

# Senior Lifestyle Digest<sup>©</sup>

June 2008

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# Freds Cat Corner

## Hampering

### "My Special June Message"

Here we are with warm weather and more to come as June is the beginning of summer. The other night we had a meeting of the "Knights of the Tom Cats" and we enjoyed a lively discussion about **HAMPERING**: If one of your humans is engaged in some close activity and the other is idle, stay with the busy one. This is called "helping", otherwise known as "hampering." Following are the rules for "hampering": When supervising cooking, sit just behind the left heel of the cook. You cannot be seen and thereby stand a better chance of being stepped on and then picked up and comforted. It's even funnier when they try to avoid stepping on you and fall into a counter or table. For book readers, get in close under the chin, between eyes and book unless you can lie across the book itself. For knitting projects or paperwork, lie on the work in the most

appropriate manner so as to obscure as much of the work or at least the most important part. Pretend to doze, but every so often reach out and slap the pencil or knitting needles. The worker may try to distract you; ignore it. Remember, the aim is to hamper work. Embroidery and needlepoint projects make great hammocks in spite of what the humans may tell you. For people paying bills (monthly activity) or working on income taxes or Christmas cards (annual activity), keep in mind the aim -- to hamper! First, sit on the paper being worked on. When dislodged, watch sadly from the side of the table. When activity proceeds nicely, roll around on the papers, scattering them to the best of your ability. After being removed for the second time, push pens, pencils, and erasers off the table, one at a time. Well there you have it another lesson from Cat Corner, see ya next time.



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**Thoughts to Ponder**

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live. How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on. I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them. If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy? Most of us go to our grave with our music still inside of us. If Wal-Mart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing in the store is free yet? You may be

only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person. Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once. Don't cry because its over; smile because it happened. We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors ...but they all have to learn to live in the same box. Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler. Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

**A Little Too Fast!!!!**

A DC-10 had an exceedingly long roll out after landing with his approach speed just a little too high. San Jose Tower: "American 751 heavy,

turn right at the end, if able. If not able, take the Guadeloupe exit off of Highway 101 and make a right at the light to return to the airport.

**The Preacher's Lament**

This is what your Pastor really thinks...If I express myself on a subject, I'm trying to run things. If I'm silent, I'm dumb or have lost interest. If I'm often at my office (preparing sermons or studying), why don't I get out and learn what's going on. If I'm out when they call, why am I not tending to business, or studying for a sermon. If I'm not at home at night, I'm out having a good time. If I'm home, I'm neglecting important outside contacts and activities. If I don't agree with people,

I'm bullheaded. If I do agree, I don't have any ideas of my own. If I don't do what I'm asked, I'm a poor pastor. If I do agree, well, that's what I'm paid for. If I give someone a short answer, I'm "too big for my britches." If I attempt to explain the pros and cons of an issue, I'm a know it all. If I'm well dressed, I'm a big shot. If I'm not, I'm a poor representative of my office. If I'm on the job a short time, I'm inexperienced. If I've been there a long time, It's time for a change.

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## Top 10 Ways to Harass a Telemarketer

10. When they ask "How are you today?" Tell them! "I'm so glad you asked because no one these days seems to care, and I have all these problems; my arthritis is acting up, my eyelashes are sore, my dog just died...."

9. If they say they're John Doe from XYZ Company, ask them to spell their name. Then ask them to spell the company name. Then ask them where it is located. Continue asking them personal questions or questions about their company for as long as necessary.

8. Cry out in surprise, "Judy! Is that you? Oh my gosh! Judy, how have you been?" Hopefully, this will give Judy a few brief moments of pause as she tries to figure out where she could know you from.

7. If MCI calls trying to get you to sign up for the Family and Friends plan, reply, in as sinister a voice as you can, "I don't have any friends... would you be my friend?"

6. If they want to loan you money, tell them you are just about to file for bankruptcy and you could sure

use some money.

5. Tell the telemarketer you are on "home incarceration" and ask if they could bring you a case of beer and some chips.

4. After the telemarketer gives their spiel, ask him/her to marry you. When they get all flustered, tell them that you could not just give your credit card number to a complete stranger\

3. Tell the telemarketer you are busy at the moment and ask them if they will give you their HOME phone number so you can call them back. When the telemarketer explains that they cannot give out their home number, you say "I guess you don't want anyone bothering you at home, right?" The telemarketer will agree and you say, "Now you know how I feel!"

2. Insist that the caller is really your buddy Leon, playing a joke. "Come on Leon, cut it out! Seriously, Leon, how's your momma?" And first and foremost:

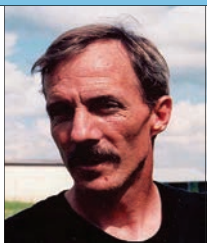
1. Tell them to talk very slowly, because you want to write every word down.

## Louisiana Tourist Attraction

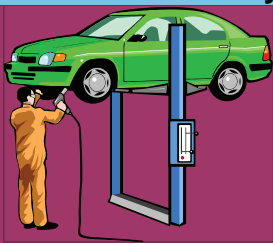
Two tourists were driving through Louisiana. As they were approaching Natchitoches, they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town. They argued back and forth until they stopped for lunch. As they stood at the counter, one tourist

asked the blonde employee, "Before we order, could you please settle an argument for us? Would you please pronounce where we are...very slowly? The blonde guy leaned over the counter and said, "Burr-r-gerrrr Kiiinnnggg."

Man: "My wife has the worst memory I ever heard of."  
 Friend: "Forgets everything, eh?"  
 Man: "No, remembers everything."



