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Publisher: Joyce Campisi
Editor-in-Chief: Joyce Campisi
Executive Editor: Joseph P. Campisi, III
Assignment Editor: Jennifer L. Campisi
Sports Editor: Stacy Kauffman
Travel Journalist: Suzanne Ferrara
Director of Marketing: Lori Czekaj
Graphic Designer: Anna Buzzelli, Casey King, Tami Haslett
Layout/Production Management: 77 Design Co.
Photographer: Man Nguyen, Rich Frollini,
Cover Photographer: Pittsburgh Pirates
Feature Writers: Brian Meyer, Suz Pisano, Lori Czekaj
Contributing Writers: Dottie Wilhelm, Gerry Pekol,
Lori Hon, Boris Pekol,
Suzanne Ferrara
Movie Critic: F.D. Mastracci
Distribution Manager: Jeff Engbarth

Nightwire Magazine/
SX Publications
303A Bellevue Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15229
Phone: 412-755-1055
Fax: 412-755-1056
www.nightwire.net

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Pittsburgh Public Theater Presents The Second City in Free Speech! (While Supplies Last)



Chicago's legendary comedy troupe, The Second City, returns to Pittsburgh Public Theater with a hilarious show skewering the nation's current state of electoral insanity. Free Speech! (While Supplies Last) runs for three performances only at the O'Reilly Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theater's home in the heart of Downtown's Cultural District. Show times are Friday, August 26 at 8 pm and Saturday, August 27 at 5:30 and 9 pm. A cash bar will be open in The Public's main lobby. For tickets call 412.316.1600 or visit ppt.org.

Included in Free Speech! (While Supplies Last) is political satire

made famous by alumni such as Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert and Keegan-Michael Key, as well as brand-new scenes, songs and improv. The show will be performed by the next generation of the comedy world's best and brightest.

Ticket Prices: \$35-\$55. Tickets for students and anyone age 26 and younger: \$15.75. Cabaret tables with seating for four, including cash bar service: \$240. Discounts for groups of 10+ are available by contacting Casey Helm at 412.316.8200 ext. 704 or chelm@ppt.org.



SPORTS:

New Names Making Waves For the Pirates

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine
Pittsburgh Pirates Photos ©2016 Pittsburgh Pirates

In a city known for its bridges - with one of the most iconic bearing the name of baseball legend and Pirates icon, Roberto Clemente, landing at his bronzed feet just outside PNC Park - the term “bridge year” wasn’t met with positive response from the fan base. When Pirates General Manager, Neal Huntington described this season with those words, many thought the brass was conceding that this might not be their year to compete. But that was a misconception. It was about competing in a different way.

The term “bridge” didn’t mean the team intended to take a step back, according to Huntington. It was used to illustrate how the franchise would have to assimilate young, new talent into the big league club while the veteran core still anchored the team on the field, playing competitive baseball. Four months into the season, it’s been a combination of that youth, those core players – sans one conspicuous former MVP – and a few invaluable free agents to put this team in a position to make a playoff push. With a few questions, of course.

Where would this team be without David Freese and Matt Joyce?

Everyone knew Jung Ho Kang would be out for the first month of the season, but no one could anticipate his off the field issues or how they might be impacting him on the field mid-season. Who knows if the sexual assault accusations are weighing on his performance, but the numbers aren’t pretty. No homeruns for Kang through 26 days in July and last year’s breakout player has hit less than .200 the past month.

Meanwhile, Freese has been consistent, hitting around .280 with double digit dingers, and is second on the team in RBI, while

playing both third and first bases. At a salary of three million, the Pirates found huge value in one of the National League’s top five third basemen in batting average and OPS.

Speaking of that on-base plus slugging percentage statistic, Matt Joyce is OPS-ing nearly a thousand, hitting a homerun once every 15 at bats or so and getting on base at a .400 plus clip. When he





isn't in the starting lineup, he's co-leading the majors in pinch hit homeruns and RBI. Not bad for a guy signed on a minor league contract.

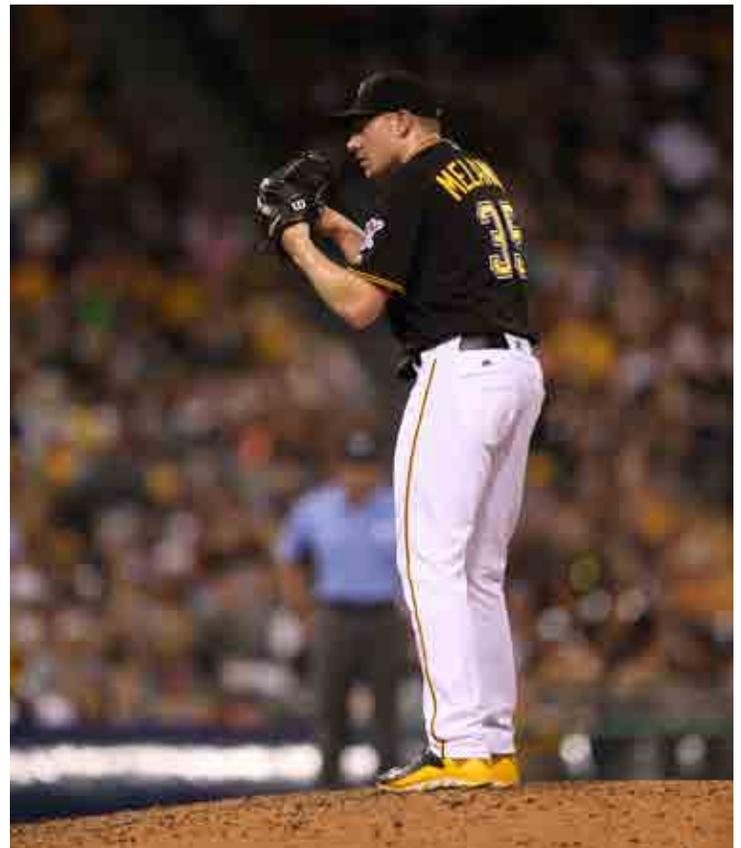
Another free agent has made an impact. Stabilizing a shaky relief corps, Neftali Feliz has the most appearances out of the bullpen, and is second to only Mark Melancon in WHIP (walks plus hits per innings pitched).

While those guys all went north with the Pirates out of spring training, some of the players standing in the middle of that bridge Huntington discussed, did not. A few of them - Jameson Taillon, Tyler Glasnow and Josh Bell and are well known names that that fans as well as the organization have long anticipated to be stars at the major league level. Others are not. How many people had pitchers Chad Kuhl and Steven Brault on their radars? Adam Frazier? Who is Adam Frazier?

Adam Frazier has been a sparkplug off the bench, recently hitting his first career homerun as a major leaguer – and first this season at any level – to seal a series win against the Phillies. Speed is what makes him special, however. Especially in his ability to take the extra base and put pressure on the defense to make a play. He has 14 hits in his first 39 big league at bats, with six of those going for extra bases. Of all the rookies to get the call, he is the only one to not be sent back down to the minors. **UP STAYS FRAZIER.**

Chad Kuhl only has one win to show for his efforts – which just happened to be his debut against three-time Cy Young award winner, Clayton Kershaw and the Dodgers on Sunday Night Baseball, no biggie – but the team has won all four of his starts. His best came in a series salvaging gem against the Washington

Nationals out of the All Star break. Opposing another ace with a Cy Young to his name, Max Scherzer, Kuhl threw six one hit, shutout innings to put the Bucs in a position to win. And they did, in 18 innings. Currently experiencing triceps soreness, let's hope Kuhl returns sooner rather than later. His rotation mate in Triple A Indianapolis, Steven Brault, hasn't had as many innings but was





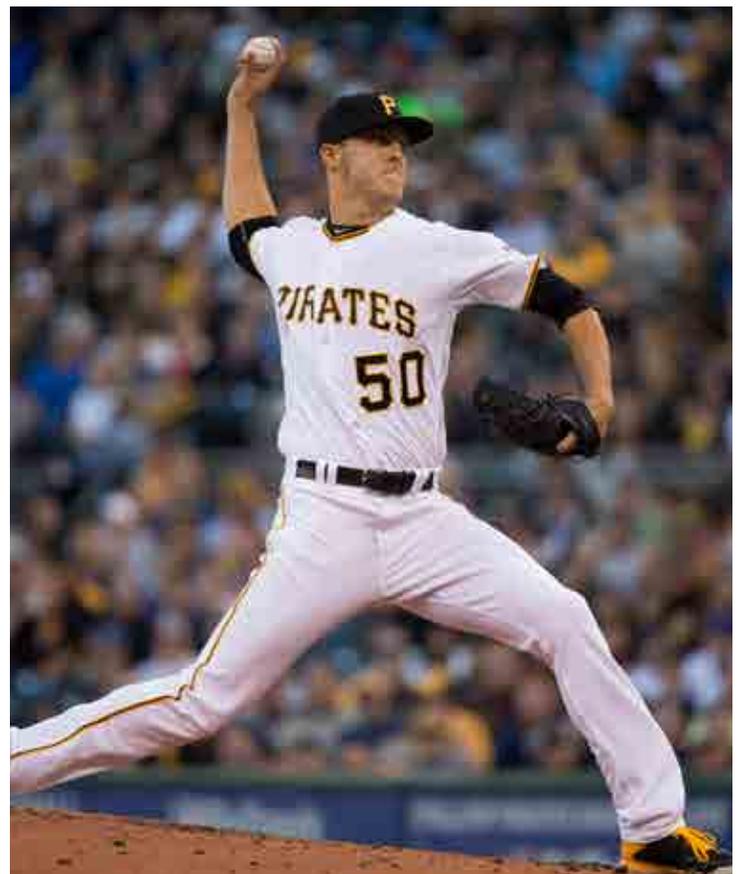
impressive in the few he did, pacing the Pirates in an important victory against division rival St. Louis. With the rotation in question, Brault is a viable option to make a bigger impact.

Making a big impact already has been Jameson Taillon. A long time coming, the second overall pick in the 2010 draft has battled back from Tommy John and hernia surgeries to take his rightful place in the rotation. The 24 year-old has a maturity that bodes well for him on the mound, a toughness critical to September and October baseball. Taillon strikes out six times as many as he walks and the Pirates have won five of his first seven starts. Tyler Glasnow on the other hand, has struggled in his two games and landed on the disabled list with shoulder discomfort. He may need more time in Indianapolis to round into form.

How long do we have to wait for more Josh Bell? The highly touted rookie delivered in his four major league pinch hit at bats, getting on base each time in big situations. A hit to help rally for a comeback win against the formidable Jake Arrieta? Check. A couple of extended at bats, working walks, turning one into the game tying run? Check. And for the first homerun of your big league career, how about a grand slam to put the game away against the hated Cubs? Check. The future is bright for Bell and his bat can add some punch to an inconsistent lineup.

We've seen the infusion of youth and veteran additions work wonders for the cross town Penguins, fueling their run to the Stanley Cup. New energy has given this Pittsburgh Pirates team a jolt, now it's up to the men in that clubhouse to keep electrifying fans and climbing up the standings.

