

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

### A Flat Tire and a Glass of Water

One hot summer day a man saw an old lady stranded on the side of the road. He could see she needed help, so he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His old Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her.

She looked worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He could see that she was frightened, standing out there in the heat. He said, "I'm here to help you, ma'am. Why don't you wait in the car where it's cool? By the way, my name is Bryan Anderson." All she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough.

Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt. As he was tightening up the lug nuts, she rolled down the window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from Denver and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid.

Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. The lady asked how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped.

Bryan never thought twice about being paid. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need and, God knows, there were plenty who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way.

He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance they needed and, Bryan added, "And think of me."

*(Continued on Page 2)*



### A Nation's Strength

*By William Ralph Emerson*



What makes a nation's pillars high  
And its foundations strong?  
What makes it mighty to defy  
The foes that round it throng?

It is not gold. Its kingdoms grand  
Go down in battle shock;  
Its shafts are laid on sinking sand,  
Not on abiding rock.

Is it the sword? Ask the red dust  
Of empires passed away; The blood has  
turned their stones to rust,  
Their glory to decay.

And is it pride? Ah, that bright crown  
Has seemed to nations sweet;  
But God has struck its luster down  
In ashes at his feet.

Not gold but only men can make  
A people great and strong;  
Men who for truth and honor's sake  
Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work  
while others sleep,  
Who dare while others fly...  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.



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### Keep Swimming!

During a brutal study at Harvard in the 1950s, Dr. Curt Richter placed rats in a pool of water to test how long they could tread water.

On average they'd give up and sink after 15 minutes.

But right before they gave up due to exhaustion, the researchers would pluck them out, dry them off, let them rest for a few minutes - and put them back in for a second round.

In this second try - how long do you think they lasted? Remember - they had just swam until failure only a few short minutes ago.

How long do you think?  
Another 15 minutes? 10 minutes? 5 minutes?

No! 60 hours!

That's not an error. That's right! 60 hours of swimming.

The conclusion drawn was that since the rats BELIEVED that they would eventually be rescued, they could push their bodies way past what they previously thought impossible.

I will leave you with this: If hope can cause exhausted rats to swim for that long, what could a belief in yourself and your abilities, do for you?

Remember what you're capable of. Remember why you're here. Keep swimming.

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### A Flat Tire and a Glass of Water *(Continued from page 1)*

He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a hot and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home just as the sun began to set.

A few miles down the road, the lady saw a small cafe. She went in to get a bite to eat before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant inside.

The waitress came over and brought her a glass of cold water. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn't erase.

The lady noticed the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so kind to a stranger.

Then she remembered Bryan. After the lady finished her meal, she paid with a hundred-dollar bill. While the waitress went to get change, the old lady slipped right out the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back.

The waitress wondered where she went so quickly. Then she noticed something was written on the napkin. There were tears in her eyes when she read what the lady wrote: "You don't owe me anything. I have been there too. Somebody once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here is what you do: Do not let this chain of kindness end with you." Under the napkin were four more \$100 bills.

Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through the rest of the day. That night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could the lady have known how much she and her husband needed it? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard.

She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a soft kiss and whispered soft and low, "Everything's going to be all right. I love you, Bryan Anderson."

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## Mistaken Identity

The light turned yellow just in front of him. He did the right thing and stopped at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman behind him was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer.

The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. She was shocked!

The officer loaded her in his patrol car and took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed and placed in a holding cell.



After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door.

She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, giving the guy in front of you the finger and yelling at him.

"I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally ..... I assumed you had stolen the car."

## Just Being Frank

Mildred, the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her extra-curricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

She made a mistake, however, when she accused, Frank, a new member, of being a drunk after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. (He was actually next door at the coffee shop).

At church that Sunday, she emphatically told as many as she could that everyone seeing his truck there would know what he was doing!

Frank overheard her, stared at her for a moment, and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend or deny. He said nothing.



Later that evening, Frank quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred's house ... and left it there all night.

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English is a difficult language.  
It can be understood  
through tough thorough  
thought, though.

## Cop Talk

These are actual comments made by Georgia State Troopers that were taken off their car videos:

1. "You know, stop lights don't come any redder than the one you just went through."
2. "Relax, the handcuffs are tight because they're new. They'll stretch after you wear them a while."
3. "If you take your hands off the car, I'll make your birth certificate a worthless document."
4. "If you run, you'll only go to jail tired."
5. "Can you run faster than 1200 feet per second? Because that's the speed of the bullet that will be chasing you."
6. "You don't know how fast you were going? I guess that means I can write anything I want to on the ticket, huh?"
7. "Yes, sir, you can talk to the shift supervisor, but I don't think it will help. Oh, did I mention that I'm the shift supervisor?"
8. "Warning! You want a warning? O.K, I'm warning you not to do that again or I'll give you another ticket."
9. "The answer to this last question will determine whether you are drunk or not. Was Mickey Mouse a cat or a dog?"
10. "Fair? You want me to be fair? Listen, fair is a place where you go to ride on rides, eat cotton candy and corn dogs and step in monkey poop."
11. "Yeah, we have a quota. Two more tickets and my wife gets a toaster oven."
12. "In God we trust; all others we run through NCIC." ( National Crime Information Center )
13. "Just how big were those 'two beers' you say you had?"
14. "No sir, we don't have quotas anymore. We used to, but now we're allowed to write as many tickets as we can."
15. "I'm glad to hear that the Chief (of Police) is a personal friend of yours. So you know someone who can post your bail."  
AND THE WINNER IS....
16. "You didn't think we give pretty women tickets? You're right, we don't. Sign here."



