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"A great many people think they are thinking when they are merely rearranging their prejudices." ~ William James

TEZG

Were in the money

ore than half the members of Congress are millionaires and **Bernie Sanders** (above) noted that "the richest 67 people on earth own more than the poorest 3.5 billion."

Well, according to a **CNBC** poll cited by the *L.A. Times*, two-thirds of 514 millionaires polled who have assets of \$1 million or more believe that

rising inequality is a major social problem and favor raising taxes on wealthy folks and raising the minimum wage.

But the stats also reveal that opinions differ wildly according to party affiliation. For example, barely three in ten Republicans favor a tax increase and only four in ten approve of a wage hike.

"The 1% in America right now is still a bit lower than the 1% in pre-revolutionary France but is getting closer." ~ Thomas Piketty, author of 'Capital'

And although all parties polled believe that the "American Dream" is still achievable through hard work and perseverance, only one-quarter of Democrats think it's actually possible.

> Thank God for my piggie bank!

TROMILE TRANS

A guy calls home to his wife on a Thursday and says, "Honey, I've been asked to fly to Canada with my boss for fishing. We'll be gone for a long weekend, and we'll be staying at a lodge near a river. This is a good opportunity for me to get that promotion, so could you please pack enough clothes for a 3-day weekend?

"And also would you get out my rod and my tackle box from the attic? We're leaving at 4:30 p.m. from the office, and I'll swing by the house to pick up my things. Oh, and please pack my new blue silk pajamas and robe. I love you!"

The wife thinks this sounds a bit dicey, but, being the good wife, she does exactly what her husband asked; and following the long weekend he comes home a little tired, but, otherwise, looking good. The wife welcomes him home and asks if he caught many fish?

He answers, "Yes, lots of walleyes, some bass, and a few pike -- but why didn't you pack my silk pajamas and robe like I asked you?"

The wife replies: "I did, honey -- they're in your tackle box..."

A stolen smart phone is almost 30 times more valuable than a block of silver. ~ Phil's Phone-y Phacts

BRAIN DRAIN

Long ago you kissed the names of the muses goodbye And watched the quadratic equation pack its bag, And even now as you memorize the order of the planets, Something else is slipping away, a state flower perhaps, The address of an uncle, the capital of Paraguay... Whatever it is you are struggling to remember, It is not poised on the tip of your tongue Or even lurking in some obscure corner of your spleen. It has floated away down a dark mythological river Whose name begins with an L as far as you can recall... No wonder the moon in the window seems to have drifted

Out of a love poem that you used to know by heart.

Excerpted from *Forgetfulness* by **Billy Collins**

"Good afternoon. I enjoyed your company. So send for our costing some free souvenirs that you can send from your production. For example send us a USB flash drive t-shirt stickers, souvenirs, DVD, T-shirts, caps, autographs, pens oil free. To do this you need to show who sent pictures and other." ~ Russian Fan

SCOTTISH GOLFING TIPS

- 1. Stand with back straight, knees bent
- 2. Keep your feet shoulder-width apart
- 3. Form a loose grip
- 4. Keep your head down
- 5. Avoid the water
- 6. Try not to hit anyone
- 7. If you are taking too long, let others go ahead
- 8. Don't stand directly in front of others
- 9. Quiet please...others are preparing
- 10. Don't take extra strokes
- 11. Now, flush the urinal and tee off.



"I put my mobile phone in airplane mode and it flew out of my hand." ~ World traveler Paul Ross

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Murphy, a furniture dealer from Dublin, decided to expand the line of furniture in his store, so he decided to go to Paris to see what he could find.

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

After arriving in Paris, he visited with some manufacturers and selected a line that he thought would sell well back home. To celebrate the new acquisition, he decided to visit a small bistro and have a glass of wine. As he sat enjoying his wine, he noticed that

the small place was quite crowded, and that the other chair at his table was the only vacant seat in the house.

Before long, a very beautiful young Parisian girl came to his table and asked him something in French (which Murphy could not understand). So he motioned to the vacant chair and invited her to sit down. He tried to speak to her in English, but she did not speak his language. After a couple of minutes of trying to communicate with her, he took a napkin and drew a picture of a wine glass and showed it to her. She nodded, so he ordered a glass of wine for her.

