino from Italy.

Pinot Noir: Is great for dishes with earthy flavors

Recipes made with ingredients like mushrooms and truffles taste great with reds like Pinot Noir and Dolcetto, which are light-bodied but full of savory depth.

Dry Rosé: For rich, cheesy dishes

Some cheeses go better with white wine, some with red; yet almost all pair well with dry rosé, which has the acidity of white wine and the fruit character of red. This makes it the go-to wine when serving a wide range of hors d'oeuvres, from crudités to gougères.

Sauvignon Blanc: Goes with tart dressings and sauces

Tangy foods—like Scallops with Grapefruit-Onion Salad or Sour-Orange Yucatán Chicken—won't overwhelm zippy wines like Sauvignon Blanc, Vinho Verde from Portugal and Verdejo from Spain. The bright, citrusy acidity acts like a zap of lemon or lime juice to heighten flavors in everything from smoked sablefish to grilled salmon.

Zinfandel: For pâtés, mousses and terrines

If you can use the same adjectives to describe a wine and a dish, the pairing will often work. For instance, the words rustic and rich describe Zinfandel, Italy's Nero d'Avola and Spain's Monastrell as well as Creamy Chicken-Liver Mousse.

Pinot Grigio: Pairs with light fish dishes

Light seafood dishes, like Seafood Tostada Bites, seem to take on more flavor when matched with equally delicate white wines, such as Pinot Grigio or Arneis from Italy or Chablis from France.

Malbec: Won't be overshadowed by sweet-spicy barbecue sauces

Malbec, Shiraz and Côtes-du-Rhône are big and bold enough to drink with foods brushed with heavily spiced barbecue sauces like Chicken Drumsticks with Asian Barbecue Sauce

Chardonnay: For fatty fish or fish in a rich sauce

Silky whites—for instance, Chardonnays from California, Chile or Australia—are delicious with fish like salmon or any kind of seafood in a lush sauce. Try Sizzling Shrimp Scampi or Crisp Salmon with Avocado Salad.

Cabernet Sauvignon: Is fabulous with juicy red meat

California Cabernet, Bordeaux and Bordeaux-style blends are terrific with steaks or chops. The firm tannins, the astringent compounds in these red wines that help give the wine structure, refresh the palate after each bite of meat.

Champagne: Is perfect with anything salty

Most dry sparkling wines, such as brut Champagne and Spanish cava, actually have a faint touch of sweetness. That makes them extra-refreshing when served with salty foods.

Rosé Champagne: Is great with dinner, not just hors d'oeuvres

Rosé sparkling wines, such as rosé Champagne, cava and sparkling wine from California, have the depth of flavor and richness to go with a wide range of main courses.

Off-Dry Riesling: Pairs with sweet & spicy dishes

The slight sweetness of many Rieslings, Gewürztraminers and Vouvrays helps tame the heat of spicy Asian and Indian dishes. In addition, when confronted with dishes like a fiery curried chicken or Thai stir-fry, wines that are low in alcohol keep the oils that make food hot from being overly accentuated.

Old World Wines: Are intrinsically good with Old World dishes

The flavors of foods and wines that have grown up together over the centuries—Tuscan recipes and Tuscan wines, for instance—are almost always a natural fit.

Moscato d'Asti: Loves fruit desserts

Moderately sweet sparkling wines such as Moscato d'Asti, demi-sec Champagne and Asti Spumante help emphasize the fruit in the dessert, rather than the sugar.

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Three Great Cultural Trust Events

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is proud to present Celtic Thunder, a group of six Irish and Scottish male vocalists backed by a superb orchestra. Celtic Thunder will perform powerful ballads, popular hits and heartwarming songs of love and loss at the Benedum Center on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. This performance is part of the 2010-2011 Trust Presents series, sponsored by Cohen & Grigsby.

Celtic Thunder vocalists Irishmen Neil Byrne, most recent singer to join the group, Paul Byrom, Keith Harkin, Ryan Kelly and Damian McGinty, and Scotsman George Donaldson are known for their diverse musical styles and unique interpretations of classic songs such as "Standing on the Corner," "Still Haven't (Found What I'm Looking For)," "The Proclaimers," "My Life Without You" and "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen.

The group's repertoire spans the Celtic spectrum of both Irish and Scottish, traditional and contemporary music. Prior to Byrne joining Celtic Thunder, The New York Times described the group as "a Fab Five peddling Celtic stylings...steadfast George, sensitive Keith, bruising Paul, caddish Ryan and angelic Damian." In 2009, Celtic Thunder achieved BILLBOARD's Top World Music Artist and Top World Imprint.

Born into a musical family, Neil Byrne began learning the guitar and piano at age seven and by age 11, he was playing in his own band. Over the years, Neil's performing and recording career have allowed him to perform throughout Ireland and with one of Ireland's most renowned jazz bass players, Frank Hess. While performing at a musical function in Ireland for Celtic Thunder producer Phil Coulter, Neil was subsequently invited to record backing vocals for the group's debut DVD, and subsequently play lead guitar player for the live show. Since then he has toured America and Canada extensively with Celtic Thunder and most recently has joined the group as 6th leading vocalist.

Dublin-born Paul Byrom began voice study at the early age of seven with opera performance and vocal instructor Dr. Veronica Dunne. By his teens, Paul was a professional singer and had recorded his first album. Paul has performed at the National

Concert Hall in Dublin and has sung for Irish President Mary McAleese and Emperor Akihito of Japan. Paul recently produced a solo Christmas album.

George Donaldson is a self-taught and accomplished musician. George plays guitar, flute, mandolin, bodhran, and banjo. George's love of Celtic music stems from his childhood in Glasgow, where his main influence was his late father Bernard, who had a love and appreciation of all kinds of live music played from the heart. He has recorded folk sessions for BBC Scotland and made appearances at Glasgow's own Celtic Connections and the Glasgow West End Festival.

Keith Harkin was born in County Derry, Ireland. From the age of four, Keith has been wowing audiences with his beautiful voice and musical virtuosity. Keith is an accomplished songwriter and guitarist and has played at the Tavistock Festival, UK as well as performed as the opening act for John Martyn, The Undertons and David Kitt.

Ryan Kelly comes from The Moy in County Tyrone, Ireland. In addition to his musical and acting career, Ryan holds a degree in Accounting from Queen's University, Belfast and a Graduate Diploma in Advanced Accounting. Ryan has been singing since the age of seven in various choirs and enjoys singing Irish Traditional and Folk Music. Ryan has performed with Westlife, Girls Aloud and Simply Red during the Children in Need Live Charity Concert. Other career highlights include winner of the SCOR competition (2007) and second place in the nationwide BBC television music competition (2003).

Damian McGinty is currently the youngest member of the group, at 16 years old. He began singing at a young age in County Derry, Ireland and won his first music competition at the age of six. He has been involved with charity fundraising for his school and has produced a charity CD that raised over \$2,000. In 2006, Damian won a singing competition to record his own track which led him to an invitation to audition with Celtic Thunder producers and an invitation to join the group as a soloist.

Tickets (\$32.25 - \$72.25) for the Wednesday, September 29, 7:30 p.m. performance of Celtic Thunder at the Benedum Center



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may be purchased at the Box Office at Theater Square, 655 Penn Avenue, online at www.pgharts.org, or by calling (412) 456-6666. To purchase 10 or more tickets at special discounted rates, please call (412) 471-6930.

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a non-profit organization whose mission is the cultural and economic development of Pittsburgh's 14-block Cultural District through public and private support. The Trust presents and encourages diverse performing and visual arts programs within the District, and is an impetus for additional development in downtown Pittsburgh. In addition to the Trust Presents series, The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust presents the PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh series, Pittsburgh Dance Council, Pittsburgh International Children's Theater and Children's Festival, CD Live, JazzLive, First Night Pittsburgh, Gallery Crawl, and Three Rivers Arts Festival, among other Cultural District and arts events. The Trust owns Theater Square and the Cabaret at Theater Square; James E. Rohr Building & Arts Education Center; the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts; Byham, O'Reilly, and Harris Theaters; visual arts galleries: Wood Street Galleries, at 601 Wood Street; SPACE, at 812 Liberty Avenue and 937 Liberty; a multipurpose performance and exhibit space, among other downtown arts facilities.

Great Big Sea September 23, 2010, at 8:00 p.m. Byham Theater, 101 Sixth Street

Great Big Sea returns to Pittsburgh's Byham Theater for one performance only on September 23, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. This performance is part of the Trust Presents series sponsored by Cohen & Grigsby. Newfoundland band Great Big Sea fuses the energy and spirit of its Celtic roots with straight on rock and roll. Renowned for its rousing, synergistic live shows, Great Big Sea has been playing together for 17 years. "Great Big Sea are a high spirited and richly expressive acoustic quartet who reinvent traditional Newfoundland music, lending it a powerful and resonant contemporary charge" (Time Out, UK).

Their current tour is in support of the band's tenth release (July 2010) *Safe Upon the Shore*— a compilation of ideas and recording sessions that took place over six months on tour, in Newfoundland and New Orleans and co-written with various artists. "At this stage, we sometimes all kind of know each others ideas too well," explains GBS multi-instrumentalist and singer Bob Hallett. "It's too easy to do the obvious. Writing with a big group of people pushed everything into different directions." The album debuted at #2 on the Canadian top 100 Billboard charts and #4 on the US Billboard Heatseekers chart (#159 overall). This career highlight was the biggest GBS debut since *Sea of No Cares* debuted at #1 in 2002. *Safe Upon the Shore* describes the band's inspirations, as well as concerns



about balancing family and life. "Nothing But A Song" speaks of backstage tensions; "Dear Home Town" is about the things that get left behind, and "Follow Me Back" is a love note to those who have supported them over the years. "Road to Ruin", "Wandering Ways" and "Long Life" describe experiences on the road. "Their music is unique, their instrumentation is flawless, and their voices are all tremendous" (Richmond Times-Dispatch)."

Great Big Sea is Alan Doyle (vocals, acoustic and electric guitars, bouzouki), Bob Hallett (vocals, button accordion, banjo, bouzouki, fiddle, harmonica, whistles), Sean McCann (vocals, acoustic guitar, banjo, bodran, shakers, tin whistle), Murray Foster (bass, vocals) and Kris MacFarlane (drums, guitar, percussion, piano accordion, vocals). Born and raised in the "far east of the western world," the lads have traversed the globe, all the while wearing their hometown on their sleeves. "Our music is of Newfoundland," explains McCann. "It would be impossible to do what we do if we were from anywhere else. Our songs come from the sea and the cliffs and the rocks and all the other natural beauties our country provides. Without her we simply couldn't exist."

