Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

You Remember the Real America...

...If You Can Remember:

WHEN riots were unthinkable

WHEN you left front doors open

WHEN socialism was a dirty word

WHEN the Flag was a sacred symbol

WHEN criminals actually went to jail

WHEN we weren't afraid to go out at night

WHEN a girl was a girl and dressed like one

WHEN a boy was a boy and dressed like one

WHEN taxes were merely a necessary nuisance

WHEN the poor were too proud to take handouts

WHEN songs had a tune and the words made sense

WHEN pastors talked about religion and not politics

WHEN college kids swallowed goldfish and not drugs

WHEN a Sunday drive was a pleasant trip, not an ordeal

WHEN young men wanted to join the Army and the Navy

WHEN you bragged about your hometown and home state

WHEN store clerks and repairmen tried hard to please you

WHEN everybody didn't feel entitled to a college education WHEN people knew what the Fourth of July really stood for

(Continued on Page 2)



God Bless America, Land that I love.

Stand beside her and guide her Through the night with a light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam.

God Bless America, My home, sweet home.

God Bless America, My home, sweet home.





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Ten Fun Facts

- 1. You can't see your ears without a mirror
- 2. You can't count your hair
- 3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out
- 4. You just tried no. 3.
- 6. When you tried no. 3 you realized it was possible, but you look like a panting dog.
- 7. You are smiling right now because you were fooled.
- 8. You skipped no. 5.
- 9. You just checked to see if there was a no. 5.
- 10. You're thinking about sharing this with friends to see if they'll try no. 3.

(You Remember the Real America—Continued from Page 1)

WHEN you never dreamed our country could ever lose a war

WHEN politicians proclaimed their patriotism, and meant it WHEN everybody knew the difference between right and wrong

WHEN the law meant justice, and you were proud of your police

WHEN things weren't perfect, but you never expected them to be

WHEN people were satisfied with less and valued what they had more

WHEN our government stood up for America anywhere in the world

WHEN you knew the law would be enforced and your safety protected

WHEN you considered yourself lucky to have a good job, and were proud of it

WHEN you weren't embarrassed to say this is the best country in the world

WHEN the pledge of allegiance was recited the first thing every morning in school

WHEN America was a land filled with brave, proud, confident, hard-working people of all backgrounds







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Apparently this week there will be constant rane, hale, gails, drissle, thunder, litening, torenatos, and record heet.

A really bad spell of wether.





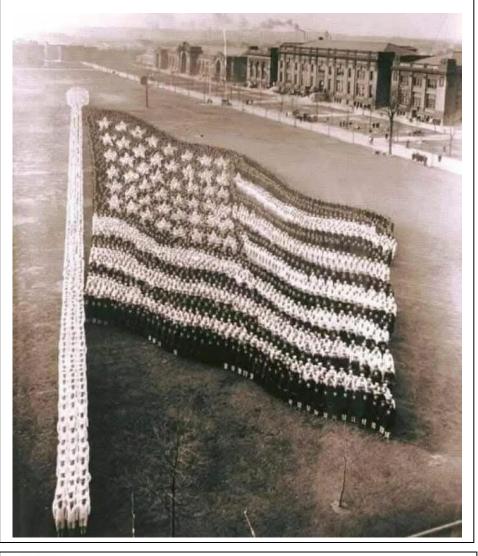
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Choose the Coffee, Not the Cup



At a college reunion, a group of successful alumni—now doctors, lawyers, business owners—decided to visit their old professor. They chatted about their careers and families, but soon the conversation shifted to life's pressures, stress, and constant chasing after more.

After listening for a while, the professor smiled and said, "Hold on a minute. I'll go make us some coffee."

He came back with a large pot and a tray full of cups—none of them matching. Some were fine porcelain, others were plain ceramic, a few were chipped glass mugs, and one even looked like it came from a diner.

As everyone reached for a cup, the professor watched in silence. Once they all had coffee in hand, he said:

"Notice what just happened. Most of you instinctively reached for the nicest cups—leaving behind the simpler ones. It's normal to want the best for ourselves, but that's often where the stress begins."

He gestured toward the cups. "The cup doesn't make the coffee taste any better. What you really wanted was the coffee. But you still focused on the cup."