## FUN WITH ENGLISH

English is the only language  
where you DRIVE IN  
PARKWAYS and PARK IN  
DRIVEWAYS.

It is also the only language  
where you RECITE IN A PLAY  
and PLAY IN A RECITAL.

Your FINGERS HAVE  
FINGERTIPS but your TOES  
DON'T HAVE TOETIPS,

Yet you can TIPTOE but you  
can't TIPFINGER.

The word QUEUE is just a Q  
followed by four silent letters.

JAIL and PRISON are synonyms  
but JAILER and PRISONER are  
antonyms.

When you transport something  
by CAR, it's called a SHIPMENT  
but when you transport  
something by SHIP it's called  
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a tomato is a fruit . . .  
Wisdom is not putting it  
in a fruit salad.**

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### Ireland Calling

An old man was very ill  
and nearing his final hours.  
He noticed the aroma of apple  
pies coming from the kitchen.

With his last bit of energy,  
the old man pulled himself slowly  
out from his bed, across the floor  
to the stairs, and down the stairs  
to the kitchen.

*Ireland Calling*

His wife was just taking the apple  
pies from the oven.

*Ireland Calling*

With his last bit of energy,  
he reached for a pie.

His wife tapped the back of  
his hand, and said,  
"Leave them alone, they're  
for the funeral!"

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## Milestones



Arvid & Pearl Kreps  
June 4, 1954—67 yrs  
Nampa



Bill & Judy Billings  
July 30, 1959—62 years  
Caldwell Senior Center



### Older Than Dirt Quiz

How many of these do you remember?

- ◇ Party telephone lines
- ◇ 33/45/78 LPs
- ◇ Candy cigarettes
- ◇ Changing TV channels manually
- ◇ Making homemade bread
- ◇ Wringer washing machines
- ◇ Drive-in Movies
- ◇ Poodle skirts
- ◇ Black and white TVs
- ◇ Wooden clothespins
- ◇ Bank account booklets
- ◇ Library cards inside books
- ◇ Canning fruit
- ◇ One-room schoolhouses
- ◇ Not having to lock your front door
- ◇ Drinking from the hose

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## Gone Fishin'

After 35 years of marriage, a husband and wife went into counseling.

When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the years they had been married.

On and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured.

Finally, after allowing this for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, he embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched - with a raised eyebrow.

The woman shut up and quietly sat down as though in a daze.

The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least 3 times a week. Can you do this?"

"Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I go fishin'."

## Advice 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 people. 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 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 small stuff.



**DEAR ABBY:** A long time ago, you had a definition of "maturity" that I kept and liked a lot. I can't find it now. Can you dig it up, please? - Mother in Osceola, Ark.

**DEAR MOTHER:** Consider it dug. It was penned by my mother:

This is maturity: To be able to stick with a job until it's finished; to do one's duty without being supervised; to be able to carry money without spending it; and to be able to bear injustice without wanting to get even.

## Nursing and Rehabilitation



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**You don't need a parachute  
to skydive.  
You only need a parachute  
to skydive twice.**

If I agreed with you,  
we'd both be wrong.



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#### DEAR ANN LANDERS:

I am an English teacher and my students are reading George Orwell's "1984." I am having a difficult time explaining communism, socialism, and fascism without giving a time-consuming history lesson. I recall you printed a humorous explanation of these concepts using cows. Will you please print it again? I'm sure it will kick-start a lively class discussion.  
— *A Teacher in Mississippi*



#### DEAR TEACHER:

It's an oldie, but a goodie. Here it is: ISMS

**Socialism:** You have two cows. Give one to your neighbor.

**Communism:** You have two cows. Give both cows to the government, and they may give you some milk.

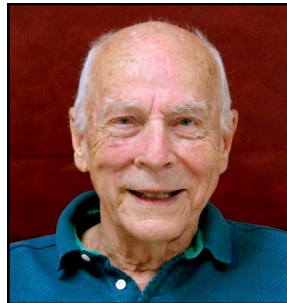
**Fascism:** You have two cows. You give all the milk to the government, and the government sells it.

**Nazism:** You have two cows. The government shoots you and takes both cows.

**Anarchism:** You have two cows. Keep both cows, shoot the government agent and steal your neighbor's cow.

**Capitalism:** You have two cows. Sell one and buy a bull.

## Milestones

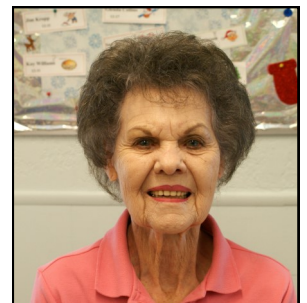


Dick Kneidl  
July 13, 1922—99 years  
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Betty Johnston  
July 8, 1926—95 years  
Parma Senior Center



Opal Gulley  
July 14, 1926—95 years  
Caldwell Senior Center



Don Cowley  
July 31, 1929—92 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



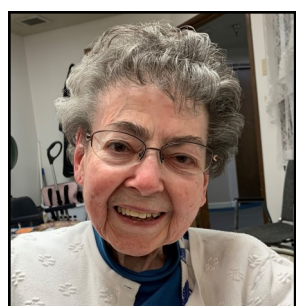
Avenell Means  
March 15, 1931—90 years  
Parma Senior Center



Betty Kreysig  
July 11, 1936—85 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



Elvin Clarkson  
July 23, 1936—85 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



Rachel Buckmaster  
July 25, 1936—85 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge

**Since light travels  
faster than sound,  
some people appear bright  
until you hear them speak!**

#### SENIOR BUMPER STICKER OF THE DAY:

**I'm speeding so I can get there  
before I forget where I am going.**