

# JUST THE FACTS    2026.9.5

## for Baby Boomers

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### ***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.*

***Click:***

***<https://babyboomernewsletter.com>***

***to access the newsletter online***



## **USA**

***It's a fact, kids are not doing well overall in math skills.*** Yes, math proficiency is important because it equips individuals with critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are valuable in school, work, and life.

Investing in deep, concept-based math education—beyond rote memorization—helps students achieve true proficiency and long-term success

**[What percentage of students in the US are proficient in math? | USAFacts](#)**

### Ignorance Is Not Bliss: The Dumbing Down of America: News Article - Independent Institute

The news is awash with reports that younger Americans are learning less than their parents did a generation ago. One in eight freshmen at the highly

Independent Institute



## INTERNATIONAL

### How Countries Rank in Mathematics Performance

Given that the OECD average has an overall mean score in math at 472

| Rank | Country       | Overall mean scores in Mathematics |
|------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 1    | Singapore     | 575                                |
| 2    | Macao         | 552                                |
| 3    | Chinese Tapei | 547                                |
| 4    | Hong Kong     | 540                                |
| 5    | Japan         | 536                                |
| 6    | Korea         | 527                                |
| 7    | Estonia       | 510                                |
| 8    | Switzerland   | 508                                |
| 9    | Canada        | 497                                |

|    |             |     |
|----|-------------|-----|
| 10 | Netherlands | 493 |
|----|-------------|-----|

***Where's the USA?***



## ***HEALTH / WELLNESS***

***Don't you love it when you see someone sincerely smile? Does it make you want to smile? Is smiling an outward sign of happiness? Read on . . .***

***[Cultivating Happiness – HelpGuide.org](https://www.helpguide.org/articles/healthy-living/cultivating-happiness.htm)***



## ***FINANCES***

**The Great Wealth Transfer and Its Implications**

**Aging Boomers will pass \$68–84 trillion to younger generations**

**Link: <https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/mje/2025/04/03/the-great-wealth-transfer-and-its-implications-for-the-american-economy/>**



## ***MUSIC***

*The Cowboys* (1972) film track:

*The Cowboys Overture - John Williams - Boston Pops (live-2013)*

Set in 1878 Montana, *The Cowboys* follows aging rancher Wil Andersen (John Wayne), whose ranch hands have abandoned him for the gold rush. With his herd due to market before winter, Andersen must find replacement drovers. His friend Anse Peterson suggests hiring local schoolboys, which Andersen reluctantly agrees to the boys and the drive. The next morning, a group of eager boys arrives. Andersen tests their skills, firing the eldest, Cimarron, after a knife incident with Slim, but hires the rest. Guns are locked in the chuck wagon, and the boys learn roping, branding, and herding under Andersen's guidance. A suspicious group led by Asa Watts is rejected after Andersen spots their dishonesty.

***BACK THEN . . .***

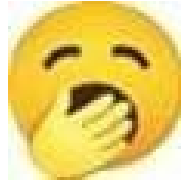
Back in my day we didn't wear helmets. We'd just lie there unconscious until someone came to get us for dinner



***PEARLS OF WISDOM***

**It is better to sleep on what you intend to do than to stay awake  
over what you have done.**

**One who growls all day will be dog tired by night.**



**Why did the banana go out with the prune?**

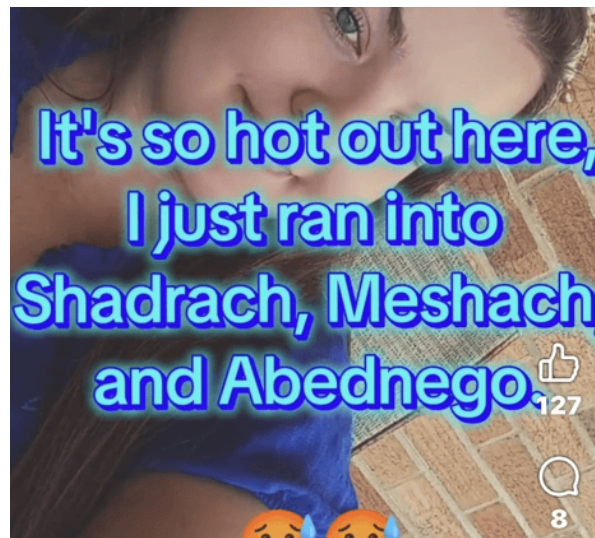
Because it couldn't find a date.

**Why did the man put his clock in the blender?**

He wanted to make time fly.

## ***MEMES***





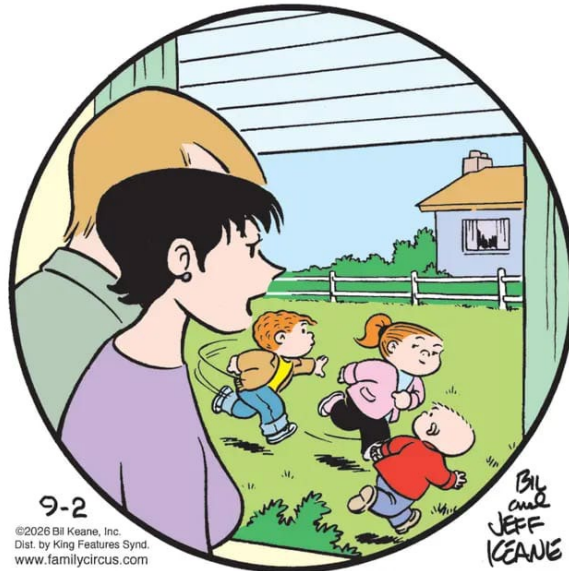
**THINK ABOUT IT**



**COMICS**



"SOME GUY WANTS TO TALK TO THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD. IS THAT YOU, OR MOM?"



"That's nice. They've reverted to a pre-electronic game of tag."

Classic  
**PEANUTS**  
by  
SCHULZ



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!*

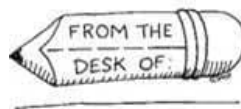
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*If you know someone who might like our BABY BOOMER newsletter, please give them my email address: [opaskipper@yahoo.com](mailto:opaskipper@yahoo.com).*

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### **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!***





THE STOIC  
MIND MASTERY

**The World Owes You Nothing.  
Nature provides opportunities,  
not guarantees. Entitlement is  
the death of growth. Take what  
comes and make it better.**

VINTAGE PRUDENCE | STOIC WISDOM

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