Many of their albums – including *Up*, *Sea of No Cares*, *Turn*, *Play*, *Something Beautiful* and *The Hard and the Easy* – are certified gold or platinum in Canada and have cumulatively sold over one million copies there. *The Hard and the Easy* was nominated for a 2006 Juno award (Canada's equivalent to a Grammy), following multiple past Juno nominations for the band.

Renowned for their live show, Great Big Sea make an explosively joyful noise that is bright and melodic, passionate and heartfelt" (Washington Post).

Tickets (\$32.75 and \$37.75) may be purchased at the Box Office at Theater Square (655 Penn Avenue), online at www.pgharts.org, or by calling (412) 456-6666. To purchase 10 or more tickets at special discounted rates, please call (412) 471-6930.

Draft House

1811 E. Carson Street • South Side





WORLD OF JEWTOPIA

**Saturday, September 25, at 8:30 p.m. &
Sunday, September 26, at 2:00 p.m.
Byham Theater, 101 Sixth Street**

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is proud to present WORLD OF JEWTOPIA, an off-Broadway comedy that has left audiences laughing in stitches from coast to coast, on Saturday, September 25, at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 26, at 2:00 p.m., at the Byham Theater. The New York Times praises, “Unstoppable! One of the most successful productions of the last decade!” The Los Angeles Times calls it “Outrageously Funny!” and “A raucous, merciless skewering of contemporary Jewish foibles, neuroses and stereotypes!” This performance of World of Jewtopia is part of the 2010-2011 Trust Presents series, sponsored by Cohen & Grigsby.

Bryan Fogel, creator and star of New York’s longest running Off-Broadway comedy, JEWTOPIA, presents his comedic extravaganza WORLD OF JEWTOPIA. The 90-minute one act show includes highlights scenes from the smash stage production, stand-up comedy, excerpts from the bestselling book, JEWTOPIA: The Chosen Book for the Chosen People and a dazzling multimedia presentation. WORLD OF JEWTOPIA stars Bryan Fogel, the show’s creator, and Jeremy Rische. “Entertaining! Wild!

Raucous! Certain to hit home with all observers, whatever their religion! (Variety).”

WORLD OF JEWTOPIA is about a man named Chris O’Connell, a self-loathing gentile, who says he wants to marry a Jewish girl so he will never have to make another decision for the rest of his life. His childhood friend, Adam Lipschitz, offers to guide him through the process and hilarity ensues. Among the many topics covered will be: how to pick the perfect restaurant table (because no table is right if you’re a Jew), how to properly disinfect your hotel room to avoid catching the plague when on vacation, and excerpts from Moses’ recently undiscovered diaries (Dear Diary: Um it’s been like 5 years and I got to be honest, I AM LOST!). “Such a premise!...This show has edgy, late night attitude. Jewtopia is a show that appeals to all ages – what’s not to like? (New York Newsday).”

Tickets (\$28.25 - \$43.25) for the Saturday, September 25, 8:30 p.m. & Sunday, September 26, 2:00 p.m. performances of WORLD OF JEWTOPIA at the Byham Theater may be purchased at the Box Office at Theater Square, 655 Penn Avenue, online at www.pgharts.org, or by calling (412) 456-6666. To purchase 10 or more tickets at special discounted rates, please call (412) 471-6930.

Health and Wellness

Neuroscience researcher tells women: Get your men proactive at the first hint of memory problems! By Mark Underwood

Mental exercise, proper diet, and supplements can help maintain brain fitness and quality of life

Men as a group seem to have a reputation for not being quick to seek out medical opinions or treatment for their illnesses, injuries, aches and pains.

That reluctance to seek assistance is especially true in the area of declining "brain fitness," where, typically years before their female counterparts, men begin to experience a declining ability to recall specific events, have difficulty focusing on tasks, or find themselves struggling to find the right words to use in everyday conversations.

"According to research, men have a much greater chance than women of suffering from mild cognitive impairment in old age," says neuroscience researcher Mark Underwood. "Women should be alert to the early warning signs of cognitive decline and be ready to take some proactive steps to help the guys maintain both brain fitness and good quality of life."

Here are some proactive suggestions Underwood says can be effective in maintaining brain fitness and reversing some of the symptoms of age-related cognitive impairment:

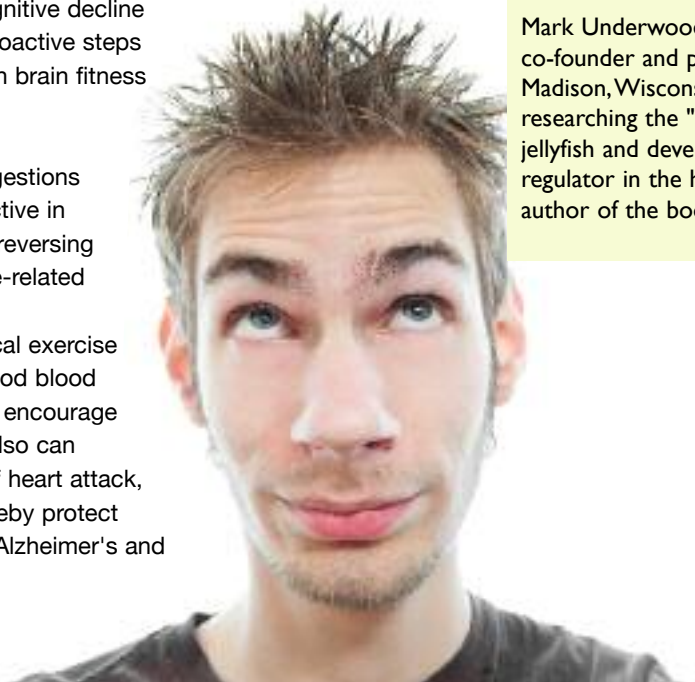
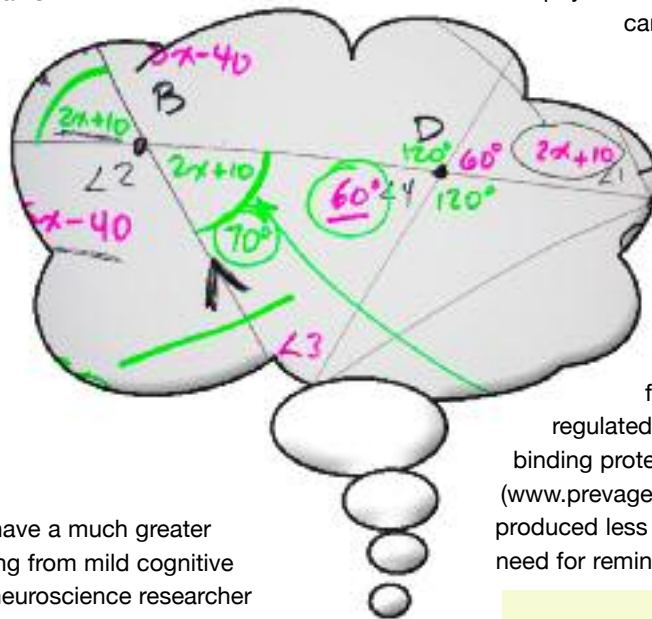
Stay physically active: Physical exercise is essential for maintaining good blood flow to the brain as well as to encourage growth of new brain cells. It also can significantly reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke and diabetes, and thereby protect against those risk factors for Alzheimer's and other dementias.

Adopt a brain-healthy diet: Research suggests that high cholesterol may contribute to stroke and brain cell damage. A low fat, low cholesterol diet is advisable. There is growing evidence that a diet rich in dark vegetables and fruits, which contain antioxidants, may help protect brain cells.

Remain socially active: Social activity not only makes physical and mental activity more enjoyable, it can reduce stress levels, which helps maintain healthy connections among brain cells.

Stay mentally active: Mentally stimulating activities strengthen brain cells and the connections between them, and may even create new nerve cells.

Lower brain calcium with a dietary supplement: Too much calcium in a neuron can impair its function. Studies on adults who regulated their brain's calcium with a "calcium-binding protein" called PrevaGen (www.prevaGen.com) showed the supplement produced less forgetfulness, better word recall, less need for reminders, and improved overall memory.



More about the Author:

Mark Underwood is a neuroscience researcher and co-founder and president of Quincy Bioscience in Madison, Wisconsin. Mark is responsible for researching the "calcium binding protein" found in jellyfish and developing it for use as a calcium regulator in the human nervous system. He is the author of the book "Gift from the Sea."



THE VILLAGE TAVERN & TRATTORIA

REVIEW BY SUZ PISANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN CHERRY

It seems like forever that the West End has been going through renovation. Finally we have a straight shot through the former circle and into the development of the West End Village. What a perfect spot for a new restaurant, The Village Tavern & Trattoria. Everyone that I mention this restaurant to has heard of it! There's definitely a buzz... Now let me tell you why.

"The Village Tavern & Trattoria is a relaxed dining atmosphere. You'll feel it immediately with the open air style dining created by giant roll up glass doors."

We were greeted by the friendly server, Ariana, who suggested a glass of wine and some fantastic tapenade - Kalamata Olive Spread (\$3.99) served with toasted baguettes. I often make this "Italian Caviar" at home, I'm a pretty tough critic on things I make and love but compared to mine this tapenade was even more

delicious. It was great paired with a glass of wine! The Village Tavern & Trattoria offers wine by the glass and the opportunity to BYOB for a corking fee. They look forward to presenting a wine list, which is always being refined. The Trattoria opened shortly after the Tavern and has been an instant success.

Among some of the items we sampled, Stuffed Banana Peppers (\$4.99), Insalata Spinachi (1/2 for \$8.99 & full for \$10.99) served with warm bacon dressing and the portions are large enough to share! This was the best spinach salad- artfully presented with goat cheese and pine nuts atop fresh spinach. The Trattoria twist would be the flash fried prosciutto and sun dried tomatoes- something

different added to an old favorite. The Stuffed Banana Peppers made my mouth water and reminded me what good Italian food was supposed to be all about! Other offerings to get your meal started include- Roasted Fresh Garlic (\$3.50), Zucchini (\$5.99), Beans & Greens (\$6.99) served with or without sausage and Calamari Fritti

(\$8.99). All of the menu choices are appealing so its hard to decide on just one – take a group so that you can try a bunch. So many of the choices are just like things I make in my own kitchen, I love to try other versions and can't wait to go back to do just that.

