

# SENIOR Goldmine

Canyon County Edition August 2024

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

## ♪ "It's a Small World After All..." ♪



An ice cream truck was near.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Zella waved goodbye to the school bus driver, turned around and sprinted down the sidewalk toward the cheerfully ringing chime.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Vincent, straightening his shirt collar as he stepped out of the barbershop, heard the repeating notes. He searched a pocket for change. Without appearing too eager, he hurried down the sidewalk.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Sam and Jane entered the hotel lobby after an exhausting day. They heard the happy tune and grinned at each other. They stepped back outside.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Errol knew leftovers would be for dinner. He walked slowly, dreamily through the city. He smelled rain coming. He arrived at the music, stood in line.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Clothespins

by Stuart Dybeck



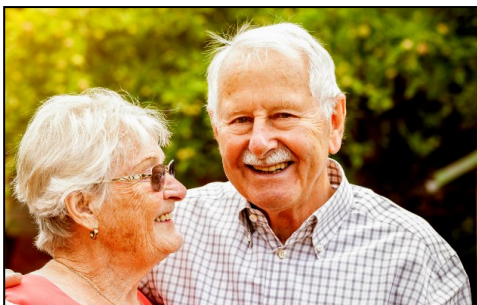
I once hit clothespins for the Chicago Cubs.

I'd go out after supper when the wash was in and collect clothespins from under four stories of clothesline.

A swing-and-a-miss was a strike-out; the garage roof, Willie Mays, pounding his mitt under a pop fly. Bushes, a double, off the fence, triple, and over, home run. The bleachers roared. I was all they ever needed for the pennant.

New records every game—once, 10 homers in a row! But sometimes I'd tag them so hard they'd explode, legs flying apart in midair, pieces spinning crazily in all directions. Foul Ball! What else could I call it?

The bat was real.



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### Texting Around the World

I'm Hungary!

Then you should probably eat.

Maybe I can find some food if I  
Czech the fridge.

There is Norway you will find  
something in the fridge...

You are really Russian to get  
those puns out!

They're a real Spain to  
put up with...

Really? I don't Bolivia.

Uganda be kidding me.

Denmark my words, you won't  
find any better puns!

Kenya think of any more puns?

Nah, Iran out of ideas.

*(It's a Small, Small World—Continued from page 1)*

*...it's a small world after all...*

Naomi, sitting in her parked patrol car, writing up another report, rolled down the window to listen. She set her paperwork aside. She opened the door.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Bryce lay with his back against a wall. He'd lost his job. And then he'd lost his girlfriend. His eyes were closed. He heard the distant chime. He jumped up.

*...it's a small world after all...*

Esther stood on a balcony trying to see the street below. Her old eyes were failing. She remembered the sudden bright thrill of ice cream trucks turning corners, and the merry chimes. She remembered how people at any hour would mysteriously appear from every direction to grasp melting bliss.



*...it's a small, small world.*



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## Milestones



**Jack & Ruby Finley**  
Aug 28, 1948—76 years  
Parma Senior Center



**Earl & Cherie Ford**  
Aug 26, 1961—63 years  
Melba Valley Sr Center

### How to Know You're Getting Old

- ~ Your kids are becoming you...but your grandchildren are perfect!
- ~ Going out is good... Coming home is better!
- ~ You forget names...But it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!
- ~ You realize you're never going to be really good at anything... especially golf.
- ~ You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep".
- ~ You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch.
- ~ What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
- ~ Everybody whispers.
- ~ But "old" is good in some things: Old Songs, Old movies, and best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!

### Lost My Keys!

When I walked out of an appointment several days ago, I couldn't find my car keys. I quickly gave myself a full search.

They weren't in my purse or my pockets. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He's afraid that the car could be stolen.

As I looked around the parking lot, I realized he was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it must have been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all to my husband: "I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen."

There was a moment of silence. I thought the call had been disconnected, but then I heard his voice: "Are you kidding me?" he barked, "I dropped you off!"

Now it was my turn to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, can you come and get me?"



He retorted, "I will, as soon as I convince this cop that I didn't steal your car!"

Welcome to the golden years...



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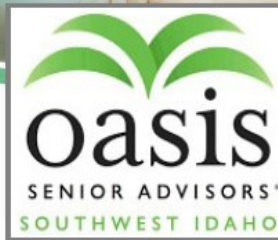
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## OLD GEEZER QUIZ

**1. In the '50s, if you had a flat rear tire, you often had to remove the ...?**

- a. Necker knob
- b. Curb feeler
- c. Fender skirt

**2. What color flash bulbs did Dad use for color film?**

- a. Blue.
- b. Pink
- c. White

**3. What was the "parking brake" called when you were a kid?**

- a. Emergency brake
- b. Pull 'n' Stop
- c. Breaker. Breaker.