*On the Road  
with  
Jim Smith*



Now that we've seen four dollars and climbing at the pump, it may be time to change a few things. I myself plan out every trip when I get in the car or truck. Making sure I am not driving in circles or backtracking. I have mentioned before how maintenance would save gas so if you haven't heeded my warning before, check your wallet and read carefully. Filters, spark plugs, ignition wires, tire pressure, transmission service all have something to do with gas mileage. If your "Check Engine" Or "Service Engine Soon" light is illuminated then your computer knows something that we need to find out. Failing to properly maintain your vehicle is more costly now than ever. Poor gas mileage is like pumping gas out the tailpipe. I personally despise what is happening at the fuel stations and am not in a position to fix it, and I do not want to share my political views in this column. We can scream and cry all we want and I don't think it's going to change a thing, but if we stand together and do

some simple things to cut the fuel consumption down we have a least cut into the profit hungry beast by not wasting any. I stand firm on this belief. I have done many things in my own household to stop the waste. My techs are sure to inspect all vehicles that come in for any abnormalities that may affect mileage. If you are in need of some assistance with the mileage you are getting, please call for an appointment. We offer a full line of service including Tune-ups, Brakes, Front end, Fuel injection and Air Conditioning. We have maintenance packages available for fleet owners and seniors. I realize some of you are thinking "I can't afford a service right now" but with gas at the price it is, I believe we can't afford not to. Jim has 30 plus years in the automotive industry and is recognized as a Master Technician by ASE. And you would think with all the credentials he would stop harassing the techs at Smitty's Auto. 30940 Suneagle Dr. Mt. Dora. 352-383-8838

**Oles Back**

Ole was staggering home after a night in the tavern. A Lutheran minister saw him and offered to help him get home safely. As they approached the house, Lars asked the minister to step inside for a moment. He explained, "I vant Lena to see who I have been out vith."

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When Ole went to play cards with da boys his friend Lars asked him, " Why is it when we play cards you bring your wife, when we go fishing you bring your wife, and when we go bowling you bring your wife." Ole replied, "Have you noticed that Lena is kind of ugly? Dis way I don't never have to kiss her goodbye."

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### Will It Be Long?

When my husband and I showed up at a very popular restaurant, it was crowded. I went up to the hostess and asked, "Will it be long?" The hostess, ignoring me, kept writing in her book. I asked again, "How much of a

wait?" The woman looked up from her book and said, "About ten minutes." A short time later, we heard an announcement over the loud-speaker: "Willette B. Long, your table is ready."

### May I Take Your Order, Sir

A waiter approached the old man studying the menu carefully at the fancy restaurant. "May I take your order, sir?" he asked. "Well, I was wondering how you

prepare your chickens." The old man replied. "Oh, it's nothing too special, sir," the waiter confided. "We just tell them straight out that they're going to die."

### Great Steaks

This old guy who had always liked to impress his friends had told all of his old buddies at his lodge about the great steak he'd eaten downtown the day before. A group of them decided to head down and see if it was really as large and delicious as he was making it out to be. The group was seated in the back of the restaurant. After looking over the menu, they ordered and waited, hungrily, for their large, delicious, gigantic

steaks. To their collective disappointment, the waiter brought out some of the smallest steaks they'd ever seen. "Now see here," the very embarrassed old guy said to the waiter. "Yesterday, when I came down here you served me a big, juicy steak. Today, though, when I have my friends with me, you serve tiny steaks! What is the meaning of this?" "Yes, sir," replied the waiter, "yesterday you were sitting by the window."

### Salad Humor

Waiter, waiter! There's a maggot in my salad.  
Don't worry, he won't live long in that stuff.

Waiter, waiter! There's a fly in my soup!  
"Don't worry sir, the spider in your salad will eat it"

Waiter, what is bug doing in my salad ?  
Trying to find it's way out sir !

Waiter, waiter! There's a caterpillar on my salad.  
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**The Slow Golfer**

This old retired marine, stood over his tee shot for what seemed an eternity, looking up, looking down, measuring the distance, figuring the wind direction and speed. Generally, he was driving his partner nuts. Finally his exasperated partner says, "What the heck is taking so long? Hit

the ball!" The guy answers, "My wife is up there watching me from the clubhouse. I want to make this a perfect shot." His partner an old naval officer ponders this for a moment, and then replies: "Forget it man, you don't stand a snowball's chance of hitting her from here!"

**Wrong Course**

Since my retirement and doing my favorite thing on a sunny Saturday morning on the course and I was beginning my pre-shot routine, visualizing my upcoming shot, when a voice came over the clubhouse loudspeaker. "Would the gentleman on the woman's tee back up to the men's tee please!!" I was still deep in my routine, seemingly impervious to the interruption. Again the announcement, "Would the man on the women's tee

kindly back up to the men's tee." I simply ignored the guy and kept concentrating, when once more, the man yelled: "Would the man on the woman's tee back up to the men's tee, Please! I finally stopped, turned, looked through the clubhouse window directly at the person with the mic and shouted back, "Would the person in the clubhouse kindly shut up and let me play my second shot?"

**Heavenly Justice**

Once, there was an old preacher who was an avid golfer. Every chance he could get, he would be on the golf course swinging away. It was an obsession. One Sunday was a picture-perfect day for golfing. The sun was out, no clouds were in the sky, and the temperature was just right. The preacher was in a quandary as to what to do, and shortly, the urge to play golf overcame him. He called an assistant to tell him that he was sick and could not do church, packed the car up, and drove three hours to a golf course where no one would recognize him. Happily, he began to play

the course. An angel up above was watching the preacher and was quite perturbed. He went to God and said, "Look at the preacher. He should be punished for what he is doing." God nodded in agreement. The preacher teed up on the first hole. He swung at the ball, and it sailed effortlessly through the air and landed right in the cup 250 yards away. A picture-perfect hole-in-one. He was amazed and excited. The angel was a little shocked. He turned to God and said, "I beg your pardon, but I thought you were going to punish him." God smiled. "Think about it-who can he tell?"

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## The Late Wish

This old but newly retired butcher was walking along the beach when he came across this salt-encrusted piece of metal. He worked for an hour or so to remove the salt. Lo and behold it was a very old oil lamp. The guy started to buff it to remove the verdigris when "poof" a genie appeared. This genie, like all genies, was so happy to be freed of the lamp that he granted the old butcher 3 wishes. "I wish to be a dollar richer than Bill Gates," says the old butcher. "Poof" The genie said, "You will forever be a dollar richer than Bill Gates. What's your second wish." "Genie, I want the most expensive Porsche made: Fire engine red, on board GPS and the finest audio system ever installed in an automobile." "That's easy, Guy," says the genie. He waves his hand and best car anybody had ever seen pops out of the lamp. The genie then asks the guy for his third wish. The guy mulls the problem over and over. A girl-- nah, with billions and billions of dollars he certainly had become a magnet for the ladies.

