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NOVEMBER 2013

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Dating

The Weather Is Changing... So Should Your Love Life

By: Michael Kyle

Fall is upon us, and the city's landscape is changing. As matchmakers, we love this time of year because we get busier as it gets colder. Just because the weather is changing, you shouldn't stop searching for that special someone. Don't fall into the trap of feeling alone during this beautiful time of year. If you find yourself eating ice cream, and staying indoors, then you should follow these five easy steps to help you find your perfect match:

1.) Invest In Yourself

After Thanksgiving, some people have a tendency to forget about their fitness goals. They figure that since they are single they don't have to impress anyone, and let themselves go. It's important that you do not fall into this trap. This fall and winter, you should invest in yourself! That wardrobe you've always wanted, you deserve it... go get it! That extra weight you've always wanted to lose should become your top priority. When you look and feel your best, other people notice. Confidence is key when it comes to dating.

2.) Join a Group or Start a Hobby

If there is something that you've always been interested in doing, now is a perfect time to get involved! There are so many activities that you can get involved with around the city like volunteering, yoga, or cultural groups. The more you get out and become more social, the more likely you are to meet someone. Most singles think that if they're not looking for the one, that person will come when they least expect it. That's not necessarily true; being proactive in your dating life is the first step to meeting someone. There's a great website called meetup.com that helps connect people with common interests. This could be a good place to start looking for a social group to join.

3.) Be An Active Dater

Are your friends trying to match you with a friend of a friend? Well, you should take the date! Yes, it may not work out and blind dates can be scary, but it's good experience. The more experienced you are at dating, the better you get at it. Some of the dates could be bad, but that just helps you define what it is you want and don't want in a partner. It will also help you be more confident when it comes to meeting new people. Let's face it; they don't have a dating 101 class in college. The only way you can learn about dating is if you actively do it.

4.) Get Your Mind Right

This is one of the huge problems in dating. You could go out on 50 first dates and not find the one if you don't know what you're looking for! I'm not saying go make a list of 100 things that someone must fit, that would be limiting. What I am saying is you should have a general idea of what you're looking for in a partner. Once you determine the values of what you want in a partner, it's easier to judge if a date is right for you or not. If you go into dating without having an ultimate idea of what you want, then there's a good chance you could get lost. One of things that's good about having a matchmaker is that they can help you in this process.

5.) Have Fun!

Having fun is the best thing you should do during the holiday season! Have fun with being single! Smile, laugh, and enjoy dating. Even if the date is going wrong, if you smile through it, it won't feel so bad. Even if you're getting exhausted looking for the one, just laugh it off and keep trying. If you're having fun, dating won't seem like a chore or burden and you might just find that special "one."

Michael Kyle, Client Liaison for The Modern Matchmaker, Inc. can be reached at 412.521.3747 should you have a specific dating question or like more information on The Modern Matchmaker.



Nightwire 2013

Christmas Sweater and Aviator Hats

Ugly, ostentatious and just plain over-the-top sweaters are back and tackier than ever! It's time to festify your wardrobe for the holiday season with the latest styles from Skedouche – you will be making a statement all winter long! What's not to love about a fur lined boot with reindeer prancing across them, or a sweater with a place to put your iPad to play your favorite Christmas movie as you mix, mingle and jingle? Perfect for any tacky holiday parties you may be attending or just lounging around on a chilly winter's night, the new boots, hats and sweaters from Skedouche, the company who has made 'ugly sweater parties' hip, are the tackiest trend of the season! Come on, you know you want to rock this look at the office or your in-laws house!

New for 2013, Skedouche has debuted fun and festive items to their line of hilarious and original tacky holiday sweaters, including festive boots, hats and more. With new sweaters, sweater dresses, dog sweaters and children's sweaters - you can outfit the entire family for an upcoming (cheesy) family photo! www.skedouche.com

Prices for the sweaters start at \$69.99, and the aviator hats are priced at \$24.99. You can purchase them online at www.skedouche.com.

Nerium AD - Age-Defying Day Cream

One of the latest discoveries in age-defying skincare just got better. Introducing NeriumAD® Age-Defying Day Cream, which utilizes the patented, antioxidant NAE-8 extract from the Nerium oleander plant, to work synergistically with NeriumAD Age-Defying Treatment. With the addition of the new day cream, consumers can now receive the benefits of the NAE-8 extract around the clock.

Due to the overwhelming response to NeriumAD's night cream, combined with the demand for an age-defying moisturizer that can be used during the day, Nerium International™ created NeriumAD Age-Defying Day Cream. It contains four high-functioning moisturizers and hyaluronic acid, which work together to raise moisture levels in skin. It also contains a green tea antioxidant, Vitamin C complex, and a concentrated tripeptide blend. Like its counterpart, NeriumAD Age-Defying Treatment, the main ingredient in the day cream is the NAE-8 extract. It addresses multiple skincare concerns at once, including the appearance of: fine lines, wrinkles, discoloration, enlarged pores, and uneven skin texture.

The Day Cream will be available in a special Holiday Gift Set from Nerium, which includes the NeriumAD Age-Defying Night and Day Creams, a greeting card and tips on beauty, balance and stress management for \$165.

Nerium will also offer a holiday gift set for \$110 that includes just the night cream.

NeriumAD products are available at www.mynerium.com.



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Annual Holiday Gift Guide

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Christmas Beers

The perfect holiday gift for beer lover in your life.... these beers are sure to please – All are available at major beer distributors or bottle shops....



Sly Fox Christmas Ale – Malty, full-bodied made with traditional mulled spices.. no artificial flavorings added... If this one doesn't get you into the Christmas spirit, you truly are a Scrooge!



Saranac Carmel Porter – Robust, flavorful reminiscent of a by-gone area. Dark caramel malt as well as Fuggles East Kent Goldings hops for smooth, yet slightly bitter, roasted flavor. Hints of real caramel used in brewing this delicious brew. Enjoy!!



Arcadia Cocoa Loco – Triple chocolate stout is a unique interpretation of the style, combining three different chocolate malts, cocoa nibs and 63% semi-sweet chocolate, creating a sinfully delicious brew. The addition of blackstrap molasses produces and earthy, caramelized tone in an already complex flavor profile. It's creamy, milkshake-like mouthfeel earns this beer the reputation of being dessert in a glass.



Great Divide Hibernation Ale – This robust, dry-hopped ale has a malty richness balanced with a complex hop profile and hearty warming character. It's been their celebrated winter tradition since 1995.



Thirsty Dog 12 Dogs of Christmas – This beer's name sums up the ideas of bringing the best together to celebrate. It is filled with seasonal flavors from generous amounts of toasted and caramel malts, mixed with equally generous amounts of honey, cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg. The perfect libation filled with flavors of the season.



Fat Head's Holly Jolly Christmas Ale - Once upon a frozen evening way up north, a sweet local honey named Holly inspired our Jolly Fat Man (as only Holly can) to create this festive spiced holiday ale. We think you will enjoy his holiday creation with it's aromas and flavors of Christmas day. Sweet malt, ginger, honey and cinnamon spice. Sip this by the fire with your significant other. Who knows, maybe it will lead to a little inspiration of your own.

REMEMBERING THE 2013 PIRATES SEASON

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

A Tip Of The Cap To The Pirates

"What I looked forward to most at the beginning of last season was to watch Starling Marte grow as a player throughout the year. He did not disappoint."

This is going to be one big, long love fest of an article. You've been warned!

We will look back on the 2013 renaissance season of the Pittsburgh Pirates not as one that was simply full of good luck; this success wasn't a fluke by any stretch of the imagination. Just ask the guys bereft of blood, sweat and tears from pouring it all into the team on and off the field. We will look back on the season that ended that dubious record, which will no longer be named, and years of broken hearts yearning to feel what it's like to be thought of as a winner and not the butt of baseball jokes, the Astros have that covered, as the start of a new Pirate generation. That song finally makes sense. And it feels amazing.

Since PNC Park opened, the song commissioned by former General Manager Cam Bonifay, and performed by the Buzz Poets, has blasted through the ballpark after wins, designed to evoke hope in the fans, but it never really made sense. There was nothing new about the Pirates. It was the same ol' generation of trading away talent, minimizing payroll and losing on the field. But now "A New Pirate Generation" describes exactly what the past season has birthed. A new feeling. A new hope. A new expectation. It's emanating from the fans and the players, coaches and

administration are embracing it with gusto.

Gusto is not something manager Clint Hurdle is lacking. Ever since he took the job in November of 2010, supplanting the freshly fired John Russell who averaged nearly 100 losses a season during his forgettable three years, Hurdle has made it known that his goal was to "rebound" a city with its baseball team. Over his first three seasons at the helm, the Pirates are 245-241. He is the first manager to be over .500 during his tenure since Chuck Tanner and has awakened a sleeping giant of a fan base as attendance records were smashed and television ratings skyrocketed. After losing in game five of the National League Championship Series to the Cardinals, when asked to reflect on the season, Hurdle said "we were able to take a huge step forward this year in restoring the pride and the passion of the Pittsburgh Pirates organization and rebounding our city with a ball team." That they did. Notice how he used the word "our" when describing the city. Clint Hurdle has become part of the fabric of Pittsburgh, and the city welcomes him with open arms.

Even though the magical run ended in St. Louis, the loss didn't have a feeling of finality to it. Unlike the aftermath of the last playoff loss in 1992, the future is



They Had The Entire City Jumping

bright. The window of opportunity is opening wider, not being shut and nailed down for two decades. There is no homegrown talent chomping at the bit to test free agency and catch the first train out of town. Andrew McCutchen made sure of that by signing an extension that will keep him "BUCN" through at least 2017, with a team option for 2018. The farm system isn't barren, without top level talent. The exact opposite is true. General Manager Neal Huntington has stocked the minors like a doomsday prepper stocks canned goods. The scouting team's hard work is beginning to bear major league fruit in players such as Starling Marte and Gerrit Cole, with many others coming down the pike. There is a lot to look forward to.

What I looked forward to most at the beginning of last season was to watch Starling Marte grow as a player throughout the year. He did not disappoint. The anticipation of what the young guns will do on the field is exciting. When will Marte make his next electrifying catch? Can Gerrit Cole lock down his role as ace of the staff? When will Jameson Taillon be called up to the show? How about Gregory Polanco? Will he be a part of the 2014 Pirates? I will also be watching to see how the cornerstone play-

ers kick their game up a north side notch. Can Pedro Alvarez knock out 40 dingers? Will Neil Walker stay healthy and rebound from a less than stellar offensive performance? How can Andrew McCutchen possibly do more? We wonder, but he will show us that he can. He's that type of player.

McCutchen is also the type of player to attract free agents. Add in the ballpark, a rejuvenated fan base, a winning team and a manager players love playing for, and Pittsburgh is squarely on the list of attractive free agent destinations. Clint Hurdle has reshaped the baseball culture in Pittsburgh. He has induced a positive perspective that was buried under twenty years of losing. Fans aren't afraid to invest time, money and emotion into the Pirates anymore. Neil Walker has said that the biggest thing Clint Hurdle has done is get the players to believe in themselves. Now he's got a city believing in the Pirates again.

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

"Fans aren't afraid to invest time, money and emotion into the Pirates anymore. Neil Walker has said that the biggest thing Clint Hurdle has done is get the players to believe in themselves. Now he's got a city believing in the Pirates again.."

PITTSBURGH WHISKEY & FINE SPIRITS FESTIVAL

The Seventh Annual Pittsburgh Whiskey & Fine Spirits Festival crept back to Rivers Casino on Friday, October 25, 2013. This year's event attracted over 1,500 guests who were challenged to don their spookiest costumes at this year's Halloween themed event. During the festival, attendees got to sip luxury liquors, gamble, and indulge in delicious food from 6 pm to 9 pm.

This year's festival benefitted "Team Tassy," a local charity dedicated to raising funds for and awareness of poverty in Haiti. Pittsburgh native Ian Rosenberger founded the charity in 2010 after helping Tassy, a Port-au-Prince teen suffering from a facial tumor; receive funding to undergo surgeries in Pittsburgh to remove his tumor. With that, "Team Tassy" was born and now aids dozens of Haitian families with education, healthcare, and employment.

Dale Markham, General Manager for the festival was elated that this year's scary soiree would benefit such a great cause. "The festival only recently connected with 'Team Tassy' and we are already overwhelmed by the outpouring of aid they have offered families," Markham commented. "I can't think of a better charity for the Pittsburgh Whiskey Festival to be benefitting this year!"

Attendees got to sample over 300 varieties of whiskey, scotch, vodka, gin, rum, tequila and cordials, all laid out by the finest purveyors of distilled spirits from around the world. Everyone seemed to be prepared with his or her list of must-try spirits and the vendors certainly did not disappoint. Vendors provided new and exciting cocktails to sample and definitely, everyone definitely savored the more challenging libations. This event is well orchestrated and executed as it flows so nicely and there was never a long wait to sample any of the over 300 varieties of spirits offered. Vendors and staff really go out of their way to explain their products, answer your questions, offer new drink recipes and help with new selections to the Pennsylvania market.

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board was also on hand with select spirits for sale, many items were on sale at a substantially discounted pricing for this event only. Therefore, not only could you sample, but also you were provided with an opportunity to actually purchase whiskeys and fine spirits during the event.

Everyone in attendance seemed to truly enjoying his or her evening. There was also an abundance of mouth-watering food at the Grandview Buffet. Chefs and waiters catering to your need were on hand and bustling taking care of their guests and treating you like a VIP. Rivers sure knows how to cater a party. There was food to delight everyone's taste and appetite. The dessert station was well stocked with fresh made delicious treats. It truly was an amazing assortment of delicious fabulous food, which was included in the ticket price. Everyone was eating, enjoying and powering up rather than falling over. The festival planners wanted to ensure that you would not be "that guy or girl", Rivers certainly made sure that did not happen by providing so many choices, and such well prepared over the top food selections and desserts.

Last, but certainly not least, everyone had a good time, sampling exquisite and the finest examples of distilled craftsmanship, but the festival also had a mission - raising money for their charity, Team Tassy. If you attended this event, a portion of the ticket sales were donated to the charity and the opportunity to help raise more money through the festival's auction table provided another avenue of raising money and awareness for their charity. All of the proceeds from this auction were donated directly to the charity and will help fight poverty in Haiti, one family at a time.

The 2013 Pittsburgh Whiskey and Fine Spirits Festival is produced by the Pittsburgh Wine Festival LLC, and sponsored by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.





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FAT HEAD'S BREWERY

by: Chris Wise

When Glenn Benigni opened Fat Head's Saloon in Pittsburgh's South Side in 1992, he never could have expected what the future would hold. Serving up great food and award-winning sandwiches in 2 locations, with plans to open in Portland, OR, in 2014. While gaining national attention for their beer, Fat Head's initially became famous for it's food - from massive munchies to colossal sandwiches, including Headwiches billed as "roughly the size of your head." These meals on a bun have fun names like The Chick 'n Little, Beauty and the Beast, and Bay of Pigs include an abundance of fresh ingredients served on fresh, locally sourced rolls. The South Side Slopes, a nod to Fat Head's Pittsburgh hometown, features a mountainous helping of kielbasa, pierogies, cheese and grilled onions and was voted No.5 sandwich in the nation by Maxim Magazine.