After sitting together at the table for a while, he took another napkin and drew a picture of a plate with food on it, and she nodded. They left the bistro and found a quiet cafe that featured a small group playing romantic music.

They ordered dinner, after which he took another napkin and drew a picture of a couple dancing. She nodded, and they got up to dance. They danced until the cafe closed and the band was packing up. Back at their table, the young lady took a napkin and drew a picture of a four-poster bed.

To this day, Murphy has no idea how she figured out he was in the furniture business.

"Life is like a play. It's not the length but the excellence of the acting that matters." ~ Seneca

THAT'S FINE

The **Golden State Fence Company**, working to construct the US-Mexico Border Fence has been fined \$5 million for hiring illegal immigrants, cannily predicted by comedians such as **GEORGE LOPEZ**, who jokingly said, "They want to build a fence along the border to keep out Mexicans, but who's gonna build it? -- Mexicans!" [**NPR REPORT**]

The company will not only pay a fine, but two of its *Jeffes* will be cooling their heels in the slammer, leading an attorney for Golden State to declare that the country needs to adopt a more robust guest-worker program. *¡Diga eso a los Republicanos!* [MORE FROM LAIST]

"The only true currency is that of the spirit." ~ Ken Kesey

TALK ABOUT A SPLINTER GROUP

A liberal Democratic woman from LA, who was a selfdeclared tree hugger, purchased a piece of timberland near **Colville, WA**. There was a large tree on one of the highest points in the tract, and since she wanted a good view of her land, she decided to climb the ancient redwood. As she neared the top she encountered a **Spotted Owl** that unexpectedly attacked her.

> In her haste to escape, the woman slid down the tree to the ground and got many splinters in her crotch. In considerable pain, she hurried to a local ER to see a doctor. She told him she was an environmentalist, a Democrat, and an anti-hunter and how she came to get all the splinters.

> > The doctor listened to her story with great patience and then told her to go wait in the examining room and he would see if he could help her. She waited three hours before the doctor reappeared.

> > > "What took you so long?" The angry woman demanded. He smiled and said, "Well, I had to get permits

GEORGE LOPEZ

from the **Environmental Protection Agency**, the **Forest Service**, and the **Bureau of Land Management** before I could remove old-growth timber from a recreational area so close to a waste treatment facility."

"I'm sorry, but because our conservative state doesn't subscribe to Obamacare, I have to turn you down."

"Big shots are only little shots who keep shooting." ~ Christopher Morley, novelist



OH, WHAT A LUCKY MAN

Frano Selak (above), an 81-year old music teacher, called the world's luckiest man after surviving seven multiple train and plane crashes before winning £600,000 five years ago in the Croatian lottery, which included landing on a haystack when falling out of a blown-open airplane door, has decided to give away his fortune to celebrate his fifth marriage.

He sold his luxury private island retreat and resettled in his modest home in Petrinja, south of Zagreb, after he redistributed his fortune among his friends and family. **VIDEO**

Frano used the last bit of his winnings for a hip replacement so he could enjoy life with his wife, and dedicated a shrine to the Virgin Mary as a tribute for his blessed life. **MORE**

"Lots of people want to ride with me in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down." ~ Oprah Winfree

CLASSIC COMMENTS

What happens when you play classical music for your baby?

BACH: Child talks Bach...

LISZT: Child speaks rapidly and extravagantly, (with a slight litszt) but never

really says anything important.

BRUCKNER: Speaks very slowly and repeats himself frequently. Gains reputation for profundity.

SCHOENBERG: Never repeats a word until he's used all the other words in his vocabulary. Sometimes talks backwards. Eventually, people stop listening to him. Child blames them for their inability to understand him.

IVES: The child develops a remarkable ability to carry on several separate conversations at once.

GLASS: Tends to repeat himself over and over again.

STRAVINSKY: The child is prone to savage, guttural and profane outbursts that often lead to fighting and pandemonium in the preschool.

WAGNER: He becomes a megalomaniac. May eventually marry his sister.

CAGE: Child says nothing for 4 minutes, 33 seconds. (Preferred by 9 out of 10 classroom teachers.)

