

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)

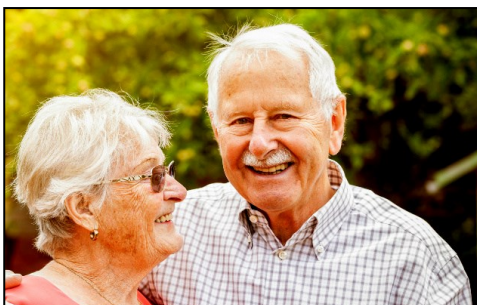


**God Bless America,
 Land that I love,
 Stand beside her
 and guide her
 Through the night
 with a light
 from above.**

**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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Living Flag

In 1918, ten thousand sailors at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station in Illinois formed a mammoth USA flag.



Domestic Dispute



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."



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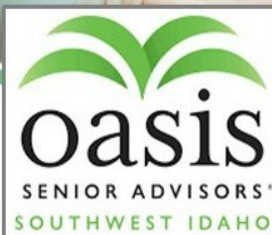
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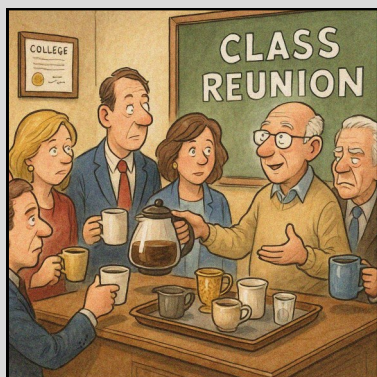
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Choose the Coffee, Not the Cup



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 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.

"i before e"

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

Weird.



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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!"**



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



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."

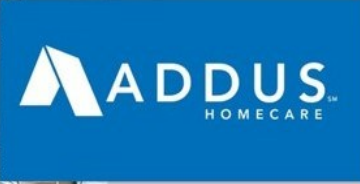
By the time she got to me, the movie was starting, and I was trying to see around her. I was a little impatient with her, so I said, "Couldn't you have done this a little earlier?"

"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.

Mrs. Ellis still comes in on Tuesdays. "Found one!" she'll say, waving a fresh note someone left for her.

Funny, isn't it? How words meant to heal others somehow heal us too.



MY FACE IN THE MIRROR ISN'T WRINKLED OR DRAWN, MY HOUSE ISN'T DIRTY, THE COBWEBS ARE GONE. MY GARDEN LOOKS LOVELY AND SO DOES MY LAWN. I THINK I MIGHT NEVER PUT MY GLASSES BACK ON!



The fact that my body cracks like a glow stick whenever I move, yet refuses to actually glow is very disappointing!

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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."



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It's my first week working at the
bicycle factory,
and already they've made me
their spokes person.

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!"

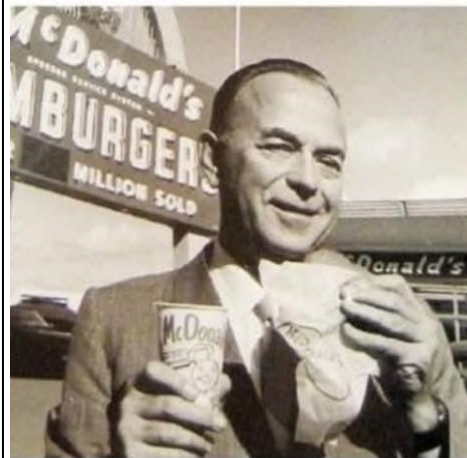
The boy looked up, "Really?"



"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."

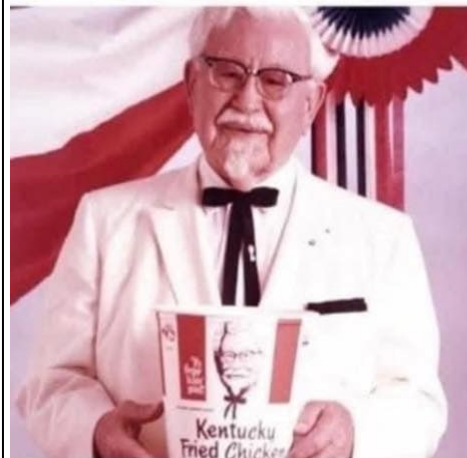
It's never too late.



**Ray Kroc -
Joined McDonald's at 52**



**Henry Ford -
Started Ford at 40**



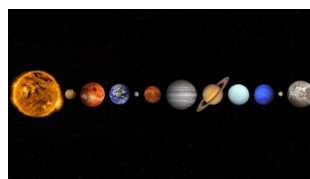
**Harland Sanders -
Started KFC at 65**



**Richard Samela -
Won an argument with his wife at 54**

"Do Not Touch"

must be one of the scariest
things to read in Braille!



My friend and I were trying to memorize
the names of the planets for a test
tomorrow, when all of a sudden

My Very Elegant Mother Just Served Us Nachos Perfectly.

English Language Game:
Place the word "only"
anywhere in this sentence:

She told him that she loved him.



If you think English isn't a weird language, just remember that read and lead rhyme, and read and lead rhyme. But read and lead don't rhyme, and neither do read and lead.

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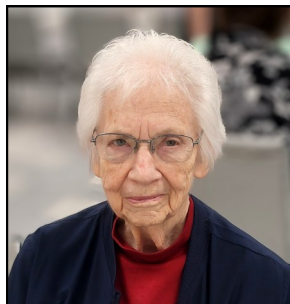
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*"May you live as long as you want,
and never want as long as you live."
is an Irish toast.*

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

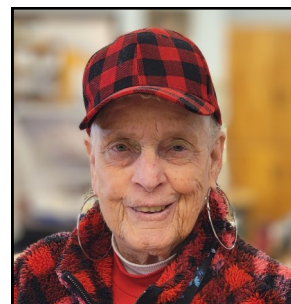
Milestones



Lorraine White
April 24, 1930—95 years
Nampa Senior Center



Anne Thiel
May 15, 1940—85 years
Melba Valley Senior Center



Urte Hammons
July 16, 1945—80 yrs
Parma Senior Center



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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.



Here's the problem I have with fruit:
it's very inconsistent.
Some apples taste great, some don't
have any taste. Sometimes grapes
taste great, sometimes they don't.
You know what's the same every
time? OREOS!