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



BOOKS: TARA MACKEY CURED BY NATURE

Tara Mackey is a Blogger, Certified Lab Analyst, Environmental Technician and the author of *Cured By Nature: How to Heal from the Inside Out, Find Happiness and Discover Your True Self* (Skyhorse Publishing, February 2, 2016). Providing natural remedies, breathing exercises and first hand knowledge, Tara wants to help us naturally overcome our demons and become the best versions of ourselves.

Born in Queens, NY and raised on Long Island, Tara was prescribed her first medication at the age of 13. Her dependency on prescription medications grew, as she witnessed the suicide of her best friend, and the struggles of her mother's drug addiction. By her early twenties, Tara's routine consisted of two-dozen pills every morning, having prescription medication for all of her ailments: migraines, anxiety, acne, ADHD, depression, and even fibromyalgia.

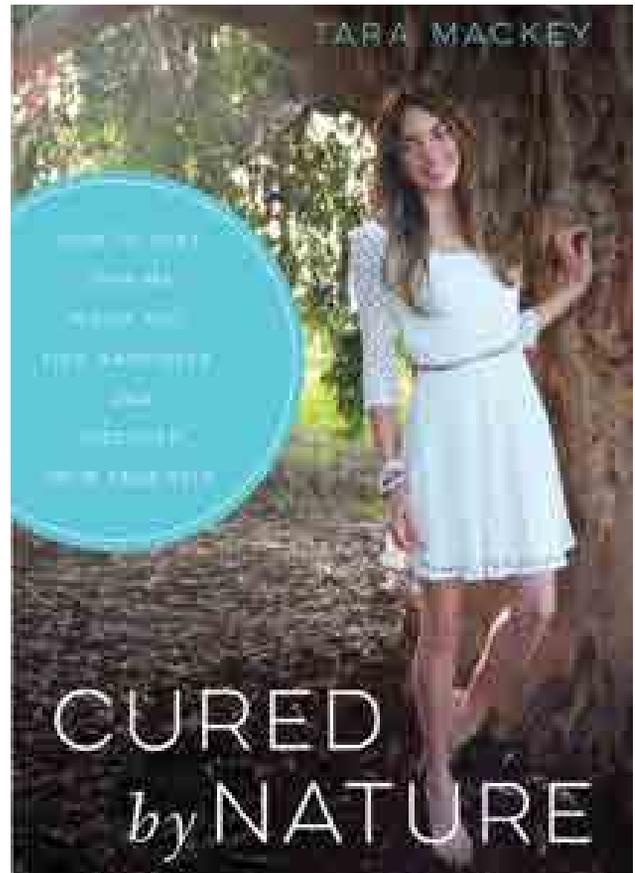
Tara attended Bennington College, where she studied psychology, and later Hunter College, where she explored environmental biology. Before completing her studies, Tara accepted a position at Cornell Medical College.

The turning point in Tara's life came when, at the age of 24, she decided to take control of the emotional and medical issues in her life. She stopped taking all of her prescription medications – cold turkey. Deciding to move across the country to California, Tara continued her journey to health and happiness. She began yoga practice, traveling, practicing positive and mindful thinking and drastically cleaned up her diet and cosmetic products.

Tara's new lifestyle has led to her achieving happiness and health through entirely natural and organic means. Coaching others to do the same, Tara launched her blog *The Organic Life* in 2012.

With her bohemian spirit, Tara continues to help others alleviate their dependence on prescription medications and helps them learn how to live in the moment and enjoy the world around them. Also a singer, Tara shares her own uplifting music with her community – expanding her creativity to clean/green makeup and clothing. In *Cured By Nature*, Tara takes readers on her emotional journey of self discovery, overcoming her own emotional and medical barriers, to live a clean and happy life – teaching others how achievable this lifestyle can be.

Tara lives in Encinitas, California. When she is not blogging, or speaking about her personal experience Tara is actively involved in charity, donating 5% of her projects' profits to The Cancer Research Institute. She also enjoys traveling and cooking during her time away from her work.



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Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE

THE SHALLOWS

When the desire of a production is to satisfy an agenda, in this case to show women can perform the same roles as men, the film suffers; mainly because audiences are savvy enough to realize they are seeing the same movie they've seen before with the main characters transposing genders. Such is the case with THE SHALLOWS.

One of the most successfully films of all time was JAWS. However, that movie involved three men, representing three different strata of society, thrown together in a microcosm universe to hunt the menace of a great white shark. But in today's Hollywood mind set, anything a man can do, a woman can do better. Thus we have Blake Lively battling a similar shark in THE SHALLOWS, a movie guaranteed to be worse than the box office draws indicate.

Lively is Nancy, a young woman going through emotional trauma over the recent death of her mother. Rather than share her grief with her family, she opts to take off alone and explore rare regions of the world, including a beach her mom once visited in 1991. Naturally, during her attempt to tame the waves of this beach, she encounters a great white who seems hell bent on making her a meal, regardless of how many other poor souls it eats.

No gun, no boat and no Matt Hooper, she engages the animal with only the tide and a buoy. She takes her lumps, but remember, this is a strong, independent woman, so she is able to endure and survive better than Leo DiCaprio in THE REVENANT. The shark may be powerful, three tons of savage rage and muscle, but she is a woman, hear her roar, so naturally, the shark has no chance.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **The breaching scene**
2. **The nom nom nom of the buoy.**
3. **The drunk**

The shark looks great. It should. Four decades after JAWS, one could expect the boys in the SFX department to come up with something better than Bruce. The sub plot of Nancy's family and her rediscovery of her dad's love is mundane and trite; poorly written pulp fiction trash. Screenwriter Anthony Jaswinski could have done this one in his sleep. Very little thought went into any story or character development. The ending is not only predictable, it's also unbelievable.

Lively does not equal the drama or talent of the trio of Shaw, Dreyfuss and Schneider. Maybe director Jaume Collet-Serra should have had three women trapped on that atoll when the tide went out.

THE GRADE FOR THE SHALLOWS = F

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN, holds truer to the original novel by Edgar Rice Burroughs than the more popular Johnny Weissmuller Tarzan series of the 1930's, but still manages to incorporate current social mores. When we first meet Tarzan, he is already back in England and serving among the British royalty. How he became Tarzan is shown very cleverly through flashback sequences, which help move the story along at a crisp pace.

In THE LEGEND OF TARZAN, John Clayton is approached by the aristocracy to return to Africa on a goodwill mission to help the King of Belgium, who is attempting to colonize the Congo. Clayton refuses, denying his past, until he is approached by Dr. George Williams, played by Samuel L. Jackson. Williams is a special envoy from America, sent by the president to investigate



whether the King may be using slavery in the Congo. Here, the script by Adam Cozad and Craig Brewer begins to disintegrate. Clayton opts to don the Tarzan mantle once again and return to Africa with Williams, though it's never clear whether he wants to save the African tribes from the evil Belgium King, or whether he is totally against the concept of slavery.

To further press the current cultural mores, Jane Parker, wife of Tarzan, played by Margot Robbie, who will soon take on a more degenerate role as Harley Quinn in SUICIDE SQUAD, is squeezed into the Woman Warrior Agenda, currently mandated by all Hollywood studios. While she, thankfully, does not burst forth felling 300 pound men with martial arts maneuvers only Jet Li could dream of, she is now a child of the jungle, rather than a damsel constantly in distress. The change is palatable, but is unnecessary for the story and definitely does not fit into the time period.

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN is so politically correct, poor Tarzan



never dons his loincloth. Though Andrew Skarsgard quickly strips off his shirt to reveal hip hugger pants, those pants stay on until the very end of the movie, when, finally, Tarzan has a pair of shorts. Jane, too, wears a dress, in various stage of disarray throughout the film.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **Catching the train.**
2. **Tarzan's battle with his brother.**
3. **The tree swinging sequences.**

Beside the infusion of politically correct themes into the story, THE LEGEND OF TARZAN suffers from poor editing in the film's final reels. Editor Mark Day, either pressed for time, or lacking the necessary segue footage, erratically bumps scenes together causing viewer confusion and giving the movie a rushed feeling. On the other hand, the CGI animals, helmed by Stuart Craig are spectacular, with the exception of the charging wildebeests; and the cinematography by Henry Braham of Tarzan's flight through the trees is eye-popping.

And finally, to keep with the humanist ideology Hollywood thrives on, the script leaves viewers wondering what all the Tarzan hullabaloo is about. When Clayton returns to the jungle, he is dusted by every animal he encounters. How did this guy get to be lord of the jungle?

THE LEGEND OF TARZAN was interesting, and I'm glad I saw the movie, if for no other reason than to see the current Hollywood interpretation of a literary icon. This new version, however, doesn't come close to bettering the MGM Weissmuller-O'Sullivan adventures during Hollywood's Golden Era.

THE GRADE FOR THE LEGEND OF TARZAN = C

THE INFILTRATOR

Pablo Escobar was to Latinos in my generation what El Chapo is to today's – vicious drug lords who occasionally used their ill-gotten fortunes to right the wrongs of their people. This gives them a pseudo Robin Hood persona and causes them to be

idolized by mistaken youths. Escobar's exploits are currently dramatized on Netflix's NARCOS, now entering its second season. The beginning of the take down of Escobar's cocaine kingdom is the subject of THE INFILTRATOR; a film centering on the exploits of Robert Mazur, the Customs Special Agent responsible for the biggest drug bust in America, at the time.

Mazur is keenly played by Bryan Cranston. Since leaving BREAKING BAD, Cranston continues to amass a solid body of thespian endeavors including GODZILLA, TRUMBO and ARGO. He is in top form here, though he is dealing with a saw-toothed script.

Outshining Cranston's performance is the supporting role of John Leguizamo, playing Emir Abreu, Mazur's sketchy partner. This is Leguizamo's best performance since playing the Clown/Violator in SPAWN. He was worthy of a Best Supporting Actor nod for that, but did not receive one. Don't be too surprised if he appears on the short list for similar honors this award's



season. Interestingly, Leguizamo will play Escobar in the film EL PATRON, scheduled for a 2017 release.

Rounding out the cast are: Olympia Dukakis as Aunt Vicky, a key element in the sting; an unrecognizable Michael Pare as Barry Seal; Benjamin Bratt as Roberto Alcaino; Amy Ryan as Bonnie Tischler; and Jasmine Jardot, as the all-important Dancer 2.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **Money in the pants**
2. **The wedding**
3. **The voodoo priest**

Technically, THE INFILTRATOR has much going for it. Cinematographer Joshua Reis shoots the movie in a New York mien, often incorporating high grain elements to capture the late 1980's era. He also stages a circle completion yin-yang sequence with a POV one shot at both the movie's beginning and concluding scenes.