Village Tavern & Trattoria also serves Pizza & offers a daily pizza feature... and who doesn't love pizza? I believe the pizza and pasta dishes are what's garnering the buzz. We tried Spaghettini Bolognese (1/2 \$12.50, full \$18.50), Fettuccini Prosciutto (1/2 \$11.50 & full \$17.50) and Rigatoni Tomato Cream (1/2 10.50 & full \$16.50). Each one was delectably delicious, let me elaborate..... Spaghettini Bolognese is a rich meat sauce with sliced mushrooms, fresh basil and Parmigiano. This is a classic and sure to be a favorite if you're looking for a meat sauce. I was hoping for some of this leftover but it was so good we ate every bite! The last pasta we tried was definitely a must have again, the Fettuccini Prosciutto!

Served with Prosciutto, mushrooms, Roma tomato cream & Cognac was equally as delicious and beautifully presented.

The Village Tavern & Trattoria is a relaxed dining atmosphere. You'll feel it immediately with the open air style dining created by giant roll up glass doors. When we visited, there was a family birthday party, I was so touched when they began singing Happy Birthday in Italian!

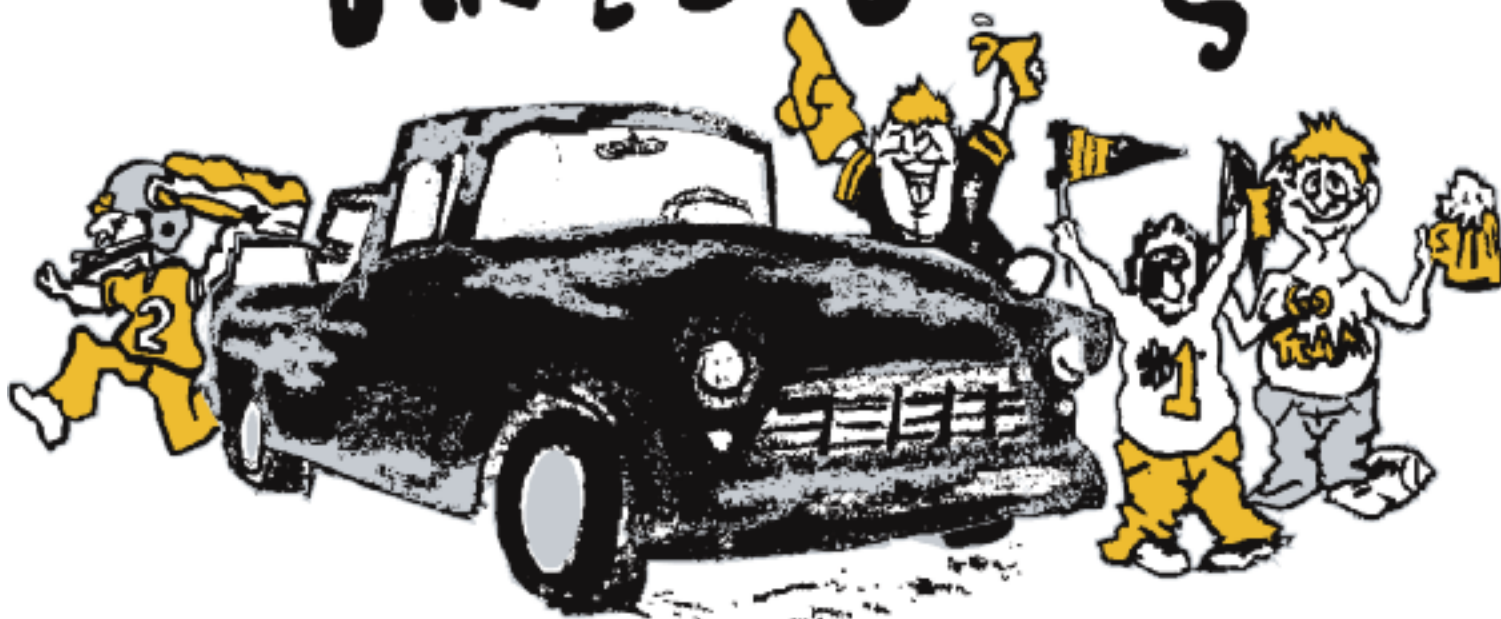
Village Tavern & Trattoria has banquet facilities and even an outdoor patio available for private events. They look forward to steady growth and the addition of nightly Steak & Seafood offerings. Soon you can experience a full dinner menu which will include Lasagna & Chicken Parmigiana. So many fantasitc things in one place with the expectation of even better things to come, I can't wait to be a regular! Check them out online- www.villagetavernandtrattoria.com

The owners, Rob and Ray, look forward to welcoming you! Be sure to tell them Nightwire sent you!!!

Village Tavern & Trattoria is located at 424 South Main Street in the West End Village. 412.458.0417 Parking is plentiful. Plan you visit now!



tailgaters



Nightwire is very excited about the opening of the new Consol Energy Center and with everyone's focus on the new arena, we wanted to make sure you were aware of the newest and hottest bar/restaurant just up the street. It's Tailgaters located on the ground floor of Washington Plaza, that giant white building with the big red "W" on it right above the new Consol Energy Center.

If you are looking for a great place to eat and drink before or after an event at the Consol Energy Center, look no further...you definitely have to give Tailgaters a try! Tailgaters has delicious homemade extremely reasonably priced food and drinks. Their staff is extremely friendly, they will make you feel at home and accommodate your particular taste. Their food is truly outstanding. Love, love the Nacho's Grande (\$7.95) and the best wings in the city (6 for \$5.95) (12 for \$9.95) (18 for \$13.95). They offer starters (\$3.95 to \$6.95), salads (\$4.95 to \$10.95), wraps (\$6.95), sandwiches & burgers (\$6.95 to \$7.95) and amazingly delicious grilled homemade pizzas (\$7.99 to \$9.99)!

Their outdoor undercover patio is a great place to relax and grab a bite either before or after an event. Tailgaters has daily specials and during special events at the Energy Center they will have beer girls outside to serve you beers at amazing prices. So, why pay more.. we say get more.... for less at Tailgaters!!

On tap they have always have Miller Lite Yuengling and Blue Moon and for September their feature beers on tap are Smuttynose, Sam Adams Octoberfest and Big Hop.

Plus Tailgaters just recently added a new craft brew cooler where they now stock over 40 craft and micro brew beers. They definitely have something for everyone and again, I can't stress enough that their prices are designed to fit within your

budget. We are so excited that there is finally a great bar/restaurant with affordable prices near our new arena. We have personally longed for someplace near the arena that we could grab a quick bite to eat and drink before going to an event and not spend a ton of money.

What a great name for this new place....Tailgaters - you'll want to make it your tailgating place or even your tailgating "happy hour" place or your any day place.. Tailgaters definitely the place to be!! Great prices, great food, great beers, great place to go for all your sporty events!!

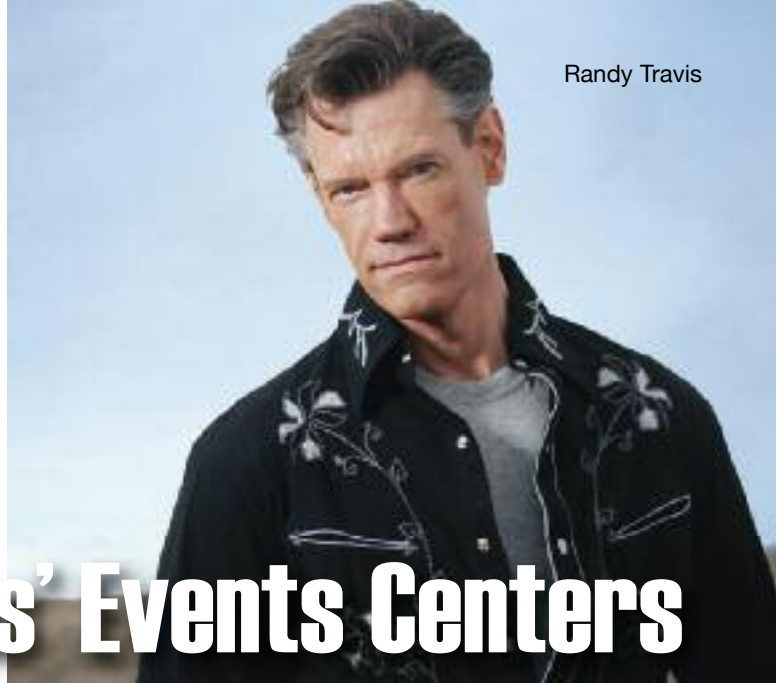
This month's specials are 20 oz Labatt Blue \$3.00 during all Pens games, Steeler games all day, 16 oz Miller Lite \$2.00 & Miller Lite Pitchers and Wings \$10.99. Monday thru Fridays 9pm - 11pm: Mon - \$2.00 Domestic bottles: Tues - ½ price appetizers: Wed - Mexican Night - \$3.00 Margaritas, Buckets of Corona \$10.00: Thurs - \$2.00 Domestic drafts: Fri - \$3.00 Strong Islands: Saturday - College Football - 16 oz Yuengling - \$2.00 and Yuengling & Wings \$10.99. Sunday NFL Ticket - watch all your games here!

Win Lady Gaga Tickets.. Drink Miller Lite at Tailgaters and get a chance to win a pair of Lady Gaga Tickets to this sold out show! Stop in now and until the day of the concert! Winner will be drawn on Sunday, September 5 the day of the concert!

Where Can I Get It?

Open daily Monday through Sunday 11:30am to 2am for lunch and dinner, kitchen open until 11pm weekdays and midnight on weekends.

FREE Valet parking available at Washington Plaza while at Tailgaters!! Located at 1420 Centre Avenue - Washington Plaza - 412.745.8245



Randy Travis

The Seneca Casinos' Events Centers

The Seneca Niagara and Seneca Allegany Events Centers will be busy during the month of September with comedy and country music. Montgomery Gentry, Howie Mandel, Randy Travis, and Brad Garrett are slated for the Seneca Casinos' entertainment lineup next month. In addition, the Bear's Den Showroom will offer four eclectic acts in September. The Seneca Niagara Events Center in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and the Seneca Allegany Events Center in Salamanca, N.Y. each seat up to 2,400 patrons, while the Bear's Den Showroom at the Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel provides a more intimate venue with 475 seats.

The Seneca Niagara Events Center kicks off the month with country duo sensation Montgomery Gentry taking the stage on Saturday, September 4 at 8 p.m. Comedian Brad Garrett of *Everybody Loves Raymond* fame comes to the Events Center on Friday, September 24 at 8 p.m.

September 18 brings the smooth vocals and unforgettable compositions of Hollywood Walk of Fame country star Randy Travis, who performs at 7 p.m.