Benigni, himself a craft beer enthusiast, teamed up with Master Brewer Matt Cole in 2009. Together they headed down the highway, building their first Brewpub in Cleveland, OH. Cole had a strong reputation within the industry, working with Baltimore Brewing, Great Lakes and Rocky River Brewing. Despite the pair's encyclopedic knowledge of craft beer and extensive background within the brewing industry, few could have expected the immediate success that Fat Head's first beers were met with. In fact, a full-scale production brewery was opened in 2011 to keep up with the overwhelming demand.

Fat Head's Head Hunter India Pale Ale is their flagship ale, repeatedly winning some of the most highly sought after accolades in the industry. Head Hunter is an aggressively dry-hopped, West Coast-Style IPA with a huge hop display of pine, grapefruit, citrus and pineapple. Fat Head's describes it as "a punch-you-in-the-mouth brew for those who truly love their hops!" Beer drinkers around the country agreed; three months after its release, Head Hunter won the gold medal at the West Coast IPA Festival and was voted into one of the "Top 25 of the World" by Draft Magazine.

And the awards never stopped coming. Head Hunter IPA has been repeatedly awarded at the highly acclaimed Great American Beer Festival (GABF), The World Beer Cup, The West Coast IPA Fest and was a 2x Grand Champion at the National IPA Challenge. The 2013 GABF was Fat Head's most prosperous yet, bringing home silver medals for Black Knight Schwarzbier and Wet-Hopped Trail Head Pale Ale; plus, in the 2nd largest category with 149 entries, Hop JuJu Imperial IPA won gold. And the list goes on with eight total GABF medals and two World Beer Cup awards in just four years of operation.

Fat Head's latest venture, the opening of The Tap House within the Cleveland Production Brewery, opened this past October, for tastings and a behind-the-scenes peek of the crew in action. Its easy to see that these guys love what they do and have fun doing it. So much so that plans are in the works to open a brewpub in downtown Portland, OR, in mid-2014 to increase their presence on the West Coast. This is necessary considering the growth Fat Head's has experienced since firing up their first brewery four years ago. In the first five and a half months of this year Fat Head's has produced over 3,000 barrels, and expects that number to fall between 10,000 and 12,000 barrels by the end of the year.

You might think that with such immediate and overwhelming success, Fat Head's would lose sight of what got them to this point: a great product, presented with a bit of style and flair but always living up to your high expectations. However, Fat Head's has continued to work hard, maintain their high standard when coming up with new sandwich or beer recipes, and still have a sense of humor about themselves. One look at their menu proves this point. One can find a Hop JuJu Imperial IPA across the page from a Pimp Sleigh Belgian-Style Christmas Ale, a Bean Me Up Imperial Coffee Stout below a Kohlminator German-Styled Smoked Bock, all of which go well with either an "Expert Pastrami" sandwich or the "Artery Clogger" (two fried eggs topped with ham, bacon, cheese, lettuce and tomato) The Fat Head logo is changed for each bottle to match the names: Head Hunter has a tribal warrior head, the Kohlminator is a half-human half-cyborg Fat Head, and the Pimp My Sleigh features an appropriately blinged-out Santa Fat Head. Fat Head's offers a wide selection of beers, so here is just a few to get you started into their collection:

HEAD HUNTER IPA

The flagship ale, Fat Head's Head Hunter India Pale Ale is an intensely dry-hopped ale with a huge hop display of pine, grapefruit, citrus and pineapple. Head Hunter pulls together these flavors to create a unique IPA that has won numerous awards, including: Gold medals at the 2011 Denver International Beer Festival, the West Coast IPA Festival in 2009 and 2012, the National IPA Challenge in 2010 and 2012, and silver medals for American-style IPA at the 2010 Great American Beer Festival and the 2012 World Beer



Cup. Offered year round and coming in at 7.5%ABV, Head Hunter is the recipe which established Fat Head's as an up-and-coming brewery.

SUNSHINE DAYDREAM SESSION IPA

Named after the Grateful Dead song "Sugar Magnolia," Sunshine Daydream is a very drinkable Session IPA with big hop aromas, flavors of citrus, peach, and tropical fruit with a nice light malt backbone. According to Fat Head's it is "as refreshing as wading in a cold stream in the morning sunshine or a walk among the tall trees," and we couldn't agree more. At a mild 5% ABV compared to the Head Hunter, Sunshine Daydream is a more relaxed IPA offered year round.

BUMBLE BERRY HONEY BLUEBERRY ALE

Fat Head's isn't messing around with this brew. They start with fresh harvested spring honey, which they "stole" from "some very angry bees" (they claim to have the welts to prove it) and infuse it with fresh blueberries. The result is a light, tasty, refreshing ale with a blueberry aroma, crackery malt flavors, a hint of sweetness and a refreshing blueberry finish. Boasting a 5.3%ABV, Bumble Berry was voted "Most Refreshing Beer in America" by Brewing News in 2010. Bumble Berry is the only non-IPA Fat Head's offers year round, and another great way to "Get yo' buzz on!"

SPOOKY TOOTH IMPERIAL PUMPKIN ALE

The ingredient list for this brew reads like the ingredient list for the perfect Autumn treat: Roasted pumpkin, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and allspice. Spooky Tooth offers a rich amber color, an aroma of sweet pumpkin pie and a "chewy mouthfeel you can sink your teeth into." With a whopping 9% ABV, this ale is like a highly-intoxicating pumpkin pie in liquid form...Fat Head's simply stopped short of putting whipped cream on top!

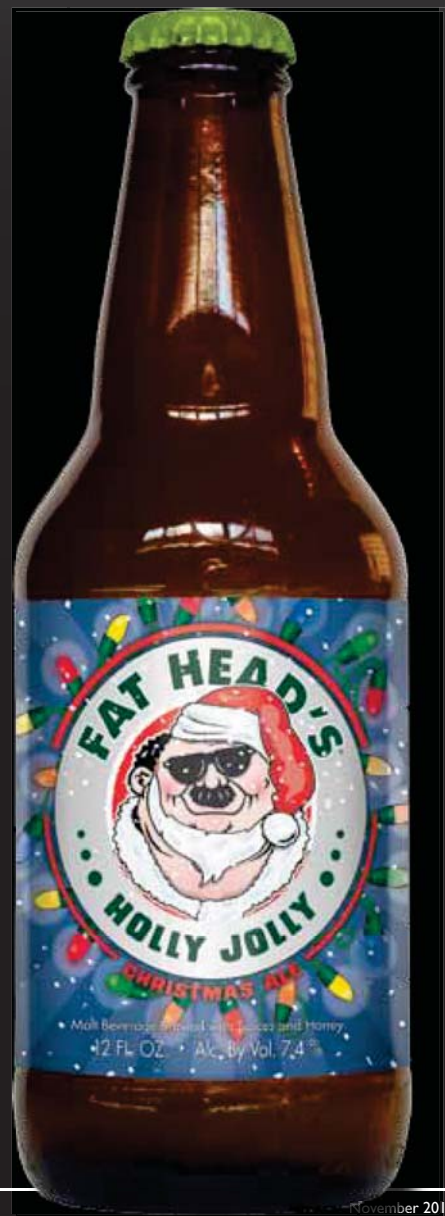
HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS ALE

The explanation behind this Christmas Ale sounds like the start to a good holiday tale: "Once upon a frozen evening way up north, a sweet local honey named Holly inspired our Jolly Fat Man (as only Holly can) to create this festive spiced holiday ale. We think you will enjoy his holiday creation with it's aromas and flavors of Christmas day. Sweet malt, ginger, honey and cinnamon spice." Sounds like Christmas to me. At 7.5%ABV, the Holly Jolly is the perfect libation to get you through a hectic holiday season.

PIMP MY SLEIGH BELGIAN-STYLE CHRISTMAS ALE

For the times when the Holly Jolly isn't providing the relief you seek, reach for a Pimp My Sleigh to ease your Christmas season stresses. Coming in at a surprising 10.5%ABV, the Pimp My Ride is a strong Belgian Style Christmas Ale. Pimp My Sleigh boasts intricate aromas, sweet dark malts, dark fruit raisins, figs and spicy phenols. A Christmas Ale offering a rich complexity to its drinker, Pimp My Sleigh is another great holiday beer option along with the Holly Jolly.

Fat Head's Beers distributed locally by Wilson McGinley.



5 MUST TRY CHRISTMAS BEERS...

Available at Major Beer Distributors and Bottle Shops *By: Chris Wise*



SLY FOX CHRISTMAS ALE — 5.5% ABV

This malty, full-bodied red ale is packed full of traditional mulling spices designed to warm you up on a cold evening. Sly Fox is able to balance the flavors of ginger, clove, allspice, cinnamon and nutmeg to create a truly unique seasonal beer. Beers trying to bring together this many spices can be overpowering sometimes, but the Sly Fox Christmas Ale is surprisingly drinkable and delicious. Sly Fox is also particularly proud that all ingredients are added fresh instead

of using extracts. The cinnamon dominates the flavor and aroma of the beer, with hints of vanilla and brown sugar backing it. Nutmeg is the other dominating flavor pulling this beer together.

Compared with other winter and Christmas ales, Sly Fox is able to create a flavorful beer without overwhelming the drinker. At just 5.5% ABV, the Christmas Ale is a tamer option than some higher alcohol content winter beers. The ale has a deep, hazy amber color, which looks great when poured in a glass, and has a creamy texture and a dry finish. Sly Fox's Christmas Ale is a great way to get introduced to winter ales, using spices in balance and creating a robust yet drinkable ale. The 2013 Christmas Ale will be available in draft houses, 12 oz. cans and 25.4 oz. corked bottles. This year's cans are designed to look like an ugly sweater and have gift tags on the label so they can be personalized. Ugly sweaters, gift giving, cinnamon and nutmeg, all in one can, sounds like Christmas to me.

SARANAC CARAMEL PORTER — 5.4%ABV

Saranac's Caramel Porter is a robust, flavorful porter reminiscent of a by-gone era. Combining dark caramel malts with Fuggles and East Kent Golding's hops creates a smooth, yet slightly bitter, roasted flavor. A longtime favorite among craft beer drinkers and Saranac's #1 requested beer; this is a very dark beer that boasts a lighter flavor. Unfortunately, this seasonal offering can be difficult to get your hands on, especially considering Saranac does not adhere to a strict brewing schedule. (Their website even admits "(perennial beers tend to reappear depending on the season...and frankly when we feel like it.") The point being if you either see this porter, a six-pack or in a variety pack, on the shelves at the beer distributor, make sure to get your hands on some while you can.



At first sip you taste the rich malty, roast flavor which is smoothed over by toffee and caramel flavors which linger in your mouth afterward. Perfect for casual drinking coming in at 5.4% ABV, the porter has a medium-sweet finish with almost no hints of hop. The mixture of coffee and molasses flavors gives the beer a great combination of flavors, reminding you of pancakes and syrup. This porter is a great dark beer to try for the inexperienced porter drinker, with an amazing combination of flavors and malty finish. And remember to keep an eye out for this one while you can still get it.

ARCADIA ALE'S COCOA LOCO — 7% ABV



We are lucky Arcadia Ale's Tim Surprise didn't stop at try #9 in coming up with Cocoa Loco. The idea for the brew came from Tim's love of Young's Double Chocolate Stout and Arcadia Ale's track-record at successfully reproducing British-inspired ales for 10 years at the time. Tim thought, "How hard could it be?" and set out to create a triple chocolate stout of his own. Turns out it was much tougher than Tim could have imagined. Instead of tweaking the recipe once or twice, get it right, it took Arcadia Ales ten recipes before they were satisfied with the results. And to be honest, we're happy they didn't stop till effort #10, because they definitely got it right in the end.

The patience it took to find the right balance when mixing three different chocolate malts together with a number of other premium two-row malted barley's finally resulted in a success. By keeping the cocoa nibs in the boil during the process and adding a small amount of lactose, milk sugar, for mouth feel, Arcadia was rewarded greatly for their efforts: Cocoa Loco is a well-balanced, complex, rich, creamy chocolate stout that evokes a chocolate shake from your childhood. Balancing the sweet, roasty and creamy tastes was certainly a struggle, but in the end the result was well worth the agony along the way.

GREAT DIVIDE HIBERNATION ALE — 8.7%

A celebrated winter tradition since 1995, Great Divide's Hibernation Ale is a robust, dry-hopped ale. Great Divide, known for their IPA's and Yeti series of Stouts, ages this English-style Old Ale for three months before it is ready for sale. The lengthy aging process gives Hibernation its revered malty-richness, complex hop profile and hearty warming character. This means Hibernation Ale is ready to enjoy as soon as you purchase it or can be stored in your cellar and enjoyed anytime.

Hibernation Ale begins with a wonderfully clean aroma, almost like a lager, which masks the beer's very complex flavor profile. Upon tasting, you can notice flavors of chocolate, smoke, coffee, candy and brown sugar sweetness at first, followed by toffee and a mild, herbal hop spice. Hibernation finishes slightly sweet with a lingering aftertaste of smoke. This amazing flavor profile has won Hibernation the Gold Medal at the Great American Beer Festival in the Strong Ale/English-Style Old Ale category, as well as a number of silver medals. With its medium-full body, moderate carbonation, and reassuring alcohol warmth, this beer is perfect for chilly nights.

THIRSTY DOG'S 12 DOGS OF CHRISTMAS — 8.3% ABV

There is currently debate swarming in Ohio over which brewery can lay claim to the best Christmas Ale in the region. Some would hand the award to Great Lakes Christmas Ale, but there is a lesser known rival out in Ohio which has many questioning the supremacy of Great Lakes. Thirsty Dog, located in Akron, Ohio, thinks their Christmas Ale is king of the holiday season, and has the profile to back up this claim. Unfortunately, Thirsty Dog is not widely available as other beers, such as say Great Lakes, so try some out when you get a chance to decide which you like better for yourself.

The 12 Dogs has a deep, dark copper color with an off-white head, and a very robust aroma of cinnamon, ginger, allspice, and nutmeg (it reminds one of opening up a Christmas cookie tin). The ginger and cinnamon are the dominating flavors, with a backing of nuttiness, which balances the flavors well. Thirsty Dog claims, "We feel it is the perfect libation, filled with flavors of the season," which I agree with. If the 12 Dogs of Christmas can't get you into the holiday spirit, then you truly are a Scrooge.

All of the above Christmas Beers are proudly distributed by Galli Beer Distributing Company.