The film's difficulties come in the script. Ellen Sue Brown

(another of the dreaded three-name people) adapted Mazur's own treatise for the script and attempted to put too much information into it. As a result, there are gaps in the storyline that seem to leapfrog the viewer. The workflow of the sting operation is given barely adequate time, making the story disjointed. Something as key as the relationship between Mazur and Alcaino comes too late in the film and is not allowed to evolve convincingly. Nauseatingly, Brown also has to insert graphics and commentary which attacks the Reagan Administration and the government and military in a liberal back-hand to a time most consider quite successful. The inclusions have no effect on the storyline and are so obviously inserted as propaganda that it is distracting and disruptive to the film's flow.

Like most films today, THE INFILTRATOR is too long. At two and a quarter hour, 30 min could easily have been trimmed. Editors Luis Carballar, Jeff McEvoy and David Rosenblum help create a rambling narrative, rather than a sharp, concise police tale.

THE INFILTRATOR presents a much different view of the war on drugs than SICARIO. The former is presented in chess move fashion, whereas the latter was action driven. Powerful performances, and creative cinematography make THE INFILTRATOR worth watching. The editing and scripting undo all the positives.

THE RATING FOR THE INFILTRATOR = C

LIGHTS OUT

Mario Bello is an amazingly seductive actress. She sizzles on screen with every scene. The make-up artists of LIGHTS OUT, Anthony Gordon and Koji Ohmura, do their utmost to transform the bella Bello into a haggard woman; a mother possessed of a demonic spirit. While she doesn't transform, with gyrating head spewing green vomit like Linda Blair in THE EXORCIST, she does look maniacal enough to suggest you shouldn't close your eyes nor turn your back.

LIGHTS OUT is another episode in the horror category under the tutelage of James Wan. He does not direct this film, serving only as an executive producer, but his signature trademarks from such films as THE CONJURING and ANNABELLE are quite evident here. LIGHTS OUT is a scary movie.

The film opens with a demonic attack. No reason is given; just brutal, supernatural murder. As the story unfolds, a dysfunctional family appears to be the confluence of the demon's activity. Bello is Sophie, the maternal head of the clan, who serves as a conduit for the demon. Of course, no one will admit to supernatural encounters, so Sophie's rantings are shrugged off to mental and emotional disorders.

Teresa Baker plays Rebecca, Sophie's daughter. She is, essentially, a drugged out slut. She bolted from her family when her father disappeared, just when they needed her most; a fine example of Millennial thought; concentrating on one's own needs, rather than the needs of loved ones. There is a fine cultural paradox presented here as Rebecca constantly refuses





the invitation of a commitment in a relationship with her boyfriend Bret, played by Alexander DiPersia. He wants the commitment; she wants the perks of a relationship without the commitment.

Rebecca is forced to confront her family, especially her step-brother Martin, played by Gabriel Bateman when Child Services are called due to Martin's inability to sleep. It's not long before Rebecca finds herself at odds with CYS and the demon, as she is forced to waylay her own gratuitous lifestyle to save her family.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

- 1. The opening attack in the warehouse**
- 2. Under the bed**
- 3. Bret runs away.**

Editors Michel Aller and Kirk M. Morri should be given a standing ovation for their work on *LIGHTS OUT*. The movie is the perfect length of 90 minutes. It quickly establishes the demonic entity and then sets up the conflict. There is no excess; set-up, and then straight into the spooky stuff.

The demon, played by Alicia Vela-Bailey, can only be seen in the dark. That sounds like a paradox, but it makes for pretty clever camera work from Cinematographer Marc Spicer. The scenes where the police are shooting at the demon are particularly worth noting as the creature disappears during the

gun flash and reappears immediately afterwards.

Director David F. Sandberg crafts a fine horror tale. No misunderstood spirits; no ghosts coming back to right a wrong. This is one nasty demon intent on wiping out a family and all who try to help them. Sandberg borrows a few scenes. For example, the police in the kitchen sequence is lifted, almost verbatim from *THE CONJURING 2*; but since both are in the Wan warehouse, the overlap is understandable.

When a horror film has a good scare, audiences generally follow the gasps, with a nervous laugh. There were many such laughs during the screening of *LIGHTS OUT*. There is also a standard cache of clichés: the flashlight batteries dying at the most inconvenient time; the need to go down into the dark cellar; the monster under the bed; and the old bathroom mirror ploy. In addition, Martin's father, played by Billy Burke, works in a warehouse with mannequins! Need I say more?

I for one am glad to see horror films returning to the true horror genre and leaving behind the slasher films that so dominated for decades. *THE CONJURING 2* earlier this year provided decent bumps in the night. Now *LIGHTS OUT* is another in a continuing flow of horror movies that highlight good and evil in a supernatural context. *LIGHTS OUT* is a good one. Short, spooky and sweet.

THE GRADE FOR LIGHTS OUT = B

20 Years of Stone Brewing

by Brian Meyer

What does it take for a craft brewery to be in business for 20 years? For Stone Brewing it takes a focus on creating amazing, innovative beers and a healthy dose of consistency, topped with a penchant for taking risks on big, hoppy beers before “craft beer” ever joined the general lexicon.

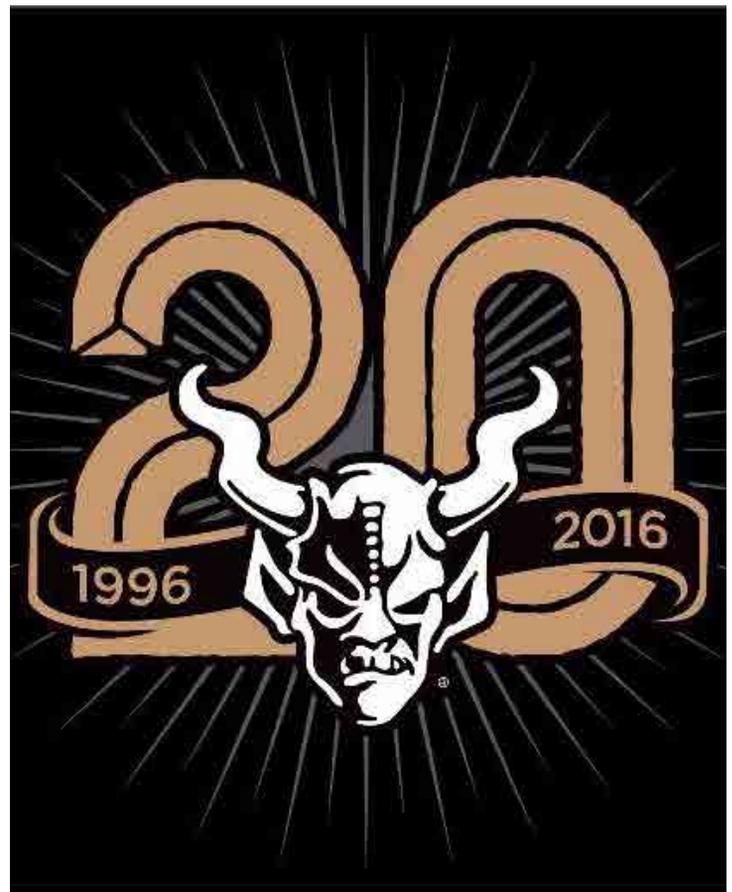
Stone Brewing was founded in 1996 by Greg Koch (pronounced “cook”) and Steve Wagner in San Marcos, CA. The first keg of beer ever produced by the brewery was their Stone Pale Ale. In their first year of brewing, Stone Brewing produced 400 barrels of beer, which was easily surpassed by the 2,100 barrels brewed in 1997. This tremendous growth has continued throughout Stone’s history, never dropping below an average of 25% growth every year.

Fast forward to 2015 and Stone Brewing produced 325,645 barrels in a single year. This steady growth should stand to show how consistently great Stone’s beers have been and continue to be. Today Stone Brewing primarily brews out of their Escondido, CA brewery, which they’ve been in since 2005. Along with the new brewery Stone also opened Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens in 2006. This amazing beer garden and world-class restaurant reflect the dedication to quality and innovation that is at the core of Stone Brewing.

Speaking of growth, 2016 marks the grand opening of Stone Brewing’s newest brewing location, and lucky for us, it’s on the east coast. Stone Brewing decided to call Richmond, VA their new home away from home, giving us east-coasters a direct line to some of the freshest beer around.

The Beers

While Stone Brewing makes some seriously amazing year round



beers, their seasonal program is really where it’s at. By keeping things fresh and changing up the big unique beers throughout the year, Stone Brewing helps to give us a taste of something different while continuing to come out with new and interesting beers on a regular basis.

Stone Mocha IPA

Now I know what you’re thinking, hops...coffee...chocolate... really? Sure, on the surface these tastes may not initially seem like they go together but once you try this seasonal warm-weather beer, you’ll be convinced that coffee and mocha in your IPA is the best idea since beer and grass cutting.

There’s something to be said about sticking to the traditional styles, and something else entirely to cross the unspoken boundaries and mix the ideals of an IPA and a stout to make an amalgamation of styles that somehow works perfectly.

While Stone’s Mocha IPA is at its core a respectable double IPA, there are definitely notes of coffee, milky sweetness from milk sugar, and a latte-like character that flows alongside the citrusy, juicy hops and the refreshing bitter finish. This seasonal beer



comes in at 9% ABV.

Stone Citrusy Wit

It may seem like Stone Brewing only likes to make big hoppy beers and while they do have a predilection for them, that doesn't mean they can't do their own take on a typically lighter style of beer every now and then, too.

Stone Citrusy Wit follows Stone Brewing's need to be unique by changing up the typical orange peel found in wits and replacing it with tangerine and kaffir lime leaf. This gives the beer a fruit-forward aromatic character as well as a definite citrus note to the flavor while keeping the beer balanced.

Stone Citrusy Wit comes in at 5.3% ABV and is available during the summer months in 12oz bottles, 6-packs, and on draft.

Stone RuinTen Triple IPA

Originally brewed in 2012 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of one of the most intense, hop-forward beers in the Stone Brewing portfolio, Stone RuinTen Triple IPA continues to celebrate everything that makes Stone Ruidation Double IPA amazing while doing so much more.

Stone RuinTen is a triple IPA coming in at a staggering 10.8% ABV and 110 IBUs. Described by Stone Brewing as "A stage dive into a mosh pit of hops," RuinTen is an over-the-top IPA that utilizes five pounds of hops in each barrel of beer to give it exceptional bitterness as well as a substantial flavor profiles that really has to be tasted to be believed.

Stone RuinTen is available seasonally, stays fresh for only 90 days, and can be found in 22oz bottles and on draft.

Stone Farking Wheaton w00tstout

What do you get when you cross a group of beer-loving nerds with a brewery that's not afraid to do something a little weird and wild? Well, if you're Wil Wheaton, Drew Curtis, and Stone Brewing CEO & co-founder Greg Koch you join forces and brew an outstanding beer and share it with the world.