**4. Way before Air Jordan, what was a kid's gym shoe of choice?**

- a. Buster Brown
- b. PF Flyers
- c. Old Stinkers

**5. In what year did "Dewey Defeat Truman" according to the Chicago Tribune?**

- a. 1946
- b. 1948
- c. 1952

**6. Before the Orkin Man, what technology was part of most homes' bug deterrence?**

- a. Shoe Fly
- b. Fly paper
- c. 50 mm Phlit gun

**7. Dixie cups had what printed on their tops?**

- a. Secret decoders
- b. Pictures of Movie stars
- c. WW II propaganda slogans

**8. What was the prevailing method of birth control in the '50s?**

- a. Heavy lifting and cold showers
- b. Fear
- c. Girdles and crinoline petticoats

**9. Jimmy Durante said what at the end of every show?**

- a. "Aloha, my friends."
- b. "Good night, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are."
- c. "Remember, wherever you go, my nose will get there first."

**10. "I'm Popeye the sailor man; I'm Popeye the sailor man. I'm strong to the finish, \_\_\_\_\_, I'm Popeye the sailor man."**

- a. "'cause I eats me spinach"
- b. "my dad was big and Finnish"
- c. "isn't the music a bit tinnish?"

**11. In greasy spoon jargon, what did "knock the horns off one, and drag it through the garden" mean?**

## Decisions, decisions

One thing nobody ever talks about being an adult is how much time you debate yourself on keeping a cardboard box because it's like a really, really good box.

I made a huge To-Do list for tomorrow. I just can't figure out who's going to do it.



**NOTE TO SELF:  
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without a solid plan  
on how to get up!**

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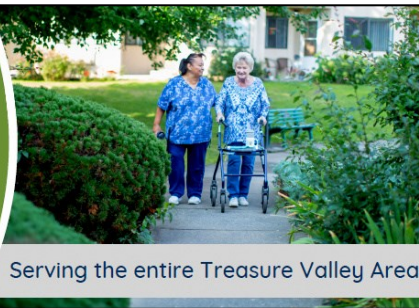
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- a. Knock out the customer, then kick him out the back door
- b. Rare hamburger or steak with tomato and lettuce
- c. Cooties

**12. Lincoln Logs were for what use?**

- a. A diary of the presidency
- b. Keep track of fat cats who sleep in the Lincoln Bedroom
- c. Building toy structures

**13. The names Ward and June bring what to mind?**

- a. A popular TV series called "Leave it to Beaver"
- b. A Chicago family of butchers and knife sharpeners called The Cleavers
- c. Inventors of the clicker, Jack Ward and Ernest June

**14. Cops and Robbers, Cowboys and Indians, and Zorro are all forms of what?**

- a. Alcoholic beverages
- b. Capitalism
- c. Children's play

**15. What was the cheapest way to turn a bicycle into a motorcycle?**

- a. Baseball cards in the spokes
- b. An electric motor with a long cord
- c. Turning left into the path of a Harley

**16. Tinkertoys date back to when?**

- a. 1914
- b. 1949
- c. 1967

**17. In grade school, what was the worst thing that could happen to you when being picked for a team?**

- a. Getting picked last
- b. Getting your uniform dirty
- c. Not having the team tattoo

**18. If we dared to sass our parents, we immediately found out what \_\_\_\_\_ tasted like."**

- a. Meatballs
- b. Soap
- c. Sarsaparilla

**19. What was one thing the Lone Ranger and Roy Rogers would never do?**

- a. Kill someone
- b. Shot a squirrel
- c. Eat lima beans

**20. What convertible offered an optional radio that automatically increased its volume as the car accelerated?**

- a. 1912 Franklin
- b. 1943 Willys Jeep
- c. 1957 Ford Thunderbird
- d. 1927 Ford
- e. 1960 Rambler
- f. 1974 Corvette

**ANSWERS ON PAGE 6**

Laughing at mistakes can lengthen your life. Laughing at your wife's mistakes can shorten it.



A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it



9 OUT OF 10 HUSBANDS AGREE THAT THEIR WIFE IS ALWAYS RIGHT. THE 10TH ONE DISAPPEARED AND HASN'T BEEN HEARD FROM.

grumpy chickens



OK, hear me out. Why doesn't someone make a "candy necklace for seniors, but with Tums and Ibuprofen?"