World peace? Only wackos want that. The guy found a reason not to wish for anything that came to his mind. "Genie," the old butcher said, "I can't think of anything now. May I save the third wish for later." "Gee, this is most unusual. But you hold the hammer, I can't escape from this lamp until you make a third wish. Call me when you're ready," and whoosh the genie disappears into the lamp. The guy carefully picks up the now-ever-so- valuable lamp and places it in the trunk of the fire engine red Porsche. He turns the radio on to balance the sounds and makes all the other adjustments needed to get his great audio system customized to his ears. After that, he pulled off the beach and headed south along the Pacific Coast Highway. Soon he was up to 60, then 70, then 80. The Porsche handled perfectly. The old guy was so happy that he began to sing along with the familiar commercial on the radio. "Oh, I wish I was an Oscar-Mayer Wiener...

## City Folk

Because of the shortage of jobs in the town, a boy applied for a job on a farm. The foreman told him to milk the cow, equipping him with a stool and a bucket. An hour later the boy returned

dirty and sweaty, bucket in one hand and broken stool in the other. Extracting the milk was, easy he explained. The worst part was getting the cow to sit on the stool."



**Smart Old Teacher**

Four high school boys afflicted with spring fever skipped morning classes. After lunch they reported to their teacher Miss McKune, who had been at the school for over 20 years. They told her they had a flat tire. Much to their relief

she smiled and said "Well, you missed a test today so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper." Still smiling, Miss McKune waited for them to sit down. Then she said, "First Question: Which tire was flat?"

**Cleaning The Frog**

A young boy, about eight years old, was at the corner "Mom & Pop" grocery store picking out a pretty good size box of laundry detergent. The grocer, an old timer with over 50 years in the grocery business walked over and, trying to be friendly, asked the boy if he had a lot of laundry to do. "Oh, no laundry," the boy said, "I'm going to wash my pet frog." "But you shouldn't use this to wash your dog. It's very powerful and if you wash your frog in this, he'll get sick. In fact, it might even kill him." But the boy was not to be stopped and carried the detergent to the counter and pad for it,

even as the grocer still tried to talk him out of washing his frog. About a week later the boy was back in the store to buy some candy. The grocer asked the boy how his frog was doing. "Oh, he died," the boy said. The grocer, trying not to be an I-told-you-so, said he was sorry the frog died but added, "I tried to tell you not to use that detergent on your frog." Well," the boy replied, "I don't think it was the detergent that killed him." "Oh? What was it then?" asked the grocer, curiously. The boy replied, "I think it was the spin cycle in the washing machine..!"

**English Patient**

An old English guy was very ill and his son went to visit him in the hospital. Suddenly, the father began to breathe heavily and grabbed the pen and pad by the bed. With his last ounce of strength he wrote a note, dropped it, and died. The son was so overcome with grief that

he didn't remember slipping the note into his pocket. At the funeral, he reached into the pocket of his coat and immediately felt the note. He excitedly read it thinking it might be something he could recite during the service. It said: "You Wanker—Get Off My Oxygen Pipe!!!"

Actual statements found on insurance forms where car drivers attempted to summarize the details of an accident in the fewest words: 1. An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car, and vanished. 2. To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.

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- » Stroke Rehabilitation

Whether the symptoms are pain, weakness, stiffness, or paralysis; whether the cause is a sprain, stroke, spinal cord injury, or birth defect, the result is simple - We can't do things. And when we can't do what we want to do, we can't be who we want to be. The ways we describe ourselves— words like active, independent, athletic, employed – begin to slip away. We want to help you bring those things back.

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### HP Tech Support

I had been doing Tech Support for Hewlett-Packard's DeskJet division for many years when I had a customer call with a problem I just couldn't solve. She could not print yellow. All the other colors would print fine, which truly baffled me because the only true colors are cyan, magenta, and yellow. For instance, green is a combination of cyan and yellow, but green printed fine. Every color of the rainbow printed fine except for yellow. I had the customer change ink cartridges. I had the customer delete and reinstall the drivers. Nothing worked. I asked my coworkers for help; they offered no new ideas. After over two hours of troubleshooting, I was about to tell the customer to send the printer in to us for repair when she asked quietly, "Should I try printing on a piece of white paper instead of this yellow paper?"

### Sleeping Pills

Newly retired Ethel was an exhausted looking blond as she dragged herself in to the old Doctor Smiths office. "Doctor, there are dogs all over my neighborhood. They bark all day and all night, and I can't get a wink of sleep." "I have good news for you," the doctor answered, rummaging through a drawer full of sample medications. "Here are some new sleeping pills that work like a dream. A few of these and your trouble will be over." "Great," the blond answered, "I'll try anything. Let's give it a shot." A few weeks later the blond returned, looking worse than ever. "Doc, your plan is no good. I'm more tired than before!" "I don't understand how that could be", said the doctor, shaking his head. "Those are the strongest pills on the market!" "That may be true," answered the blond wearily, "But I'm still up all night chasing those dogs and when I finally catch one it's hard getting him to swallow the pill!"

### First Name

The tough old manager of a large office noticed a new man one day and told him to come into his office. "What's your name?" He asked the new guy. "John," the new guy replied. The manager scowled, "Look I don't know what kind of a namby, pamby kind of place you worked at before, but I don't call anyone by his first name. It breeds to familiarity and leads to a breakdown in authority . I refer to my employee's by their last name only, Smith or Jones, or what ever, that's all. I am to be referred to only as Mr. Robertson. Now that we got that straight, what is your last name.?" The new guy sighed and said, "Darling. My name is John Darling." "Okay, John, the next thing I want to tell you is....."

