

August 15, 2026

JUST THE FACTS for Baby Boomers

by Skip Parker

**a free weekly newsletter for Baby Boomers featuring news, health, personal finance,
nostalgia, music memories, and uplifting stories.**

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<https://babyboomernewsletter.com>

to access the newsletter online



The first constitution of the United States was adopted in 1788. For the acceptance of the constitution, which was proposed in 1787, nine states needed to vote in its favor. **Delaware** was the first state and **New Hampshire** was the ninth state to accept the constitution, thus making it legal. The Constitution has 4,543 words and has been amended 27 times. The document established a federal government with separate powers, the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. James Madison was considered the “Father of the Constitution,” while Benjamin Franklin was the oldest signer at 81 years old.

The current U.S. flag was designed by a high school student – **Robert G. Heft**. The flag of the United States has been modified 26 times since 1777, with the current 50-star version being the 27th design. The flag features 13 stripes, alternating red and white, and 50 white stars on a blue background. The 13 stripes represent the original 13 colonies, while the stars represent each of the 50 states. The last revision to the flag was in 1960, when a star for Hawaii was added.

GAS PRICES THIS WEEK

\$3.55/gallon – Texas

\$4.08/gallon – National average

\$5.58/gallon - California



INTERNATIONAL

The Danube River

The Danube River is at an all-time low stopping commerce and river cruises this summer. [Tourism hit as the river Danube reaches record low levels](#)

The Danube River originates in the Black Forest of Germany. From there, it flows generally eastward and southeastward, emptying into the Black Sea via the Danube Delta in Romania and Ukraine. Its total length is about 2,850 km (1,770 miles), making it the second-longest river in Europe, after the Volga.

Africa Facts

- Four of the five fastest land animals reside in Africa: the cheetah, the wildebeest, the lion, and the Thomson's gazelle. All of these animals can run at speeds above 50 miles per hour, with the cheetah reaching a top speed of about 70 miles per hour.
- George Lucas filmed various parts of *Star Wars* in the Tunisian Sahara Desert. However, the movie sets are slowly being engulfed by moving sand dunes.
- Africa is home to the world's largest living land animal, the African elephant, which can weigh between 6 and 7 tons.



HEALTH / WELLNESS

Falling down can happen to all of us for lots of reasons. But once down can you get back up? [How to Get Up After a Fall: A Guide for Seniors](#)



FINANCES

The nickel, like the penny, is expensive to produce. It cost 13.31 cents to produce a single nickel in fiscal year 2025, down slightly from 13.78 cents in fiscal year 2024. Last year marked 20 consecutive years that nickel production costs remained above the coin's face value. [How pennies, nickels, and paying with cash could soon change](#)



FEEL GOOD STORIES

Habitat for Humanity is well known. Many of us at one point or another in our lives may have joined with others, contributed our time, and worked to better the lives of others. But do you know the story behind its founding? Read on . . . [How Habitat for Humanity Was Born Out of the Civil Rights Movement — Habitat for Humanity of Madison and Clark Counties](#)



MUSIC

[Andrea Bocelli, Sarah Brightman - Time To Say Goodbye \(Live From Teatro Del Silenzio, Italy / 2007\)](#). If this doesn't move you, you might want to check your pulse.

Andrea Bocelli is an Italian tenor and classical crossover artist celebrated for blending opera with pop, selling over 90 million records worldwide. Blind since age 12, (born Sep 22, 1958).

Sarah Brightman is an English classical crossover soprano singer, actress, and dancer recognized as the world's best-selling soprano and a pioneer of the genre. She began in the dance troupe Hot Gossip before debuting in Cats and originating Christine Daaé in The Phantom of the Opera, whose cast album sold over 40 million copies. (born Aug 14, 1960)



BACK THEN . . .