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### ANSWERS TO OLD GEEZER QUIZ (from Page 4-5)

1. c) Fender skirts, attached to the rear fenders, covered fully half the wheel streamlining the car.
2. a) Blue
3. a) Emergency brake.
4. b) PF Flyers.
5. b) It was November 3, 1948, when Truman upset Republican Thomas Dewey in the first postwar presidential election.
6. b) Sticky fly paper hanging from kitchen ceilings.
7. b) Movie stars.
8. c) Girdles and crinoline petticoats.
9. b) "Good night, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are."
10. a) "cause I eats me spinach"
11. b) Rare hamburger or steak with tomato and lettuce.
12. c) Building toy structures.
13. a) The parents in a popular TV series called "Leave it to Beaver."
14. c) Children's play.
15. a) Baseball cards in the spokes.
16. a) 1914
17. a) Getting picked last.
18. b) Soap.
19. a) Kill someone.
20. c) 1957 Ford Thunderbird.

### SCORING

**17 – 20 correct:** You are not only older than dirt, but obviously gifted with mind bloat. Now if you could only find those glasses of yours.

**12 – 16 correct:** Not quite dirt yet, but your mind is definitely muddy, ready to muck up others.

**0 – 11 correct:** You are one sad excuse of a geezer.



Parking will be a nightmare at my next class reunion!

### Just Curious

I always wondered what my parents did to avoid boredom before the internet.

I asked my 17 brothers and sisters and they didn't know either.



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**WHEN EACH MOMENT COUNTS**

## ACHTUNG!



Das machine is nicht fur  
gerfingerpoken und  
mittengraben.

Ist easy schnappen der  
springenwerk und blowen  
fusen und poppencorken  
mit spitzensparken.

Ist nicht fur gewerken by  
das dumbkopf or das  
rubbernecken sightseer.

Keepen sein hands in der  
pockets.

Relaxen and gazen at der  
blinkenlights.

## SIMPLE FORMULA FOR LIVING

Live beneath your means.  
Return everything you borrow.  
Stop blaming other people.  
Admit it when you make a mistake.  
Give clothes not worn to charity.  
Do something nice and try not to get caught.  
Listen more; talk less.  
Every day take a 30 minute walk.  
Strive for excellence, not perfection.  
Be on time. Don't make excuses.  
Don't argue. Get organized.  
Be kind to unkind people.  
Let someone cut ahead of you in line.  
Take time to be alone.  
Cultivate good manners.  
Be humble.  
Realize and accept that life isn't fair.  
Know when to keep your mouth shut.  
Go on an entire day without criticizing anyone.  
Learn from the past. Plan for the future.  
Live in the present.  
Don't sweat the small stuff.  
It's all small stuff.

becomingminimalist

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In 1957 I was riding my bike,  
crashed and scraped my knee.

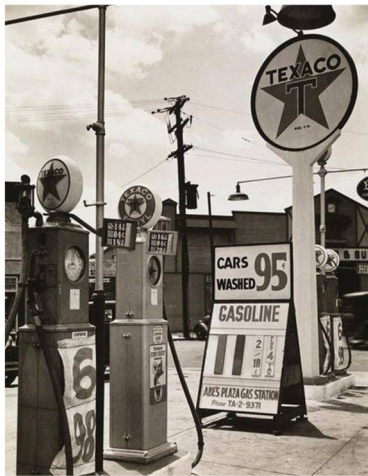
I'm telling you now because  
we didn't have social media  
back then.

I wouldn't worry about your smartphone  
and TV spying on you.

Your vacuum cleaner has been  
gathering dirt on you for years!



## What's the Cheapest Gas You Remember?

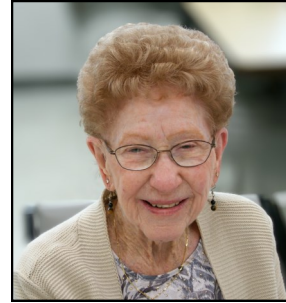


# Milestones



**Jack Finley**

Aug 10, 1928—96 years  
Parma



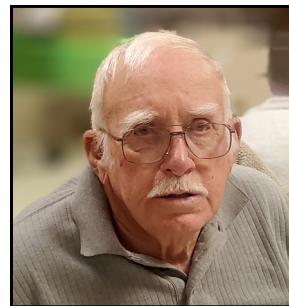
**Rusty Alcorn**

Aug 10, 1933—91 years  
Nampa



**Shirley Carl**

Aug 24, 1934—90 years  
Nampa



**Don Roark**

Aug 28, 1944—80 years  
Caldwell Senior Center



**Barbara Kerr**

Aug 2, 1949—75 years  
Melba Valley SC

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Canyon Aug 2024

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**Patty Farrell**

Aug 23, 1954—70 years  
Kuna



**Marly Rickard**

Aug 26, 1954—70 years  
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