With a name that's more than a mouthful, Stone Farking



Wheaton w00tstout was originally released in 2013 as one of beer's nerdiest collaborations. This year, w00tstout is brewed with wheat, pecan, and is partially aged in bourbon barrels. This strong, dark stout comes in at 13% ABV and fitting with Stone Brewing's want for being different. While not a seasonal beer and more of a special release collaboration beer, we're glad to have it around either way.

w00tstout is available in 22oz bottles and on draft, and as you can imagine is one of the more rare special release beers in Stone Brewing's portfolio, so keep your eyes peeled for some, and when it comes to buying some for yourself, do as Wil's TV boss says, and "make it so."

Stone Enjoy By 09.30.16 IPA

Stone Brewing is dedicated to fresh beer. Some breweries say they love fresh beer, but few are so dedicated as to not only print the expiration date on the bottle, but to actually make it part of the beer's name.

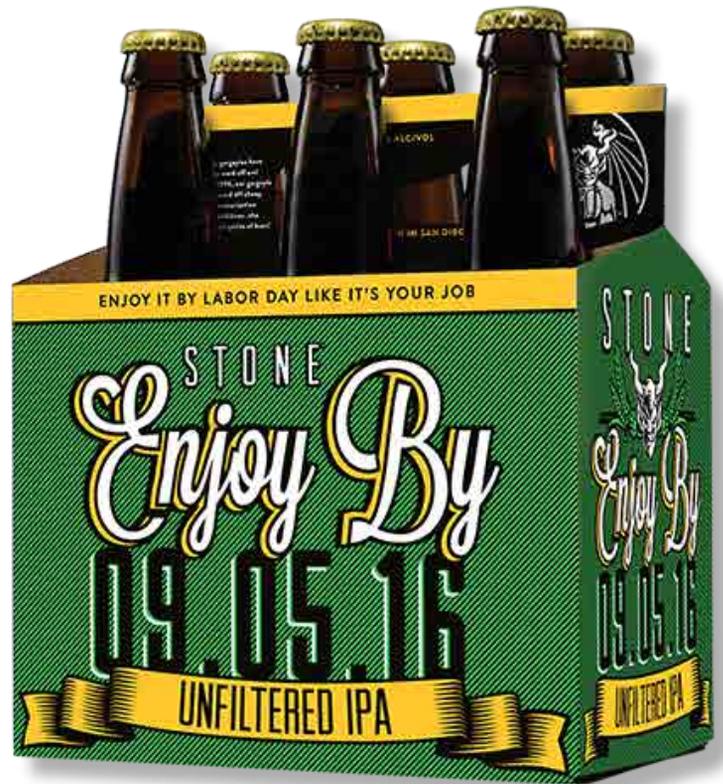
Stone Enjoy By IPA is an insanely fresh double IPA that has a staggeringly low 37-day shelf life. This dedication to freshness can't be achieved alone, it takes support from amazing local distributors like Vecenie Distributing to make sure the beer gets into our hands as quickly as possible, and to make sure only the freshest beers are in the wild.

Stone Enjoy By 09.30.16 IPA is available in 12oz bottles, 22oz bottles, and on draft. Stone Brewing releases the latest variation on August 1st, so look for it in and around Pittsburgh shortly thereafter.

The Almighty Can

Beer in a can is far from new, but craft beer in a can is a pretty fresh idea that's really starting to get legs under it lately. As an environmentally-friendly, innovative brewery, Stone Brewing is starting to embrace the aluminum vessels in a very big way. Starting off with the Arrogant Brewing line of beers, Arrogant Bastard Ale as well as Who You Callin' Wussie pilsner, which is a fairly big departure for Stone Brewing (and Arrogant Brewing, too), showing us that yellow fizzy beer doesn't have to be for wussies.

Stone Brewing is also kicking off their canning line with the classic Stone IPA in 12oz cans as well as Stone Go To IPA, their sessionable hoppy ale also in 16oz cans. Both of these beers are available in 12-packs, full cases, and variety 12-packs as well, making them the perfect beers for the beach, the yard, or a Pirates tailgate.



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Desert Oasis

By Suzanne Ferrara

It's no wonder why U.S. Presidents and Hollywood celebrities have retreated to Palm Springs Coachella Valley desert for more than a half a century. This southern California oasis has been labeled 'Hollywood's desert playground' since the 1950s; but the Hollywood nostalgia reminiscent of the glamour era and the plethora of historically-significant examples of mid-century modern architecture are just pieces of its allure.

Its cinematic natural wonders rising from the desert floor are sights to behold! The Coachella Valley is not only surrounded by the lush palm oasis of the Indian Canyons, but also the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains, and the iconic Joshua Tree National Park. Adding to the Coachella Valley's magical splendor is the San Andreas Fault, the Salton Sea, Little San Bernardino Mountains and the Chocolate Mountains. It's truly a geologist's heaven.

An exhilarating excursion into the area's natural majesty

is a must. Board one of Desert Adventure Jeep Eco-Tours for an up-close look at this cinematic, breathtaking oasis. You'll witness jaw-dropping rock formations and cascading water features shaded by canopies of the one-of-a-kind California fan palms. The Coachella Valley extends to the San Bernardino Mountains to the northern shore of the Salton Sea

Through a variety of 4WD tours you can experience the twisted landscape of an active earthquake fault system, walk between deep canyon walls created by powerful forces of plate tectonics, and witness a natural palm oasis where crystal clear water bubbles come up from the underground aquifer. Adding to this hypnotic experience comes a history lesson of the valley, one which includes the Cahuilla Indians and tales of how they used desert plants to survive.

The Desert Adventure guides know this terrain like the backs of their hands: you can hire one of the naturalists for a few



Desert Adventure Jeep Tour



Desert Adventure Jeep Tour hike stop



Omni Ranchos Las Palmas Resort and Spa

hours and customize your trip, or you can opt for a sunset, stargazing, or overnight adventure. The Desert Adventure Jeep Tours are unforgettable journeys for friends and families, and they're ones you will remember forever, and long to experience again and again.

This valley is also home to nine stunning resort communities, including the desert resort city of Palm Springs. After taking in the desert's most magical sights, be sure to tour several estates, many of them once belonging to the likes of Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Marilyn Monroe, Bob Hope and many, many more celebrities who left Hollywood for Palm Springs. As you tour these Movie Colony neighborhoods, informative and entertaining guides also reveal what went on behind the walls of these private estates.

You can even live like a star and sleep overnight at Frank Sinatra's Palm Spring's desert escape. "Old Blue Eyes" four-bedroom luxury vacation home can accommodate eight guests and can be rented for your vacation, and be sure to dip in Sinatra's famous piano-shaped swimming pool, and relax amid period furnishings and memorabilia. This famous and unique estate was designed for Sinatra by architect E. Stewart Williams.

Need other options? Relax and unwind at several luxury resorts surrounded by southern California's mountainside and palm trees, one of which is the Omni Ranchos Las Palmas Resort and Spa in Rancho Mirage. From the moment you arrive at this Palm Springs Valley resort, you will be swept off your feet by the people, the endless amenities, and the luxury accommodations.

While the kids will surely love the resort's Splashtopia water park, which includes two 100-foot water slides and sandy beach, the grownups can relax at the gorgeous adult-only Azure Pool. Be sure not to leave this resort without an amazing spa experience at the Spa Terrace, which offers the ultimate in relaxation services surrounded by panoramic mountain views. You will not leave Spa Terrace the same person you were before.

Playing a round of golf on one of three nine-hole courses at the Omni Ranchos Las Palmas Resort and Spa is a hypnotic experience as well. The lush fairways are surrounded by



Omni Ranchos Las Palmas Resort and Spa

spectacular views of the San Jacinto and San Bernardino mountains.

After working up an appetite, tempt your taste buds at the resort's bluEmber for an unforgettable dining experience. You can enjoy Executive Chef Robert Nyerick's scrumptious California New American dishes outside at the restaurant's award winning patio, inside the dining room, or cozy up by the fire pit while surrounded by with the spectacular desert mountains and panoramic vistas.

Another option for accommodations is the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort and Spa which has San Jacinto Mountains as a mesmerizing natural backdrop. From golf clinics on luscious greens to bicycle rentals along winding paths, the Westin has it all.

After getting a good night's rest, climb aboard The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway which features the world's largest rotating tram cars. Take a 10-minute ride from the desert floor, up 8,200 feet (two and a half miles) to Mount San Jacinto, for some of our planet's most awe-inspiring views. The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway offers the best views in the Greater Palm Springs area and is the biggest tourist attraction

in Greater Palm Springs.

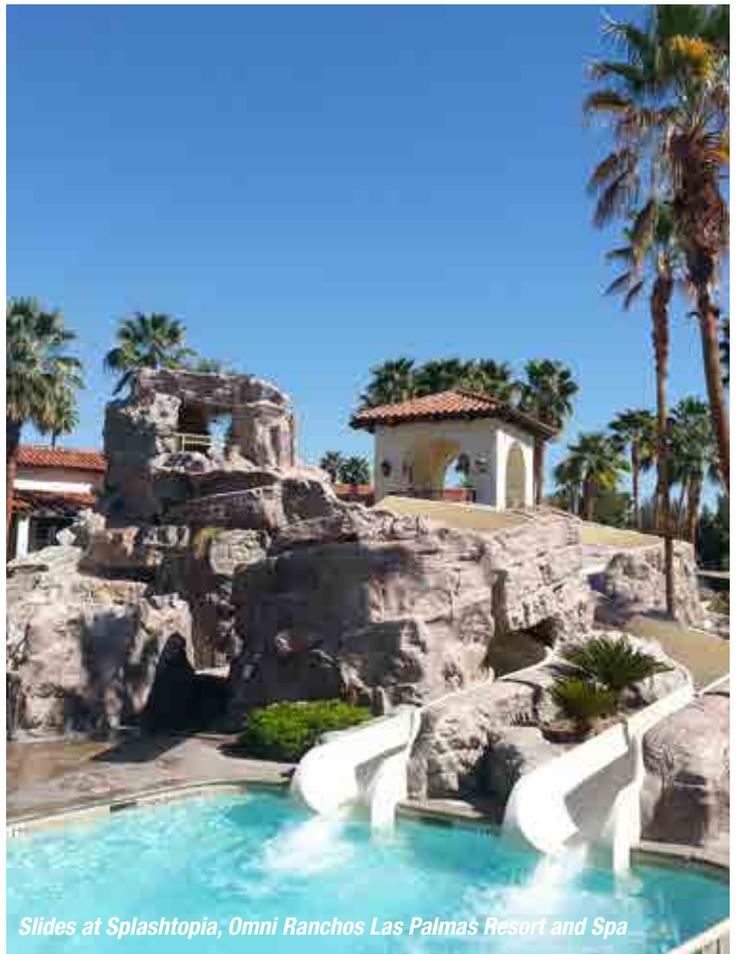
But the stunning views and the ride up isn't the only reason tourists come here. Once you reach the top of Mount San Jacinto there are observation decks, two restaurants, 50 miles of hiking trails, a natural history museum, and two documentary theaters. The Tramway Valley Station and The Tramway Mountain Station also draw in architectural buffs because they were both designed by notable mid-century architects between 1949 and 1963.