RED STAR KOMBUCHA

By: Ricky Perrotta

Red Star Kombucha is made right here in Pittsburgh by native Naomi Auth, the founder of the company, and her partner Joseph Reichenbacher. Speaking with them, their enthusiasm for Kombucha is readily apparent. For Joseph, that enthusiasm is born out of the excitement that comes along with venturing into new, uncharted territory.

"We're introducing PA to a new beverage!" he says, the energy in his voice barely restrained. "It's not like we're just coming out with another double IPA or something like that. This is something many people have never had before."

Joseph is certainly correct concerning that last remark. What exactly is this mysterious drink whose origins date back to ancient China and is renowned by proponents for its refreshing, effervescent taste and healthful qualities? Tea? Beer? Elixir? Cure for baldness?

"Nowhere on this bottle does it say, this will make you grow hair," says Joseph Reichenbacher, quick to dismiss some of the more outrageous claims. "But the benefits of drinking something that is probiotic cannot be argued." The World Health Organization defines probiotics as, "Live micro-organisms, which, when administered in adequate amounts, confer a health benefit on the host."

So, yes - it's alive. Guess who the host is? Kombucha is made from fermenting various kinds of tea with a symbiotic colony of bacteria and yeast, or SCOBY. Taste-wise, it is described as being a very pleasant, refreshing mix of sour beer and hard cider. When asked where the bacteria comes from, Mr. Reichenbacher is quick to answer. "Hell if I know." Naomi chimes in to provide a bit more information. "You get different flavors based on what kind of tea you use and how long you let them ferment. There are also different yeasts, and the bacteria lactobacillales." Lactobacillales are also used to make yogurt and in the fermenting of salted cabbage to make sauerkraut. For Kombucha, this process results in an ABV of 1 to 3%. Mr. Reichenbacher told us that the ABV can be manipulated so that it is higher, but generally stays low because "the bacteria eat the alcohol."

In the beginning, that alcohol content turned out to be a problem for Red Star. Naomi, originally from Pittsburgh, began selling Red Star Kombucha in Portland, Oregon 5 or 6 years ago before returning to her home and selling to local coffee shops in Polish Hill. The response was terrific, but before long production was stopped by the PLCB, the reason being that 0.5% ABV is the cut-off for a non-alcoholic beverage. According to the PLCB, Kombucha was to be classified as a beer. One of the people affected by this decision was Mr. Reichenbacher.

"I couldn't stand the Kombucha I had tried before," he says, "then I started drinking Red Star and had to have it everyday. One day I went to get some and they told me it had been shut down." Mr. Reichenbacher, not one to take things lying down, got in touch with Naomi Auth and told her they should go into business together. So, they applied for a brewing license and it was smooth sailing from there on out, right?

Not exactly. They did indeed receive a brewing license, but there are a ton of regulations that come along with being considered a beer. Also, in an unusual set of circumstances, it is the brewers from Red Star who have had to educate the PLCB as to what exactly Kombucha is and how it is made. The corpus of information concerning beer is extensive. The information available concerning Kombucha? Not so much.



An attempt is being made to ameliorate that lack. "We're one of the founding members of Kombucha Brewers International," says Mr. Reichenbacher. The inaugural meeting will be held this upcoming January in Los Angeles, where various Kombucha brewers hope to meet and share their collective wisdom.

In the meantime, Red Star continues producing Kombucha for a group of dedicated followers. They currently brew 3 different, gluten-free varieties, all with an ABV not much higher than 1%. Original Green, a fruity concoction made from green tea. Zinger-buch, a tart, spicy variety mixed with ginger, and 1877, made from black tea and flavored with lemon.

1877 is named after the Great Railroad Strike of 1877 in which Pittsburgh played a role. While many beer breweries consider it bad business to even mark their lower ABV products, Mr. Reichenbacher says Red Star plans on making low ABV a selling point. "Low ABV is not yet catching on in PA, but it is becoming a viable thing nationally. We're trying to get ahead of the market."

Red Star currently produces about 30 cases at a time, though they have already had to expand production twice and plan to do so again once they move to a larger facility. The brewing process also results in one of the more famous (or infamous) traits of Kombucha - since traditional Kombucha is not filtered or pasteurized, once inside the bottle the live cultures continue to ferment, resulting in a "glob," or gelatinous formation. This glob is actually just a smaller SCOBY. "Some people are grossed out by the glob," says Mr. Reichenbacher, "But some people love it. It can be eaten." Eaten? "It's one of the healthier parts of the beverage." He adds, "It actually doesn't taste like much, and can be strained out." In fact, their web site is called inglobwetrust.com.

Currently, Red Star Kombucha can be purchased at various locations, most notably Franktuary in Lawrenceville, where they have all 3 varieties and Original Green on tap and Whole Foods, Wexford. Plus you can visit the Red Star brewery itself, which is



located at 1721 Lowrie St., 15212 - open from 12:00pm to 6:00pm on Saturdays. 4 Packs, Cases, & Kegs and Gift certificates are available. The drink is certainly catching on in Pittsburgh, a city quickly becoming known for its cultural appetite. If you have a spirit for adventure, and want to try something truly new and unique, you will want to try Red Star Kombucha.

ORIGINAL GREEN

Made with green tea from India's Dooars region, Original Green has a light body with fruity essences and natural carbonation. Its clean, crisp flavor pairs well with rich foods and make an excellent mixer with distilled spirits and beers.

ZINGERBUCH

Fresh ginger puts the "zing" in Zingerbuch, and hibiscus flowers add a beautiful pink color. Tart, spicy and refreshing, it is the perfect drink for any time of day.

1877

Robust black tea and refreshing lemon come together in the 1877, a classic flavor combination that is so popular in Pittsburgh. The name commemorates the Great Railroad Strike of 1877, when workers in Pittsburgh and other cities showed their power to organize and challenge the robber barons.

Red Star Kombucha is proudly distributed by Vencenie Distributing Company.



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DINING MONTE CELLO'S WEXFORD

By: Suz Pisano



Pizza



Chicken Parmesan & Pasta Primavera

Serving up so much more than pizza, Monte Cello's in Wexford wowed us with fresh ingredients, delicious recipes and a hometown charm that's undeniable, all within this family owned and operated business. I might be a bit partial to family businesses, but with many pizza chains serving up frozen, pre-fabricated products, it's great to find a restaurant like Monte Cello's; one that lives up to its family values and tradition of serving nothing but fresh, homemade dishes. Monte Cello's supplies fresh dough and ingredients daily to all their locations, which are known mainly for their great pizzas. This month, I want to focus on the "much more than pizza" aspect of their Wexford location.

Now don't get me wrong, I love just a great pizza, but Monte Cello's offers much more, such as their signature appetizers like Pepperoni Rolls (\$7.99) and Buffalo Chicken Rolls (\$8.99); I could have eaten an entire order of these, they were simply delicious. They're just little pillow puffs wrapped around cheese and your choice of pepperoni or spicy chicken, with marinara sauce or ranch dressing for dipping. Spinach Rolls (\$7.99) are also on the menu, but those will have to wait until my next visit. Wings (\$9.99/12 per order) are available with your choice of rubs or sauces: Sauces--Hot, Mild, Honey BBQ, Bourbon, Garlic, General Tso's; Dry Rubs--Cajun, Wing Dust, Smokey BBQ, or Ranch. The Banana Peppers (\$8.99) were also a favorite with the Nightwire crew- fresh banana peppers hollowed and stuffed with seasoned ground veal and sausage, covered with sauce and cheese, then baked to perfection. My favorite appetizer of all time has to be their Fried Zucchini (\$7.99) though. Monte Cello's does not disappoint with its thinly sliced zucchini, gently breaded then deep fried, not greasy, just simply moist and delicious.

Grilled Gourmet Burgers include choices like the Texas Style Burger (\$10.99) a real two hander! A 1/2 lb. burger with bubbly melted cheddar, topped with onion rings and served with a side of golden brown fries and barbecue sauce. The California Burger (\$10.99) is grilled and topped with fresh sliced avocado, lettuce, tomatoes, red onion and a homemade, roasted garlic mayonnaise. Other options include the Buffalo, Blackened or Bacon & Cheddar Burgers. Consider yourself warned--burgers are large and served with a healthy helping of fries, so you better have an appetite!

You'll find classic Italian entrees at Monte Cello's like Chicken or Eggplant Parmesan, Baked Ziti, Lasagna, Stuffed Shells or Pasta Primavera. The Chicken Parmesan (\$13.99) was a hands down favorite of the Nightwire crew. The chicken was moist and tender, lightly breaded and topped with lots of bubbling cheese, served with a side of pasta, a definite winner! The Pasta Primavera (\$11.99) includes your choice of pasta, topped with fresh vegetables, sautéed in an oil and garlic sauce, and served with mini garlic bread with cheese. Aw...simply scrumptious! The choices seem endless with dishes like Meatball Casserole (\$12.99), four large meatballs over a bed of pasta, covered with sauce and cheese and baked; or Crab Ravioli (\$14.99), ravioli stuffed with Blue Crab, tossed in a light lobster sauce and topped with sun dried tomatoes.

Veal dishes include Veal Parmesan (\$15.99) and their Meat and Cheese Lasagna (\$12.99). Two-thirds of a pound of pasta, meat and cheese, there's a reason this is an all-time favorite. If you're a fan of vegetarian options, you want to try a Monte Cello's dinner favorite--the Zucchini Parmesan (\$10.99). Fresh sliced and breaded zucchini, deep-fried, covered with sauce, cheese, baked and served with a side of pasta. Salmon, Chicken Madeira and a New York Strip Steak round out the plentiful dinner offerings. There is literally something



Wedding Soup and Soup of the Day



Bar Area



Pepperoni Rolls & Stuffed Banana Peppers



Desserts

for everyone with an appetite in this section of their extensive menu.

For lighter fare, Monte Cello's offers a variety of salads. Our favorite was the Caramelized Walnut and Apple Salad (\$10.99) with caramelized walnuts over a bed of spring mix topped with a grilled chicken breast and accented with Granny Smith apples. This salad was served with a side of champagne vinaigrette dressing which compliments it perfectly. The Steak Salad (\$10.99) was expertly prepared; the steak was done perfectly, so tender and juicy it melted in your mouth. Served on top of a fresh bed of greens, red peppers, fresh mushrooms, French fries, and topped off with shredded cheddar cheese, it is a more filling option than the Walnut and Apple Salad. I have to mention the Homemade Italian Wedding Soup (\$3.25 cup & \$3.99 bowl). It's homemade and delicious, a true Italian classic, and available daily, in addition to the homemade soup of the day. They also offer a plethora of sandwiches, wraps, and hot hoagies.

Make sure you save room for dessert, Monte Cello's bakery fresh treats await! Fresh Carrot Cake and Chocolate Cake are their staples, and seasonal favorites are available. What a perfect ending to a perfect meal! There truly is something for everyone; with an extensive menu, full of large portions and reasonable prices, Monte Cello's is definitely one of our favorites. Their commitment to quality and great service will keep you coming back!

Monte Cello's in Wexford has been totally remodeled; the transformation is inviting and relaxing, making Monte Cello's a truly a great place to dine. Or stop in and watch the game at the bar with large screen TV's, happy hour specials and an abundance of beer and cocktail choices. Check out their website where you can sign up for their email club, peruse the menu, get directions, learn about other locations, or even better use their Mobile VIP app; you can join the Mobile VIP club by texting MONTES to 41242.

Open 7 days a week – Monday thru Thursday 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Friday and Saturday 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, Sunday 12:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Located at 10441 Perry Highway in Wexford.

If you haven't tried been to Monte Cello's lately, you definitely need to check them out in Wexford or their North Hills location – 2198 Babcock Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15209. Phone: 412-821-0600.

Theatre

The Public's MASTERPIECE SEASON Continues With "True West"

Pamela Berlin directs maverick American playwright Sam Shepard's rowdiest work about two battling brothers at the edge of the desert.

Pittsburgh Public Theater's MASTERPIECE SEASON continues with a brand-new staging of Sam Shepard's most famous play, *True West*. Directed by Pamela Berlin (last season's *Clybourne Park*), *True West* runs Nov. 7 – Dec. 8, 2013 at the O'Reilly Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theater's home in the heart of Downtown's Cultural District. For tickets call 412.316.1600 or visit ppt.org.

True West debuted in 1980 at San Francisco's Magic Theater. In the play, Austin (Ken Barnett) comes to his mother's house in southern California to water her plants while she's away on vacation. He's left his wife and kids up north while he works on his screenplay and gets ready to meet with Saul (Dan Shor), a Hollywood producer. Austin's solitude is shattered when his long-lost brother Lee (David Mogentale), a drifter and thief, shows up unexpectedly. Soon Lee announces that he, too, can write a movie. This role reversal leads to an epic battle filled with action, humor, and famously, dozens of slices of toast. When Mom (Mary Rawson) returns, she hardly recognizes either her house or her sons. Described as Sam Shepard's most accomplished play, *True West* reflects on authenticity, myths of the American desert, and what it means to be a real man.

The design team for Pittsburgh Public Theater's production is Michael Schweikardt (Scenic), Michael Krass (Costumes), John Lasiter (Lighting), and Zach Moore (Sound). Randy Kovitz is the Fight Director. Casting is by McCorkle Casting. Fred Noel is the Production Stage Manager; Kelly Haywood is the Assistant Stage Manager.

About the Playwright

Sam Shepard, now age 70, has been described as the greatest playwright of his generation. He has written almost 50 plays as well as numerous books of poetry. In addition to *True West*, his most famous plays include *Buried Child* (Pulitzer Prize), *Curse of the Starving Class*, *Tooth of Crime*, *Fool for Love*, *Lie of the Mind*, and *Cowboy Mouth*. Shepard is also a screen actor who received an Academy Award nomination for his role in *The Right Stuff*. He will appear in the upcoming films *Out of This Furnace* and *August: Osage County* and also on the Discovery Channel's first scripted mini-series, "Klondike."



Pittsburgh Public Theater Presents
True West
November 7 – December 8, 2013

Performance Schedule

- Tues. at 7 pm. Wed. thru Sat. at 8 pm
- Sat. at 2 pm (except Nov. 9 & 16) also 2 pm on Thurs., Dec. 5
- Sun. at 2 & 7 pm (except Sun., Dec. 8 when the final performance is at 2 pm)
- There will be no performance on Thanksgiving, Thurs., Nov. 28
- Press Night is Thursday, Nov. 14. Opening Night is Friday, Nov. 15.

Ticket Prices: \$23 to \$55. Students and age 26 and younger \$15.75 with valid ID. For tickets call 412.316.1600 or visit ppt.org

Travel



20 HOLIDAY TRAVEL SECRETS FROM INDUSTRY INSIDERS

As October winds down, the holiday on your mind is probably Thanksgiving. But unless you switch gears fast, you might be left holding the bag — and I don't mean a bag of trick-or-treat candy. So far, travel booking sites are seeing not only higher demand for flights for the upcoming holiday season, but also a jump in fares. "Our numbers are showing that it is going to be even busier than last year," says Mark Drusch, Chief Supplier Relations Officer for CheapoAir. "We're seeing high double-digit increases of bookings for these periods, and I expect the airlines will report record traffic for the Thanksgiving period this year."