Then he paused. "Life is the coffee. Your job, your house, your income, your status—those are just cups. They help contain life, but they don't define it. And the trouble is, the more we focus on the cup, the more we miss out on the coffee."

He smiled. "Remember, happy people don't always have the best of everything. But they know how to make the best of what they have."

"i before e"

Except for when your neighbor Keith receives eight counterfeit beige sleighs from feisty caffeinated weightlifters.

Weird.

I Can't Hear You

A group of frogs was traveling through the woods when two of them fell into a deep pit.

When the other frogs saw how deep it was, they told the two trapped frogs that there was no hope - they were as good as dead.



Ignoring the discouraging words, the two frogs began jumping with all their might, trying to

escape the pit. But the group above kept shouting, telling them to stop trying, to accept their fate.

Eventually, one of the frogs gave in to the negative voices. He stopped jumping, fell back, and died.

The other frog, however, continued to jump as hard as he could. The crowd kept yelling at him to stop, insisting it was pointless. But he jumped even harder—until, to everyone's surprise, he finally made it out of the pit.

When he emerged, the other frogs asked, "Didn't you hear us?"

The frog explained that he was deaf. He thought they had been encouraging him the whole time.

Moral: There is power in the tongue—power to give life or take it away. A single encouraging word can lift someone up when they're struggling. Be mindful of what you say. Speak kindly. Speak hope. Your words might just be what someone needs to keep going.

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I saw an old man with a fishing rod outside my local coffee shop fishing in a puddle in the rain. He looked so cold.

I told him, "Come on in, have a coffee and warm up."

As we sat there sipping a hot java, I thought I would humor him.

"How many have you caught today?" I asked.

"You're the fifth," he answered.

A man lost three fingers in an accident. He asked the doctor, "Will I be able to drive with this hand?"

"Possibly," replied the doctor.

"But I wouldn't count on it."

English Language Game:

Place the word "only" anywhere in this sentence:

"She told him that she loved him."



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A Visit to the Doctor

I went to see my doctor, 'Cause I didn't feel quite right. All those aches and pains annoyed me And I couldn't sleep at night.

He could find no real disorder But he wouldn't let it rest. What with Medicare and Blue Cross, We would do a couple of tests.

To the hospital he sent me Though I didn't feel that bad. He arranged for them to give me Every test that could be had.

I was fluoroscoped and cystoscoped, My aging frame displayed. Laid on an icy table, While my innards were x-rayed.



I was checked for worms and parasites,

For fungus and the crud, While they pierced me with long needles

Taking samples of my blood.

Doctors came to check me over, Probed and pushed and poked around,

And so they could hear me good They wired me for sound.

They have finally concluded, Their results have filled a page. What I have will someday kill me; My affliction is OLD AGE!



"May you live as long as you want, and never want as long as you live." is an Irish toast.

"Bread, eggs, cinnamon and maple syrup" is a French toast.



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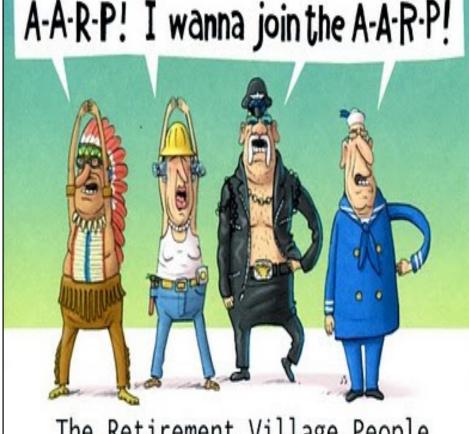
The radio at the precinct station crackled.

"Hello, Sarge. Is that you? This is Officer McGourty."

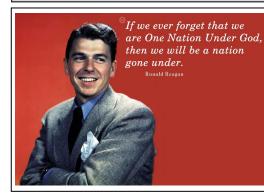
"Yes, go ahead."

"We have a situation here. A woman has shot her husband for stepping on the floor she had just mopped clean."

"Have you arrested her, Officer?" "No sir, the floor is still wet."



The Retirement Village People





The invention of the shovel was ground-breaking, but it was the invention of the broom that truly swept the nation.





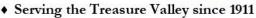


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Terrible cruise, rained the whole time. They did have a great buffet. I had two of everything



THE FIRST THREE LETTERS OF SWEDEN AND DENMARK SPELL "SWEDEN."
THE LAST THREE LETTERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES SPELL "DENMARK!"