Did you know southern California is the largest producer of dates in America? It's true, and for a special experience head to the historic date palm orchard, the Shields Date Garden, which was founded in 1924 by Floyd and Bess Shields. Visit the nostalgic store that sells nearly every kind of date delicacy you can imagine (including the deliciously famous 'Date Shake'), and you can have lunch at the outdoor café.

Among the plethora of fruit dates are the Medjool dates, Deglet Noor dates, pitted dates, Halawi dates and many more, and there are also a host of date confections, stuffed dates and date sugar. The Shields Date Garden's California dates



Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort and Spa



Slides at Splashtopia, Omni Ranchos Las Palmas Resort and Spa



Shields' World Famous Date Shake

are grown right in the Coachella Valley and delivered fresh from their garden.

Among some of the most popular menu items are the famous 'Date Shake', Shields Date Pancakes, and Shields Signature Salad, and they also serve traditional American and Mexican fare. You can enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner while being surrounded by the lush Shields Gardens, which has stunning life-sized statues depicting the life of Jesus amid date palms and stunningly tranquil water features.

These dramatic statues were donated to the Shields Date Garden because they needed a new home after the property on they were once standing on in Vancouver, Canada was sold in 2011. Visitors use their smart phones to hear about the 14 scenes which include 23 statues as they walk through the winding pathways on the 17-acre date farm.

In a somewhat contrasting offering, a continuous 15-minute film entitled "The Romance and Sex Life of the Date" runs continuously during store hours. The short flick was created by Floyd Shields whose voice is still on the piece.

For more information go to visit www.greaterpalmsprings.com.

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Rina and Pietro DiPietro

Pietro (Pete) DiPietro is a native of Guardia Lombardi, Italy, came to the United States in 1969 and eventually settled in Pittsburgh. He started working at a pizza shop in the greater Pittsburgh area where he learned the restaurant business and eventually opened his own restaurant, DiPietro's Ristorante, in 1978. The business has since expanded from a ten-table pizzeria to a full-service restaurant. A dedicated steward of his community, Mr. DiPietro supports numerous community charities and programs. Mr. DiPietro truly exemplifies the finest virtues of hard work and commitment. Through his indomitable courage and enduring spirit, he has

built a foundation of self-confidence and initiative for the continued realization of his goals well into the future.

Pietro (Pete) DiPietro has been in business for 36 years and has helped our community thru his generous donations to local churches during fundraising campaigns assisting those that are less than fortunate and in need. He also supports local high school activities and athletics so students have a sense of community. In addition he has also sponsored local athletics for children outside of school hours and helped support the local Halloween parade.

Pete has also supported the local police D.A.R.E. program to teach students good decision making skills which help them lead safe and healthy lives. He has been active in the local Italian Sons and Daughters of American organization to celebrate his Italian Heritage and their goals of engaging opportunities for special needs children, offering financial assistance for young adults seeking education and support for seniors.





Pietro DiPietro and Jim Gratton, PRLA Treasurer

He has also donated his time and money to fight childhood Leukemia, which included participating in the Taste of Pittsburgh Pasta Cook Off for over 10 years while that fundraiser was active.

In his 36 years in business, he has had employees come and go, but also has had some that have remained with him for 30+ years. Their loyalty to him is reciprocated by his loyalty to them. In difficult times, such as the passing of his manager's spouse, he and his family gave their support for the manager in any way he needed. His staff is his extended family and he has been there supporting them in times of need, whether their needs have been financial, personal or professional. Pete has assisted employees who have needed counseling and rehabilitation for addiction and has even given them a place to stay when they had no place to go. He has mentored former employees, who have gone on to open their own restaurants in the Greater Pittsburgh area. He has supported them in their efforts by being available to help, guide and



answer and questions they may have had.

When asked what the American Dream meant to him, Pete responded "The American Dream means having a better life for your family and children, giving the best opportunity to be educated and be successful in their own right. It is the ability to succeed and earn according to your motivation and willingness to work hard and persevere through difficult times. It is the right, after putting in your sweat and tears into something you care about, to enjoy the fruits of your labor."

Our sincere congratulations goes out to Pietro DiPietro, one of the finest, most caring individuals I have ever known on being the recipient of the prestigious 2016 Faces of Diversity/ American Dream Award.

Please be sure and visit Pete at his restaurant and personally congratulate him at: DiPietro's Restorante - 412 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15229 - www.dipietrorestaurant.com

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Amish Elevator..

An Amish boy and his father were in a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again. The boy asked, "What is this Father?" The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is." While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat, old lady in a wheel chair moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small circular numbers above the walls light up sequentially. They continued to watch until it reached the last number and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order. Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blonde stepped out. The father said quietly to his son... "Go get your mother."

Amazing Friends

I would never trade my amazing friends and my wonderful life, or my loving family for less gray hair or a flatter belly. As I've aged, I've become kinder to myself, and less critical of myself.. I've become my own friend. I don't chide myself for eating that extra cookie, or for not making my bed, or for buying that silly cement gecko that I didn't need, but looks so avante garde on my patio. I am entitled to a treat, to be messy, to be extravagant. I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.. Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM and sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 60 & 70's, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love .. I will. I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves with abandon if I choose to, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old. I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And, I eventually remember the important things. Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child of yours is hurt and suffers? Or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car or passes away? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect. I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning gray, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So

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many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver. As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong. So, to answer your question, I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be and I shall eat dessert and drink wine every single day (if I feel like it).

All In How You Word It..

Two prostitutes were riding around town with a sign on top of their car which said: Two Prostitutes - \$50.00. A policeman, seeing the sign, stopped them and told them they'd either have to remove the sign or go to jail. Just at that time, another car passed with a sign saying: 'JESUS SAVES.' One of the girls asked the officer, 'How come you don't stop them?!' 'Well, that's a little different,' the officer smiled, 'Their sign pertains to religion.' The following day the same police officer noticed the same two hookers driving around with a large sign on their car. He figured he had an easy arrest until he read their new sign: Two Fallen Angels Seeking Peter -- \$50

Totally Wacked Out

How the world works lately...

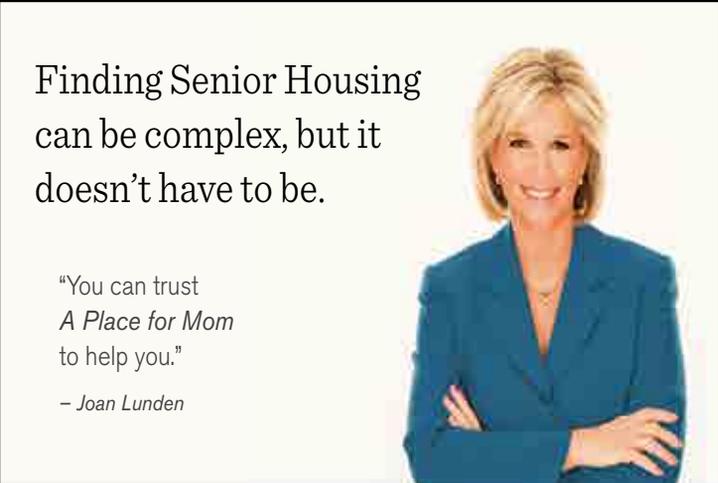
- If a man cuts his finger off while slicing salami at work, he blames the restaurant.
- If you smoke three packs a day for 40 years and die of lung cancer, your family blames the tobacco company.
- If your neighbor crashes into a tree while driving home drunk, he blames the bartender.
- If your grandchildren are brats without manners, you blame television.
- If your friend is shot by a deranged madman, you blame the gun manufacturer.
- And if a crazed person breaks into the cockpit and tries to kill the pilot at 35,000 feet, and the passengers kill him instead, the mother of the crazed deceased blames the airline.
- I must have lived too long to understand the world as it is anymore. So, if I die while my old wrinkled butt is parked in front of this computer, I want all of you to sue Bill Gates.



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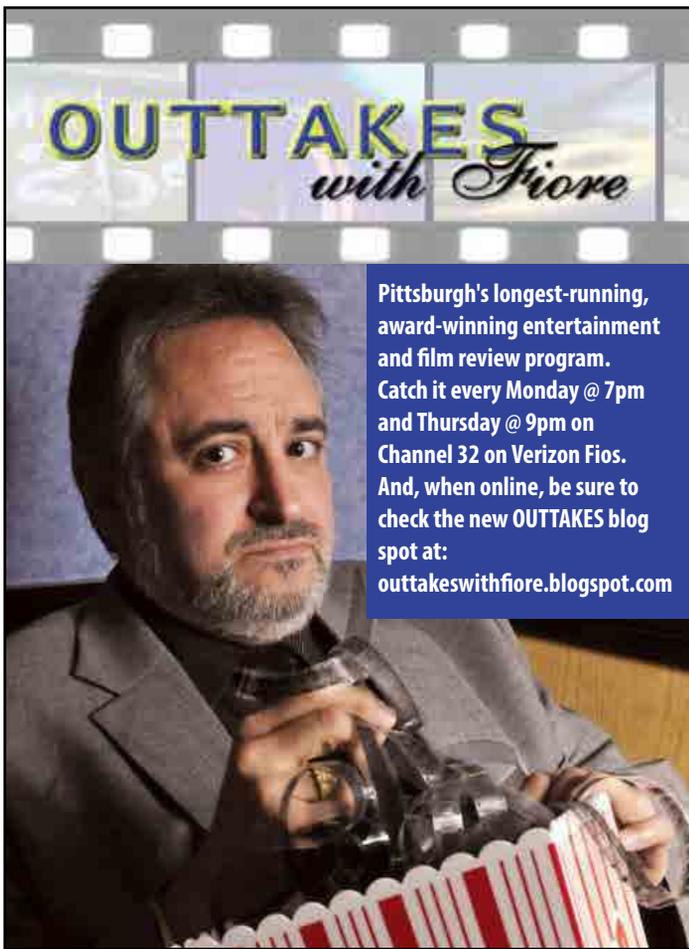
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Why men should never take messages...

Someone from the Gyna Colleges called: They said the Pabst Beer is normal. I didn't even know you liked beer!!

Little boy at the nude beach.....

A mother and father take their 6-year old son to a nude beach. As the boy walks along the sand, he notices that many of the women have boobs bigger than his mother's, so he goes back to ask her why. She tells her son, "The bigger they are, the sillier the lady is." The boy, pleased with the answer, goes to play in the ocean but returns to tell his mother that many of the men have larger things than his dad does. She replies, "The bigger they are, the dumber the man is". Again satisfied with her answer, the boy goes back to the ocean to play. Shortly thereafter, the boy returns and promptly tells his mother, "Daddy is talking to the silliest lady on the beach, and the longer he talks, the dumber he gets.