Average domestic Thanksgiving fares on Kayak, another popular flight search site, are up 13% from 2012, from \$415 to \$470, and its Christmas and New Year's Eve fares are also up 10% and 12%, respectively. And popular routes? They're even higher. "Looking at five routes from New York to Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, and a couple other popular destinations, the average fare increase for this year is up 16%," says Warren Chang, vice president and general manager of Fly.com.

Already feel sweat on your brow? Don't worry — as long as you act fast and use these insider tips, here's how you can keep your holiday travel from draining your bank account and holiday cheer.

Booking Flights

1. **Book now** - Last year, Kayak saw that after mid-October, fares increased up to 17% for Thanksgiving, 51% for Christmas and 25% for New Year's Eve. "If you find a fare you want, book it right then. Don't wait for deals — they don't happen anymore," says Drusch. A study by FareCompare found that the best time to book was Tuesday at 3pm, because new sales are announced Monday and other airlines normally match by Tuesday afternoon. "Without a doubt, matrix.itasoftware.com has the most robust, flexible travel search on the web (and it powers Kayak, Hipmunk, etc). You can even search prices for up to 30 consecutive departure dates," says Dan Lack, the travel guru for Popexpert. (Just select "see calendar of lowest fares" when doing your search.) Sign up for Pintrips, which allows you to bookmark flights from various booking sites and even auto-

matically updates them when fares change — er, rise.

2. **Be as flexible as possible with your dates.** Chang says that though Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Saturdays typically have the least expensive flights, "for holiday travel, cheaper fares can be found on actual holidays — instead of the day before or day after." Flying on an off-day helps too, he says: New York to Miami for the Wednesday before to the Sunday after Thanksgiving costs \$664 and has a stopover. But, returning a day later, on Monday, nets a nonstop flight for \$483 fare, saving you 25% and time. Plus, the airport won't be as crowded. And if you return Tuesday? He found a fare for \$340 — almost 50% cheaper. If you want to quickly see how much flying on various days will cost, use the calendar function on Fly.com. Fortunately, at least for Christmas and New Year's, being more flexible will be easier this year. "The good news about this year's holiday season is that it is longer than usual with both Christmas and New Year's falling on Wednesdays," says Chris McGinnis, travel blogger for Best Western's blog YouMustBeTrippin.com. "The full season will be over two weeks long, which means more wiggle room for travelers — compared to a season when Christmas and New Year's both fall on, say, Sunday."
3. **Check multiple airports, two one-ways, and one-way awards.**
 - If you're flying to Washington, D.C., look at both nearby airports as well as Baltimore, says Drusch. "But know where you're ultimately going. If you're going to New York and your family is in New Jersey, don't book Islip [on Long Island]. Know whether that alternative airport takes a longer drive." If you're still not finding fares you like, try searching for two one-ways; Kayak and Skyscanner.com both compile "hacker fares" that put together one-ways on different airlines. Lack says, "Sometimes roundtrip tickets can have a high price tag during the holidays because one of the days you want to fly is uber expensive, while the other might be much less expensive. See if you can book a one-way award ticket for the super-expensive leg and then pay for the cheap one." (Note: you can't book one-way award tickets on Delta or US Airways.)



4. Use credit card points. - Because airlines usually black out holiday travel dates for cashing in frequent flyer miles, "Use credit card points that are good on any flight, any time, on any airline like Arrival Miles [with this Barclays card] Capital One miles [with this credit card], and FlexPoints [with this U.S. Bank card]. In the case of a FlexPerks award, you even get a \$25 credit for baggage, food, or lounge access on the day of travel," says Scott Grimmer, founder of MileValue.com.
5. When calculating price, include baggage fees. - The most notorious airline when it comes to baggage fees is Spirit, which charges \$50 per carry-on (though personal items go free). The most generous is Southwest, which allows you to check two bags free. For everything in between, use Airfarewatchdog's handy chart of all fees on all airlines.
6. Buy directly from the airlines. - Comparison shop using metasearch sites such as Fly, Kayak, matrix.itaSoftware, but book your tickets directly from the airline. "If your airfare drops after you book your ticket, most airlines will refund the difference, minus a rebooking fee, in the form of a voucher," says Suzanne Rowan Kelleher, a family travel expert and managing editor of family travel site MiniTime. "There are two conditions: You have to ask for it, and you must have bought your ticket directly from the airline." Yapta will track your fare for you and alert you if it drops more than the cost of the rebooking fee. Since most rebooking fees are about \$75, she says this works only for those whose fares drop more than that amount, though Yapta estimates that about 12% of passengers qualify for refunds, and the average savings is \$130.
7. Choose your flight time based on these factors:
 - If you have a layover or live in a hub: take an early morning flight. It is much less likely to be delayed, so those with a layover won't miss their connecting flights, and if you live in a hub, such as Charlotte, Phoenix, Chicago or Dallas, then those flights will have more availability, since the passengers that feed those planes won't have arrived.
 - If you're flying on the holiday itself: afternoon flights will be even cheaper than morning flights.
 - If you don't like crowds: Shoot for the afternoon, when there are fewer flights and airports are a bit less busy. But during the winter, be prepared for a potential delay, as problems early on push later flights back.
 - If you have a layover: give yourself more than usual wiggle room in your layover time, in case bad weather causes delays. For instance, instead of one hour, give yourself two.
8. Enduring The Airport - Booking your flights is difficult enough, but dealing with the airport is yet another challenge. Here's how to keep it from ruining your trip.
8. Pack lightly, roll your clothing, and don't wrap your gifts. - Check the weather before you pack, and bring the fewest items of clothing that will yield the greatest number of outfits. Chang suggests you wear your bulkiest items, and roll the clothing you do pack, rather than folding it, to save space. He makes sure to fill any empty cavity — for instance, pack your socks inside your shoes, which will also help your footwear keep its shape. "Certainly at Christmas, you have presents," says Liz Dahl, founder & President of Boomer Travel Patrol. "Remember not to wrap them if you are traveling with them, because security will make you unwrap the gifts. Send them in advance by mail, UPS or FedEx. I shop at stores that will gift wrap and send the packages out for me — great time saver as well." Also, here's a quick reminder of the carry-on rules: liquids, aerosols and gels must be in 3.4 ounce (100ml) or less bottles, and placed in one quart-sized, clear, zip-top bag; one bag per passenger. Medications, baby formula and food, and breast milk exceeding three ounces are allowed, but must be declared for inspection. "It never hurts to have a doctor's note for special diets and medicine," says John Walton, Director of Data at Routehappy.
9. Bring extra chargers and/or an external battery or solar charger. - Nothing's a bigger drag than having your electronics die just when you need them to check in or remember your aunt's address. While having your charger helps, having an external battery or solar charger can be even more useful if you can't find a plug. "Our season's best gift idea for the traveler who can't always get on a flight that has plugs: an external battery to recharge your electronics. Most cellphones need about 2000 mAh of charge and iPad-sized tablets about 10,000 mAh. Look for a battery with enough capacity for your needs," says Walton of Routehappy, which can help you find flights with plugs.
10. Forgo the (costly) airplane food. - If you have a longer flight, bring your own food. Cheryl Forberg, R.D., in-house nutritionist for Omni Hotels & Resorts, says, "Make a sandwich on whole grain bread with lots of veggies and use avocado instead of mayo for a creamy, non-spoiling spread that's lower in calories."

Salads with dressings that can survive at room temperature are another great filling choice. For snacks pack low-fat string cheese, trail mix with soy nuts, and grass-fed beef jerky.” But, she adds, “Leave the yogurt at home – TSA doesn’t allow it through security.”

11. Look into signing up for Global Entry. - Those enrolled in this U.S. Customs and Border Protection program can skip customs and immigration — and even filling out those blue forms — on international flights. “It’s \$100 for five years, and if you have the Amex platinum card or are platinum or above on United, they’ll reimburse you the \$100,” says Chang. Users with global entry are more likely to qualify for TSA Precheck, which allows you to bypass the normal security lines, keep your shoes on and your laptop in your bag. (Soon, you will also be able to apply directly for TSA Precheck for a fee of \$85.)
12. Plan your security routine. - “I never wear shoes with laces. I never wear belts,” says Drusch. “I always put my cellphone in my briefcase or in my wife’s bag so I don’t leave it in the little round container.” (New York Times tech columnist David Pogue did just recently leave his cell phone at security, almost causing him to miss his flight.) Drusch also asks whether you really need your laptop for the holidays or if a tablet, which you don’t have to remove from your bag at security, will do. He also packs an extra day’s worth of clothing in his carry-on in case checked luggage gets lost. And don’t forget that kids under 12 don’t need to remove their shoes. Chang has a routine for security that saves him time: first shoes, then laptop, then laptop bag, then carryon. “Once you go through security, while they’re screening the other items, you can put on your shoes, then pick up your laptop, then your laptop bag comes out, and you can put in your laptop, and then your carryon comes out and you’re ready to go.”
13. If you need to check bags, consider your airline’s credit card. - Although it’s best to carry on your luggage to keep it from getting lost, if you must check a bag, you can avoid the fee if you have the airline’s credit card, especially for bigger airlines like Delta and United. “If you already have one of their cards, and don’t have that service, and you know you’re going to be checking one bag for each of your four family members in each direction, those four bags could cost you \$280,” says Drusch. “If you upgrade your card for a \$90 fee, you made your money back.”
14. If your flight is delayed ... “In case of a weather delay, call the airline or go to a lounge to be rebooked by a less harried agent than the customer service agent at the airport,” Grimmer says. Carolyn Paddock, the founder and CEO of In-Flight Insider, recommends having a credit card with concierge benefits — like the Amex Platinum card. “If I book my tickets through their travel department, then if something happens and there’s a long help line at the airport, I can call the concierge and they’re already working on it,” she says. If you have kids in tow, Walton suggests finding another place to wait. “The gate is not always the best option. Sometimes a family restaurant or kids’ play area is en route. Google for ‘play area’ with your airport’s name and discover a hidden gem, like the airport-themed play area at Philadelphia.”
15. If you’re traveling with children ... “No one wants to sit in the last row, but I actually prefer the last row when traveling with the kiddos,” says Walton. “We’re close to the bathroom, so we are likely to avoid accidents. Flight attendants can be flagged down as they pass by as well. Plus, the constant line of people coming and going will keep the kids entertained. Finally, if one of more of the kids does burst into hysterics, you’re only bothering a few rows in front of you, instead of in front of you and behind you.”

Alternative Holidays - While most travelers go home for the

holidays, many families also do take the opportunity to fit in some travel, especially that week between Christmas and New Year’s. Here are some tips if you’re traveling anywhere but home.

16. Go abroad, but make sure your passport has at least six months on it. “Consider going to locations that are not traditionally known for holiday travel but are beautifully dressed up for the holiday,” says Alexis Romer, Vice President, Travel Industry, for The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company. “Gateway European cities are great for this. Think London, Paris, Milan, Florence, Berlin, Vienna, Barcelona. There is usually availability and it can be a special way to see a city.” Grimmer of MileValue agrees, adding, “Certain holiday destinations, especially where Christianity is uncommon have very cheap fares over Christmas.” “Some airlines won’t let you travel if you have under six months left on your passport,” says Paddock. “There’s a company I always work with that gets a lot of frantic calls from the airport from travelers who have been denied boarding because their passport is too close to its expiration date.”
17. Book with an agent in the country you’re visiting. - Especially if you’re reserving holiday travel now, you will find hotels have “no availability” — but that’s just for the blocks of rooms it is selling directly to the public. “Larger agencies with longstanding partnerships with particular hotels are able to negotiate great Christmas blocks in advance and often have space when hotels are ‘totally full,’” says Rob Harper, director of business travel at Namu Travel, which creates customized itineraries in Costa Rica, Panama and Nicaragua. If you run into problems on your trip, you can get them more easily resolved with an agency based there. To find the agencies that deal with your destination, just do a web search for “holiday travel to Paris” or “Costa Rica vacation.” If you would rather not deal with an agency, get on the hotel’s waiting list, because if that wholesaler doesn’t sell all its rooms, those unreserved spots may go back to the resort before Thanksgiving, in what is called “The November Frenzy.”
18. Use Priceline’s Name Your Own Price for rental cars and hotels. - “I always use them for rental cars because I don’t care which rental car company I book from,” says Lack. “The best strategy is to book your rental car [directly on the company’s site], then starting three or four days before your travel, [on Priceline], name a price that’s 50% less than the published rate. If they don’t accept it, raise your bid 24 hours later by \$10, and do the same for each subsequent day until you pick up the car. Remember, when you do Priceline’s Name Your Own Price, they charge you immediately if they accept your bid, and it’s non-refundable. You only get one bid every 24 hours.”
19. Book a domestic hotel, or go with alternative lodging. - Domestic hotels often cost less during the holidays. In San Diego, Boston and Washington, D.C., it’s the cheapest time of year to book a room, says Jeremy Murphy, CEO and co-founder of TheSuitest.com. And also check out alternate, especially if you’re going abroad. Consider renting a home or villa, or do a home swap with HomeExchange or HomeSwap. Lodging on Airbnb will also usually be cheaper than a hotel, and or, if your family is up for meeting new people over the holidays, look into the free service of Couchsurfing, where you stay with a host in your destination.
20. If you’ve booked a cruise ... “Fly in a day before the cruise,” says Brian Murphy of Expedia CruiseShipCenters, so if bad weather sets you back, you don’t miss the whole trip. Also, throw a swimsuit into your carryon, just in case your luggage gets left behind. “Who wants to wait for the luggage to be delivered when a pool or beach are available?”

Source: Forbes

Blonde Handy Woman

A young blonde girl in her late teens, wanting to earn some extra money for the summer, decided to hire herself out as a “handy woman” and started canvassing a nearby well-to-do neighborhood. She went to the front door of the first house and asked the owner if he had any odd jobs for her to do. “Well, I guess I could use somebody to paint the porch,” he said. “How much will you charge me ?” Delighted, the girl quickly responded, “How about \$50 ?” The man agreed and told her that the paint, brushes and everything she would need were in the garage. The man’s wife, hearing the conversation, said to her husband, “Does she realize that our porch goes ALL the way around the house ?” “That’s a bit cynical, isn’t it ?” he responded. The wife replied, “You’re right. I guess I’m starting to believe all those Dumb blonde jokes.” A few hours later the blonde came to the door to collect her money. “You’re finished already ??” the startled husband asked. “Yes,” the blonde replied, “and I even had paint left over so I gave it two coats.” Impressed, the man reached into his pocket for the \$50 and handed it to her along with a \$10 tip. “Thank you,” the blonde said, “And, by the way, it’s not a Porch, it’s a Lexus.”

What Causes Arthritis?

