

"Inside every old person is a young person wondering what happened." ~ Terry Pratchett

It's not easy being green



hile checking out, the young cashier suggested to the much older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this 'green thing' back then."

"That's our problem today," the clerk said, "You people didn't care enough to save the environment for future generations."

She was right. Our generation didn't have the 'green thing' in its day. Back then, we returned milk, soda and beer bottles to the store which sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the **CONTINUED**



same bottles over and over. Grocery stores put our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for many things, besides household garbage bags, like covers for our schoolbooks. But too bad we didn't do the "green thing" back then.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. Back then we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throwaway kind.

We dried laundry on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine, so wind and solar power really did dry them, and kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, instead of brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right; we didn't have the "green thing" back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a wall-sized TV in every room. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers not styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap to cushion it. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that

operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the "green thing" back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle. We refilled pens with ink instead of buying a new one, and we replaced the blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole thing when the blade got dull. Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into 24-hour taxi services in the family's \$45,000 SUV, which cost what a whole house did before the "green thing." We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites in space to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad that the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were because we didn't have the "green thing" back then? They should be green with envy we lived so simply and follow our lead.

"And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's futures. And we are all mortal." ~ John F. Kennedy

IT'S NOT EASY HAVING A GREENIE

n engineer was crossing a road one day, when a frog called out to him and said, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess." He bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket. The frog then cried out, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a princess, I'll stay with you for one week and do ANYTHING you want."

Again, the engineer took the frog out, smiled at it and put it back into his pocket. Finally, the frog asked, "What is the matter? I've told you I'm a beautiful princess and that I'll stay with you for one week and do anything you want. Why won't you kiss me?"

The engineer said, "Look, I'm an engineer. I don't have time for a girlfriend, but a talking frog, now that's cool."

"Easy lives make boring people."Martial arts fighter Ronda Rousey

IT'S NOT EASY BEING ON THE GREEN

nun walks into Mother Superior's office and plunks down into a chair. She lets out a sigh heavy with

frustration. "What troubles you, Sister?" asked the Mother Superior. "I thought this was the day you spent with your family."

"It was," sighed the Sister.

"And I went to play golf with my brother Darren. I play better than he does, but we try to play golf as often as we can. You know I was quite a talented golfer before I devoted my life to Christ." "I seem to recall that," the Mother Superior agreed. "So I take it your day of recreation was not relaxing?"

"Far from it," snorted the Sister. "In fact, I even took the Lord's name in vain

today!" "Goodness, Sister!" gasped the Mother Superior, astonished. "You must tell me all about it!" "Well, we were on the fifth tee...and this hole is a monster, Mother - 540 yard Par 5, with a nasty dogleg right and a hidden green... and I hit the drive of my life. I creamed it. The sweetest swing I ever made. And it's flying straight and true, right along the line I wanted...and it hits a bird in mid-flight!"

"Oh my!" commiserated the Mother. "How unfortunate! But surely that didn't make you blaspheme, Sister!" "No, that wasn't it," admitted Sister. "While I was still trying to fathom what had happened, this squirrel runs out of the woods, grabs my ball and runs off down the fairway!"

"Oh, that would have made me blaspheme!" sympathized the Mother. "But I didn't, Mother!" sobbed the Sister. "And I was so proud of myself! And while I was pondering whether this was a sign from God, this hawk swoops out of the sky and grabs the squirrel and flies off, with my ball still clutched in his teeth!"

"So that's when you cursed," said the Mother with a knowing smile. "Nope, that wasn't it either," cried the Sister, anguished, "because as the hawk started to fly out of sight, the squirrel started struggling, and the hawk dropped him right there on the green, and the ball popped out of his mouth and rolled within about 18 inches from the cup!"

Mother Superior sat back in her chair, folded her arms across her chest, fixed the Sister with a baleful stare and said..."You missed the fucking putt, didn't you?"

> "Art is a wrestling with the meaning of life." ~ Late opera singer **Jon Vickers**



FANTASTIC CIGARETTES

ow in Oregon, adults 21 and older can legally possess up to eight ounces of marijuana in their home and up to one ounce of marijuana outside their home. Adults may also grow up to four plants as long as they are not in public view. The regulatory structure allowing for commercial retail sales is still in the works but will be implemented next year; and Oregon now joins Alaska, Washington, Colorado, and D.C. in allowing legal possession of marijuana.