Four very different acts will fill the Bear's Den Showroom in September, starting with the electronic and percussion sounds of the Rhythm Devils – led by Bill Kreutzmann and Mickey Hart of The Grateful Dead – on Friday, September 10 at 8 p.m. The “rhythm” continues the following night with Southern rockers The Atlanta Rhythm Section performing on Friday, September 11 at 8 p.m.

Legendary crooner Bobby Rydell, teen idol heart-throb of the 1960s and current star of the musical *The Golden Boys*, performs on Saturday, September 18 at 8 p.m. Closing out

the month at the Bear's Den with a special start time of 7 p.m. on Sunday, September 26 is Hiroshima, a band that blends jazz, pop and rock with traditional Japanese folk music and instruments.

Seneca Gaming Corporation operates Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel in Niagara Falls, N.Y., Seneca Allegany Casino & Hotel in Salamanca, N.Y., Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino in Buffalo, N.Y. and Seneca Hickory Stick Golf Course in Lewiston, N.Y. on behalf of the Seneca Nation of Indians. Since opening Seneca Niagara Casino in 2002, Seneca Gaming Corporation has grown to become one of the largest private employers in Western New York. For more information, visit www.senecagamingcorporation.com.



What's Happening?

A listing of pertinent information for all September events is as follows:

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Tickets
Montgomery Gentry	Sept. 4	8 p.m.	SNC Events Center	Starting at \$45
Rhythm Devils	Sept. 10	8 p.m.	SNC Bear's Den	Starting at \$55
The Atlanta Rhythm Section	Sept. 11	8 p.m.	SNC Bear's Den	Starting at \$40
Randy Travis	Sept. 18	7 p.m.	SAC Events Center	Starting at \$45
Bobby Rydell	Sept. 18	8 p.m.	SNC Bear's Den	Starting at \$55
Brad Garrett	Sept. 24	8 p.m.	SNC Events Center	Starting at \$35
Hiroshima	Sept. 26	7 p.m.	SNC Bear's Den	Starting at \$35
Goo Goo Dolls	Oct. 30	7 p.m.	SNC Events Center	Starting at \$65

Tickets are available at all Seneca Casino box offices, Ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster locations, or by phone at 716-852-5000 (USA) or 416-870-8000 (Canada).



New Light Dark Star Orchestra

Photos and article by Trish Imbrogno

A New “Jerry” Takes the Lead. When you’re the lead singer for the Nation’s most renowned Grateful Dead “cover” band, what’s your next career move? You’ve already been touring nearly 200 nights each year for over ten years, traveling from coast to coast, and recreating – sometimes better than the original – Grateful Dead shows verbatim. What possibly could top that?

How about being asked to be a part of the band Further with original members of the Grateful Dead?

That’s exactly what happened to Dark Star Orchestra’s (DSO) original “Jerry,” John Kadlecik. When Bob Weir and Phil Lesh of the Grateful Dead took the road this past winter, they asked John to step in as their Jerry Garcia, a role John has been familiar with for years. While DSO was sad to see him go, there was no way that they could ask him to turn down an offer of that magnitude.

With a busy tour schedule already secured, DSO was left having to find another person who could embody Jerry as well as John had done for more than 10 years. They had a few guests join them, but when they shared the stage with Jeff Mattson at lead, their new Jerry was born.

John has always reminded me of a young Jerry Garcia, and I wasn’t quite sure what to think coming into the first show with Jeff in the role. After the Scarlet Begonias & Fire on the Mountain opener at All Good Music Festival in July, I knew a new era had begun for DSO.

Jeff Mattson isn’t new to the music of the Grateful Dead. A founding member of the jam band Zen Tricksters, Jeff is also the guitarist in the Donna Jean Godchaux Band with Jeff Mattson, which features the Grateful Dead’s Donna Jean Godchaux. Jeff has also performed with Grateful Dead bassist Phil Lesh in his ensemble Phil Lesh and Friends.

Jeff, a veteran of 30 years on the road, is a guitar player whose playing ranges from rock & roll to blues, bluegrass,

country, jazz, and folk, with a healthy dose of psychedelia. He delivers heart-wrenching vocals as possesses an ever-present desire to explore new musical terrain with his fellow musicians. Jeff is also a strong original songwriter and his work is prominently featured on five albums, including several pieces co-written with band mate Donna Jean. He is a co-writer of “Leave Me Out of This,” a track on Phil Lesh and Friends Sony CD, “There and Back Again.”

Dark Star Orchestras shows are built off the extensive catalog of the Grateful Dead. On any given night the band will perform a show based on a set list from the Grateful Dead’s 30 years of extensive touring or use the catalog of original songs and often played covers to create a unique set list for the show. This allows music fans both young and old to share in the experience. Grateful Dead classics are performed in the same way that an orchestra interprets music of classical composers. The composer’s spirit is derived and channeled as the players

capture the excitement and innovation of the original performances and compositions. Touring nationwide to the tune of over 1800 shows since forming, the band’s determined commitment to “raising the Dead” has drawn national media attention.

“For us it’s a chance to recreate some of the magic that was created for us over the years,” DSO guitarist and vocalist, Rob Eaton explains. “We offer a sort of a historical perspective at what it might have been like to go to a show in 1985, 1978 or whenever. Even for Deadheads who can say they’ve been to a hundred shows in the 90s we offer something they never got to see live.”

In November of 1998, on the eve of DSO’s first anniversary, Mike Gordon and Jon Fishman of Phish joined DSO at a club after their own show. Fishman sat in for the majority of the evening, which included a rollicking drum section with four percussionists. The ensuing buzz caused national interest in the band.

They have grown continually since their inception, playing at increasingly larger venues and theaters – often for consecutive night runs in a single city – and collaborating with guests including Grateful Dead alumni Bob Weir, Bill Kreutzmann, Donna Jean Godchaux-Mackay, Vince Welnick, and Tom Constanten.

It’s really about the sound that’s created. It’s about a sense of familiarity. It’s about a feeling that grabs listeners and takes over. It’s about a contagious energy: it’s about the experience.

The Grateful Dead’s music is brought to life in Pittsburgh as Dark Star Orchestra keeps Truckin’. DSO brings Jeff Mattson to town for the first time on Wednesday, September 22, at 8:00 PM at the Carnegie Music Hall of Homestead. For more information about DSO visit www.darkstarorchestra.com. Additionally, learn more about the show or purchase tickets online at www.greyareaprod.com.



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Rock United

by:Trish Imbrogino

Rock United, founded by 2001 by Johnny Saint Lethal, has grown into a show in the Pittsburgh underground that is known for its integrity, good times, and most importantly, the music. Now in its eighth year, Rock United showcases some of Pittsburgh newest bands, and performers from past Rock United events have gone on to captivate the city.

Rock United had its humble beginnings in Bridgeville's Pops Edwards (which eventually became the Rhythm House) and included a mere three bands. Following Rock United events grew to venues including Club Laga in Oakland and eventually The Rex on Pittsburgh's Southside; and Rock United 8 boasted an impressive twelve bands with an additional "stage" of spoken word and poetry between sets.

Rock United 8 kicked off at 2:00 in the afternoon and lasted long into the night. Including an array of genres from rock to punk to reggae, the 2010 event featured Bellikose, The Guest List, Common Wealth Family, Revelation Lost, Purple Zombie Lobsters, FunkZylla, Shake's House, Tobacco Road, The Show, The Neffs, Seraph's Falling, Less Like Flesh. Featured visual artist SIKES! shared works with an unusual dark theme highlighted by bright colors and a comic book feel, and Karen Vestal, featured poet for Rock United 8, not only enlightened concertgoers to her emotion but opened the stage for others to share their spoken word.

A "secret guest" musician graced The Rex's stage at this year's Rock United. With concertgoers only knowing that they were to see the guest between 7:00 and 10:30 PM, they waited with eager enthusiasm, like children at Christmas. Much to everyone's surprise, and possibly one of the greatest highlights of Rock United 8, it was Pittsburgh music veteran Phat Man Dee!

Phat Man Dee has a voice and a stage presence that rings clear as a bell. Her soulful delivery and heart ripping phrasing make the story of the song come through her body like a mountain rising to meet the sea. She is as comfortable floating in the air singing to the swells as she is through a megaphone in the Mermaid Parade or the Ides of March March. She has toured and appeared with The Madagascar Institute of Brooklyn, NY, Candye Kane, the Goddess Perlman's Nice

Jewish Girls Gone Bad, the Fat Bottomed Girls Burlesque Review, Chicken John's Circus Ridiculous, Wolgemut, Jazz Mandolin Project, the Bindlestiff Family Roadshow, The Bull Seal! Collective, SEEMEN, the Flaming Lotus Girls and Heavy Pedal Cyclecide.

When asked about Rock United, founder Johnny Saint Lethal replied, "Over the years, Rock United stood for anything from uniting with music after September 11, to 'Saving Our Scene'. The year we strive to find the most talented unknowns of Pittsburgh in the spirit of Hilly at CBGBs and put them together on one stage for one day!"

In addition to the music and art at Rock United, the event ties together and promotes many local Pittsburgh businesses that in turn support their efforts. This year Rock United supported Guitar Gallery, Dave's Music Mine and Eide's Entertainment, Jerry's Records, Head Board, Jester's Court, Dormont Fresh Food, Dewalt's Heath, Grotto Pizza, O'Leary's, Moonstones, St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store, Pittsburgh Antique Mall and Heidleburg Antique Mall, and they hope you'll do the same!

Rock United is a huge event, and couldn't have happened without a staff of hardworking individuals. Credit for the success of this day of music and art goes to Grey Area Productions, sound venue support, and venue staffing; Johnny Saint Lethal, founder, promoter, talent; Brandon Mitchell, co-founder, talent manager; Daniel Grass, venue and artist relations; Cullen, schedule, equipment manager.

Keep your eyes peeled for the announcement of Rock United 9 in 2011. Become their friend on Myspace to stay up-to-date with all news – www.myspace.com/rockunited

Where Is Rock United

Rock United 8 Invades the Rex
Become their friend on Myspace to stay up-to-date with all news –
www.myspace.com/rockunited



Kottonmouth Kings

by: Trish Imbrogino

It is the dawn of a new era in the Kottonmouth Kingdom and on April 20th, 2010, the Kottonmouth Kings unleashed their epic eleventh studio album “Long Live The Kings.” For the release of this epic recording, the Kottonmouth Kings have reinvented themselves yet again by adding the Dirtball, who joins the fold as a full-time member.