Older Women Are So Reasonable

After being married for 44 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, "44 years ago we had a cheap apartment, a cheap car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10 inch black and white TV. But I got to sleep every night with a hot 25-year old girl." "Now I have a \$1,500,000.00 home, a \$75,000.00 car, king size bed and HD TV, but, I'm sleeping with a 65-year old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things." My wife is a very reasonable woman... she told me to go out and find a hot 25-year old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment, driving a cheap car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10 inch black and white TV. Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve your mid-life crises.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

A businessman met a beautiful girl and agreed to spend the night with her for \$500. They did their thing, and, before he left, he told her that he did not have any cash with him, but he would have his secretary write a check and mail it to her, calling the payment 'RENT FOR APARTMENT.' On the way to the office, he regretted what he had done, realizing that the whole event had not been worth the price.. So he had his secretary send a check for \$250 and enclose the following typed note:

'Dear Madam:

Enclosed find a check for \$250 for rent of your apartment. I am not sending the amount agreed upon, because when I rented the place, I was under the impression that:

- #1 - it had never been occupied;
- #2 - there was plenty of heat; and
- #3 - it was small enough to make me feel cozy and at home.

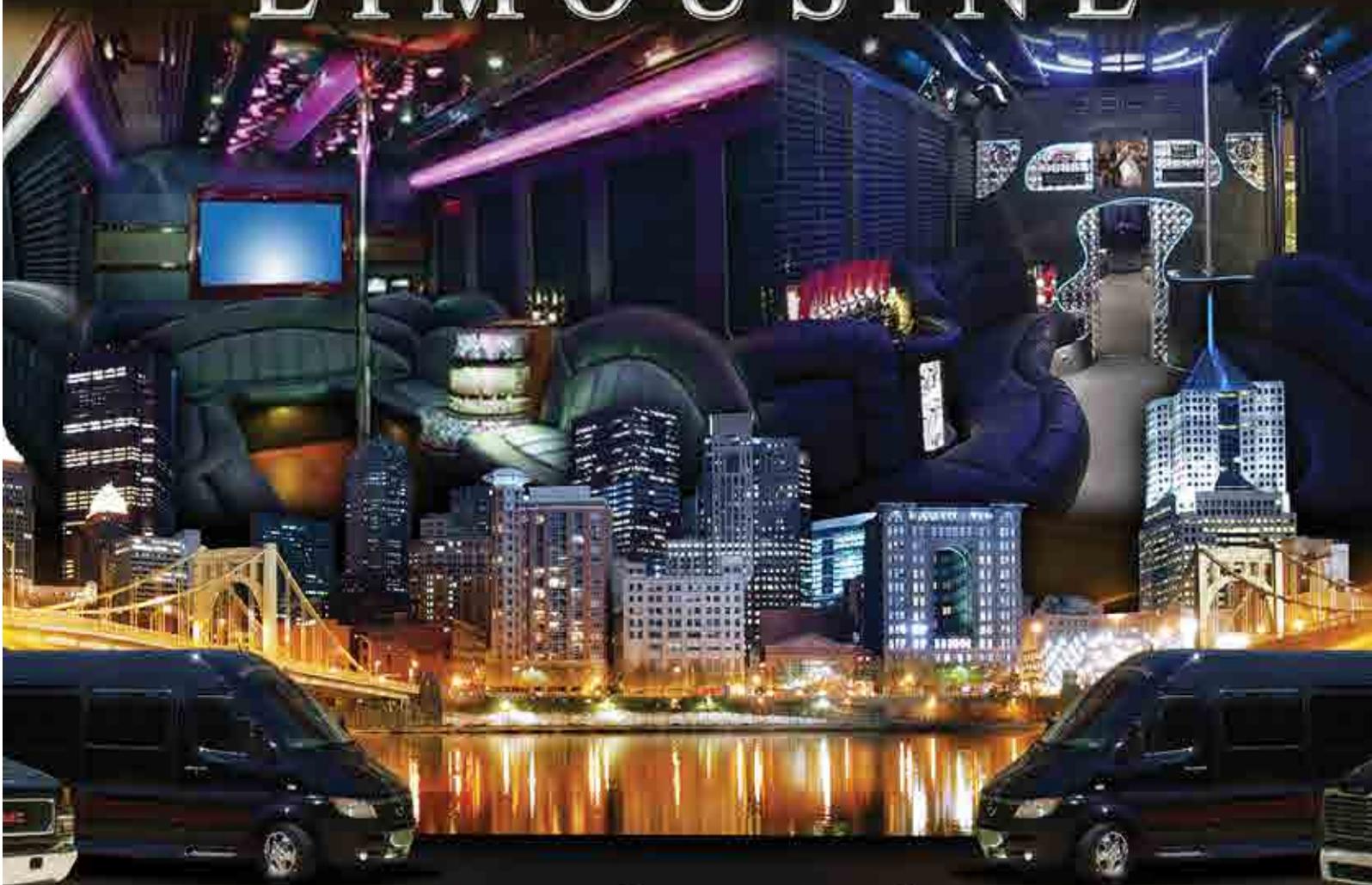


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However, I found out that:

- #1 - it had been previously occupied,
- #2 - there wasn't any heat, and
- #3 - it was entirely too large.'

Upon receipt of the note, the girl immediately returned the check for \$250 with the following note:

Dear Sir:

- #1 - I cannot understand how you could expect a beautiful apartment to remain unoccupied indefinitely.
- #2 - As for the heat, there is plenty of it, if you know how to turn it on.
- #3 - Regarding the space, the apartment is indeed of regular size, but if you don't have enough furniture to fill it, please do not blame the management. So, Please send the rent in full or we will be forced to contact your present landlady.

VASECTOMY!

A Kentucky couple, both bona fide rednecks, had 9 children. They went to the doctor to see about getting the husband 'fixed'. The doctor gladly started the required procedure and asked them what finally made them make the decision, why after nine children, would they choose to do this. The husband replied that they had read in a recent article that one out of every ten children being born in the United States was Mexican, and they didn't want to take a chance on having a Mexican baby because neither of them could speak Spanish.

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT STEELER FOOTBALL?

Being a Steeler fan means so much more than football. It means being from a corner of the world unlike any other. It means being from a place where the people are so tough-minded that they have survived the Homestead strikes, the Johnstown flood and most recently the Etna Floods. These people have the DNA of hard work, in mills and mines, without the necessity of complaint.. They live simply, with no frills. They don't have movie stars or fancy cars. Instead, they have simple traditions like kielbasa, Kennywood, and celebrations. They live in distinctive neighborhoods like Polish Hill and the Hill District and all of the surrounding counties. These people are genuine. They don't have chic Internet cafes and cappuccinos, but they have The Original Hot Dog joint, Primanti's, Eat n' Park and Iron City Beer. People from Pittsburgh don't have sunny beaches or huge fancy boats, but the rivers roll gently, connecting the small towns of people whose histories have been built on strength and humility. People from Pittsburgh don't have the biggest shopping malls

Why not make some summer memories with a new family member?



My name is Millie and I'm a 9 year old Hound/Terrier mix. I'm a very sweet girl and I have the silliest personality! Since I was found as a stray, the nice people here at the shelter aren't sure how I would do in a home with children but they can see I'd be great with other dogs! I ride well in a car and still have tons of energy.



My name is Prince and I'm a 5 year old black and white short hair cat. I'm a very loving boy and I love to take naps! I like to tell you all about my day, too, so be ready to sit back and listen! I would be great in a home with other cats, dogs and children of all ages.



My name is Penny and I'm a 5 year old grey tabby with the sweetest face! I was brought to the shelter as a stray and haven't had any problems adjusting to my surroundings. I get along with other cats and children but we're unsure of dogs right now. I love to look out the window and lay on the cat trees.



My name is Puffy D and I'm an 8 year old American Eskimo Dog. I'm very sweet and love to cuddle. I'm a diabetic, so my new owners will have to be comfortable tending to my medical needs. I would be great in a home with other dogs and kids of all ages.

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Humor

or the best nightclubs, but they'll take Friday night high school football and Steeler Sunday over anything. Steeler football means so much more than you think. It symbolizes a diaspora of generations who had the best childhood they could imagine. They ran free without a care or concern in the valleys of those Allegheny Mountains. Their blue-collar world was easy ... there was no one to tell them that they lacked material things. There was no one to tell them that they needed more. As the steel mills closed and the jobs disappeared, some of these people had to leave. While the world benefits because they spread their Pittsburgh values, they long for their home where things were simpler and more pure. They teach their kids about Jack Lambert, Lynn Swann, Terry Bradshaw, Franco Harris, Jack Ham, L.C. Greenwood, Joe Greene, and Myron Cope in hopes of imparting not just the knowledge, but the feeling that they represented. They are everywhere, those Terrible Towels. They wave, not just for the team, but for the hearts they left behind. They wave in living rooms in Fort Lauderdale and in the bars of Washington, D.C. They wave all the way to the Seattle Superdome! They wave for the Rooney family, whose values mirror our own - loyalty, grit, and humility. They wave

for football players like Jerome Bettis and Hines Ward, whose unselfishness and toughness have allowed sports to be about the game and the team. Make no mistake that Steeler football is not just about football. I could not be prouder to be from the Pittsburgh area than I am right now!! Even if you no longer live in the area, you have South Western Pennsylvania in your blood no matter where you go. And deep down in your heart of hearts, you can still hear the Super Bowls of times past, the excitement in everyone's voices especially our fathers, cousins, and anyone else who gathered around the TV on Football Sundays! Make no mistake; it's just as exciting right now! It's not just about rivalries and who is better than the other; it's about family, tradition and roots! It's more than football, but its football at its finest! If you now live in Arizona, Colorado, Ohio, Indiana, California, Florida, Nevada, or Texas, be proud of where you were born and who your FIRST favorite football team was! Go Steelers take us to the Super Bowl this year!

Graveside Ceremony

As a young piper, I was asked by a funeral director to play at a grave-side service for a homeless man, with no family or



The advertisement for Blackwhale Design features a central computer monitor displaying a stylized black whale logo with red flames above its head. To the left of the monitor, a collage of various design samples is shown, including a business card, a poster with a red whale, a 'SCOA' logo, a 'SPAGHETTI WESTERN' poster, and a 'EAT Drink MARRIED' sign. Above the monitor, the company logo 'BLACKWHALE DESIGN' is displayed in black, with a red flame above the whale head. Below the logo, the text 'Graphic Design' is written in a large, red, serif font. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text 'LOGOS | WEB DESIGN | FLYERS | T-SHIRTS' is written in a black, sans-serif font. The website address 'www.blackwhaledesign.com' is displayed in a white, sans-serif font on a red background at the very bottom.

friends. The funeral was to be held at a cemetery way back in the country, and this man would be the first to be laid to rest there. As I was not familiar with the backwoods area, I became lost; and being a typical man did not stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late. I saw the backhoe and the crew, who were eating lunch, but the hearse was nowhere in sight. I apologized to the workers for my tardiness, and stepped to the side of the open grave, where I saw the vault lid already in place. I assured the workers I would not hold them up for long, but this was the proper thing to do. The workers gathered around, still eating their lunch. I played out my heart and soul. As I played the workers began to weep. I played, and I played, like I'd never played before: From My Home & The Lord Is My Shepherd to Flowers of the Forest. I closed the lengthy session of Amazing Grace and walked to my car. As I was opening the door and taking off my coat, I overheard one of the workers saying to another, 'Lord thunder Jesus, I ain't never seen nor heard nothing like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years.'