And now I understand why my daughter and her family moved to Lake Oswego...

"I've always considered it a type of sin against the vast and wondrous panorama of life to make your world small, shrink-fitted to convenience against change and unfamiliarity." ~ Novelist **Bob Shacochis**

JEWS ON A BENCH

wo old Jewish guys are sitting on the park bench.

Saul says, "So, Murray, if you had 20 million dollars, would you give me 10?" Murray says, "Off course I'd give you 10. I don't need 10 million dollars, let alone 20. You're my friend. Don't ask a stupid question!"

Ten minutes go by, and Saul says, "So, Murray, if you had two office buildings, would you give me one?" Murray says, "Of course I'd give you an office building. Who needs two office buildings? You're my friend. Don't ask a stupid question!"

Another ten minutes go by and Saul asks, "So Murray, If you had two watches . . ." Furious, Murray interrupts, "You bastard! You KNOW I got two watches!"

> "Never give anything away that you can sell." ~ Cole Porter

WE GROW TOO SOON OLD AND TOO LATE SMART

f walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, but is still fat. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years, while I do nothing and live six times longer. A tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years. And you tell me to *exercise*?? I don't think so. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.

Now that I've turned 75, here's what I have discovered: I

finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart, and it was a whole lot easier to get older than to get wiser, but I started out with nothing and I still have most of it. Some days you're the top dog, some days you're the hydrant. It's hard not to meet expenses – they're everywhere; and it's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere! If all is not lost, then where the hell is it? Funny – I don't remember being absent-minded.

Kids in the back seat cause accidents, but accidents in the back seat cause kids. Now, my wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes. The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese. When I'm finally holding all the right

cards,

everyone wants to play chess; the world only beats a path to your door when you're in the bathroom. I wish the buck really did stop here, I sure could use a few of them ...

These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter; I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after. Funny – I don't remember being absent-minded. Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to remember the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference...

"Casting Call: Judge Sweeny (45-65): African American, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Middle Eastern, Multi-Ethnic, Native American, East Indian, Pacific Islander, and Ambiguous." (I'll go for ambiguous). ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts



STRANGER THAN TRUTH

ondon was named for the late American singer **Julie London** and the Bobby, a British term for policemen, was named for Julie's late husband, singer/ songwriter **Bobby Troup**. Julie's song "Cry Me A River" was the inspiration for the river Thames.

The main highway into London was originally to have been

named for Bobby Troup's song "Route 66," but that title had already been used for an American road, so M14 was substituted. Parliament was named for Julie London's favorite brand of cigarette. Big Ben was named in honor of Julie's pet term for Bobby's penis.

Covent Garden is neither a garden nor a convent. Piccadilly Circus is not a circus, although some evenings it resembles one. Portobello Road is named for the mushrooms growing on many of the antiques to be found there. The Labour Party got its name from the fact that it takes them nine months to deliver anything.

Other Americans have been honored by having landmarks in this city named for them: for instance, Leicester Square

HAVE ANOTHER GUINNESS Sir Alec in 'Kind Hearts and Coronets'

and Earl's Court are named after bluegrass music legends Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs. Hyde Park was formerly called Jekyll Park, but then it became really rowdy. If you don't find what you want on the menu at a London restaurant, you have a right to ask for the "Magna Carta," the really big menu that lists every dish available.

From Planeteer and master musicologist, **Tom Hensley**, on tour with Neil Diamond

"Sometimes I get annoyed at myself for being too self-deprecating all the time. But it's okay." ~ Sayings of **Chairman Tom**

CLEOPATRA STARRING TRANS JENNER

Diverticulitis: Roman commander, stalwart, confused when not in battle, low IQ, insincere, Tufts graduate. **Petra O'Toole**

FlagyI: Slave to Diverticulitis, hulking, gentle, curly black hair, soft-spoken, sympathetic to Christians. **Vikki Mature**

Enid: Wife to Diverticulitis, quiet, beautiful, small, bonded to Flagyl, close friend of Jesus, the Christ. **Aubrey Hepburn**

Esophagus: Greek court, conscience to Diverticulitis, balanced judgment, without attachments, bed wetter. Tracy Spencer