Powered by the machine gun attack of his motor-mouth, Dirtball injects the group with a new found firepower that takes the group’s sound into uncharted territories. Previously a solo artist who recorded for Suburban Noize Records, Dirtball’s ability to snap off raps with jaw dropping results has forced critics to think twice about the capabilities of white rappers. PopMatters Magazine proclaimed Dirtball’s “rapid-fire rhymes and an ear for catchy choruses distinguish the rapper’s style, which at times sounds something like a sharper-edged Big Boi.”

“This is most definitely a huge step for me in the rap path,” commented the Dirtball about his addition to the group. “I have been grinding for a long time in the national underground tunnels, and I would have never thought of this move. I am thoroughly honored to be joining such a strong force as the Kottonmouth Kings. I am looking forward to having a good time with this, as we pound our way further toward the top.”

“Adding Dirtball to the group was a natural fit for the group and where we wanted to take our sound in the future,” commented Brad X. “We’ve done so many tours together that he was already part of the family. We all felt like we needed to redefine the Kottonmouth Kings and Dirtball helped us take things to the next level. Dirtball is one of the most underrated emcees in the game, as he has unlimited range. He can write songs, play drums and rhyme with the most complicated of cadences of any artist. I really think the songs on the record speak for themselves and Dirtball played a large role in that evolution.”

The Kings spent 8 months in the studio producing over 45 songs to create the next chapter in the ongoing legacy of the Kottonmouth Kings. The end result is the next dimension in the group’s ongoing reign as kings of the underground. “Long Live The Kings” kicks into high gear propelled by the bounce of the album’s lead single “Stomp”, while “Rampage” runs some sonic destruction with the Kings’ trademark rip-hop sound. As always, the Kottonmouth Kings are on the frontlines in the fight for

legalization and have recorded two new stoner anthems in “Reefer Madness” and “Let’s Do Drugs”.

After over a decade of being proudly independent, Kottonmouth Kings brought in two veterans of the underground to usher in the new era. Kansas City’s Tech N9ne brings the ruckus on “Party Monster”, while Detroit’s psychotic duo, Insane Clown Posse, raise their middle fingers in “Fuck The Police”.

For “Long Live The Kings” the group has also written their 21 gun salute to our brothers and sisters in the Armed Forces with the track “American Made”. The track proudly acknowledges the hardships that our brothers and sisters in the military endure in defense of our country. All proceeds from the song will be donated to Ward 57, to benefit the soldiers who have been injured defending our country in battle.

Founded in 1995, the Kottonmouth Kings have survived and dominated the scene for over 15 years. The group continues to defy all odds as one of the music industry’s biggest underdogs, this band of California based hell raisers have built an empire out of their lifestyle movement that extends past the music and into clothing, television and extreme sports. The group’s label, Suburban Noize Records, has become one of the hottest independent label’s in the business with a series of powerful releases from La Coka Nostra, Unwritten Law, Big B, and rap-rock pioneers (Hed)pe.

With the addition of the Dirtball, the Kottonmouth Kings have begun writing the next chapter in the group’s unfolding story. “Long Live The Kings” is a true testament to how innovative and creative the Kottonmouth Kings sound has become. From mind bending hip-hop, thrashy punk-rock, and melodic acoustics the Kings music has no boundaries and continues to smash all stereotypes.

Catch the Kottonmouth Kings in Pittsburgh this month – Thursday, September 16, at Club Zoo in the Strip. They’ll be joined by special guests Blaze Ya Dead Homie and Big B. Tickets for this all-ages show are \$20 in advance and \$25 day of show. For more information or to order tickets visit www.druskyentertainment.com. Also, check out the Kottonmouth Kings at www.kottonmouthkings.com.

KISS

Photos by Todd Brunozzi





Back To School Humor BY NIGHTWIRE

Which Way Home?

Several years ago while teaching a challenging underachiever class in geography, I became very exasperated trying to get the students to develop some awareness of their immediate environment. I purposed that each student write a sketch of their school and then draw a map of their county. After drawing the map, they were to write a short paragraph giving directions from the school to their home. One student failed repeatedly, even after my many interventions, to figure out how to write the directions to his house. I finally asked the student, with a bit of disbelief, "How do you get home after school?" The student looked at me with the straightest of faces and with a slight twinkle in his eye, the result of finally knowing the proper answer, and said, "I ride a bus!" Enough said! Where was I to go from there?

Nice Pants

My school uses a character program called Great Expectations. One of my responsibilities was to greet each of my fourth grade students at the door each morning. Last fall, as I was getting ready for work I selected a pantsuit that had a "jungle" type print on the pants. As I greeted my class that morning, Chris greeted me with a big smile and said, "NICE pants Ms,Plum!" His tone was one of friendly sarcasm. When we got into the class I wanted to use this as a great example of sarcasm, so I asked Chris to repeat to the class exactly what he said and be sure to use the same tone of voice. He willingly complied. Of course, the class couldn't believe he had told me that! One of the girls was frantically waving her hand and saying, "Ms. Plum! Ms. Plum!" I called on her and she anxiously reassured me that, "Ms. Plum, I like your pajamas!" Her well-meant "compliment" caused me a moment of uncontrollable laughter as well as the rest of the class. After composing myself and the class, I told the class, "That's it! We are NOT going on the safari now! We will have to stay at school at work!" (Of course, as fourth graders, they said later, "Ms. Plum, were we really going on a safari today?") I switched to 6th grade midway through the year and when we had the word compliment as the word of the week, I used this story to illustrate the difference between sarcasm and genuine compliments. They laughed at the story and understood the intent!

Shelley
Bristow, OK

The Rest of the Story

During my first of teaching Hutterite children in southern Manitoba, Canada, I discussed the marriage of Samuel de Champlain. Now, it is important to know that Hutterites are a religious group who do not believe in radio or television. I explained that when Champlain was in 42 (I believe that was the age) he married his bride. Ten years later, when she was 22, she came to live in Canada for a while. When I asked the students studying this topic how old she was when they got married, one of the students said that the answer was 22. I asked this 12 year old girl to look closely at the wording of her notes. She went absolutely white when she realize that a 42 year old man married a 12 year old girl. The only other student taking this class was a 13 year old boy who promptly said in

his best Paul Harvey voice "....and now you know..... the rest of the story"

Open Wide...

On the morning announcements, a first grader announced, "Please get ready for a moment of silence and medication."

You Found it Where?

I teach 8th grade U.S. history. I constantly remind my students that accurate spelling is very important in social studies. Despite this, during our unit on colonization I cannot describe how many settlers were seeking religious freedom in William Penn's colony!!!

Job Opportunity

I was teaching a 2nd grade class in career education and had the students drawing pictures of themselves as adults. I put "When I grow up, I want to be..." on the board and asked the students to come to me for any other spelling they needed as they completed their pictures. Caitlin came up to me and asked how to spell "princess." After a number of other students asked for help, Caitlin was back for "whales." Since I had told the students they could draw any number of future jobs, I suspected nothing. That is, until Caitlin appeared with her elaborate drawing of a young lady in long gown and crown on a bluff by the ocean directing whales to do her bidding. You guessed it--it was labeled--When I grow up, I want to be "The Princess of Whales."

What Color?

I am a preschool teacher of 3 to 5 year old children. I was doing a science experiment with worms to start a worm farm in our class. As I was putting on rubber gloves (Like doctors and dentists wear) I asked the children in the circle "Who wears rubber gloves?" expecting the answer "doctors." One child raised his hand and said "My Mom does when she changes her hair color."

Glands

I am a Home Economics Teacher. We were having a class discussion on reasons why people become overweight. One reason I told them about was an underactive thyroid. A very serious young lady raised her hand and wanted to know if having an underactive thyroid was the cause of her large ...thighs. Need I say more.

Cops & Robbers

Little Johnny's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures, tacked to a bulletin board, of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. "Yes," said the policeman. "The detectives want very badly to capture him." Little Johnny asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture!"

Blind Custodian

Our district recently hired a female custodian for our elementary school. The day before she started work in our building, she had accidentally broken her glasses and had to wear her prescription sunglasses to work. As the day began,

she was involved in some repair work in the boys restroom just as the bell rang to let the children into the building. She thought she would have time to complete her work before the little boys needed to use the restroom. Much to her surprise, the little boys entered the restroom and began using the facilities as though she was not even there. One little boy finally noticed her and exclaimed, "Hey, there's a lady in here!" The little boy standing next to her calmly replied, "It's ok, she's blind."

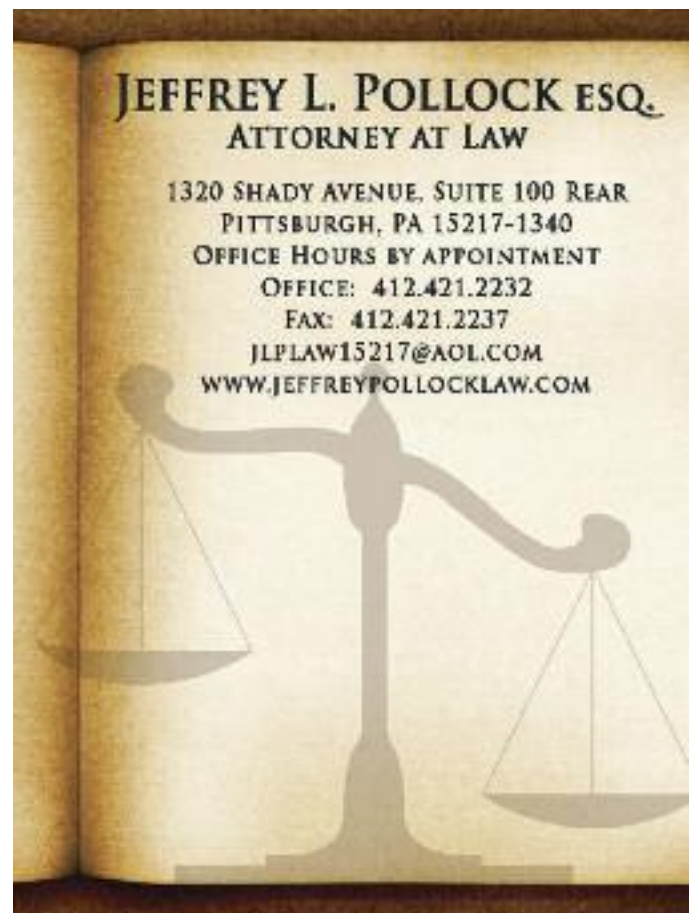
Second Grade Biology

As a second grade teacher in Sunnyvale, California, I am fortunate to have lovely weather and to have my school near the monarch butterfly migrating path. We have a garden of milkweed to attract these lovely butterflies. This year we were able to actually see a butterfly lay eggs on a leaf and brought it into the classroom to watch the entire cycle of metamorphosis take place. One of my second language students was very excited to tell our new fourth grade male teacher that this teacher could come to our classroom and watch the butterflies go through menopause.
- Terry Yordan, Sunnyvale, California

Would you Believe...?

