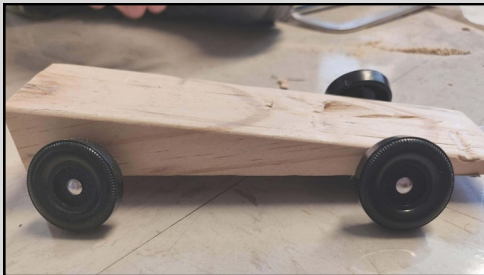


## Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

### The Pinewood Derby Challenge

A boy named Gilbert was eight years old and had been in Cub Scouts only a short time. During one of his meetings he was handed a sheet of paper, a block of wood and four tires and told to return home and give it all to his dad.

That was not an easy task for Gilbert to do. His dad was not receptive to doing things with his son. But Gilbert tried. His dad just read the paper and scoffed at the idea of making a pine wood derby car with his young, eager son. The block of wood remained untouched as the weeks passed.



Finally, mom stepped in to see if I could figure this all out. The project began. Having no carpentry skills, she decided it would be best if she simply read the directions and let Gilbert do the work. And he did. She read aloud the measurements, the rules of what they could and couldn't do.

Within days his block of wood was turning into a pinewood derby car. A little lopsided, but looking great (at least through the eyes of mom).

Gilbert had not seen any of the other kids cars and was feeling pretty proud of his "Blue Lightning," the pride that comes with knowing you did something on your own.

Then the big night came. With his blue pinewood derby in his hand and pride in his heart they headed to the big race.

Once there, Gilbert's pride turned to humility. His car was obviously the only car made entirely on his own. All the other cars were a father-son partnership, with cool paint jobs and sleek body styles made for speed.

A few of the boys giggled as they looked at Gilbert's lopsided, wobbly,  
*(Continued on page 2)*

### Thank a Farmer!



A farmer spends hundreds of hours getting the land ready, plowing, disking and planting.

He spends thousands of dollars on fuel, equipment and repair bills.

He spends many nights laying in bed praying for rain or sunshine instead of sleeping.

He sweats out on the tractor unlike any other job. He works like most people couldn't.

He gets yelled at and cussed out by people who get caught behind the tractor traveling down the road. He spends many days wondering if it's worth it.

And he does all this starting with tiny seeds. Why would he do that?

The answers are all around you: the plate of food sitting in front of you, the clothes on your back, the shoes on your feet.

But for him it's the love for working in the dirt, his love for agriculture, and the satisfaction knowing he's done his part to keep this country fed.

Take a moment to thank all the farmers out there who help make the world go around!



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### Better than Freckles?

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 fellow.

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.”

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### The Pinewood Derby Challenge — Continued from Page 1

unattractive vehicle. To add to the humility Gilbert was the only boy without a man at his side.

A couple of the boys who were from single parent homes at least had an uncle or grandfather by their side, Gilbert had “Mom.”

As the racing began it was done in elimination fashion. You kept racing as long as you were the winner.

One by one the cars raced down the finely sanded ramp. Finally, it was between Gilbert and the sleekest, fastest looking car there.

As the last race was about to begin, the wide-eyed, shy eight-year-old asked if they could stop the race for a minute, because he wanted to pray.

The race stopped.

Gilbert hit his knees clutching his funny looking block of wood between his hands. With a wrinkled brow he started and prayed silently in earnest for a very long minute and a half. Then he stood, smile on his face and announced, “Okay, I am ready.”

As the crowd cheered, a boy named Tommy stood with his father as their car sped down the ramp. Gilbert watched his block of wood wobble down the ramp with surprisingly great speed and rushed over the finish line a fraction of a second before Tommy’s car.



Gilbert leaped into the air with a loud “Thank you” as his Mom and the crowd roared in approval.

The Scout Master came up to Gilbert with microphone in hand and asked the obvious question, “So you prayed to win, huh, Gilbert?” To which the young boy answered, “Oh, no sir. That wouldn’t be fair to ask God to help you beat someone else. I just asked Him to make it so I don’t cry if I lose.”



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### My Favorite OLD Things

To commemorate her birthday, actress/vocalist, Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall for the benefit of the AARP. One of the musical numbers she performed was 'My Favorite Things' from the legendary movie 'Sound Of Music'. Here are the lyrics she used:  
 (If you sing it, it's especially hysterical!)

Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,  
 Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,  
 Bundles of magazines tied up in string,  
 These are a few of my favorite things.

Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses,  
 Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,  
 Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,  
 These are a few of my favorite things.



When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,  
 When the knees go bad,  
 I simply remember my favorite things,  
 And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,  
 No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,  
 Bathrobes and heating pads and hot meals they bring,  
 These are a few of my favorite things.

Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin',  
 Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',  
 And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,  
 When we remember our favorite things.

