"The Party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears. It was their final, most essential command." ~ George Orwell, "1984"

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING **BOLD, DARK RED TYPE** OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.

"Musicians don't retire; they stop when there's no more music in them." ~ Louis Armstrong

RE: TIRE: MENT

Arguments for retirement:

How many days in a week? - Six Saturdays, one Sunday. What do you do all week? - Monday to Friday, nothing; Saturday & Sunday I rest. When is a retiree's bedtime? -Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch. How many retirees to change a light bulb? - Only one, but it might take all day. Why don't retirees mind being called seniors? -The term comes with a 10 percent discount.

Among retirees what is considered formal attire? - Tied shoes. Why do retirees count pennies? - They have the time. Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage? - They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there. What's the biggest gripe of retirees? - There is

not enough time to get everything done. What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree? - If

you cut classes, no one can call your parents. Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with? - He's too polite to tell the whole truth. What do retirees call a long lunch? -Normal. What is the best way to describe retirement? - The never-ending Coffee Break.

And what is the common term for someone who refuses to retire? - NUTS!

FIRE SALE

"Dr. Firesign" wrote to say that he opened a "Collector's Choice" Catalog to find a compendium representing the "Top 200 releases from the last year or so." At Number 75 (!) is the Box of Danger for \$49.98: "This trailblazing troupe took on the radio detective shows of old in '69 with their most famous creation, Nick Danger," says the blurb.

The remote fell off the couch again!

Nick topped Stan Freberg's Singles Collection (#115), a Bob Newhart Anthology (#124),



Mel Blanc (#162) and Jonathan Winters (#186). And our dear friend, director **Jim Drake** told me recently that the amazing **Carl Reiner** actually thought that we should have won the Grammy back in 1998 for **Give Me Immortality or Give Me Death** instead of him and Mel Brooks. How sweet... And how true...

And finally, voice-over colleague **Danny Mann** writes that he recently read copy on which was handwritten "40-50 yr old Phil Proctor type" and overheard people asking each other, "What does he sound like?" Like Rocky Rococo, you stupid fools!

"Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice." ~ Anton Chekhov

THE ANNIVERSARY FAIRY

A married couple in their early 60s were celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a beautiful little fairy appeared on their table and said, "For being such a wonderful married couple and for loving each other all this time, I will grant you each a wish."

The wife answered, "Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband." The fairy waved her magic wand and poof! Two tickets for the Queen Mary II appeared in her hands. The husband thought for a moment and said:

"Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again.. I'm sorry my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than I."

A wish is a wish. So the fairy waved her magic wand and poof! -- the husband became 93 years old. The moral of this story?

"Men who are ungrateful bastards should remember fairies are female."

"We are what we repeatedly do.

Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

~ Aristotle

A THEORY OF RELATIVITY

During the campaign, I wrote of President Obama's Irish heritage, but now **Mark Silva** notes in the *LA Times* that he's also related to – are you sitting down? – newly elected Rep. Senator Scott Brown!

Apparently, according to the New England Historic Genealogical Society, they are 10th cousins since Barack's mom and Brown's mother are both descended from Richard Singletary, who died at 102 in 1687 in Haverhill, Mass. "I'm glad to be in such distinguished company, " said Brown.

And even better, (or worse), the society revealed in 2008

that Obama is also related to James Madison, Harry S Truman, Lyndon Johnson, Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush and – God help us – George W. Bush.

No wonder "change" is so hard to come by...

"I don't shop at places that think

it is OK to stand next to people who don't believe the Bible is all true."

Huntsville Times website,
 from Church & State
 magazine



DEPRESSED?

OVER WORKED?

JOB SUCK?

UNAPPRECIATED?

FAMILY PROBLEMS?

MONEY WORRIES?

DOCTOR PROCTOR SAYS. Available under the counter at GNC and Pep Boys

AND THE WORD IS LOVE

Southern California's Menifee
Union School District pulled
dictionaries from classrooms
because a parent complained
when a child came across the
term "oral sex." Now the school

is forming a committee to consider a permanent ban of the Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary as "a number of referenced words are age-inappropriate." Executive director Peter Scheer, of the California First Amendment Coalition observed that "Common sense seems to be lacking in this school."

And the Culpeper, Virginia, *Star-Exponent* reports that local schools pulled the newly released expanded version of Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl: The Definitive Edi-*

tion from its shelves after another parent's complaint.

"There are little folds of skin all over the place," wrote the teenaged Anne in the offending passage, "You can hardly find it. The little hole underneath is so terribly small that I simply can't imagine how a man can get in there, let alone how a whole baby can get out!" **THE WHOLE STORY**

Why is it when your wife becomes pregnant, all her girlfriends rub her tummy and say "congratulations" but none of them rub your woody and say "well done"?

~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

ANOTHER FINE MESS

Police arrested Laurel and Hardy after they showed up at a Kingston, PA residence and allegedly delivered 50 bags of cocaine worth about \$2,500 to an unidentified occupant. Carlos Laurel, 31, also had 10 bags of marijuana hidden in his waistband, and Andre "Sug" Hardy, 39, has been previously arrested on other drug-related charges.

"Laurel and Hardy each face felony charges for delivery of a controlled substance, criminal conspiracy to commit delivery of a controlled substance, possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance, criminal conspiracy to commit possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance and criminal use of a communication facility," writes reporter Erin Moody, as well as "misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, criminal conspiracy to commit possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia."

EXTRA, EXTRA

"These Laurel and Hardy
Block-Heads (1938) thought
they were Lucky Dogs (1921)
in Big Business (1929) and
are now in a Spot of Trouble
(1952) and will soon be saying Pardon Us (1931) before
being prosecuted as Nuts in
May (1917)," observes another Planeteer, whose name
I have unfortunately misplaced but is
hopefully credited below...