Guy "SMILEY" Merry

By Eleanor Scheier



Why would anyone be given that nickname? In Guy Merry's case, it happened when he was twelve. It wasn't easy for a kid to get a job. The family had recently moved to Mount Dora from South Carolina. Dad worked for the Lipton Tea Company. With kids, everyone had to assume his share. Guy went to the Rexall Drugstore, and got a job paying \$2.00 a week, and all the ice he could eat. He was so happy, he smiled from ear to ear. Pretty soon everyone was calling him "Smiley", and the name stuck. He had to keep the floors swept clean, and operate the hand grinder used to reduce a huge block of ice into small pieces for the fountain drinks. He became a "Curb Hop" in the early 1930's working for Palm Pharmacy in Eustis. A car would pull up in front and honk his horn. Smiley would run outside, usually to take an order for a five cent glass of Coke. By the time Smiley was ready for high school, he begged his parents to move to Eustis, so he could be part of the 50 piece high school band. It was a good move. They held the state championship for 7 years. Then they formed the Eustis

Boys Band that traveled all over Florida. His artistry on the clarinet won him a scholarship to Stetson University, where he played in both the Band and the Symphony Orchestra. They formed the Stetson Mad Hatters dance band when the professor wouldn't permit them to play "racy" songs on campus, such as "Man, I Can't Dance; I Got Ants in My Pants". They didn't earn much money. The 6 players got \$5 a piece on big jobs, and a lot less on others. Upon graduation from college, he married a beauty queen from DeLand, and continued with his music, playing also the saxophone and the harmonica. His rendition of "Casey Jones" netted him a harmonica solo in the Lake Sentinel Community Band. After fathering three children, Smiley answered the call from Uncle Sam, and served two years in the Phillipines as a stevedore, loading ships. Upon returning to Eustis, he bought a jewelry store, paying \$10 a month rent. These were war years; many things were rationed, including jewelry. Smiley could only buy one piece at a time, and would sell it immediately. Continued on Page 13

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**Rookie Officer**

A rookie police officer was out for his first ride in a cruiser with an old experienced and ready to retire sgt. A call came in telling them to disperse some people who were loitering. The officers drove to the street and observed a small crowd standing on a corner. The rookie rolled down his window and said, "Let's get off the corner people." A few glances,

but no one moved, so he barked again, "Let's get off that corner. NOW!" Intimidated, the group of people began to leave, casting puzzled stares in his direction. Proud of his first official act, the young policeman turned to his partner and asked, "Well, how did I do?" Pretty good," chuckled the vet, "especially since this is a bus stop."

**Don't Mess With The Judge**

There were three men at a bar. One man got drunk and started a fight with the other two men. The police came and took the drunk guy to jail. The next day the man went before the judge. The judge asked the man, "where do you work, The man said,

here and there. The judge then ask the man What do you do for a living? The man said , this and that. The judge then said take him away. The man Wait Judge when will I get out? The judge said to the man, Sooner or later.

**Let's Go For a Walk**

The room was full of pregnant women and their partners, and the Lamaze class was in full swing. The instructor was teaching the women how to breathe properly, along with informing the men how to give the necessary assurances at this stage of the plan. The teacher then announced, "Ladies, exercise is good for you.

Walking is especially beneficial. And, gentlemen, it wouldn't hurt you to take the time to go walking with your partner!" The room really got quiet. Finally, a man in the middle of the group raised his hand. "Yes?" replied the teacher..."Is it all right if she carries a golf bag while we walk?"

**Secret To Old Age?**

An old man was relaxing at his hundredth birthday party when a reporter went up to him. "Sir, what is the secret of your long life?" The man considered this for a moment, then

replied "every day at 9 PM I have a glass of port. Good for the heart I've heard. "The reporter replied, "That's All? "The man smiled, "That, and canceling my voyage on Titanic."

Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries.



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**Smiley Continued from Page 11**

Today, Smiley's son, James, is the expert watch repairman in the store. His daughter, Judy, is the store manager. When his five grandchildren and two great-grandkids grow up, perhaps they'll also be involved in this family enterprise. The current store opened in 1946, and is literally overflowing with exquisite pieces of sterling silver, in great variety, antique to modern, many priceless works of art of museum quality. Some day he hopes to open as a museum, the large underground silver vault that's

patterned after the underground vaults in England. Its exquisite contents would delight tourists and locals alike. Smiley is well known for his past activities in nearly 20 organizations as a dedicated worker, having been president of quite a few, such as the Eustis Chamber of Commerce, and Kiwanis. He's the proud owner of many trophies, one a golf trophy for making five holes-in-one from 1969 to 1980. The first two he got in his first year of playing golf. He still plays at age 92, and is living proof that it's a good age to continue working.

**Merry Jewelers Quote of the Moment:**

The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind. (William James)



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Merry Jewelers is pleased to announce the addition of Master Gemologist William Horvath to their staff of professionals. Mr. Horvath graduated from the Gemological Institute of America in Santa Monica, California in 1978 and continued his education, becoming a Master Gemologist in 1984.

He has 30 years experience and owned a jewelry store in Ft. Lauderdale for 10 years before moving to Lake County in June.

His skilled expertise in gem and jewelry value provides detailed reports for insurance and estate purposes.

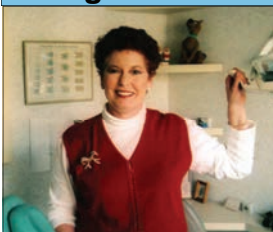
Mr. Horvath was the president of the G.I.A.'s Alumni Association for 6 years, and is a frequent speaker for schools and civic organizations.



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Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease-five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever. And it is preventable! When a child's teeth are frequently exposed to sugary liquids-milk (including breast milk), formula, fruit juice, soda, etc., for 20 minutes or longer, tooth decay begins. Baby teeth hold space for the permanent teeth and are needed for proper eating, thus are extremely important. If lost too early, teeth beside the one lost may drift into the empty space and leave little to no room for the erupting permanent tooth and the resulting crowding can cause numerous problems. Start good oral care early by wiping the baby's gums with a clean, wet gauze or washcloth after feeding. Begin brushing the teeth with water as soon as the first tooth appears.