God's thoughts on lawns

GOD says to St. Francis, You know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistles and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

St. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

St. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.



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GOD: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it - sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bail it like hay to feed the animals?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, Sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No. What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: 'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

One Flaw In Women

Women have strengths that amaze men. They bear hardships and they carry burdens, but they hold happiness, love and joy. They smile when they want to scream. They sing when they want to cry. They

cry when they are happy and laugh when they are nervous. They fight for what they believe in. They stand up to injustice. They don't take "no" for an answer when they believe there is a better solution. They go without so their family can have. They go to the doctor with a frightened friend. They love unconditionally. They cry when their children excel and cheer when their friends get awards. They are happy when they hear about a birth or a wedding. Their hearts break when a friend dies. They grieve at the loss of a family member, yet they are strong when they think there is no strength left. They know that a hug and a kiss can heal a broken heart. Women come in all shapes, sizes and colors. They'll drive, fly, walk, run, text or e-mail you to show how much they care about you. The heart of a woman is what makes the world keep turning. They bring joy, hope and love. They have the compassion and ideas. They give moral support to their family and friends. Women have vital things to say and everything to give. However, if there is one flaw in women, it is that they forget their worth.

The Hormone Guide

Women will understand this and men should memorize it! Every woman knows that there are days in the month when all a man has to do is open his mouth and he takes his life in his own hands! This is a handy guide that should be as common as a driver's license in the wallet of every husband, boyfriend, co-worker or significant other!

DANGEROUS: What's for dinner?

SAFER: Can I help you with dinner?

SAFEST: Where would you like to go for dinner?

ULTRA SAFE: Here, have some wine.

DANGEROUS: Are you wearing that?

SAFER: Wow, you sure look good in brown!

SAFEST: WOW! Look at you!

ULTRA SAFE: Here, have some wine.

DANGEROUS: What are you so worked up about?

SAFER: Could we be overreacting?

SAFEST: Here's my paycheck.

ULTRA SAFE: Here, have some wine.

DANGEROUS: Should you be eating that?

SAFER: You know, there are a lot of apples left.

SAFEST: Can I get you a piece of chocolate with that?

ULTRA SAFE: Here, have some wine.

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DANGEROUS: What did you DO all day?
SAFER: I hope you didn't over-do it today.
SAFEST: I've always loved you in that robe!
ULTRA SAFE: Here, have some wine.

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Try everything twice. On Madams tombstone (of Whelan's and Madam) she said she wanted this epitaph: Tried everything twice...loved it both times!
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down. (keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches)
3. Keep learning: Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain get idle. 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop.' And the devil's name is Alzheimer's!
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have a friend who makes you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with HIM/HER.
6. The tears happen: Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. LIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love: Whether it's family,

pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.

8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.
11. Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time. Lost time can never be found. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

A TRIP TO SAM'S CLUB

Yesterday I was at my local Sam's Warehouse buying a large bag of Purina dog chow for my loyal pet, Biscuit, the Wonder Dog, and was in the checkout line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What did she think I had an elephant? So since I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting the Purina Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in the hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms. I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet



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and that the way that it works is to load your pants pockets with Purina nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled with my story.) Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I stepped off a curb to sniff an Irish Setter's butt and a car hit us both. I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard. Sam's won't let me shop there anymore. Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say.

Murder at Wal-Mart

So, here's the story: Tired of constantly being broke and stuck in an unhappy marriage, a young husband decided to solve both problems by taking out a large insurance policy on his wife with himself as the beneficiary, and then arranging to have her killed. A 'friend of a friend' put him in touch with a nefarious dark-side underworld figure that went by the name of 'Artie'... Artie then explained to the husband that his going price for snuffing out a spouse was \$5,000. The husband said he was willing to pay that amount, but that he wouldn't have any cash on hand until

he could collect his wife's insurance money. Artie insisted on being paid at least something up front, so the man opened his wallet, displaying the single dollar bill that rested inside. Artie sighed, rolled his eyes and reluctantly agreed to accept the dollar as down payment for the dirty deed.. A few days later, Artie followed the man's wife to the local Super Wal-Mart store. There, he surprised her in the produce department and proceeded to strangle her with his gloved hands and as the poor unsuspecting woman drew her last breath and slumped to the floor. The manager of the produce department stumbled unexpectedly onto the murder scene.. Unwilling to leave any living witnesses behind, ol' Artie had no choice but to strangle the produce manager as well. However, unknown to Artie, the entire proceedings were captured by the hidden security cameras and observed by the store's security guard, who immediately called the police.. Artie was caught and arrested before he could even leave the store. Under intense questioning at the police station, Artie revealed the whole sordid plan, including his unusual financial arrangements with the hapless husband who was also quickly arrested. The next day in the newspaper, the headline declared ... (You're going to hate use for this ...) (Really hate us ...)" ARTIE CHOKES 2 for \$1.00 AT WAL-MART! " Oh, quit groaning! We didn't write this stuff...

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Great Joke..

It has long been contended that there are male jokes and there are female jokes, and there are unisex jokes. Here is a joke I consider a true female joke. I offer it to you in the hopes that women will love it and men will share it with a woman who will love it! A woman was sitting at a bar enjoying an after work cocktail with her girlfriends when Steven a tall, exceptionally handsome, extremely sexy, middle-aged man entered. He was so striking that the woman could not take her eyes off him. The young-at-heart man noticed her overly attentive stare and walked directly toward her. (As All men will.) Before she could offer her apologies for staring so rudely, he leaned over and whispered to her, 'I'll do anything, absolutely anything, that you want me to do, no matter how kinky, for \$20.00..... On one condition. Flabbergasted, the woman asked what the condition Was. The man replied, 'You have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words.' The woman considered his proposition for a moment, And then slowly removed a \$20 bill from her purse, Which she pressed into the man's hand along with her address. She looked deeply into his eyes, slowly and meaningfully said.... 'Clean my house.' (YOU GO, GIRL!)

Mother of the Bride

Jennifer's wedding day was fast approaching. Nothing could dampen her excitement -- not even her parent's nasty divorce. Her mother had found the PERFECT dress to wear and would be the best dressed mother- of-the-bride ever! A week later, Jennifer was horrified to learn that her father's new young wife had bought the exact same dress! Jennifer asked her to exchange it, but she refused. 'Absolutely not, I look like a million bucks in this dress and I'm wearing it,' she replied. Jennifer told her mother who graciously said, 'Never mind sweetheart. I'll get another dress. After all, it's your special day.' A few days later, they went shopping and did find another gorgeous dress. When they stopped for lunch, Jennifer asked her mother, 'Aren't you going to return the other dress? You really don't have another occasion where you could wear it. Her mother just smiled and replied, 'Of course I do, dear. I'm wearing it to the rehearsal dinner the night before the wedding.' Now, I ask you? Is there a woman out there anywhere, who wouldn't enjoy this story??? Never underestimate a woman!!

Five Minute Management Course

Lesson 1 - A man is getting into the shower just as his wife is finishing up her shower, when the doorbell rings. The wife quickly wraps herself in a towel and runs downstairs. When she opens the door, there stands Bob, the next-door neighbor. Before she says



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a word, Bob says, 'I'll give you \$800 to drop that towel.' After thinking for a moment, the woman drops her towel and stands naked in front of Bob, after a few seconds, Bob hands her \$800 and leaves. The woman wraps back up in the towel and goes back upstairs. When she gets to the bathroom, her husband asks, 'Who was that?' It was Bob the next door neighbor,' she replies. 'Great,' the husband says, 'did he say anything about the \$800 he owes me?' **Moral of the story:** If you share critical information pertaining to credit and risk with your shareholders in time, you may be in a position to prevent avoidable exposure.

Lesson 2 - A priest offered a Nun a lift. She got in and crossed her legs, forcing her gown to reveal a leg. The priest nearly had an accident. After controlling the car, he stealthily slid his hand up her leg. The nun said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?' The priest removed his hand. But, changing gears, he let his hand slide up her leg again. The nun once again said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?' The priest apologized 'Sorry sister but the flesh is weak.' Arriving at the convent, the nun sighed heavily and went on her way. On his arrival at the church, the priest rushed to look up Psalm 129. It said, 'Go forth and seek, further up, you will find glory.'

Moral of the story: - If you are not well informed in your job, you might miss a great opportunity.

Lesson 3 - A sales rep, an administration clerk, and the manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp. They rub it and a Genie comes out. The Genie says, 'I'll give each of you just one wish. Me first! Me first!' says the admin clerk. I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world. Poof! She's gone. Me next! Me next! says the sales rep. I want to be in Hawaii, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas and the love of my life. Poof! He's gone. OK, you're up, the Genie says to the manager. The manager says, I want those two back in the office after lunch. **Moral of the story:** Always let your boss have the first say.

Lesson 4 -An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, Can I also sit like you and do nothing? The eagle answered: Sure, why not. So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it. **Moral of the story:** To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very,very high up.



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Lesson 5 -A turkey was chatting with a bull. 'I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree' sighed the turkey, 'but I haven't got the energy.' 'Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?' replied the bull. They're packed with nutrients.' The turkey pecked at a lump of dung, and found it actually gave him enough strength to reach the lowest branch of the tree. The next day, after eating some more dung, he reached the second branch. Finally after a fourth night, the turkey was proudly perched at the top of the tree. He was promptly spotted by a farmer, who shot him out of the tree.

Moral of the story: Bull Shit might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there..

Lesson 6 -A little bird was flying south for the winter. It was so cold the bird froze and fell to the ground into a large field. While he was lying there, a cow came by and dropped some dung on him. As

the frozen bird lay there in the pile of cow dung, he began to realize how warm he was. The dung was actually thawing him out! He lay there all warm and happy, and soon began to sing for joy. A passing cat heard the bird singing and came to investigate. Following the sound, the cat discovered the bird under the pile of cow dung, and promptly dug him out and ate him. **Morals of the story:** (1) Not everyone who shits on you is your enemy. (2) Not everyone who gets you out of shit is your friend. (3) And when you are in deep shit, it is best to keep your mouth shut!

THIS ENDS THE FIVE MINUTE MANAGEMENT COURSE

All About Farts

A fart can be quiet, a fart can be loud, some leave a powerful, poisonous cloud. A fart can be short, or a fart can be long, some farts have been known to sound like a song..... A fart can create a most curious medley, a fart can be harmless, or silent, and deadly. One fart might not smell, while others are vile, a fart may pass quickly, or linger a while..... A fart can occur in a number of places, and leave everyone there, with strange looks on their faces. From wide-open prairie, to a small elevator, a fart will find all of us sooner or later. But to say that farts are all bad, is simply not true- we must not forget.....there are sweet old farts like you!

