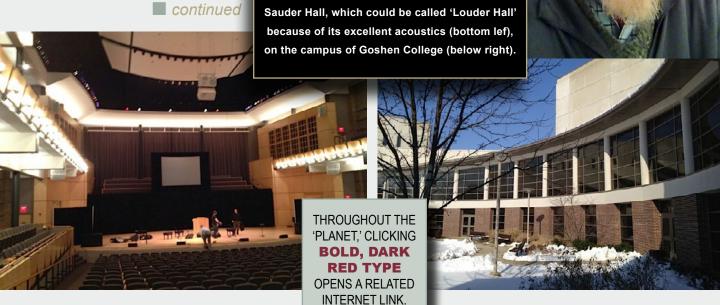


The new Pope is a Jesuit, and many wonder why he took the name Francis instead of the name of his order's founder, Ignatius. Obviously, he didn't want to be Iggy Pope." ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

hanks to the brilliant boys in the LA Guitar Quartet and the incomparable words of **Cervantes**, I got to read and perform the story of **Don Quixote** once again – this time in my very own hometown of Goshen, Indiana. We played in the beautiful and acoustically brilliant 900-seat Sauder Hall on Goshen College Campus to a sold-out house; and afterwards, thanks to Dan and Nina Mishler, we partied into the next day, raising a glass to Peter Bergman at midnight, March 9, on the one-year anniversary of his transition. **GOSHEN GO-ROUND**

The LA Guitar Quartet (top right), on stage at



Fellow Kentucky Colonels Richard Fish and Tony Brewer were there from Bloomington, joined by my friend Thomas Heald, the publisher of *Branches*, a Hoosier holistic, consciousness-raising magazine, and Dr. Jay Kogen from Fort Wayne. I also reunited with childhood pals, Robert Riddle, Jim Phillips and Marylou Sorg and my cousin Betsy and her brother, Joe Muir, who flew in from Portland, Maine to see the show.

I'm happy to report that Maple City is thriving, with a present population of 31,000 enjoying an economic resurgence mainly due to recreational vehicles. I was also informed that the Amish are being supplanted these days by a growing Latino work force. Don't worry – Yoders rule!

"If you happen to be looking for the retired Pontif in a restaurant, tell the server you would like the Ex-Benedict." ~ Gregg Berger

May the wind at your back not be the result of the corned beef and cabbage you had for lunch. Happy St.Patrick's Day

GET IT UP

A pastor was presenting a children's sermon and asked the tots if they knew what the "resurrection" was. Now, asking questions during children's sermons is crucial, but at the same time, asking children questions in front of a congregation can also be very dangerous.

Having asked the children if they knew the meaning of the resurrection, a little boy raised his hand. The pastor called on him and the little boy said, "I know that if you have a resurrection that lasts more than four hours you are supposed to call the doctor."

It took over ten minutes for the congregation to settle down enough from their laughter for the worship service to be continued.

"I got into a futile discussion with a reactionary about Obama and I was so

frustrated that I finally blurted out, 'I wish he was a

Muslim - they're at least committed to something!"

~ Planeteer Paul Ross

DON'T ASK, DON'T SPILL

Paddy was havin' a tall and a short at the Blind Duck pub in Dublin, when he fell into a serious conversation about old age. "So," sez O'Brien, "If ya had yer choice, Paddy, which terrible disease woudja rather God strike youse wit' – Alzheimer's or Parkinson's?"

Paddy took a slow draw of his Guinness, pondered this dilemma for a bit, and then, wipin' the foam from his lip, he answered, "Well, O'Brien, I'll tell youse. I'd rather go fer yer Parkinson's. I would."

"Oh, youse would, would ya? An' why's dat?"

"Simple," says Paddy. "I'd rather spill half me whiskey than forget where I put the bottle."

"St. Patrick... one of the few saints whose feast day presents the opportunity to get determinedly whacked and make a fool of oneself all under the guise of acting Irish." ~ Charles M. Madigan

YOU CAN COUNT ON IT

Gilda's LaughFest in Grand Rapids, Michigan reports that a record 1,544 funny folks wore a variety of fake moustaches on opening day, and if verified, it will be entered into the *Guinness Book* and will be added to two other LaughFest record-busters: the most people wearing animal noses and the most tossing rubber chickens into the air.

And shoot! The **Harvard Injury Control Research Center** assessed the literature on guns and homicide and found that there's substantial evidence that indicates "more guns means more murders." **CHECK IT OUT**

And this holds true whether you're looking **CONTINUED**

at different countries or different states, and what's more, apparently states with stricter gun control laws have fewer deaths from gun-related violence, in spite of the Grand Old Prevaricator party's protestations to the contrary.

Economist **Richard Florida** dove deep into the correlations between gun deaths and other indicators like overpopulation, stress, immigrants, and mental illness, and he concluded that these factors cannot be correlated to increased mortality from gun violence.

But the one fact he confirmed was this: states with tighter gun control laws appear to have fewer gun-related deaths. Shoot that down, if you can.

There are now more medical marijuana clinics in L.A. than Starbucks. ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

DON'T ASK, DON'T YELL

Sadie Cohen lived in a diverse neighborhood on Long Island. Her neighbor was a very generous black woman who stopped in one Saturday and asked, "Mrs. Cohen, I have to go into the City this afternoon to meet my daughter; can I get you anything?

Mrs. Cohen thanked her and exclaimed, "Listen, I have a monthly commuter pass for the train, and I don't use it on Saturdays. Why don't you use my ticket and bring it back tonight. After all, it's all paid for; why should you pay extra?" The neighbor thanked her, and later that day, got on the train.