Young children should be supervised while brushing and taught to spit out, not swallow the toothpaste. Infants should finish the bottle before going to bed and should not be put to bed and fall asleep with a bottle of milk, formula, juices, sweetened liquids, or a pacifier dipped in sugar or honey. A bottle should not be used as a pacifier. Children should be encouraged to drink from a cup by their first birthday and drink mainly water between meals. Training cups should be used temporarily and set aside when no longer needed. A baby's first dental visit should be within 6 months of the eruption for the first tooth and no later than the baby's first birthday. When care is taken to monitor the sugar contact with baby's teeth, this visit is a "healthy baby checkup". Provided by the American Dental Association

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## Do You Remember? *J.C. Penney*



### JAMES CASH PENNEY



He was the 7<sup>th</sup> of 12 children born to a poor farmer near Hamilton, MO. The Penneys raised their large family to believe in the Golden Rule, self-reliance, self-discipline, honor & education. Therefore, although they still worked the farm, they moved to a house in Hamilton so the older children could attend high school. Young James spent his childhood doing farm work & attending school. When he was 8, he had to pay for his own clothing, because money was scarce, & his father wanted him to learn the value of money. To do

so, the boy raised & sold livestock until neighbors complained of the noise & smell. When he graduated from high school, he continued to work on the family farm, but a few weeks before he died, his Dad helped get him a job as a store clerk in a Hamilton dry goods store in 1895. His father's confidence in him was a great source of strength & inspiration to the young man throughout his life. Two important events occurred 4 years later---he married & was asked by the owners of the Golden Rule stores to work with them in Wyoming.



In 1902 he was able to open his own store, in a one-room wooden building, where they lived in the attic above the store. Penney stocked quality products at fair prices for mining & farm families.

He accepted "cash only", but the store was successful because his customers liked the merchandise & good service. By 1907 he was the owner of the Golden Rule chain of stores throughout the West, & hired & trained a number of men each year to be manager-partners in new stores, & also share in the profits. One of the manager's jobs for each store was to find another honest & hardworking man & train him as manager for another new store. His dear wife, Berta, died of pneumonia in 1910, leaving him with 2 young sons. Despite his grief, the business continued to prosper, & by 1912, his 34 stores had sales surpassing \$2 million. In 1913 the chain name was changed to the J. C. Penney Co., & the following year relocated its headquarters to New York City to be closer to the major sources of merchandise. Smart advertising, good products at affordable

prices, and just treatment of customers made Penney very wealthy. In 1919 he remarried, but sadly this wife died 4 years later, leaving him with another son. When Penney's first employer retired in 1924, Penney opened his 500<sup>th</sup> store in his hometown of Hamilton, & was earning an income of more than \$1.5 million annually, & was involved in many philanthropic causes. By 1929 he had 1400 stores by the time the stock market crashed. The Great Depression left him in financial ruin, but he was able to borrow against his cash value life insurance policies to meet payroll expenses. He later recovered financially & continued his involvement in numerous charitable works in the 1930s & 1940s. In the last decades of his life, he was a popular speaker & a respected author. Although he wasn't a college graduate, he received many honorary degrees from a variety of colleges & universities. He died in New York City on February 12, 1971, at the age of 95, & is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. On April 14, 2002, the company celebrated 100 years in business, & is still one of America's largest retailers.



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“MERL” By Eleanor Scheier



Events for Summer 2008  
Mount Dora

June 11, Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon Noon, Price: \$12, Waterman Village Lodge.

June 11, Classic Film Series, Time: 7pm, Free-735-7180

June 13, 2nd Friday Movie the Park: Bad News Bears Dusk, Free, Donnelly Park on the corner o 5th Avenue and Donnelly Street. In the case of inclement weather, movies will be shown in the Community Building. For more information please contact Mount Dora Parks & Recreation Department at 352-735-7183.

July 4, Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration Time: Parade begins at 10AM Downtown Mount Dora.

July 9, Mount Dora Community Business Luncheon Noon, Price: \$12, Waterman Village Lodge, Mount Dora.

July 11, 2nd Friday Movie in the Park: Grease, Dusk, Free, Donnelly Park on the corner of 5th Avenue and Donnelly Street.

August 8, 2nd Friday Movie in the Park: Big Bully, Dusk, Free, Donnelly Park on the corner of 5th Avenue and Donnelly Street.

August 21, Mount Dora Business After Hours at Adora Inn Time: 5-7pm, 610 N Tremain Street, Mount Dora.

Aug. 23, Pink Tea for Women 1-4pm, \$15, First Presbyterian Church.



**Merl Engelking**  
**Artistic talents were evident at an early age. Still looking to travel.**

When you walk into his wonderland of life-size, outsize and small size cement replicas of realities or fantasies on U.S. Highway 441 in Leesburg, you'd never guess that the talented owner was a home repairman for 18 years in Eustis before he ventured into a completely new field of activity. But why this drastic change? Aw, come on—you know how it is when you go to an auction! He bought two molds from the owner of this lawn ornaments business, who wanted to

retire. Merl was ripe for something different. The romance had gone out of fixing old toilets, and repairing broken doors somebody kicked in. Merl was the middle kid in a family of five. It was great training in learning how to be sneaky and never be caught in the act. So he had no problem now, as a mature man, in coercing his two granddaughters to be his helpers in moving from Eustis to this larger property, and making them think it was fun. His past mechanical training and work of remodeling served him well in making the change to being innovative and creative in his designs Or shall we just call him a 'designing' guy? Actually, his artistic talents were showing up in early childhood. When he was only 9 or 10 years old, he drew a lifelike, realistic picture of a Mallard duck. Besides drawing, he enjoyed sports, especially hockey and some gymnastics, and used to be umpire for a little league. He never slowed down in activities as he grew up, and was chairman of

Quarter Horsemen, and a past president of Kiwanis. Truly, Merl has never had idle hands. He's a go-go guy from 6 A.M. to 10 P.M. to this day. In Minnesota he kept busy as a heating and plumbing contractor. He reminisces about paying twenty-five cents for a gallon of gas. He said he gave up smoking when cigarettes went up to a dollar a pack. Something else that he gave up is riding a 3-wheeler. This ATV never liked Merl, and finally got rid of him by cracking several of his ribs when it landed on top of him. Merl and Penny (his wife) like to keep busy, and their statuary attracts a lot of people to their location. They have tentative plans for their eventual retirement. They like the idea of traveling, but gave up the idea of ocean cruises, since Merl gets seasick on even a sailboat. Their current plans for the future are to take a long, leisurely motor trip across the U. S., starting in Oregon, and ending on the East coast.