Sunday Clothes

A little boy was walking down a dirt road after church one Sunday afternoon when he came to a crossroads where he met a little girl coming from the other direction. Hello,' said the little boy 'Hi,' replied the little girl. 'Where are you going?' asked the little boy. 'I've been to church this morning and I'm on my way home,' answered the little girl. 'I'm also on my way home from church. Which church do you go to?' asked the little boy. 'I go to the Baptist church

back down the road,' replied the little girl. 'What about you?' 'I go to the Methodist church back at the top of the hill,' Replied the little boy. They discover that they are both going the same way So they decided that they'd walk together. They came to a low spot in the road where spring rains had partially flooded the road, so there was no way that they could get across to the other side without getting wet. 'If I get my new Sunday dress wet, my Mom's going to skin me alive,' said the little girl. 'My Mom will tan my hide, too, if I get my new Sunday suit wet,' replied the little boy. 'I tell you what I think I'll do,' said the little girl. 'I'm gonna pull off all my clothes and hold them over my head and wade across.' 'That's a good idea,' replied the little boy. 'I'm going to do the same thing with my suit.' So they both undressed and waded across to the other side without getting their clothes wet.. They were standing there in the sun waiting to drip dry before putting their clothes back on, when the little boy finally remarked: 'You know, I never realized before just how much difference there really is between a BAPTIST and a METHODIST!

Blonde Swimmer

A man met a beautiful blonde lady and decided he wanted to marry her right away. She said, 'But we don't know anything about each other.' He said, 'That's all right, we'll learn about each other as we go along.' So she consented, they were married, and off they went on a honeymoon at a very nice resort. One morning they were lying by the pool, when he got up off of his towel, climbed up to the 10 meter board and did a two and a half tuck, followed by three rotations in the pike position, at which point he straightened out and cut the water like a knife. After a few more demonstrations, he came back and lay down on the towel. She said, 'That

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was incredible!' He said, 'I used to be an Olympic diving champion. You see, I told you we'd learn more about each other as we went along.' So she got up, jumped in the pool and started doing lengths. After seventy-five lengths she climbed out of the pool, lay down on her towel and was hardly out of breath. He said, 'That was incredible! Were you an Olympic endurance swimmer?' 'No,' she said, 'I was a hooker in Pittsburgh and I worked both sides of the river.'

Thought for the Day

I'm just passing this thought along Have you ever wondered if the one dollar bills in your wallet were ever in a strippers' butt crack? If not, you're wondering now. Have a nice day .

The \$100 Bill

Little boy wanted \$100.00 very badly and prayed for weeks, but nothing happened. Then he decided to write God a letter requesting the \$100.00. When the postal authorities received the letter to God, USA, they decided to send it to the President. The President was so amused that he instructed his secretary to send the little boy a \$ 5.00 bill. The President thought this would appear to be a lot of money to a little boy. The little boy was delighted with the \$5.00 bill and sat down to write a thank-you note to God, which read: Dear God: Thank you very much for sending the money. However, I noticed that for some reason you sent it through Washington D.C. and those a-holes took \$95.00 in taxes.

Blonde Cooks for Tom

It's fun to cook for Tom. Today I made angel food cake. The recipe said beat 12 eggs separately. The neighbors were nice enough to loan me some extra bowls. Tom wanted fruit salad for supper. The recipe said serve without dressing. So I didn't dress. What a surprise when Tom

brought a friend home for supper. Today is a good day for rice. The recipe said wash thoroughly before steaming the rice. Today Tom asked for salad again I tried a new recipe. It said prepare ingredients; lay on a bed of lettuce one hour before serving. Tom asked me why I was rolling around in the garden.. I found an easy recipe for cookies. It said put the ingredients in a bowl and beat it. There must have been something wrong with this recipe. When I got back, everything was the same as when I left. Tom did the shopping today and brought home a chicken. He asked me to dress it for Sunday. I don't have any clothes that fit it, and for some reason Tom is counting to ten. Tom's folks came to dinner. I wanted to serve roast but all I had was hamburger. Suddenly I had a flash of genius.. I put the hamburger in the oven and set the controls for roast. It still came out hamburger, much to my disappointment.. GOOD NIGHT DEAR DIARY. This has been a very exciting week! I am eager for tomorrow to come so I can try out a new recipe on Tom. If I can talk Tom into buying a bigger oven, I would like to surprise him with a chocolate moose.

Little Ralphy on Math:

A teacher asks her class, 'If there are 5 birds sitting on a fence and you shoot one of them, how many will be left?' She calls on little Ralphy. He replies, 'None, they will all fly away with the first gunshot.' The teacher replies, 'The correct answer is 4, but I like your thinking.' Then little Ralphy says, 'I have a question for you. There are 3 women sitting on a bench having ice cream: One is delicately licking the sides of the triple scoop of ice cream. The second is gobbling down the top and sucking the cone. The third is biting off the top of the ice cream. Which one is married?' The teacher, blushing a great deal, replied, 'Well, I suppose the one that's gobbled down the top and sucked the cone.' To which Little Ralphy replied, 'The correct

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answer is 'the one with the wedding ring on,' but I like your thinking.'

Little Ralphy on Math – Part 2

Little Ralphy returns from school and says he got an F in arithmetic. 'Why?' asks the father? 'The teacher asked 'How much is 2x3,' I said '6', replies Ralphy. 'But that's right!' says his dad. 'Yeah, but then she asked me 'How much is 3x2?'' 'What's the f..... Difference?' asks the father. 'That's what I said!'

Little Ralphy on English

Little Ralphy goes to school, and the teacher says, 'Today we are going to learn multi-syllable words, class. Does anybody have an example of a multi-syllable word?' Ralphy says 'Mas-tur-bate.' Miss Rogers smiles and says, 'Wow, little Ralphy, that's a mouthful.' Little Ralphy says, 'No, Miss Rogers, you're thinking of a blowjob.'

Little Ralphy on Grammer

One day, during lessons on proper grammar, the teacher asked for a show of hands from those who could use the word 'beautiful' in the same sentence twice.

First, she called on little Suzie, who responded with, 'My father bought my mother a beautiful dress and she looked beautiful in it.' 'Very good, Suzie,' replied the teacher. She then called on little Michael. 'My mummy planned a beautiful banquet and it turned out beautifully.' She said, 'Excellent, Michael!' Then the teacher reluctantly called on little Ralphy. 'Last night at the dinner table, my sister told my father that she was pregnant, and he said 'Beautiful, just f..... Beautiful!''

The Thingy

Why men can pee standing up.. God was just about done creating human beings and he two parts left over. He couldn't decide how to split them between Adam and Eve so He thought he might as well ask them. He told them one of the things he had left would allow the owner to pee while standing up. It's a very handy thing God told them and I was wondering if either of you had a preference for it. Well, Adam jumped up and down and begging, oh please give that to me! I'd love to be able to do that! It just seems like the sort of a thing a man should have. Please, please give it to me! On and on he went like an excited little boy. Eve just smiled and told God that if Adam wanted that badly, he could have it. So God gave Adam the thing that allowed him to pee



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standing up. Adam was so excited he started whizzing all over the place – first on the side of a rock, then he wrote his name in the sand and then he tried to see if he could hit a stump ten foot away – laughing with delight all the while. God and Eve watched with amusement and then God said to Eve – well I guess your stuck with the last thing I have left. What is it called asked Eve. Brains replied God!

An Affair with an Older Woman

I ended up with an older woman at a club last night. She look pretty good for a 60 year old. In fact, she wasn't too bad at all, and I found myself thinking she probably had a really hot daughter. We drank a bit, well, more than a bit. We had a snuggle and she asked me if I had ever had a "Scotchman's double?" What's that I asked? It's a mother/daughter threesome, she said. Oh, I said as my mind began to embrace the idea. No, I haven't and wondered what this daughter of hers might look like. We drank a bit more, and then she says with a wink that tonight was my lucky night. I went back to her place. We walked in. She put on the hall lights and shouted upstairs "Mom are you still awake?"

Philosophy and Dating

A boy is about to go on his first date, and is nervous about what to talk about. He asks his father for advice. The father replies: "My son, there are three subjects that always work. These are food, family, and philosophy." The boy picks up his date and they go to a soda fountain. Ice cream sodas in front of them, they stare at each other for a long time, as the boy's nervousness builds. He remembers his father's advice, and chooses the first topic. He asks the girl: "Do you like potato pancakes?" She says "No," and the silence returns. After a few more uncomfortable minutes, the boy thinks of his father's suggestion and turns to the second item on the list. He asks, "Do you have a brother?" Again, the girl says "No" and there is silence once again. The boy then plays his last card. He thinks of his father's advice and asks the girl the following question: "If you had a brother, would he like potato pancakes?"

Blonde Paint Job

A blonde, wanting to earn some money, decided to hire herself out as a handyman-type and started canvassing a wealthy neighborhood. She went to the front door of the first house and asked the owner if he had any jobs for her to do. "Well, you can



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paint my porch. How much will you charge?" The blonde said, "How about 50 dollars?" The man agreed and told her that the paint and ladders that she might need were in the garage. The man's wife, inside the house, heard the conversation and said to her husband, "Does she realize that the porch goes all the way around the house?" The man replied, "She should. She was standing on the porch." A short time later, the blonde came to the door to collect her money. "You're finished already?" he asked. "Yes," the blonde answered, "and I had paint left over, so I gave it two coats." Impressed, the man reached in his pocket for the \$50. "And by the way," the blonde added, "that's not a Porch, it's a Ferrari."

Only Three Doors

An airline captain was breaking in a new blonde flight attendant. The route they were flying had a layover in another city. Upon their arrival, the captain showed the flight attendant the best place for airline personnel to eat, shop and stay overnight. The next morning, as the pilot was preparing the crew for the day's route, he noticed the new flight attendant was missing. He knew which room she was in at the hotel and called her up wondering what happened. She answered the phone, crying, and said she couldn't get out of her room. "You can't get out of your room?" the captain asked, "Why not?" The flight attendant replied: "There are only three doors in here," she sobbed, "one is the bathroom, one is the closet, and one has a sign on it that says 'Do Not Disturb!'"

The Funniest Blonde Jokes

I knew a blonde that was so stupid that.....

- she called me to get my phone number.
- she spent 20 minutes looking at the orange juice box because it said "concentrate."
- she put lipstick on her forehead because she wanted to make up her mind.
- she tried to put M&M's in alphabetical order.
- she sent me a fax with a stamp on it.
- she tried to drown a fish.
- she thought a quarterback was a refund.
- she got locked in a grocery store and starved to death.
- she tripped over a cordless phone.
- she took a ruler to bed to see how long she slept.
- she asked for a price check at the Dollar Store.
- she studied for a blood test.
- she thought Meow Mix was a CD for cats.
- when she heard that 90% of all crimes occur around the home, she moved.
- when she missed the 44 bus, she took the 22 bus twice

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