A drunken man who smelled of beer sat down in an underground train, next to a priest. The man’s tie was stained, his face was plastered with red lipstick, and a half-empty bottle of gin was sticking out of his torn coat pocket. He opened his newspaper and began reading. After a few minutes the man turned to the priest and asked, “Say Father, what causes arthritis?” The priest replies, “My Son, it’s caused by loose living, being with cheap, wicked women, too much alcohol, contempt for your fellow man, sleeping around with prostitutes and lack of a bath.” The drunk muttered in response, “Well, I’ll be damned. Then returned to his paper. The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologized. “I’m very sorry. I didn’t mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?” The drunk answered, “I don’t have it, Father. I was just reading here that the Pope does.” MORAL: Make sure you understand the question before offering the answer.

The Burglar

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shined his flashlight around, looking for valuables when a voice in the dark said, ‘Jesus knows you’re here.’ He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off, and froze. When he heard nothing more, he shook his head and continued. Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard ‘Jesus is watching you.’ Startled, he shined his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice. Finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot. ‘Did you say that?’ he hissed at the parrot. ‘Yes’, the parrot confessed, then squawked, ‘I’m just trying to warn you that he’s watching you.’ The burglar relaxed. ‘Warn me, huh? Who in the world are you?’ ‘Moses,’ replied the bird. ‘Moses?’

the burglar laughed. ‘What kind of people would name a bird Moses?’ ‘The kind of people who would name a Rottweiler Jesus.’

Morris Schwartz

Morris Schwartz is with his nurse, his wife, his daughter and two sons and knows the end is near when he said to them: “Bernie, I want you to take the Beverly Hills houses.” “Sybil, take the apartments over in Los Angeles Plaza.” “Hymie, I want you to take the offices over in City Center.” “Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings downtown” The nurse is just blown away by all this and as Morris slips away, she said to his wife, “Mrs. Schwartz, your husband must have been such a hardworking man to have accumulated so much property.” Sarah replies, “Property shmoperty...the schmuck had a newspaper route.”
end

EARLY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING FOR MEN:

Buying gifts for men is not nearly as complicated as it is for woman. Follow these rules and you should have no problems.

Rule #15 – Rope – Men love rope – it takes them back origins, or at least to their Boy Scout Days.....Nothing says love like a 100 feel of 3/8” rope. And I’m sure with a little imagination, you could come up with lots of useful purposes for the rope!

Rule #14 – It’s hard to beat a really good wheelbarrow or an aluminum extension ladder. Never buy a real man a step ladder, it must be an extension – something about those added inches.

Rule #13 – Chain saws... now, I must warn you, even though this is a hot item, if you buy your man a chain saw, absolutely everything will get cut down, sawed off and demolished.

Rule #12 – Label maker – within a couple of weeks there will be labels absolutely everywhere - socks – shorts – cups – saucers – open – close – lock – sink... hot – cold - don’t say we didn’t warn you.

Rule #11 – Men enjoy danger – that’s why they never cook – except to “Barbecue” –Get him a monster barbecue grill with a 100 pound propane tank. Tell him the gas leaks and watch him go to town.... You’ll keep him busy for hours.

Rule #10 – A new remote control – ok, never mind he already has 6 – buy the one from Sharper Image that does it all – with all the bells and whistles.. and make sure you purchase the holder that attaches to his belt.. woo hoo.. here we go Steelers!!

Rule #9 – Big Screen TV with the picture in picture in picture – and no...its not possible to have too many picture little boxes on your TV screen – watch him go flip flip flip this gift will get you anything you want.

Rule #8 – Power anything – doesn't matter, nothing says love better than a power tool – he'll be in control... the man – the manly man!!

Rule #7 – Buy him anything with word ratchet or socket in it. Men love saying those two words... Hey, George, can I borrow your ratchet? Or by the way, are through using my 3/8 inch socket...this ranks right up there with shims!

Rule #6 – Electronics – now your talking... anything that makes him have more geek power is going to be a real hit!

Rule #5 – If he's the outdoors type – anything from Cabella's – the ultimate store when shopping for your man!

Rule #4 – If he likes golf – tons of new gadgets out there for the golfing nut and of course, you can't go wrong with a gift certificate to play one of those courses that he talks about all the time.

Rule #3 – Beer – the manly man drink....buy him a cases of beer (and yes, we said cases, when only one won't do) or join the beer of the month club and honey, you'll be set for the next couple of months.. you'll have him wrapped around your finger.

Rule #2 – A pair of sporting event tickets – Steelers – Penguins for him and his best friend and that does not mean YOU.. let him go with his buddies – he'll love you forever!!

Rule #1 – Give him you.....try getting creative.... Surprise him wrapped in saran wrap, greet him naked wrapped in a fur coat ... but, never ever interrupt a sporting event. That's unsportsmanlike conduct and severe penalties could apply.. Happy Shopping!!

TURKEY DRESSING SUPREME:

Ingredients:

- ° 5 C. Bread Crumbs
- ° 1 C. Chopped Onion
- ° 112 C. Popcorn (Unpopped)
- ° 1/4 C. Parsley
- ° 3 C. Giblet broth

° 1-1/2 teaspoon Sage

Mixing Instructions:

1. Chop giblets fine. Mix all ingredients in broth.
2. Stuff turkey loosely. Bake slowly at 350° approximate
3. 5 hours or until popcorn blows the turkey's butt off.

How to have a healthy winter!!!!

Miss Beatrice, the church organist, was in her Eighties and had never been married. She was admired for her sweetness and kindness to all. One afternoon the pastor came to call on her and she showed him into her quaint sitting room. She invited him to have a seat while she prepared tea. As he sat facing her old pump organ, the young minister noticed a cut-glass bowl sitting on top of it. The bowl was filled with water. In the water floated, of all things, a condom! When she returned with tea and scones, they began to chat. The pastor tried to stifle his curiosity about the bowl of water and its strange floater, but soon it got the better of him and he could no longer resist. "Miss Beatrice", he said. "I wonder if you would tell me about this?" pointing to the bowl. "Oh, yes" she replied, "isn't it wonderful? I was walking through the park a few months ago and I found this little package on the ground. The directions said to place it on the organ, keep it wet and that it would prevent the spread of disease. Do you know I haven't had the flu all winter!" Have a healthy winter!

Getting Older

A very elderly gentleman, (mid nineties) very well dressed, and hair well groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel smelling slightly of a good after shave, presenting a well looked after image, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge. Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady, (mid eighties). The gentleman walks over, sits along side of her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her and says, "So tell me, do I come here often?"

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will 3 times!"

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says, "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?" Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby." "Really? Like a new-born baby?" "Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."

Dinner

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, "Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly." The other man said, "What is the name of the restaurant?" The first man thought and thought and finally said, "What is the name of that flower you give to some-one you love? You know...the one that's red and has thorns." "Do you mean a rose?" "Yes, that's the one." replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

Hospital regulations require a wheelchair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman ---already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet--who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator. On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him. "I don't know", he said. "She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown."

The Affair

A woman was having a daytime affair while her husband was at work. One wet and lusty day she was in bed with her boyfriend when, to her horror, she heard her husband's car pull into the driveway. "Oh my God - hurry! Grab your clothes and jump out the window. My husband's home early!" "I can't jump out the window ~ It's raining out there!" "If my husband catches us in here, he'll kill us both!" she replied. He's got a hot temper and a gun, so the rain is the least of your problems!" So the boyfriend scoots out of bed, grabs his clothes and jumps out the window! As he ran down the street in the pouring rain, he quickly discovered He had run right into the middle of the town's annual marathon, so he started running along beside the others, about 300 of them. Being naked, with his clothes tucked under his arm, he tried to blend in as best he could. After a little while a small group of runners who had been watching him with some curiosity, jogged closer. "Do you always run in the nude?" one asked. "Oh yes!" he replied, gasping in air. "It feels so wonderfully free!" Another runner moved a long side. "Do you always run carrying your clothes with you under your arm?" Oh, yes" our friend answered breathlessly. "That way I can get dressed right at the end of the run and get in my car to go home! Then a third runner cast his eyes a little lower and queried, "Do you always wear a condom when you run? " "Nope..... just when it's raining".

Long Life

An 80-year old man goes to the doctor for a Prostate checkup. The doctor is amazed at what good shape the guy is in and asks, "How do you stay in such great physical condition?" "I'm a golfer,"

says the old guy, "and that's why I'm in such good shape. "I'm up well before daylight and out golfing up and down the fairways." "Well," says the doctor, "I'm sure that helps, but there's got to be more to it. How old was your dad when he died?" "Who said my dad's dead?" The doctor is amazed. "You mean you're 80 years old and your dad's still alive. How old is he?" "He's 100 years old," says the old golfer. "In fact he golfed with me this morning, and that's why he's still alive he's a golfer too." "Well," the doctor says, "that's great, but I'm sure there's more to it than that. How about your dad's dad? How old was he when he died?" "Who said my grandpa's dead?" Stunned, the doctor asks, "You mean you're 80 years old and your grandfathers still living! Incredible, how old is he?" "He's 118 years old," says the old golfer. The doctor is getting frustrated at this point, "So, I guess he went golfing with you this morning too?" "No. Grandpa couldn't go this morning because he's getting married today." At this point the doctor is close to losing it. "Getting married!! Why would a 118 year-old guy want to get married?" "Who said he wanted to?"

Woman Can Be Amazing

A woman and a man are involved in a car accident on a snowy, cold Monday morning. Both of their cars are totally demolished but amazingly neither of them are hurt. God works in Mysterious ways. After they crawl out of their cars, the woman says, "So you're a man. That's interesting. I'm a woman. Wow, just look at our cars, there's nothing left of them, but we're unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace for the rest of our days." Flattered, the man replies, "Oh yes, I agree with you completely; this must be a sign from God!" The woman continues, "And look at this, here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune." Then she hands the bottle to the man. The man nods his head in agreement, opens it, drinks half the bottle, and then hands it back to the woman. The woman takes the bottle and immediately puts the cap back on, and hands it back to the man. The man asks, "Aren't you having any?" The woman replies, "No. I think I'll just wait for the police...." **MORAL OF THE STORY:** Women are clever, evil bitches. Don't mess with them.

CRISCO

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

VACATION

A man and his ever-nagging wife went on vacation to Jerusalem. While they were there, the wife passed away. The undertaker told

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

Peanuts

A tour bus driver is driving with a busload of seniors down a highway when he is tapped on his shoulder by a little old lady. She offers him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munches up. After about 15 minutes, she taps him on his shoulder again and she hands him another handful of peanuts. She repeats this gesture about five more times. When she is about to hand him another batch again he asks the little old lady, "Why then don't you eat the peanuts yourself?" "We can't chew them because we've no teeth", she replied. The puzzled driver asks, "Why do you buy them then?" The old lady replied, "We just love the chocolate around them." It pays to be careful around old people.

Robot Bartender

A man walked into a very high-tech bar. As he sat down on a stool he noticed that the bartender was a robot. The robot clicked to attention and asked "Sir, what will you have?"??? The man thought a moment then replied? "A martini please".??? The robot clicked a couple of times and mixed the best martini the man had ever had. The robot then asked "sir, what is your IQ?"? The man answered "oh, about 164." The robot then proceeded to discuss the 'theory of relativity', 'inter-stellar space travel' 'the latest medical break through' etc..... The man was most impressed. He left the bar but thought he would try a different tactic. He returned and took a seat. Again the robot clicked and asked what he would have?? 'A Martini please'. Again, it was superb. The robot again asked "what is your IQ sir?" This time the man answered "Oh about 100". So the robot started discussing Nascar racing, the latest basketball scores, and what to expect the Dodgers to do this weekend. The guy had to try it one more time. So he left, returned and took a stool.... Again a martini, and the question "What is your IQ?"??? This time the man drawled out " Uh..... bout 50".. The robot clicked then leaned close and very slowly asked " A-r-e Y-o-u-r p-e-o-p-l-e g-o-i-n-g t-o n-o-m-i-n-a-t-e H-i-l-l-a-r-y-?"

Marriage Seminar

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

How Metrologists Predict Weather

It was early November and the Indians on a remote reservation asked their new Chief if the coming winter was going to be cold or mild. Since he was a Chief in a modern society he had never been taught the old secrets. When he looked at the sky he couldn't tell what the winter was going to be like. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side he told his tribe that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that the members of the village should collect firewood to be prepared. But being a practical leader, after several days he got an idea. He went to the phone booth, called the National Weather Service and asked, "Is the coming winter going to be cold?" "It looks like this winter is going to be quite cold," the meteorologist at the weather service responded. So the Chief went back to his people and told them to collect even more firewood in order to be prepared. A week later he called the National Weather Service again. "Does it still look like it is going to be a very cold winter?" "Yes," the man at National Weather Service again replied, "it's going to be a very cold winter." The Chief again went back to his people and ordered them to collect every scrap of firewood they could find. Two weeks later the Chief called the National WeatherService again. "Are you absolutely sure that the winter is going to be very cold?" "Absolutely," the man replied. "It's looking more and more like it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever." "How can you be so sure?" the Chief asked. The weatherman replied, "The Indians are collecting firewood like crazy."

Ocean Of Beer

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

Shortest Books

- Home Built Airplanes By John Denver
- How To Get To The Super Bowl By Dan Marino
- Things I Can't Afford By Bill Gates
- Things I Would Not Do For Money - By Dennis Rodman
- Amelia Earhart's Guide To The Pacific Ocean
- America's Most Popular Lawyers
- Detroit - A Travel Guide

- Dr. Kevorkian's Collection Of Motivational Speeches
- Everything Men Know About Women
- Everything Women Know About Men
- Mike Tyson's Guide To Dating Etiquette
- Spotted Owl Recipes - By The Sierra Club
- The Amish Phone Directory
- My Plan To Find The Real Killers - By O. J. Simpson
- And the World's Number One Shortest book...
- MY BOOK OF MORALS – by numerous elected government officials

Laws Murphy Missed

- Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease your nose will begin to itch or you'll have to pee
- Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.
- Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
- Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.
- Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

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



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Flagpole

Bubba and Junior were standing at the base of a flagpole in Pineville, La., looking up. A blonde lady walks by and asks what they are doing. "We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole," says Bubba, "but we don't have a ladder." The woman takes a wrench from her purse, loosens a few bolts, and lays the pole down. She then takes a tape measure from her pocket, measures, and announces, "eighteen feet, six inches" and walks away. Junior shakes his head and laughs. "Ain't that just like a dumb blonde? We ask for the height, and she gives us the length. Bubba and Junior are currently doing government work supervising the reconstruction of the New Orleans levees.

Turkey Shopping

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy replied, "No ma'am, they're dead."

What key has legs and can't open doors?
A Turkey.

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
Pilgrims!

Why did the turkey cross the road?
It was the chicken's day off.