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**Words of Wisdom by Fred**

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“DEBBIE” by Eleanor Scheier



By looking at this attractive, smartly dressed lady, so well-organized in running a thriving business that's obviously top-of-the-line, you'd never guess this Florida cracker had such humble beginnings. Debbie Cerankowski was born in Orlando, the middle child of five, with a loving, stay-at-home Grandma caring for them. Momma worked two jobs to support her family, as a salesgirl and a model. But there never was enough money for new shoes or clothing. Debbie wore her older sisters' hand-me downs, so the shoes never fit properly. They lived in Clermont in the middle of orange groves, and were raised on fruits and vegetables. To this day she pretty much eats vegetarian.. As a kid, she loved playing Hopscotch and marbles. You might say she was kind of a tomboy, especially when you learn she broke a shoulder falling out of a tree at age 8. Grandma bound her up in muslin. (In those days, poor folk used muslin for dresses, sheets and pillow cases, dish towels and underwear. It wore well.)

By the time a doctor got to see Debbie, he said her Granny had done the right thing in her first aid treatment of the shoulder. Debbie graduated from Winter Park High School. She had artistic talent, and also wrote poetry and enjoyed knitting. A brain tumor surgery she underwent about 22 years ago changed all that. She took an interest in Naturopathy and signed up for a one year course. This eventually turned into a full four year course. She became a medical assistant (P.A.) to a doctor, who then went back to school himself, and is now their family cardiologist. Debbie's husband bought Brandy, a miniature Shih-tzu, for Debbie's seizures that occur from time to time due to the brain tumor problem. This was a brilliant decision on his part, for this 13 lb. doggie takes her job seriously. If a seizure occurs, she immediately licks Debbie's face, and Debbie responds to this treatment very well, and comes out of the seizure. She has a legal prescription to take Brandy with her anywhere. Debbie's husband

Leon, realized how much a proper healthy diet had helped his wife, and urged her to open her own health food store. In 1988 she opened their first store using the name Debbie's Health Foods in this same shopping center where their present store's located. She comes in at 5:30 A.M. and works 'til 4 or 5 P.M., and then studies for school. She keeps up to date on all the information you expect to receive at her store. Another plus is her love of children. She raised five, plus 9 grand-kids, so when customers little ones would come into her store, she'd sit down on the floor with them and race cars. Now these same "kids" come back as young adult shoppers. Leon and Debbie

have annual passes to Disney World. They go about 20 times a year, often taking some of their grandchildren with them. They find the long walks at Disney to be very relaxing. They stay in a time-share while there for the weekend, and come back to work rejuvenated after such a pleasant adventure. In between her busy schedule, she finds time to listen to her favorite music from the 1930's, such as "The Lady in Red", "The Charleston", "Peg o' My Heart", "Frankie & Johnny", etc. It just goes to show you that in spite of adversities in life, you can rise above them, keep busy working, take time out for recreation with your loved one, and live a happy life.

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**The Atheist and the Hungry Bear**

An old atheist was taking a walk through the woods, admiring all that the "accident of evolution" had created. "What beautiful animals!" he said to himself. As he walked alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charging toward him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing. He ran even faster, so scared that tears were coming to his eyes. He looked over his shoulder again and the bear was even closer. His heart was pumping frantically and he tried to run even faster. He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw the bear, right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike. At that instant the atheist cried out, without thinking, "Oh my God!..." Time

stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent. Even the river stopped moving. As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky, "You deny my existence for all of these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to now count you as a believer?" The old atheist looked directly into the light and answered, "It would be hypocritical for me to be a Christian after all these years; but, perhaps, you could make the bear a Christian?" "Very well," said the voice. The light went out. The river ran again. The sounds of the forest resumed. And then the bear dropped his right paw... brought both paws together... bowed his head and spoke: "Lord, for this food which I am about to receive, I am truly thankful."

**Old Harry**

Old Harry is waiting in line for a hit movie. Behind him are two women. The usher comes along and says that he has two seats together. Seeing the problem, the usher says

to the man, "Let them go first. You wouldn't want to separate a woman from her mother, would you?" Old Harry says, "No, sir. I did that once, and I've been sorry ever since."

**Young Lawyer by an Old Judge**

A young lawyer, just out of law school, was pleading his first case in front of an old Judge in South Carolina. A train had killed twenty-four pigs, and the young attorney was trying to impress the jury with the magnitude of the injury. "Yes, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, twenty-four pigs. Imagine, twenty-four pigs. Twice the number that are in the jury box."

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#### Q. Will a reverse mortgage affect SSI or Medicaid benefits?

A. Generally a reverse mortgage will not affect these or most other means-tested benefits as long as the monthly cash advances are fully spent every month and not accumulated. However, programs do vary by state, so we strongly encourage you to confirm with your local senior services agency that your benefits will not be affected.

#### Q. Does the lender take the title of the home?

A. A reverse mortgage is only a lien against the property; therefore, the title will stay in your name.

#### Q. Can I owe more than my home is worth?

A. A reverse mortgage is a "non-recourse" loan, which means that you, your heirs, or your estate cannot be required to repay more than the appraised market value of the home at the maturity of the loan. If the loan balance exceeds the value of the home, you, your heirs, or your estate will only be obligated to repay an amount up to the current appraised value of the property.

#### Q. How will a reverse mortgage affect the future sale of the home?

A. The impact of a reverse mortgage is no different than that of a purchase or refinance mortgage. Repayment of the mortgage is due upon sale of the home.