"After 10 full years inside the GOP, 90 days amongst honest criminals wasn't any great ordeal." ~ Allen Raymond, "How To Rig an Election: Confessions of a Republican Operative"

PUTTIN' ON THE DOG

A local church here in Southern California has announced that it is now welcoming dogs into its services. If they become unruly or start barking, the congregation sings "Amazing Grace" and they all calm down.

But even more important, the last edition of the *AARP*News reports that Michigan Rep. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter
has introduced a bill to allow the 60 percent of Americans
with animal companions to deduct pet-related expenses
from income taxes to the tune of \$3,500 a year.

The HAPPY ("Humanity and Pets Partnered Through the Years) Act is designed to strengthen the "human-animal bond." (But his bill does not yet lift the human/animal-cloning ban cited by GW...yet.)

"I can remember when I was younger my mum used to put on the Rugrats when I wasn't fell and after a wee while it would make me all better again."

~ Scottish fan

AUSTIN'S DOGGY DUMBELLS.
Weights increase daily, naturally.

METHOD DRINKING

While the Russian government has decided to raise the price of vodka to fight alcoholism, German actors in a stage production of "Moscow To the End of the Line," based on a Soviet era novel by the late Russian author Venedikt Erofeev at Frankfurt's

■ CONTINUED

Schauspielhaus theatre, decided the best way to portray a worker and his fellow travelers who "spend the journey binge-drinking and never arrive at their destination," was to hit the bottle, Telegraph.co.uk reports.

"At first it was quite impressive," comments a spectator, "They seemed to be giving a good impersonation of tipsiness. Then they started leaping around shouting 'Nasdrovia' ('Cheers' in Russian) ... and then they handed 'round the drink." But when one actor fell off the stage and another off of a table, the stagehands had to drop the curtain and call an ambulance.

"It was seen as a bit of an experiment," adds Director Oliver Reese, "sort of along the lines of 'let's perform this wonderful text and have a bit of a drink at the same time' and it went a bit awry." (Wait! I thought they were drinking vodka!)

"After all, one
knows one's weak points so well, that
it's rather bewildering to have the critics overlook
them and invent others."
~ Edith Wharton

LET'S EAT

A group of 40-year-old buddies decided to get together and discuss where they should meet for dinner. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Gausthof zum Lowen restaurant because the waitresses there have low cut blouses and nice breasts.

Ten years later, at 50 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss and discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Gausthof zum Lowen because the food there is very good and the wine selection is good also.

Ten years later, at 60 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss and discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Gausthof zum Lowen because they can eat there in peace and quiet and the restaurant is smoke free.

Ten years later, at 70 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss and discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Gausthof zum Lowen because the restaurant is wheel chair accessible and they even have an elevator.

Ten years later, at 80 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss and discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed upon that they should

TEN RULES FOR MEN

- 1. It's important to have a woman who helps at home.
- 2. It's important to have a woman who cooks from time to time.
- 3. It's important to have a woman who keeps the house clean.
- 4. It's important to have a woman who has a job.
- 5. It's important to have a woman who likes you.
- 6. It's important to have a woman who can be your very best friend.
- 7. It's important to have a woman who can make you laugh.
- 8. It's important to have a woman who you can trust, who doesn't lie.
- 9. It's important to have a woman who is good in bed.
- 10.It's very important that these nine women do not know each other.

Sincerely,
Tiger Woods

meet at the Gausthof zum Lowen because that would be a great idea because they have never been there before.

"Super Bowl Sunday is the second largest food consumption day in the U.S. Tied for first - every Jewish holiday." ~ **Ken Levine**, Huffington Post

YRETSYM A S'TI

Former Gov. **Mike Easley** used a private, secret e-mail account to conduct state business: the e-mail address? REGNAD KCIN - "Nick Danger" spelled backwards...

"Nick Danger," explains the *News Observer*, "is a fictional private eye character featured in radio performances by The Firesign Theatre, a troupe whose 1960s Los Angelesbased act was heavily influenced by The Goon Show, a

■ CONTINUED

British troupe that included Peter Sellers and was also a major influence on Monty Python's Flying Circus.
Easley's spelling "Nick Danger" backward could come from a joke...in which Danger, sitting in his office, read his name on his glass office door: Regnad Kcin."

But Sherri Johnson,

Easley's communications director, said in a deposition that she believed the backward spelling was his own. "The governor wrote backwards. I mean, when he wrote, he wrote backwards."

Well - which is it? "Sounds like a case for Nick Danger," conclude Planeteers **Tom Harkins** and **The Borden Family** who alerted me about this "sleazy weasel" Easley.

READ IT

"I am a kind of a paranoid in reverse.

I suspect people of plotting to make
me happy." ~ J. D. Salinger



Bill Coombs, Nick Oliva, Jayne Lynn Stahl, Tom Hemsley, M.C. Gwynne. Peter Van Norden, Garry Margolis, Paul Apple, Jayne Stahl, Victor Kopcewich, Alan Myerson, Lyn Palmer, Scott W. Langhill, George Riddle, John Achorn, Patty Paul and Peter Bergman.

> "Beware how you take away hope from another human being." ~ Oliver Wendell Holmes



"You can always pick up your needle and move to another groove." ~ Timothy Leary

FIRESIGN CDs: http://www.laugh.com

BEARWHIZ BEER http://www.eagletshirts.com

FUNNY TIMES: http://www.funnytimes.com **FST**: http://www.FiresignTheatre.com