When the joints ache, When the hips break,  
 When the eyes grow dim,  
 Then I remember the great life I've had,  
 And then I don't feel so bad.



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Whoever invented  
 "knock-knock" jokes  
 should get a  
 "No-bell Prize"!

I can't believe I forgot to  
 go to the gym today!  
 That's five years in a row.







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C-8 THE STATE JOURNAL Sunday, June 16, 1963  
Lansing, Michigan



Map shows the 10 national areas into which the states are divided for purposes of the ZIP postal code.

## What Postal ZIP Code Signifies

Here are the ABCs (or perhaps the 1-2-3s of the "zone improvement program" for mail handling, which will go into operation July 1. At first, the new ZIP numbers will be used by large users of mail service. All the Post Office wants you to do, at first, is to include your own ZIP number in your return address on mail you send out. The big firms will take it from there. Some day, the hope is that electronic machines will sort mail by ZIP numbers. By July 1, post office hopes to have directories printed from which you can determine your ZIP number and the number of the post office of address, to speed your mail. Or you can find your ZIP number by asking your mailman.

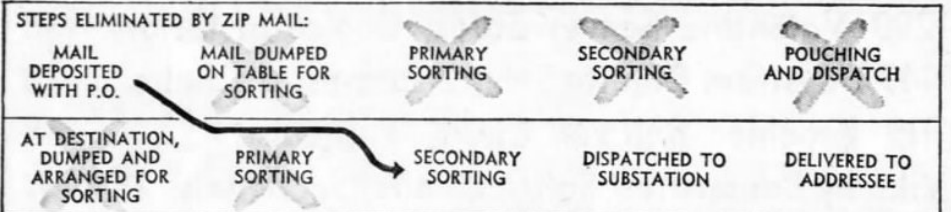
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## A Pearl of Wisdom

Did you know that an oyster that has not been wounded in any way does not produce pearls?



A pearl is a healed wound. Pearls are a product of pain, the result of a foreign or unwanted substance entering the oyster, such as a parasite or a grain of sand. The inside of an oyster shell is a shiny substance called "nacre." When a grain of sand enters, the nacre cells go to work and cover the grain of sand with layers and more layers to protect the defenseless body from the oyster. As a result, a beautiful pearl is formed! The more sand, the more pearls, the more valuable...

*God never allows pain without a purpose. What if your greatest ministry to others comes out of your greatest hurt?*

*The hard things we may be going through now are really nothing in comparison to the glory that will be revealed in us later. (Romans 8:17-18)"*



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## The Ten Commandments for Adult Children

*By Dorothy Gish*

1. Thou shalt maintain regular contact with your parents by phone or mail or in person
2. Thou shalt include thy parents and family in holiday celebrations.
3. Thou shalt be imaginative in thy gift giving (perfume is better than liniment!)
4. Thou shalt listen to thy parents' sharing memories, for life review is a necessary and healthy process.
5. Thou shalt not gloss over thy parents' complaints and worries with patronizing clichés.
6. Thou shalt not make thy parents speak about matters which are embarrassing or distressing to them.
7. Thou shalt not undermine thy parents' self-regard
8. Thou shalt let thy parents know you are on their side.
9. Thou shalt look at thy parents' situation through their eyes.
10. Thou shalt not lose the ability to laugh at thyself, nor the ability to encourage your parents to do likewise.

## Mr. and Mrs. Potato named Idaho Parents of the Year



It all started when pretty Miss Spud and handsome young Mr. Potato had eyes for each other. They soon married and had a little Tater Tot they called Sweet.

When it was time, they told her about the facts of life. They warned her about going out and getting half-baked or mashed, and making a bad name for herself, like "Hot Potato." Sweet said not to worry; no one would make a rotten Potato out of her!

But on the other hand, she certainly didn't want to stay home and become a couch Potato, either. She planned to eat right and get plenty of exercise so she wouldn't turn out like her skinny Shoestring cousins.

When she went off to study in Europe, Mom and Dad Potato warned Sweet to watch out for those hard-boiled Spuds from Ireland and those greasy French Fries from Paris.

When Sweet returned to Idaho, her parents sent her to Potato University (P.U.) to get her degree, hoping that when she graduated she would really be in the Chips!

But in spite of all they had done for her, Sweet dropped out of school and came home to announce that she wanted to marry Tom Brokaw. Her parents were horrified, and told her in no uncertain terms that she could never marry Mr. Brokaw, because he was, in fact, just a Common-Tater!



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## How to Cross a Raging River



One day three men were hiking along and came upon a wide, raging river. They needed to get to the other side, but it looked impossible to ford, and they had no idea of how to do it.

The first man prayed: "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river."

Poof! God gave him big strong arms and legs and he was able to swim across the river—though it took him two hours to do it.