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### Krisey Littlejohn

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## "KRISEY" by Eleanor Scheier



This pretty girl was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan at 11:00 A.M. one fine morning, and had her first automobile ride in a 1969 Corvette convertible with the top down, on her way home from the hospital where she was born. This undoubtedly made such an impression on her tiny mind, that she still loves convertibles and fast cars. She proudly drives her little Lexus convertible to work every day. By the way, her proud Momma phones her every year on her birthday at 11:00 A.M. Growing up has left her with some interesting little episodes in her life. In her pre-school years she was afraid of clowns, or anyone in costume. Her Daddy dressed up as Santa Claus one Christmas, but she refused to sit on his lap, and ran to her mother for protection from this "monster". By the time she was eight, she did a complete about face, and made a Christmas skit as a gift for her parents. She hung a sheet on the wall for background, played a tiny organ for music, and had her 3 year old brother sing Caroles with her. She aspired to be an actress at this stage of her

life. She and her brother are still the best of friends, albeit he stayed in Michigan when she moved to Florida. She attended a parochial school the first 8 years, with only 16 students in the classes, and enjoyed playing softball and being a cheerleader. So when she went to high school, with 200-300 pupils, she changed into a very shy student. Upon graduation, her first full time job was working in a Surf Shop all summer. A friend of her mother had a furnished basement in her home near the beach that she rented to Krisey. After that, her next job was working at preparing sample books for an upholsterer. She cut out the swatches of fabric and worked the machine that glued them to the pages that compiled the book. It was cut and paste. Today she uses that same term working in the mortgage business, only this time the "cut and paste" is done on the computer. (smile)

While she was still living in Michigan, she worked for "Thumper" five years. No, it wasn't a rabbit. It was a family-owned business that furnished this emergency aid for hospitals and EMS units. The "Thumper" was a gadget used to encourage a failing heart to keep thumping. Krisey had friends in Grand Rapids who were in the mortgage business. When she listened to

them at work, she said to herself, "Heck, I can do that!" When she told them, they hired her on the spot to work in a new office they were about to open in North Carolina, and she turned out to be one of their top producers in her first two years. You might say that she got her feet wet in the mortgage business, then plunged in, and has spent the last twelve years giving great service to satisfied clients. For entertainment, she loves boating, the beach, travel, and all kinds of animals. Dolphins are her favorites, and she loved swimming with them at Isla Morada in the Florida Keys. She's been to Spain,

France, Monaco, Italy, Costa Rica, and many other places, but really loves Hawaii the most. On one of her trips there, she heard about covering your body with lava mud for beauty, and instead of having it done in a Salon, she learned how to dig for it and do it herself. Now you know her beauty secret.

**Good News from Ole**

Lena greeted Ole at the door of their apartment when he came home from work. "Guess vhat," said Lena. "Remember ve have been talking about getting a more expensive apartment?" "Ya," said Ole. "Vhat about it?" "Vell," said Lena, "now ve don't have to look. Da landlord yust raised da rent!"

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**Smuggler, Not Jose!!**

Jose arrives at the Mexican border on his bike with two huge bags over his shoulders. The old guard stops him and asks, "What's in the bags?" "Senior, it's only sand," replies Jose. "Sand? Well, we'll just see about that-get off the bike!" The guard takes the bags, rips them open, empties them out and finds nothing in them—expect sand. Jose is detained overnight, and the sand is analysed-only to discover that it is in fact simply sand. Jose is released, the sand is put into new bags and placed on Jose's shoulders, and he is let across the border. Next day, same thing happens. The guard asks, "What you got there?" "Sand"

says Jose. A thorough examination of the bags again shows there is nothing but sand, and subsequently Jose is allowed to ride across the border. For a whole year this continues until one day Jose doesn't show up, and the guard discovers him in a Cantina in Mexico. "Hey, Bud," says the guard, "I know you're smuggling something. For a year it's driven me crazy. It's all I can think about...I can't get sleep, my grandkids are getting neglected..... heck, even the dog senses I'm beginning to lose it! between you and me, just what are you smuggling?" Jose sips his beer slowly and smiles, then replies "Bicycles."

**Great Shape**

"You're in incredible shape," the doctor said. "How old are you again?" "I am 78." The man said. "78?" asked the doctor. "How do you stay so healthy? You look like a 60 year old." "Well, my wife and I made a pact when we got married that

whenever she got mad she would go into the kitchen and cool off and I would go outside to settle down." the man explained. "What does that have to do with it?" asked the doctor. "I've pretty much lived an outdoor life."

**Who is in charge around here?**

The boss was complaining in our staff meeting the other day that he wasn't getting any respect. Later that morning he went to a local sign shop and bought a small sign that read: "I'm the Boss!"

He then taped it to his office door. Later that day when he returned from lunch, he found that someone had taped a note to the sign that said: "Your wife called, she wants her sign back!"

**GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD**

Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician. Forget health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.



"SAM'S CLUB"



I'm happy to report I found a lot of friends among you readers out there. My heart did a flip-flop when I learned so many of you loved having a dog as a real companion. If any of my buddies out there want to drop me a line to tell me about the great owner they've got, I'll be happy to read it. And if any of you owners wanna brag about your smart

puppy, I might even share your letter with our readers. Ken Gillette, the publisher of this magazine (and president of my fan club), likes to show me off to visitors, and since I'm such a modest guy by nature, it embarrasses me. But to please him, I'll sit when he tells me to, or I'll stand up and beg at his command. You'd be amazed by my vocabulary! I can whine, grumble, or give you a variety of happy sounds. I can even tell you I love you in an irresistible way! Ah, shucks! That's enough about me. It's your turn now.....

Write, You're friend Sam!!

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## "Memo from the Old Buzz Saw"



Hi again, well here we are ready to enter the summer season and I hope you are all ready for a great summer. The other day I was reading some quotations by some interesting women and I decided to share them with you. I am sure there are one or two that you will find amusing and new.

1. Never lend your car to anyone whom you have given birth. Erma Bombeck

2. When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. Elayne Boosler

3. Women are adaptable to what the man presents to her. If he presents affection she presents affection. If he presents anger then that is what she gives back. And if he present stupidity, then she adapts to the fact that she has to do the thinking for the both of them. Tina Cleland

4. I never married because there was no need. I have three pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband. I have a dog which growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon and a cat that comes home late at night. Marie Corelli

15. If men can run the world, why can't they stop wearing neckties? How intelligent is it to start the

day by tying a little noose around your neck?