Hey guys and gals. When did you stop dressing up and start going casual? When was the last time you men wore a tie or you ladies wore a dress? No criticism here. Just observing that things have changed! [‘When did people stop dressing up?’: Over 60s remember when society shifted from fancy to casual - Starts at 60](#)

PEARLS OF WISDOM

Maturity is when you don't see eye to eye but walk arm in arm.

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

Compiled by Martin E Parker

CORNY JOKES 🤔

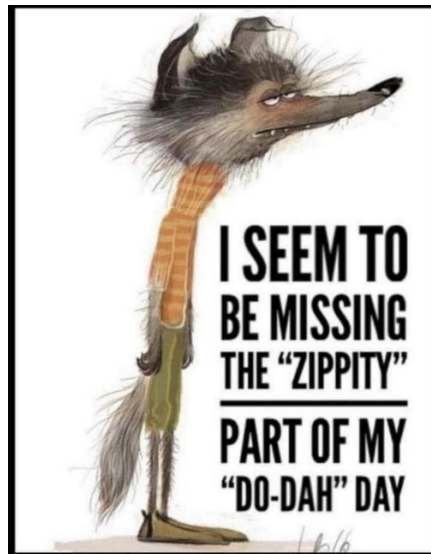
Why don't seagulls fly over the bay?

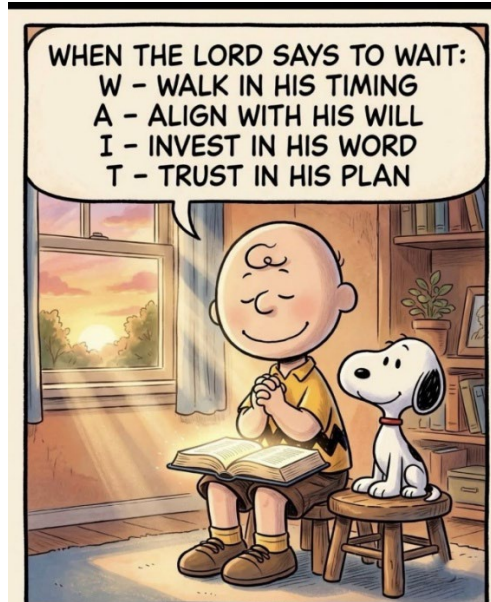
Because then they'd be bagels.

I used to be a baker.

I couldn't make enough dough.

SMILING



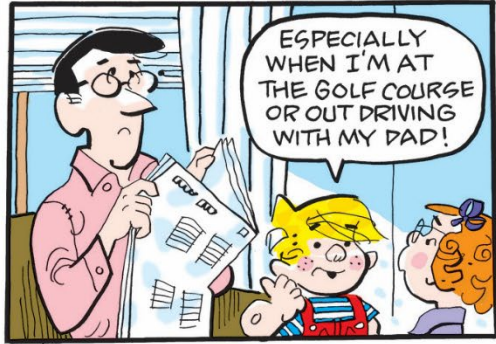


Be who you are and say
what you feel because
those who mind don't
matter and those who
matter don't mind.

-- Dr. Seuss

Hank Ketchum's *Dennis the Menace*

WORD!!!



Hello 😊 hope I made you smile
😊



NEWSLETTER FOR BABY BOOMERS

This is for Baby Boomers (and anyone else who wants to join us!). “Baby Boomers” normally refers to folks born 1946 to 1964.

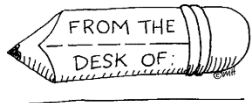
The intent of this newsletter is to be connotatively neutral, fact informative, with some attempt at amusement.

Any personal notes/responses are welcome!

If you know someone who might like our BABY BOOMER newsletter, please give them my email address: opaskipper@yahoo.com.

WHY I DO THIS NEWSLETTER

I miss Walter Cronkite, Huntley & Brinkley and those years of plain and simple factual news reporting. This is for the approximate 70 million BABY BOOMERS of the USA . . . JUST THE FACTS and FUN THINGS, the best we can muster.



Skip Parker News

Giving me something to do in retirement! 😊
Assistance from ChatGPT and CoPilot AI