It was my first year of teaching, and I was blessed to teach 8th grade Language Arts. They had to do an autobiography of themselves. One male student did not turn his in till almost two weeks later. This is what he wrote: The biggest moment of

Continued Next page



Back To School Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

my life was when I got my period for the very first time. Maybe next time this gentleman will read the report before "borrowing" it for a grade.

World History

The History Of The World According To Actual Grade School Student Exam Papers:

1. Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in Hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.
2. Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments. He died before he ever reached Canada.
3. Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines.
4. The Greeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks also had Myths. A Myth is a female moth.
5. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer but by another man of that name.
6. Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock. After his death his career suffered a dramatic decline.
7. Eventually the Romans conquered the Greeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in one place for long.
8. Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made King. Dying he gasped out: 'Tee hee, Brutus'
9. Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak and was canonized by Bernard Shaw. Finally Magna Carta provided that no man should be hanged twice for the same offense.
10. Another story was William Tell who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his sons head.
11. Queen Elizabeth was the 'Virgin Queen' As a Queen she was a great success. When she exposed herself before her troops they all shouted, "hurrah,"
12. It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of the blood. Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking. And Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100 foot clipper.
13. The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare. He was born in the year 1564, supposedly on his birthday. He never made much money and is famous only because of his plays. He wrote tragedies, comedies,

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and hysterectomies, all in Islamic pentameter. Romeo and Juliet are an example of a heroic couplet. Romeo's last wish was to be laid by Juliet.

14. Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.
15. One of the causes of the revolutionary war was the English put tacks in their tea. Also the colonists would send their parcels through the post without stamps. Finally the colonists won the war and no longer had to pay for taxis. Delegates from the original 13 states formed the contented congress. Thomas Jefferson, a virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the declaration of independence. Franklin discovered electricity by rubbing two cats backwards and declared, 'A horse divided against itself cannot stand' Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.
16. Johann Bach wrote a great many musical compositions and had a large number of children. In between he practiced on an old spinster which he kept up in his attic. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Bach was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German and half Italian and half English. He was very large.
17. Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died from this.
18. The nineteenth century was a time of a great many

thoughts and inventions. People stopped reproducing by hand and started reproducing by machine. The invention of the steam boat caused a network of rivers to spring up. Cyrus McCormick invented the McCormick raper, which did the work of a hundred men.

19. Louis Paster discovered a cure for rabbis. Charles Darwin was a naturalist who wrote the organ of the species. Madman Curie discovered radio. And Karl Marx became one of the Mark Brothers.

What, Again!

Mom had spent weeks getting five-year-old Allison ready for the opening of Kindergarten. Shy and apprehensive, Allison had toured the school with Mom, met the smiling kindergarten teacher, been to the school media center where she "helped" Mom plan for her duties as room mother. At home, Mom and Allison had set out a brand new dress, shoes and socks, name labeled the book bag, and practiced walking down the driveway to the bus stop. After all this, Allison was still very unsure about leaving home and Mom to get on the bus for school. Bottom lip quivering, she boarded the bus while Mom waved and smiled. Several hours later, Allison bounded off the bus, leapt into mom's arms and declared that it had been fun, but she was really glad to be home again. Smiling, Mom said, "Every day will be a little easier, you will see. Tomorrow will be even more fun than today." Allison's face sobered, "You mean I have to go AGAIN tomorrow?"

Continued Next page



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Back To School Humor BY NIGHTWIRE

First Grade Perspective

First graders were given the beginning of these clichés, and asked to provide their own endings. The results are often better than the original! Take a look...

1. If at first you don't succeed.....go play.
2. Eat, drink, and.....go to the bathroom.
3. All's fair in.....hockey.
4. He who laughs last.....didn't understand the joke.
5. People in glass houses.....better not take off their clothes
6. All work and no play.....is disgusting.
7. Don't put all your eggs.....in the microwave.
8. Better to be safe than.....punch a 5th grader.
9. Strike while thebug is close.
10. It's always darkest before.....Daylight Savings Time.
11. Never underestimate the power of.....termites.
12. You can lead a horse to water but.....how?
13. Don't bite the hand that.....looks dirty.
14. No news is.....impossible.
15. A miss is as good as a..... Mr.
16. You can't teach an old dog new.....math.
17. If you lie down with dogs, you'll.....stink in the morning.
18. Love all, trust.....me.
19. The pen is mightier than the.....pigs.
20. An idle mind is.....The best way to relax.
21. Where there's smoke there's.....pollution.
22. Happy the bride who.....gets all the presents.
23. A penny saved is.....not much.
24. Two's company, three's.....the Musketeers.

25. Don't put off till tomorrow what...you put on to go to bed.
26. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and.....you have to blow your nose.
27. None are so blind as.....Helen Keller.
28. Children should be seen and not.....spanked or grounded.
29. When the blind lead the blind.....get out of the way.

Wise Advice From Kids

Here's another connection of wisdom from the young ones.

1. Never trust a dog to watch your food. - Patrick, age 10
2. When your dad is mad and asks you, "Do I look stupid?" don't answer him. - Michael, 14
3. Never tell your mom her diet's not working. - Michael, 14
4. Stay away from prunes. - Randy, 9
5. Never pee on an electric fence. - Robert, 13
6. Don't squat with your spurs on. - Noronha, 13
7. Don't pull dad's finger when he tells you to. - Emily, 10
8. When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair. - Taylia, 11
9. Never allow your three-year old brother in the same room as your school assignment. - Traci, 14
10. Don't sneeze in front of mom when you're eating crackers. - Mitchell, 12
11. Puppies still have bad breath even after eating a tic tac. - Andrew, 9
12. Never hold a dust buster and a cat at the same time. - Kyoyo, 9
13. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk. - Armir, 9
14. Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts. - Kellie, 11
15. If you want a kitten, start out by asking for a horse. - Naomi, 15
16. Felt markers are not good to use as lipstick. - Lauren, 9
17. Don't pick on your sister when she's holding a baseball bat. - Joel, 10
18. When you get a bad grade in school, show it to your mom when she's on the phone. - Alysha, 13

The Thunderstorm

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home, so she went out to meet her. The lightning was flashing frequently. It wasn't long before the mother saw her little daughter ahead, and she observed that the child was walking nonchalantly along, but whenever lightning flashed, her little girl would stop to smile broadly. Finally, the little girl saw her mother ahead, and the child ran to meet her. "Mother, Mother", she said enthusiastically, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

Ad Libs

A father read his two young sons fairy tales at night. Having a deep-rooted sense of humor, he often ad-libbed parts of the stories for fun. One day his youngest son was sitting in his first grade class as the teacher was reading the story of the Three

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Little Pigs. She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to acquire building materials for his home. She said "...And so the pig went up to the man with a wheelbarrow full of straw and said "Pardon me sir, but might I have some of that straw to build my house with?" Then the teacher asked the class "And what do you think that man said?" and my friend's son raised his hand and said "I know! I know! He said "Oh No!! A talking pig!"

Heaven

Little Johnny was in Sunday School one day when the teacher asked the class a question: Who wants to go to heaven? All of the students raised their hand except for Johnny. Thinking that he had not heard her, the teacher asked Johnny why he not want to go to heaven. Johnny replied, "I can't, because Mom said that after church we are going straight to Grandma's."

White Hair

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and asked inquisitively, "Why are some of your hairs white, mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while, and then she said pensively, "Momma, then how come all of grandma's hairs are white?"

Lone Stars

The name Sam Houston came up during a social studies lesson with my second graders. Not sure how geographically aware they would be of the city of Houston, I asked if the name sounded familiar. One little girl responded quickly, "Yes! Houston we have a problem."

Biology

I was teaching 3rd grade science to a group of students who seemed to hang on my every word about the newest subject organisms. The entire class was fascinated! One of my brightest little girls left my class and went to her language class where she was to write a creative story about what she had learned in science. It wasn't long before the language teacher knocked on my door. She was so tickled that it was quite difficult to keep from laughing at her expression. She said, "You really need to teach the students how to spell the vocabulary associated with their science lessons." As I stood looking at her, she held up a very neatly written short story entitled, "The Screaming Orgasm." Needless to say, we both laughed hysterically!

Lights Are On

One of my students was particularly slow that day. I told him, "your lights are on, but nobody is home." His response; "I know, my mother works."

Geography

At the ages of 4 & 5, two little girls were learning some of the major cities of their home state. I asked them, "Name the capital of Pennsylvania" The youngest little girl burst out with

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Back To School Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

bright eyes and a big smile that she knew the answer! She said, "The capital is 'P'!" She had me on that one! Kids are such a joy!

New Shoes

When I was student teaching in the second grade, a young boy in the class got a new pair of sneakers and was showing them to the class. He instructed me not to try them on, because he did not want to risk getting "athletic feet."

Red Tape

Checking over the enrollment cards at the beginning of a new school year we found a parent of a little kindergarten student had marked for "sex" "not yet."

Neurology

I was teaching a unit on multiple intelligence and the brain. I mentioned that some believe there is a correlation between the number of wrinkles and grooves in one's brain and one's intelligence. One of my high school students blurts out, "Mrs. Bradley, my brain must have been ironed smooth!"

Screen Saver

I teach in a computer lab. One day this past year I had a group of Kindergarten children in the lab. As I worked with one student I heard another call out " Hey! There's something wrong with my computer!" I looked up to see the screen saver had activated on a youngster's computer across the room.

Thinking he could handle the situation I smiled and told him "That's okay, Sweetheart, just wiggle your mouse." I looked up a couple of seconds later to check on the young man and noted that he was staring intently at the screen and the screen saver was still on. "Logan", I said. "I told you to wiggle your mouse". The youngster turned and look at me, his jaw moving frantically. " I'm trying!" he insisted, "but it isn't working!" Now I am careful to enunciate clearly when instructing students to wiggle their MOUSE!

Taxes

I teach second grade on Long Island. The social studies curriculum includes teaching about taxes and how they are used to help our community. It was time for the students to tell me what they understood about this chapter in the form of a test. One of the questions on the test was What are taxes? One student simply answered: Something you never pay on time.