Seeing this, the second man prayed: "Please God, give me the strength and ability to cross this river."

Poof! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river—though it took him an hour to do it.

The third man had observed how this had worked out for his two hiking buddies, so he also prayed, saying, "Please God, give me the strength, ability and intelligence to cross this river."

Poof! God turned him into a woman. She pulled out a trail map, looked at it, and in five minutes found a bridge and

## Everyday Phrases from Shakespeare



- "As good luck would have it" — *(The Merry Wives of Windsor)*
- "Bated breath" — *(The Merchant of Venice)*
- "Be-all and the end-all" — *(Macbeth)*
- "Neither a borrower nor a lender be" — *(Hamlet)*
- "Brave new world" — *(The Tempest)*
- "Break the ice" — *(The Taming of the Shrew)*
- "Refuse to budge an inch" — *(Measure for Measure / The Taming of the Shrew)*
- "Dead as a doornail" — *(Henry VI Part II)*
- "A dish fit for the gods" — *(Julius Caesar)*
- "Eaten me out of house and home" — *(Henry IV Part II)*
- "Faint hearted" — *(Henry VI Part I)*
- "Fancy-free" — *(A Midsummer Night's Dream)*
- "Forever and a day" — *(As You Like It)*
- "For goodness' sake" — *(Henry VIII)*
- "Foregone conclusion" — *(Othello)*
- "Full circle" — *(King Lear)*
- "Give the devil his due" — *(Henry IV Part I)*
- "Good riddance" — *(Troilus and Cressida)*
- "Jealousy is the green-eyed monster" — *(Othello)*
- "Heart of gold" — *(Henry V)*
- "In my heart of hearts" — *(Hamlet)*
- "In my mind's eye" — *(Hamlet)*
- "Kill with kindness" — *(The Taming of the Shrew)*
- "Knock, knock! Who's there?" — *(Macbeth)*
- "Laughing stock" — *(The Merry Wives of Windsor)*
- "Live long day" — *(Julius Caesar)*
- "Love is blind" — *(The Merchant of Venice)*
- "One fell swoop" — *(Macbeth)*
- "Play fast and loose" — *(King John)*
- "Set my teeth on edge" — *(Henry IV Part I)*



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## A Good Night's Sleep

Four guys rented a cabin in the mountains for a guy's weekend outing. There were two rooms with two beds in each.



No one wanted to room with Steve because he snored so badly. To be fair, they decided they would vote to see which guy would stay with him each night.

The first night, John slept in Steve's room. The next morning he came to breakfast with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot.

The rest of the guys asked, "Man, what happened to you?"

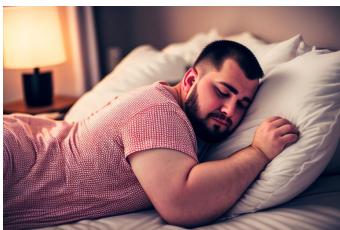
John replied, "Steve snored so loudly, I just sat up and watched him all night!"

The next night it was Gary's turn. In the morning, same thing—hair all standing up, eyes all bloodshot. Once again they asked, "Man, what happened to you? You look awful!"

Gary said, "Man, that Steve shakes the roof! I couldn't sleep a wink. I just watched him all night."

The third night was Herb's turn. Herb was a big burly guy who loved to hunt and fish and work on cars—a real man's man.

The next morning he came to breakfast bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. "Good morning!" he said cheerfully.



The guys couldn't believe it! They said, "Man, what happened?"

To which Herb replied, "Well, we got ready for bed. Then I went over and tucked Steve into bed and kissed him goodnight on the forehead. He sat up and watched me all night long."

## DATING IN THE 1860S

CHANCE FOR A SPINSTER. — A young man in Aroostook County, Maine, advertising for a wife, speaks of himself as follows: "I am eighteen years old, have a good set of teeth, and believe in Andy Johnson, the star-spangled banner, and the 4th of July. I have taken up a State lot, cleared up eighteen acres last year, and seeded ten of it down. My buckwheat looks first-rate, and the oats and potatoes are bully. I have got nine sheep, a two-year-old bull, and two heifers, besides a house and barn. I want to get married. I want to buy bread-and-butter, hoop-skirts, and waterfalls for some person of the female persuasion during life. That's what's the matter with me. But I don't know how to do it."



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If laziness was an Olympic sport,  
I would want to come in 4th so I wouldn't have to walk up to the podium

### They Don't Think Like They Used To

My husband and I went through the McDonald's driveway window. Our total was \$4.25, so I gave the cashier a \$5 bill and a quarter.

She said, "You gave me too much money."

I said, "Yes I know, but this way you can just give me a dollar back."