If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for? Their AGE

Why can't you take a turkey to church?
Because they use such FOWL language

Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building?
Yes - a building can't jump at all

What do you get when you cross a turkey with an octopus?
Enough drumsticks for Thanksgiving

What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?
Plymouth Rock

Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?
The outside

Why did they let the turkey join the band?
Because he had the drumsticks

Why did the police arrest the turkey?
They suspected it of fowl play

What did the turkey say before it was roasted?
Boy! I'm stuffed!

The Blonde Thanksgiving Dinner

It was the first time the blonde was eating Thanksgiving dinner without her family. Trying to re-enact the tradition, she prepared a dinner for herself alone. The next day, her mother called to see how everything went. "Oh, mother, I made myself a lovely dinner, but I had so much trouble trying to eat the turkey!" said the daugh-

ter. "Did it not taste good?" her mother asked. "I don't know," the blonde said. "It wouldn't sit still!"

Things Proven To Change The Course Of Thanksgiving

1. During the middle of the meal, turn to mom and say, "See mom, I told you they wouldn't notice that the turkey was four months past its expiration date. You were worried for nothing."
2. When everyone goes around to say what they are thankful for, say, "I'm thankful I didn't get caught" and refuse to say anything more.
3. Load your plate up high, then take it to the kitchen, toss it all in the blender, and take your "shake" back to the table. Announce that it's the new Thanksgiving Weight Loss Shake
4. Prepare a several hour-long speech to give when asked about your thankfulness. If necessary, insist that no one leave or eat until you have finished the speech.
5. Bring along old recorded football games and pop them in the DVD when dad's not looking. Make sure it is set to the last two minutes of the game when he comes into the room, turn off the DVD, and then turn on the regular TV.
6. Bring a date that only talks about the tragic and abusive conditions known to exist at turkey farms. Request that she bring photos.

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Things You Can Say At Thanksgiving And Not Get Slapped!

- “Whew, that’s one terrific spread!”
- “I’m in the mood for a little dark meat.”
- “Tying the legs together keeps the inside moist.”
- “Talk about a huge breast!”
- “It’s Cool Whip time!”
- “If I don’t undo my pants, I’ll burst!”
- “Are you ready for seconds yet?”
- “Are you going to come again next time?”
- “It’s a little dry, do you still want to eat it?”
- “Just wait your turn, you’ll get some!”
- “Don’t play with your meat.”
- “Just spread the legs open & stuff it in.”
- “Do you think you’ll be able to handle all these people at once?”
- “I didn’t expect everyone to come at once!”
- “You still have a little bit on your chin.”
- “Use a nice smooth stroke when you whip it.”
- “How long will it take after you stick it in?”
- “You’ll know it’s ready when it pops up.”
- “Wow, I didn’t think I could handle all of that!”
- “How many are coming?”
- “That’s the biggest one I’ve ever seen!”



- “Just lay back & take it easy...I’ll do the rest.”
- “How long do I beat it before it’s ready?”

Thanksgiving Humor

A few short jokes for your Turkey Day extravaganza!

- A woman drove me to drink and I didn’t even have the decency to thank her. ~WC Fields~
- Did you hear about the X-rated turkey? It’s served with very little dressing.
- Asked to write a composition entitled, “What I’m thankful for on Thanksgiving,” little Johnny wrote, “I am thankful that I’m not a turkey.”
- Imagine... if the Pilgrims had shot a wild cat instead of a Turkey, what would we be eating for Thanksgiving?

Q: How do you keep a turkey in suspense?

A: I’ll tell you at Christmas.

Q: Why did the turkey cross the road?

A: It was the chicken’s day off.

Q: What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children?

A: If your father could see you now, he’d turn over in his gravy!

Q: What key has legs and can’t open doors?

A: Tur-key.

Q: What sound does a space turkey make?

A: Hubble, hubble, hubble.

Q: Why do turkeys always go “gobble, gobble”?

A: Because they never learned good table manners!

Thanksgiving Story

A young boy, after hearing the story of Thanksgiving and how the Indians and the Pilgrims sat down together, climbed up into his father’s lap and said, “Daddy, did you know that if we were Indians, you would be a brave and Mom would be a squawk?” “That is the best description of your mother I have ever heard,” replied his daddy as he ducked.

Turkey and the Pope

The representative from Butterball goes to see the Pope and asks him to change the Lord’s Prayer from “Give us our daily bread” to “Give us our daily turkey”. The Pope says that it is impossible, but the Butterball rep says that they are prepared to give the church a billion dollars to change it. The Pope says he must discuss it with the head Cardinals. The next day he calls them all together and announces he has good news and bad news. “The good news”, he begins “is that the church is to come into a billion dollars. The bad news is that we are losing the Wonder Bread account!”

Because I'm A Man

Because I'm a man, when I lock my keys in the car I will fiddle with a wire long after hypothermia, or heat stroke, has set in. AAA is not an option. I will win.

Because I'm a man, when the car isn't running very well, I will pop the hood and stare at the engine as if I know what I'm looking at. If another man shows up, one of us will say to the other, "I used to be able to fix these things, but now with all these computers and everything, I wouldn't know where to start." We will then drink beer and break wind as a form of Holy Communion.

Because I'm a man, when I catch a cold, I need someone to bring me soup and take care of me while I lie in bed and moan. You're a woman. You never get as sick as I do, so for you this isn't a problem.

Because I'm a man, I can be relied upon to purchase basic groceries at the store, like milk or bread. I cannot be expected to find exotic items like "cumin" or "tofu." For all I know, these are the same thing. And never, under any circumstances, expect me to pick up anything for which "feminine hygiene product" is a euphemism.

Because I'm a man, when one of our appliances stops working, I will insist on taking it apart, despite evidence that this will just cost me twice as much, once the repair person gets here and has to put it back together.

Because I'm a man, I must hold the television remote control in my hand while I watch TV. If the thing has been misplaced, I may miss an entire show looking for it (though one time I was able to survive by holding a calculator)...applies to engineers mainly.

Because I'm a man, there is no need to ask me what I'm thinking about. The answer is always either sex, cars or football. I have to make up something else when you ask, so don't ask.

Because I'm a man, I do not want to visit your mother, or have your mother come visit us, or talk to her when she calls, or think about her any more than I have to. Whatever you got her for Mother's Day is okay; I don't need to see it. And don't forget to pick up something for my mother too.

Because I'm a man, you don't have to ask me if I liked the movie. Chances are, if you're crying at the end of it, I didn't.... and if you are feeling amorous afterwards...then I will certainly at



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least remember the name and recommend it to others.

Because I'm a man, I think what you're wearing is fine. I thought what you were wearing five minutes ago was fine, too. Either pair of shoes is fine. With the belt or without it, looks fine. Your hair is fine. You look fine. Can we just go now?

Because I'm a man, and this is, after all, the year 2005, I will share equally in the housework. You just do the laundry, the cooking, the cleaning, the vacuuming, and the dishes, and I'll do the rest... like looking for my socks, or like wandering around in the garden with a drink in my hand wondering what to do.

This has been a public service message for Women to better understand the Male

A Thanksgiving Poem

Was the night of Thanksgiving
But, I just couldn't sleep
I tried counting backwards,
I tried counting sheep
The leftovers beckoned –
The dark meat and white,
I fought the temptation
Throughout the whole night

But, the thought of a snack
Just kept on coming back
So, I raced to the kitchen,
Flung open the door
And gazed at the fridge
Full of goodies galore
I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,
Gravy, corn, stuffing, bread and tomatoes
I feel myself swelling, so plump and so round,
Till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground
I crashed through the ceiling,
Floating into the sky
With a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie
But, I managed to yell as I soared past the trees..
Happy Eating to All – Pass the Cranberries...Please!!

Thanksgiving Toast

May your stuffing be tasty, may your turkey be plump. May your potatoes' n gravy have nary a lump, may your yams be delicious, may your pies take the prize, may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off of your thighs!! HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!

Viagra

A woman asks her husband, "Would you like some bacon and eggs? A slice of toast and maybe some grapefruit and coffee?" she asks. He declines. "Thanks for asking, but I'm not hungry right now. It's this Viagra," he says. "It's really taken the edge off my appetite." At lunchtime she asked if he would like something. "A bowl of soup, homemade muffins, or a cheese sandwich?" He declines. "The Viagra," he says, "really trashes my desire for food." Come dinnertime, she asks if he wants anything to eat. "Would you like a juicy porterhouse steak and scrumptious apple pie? Or maybe a rotisserie chicken or tasty stir fry?" He declines again. "No, still not hungry." "Well," she says, "would you mind letting me up? I'm starving!

Electric Bill

I complained about my recent electric bill and here's their response:

Dear Electric Customer,

Just a little note to let you know we understand your anger in the recent price hike. But it should be noted that you have no choice. We are a big company and you will pay what we tell you. You have no choice. We have the power, you need the power. So sad, too bad. Sucks to be you. We have enclosed a little picture to help outline our response. Have a nice day and keep those checks coming, loser!

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Bubba

Bubba died in a fire and his body was burned pretty badly. The morgue needed someone to identify the body, so they sent for his two best friends, Darryl and Gomer. The three men had always done everything together. Darryl arrived first and when the mortician pulled back the sheet. Darryl said, "Yup, his face is burned up pretty bad. You better roll him over." The mortician rolled him over, and Darryl said, "Nope, ain't Bubba." The mortician thought this was rather strange. Then he brought Gomer in to identify the body. Gomer looked at the body and said, "Yup, he's pretty well burnt up. Roll him over." The mortician rolled him over and Gomer said, "no, it ain't Bubba." The mortician asked, "How can you tell?" Gomer said, "Well, Bubba had two a**holes." "What? He had two a**holes?" asked the mortician. Yup, I've never seen 'em, but everyone knew he had two a**holes. Every time we went to town, folks would say, "Here comes Bubba with them two a**holes!"

Definitions

1. THINGY (thing-ee) n.

Female: Any part under a car's hood.

Male: The strap fastener on a woman's bra.

2. VULNERABLE (vul-ne-ra-bel) adj.

Female: Fully opening up one's self emotionally to another.

Male: Playing football without a cup.

3. COMMUNICATION (ko-myoo-ni-kay-shon) n.

Female: The open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner. Male: Leaving a note before taking off on a fishing trip with the boys.

4. COMMITMENT (ko-mit-ment) n.

Female: A desire to get married and raise a family.

Male: Trying not to hit on other women while out with this one.

5. ENTERTAINMENT (en-ter-tayn-ment) n.

Female: A good movie, concert, play or book.

Male: Anything that can be done while drinking beer.

6. FLATULENCE (flach-u-lens) n.

Female: An embarrassing byproduct of indigestion.

Male: A source of entertainment, self-expression, male bonding.

7. MAKING LOVE (may-king luv) n.

Female..... The greatest expression of intimacy a couple can achieve. Male: Call it whatever you want, just as long as we do it.



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8. REMOTE CONTROL (ri-moht kon-trohl) n.

Female: A device for changing from one TV channel to another.

Male: A device for scanning through all 375 channels every 5 minutes.

Now You Know Everything

For those of you who just thought you knew everything, here's a refresher course.

- The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma.
- No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven (7) times.
- Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.
- You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
- Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty (50) years of age or older.
- The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.
- The king of hearts is the only king without a mustache.
- American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one (1) olive from each salad served in first-class.
- Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise. (Since Venus is normally associated with women, what does this tell you!)
- Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
- Most dust particles in your house are made from dead skin.
- The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first "MarlboroMan."
- Walt Disney was afraid of mice.
- Pearls melt in vinegar.
- The three most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.
- It is possible to lead a cow upstairs...but not downstairs.
- A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.
- Richard Millhouse Nixon was the first U.S. president whose name contains all the letters from the word "criminal."
- The second ? William Jefferson Clinton (Please don't tell me you're SURPRISED!?!?)
And the best for last.....
- Turtles can breathe through their butts. (I know some people like that; don't YOU?)

Now you know everything there is to know.

Bathtub Test:

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the director what the criteria is that defines whether a patient should be institutionalized or not. "Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub with water, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the water out of the tub."

Okay, here's your test:

1. Would you use the spoon?

2. Would you use the teacup?

3. Would you use the bucket?

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket since it is larger than the teacup or spoon." "No," answered the Director. "A normal person would pull out the stopper." So, how did you do? I've been committed

The 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."

Pills & Push-ups

A man goes to the doctor with a swollen leg. After a careful examination, the doctor gives the man a pill big enough to choke a horse. "I'll be right back with some water," the doctor tells him. The doctor has been gone a while and the man loses patience. He hobbles out to the drinking fountain, forces the pill down his throat and gobbles down water until the pill clears his throat. He hobbles back into the examining room. The doctor comes back with a bucket of warm water. "Ok, after the tablet dissolves, soak that leg for at least 30 minutes."

A Drunk

A drunk staggers into a bar demanding a beer. The bartender informs him that he is not allowed to serve alcohol to drunken patrons. After a few harsh words, the bartender suggested that the drunk prove he isn't drunk by doing twenty push-ups on the floor. As he was doing the push-ups, another drunk staggers into the bar and sees this guy on the floor doing push-ups. He looks at him for a minute and then nudges him in the ribs saying, "Hey, Pal, I think your girl friend has gone home."

Ride Home

A man is having a few drinks at a bar when he looks over and notices a drunk guy passed out at a table nearby. The bartender tells him the drunk is Mr. Murphy and asks the man if he could drive Mr. Murphy home. Being a good Samaritan, the man agrees. The bartender writes down the address and gives it to him. The man walks over and tries to wake Mr. Murphy but Mr. Murphy is groggy and

quite drunk. The man helps Mr. Murphy to his feet and Mr. Murphy falls to the floor in a heap. "Jeez," the man says wondering how anyone could drink so much. He takes Murphy by the arm and practically drags him out to the car. Once there he leans him against the side of his car while he looks for his keys. Mr. Murphy slides down to the ground. The man finds his keys and manages to get Murphy positioned in the car. He then drives to the address the bartender gave him. He opens the passenger door and helps Mr. Murphy out and the guy falls to the ground. Cursing softly, now, the man helps him to his feet and practically drags him to the front door. He lets go of Mr. Murphy to knock on the door and the guy falls down again. He helps him to his feet as Mrs. Murphy answers the door. "Hi, Mrs. Murphy, Your husband had a little too much to drink tonight so I gave him a ride home." "That was nice of you," she says, looking around... "But where's his wheelchair?"

Hardware Store:

Bubba was fixing a door and he found that he needed a new hinge, so he sent his wife, Mary Louise, to the hardware store. At the hardware store, Mary Louise saw a beautiful teapot on a top shelf while she was waiting for Joe Bob, the manager, to finish waiting on a customer. When Joe Bob was finished, Mary Louise asked how much for the teapot. Joe Bob replied, "That's silver and it costs \$100!" "My goodness, that sure is a lotta money!" Mary Louise exclaimed. Then she proceeded to describe the hinge that Bubba had sent her to buy, and Joe Bob went to the back room to find it. From the back room Joe Bob yelled, "Mary Louise, you wanna screw for that hinge?" Mary Louise replied, "No, but I will for the teapot. "This is why you can't send a woman to a hardware store!"