Health Lesson

I was teaching a health class in first aid... and gave a test. The question was "What is it called when you help someone who is choking?". Imagine my surprise when I looked at one of the papers and it read "It is called the Hymen Remover!!!" Our faculty room rolled! Oh yes, I forgot to say that the actual answer to the test was "Heimlich Maneuver"

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The Frog in the Bank

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from the teller's nameplate that her name is "Patricia Whack." So he says: "Ms. Whack, I'd like to get a loan to buy a boat and go on a long vacation." Patti looks at the frog in disbelief and asks how much he wants to borrow. The frog says \$30,000. The teller asks his name and the frog says that his name is Kermit Jagger and that it's OK, he knows the bank manager. Patti explains that \$30,000 is a substantial amount of money and that he will need to secure some collateral against the loan. She asks if he has anything he can use as collateral. The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny pink porcelain elephant, about half an inch tall. Bright pink and perfectly formed. Very confused, Patti explains that she'll have to consult with the manager and disappears into a back office. She finds the manager and says: "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$30,000. And he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant saying. "I mean, what the heck is this?" (Are you ready . . .) (Hang on to something . . .) So the bank manager looks back at her and says: "It's a knick knack, Patti Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."

Math Class

My daughter was listening to her teacher explain the days math lesson to a classmate again, but the little girl just wasn't getting it. My daughter apparently couldn't stand it anymore, "Don't worry about it Katie, someday you'll get a teacher who will know how to teach you." Her teacher told me she was glad it was so funny or she'd have to be deeply offended.

Stuck Student

Last year was my daughter's first year of teaching. She was one of the "emergency" hires and really in the dark about her new undertaking. She often tells me about her students and I feel I know them through her stories. She's teaching 4th grade. One little girl has a very difficult time sitting still and tips her chair back. I'll call her "Sue." Sue had fallen backwards a number of times and gotten up, positioned her chair, and was properly admonished by the teacher, (my daughter). Finally she had tipped herself backwards one more time, my daughter went to her, told her to get up and once more requested that she sit still. Sue, still in a sitting position but lying on her back looked up at my daughter and said, "I think I'll just stay down here." My daughter had a very hard time keeping from laughing, but one more time admonishing Sue and Sue getting back up, she had not placed herself up close to her desk. My daughter requested that she scoot up to the desk, to which Sue replied, "I can't." At being asked why not, she replied, "My feet are stuck." She had twisted her feet around the legs of the chair and couldn't get them out.

New Excuses

These are actual excuse notes from parents (including original spelling) collected by Nisheeth Parekh, University Texas

- Medical Branch at Galveston.
- My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him.
- Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

- Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 29, 29, 30, and also 33.
- Please excuse Gloria from Jim today. She is administrating.
- Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.
- John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.
- Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hurt in the growing part.
- Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.
- Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.
- Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.
- Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea and his boots leak.
- Irving was absent yesterday because he missed his bust.
- Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.
- I kept Billie home because she had to go Christmas shopping because I don't know what size she wear.
- Please excuse Jennifer for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday, we thought it was Sunday.
- Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.
- My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired.
- She spent a weekend with the Marines.
- Please excuse Jason for being absent yesterday. He had a cold and could not breed well.



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- Please excuse Mary for being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.
- Gloria was absent yesterday as she was having a gangover.
- Please excuse Burma, she was sick and under the doctor.
- Maryann was absent December 11-16, because she had a fever, sore throat, headache and upset stomach. Her sister was also sick, fever and sore throat, her brother had a low grade fever and ached all over. I wasn't the best either, sore throat and fever. There must be something going around, her father even got hot last night.

Donald and Daisy Duck

Donald Duck and Daisy Duck were spending the night together in a hotel room and Donald wanted to have sex with Daisy. The first thing Daisy asked was, "Do you have a condom?" Donald frowned and said, "No." Daisy told Donald that if he didn't get a condom, they could not have sex. "Maybe they sell them at the front desk," she suggested. So Donald went down to the lobby and asked the hotel clerk if they had condoms. "Yes, we do," the clerk said and pulled a box out from under the counter and gave it to Donald. The clerk asked, "Would you like me to put them on your bill?" "Thit No!" Donald quacked, "I'll thuffocate!"

For You Frequent Fliers

The Russians are developing an airport security device that eliminates the privacy concerns that come with full-body scanners at the airports. They have a booth that you can step into that will not X-ray you, but will detonate any explosive device you may have on you. They see this as a win-win for everyone, and there would be none of this junk about racial profiling. This method would also eliminate the costs of a long and expensive trial. Justice would be quick and swift. Case Closed! This is so simple...that it's brilliant. I can see it now. You're in the airport terminal, and you hear a muffled explosion. Shortly thereafter an announcement comes over the PA system, "Attention standby passengers - we now have a seat available on flight number ____".

Good Old Retirement

I joined a parachute club! Yesterday my wife asked why I didn't do something useful with my time. She suggested I go down to the senior center and hang out with the guys. I did this and when I got home last night I told her that I had joined a parachute club. She said "are you nuts? You're almost 90 years old and you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?" I proudly showed her that I even got a membership card. She said to me, "You idiot, where are your glasses! This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club!" I'm in trouble again and don't know what to do! I signed up for five jumps a week! Life as a senior citizen is not getting any easier.

Continued Next page



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A Woman's Poem

He didn't like the casserole
And he didn't like my cake,
He said my biscuits were too hard
Not like his mother used to make.
I didn't perk the coffee right
He didn't like the stew,
I didn't mend his socks
The way his mother used to do.
I pondered for an answer
I was looking for a clue.
Then I turned around and
smacked the s**t out of him....
Like his mother used to do.

Nursery Rhymes – Different from What I Remember

Mary had a little pig,
She kept it fat and plastered;
And when the price of pork went up,
She shot the little bastard.

Mary had a little lamb.
Her father shot it dead.
Now it goes to school with her,
Between two hunks of bread.

Jack and Jill went up the hill
To have a little fun.
Stupid Jill forgot the pill
And now they have a son.

Simple Simon met a pie man going to the fair.
Said Simple Simon to the pie man,
'What have you got there?'
Said the pie man unto Simon,
'Pies, you dumb ass' !!

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the kings' horses,
And all the kings' men.
Had scrambled eggs,
For breakfast again.

Hey diddle, diddle, the cat took a piddle,
All over the bedside clock.
The little dog laughed to see such fun.
Then died of electric shock.

Georgie Porgy pudding and pie,

Kissed the girls and made them cry.
And when the boys came out to play,
He kissed them too 'cause he was gay.

There was a little girl who had a little curl
Right in the middle of her forehead.
When she was good, she was very, very good.
But when she was bad.....
She got a fur coat, jewels, a waterfront condo, and a sports car.

Wal-mart Greeter

Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies. One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang up job, but your being late so often is quite bothersome." "Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it." "Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear. It's odd though your coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say if you came in late there?" "They said, "Good morning, Admiral, can I get you coffee, sir?"

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Heaven

It got crowded in heaven, so, for one day it was decided only to accept people who had really had a bad day on the day they died. St. Peter was standing at the pearly gates and said to the first man, "Tell me about the day you died." The man said, "Oh, it was awful. I was sure my wife was having an affair, so I came home early to catch her with him. I searched all over the apartment but couldn't find him anywhere. So I went out onto the balcony, we live on the 25th floor, and found this man hanging over the edge by his fingertips. I went inside, got a hammer, and started hitting his hands. He fell, but landed in some bushes. So, I got the refrigerator and pushed it over the balcony and it crushed him. The strain of the act gave me a heart attack, and I died." St. Peter couldn't deny that this was a pretty bad day, and since it was a crime of passion, he let the man in. He then asked the next man in line about the day he died. "Well, sir, it was awful," said the second man. "I was doing aerobics on the balcony of my 26th floor apartment when I twisted my ankle and slipped over the edge. I managed to grab the balcony of the apartment below, but some maniac came out and started pounding on my fingers with a hammer. Luckily I landed in some bushes. But, then the guy dropped a refrigerator on me!" St. Peter chuckled, let him into heaven and decided he could really start to enjoy this job. "Tell me about the day you died?", he said to the third man in line. "OK, picture this, I'm naked, hiding inside a refrigerator..."

Riddle

What Gets Longer When Pulled,
Fits Between your Boobs,
Inserts Neatly in a Hole
AND works best when it is jerked?
A seatbelt you pervert! Now Buckle Up!!

Helpful Information

Bananas

Take your bananas apart when you get home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem, they ripen faster.

Keeping Cheese

Store your opened chunks of cheese in aluminum foil. It will stay fresh much longer and not mold!

Peppers

Peppers with 3 bumps on the bottom are sweeter and better for eating. Peppers with 4 bumps on the bottom are firmer and better for cooking.

Ground Beef

Add a teaspoon of water when frying ground beef. It will help pull the grease away from the meat while cooking.

Yummy eggs

To really make scrambled eggs or omelets rich add a couple of spoonfuls of sour cream, cream cheese, or heavy cream in and then beat them up.

Great Brownies

For a cool brownie treat, make brownies as directed. Melt Andes mints in double broiler and pour over warm brownies. Let set for a wonderful minty frosting.

Seasoning with garlic

Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a light taste of garlic and at the end of the recipe if you want a stronger taste of garlic. Leftover Snickers Snacks Leftover snickers bars from Halloween make a delicious dessert. Simply chop them up with the food chopper. Peel, core and slice a few apples. Place them in a baking dish and sprinkle the chopped candy bars over the apples. Bake at 350 for 15 minutes!!! Serve alone or with vanilla ice cream. Yummm!

Reheat Pizza

Heat up leftover pizza in a nonstick skillet on top of the stove, set heat to med-low and heat till warm. This keeps the crust

Continued Next page

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crispy. No soggy micro pizza. I saw this on the cooking channel and it really works. Easy Deviled Eggs Put cooked egg yolks in a zip lock bag. Seal, mash till they are all broken up. Add remainder of ingredients, reseal, keep mashing it up mixing thoroughly, cut the tip of the baggy, squeeze mixture into egg. Just throw bag away when done easy clean up.

Expanding Frosting

When you buy a container of cake frosting from the store, whip it with your mixer for a few minutes. You can double it in size. You get to frost more cake/cupcakes with the same amount. You also eat less sugar and calories per serving.

Reheating refrigerated bread

To warm biscuits, pancakes, or muffins that were refrigerated, place them in a microwave with a cup of water. The increased moisture will keep the food moist and help it reheat faster.

Newspaper weeds away

Start putting in your plants, work the nutrients in your soil. Wet newspapers, put layers around the plants overlapping as you go cover with mulch and forget about weeds.. Weeds will get through some gardening plastic they will not get through wet newspapers.

Broken Glass

Use a wet cotton ball or Q-tip to pick up the small shards of glass you can't see easily.

No More Mosquitoes

Place a dryer sheet in your pocket. It will keep the mosquitoes away.