Linda Ellerbee

6. Life is a series of sales situations, and the answer is no if you don't ask. Patricia Fripp, professional speaker

7. If high heels were so wonderful, men would be wearing them. Sue Grafton

8. Sometimes I wonder if men and women really suit each other. Perhaps they should live next door and just visit now and then. Katharine Hepburn

9. You see a lot of smart guys with dumb women, but you hardly ever see a smart woman with a dumb guy. Erica Jong

10. Behind every successful man is a surprised woman. Maryon Pearson

11. I base most of my fashion taste on what doesn't itch. Gilda Radner

12. I'm not going to vacuum 'til Sears makes one you can ride on. Roseanne

13. I want to have children, but my friends scare me. One of my friends told me she was in labor for 36 hours. I don't even want to do anything that feels good for 36 hours. Rita Rudner

14. The phrase "working mother" is redundant. Jane Sellman

15. In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man; if you want anything done, ask a woman.

Margaret Thatcher

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If you think you are having a bad day read this! Do Not Bring Plants In The House During Cold Weather!!! Never bring outdoor plants into the house. Garden Grass Snakes also known as Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) can be dangerous. Yes, grass snakes, not rattlesnakes. Here's why..... A retired couple, Harold and Beatrice from Oshkosh, Wisconsin had a lot of potted plants. During a cold spell this spring, Beatrice was bringing a lot of her plants indoors to protect them from a possible freeze. It turned out that a little green garden grass snake was hidden in one of the plants and when it had warmed up, it slithered out and Beatrice saw it go under the sofa. She let out a very loud scream! Harold (who was taking a shower) ran out into the living room with only his bathrobe on to see what the problem was. Bill's wife Helen, who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband's mouth on Beatrice's mouth and slammed Bill in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where it needed stitches. The noise woke Beatrice from her dead faint and she saw her neighbor Bill, lying on the floor with his wife Helen, bending over him, so she wouldn't listen to his protests and loaded him on the stretcher and started carrying him out. About that time the snake came out from under the sofa and the Emergency Medical Technician saw it and dropped his end of the stretcher. That's when Harold broke his leg and why he ended up in the hospital. Beatrice still had the problem of the snake in the house, so she called on a neighbor Bill. Bill volunteered to capture the snake. He armed himself with a rolled-up newspaper and began poking under the couch. Soon Bill decided it was gone and told Beatrice, who sat down on the sofa in relief. But while relaxing, her hand dangled in between the cushions, where she felt the snake wriggling around. Beatrice let out a scream and then fainted, the snake rushed back under the sofa. The neighbor Bill, seeing her lying there passed out, tried to use CPR to revive her. Bill's wife Helen, who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband's mouth on Beatrice's mouth and slammed Bill in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where it needed stitches. The noise woke Beatrice from her dead faint and she saw her neighbor Bill, lying on the floor with his wife Helen, bending over him, so she wouldn't listen to his protests and loaded him on the stretcher and started carrying

Continued on Page 29

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**Bring in the Plants - Continued from page 28**

She went to the kitchen and got a small bottle of whiskey, and began pouring it down the Bill's throat. By now the police had arrived. They saw the unconscious man, smelled the whiskey, and assumed that a drunken fight had occurred. They were about to arrest them all, when the women tried to explain how it all happened over a little green snake. The police called an ambulance, which took away Bill and his sobbing wife. The little snake again crawled out from under the sofa. One of the policemen drew his gun and fired at it. He missed the snake and hit the leg of the end table. The table fell over and the lamp on it shattered and as the bulb broke it started a fire in the lace drapes. The other policeman tried to beat out the flames, and fell through the window into the yard on top of the family dog who, startled, jumped out and raced into the street, where an oncoming car swerved to avoid it and

smashed into the parked police car. Meanwhile, the burning drapes were seen by the neighbors who called the fire department. The firemen had started raising the fire truck ladder when they were halfway down the street. The rising ladder tore out the overhead wires and put out the electricity and disconnected the telephones in a ten-square city block area (but they did get the house fire out). Time passed! Both men were discharged from the hospital, the house was repaired, the dog came home, the police acquired a new car, and all was right with their world. Several nights later they were watching TV and the weatherman announced a cold snap for that night. Harold looked at Beatrice and laughed said "I suppose you're going to bring in your plants again. The Doctor, put Harold's broken arm in a sling and says that the break should mend in about four weeks.

**Pocket Picker**

A pick pocket was up in court for a series of petty crimes. The Judge said Mr. Banks you are hereby fined \$100. "His lawyer stood up and said

"Thanks, my Lord, however my client only has \$75 on him at this time, but if you would allow him a few minutes in the crowd.

**Who's Calling??**

911: 911 hello.....?

Caller: Please help!!!, a cat just entered my house...

911: What do you mean, a cat in your house???

Caller: ' A cat!!!' He has invaded my house and he is coming towards me!!!

911: But how is that??? Who am I talking to???

Caller: The parrot, "you Idiot!!"



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## An Act of Charity

One Sunday a pastor asked his congregation to consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns. After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had contributed a \$1,000 bill. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation, and he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the

plate. A very quiet, elderly, saintly widow shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three handsomest men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him."

## I Guess That's Fair

A couple had been married for a long time, but could never get along very well. Many times, late at night, there would be screams and shouts from the house. The old man often screamed these words in public, "I'm sick and tired of you! When I die, I will come out of my grave and haunt you!" The old man started practicing black magic. All disappearances in the neighborhood

of cats, dogs, and people were blamed on him. At the age of 80 the old guy died, and his wife put him in a casket. Later that night, she went to the local bar and partied as if there were no tomorrow. Her neighbor asked her, Aren't you scared the old guy will dig up and haunt you?" The old lady calmly replied, Eh, let him keep digging. I put him in the casket upside down. "

## Angry Lady

Two church members were going door to door, and knocked on the door of a woman who was not happy to see them. She told them in no uncertain terms that she did not want to hear their message and slammed the door in their faces. To her surprise, however, the door did not close and, in fact, bounced back open. She tried again, really put

her back into it, and slammed the door again with the same result-the door bounced back open. Convinced these rude young people were sticking their foot in the door, she reared back to give it a slam that would teach them a lesson, when one of them said, "Ma'am, before you do that again, you need to move your cat."

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