

Jokes, Riddles and Stories - Oh My!



HAVE A GREAT DAY!

THE LOCAL

See Spot Run!

To be able to read. What a joy! It probably started with your mom and dad reading to you as a child. Perhaps it was bedtime stories. Kindergarten was another place where children enjoyed a story time session. And of course the more formal learning came in school.

Today libraries often have storytime hours where volunteers or employees read to young children. I wasn't old enough for the Mc Guffey readers but I did get my share of the Dick and Jane books. *Dick and Jane are the two main characters created by Zerna Sharp for a series of basal readers written by William S. Gray to teach children to read. They first appeared in the Elson-Gray Readers in 1930 and continued in a subsequent series of books through the final version in 1965. Wikipedia* These light hearted books took you through the common nouns, action verbs and simple adjectives in the daily happenings of Dick and Jane, their dog Spot and all of their friends.

As we get older our love of reading increases as we have a little more time to spend on this delightful pleasure that takes us out of the cares of today and into the adventures of another time. Many adults today still go to sleep with a good book in their hands. My grandmother would read until the book hit her nose and that was the signal that it was time to turn off the light and go to sleep. Book clubs seem to be flourishing today. Join one by checking into your library or senior center. Many of us have trouble reading small type, at least it looks small to us. Many library books are now printed in large type like this.

Type size 16, font is Times New Roman.

Also available are eBooks in which the type sizes can be enlarged to make your reading easier. Many libraries will loan out reading tablets to enable you to download your favorite eBook. I am currently reading Abir Mukerjee's series set in 1920's Calcutta featuring Police detective Captain Sam Wyndham and Sergeant "Surrender-Not" Banerjee. Hop on your magic carpet and fly into another era with me. . .



Don't Miss it! - Save the Date



Join us for one of Livingston County's finest events - The Hartland Polo Classic! Witness the thundering excitement of live polo and enjoy a spectacular summer event.

Can't make it to the Kentucky Derby, well you're in luck. Join us for our two day event featuring live polo and all the festivities of being at the famous Churchill Downs track.

Make your reservations now by using the QR code at the bottom of the page. Now let's take a look at all of the festivities over the two day stretch.

Saturday Highlights of Polo Classic include:

- Live polo match
- Strolling catered dinner -professionally catered with a variety of choices.
- Bar that includes, beer, wine, seltzer and bourbon
- Best hat contest during halftime
- Halftime divot stomp
- Sweets & Treats
- Late night snack
- Entertainment and much more!

Sunday Highlights of the Polo Party include:

- Live polo match
- Food Trucks - Beer tent
- Kid Corral activity area
- Halftime divot stomp
- Entertainment and much more!





The Laughing Place

A **duck** is standing next to a busy road, cars zooming past while he waits for a break in traffic. A chicken walks up to him and says, "Don't do it, man. You'll never hear the end of it."



Murphy's Law says that anything that can go wrong will go wrong. Cole's law is thinly sliced cabbage.

I can't take my dog to the park because the ducks keep trying to bite him. I guess that's what I get for buying a pure bread dog.

George Clooney, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Matthew McConaughey get together to make a movie. Clooney says, "I'll direct." DiCaprio says, "I'll act." McConaughey says, "I'll write, I'll write, I'll write."



If you have 10 apples in one hand and 14 oranges in the other, what do you have? . . . Really, really big hands!

A **man walks** into a bar and there is a bunch of meat hanging from the ceiling. The man asks the bartender, "What's the deal with the meat?" The bartender explains that if you can jump and slap a piece of meat, you get to drink free for the night, but if you miss, you must buy drinks for everyone in the bar. The man responds, "No thanks, the steaks are too high."



Visiting Annapolis, I noticed several plebes on their hands and knees holding pencils and clipboards. "What are they doing?" I asked our tour guide. "Each year, the upper-classmen ask the freshmen how many bricks it took to finish paving this courtyard," he said. "So what's the answer?" my friend asked. The guide replied, "One."