She sighed and went to get the manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the quarter, and said "We're sorry but we don't do that kind of thing." The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

Do not confuse the people at MacD's!

We had to have the garage door repaired.

The repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a "large" enough motor on the opener.

I thought for a minute and said that we had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower opener.

He shook his head and said, "You need a 1/4 horsepower."

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, "NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two."

We haven't used that repairman since...

My daughter went to a Mexican fast food and ordered a taco.

She asked the person behind the counter for "minimal lettuce."

He said he was sorry, but they only had iceberg lettuce.

The pedestrian light on the corner beeps when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with a co-worker of mine.

She asked if I knew what the beeper was for.

I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red.

Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?!"

### Last Words

A pastor interrupted his sermon to ask three men in the front row, "What would you want your loved ones to say as they looked down at you in your coffin?"

**Tom:** "That I was a good father and husband."

**Bill:** "That I lived a good life of kindness to others."

**Dan:** "Look. He's moving!"

#### Sunday School Teacher:

"What do you call a woman in heaven?"

**Johnny:** "An angel."

**Teacher:** "What is a group of women in heaven?"

**Johnny:** "A host of angels."

**Teacher:** "And what would be all women in heaven?"

**Teacher's Husband in back of the class:** "Peace on Earth!"

**Son to Father:** "I want a car!"

**Father to Son:** "Then get a haircut!"

**Son:** "But Jesus had long hair!"

**Father:** "Jesus walked everywhere."



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### Aborting Takeoff

A group of aeronautical engineering instructors boarded a plane for a trip to a conference.



When the doors closed and the plane was about to take off, they were informed that the plane was made by their students.

All of the instructors rushed toward the plane doors, trying to escape with the exception of one instructor who remained calmly seated.

Someone asked him why he wasn't escaping the plane like his colleagues.

He answered with confidence, "These are my students."

Then he was asked another question: "Are you sure that you taught them well?"

The instructor replied quietly: "I'm sure it won't fly."

### Second Class Passenger

A well-dressed young woman boarded a plane and made her way to her seat, which happened to be next to a poor elderly man. The man was dressed in shabby clothes and was a bit embarrassed by his appearance.

As soon as she was seated, the young lady alerted the flight attendant that there was a problem. "Please find me another seat immediately," she said abruptly.

The flight attendant responded warmly, "I'm sorry Ma'am, but the economy cabin is fully booked."

The woman replied, "But I'm not going to travel beside this old person. Do something," she demanded.

While the elderly man stared in disbelief, the flight attendant responded, "I'll talk to the Captain about this."

The flight attendant went to the Captain and asked, "Captain, a woman feels uncomfortable sitting beside a poor elderly man. What should we do?"

The Captain looked amused and said, "This is interesting. I've never encountered an issue like this before. I think I have a plan. Listen."

The Captain relayed to the flight attendant what he wanted to do. The flight attendant was stunned at his plan. In fact, she was amazed.

A few minutes later, the flight attendant returned. "The Captain said we have an open seat in First Class. He also wants to apologize for having to travel with such a terrible person."

As the woman rose out of her seat, the flight attendant stopped her and reached out her arm towards the poor elderly man. "Sir, will you please follow me? We have a seat up front for you."

To which the surrounding passengers applauded.



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**Tidbits!**

I was at a restaurant yesterday, and a waitress yelled out, "Does anyone know CPR?"

I replied, "Are you kidding? I know the entire alphabet!" and everyone laughed.

Well, except for this one guy.

I never finish anything. I have a black belt in partial arts.

I've reached the age when my obituary will not include the word "untimely."

Grandpa's last words will stay with me forever: "Quit shaking the ladder, ya little hooligan!"

Tips on how to fall asleep in a living room chair:

1. Be old.
2. Sit in a chair.

**Want to have Senior Goldmine mailed to your home or to a friend?**

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**Milestones**



LaVonne Doty  
Aug 8, 1926—97 years  
Chateau de Boise



Walter Schoen  
Aug 18, 1927—96 years  
Star



Mary Spencer  
Aug 7, 1943—80 years  
Meridian 10 Mile Christian



Betty Roy  
Aug 19, 1943—80 years  
Meridian Senior Center



Barry Behrman  
Aug 10, 1953—70 years  
Boise Senior Center



Charles & Edith Odom  
Aug 14, 1955—68 years  
Star

**Senior Goldmine** recognizes the following Milestones:

**Birthdays:**  
70, 75, 80, 85, 90 and up;  
**and Anniversaries:**  
50, 55, 60 and up.

Send your information to [terry@seniorgoldmine.com](mailto:terry@seniorgoldmine.com) or call (208) 615-1948



Cliff & Chris Olsen  
Aug 25, 1973—50 years  
Meridian 10 Mile Christian

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