Three Blondes

Three blondes were applying for the last available position on the Texas Highway Patrol. The detective conducting the interview looked at the 3 of them and said, "So ya'll want to be a cop, eh?" The blondes all nodded. The detective got up, opened a file drawer and pulled out a file folder. Sitting back down, he opened it up and withdrew a picture, and said, "To be a detective, you have to be able to detect. You must be able to notice things such as distinguishing features and oddities such as scars, etc." So he stuck the photo in the face of the 1st blonde and withdrew it after about 2 seconds. "Now, he said, "did you notice any distinguishing features about the man?" The blonde immediately said, "Yes, I did. He has only one eye!" The detective shook his head and said, "Of course he has only one eye in this picture! It's a profile of his face! You're dismissed!" The 1st blonde hung her head and walked out of the office. The detective then turned to the 2nd blonde, stuck the photo in her face for 2 seconds, pulled it back and said, "What about you? Notice anything unusual or outstanding about this man?" "Yes! He only has one ear!" The detective put his head in his hand and exclaimed, "Didn't you hear what I just told the other lady? This is a profile of the man's face! Of course you can only see one ear!! You're excused, too!" The 2nd blonde sheepishly walked out of the office. The detective turned his attention to the 3rd and last blonde and said, "This is probably a waste of time, but....." He flashed the photo in her face for a couple of seconds and withdrew it, saying "All right. Did you notice anything distinguishing or unusual about this man?" The blonde said, "I did. This man wears contact lenses." The detective frowned, took another look at



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the picture and began looking at some of the papers in the folder. He looked up at the blonde with a puzzled expression and said, "You're absolutely right! His bio says he wears contacts... How in the world could you tell that by looking at this picture?" The blonde rolled her eyes and said, "Well duh! With only one eye and one ear, he certainly can't wear glasses!"

Quickies

The old man had died. A wonderful funeral was in progress and the country preacher talked at length of the good traits of the deceased; what an honest man he was, what a loving husband and kind father he had been. The widow meanwhile was ever so slightly shaking her head, as she intently listened to the preacher's words. Finally, the widow leaned over and whispered to one of her children.... "Erica, honey, go on up there and take a look in the coffin and see if that's your dad in there."

A man and a woman who had never met before, but were both married to other people, found themselves assigned to the same sleeping room on a transcontinental train. Though initially embarrassed and uneasy over sharing a room, they were both very tired and fell asleep quickly... he in the upper bunk and she in the lower.

At 1:00 AM, the man leaned over and gently woke the woman saying, "Ma'am, I'm sorry to bother you, but would you be willing to reach into the closet to get me a second blanket? I'm awfully cold." "I have a better idea," she replied suggestively. "Just for tonight, let's pretend that we're married." "Wow! That's a great idea!" he exclaimed. "Good," she replied. "Get your own damn blanket." After a moment of silence, he farted.

How They Make Rubber Gloves!

A dentist noticed that his next patient, an elderly lady, was looking very nervous so he decided to tell her a little joke as he put on his gloves. "Do you know how they make these gloves?" he asked. "No, I don't," she replied. "Well," he spoofed, "there's a building in China with a big tank of latex and workers of all hand sizes walk up to the tank, dip in their hands, let them dry, then peel off the gloves and throw them into boxes of the right size." She didn't crack a smile. "Oh, well. I tried," he thought. But five minutes later, during a delicate portion of the dental procedure, she burst out laughing. "What's so funny?" he asked. "I was just picturing how condoms are made!" she said.

Top 13 Reasons Not To Eat Turkey On Thanksgiving

1. by Tom Turkey: You know, there are other great things to eat for Thanksgiving Dinner. What about corn, or simply rolls? Just don't eat us poor helpless turkeys. You want something to eat, have this red thing dangling under my chin. Delicious, huh? I didn't think so! (I wonder what that is used for, anyway) How about chicken or pork? Mmm ... tasty! In fact, Benjamin Franklin just about adopted me as the national bird! (stupid eagle ...) So ... don't eat turkeys!
2. by Turkey Lurky: The number one reason you shouldn't eat turkey is that you can eat other meats. What if you were a turkey? Forty million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving, twenty million are eaten on Christmas, and nineteen million are eaten on Easter. There are 482 calories in the skin, if you eat all of the skin. If you eat a wing with skin, that's 238 calories. A breast with skin is 194 calories. If you really need to eat meat, eat chicken. Think about it - chickens are really ugly, and turkeys are beautiful birds with pretty feathers. You know that chicken is better for you, so don't eat turkey! What if we turkeys became endangered? Benjamin Franklin wanted turkeys to be our national bird. (If only that stupid bald eagle wasn't around ...)
3. by Mr.Tom: Isn't there something better that you can eat on Thanksgiving Day than turkey? Just think - you can eat pork instead. It tastes better, too. And corn - oh you love corn! To get to the point, if you were a turkey, would you want to be eaten? Would you treat others as you would want to be treat-

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ed? Please don't eat me. Just think - treat others as you want to be treated yourself. You should like turkey and treat it like your brother. By the way, I am the Lord of Turkeys. If you eat me I will haunt your dreams forever. My brother is Dracula! Please don't eat me. What if I am sick and you get sick? You would never think about eating turkey ever again.

4. by Mr. Gobbler: You should not eat turkey because soon there will not be anymore of my turkey friends left. Why not eat deer meat? There are a lot more deer than turkeys. You can get more meat out of a deer or a steer than you can any of us turkeys. By eating steers there will be a different variety of meals like steaks, ribs, hamburgers and roasts. When eating me, you only get what you see - just plain old turkey. Just think - about forty million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving. Wow, that's a lot! I hope I'm not the next to go!
5. by Mrs. Gobbler: There are so many things to eat instead of urkey! We never did anything to you! We are cute and little. Why would you want to kill a turkey? Don't you ever get sick of turkey? Why don't you eat a cow, pig or chicken? This Thanksgiving eat something else! If you keep eating us there will be no turkeys left. Then what are you going to do?
6. By: Gobble Gobble Gobble: Stop! Think before you have that Thanksgiving meal! Don't eat turkey. Skip on the turkey and have the ham or the chicken. There are thousands of other things, by the way ... great things besides turkey ... to eat for

your Thanksgiving meal. Tired of those gnats and bugs bugging you and ruining your garden? Then let the turkeys live and they will definitely get rid of them. They will eat them. Also, don't eat turkey if you want a joyful and thankful Thanksgiving, because turkey will make you tired and want to go to sleep. Tell your friends - don't eat turkey. Tell your family - don't eat turkey. Tell the world - don't eat turkey!

7. By: Mrs. Gobble Gobble: Do you like to eat turkey? If you do, read this. Did you know that Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird? (if you ask me, I think the bald eagle is better) Another interesting fact is if a turkey looks up while it is raining, it can drown! You wouldn't want those speedy devils to be gone, would you? Kill the chicken. They are an important bird to our country. Think about it!
8. By: Gobble Gobble, Jr : Aren't there any other foods to eat on Thanksgiving other than turkey? It is cruel to eat or kill animals, so don't do it. If you were a turkey and you had to run and hide every Thanksgiving you would be scared like we are. We are really beautiful creatures and if you keep killing and eating us there will be none of us left. We take really long to cook, and nobody wants to sit and cook on Thanksgiving. Another food you could eat on Thanksgiving instead of turkey is salad greens. They have very little fat and are low in calories. They are also high in vitamins A and C. After reading this, I hope you decide to eat salad greens and not usturkeys!



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9. by Tom Tommy Turkey: There are better things to gobble down on Thanksgiving than turkey. Other foods are great. Yes, turkey has been a custom of Thanksgiving, so think back in time. Turkey was eaten at the first Thanksgiving, but so were deer, corn, fish and cranberries, along with much more! So the turkey was not the real big deal. Actually, nothing was as important as being with friends and family. It is a time of giving and thanks, not turkey. If meat is your goal in food, try chicken, pork, spam or ham. You could also try other things from the first Thanksgiving. Or, try some new foods! As you can see, turkey is not that important. You can fix foods that don't take hours to prepare, and gobble up food for your hungry stomach much faster
10. by Here... Turkey Turkey: Wouldn't it be a treat to have something different than turkey meat? I am not the smartest animal in the world, but you know what they say - you are what you eat. About forty million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving. People think we are very nutritious, but our skin is so fattening. If you get a turkey claw in your stuffing, you might choke to death! If people want to stuff themselves at Thanksgiving, why don't they eat a cow? They're much bigger animals. Have a happy Thanksgiving, as long as you're not eating turkey!
11. by Turk Turkey: Humans eat turkey. How would you like it if we started eating humans? I hear chicken is less fattening and less expensive. You could also have shrimp, lobster, fish, crab, or beef. They are all very tasty. We were almost the American bird, but you chose the fraud - the bald eagle that isn't even bald! Don't eat turkey!
12. by There ...Turkey Turkey: Thanksgiving is the time of year when you always think, "Time for the turkey!" But why? I'd just go out and buy myself some chicken. Chicken could be better. The good thing about chicken is that it is way easier to find one. How do you know that there will even be any turkey in years to come? They could die out and you would never see them on Earth again. A chicken is just a chicken, but look at all the beautiful feathers that belong to a turkey! Chicken can be used with anything - mashed potatoes, rice, and a variety of other things! All you hear on Thanksgiving is who is going to get the turkey this year, but then it's slaughter, slaughter, slaughter! Why waste and cut all those pretty turkeys?! This Thanksgiving I suggest you buy yourself some delicious chicken and not a beautiful turkey!
13. by King Turkey Jerky: We the turkeys have decided to tell the truth about what will happen when you eat us. We are as dumb as rocks, and if you eat us, you will be too. Look! There's a chicken solving the problem of world peace! They are geniuses, and if you eat chicken, you will be a genius too. Look at history - the pilgrims ate turkey and look how dumb they were. They left Plymouth and landed at Plymouth. I eat chicken, and that's how I am able to write. Other turkeys look up when it is raining and drown. Benjamin Franklin ate

chicken. He wanted to adopt me as the country's bird just so you wouldn't eat me and become stupid. Well, you decide if you want to be Bill Gates or Forrest Gump. Remember - you are what you eat!

Thanksgiving in the UK

A few years ago, an American and a British journalist were discussing Thanksgiving on a British radio program. The American asked if Thanksgiving was celebrated in the UK. "Yes," the British journalist replied, "but we celebrate it on the 6th of September." "Why then?" "That's when you chaps left."

A Change in Plans

Martha Stewart will not be dining with us this Thanksgiving. I'm telling you in advance, so don't act surprised. Since Ms. Stewart won't be coming, I've made a few small changes: Our sidewalk will not be lined with homemade, paper bag luminaries. After a trial run, it was decided that no matter how cleverly done, rows of flaming lunch sacks do not have the desired welcoming effect. Once inside, our guests will note that the entry hall is not decorated with the swags of Indian corn and fall foliage I had planned to make. Instead, I've gotten the kids involved in the decorating by having them track in colorful autumn leaves from the front yard. The mud was their idea. The dining table will not be covered with expensive linens, fancy china, or crystal goblets. If possible, we will use dishes that match and everyone will get a fork. Since this IS Thanksgiving, we will refrain from using the plastic Peter Rabbit plate and the Santa napkins from last Christmas. Our centerpiece will not be the tower of fresh fruit and flowers that I promised. Instead we will be displaying a hedgehog-like decoration hand-crafted from the finest construction paper. The artist assures me it is a turkey. We will be dining fashionably late. The children will entertain you while you wait. I'm sure they will be happy to share every choice comment I have made regarding Thanksgiving, pilgrims and the turkey hotline. Please remember that most of these comments were made at 5:00 a.m. upon discovering that the turkey was still hard enough to cut diamonds. As accompaniment to the children's recital, I will play a recording of tribal drumming. If the children should mention that I don't own a recording of tribal drumming, or that tribal drumming sounds suspiciously like a frozen turkey in a clothes dryer, ignore them. They are lying. We toyed with the idea of ringing a dainty silver bell to announce the start of our feast. In the end, we chose to keep our traditional method. We've also decided against a formal seating arrangement. When the smoke alarm sounds, please gather around the table and sit where you like. In the spirit of harmony, we will ask the children to sit at a separate table. In a separate room. Next door. Now, I know you have all seen pictures of one person carving a turkey in front of a crowd of appreciative onlookers. This will not be happening at our dinner. For safety reasons, the turkey will be carved in a private ceremony. I stress "private" meaning: Do not, under any circumstances, enter the kitchen to laugh at me.

Do not send small, unsuspecting children to check on my progress. I have an electric knife. The turkey is unarmed. It stands to reason that I will eventually win. When I do, we will eat. I would like to take this opportunity to remind my young diners that “passing the rolls” is not a football play. Nor is it a request to bean your sister in the head with warm tasty bread. Oh, and one reminder for the adults: For the duration of the meal, and especially while in the presence of young diners, we will refer to the giblet gravy by its lesser-known name: Cheese Sauce. If a young diner questions you regarding the origins or type of Cheese Sauce, plead ignorance. Cheese Sauce stains. Before I forget, there is one last change. Instead of offering a choice between 12 different scrumptious desserts, we will be serving the traditional pumpkin pie, garnished with whipped cream and small fingerprints. You will still have a choice: take it or leave it. No, Martha Stewart will not be dining with us this Thanksgiving. She probably won’t come next year either. I am thankful. Enjoy!

The GOOD Napkins

My mother taught me to read when I was four years old (her first mistake). One day, I was in the bathroom and noticed one of the cabinet doors was ajar. I read the box in the cabinet. I then asked my mother why she was keeping ‘napkins’ in the bathroom. Didn’t they belong in the kitchen? Not wanting to burden me with unnecessary facts, she told me that those were for “special occasions” (her second mistake). Now fast forward a few months....It’s Thanksgiving Day, and my folks are leaving to pick up my uncle and his wife for dinner. Mom had assignments for all of us while they were gone. Mine was to set the table. When they returned, my uncle came in first and immediately burst into laughter. Next came his wife who gasped, then began giggling. Next came my father, who roared with laughter. Then came Mom, who almost died of embarrassment when she saw each place setting on the table with a “special occasion” napkin at each plate, with the fork carefully arranged on top. I had even tucked the little tail in so they didn’t hang off the edge! My mother asked me why I used these and, of course, my response sent the other adults into further fits of laughter. “But, Mom, you SAID they were for special occasions!!!”

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 11. Casserolablanca
 10. The Fabulous Baster Boys
 9. 12 Hungry Men
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Signs You Are Overdoing Thanksgiving

- Paramedics bring in the Jaws of Life to pry you out of the EZ-Boy!
- The "Gravy Boat" your wife set out was a real 12' boat!
- You receive a Sumo Wrestler application in your e-mail
- Friday you set off 3 earthquake seismographs on your morning jog.
- Pricking your finger for cholesterol screening only yielded gravy.
- A guest quotes a Biblical passage from "The Feeding of the 5000."
- That rash on your stomach turns out to be steering wheel burn.
- Representatives from the Butterball Hall of Fame called twice.
- You consider gluttony your patriotic duty.