Just Following Instructions



We went to see a movie the other night. I sat in an aisle seat as I usually do because it feels a little roomier.

After all the trailers played and the feature was about to start, a young lady sitting in the center of our row got up and started working her way out.

"Excuse me, sorry, oops, pardon me, sorry, gotta hurry, excuse me. Pardon me."

By the time she got to me, the movie was starting, and I was trying to see around her. I was alittle impatient with her, so I said, "Couldn't you have done this a little earlier?"

"No!" she said in a loud whisper. "I just saw the 'TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE, PLEASE' message up on the screen, and my phone is in the car."



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YELLOW STICKY NOTES

Every Tuesday at 3 p.m., Mrs. Ellis, the silver-haired librarian, would slide a handwritten note into a random book before reshelving it. No one knew it was she. "You're braver than you think," she'd scribble on lemon-yellow paper, tucking



it into a thriller. "The world needs your laugh," nestled inside a joke book. She'd done this for 12 years, since her husband passed...

One rainy afternoon, 14-year-old Marco flipped open a dusty atlas and found a note: "Someone out there is proud of you." He stuffed it into his pocket. That week, his mom had been laid off, and he'd been hiding lunch money in her purse. The note stayed with him in his pocket, like a secret friend.

He started visiting the library daily, hunting for more notes. Mrs. Ellis watched him quietly, noticing how he'd linger in the cookbook aisle (his mom's dream was to open a bakery). One day, she "accidentally" dropped a note near his feet: "Follow the recipe, kid. You've got the ingredients."

Marco baked her a lumpy banana loaf the next week. "For the note person," he mumbled, pushing the tin across the desk. Mrs. Ellis smiled. "They'll love it."

Years passed. Marco's mom opened her bakery, "Yellow Note Cakes," with recipes pinned beside customer orders. Graduation day, Marco left a note in the atlas: "Thank you for seeing me."

Mrs. Ellis retired last month. At her farewell party, the library displayed a clothesline strung with hundreds of yellow notes—found in textbooks, romance novels, even a gardening guide. A nurse wrote: "This got me through night shifts." A single dad: "I kept your 'You're enough' note in my wedding ring box."

Now, the library's new intern, Marco's little sister, starts her mornings the same way: watering plants, shelving books, and hiding scraps of sunshine.







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Freckles and Wrinkles

An elderly woman and her little grandson, whose face was sprinkled with bright freckles, spent the day at the zoo. Lots of children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist who was decorating them with tiger paws.

"You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!" a girl in the line said to the little fella.

Embarrassed, the little boy dropped his head.

His grandmother knelt down next to him. "I love your freckles. When I was a little girl I always wanted freckles, she said, while tracing her finger across the child's cheek. "Freckles are beautiful!"

The boy looked up, "Really?"



"Of course," said the grandmother. "Why, just name me one thing that's prettier than freckles."

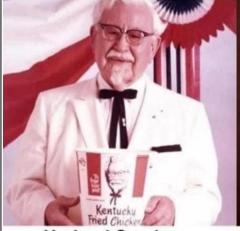
The little boy thought for a moment, peered intensely into his grandma's face, and softly whispered, "Wrinkles."

It's never too late.



Ray Kroc -Joined McDonald's at 52

Henry Ford -Started Ford at 40



Harland Sanders -Started KFC at 65



Richard Samela -Won an argument with his wife at 54





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But read and lead don't rhyme, and neither do read and lead.

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Ken Claar July 25, 1932—93 years Meridian Senior Center



Bernice McSergy July 2, 1935—90 years Eagle Seniors



Enola HoytJuly 4, 1935—90 years
Boise Senior Center



Sharon Lupori July 7, 1940—85 years Meridian 10 Mile Christian



Rita Lage July 27, 1945—80 years Star Senior Center



John Love July 13, 1950—75 years Kuna Senior Center



Mary AtkinsJuly 20, 1955—70 years
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Bill & Marlys Castle July 14, 1951—74 years Boise Heatherwood



Don & Amanda Baumberger July 20, 1957—67 years Boise Senior Center



Terry & Joan TentingerJuly 17, 1964—61 years
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