Prognosis: Master narrative historian, theatre director (*Chariots of Eggs, Visigoth!*), Third base coach, Presbyterian. Florence Olivier

Nauseus: Lieutenant to Diverticulitis and contract hit man, obedient, handsome, low IQ, loyal to Emperor, plays bass. Montgomaureen Clift

Acidophilus: Godfather to Enid, republican theorist, Red Cross Volunteer, virtuoso tile painter and premature electrician, long-winded, over the hill. Alice Guinness

Intestina: Oversees "inner

work" of Roman aristocracy, Domme to Colon, Sub to Esophagus, ghostwriter. **Stan Bancroft**

Diarhhea: Wife to Acidophilus, in love with Diverticulitis, slutty, bi, politically savvy, there when you need her. **Stan-Margret**

Fistula: "Serves" Intestina in unmentionable sexual practices, just leave it at that, okay? **Stan Francis**

Kidney: Brother of Sydney, banker/bondsman to Diverticulitis, usurer, laundry chain owner. **Jewel Byrnner**

Colon: Roman Senate minority leader and international hedge fund manager, master of sarcasm, favors dapper

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helmets, pastel tunics, biker breast plates, boots by Manolo. Lady Joan Giulgud

Ulcer: Roman Senate majority leader, subtle, sophisticated, orator, fickle, hates Christians, loathes the Emperor more. **Jane Mason**

Thanks to **Paul Gorman**, award-winning author and host of WBAI's Lunch Pail

"A concern for sympathy should not blind us to the stronger human potential for malice and destruction." ~ Scholar Lauren Wispe'

 PLANETCLICK

 GOYOU

 FLYBY

 BYE JON

 O'BLAMA

 TRIPPY

 BOOMERS

"Think the world today is particularly violent? During World War II, an average of 1,000 people were killed per hour." ~ Neil De Grass Tyson

WHY I LOVE MY FANS

am your big fans. Do you know there is a boy in China who is crazy for your every smile? There are many stars received great achievements, such as **Justin Bieber**, **Avril Lavigne** and so on. However, the star who I like best is you. You are my idol. My friend once asked me, "Who is the best actor in your heart?" I answered without

hesitation: "Phil Proctor!"

You have warm smile and many lovely expressions. You are an funny actor. Your acting is mature day after day, bringing you lots of awards. You always make people feel happy. I love you not only because you are humorous but also your good performance and your hard-working – My idol.

"When you start treating people differently, not because of any harm they're doing to anybody, but because they are different; that's the path whereby freedoms begin to erode and bad things happen." ~ Barack Obama to Kenyan President Uhuru Kernyatta concerning gay rights

GIMME

Jamie Alcroft, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Victor Kopcewich, Robert Riddle, Tom Hensley and Paul Gorman. And Happy Birthday on August 20 to the love of my life, my darling wife and partner, **Melinda Peterson**, who in September will be travelling to Pigeon Forge to celebrate the wedding of her brother **Bruce** to **Kelly**, his partner of 42 years and thence to Spoletto, Italy to perform in an American Playwrights Workshop. *Buon viaggio, bella mia!*

> "Real to attractive guy who is grilling." ~ Role Description

The best sermons are lived, not preached...

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs but not every man's greed." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

BEARWHIZ BEER http://www.eagletshirts.com

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

FST: http://www.FiresignTheatre.com

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WISDOM FROM THE WEB

hat are the Top 3 Tips for success? "Read something no one else is reading, think something no one else is thinking, and do something no one else is doing."

A woman ran up to a fireman at the grocery store and gave him a hug, but when he tensed up, she realized he didn't recognize her, so she stepped back and with tears of joy in her eyes said, "On 9-11, 2001, you carried me out of the World Trade Center."

A guy woke up feeling ill, but decided he needed the money, so he went into work, only to get laid off. On his drive home, he got a flat tire, and he discovered that the spare was flat too. Then a man in a BMW pulled over, and gave him a ride. "We chatted, and then he offered me a job. I start tomorrow."

Another man's 8-year-old daughter begged him to start recycling, and when he asked "Why?" she replied, "So you can help me save the planet." Impressed, he asked, "And why do you want to save the planet?"

"Because that's where I keep all my stuff," she said.

After a man watched his dog get run over by a car, he sat on the side of the road holding him and crying; and just before he died, he licked the tears off his face.