Squirrel Away!

To keep squirrels from eating your plants, sprinkle your plants with cayenne pepper. The cayenne pepper doesn't hurt the plant and the squirrels won't come near it.

Flexible vacuum

To get something out of a heat register or under the fridge add an empty paper towel roll or empty gift wrap roll to your vacuum. It can be bent or flattened to get in narrow openings.

Reducing Static Cling

Pin a small safety pin to the seam of your slip and you will not have a clingy skirt or dress. Same thing works with slacks that cling when wearing panty hose. Place pin in seam of slacks and ... ta da!... static is gone.

Continued Next page



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Sticky Measuring Cups

Before you pour sticky substances into a measuring cup, fill with hot water. Dump out the hot water, but don't dry cup. Next, add your ingredient, such as peanut butter, and watch how easily it comes right out.

Foggy Windshield?

Hate foggy windshields? Buy a chalkboard eraser and keep it in the glove box of your car. When the windows fog, rub with the eraser! Works better than a cloth!

Reopening envelopes

If you seal an envelope and then realize you forgot to include something inside, just place your sealed envelope in the freezer for an hour or two. Voila! It unseals easily.

Conditioner

Use your hair conditioner to shave your legs. It's cheaper than shaving cream and leaves your legs really smooth. It's also a great way to use up the conditioner you bought but didn't like when you tried it in your hair.

Goodbye Fruit Flies

To get rid of pesky fruit flies, take a small glass, fill it 1/2' with Apple Cider Vinegar and 2 drops of dish washing liquid; mix well.. You will find those flies drawn to the cup and gone forever!

Get Rid of Ants

Put small piles of cornmeal where you see ants. They eat it, take it 'home,' can't digest it so it kills them. It may take a week or so, especially if it rains, but it works and you don't have the worry about pets or small children being harmed!

My Living Will

Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them, 'I never want to live in a vegetative state,

dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.' They got up, unplugged the Computer, and threw out my wine. They are such a**h**s .

Cajun Versus BP

A Cajun Shrimper wants a job cleaning up the oil spill, but the BP Foreman won't hire him until he passes a little math test. Here is your first question, the foreman said. 'Without using numbers, represent the number 9.' 'Without numbers?' The Cajun says, 'Dat is easy.' And proceeds to draw three trees. 'What's this?' the boss asks 'Ave you got no brain? Tree and tree and tree make nine,' says the Cajun. 'Fair enough,' says the boss. 'Here's your second question. Use the same rules, but this time the number is 99.' The Cajun stares into space for a while, then picks up the picture that he has just drawn and makes a smudge on each tree. 'Ere you go.' The boss scratches his head and says, 'How on earth do you get that to represent 99?' 'Each of DA trees is dirty now. So, it's dirty tree, and dirty tree, and dirty tree. Dat is 99.' The boss is getting worried that he's going to actually have to hire this Cajun, so he says, 'All right, last question. Same rules again, but represent the number 100.' The Cajun stares into space some more, then he picks up the picture again and makes a little mark at the base of each tree and says, 'Ere you go. One hundred.' The boss looks at the attempt. 'You must be nuts if you think that represents a hundred!' The Cajun leans forward and points to the marks at the base of each tree and says, 'A little dog come along and poop by each tree.. So now you got dirty tree and a turd, dirty tree and a turd, and dirty tree and a turd, which make one hundred.' The Cajun is now the new supervisor.

Old Classmate

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, surely I can't look that old. Well.. You'll love this one. My name is Alice, and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I

Continued Next page

noticed his DDS diploma on the wall, which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered, a tall handsome dark-haired boy with the same mane had been in my high school class some 30-odd years ago. Could he be the same guy that I had a secret crush on way back then? Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, gray-haired man with deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate. After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park High School. "Yes, yes, I did. I'm a Mustang," he gleamed with pride. When did you graduate? I asked. He answered. "In 1975. Why do you ask? "You were in my class!" I exclaimed. He looked at me closely. Then that ugly, old, bald, wrinkled faced, fat-assed, gray haired, decrepit sob asked, "what did you teach?"

Something To Think About!

Imagine that you had won the following prize in a contest: Each morning your bank would deposit \$86,400.00 in your private account for your use. However, this prize has rules, just as any game has certain rules. The first set of rules would be: Everything that you didn't spend during each day would be taken away from you. You may not simply transfer money into some other account. You may only spend it. Each morning upon awakening, the bank opens your account with another \$86,400.00 for that day.

The second set of rules:

The bank can end the game without warning; at any time it can say, Its over, the game is over! It can close the account and you will not receive a new one. What would you personally do? You would buy anything and everything you wanted, right? Not only for yourself, but for all people you love, right?

Even for people you don't know, because you couldn't possibly spend it all on yourself, right? You would try to spend every cent, and use it all, right? ACTUALLY, this GAME is REALITY! Each of us is in possession of such a magical bank. We just can't seem to see it. The MAGICAL BANK is TIME! Each morning we awaken to receive 86,400 seconds as a gift of life, and when we go to sleep at night, any remaining time is NOT credited to us. What we haven't lived up that day is forever lost. Yesterday is forever gone. Each morning the account is refilled, but the bank can dissolve your account at any time . . . WITHOUT WARNING. SO, what will YOU do with your 86,400 seconds? Aren't they worth so much more than the same amount in dollars?

Think about that, and always think of this:

Enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than you think. So take care of yourself, be Happy, Love Deeply and enjoy life! Here's wishing you a wonderfully beautiful day!!! The only difference between stumbling blocks and steppingstones is the way in which we use them.

The Human Body

- It takes your food seven seconds to get from your mouth to your stomach.
- One human hair can support 3kg (6.6 lb).
- The average man's private area is three times the length of his thumb.

- Human thighbones are stronger than concrete.
- A woman's heart beats faster than a man's.
- There are about one trillion bacteria on each of your feet.
- Women blink twice as often as men.
- The average person's skin weighs twice as much as the brain.
- Your body uses 300 muscles to balance itself when you are standing still.
- If saliva cannot dissolve something, you cannot taste it.
- Women reading this will be finished now.
- Men are still busy checking their thumbs.

Airline Announcements From Kulula Airlines

Kulula is an Airline with head office situated in Johannesburg . Kulula airline attendants make an effort to make the in-flight "safety lecture" and announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are some real examples that have been heard or reported: On a Kulula flight, (there is no assigned seating, you just sit where you want) passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"

On another flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."

Continued Next page

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On landing, the stewardess said, "Please be sure to take all of your belongings.. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have."

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane."

"Thank you for flying Kulula. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Durban Airport , a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: "Whoa, big fella. WHOA!"

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in the Karoo , a flight attendant on a flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as hell everything has shifted."

From a Kulula employee: " Welcome aboard Kulula 271 to Port Elizabeth . To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt; and, if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child travelling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are travelling with more than one small child, pick your favorite."

Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Kulula Airlines."

"Your seats cushions can be used for flotation; and in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."

"As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses.."

And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Kulula Airlines is pleased to announce that we have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

Heard on Kulula 255 just after a very hard landing in Cape Town : The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt."

Overheard on a Kulula flight into Cape Town , on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain really had to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to The Mother City. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"

Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying our airline. He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally everyone had gotten off except for a little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?" "Why, no Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?" The little old lady said, "Did we land, or were we shot down?"

After a real crusher of a landing in Johannesburg , the attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are

Continued Next page

Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

silenced, we will open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal.."

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today.. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of Kulula Airways."

Heard on a Kulula flight. "Ladies and gentlemen, if you wish to smoke, the smoking section on this airplane is on the wing.. If you can light 'em, you can smoke 'em."

A plane was taking off from Durban Airport . After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, non-stop from Durban to Cape Town , The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight.. Now sit back and relax... OH, MY GOODNESS!" Silence

followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger then yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

Why I Do Not Attend High School Reunions

Jane, Sue and Mary haven't seen each other since High School. They rediscover each other via a reunion website and arrange to meet for lunch in a wine bar. Jane arrives first, wearing beige Versace. She orders a bottle of Pinot Grigio. Sue arrives shortly afterward, in gray Chanel. After the required ritualized kisses she joins Jane in a glass of wine. Then Mary walks in, wearing a faded old tee-shirt, blue jeans and boots. She too shares the wine. Jane explains that after leaving high school and graduating from Princeton in Classics, she met and married Timothy, with whom she has a beautiful daughter. Timothy is a partner in one of New York's leading law firms. They live in a 4000 sq ft co-op on Fifth Avenue, where Susanna, the daughter, attends drama school. They have a second home in Phoenix. Sue relates that she graduated from Harvard Med School and became a surgeon.

Continued Next page



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Humor

BY NIGHTWIRE

Her husband, Clive, is a leading Wall Street investment banker. They live in Southampton on Long Island and have a second home in Naples, Florida. Mary explains that she left school at 17 and ran off with her boyfriend, Mark. They run a tropical bird park in Colorado and grow their own vegetables. Mark can stand five parrots, side by side, on his dick. Halfway down the third bottle of wine and several hours later, Jane blurts out that her husband is really a cashier at Wal-Mart. They live in a small apartment in Brooklyn and have a travel trailer parked at a nearby storage facility. Sue, chastened and encouraged by her old friend's honesty, explains that she and Clive are both nurses' aides in a retirement home. They live in Jersey City and take vacation camping trips to Alabama. Mary says that the fifth parrot has to stand on one leg.

What is Politics?

A little boy goes to his dad and asks, 'What is Politics?' 'Dad says, 'Well son, let me try to explain it this way: I am the head of the family, so call me The Prime Minister. Your mother is the administrator of the money, so we call her the Government. We are here to take care of your needs, so we will call you the People. The nanny, we will consider her the Working Class. And your baby brother, we will call him the Future. Now think about that and see if it makes sense. 'So the little boy goes off to bed thinking about what Dad has

said. Later that night, he hears his baby brother crying, so he gets up to check on him. He finds that the baby has severely soiled his nappy. So the little boy goes to his parent's room and finds his mother asleep. Not wanting to wake her, he goes to the nanny's room. Finding the door locked, he peeks in the keyhole and sees his father in bed with the nanny. He gives up and goes back to bed. The next morning, the little boy says to his father, 'Dad, I think I understand the concept of politics now. ' The father says, 'Good, son, tell me in your own words what you think politics is all about.' The little boy replies, 'The Prime Minister is screwing the Working Class while the Government is sound asleep. The People are being ignored and the Future is in deep sh-t.

Ever Wonder

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?
Why can't women put on mascara with their mouths closed?
Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?
Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?
Why is it that doctors call what they do 'practice'?
Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

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