As the conductor came through, he happened to glance at the ticket and noticed the name 'Sadie Cohen'. "Excuse me madam, are you Sadie Cohen, the person whose name appears on this ticket?" The woman smiled sweetly at him and shook her head affirmatively. A little suspicious, the conductor stared at her for a few seconds and then asked, "Would you let me compare signatures – would you please sign your name?"

The black woman turned toward him indignantly and snapped, "Man, are you crazy? You want me to write on Shabbos?"

"A man once asked to shake hands with me 'the greatest Englishman who ever lived.' I replied,
'Bugger off, I'm Irish."" ~ Spike Milligan

NO BULL

John went to the local bank to borrow money for a new bull. The loan was made and the banker, Bill, who lent the money, came by a week later to see how the bull was doing. John complained that the bull just ate grass and wouldn't even look at a cow. The banker suggested that he have a veterinarian take a look at the bull.

The next week, the banker returned to see if the vet had helped. John really looked very pleased, and said, "The bull has serviced all of my cows! Then, he broke through the fence, and bred all my neighbor's cows! He's been breeding just about everything in sight. He's like a machine!"

"Wow," said the banker, "What did the vet do to that bull?"

"He just gave him some pills.", replied John. "What kind of pills?", asked the banker.

"I don't know, but they've got a peppermint taste."

"None are so old as those who have outlived enthusiasm." ~ **Henry David Thoreau**

ROAR!

A circus owner runs an ad for a lion tamer and two people show up. One is a retired golfer in his late sixties and the other is a gorgeous blond in her mid-twenties. The circus owner tells them, "I'm not going to sugar coat it. This is one ferocious lion. He ate my last tamer, so you two had better be good or you're history. Here's your equipment – chair, whip and a gun. Who wants to try out first?"

The girl says, "I'll go first." She walks past the chair, the whip, and the gun, and steps right into the lion's cage. The lion starts to snarl and pant and begins to charge her. About halfway there, she throws open her coat revealing her beautiful naked body. The lion stops dead in his tracks, sheepishly crawls up to her and starts licking her feet and ankles. He continues to lick and kiss her entire body for several minutes and then rests his head at her feet. The circus owner's jaw is on the floor.

He says, "I've never seen a display like that in my life." He then turns to the retired golfer and asks, "Can you top that?" The tough old golfer replies, "No problem, just get that lion out of there."

"To be busy is man's only happiness." ~ Mark Twain

EAT ME

Everyone is so sensitive about "racism" in America these days, and here's a classic example: A customer asked, "In what aisle can I find a Polsih sausage?" and the clerk

asked, "Are you Polish?"

So, the customer, clearly offended, says, "Yes, it so happens that I am. But let me ask you – if I had asked for Italian sausage, would you ask me if I was Italian? Or if I

asked for German bratwurst, would you ask me if I was German? Or, if I asked for a Kosher hotdog, would you ask me if I was Jewish? Or if I had asked for a taco, would you ask if I was Mexican? Or if I asked for some Irish whiskey, would you ask if I was Irish?

No, "answered the clerk, "I probably wouldn't."

"Well, then," reposted the customer, "why did you ask me if I was Polish?"

"Because," the clerk replied, "you're in Home Depot."

"Golf and sex are the only two things you can enjoy without being good at it"- jimmy demaret

WAKE UP, LITTLE SUSIE

Little Susie was not the best student in Catholic School. Usually she slept through the class. One day her teacher, a nun, called on her while she was sleeping. "Tell me Susie, who created the universe?"

When Susie didn't stir, little Johnny who was her friend sitting behind her,

took his pencil and jabbed her in the rear. "God Almighty!" shouted Susie. The Nun said, "Very good" and continued teaching her class.

A little later the Nun asked Susie, "Who is our Lord and Savior?" But Susie didn't stir from her slumber. Once again, Johnny came to her rescue and stuck her in the butt. "Jesus Christ!!!" shouted Susie. And the Nun once again

said, "Very good," and Susie fell back asleep.

The Nun asked her a third question. "What did Eve say to Adam after she had her twenty-third child?" Again, Johnny came to the rescue. This time Susie jumped up

and shouted, "If you stick that damn thing in me one more time, I'll break it in half!"

And the nun fainted...

"Some people think that luxury is the opposite of poverty. It is not. It is the opposite of vulgarity." ~ Coco Chanel

PLACEBO

PLANETCLICK

ULTIMATE ELVIS

FOXY

FOX

HIDE

PAPIER

FRIGID

SIGNS

VAMPLETS

SLIDERS

UNBEARABLE

TOY BOYS

WET NOISE

HANDY

BANKOFBOB

DAZED

ADVICE FROM DOCTOR PROCTOR

The heart's good for so many beats, and that's it. Don't waste your time on exercise. Everything wears out eventually. Speeding up the heart won't make you live any longer. It's like saying you extend life of your car by driving faster.

Want to live longer? Take a nap.

"You never fail - until you stop trying."

~ Albert Einstein

SPACIBO

Bob Harris, Jay Kahmi, Joan Allemand, Michael C. Gwynne, Magic Mike Berger, Bill Coombs, Marjorie Bender, Victor Kopcewich, Eddie Deezen, Kenneth T.

Wilhite, Jr., Phil & Oona Austin, Tim Tuffield, and congrats to our Pal, Sam Dawson, for the release of her new book *Broad Appeal* – interviews with amazing women.

MORE INFO

"Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account." ~ Oscar Wilde

"Most people are as happy as they makes up their minds to be." ~ Abraham Lincoln

BEARWHIZ BEER http://www.eagletshirts.com

FUNNY TIMES: http://www.funnytimes.com

FST: http://www.FiresignTheatre.com