"Blues are the roots, and the other musics are the fruits. Without the roots, you have no fruits, so it's better keeping the roots alive..." ~ **WILLIE DIXON**

GROIN UP

"I'm from a place where money was a problem A place where a chrome had to solve 'em. I'm from a place where when you walk out that door, You might not come back... Even the strap on my hip didn't make me relax.

I'm from a place where Momma was always in a struggle So when I was 11, I set out to hustle.

I'm from a place where Daddy was a goner, So when I came home, I felt like a loner" (Thanks to former gangbanger Bruce)

> "The things of the night cannot be explained in the day." ~ Ernest Hemmingway

ALIENS, REGISTER NOW

At an early Mass held daily at Casa Santa Martha, Pope Francis' modest Vatican dwelling, he pontificated: "If tomorrow, for example, an expedition of Martians arrives, and some of them came to us, here ... Martians,

PLANETCLICK WITH ATTITUDE

BARKS	XPRESS	EVOLVE	BANG
FLY	SICK	ICED	NOT SHARPTON

right? Green, with the long noses and big ears, just like children paint them...and one says, 'But I want to be baptized!' What would happen?"

The answer, the Argentine Papa asserted, was that the Church should never "close the doors" to anyone and that ETs should be welcomed as equals (even if they're really smarter than we are, and don't believe in God?). He has also previously stated that children of unmarried parents "living in sin" should be baptized.

OK! Now, how about marrying gays, and what about the shameful history of priestly pedophilia, and what's the Church's position on the recent revelation that Jesus may have had a wife?

C'mon Francis, I love you, but let's be Frank. Let's do it your way!

"The one difference between death and taxes is that death does not get worse every time Congress meets." ~ Will Rogers

ENDING ON A HIGH NOTE

Recently, the Colorado Symphony presented Classically Cannabis: The High Note Series at their regular venue where participants could travel along the Pan American Highway with stops for chimchurri, arepas & salty roasted jalapenos washed down with a Negra Modelo, Pacifico, or a sea-salt limeade.

It was a cannabis-friendly event on private property, and it was strictly BYOC -- bring your own cannabis - and everyone was warned that it remains illegal under Colorado law to drive under the influence of marijuana.

But even if you have a designated driver, as Proctor & Berman once decreed in the cult film J-Men Forever, "Shtay High!"

"No drug, not even alcohol, causes the fundamental ills of society. If we're looking for the source of our troubles, we shouldn't test people for drugs, we should test them for stupidity, ignorance, greed, and love of power." ~ P.J. O'Rourke

"In this world of sin and sorrow there is always something to be thankful for. As for me, I rejoice that I am not a Republican." ~ H. L. Mencken



WHAT'S UP DOC?

Our archivist and aide de camp, Taylor Jessen, is working feverishly on future Firesign DVDs, books and the release of Ted Bonnitt's Bergman Tribute and is also collaborating with filmmaker Andre Perkowski on a surreal documentary of our surreal story for release sometime before the earth catches fire.

You can get a taste of that now by going to this link; and either sober, soused or stoned, it will cool your hot head, I guarantee... MORE

A terrorist bursts into a pet store and says, "Everybody's got one minute to get out!" A snail in the back says, "You bastard." ~ Phunny Phil's Phunnies

WITH GRATITUDE

And Happy 23rd Anniversary this month to Me and Melinda!

Nick Oliva, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Jim Meskimen, Paul Gorman,

Betsey Brubaker-Strom, Victor Kopcewich, Keith Hebble, Jack Blessing, George Riddle, Mary Willard -- and a fond farewell to Mad Magazine's AI Feldstein, whose fearless parodies of American culture laid the groundwork for Carlin, The Smothers Brothers, The Committee, Steve Martin, SNL and (gasp) even The Firesign Theatre, among so many others. And you can still call (323) 782-4589 for the May 28 pilot presentations at the Writers Guild!

"We reject the insinuation that anything we print is moral, theological, nutritious, or good for you in any way, shape or form." ~ Mad Magazine's so-called disclaimer

"Nothing is as obnoxious as other people's luck." ~ F. Scott Fitzgerald

BEARWHIZ BEER http://www.eagletshirts.com

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

FST: http://www.FiresignTheatre.com

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