Thanksgiving Riddles

What do you get when you have a turkey on the beach with Broomhilda? A turkey sand-witch

What do you get when you cross a turkey with a banjo? A turkey that can pluck himself!

Do you have any turkeys going cheap? Nope, all our turkeys go gobble gobble.

What kind of music did Pilgrims listen to? Plymouth Rock!

What's the best way to catch a Turkey? Have someone throw one at you!

Which side of the turkey has the most feathers? The outside!

What's full of raisins and on a secret mission? Mince spy!

Why do turkeys eat so little? Because they are always stuffed!

What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children? If your father could see you now, he'd be rolling over in his gravy!

What key has legs but can't open a door? A turKEY

What did the turkey do in the Thanksgiving Day Parade? He played his drumsticks!

Why are the cranberries red? Because they saw the turkey dressing!

Why was the world concerned when the server dropped the platter of Turkey? It meant the fall of Turkey, the ruin of Greece, and the break up of China

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi.

Top 10 Reasons College Students Look Forward To Thanksgiving Break

10. You'll know that your turkey is a Butterball rather than a Grade E yet semi-edible fur ball
9. Your mother will not be serving your mashed potatoes and stuffing with an ice cream scooper
8. Pumpkin pie is a great alternative to green jello
7. After your eighth glass of cider, your emergency dash to the bathroom will not be delayed by having to line the seat with toilet paper
6. Clean underwear, comfortable bed, access to a car, bedroom larger than a 12x14 cell... OK, even if it is for only four days
5. To eat your meals the only trek you'll have to make is from the couch to the kitchen, rather than the dorm to the dining hall...in below freezing weather
4. Instead of listening to "when I first started teaching here..." you can be entertained by "when your mother was your age..." and "during the Depression we weren't lucky enough to have brussels sprouts. Hell, all we could afford was the sprout!"
3. You can eat your corn steamed with butter rather than popped in your microwave

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2. You'll know the hair in the shower drain is your own
And the number one reason college students are looking forward to Thanksgiving... (Drum roll, please...)

1. You won't be eating your Thanksgiving meal off a tray!

12 Reasons to be Thankful You Burnt the Turkey

1. Salmonella won't be a concern.
2. Everyone will think your turkey is Cajun blackened.
3. Uninvited guests will think twice next year.
4. Your cheese broccoli lima bean casserole will gain newfound appreciation.
5. Pets won't bother to pester you for scraps.
6. No one will overeat.
7. The smoke alarm was due for a test.
8. Carving the bird will provide a good cardiovascular workout.
9. You'll get to the desserts even quicker.
10. After dinner, the guys can take the bird to the yard and play football.
11. The less turkey Uncle You-Know-Who eats, the less likely he will be to walk around with his pants unbuttoned.
12. You won't have to face three weeks of turkey sandwiches.

Definitions For Husbands On Thanksgiving Day From Your Wife

PLAYBOOK: Also known as a cookbook, to be kept in plain sight at all times, if the book gets moved, the game could get ugly.

OFFSIDES: Silverware is to be set next to the plates... off to the side dear, not tossed in the middle of the table in a heap, for all to scramble for.

GAME TIME: This is when the food must all be on the table, at the same time, at the same temperature (preferably hot) so that the *teams* may meet at the arena (Table) for the coach to say the prayer.

TEAM SPIRIT: That which shall be upheld until the END of the game. When the coach (ME) has heard the fat lady sing (AUNT MARTHA saying that she's had enough to eat).

COMMERCIAL BREAKS: There will be NONE for us, until I deem them totally necessary for my sanity, when you have made me crazy!

PENALTIES: Will be given if there is no team spirit showing and the game time is DELAYED or off sides have occurred due to a certain *televised* football game engaging your attention!

HOLDING: May be necessary of several large bowls, so that I may pour gravy without staining my new silk blouse. And keep in mind dear, I am HOLDING the clicker for the T.V. for ransom ;).

TOUCHDOWNS: Please make them gentle when bowls are being touched down on the table, do not spike them, do not dance when the mission is complete!

FLAG ON THE PLAY: When something is spilled, PLEASE by all means throw a towel down on it and mop it up!

RUSHING: What we will be doing a lot of!!
and last but not least...

GROOMING THE FIELD: My Dear husband, if you help me through this meal, as I know you will, I promise to RECRUIT new players for the clean up and YES... in plenty of time for you to enjoy the REAL GAME!!!

Police Baste

A State Police colleague of mine once received a call from a woman who asked him how to baste a turkey. After a stunned moment, he, being a fairly good cook, described the procedure. Then he asked, "But why would you call the state police to find out how to baste a turkey?" There was only a slight hesitation before she replied, "Well, you knew, didn't you?" and she immediately hung up.



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Autumn Humor

- I love autumn. I love watching the leaves fall. It reminds me of the (Cleveland Browns).
- Autumn is a season for big decisions -- like whether or not it's too late to start spring cleaning.
- Autumn -- time to drag out your winter clothes and see what kind of summer fun the moths had.
- This autumn we can look forward to falling leaves and rising gas prices. We'll be raking it up while the oil companies are raking it in.
- The autumn leaves are a lot like raising kids. First they turn on you, and then they fly away. And next thing you know, you look out the window and they're back!
- I got tired of looking at all those leaves in my yard, so I got up off the couch and went into action. I closed the curtains.
- The leaves are beginning to fall, and soon only two things will be hanging from the trees: the last leaf and the first football coach.
- I can hardly wait until all the leaves turn brown to match the grass.
- Ah yes, summer's out and autumn's in. From swimming pools to football pools....
- I loved the end of summer when I was a kid. It always meant I no longer had to be embarrassed by the coach putting me in right field.
- This is an exciting autumn. Our athletes are breaking the records for the most Olympic medals, and our political candidates are breaking the records for the most campaign promises.
- Now, today's lawn & garden tip. If you haven't found the hedge trimmer yet, forget it. It's almost time now to lose the leaf rake.
- I could tell there was a hint of autumn in the air when my son's football smashed me in the face.
- It's fall, that time when the colors change from green to red to gold -- and that's just the gunk in your swimming pool.
- Autumn is a great time of the year. Soon those ugly patches of dead grass in your lawn will be covered up -- with ugly patches of dead leaves.

Aerial Photos

A photographer for a national magazine was assigned to take pictures of a great forest fire. He was advised that a small plane would be waiting to fly him over the fire. The photographer arrived at the airstrip just an hour before sundown. Sure enough, a small Cessna airplane was waiting. He jumped in with his equipment and shouted, "Let's go!" The tense man sitting in the pilot's seat swung the plane into the wind and soon they were in the air, though flying erratically. "Fly over the north side of the fire," said the photographer, "and make several low-level passes." "Why?" asked the nervous pilot. "Because I'm going to take pictures!" yelled the photographer. "I'm a photographer, and photographers take pictures." The pilot replied, "You mean you're not the flight instructor?"

An Airliner

At a recent software engineering management course in the US, the participants were given an awkward question to answer. "If you had just boarded an airliner and discovered that your team of programmers had been responsible for the flight control software how many of you would disembark immediately?" Among the ensuing forest of raised hands, only one man sat motionless. When asked what he would do, he replied that he would be quite content to stay onboard. With his team's software, he said, the plane was unlikely to even taxi as far as the runway, let alone take off.

Blonde And The Alligator

A guy walked into a bar with a pet alligator by his side. He put the alligator up on the bar and turned to the astonished patrons. "I'll make you a deal. I'll open this alligator's mouth and place my genitals inside. Then the gator will close his mouth for one minute. He'll then open his mouth and I'll remove my unit unscathed. In return for witnessing this spectacle, each of you will buy me a drink." The crowd murmured their approval. The man stood up on the bar, dropped his trousers, and placed his privates in the alligator's open mouth. The gator closed his mouth as the crowd gasped. After a minute, the man grabbed a beer bottle and rapped the alligator hard on the top of its head. The gator opened his mouth and the man removed his genital, unscathed as promised. The crowd cheered and the first of his free drinks was delivered. The man stood up again and made another offer. "I'll pay anyone \$100 who's willing to give it a try." A hush fell over the crowd. After a while, a hand went up in the back of the bar. A Blonde woman timidly spoke up, "I'll try, but you have to promise not to hit me on the head with the beer bottle."

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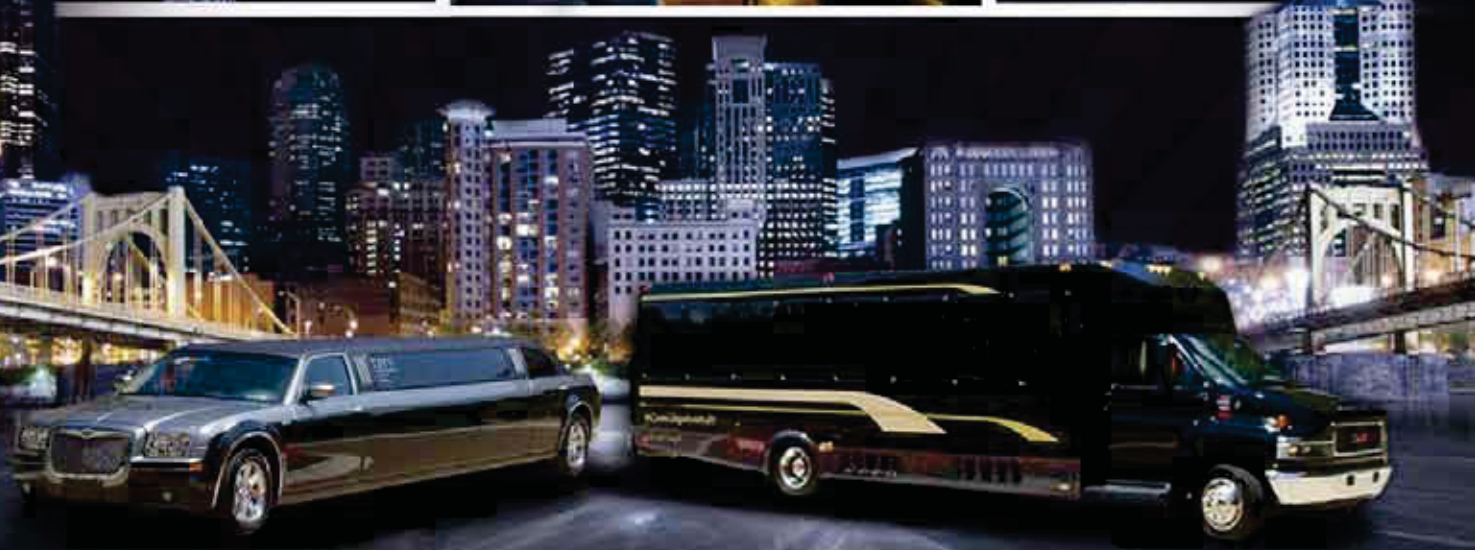
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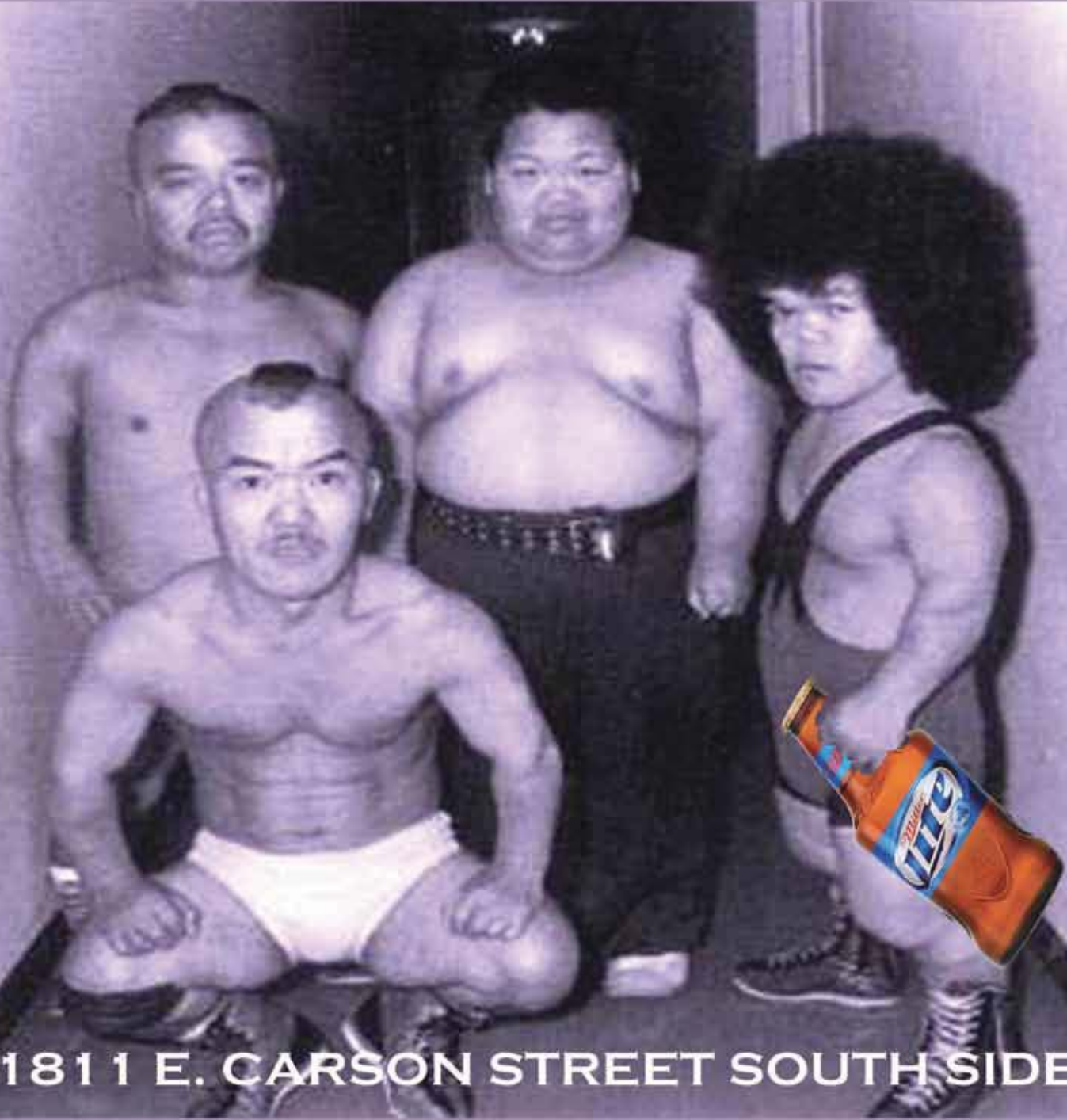
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