Two regulars are sitting at a bar when one of them casually points to a couple of drunks across from them. "That's us in ten years," he says. His friend takes a sip from his beer, sets it down on the bar, turns to his friend, and slurs, "That's a mirror."

After my kids bragged about what levels they'd attained in a video game, I decided to give it a try. Soon, it was my turn to boast that, in spite of being a newbie, I'd already managed to get to level 11. That's when my youngest son pointed out that the "11" I was seeing on the screen was actually the game's pause button.



ENTYMOLOGY - THE HISTORY OF WORDS

Pipe Dreams

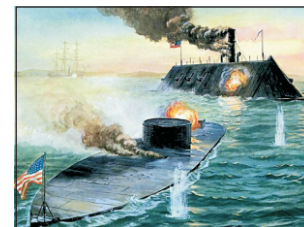
Meaning: A hope or plan that is unlikely to ever be realized.



Origin: The term originates from the 19th century. People who smoked opium pipes would often experience vivid, unrealistic dreams as a side effect. Therefore, their dreams, or "pipe dreams," were seen as unattainable and not based on reality.

Iron Clad Contract

Meaning: Something so strong it could not be broken.



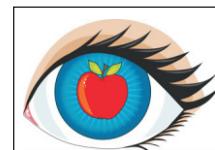
Origin: This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War -- the Monitor and the Merrimack.

The Battle of Hampton Roads, also referred to as the Battle of the Monitor and Merrimack (rebuilt and renamed as the CSS Virginia) or the **Battle of Ironclads**, was a naval battle during the American Civil War. The two ironclads fought for about three hours, with neither able to inflict significant damage on the other. The duel ended indecisively. The battle received worldwide attention, having immediate effects on navies around the world. The preeminent naval powers, Great Britain and France, halted further construction of wooden-hulled ships, and others followed suit.

Submitted by Cliff R.

The Apple of My Eye

Meaning: is a precious, cherished, and beloved person or thing; someone or something that is treasured and adored.



Origin: The round pupil of the eye was seen as quite significant in ancient times.

It was believed to be the center of vision and of extreme importance to our body, health, and well-being. Some may have even believed it was the seat of the soul. Therefore, the pupil, or "the apple of the eye" was something seen as precious and worth guarding and protecting.

Soda Jerk

Meaning - is an American term used to refer to a person — typically a young man — who would operate the soda fountain in a drugstore, preparing and serving soda drinks and ice cream sodas



Origin - The person who was in charge of making and serving the soda in a pharmacy was the soda clerk but in order to make the soda he had to jerk a handle to get the tasty liquid out. Similar to a bartender serving draft beer. Because of the jerking motion, people began to call the clerk a jerk, and eventually, the name stuck.

Bienvenido, Willkommen, Witaj!

Is there a more comforting word than WELCOME? We use it to bring people into our homes, our churches and anywhere we might be going that we have not gone before and might be unsure of the feelings that lie behind that closed door. "Welcome" – a word that exudes warmth, hospitality, and a sense of belonging. And what better way to convey this sentiment than with a humble yet essential item – the Welcome Mat.

As early as 3000 BCE, Mesopotamian households would keep mats made of woven straw stationed right outside their front doors. These mats held the crucial purpose of cleaning the sandals and feet of visitors before they entered the home.



The symbolic meaning runs deeper. Extending a mat signified that guests were welcome in the home. It represented care, respect and hospitality toward visitors

During the Middle Ages in Europe, the precursor to the decorative welcome mat emerged in the form of hard, dirt surfaces stationed right inside front doors.

These "threshing floors" served the critical purpose of removing mud and grime from the shoes of all who entered. Made of packed dirt, stone, or in some cases wood, these floors allowed residents and guests alike to stamp off the muck they tracked in before proceeding into the home's interior rooms. The turn of the 20th century brought about a decorative revolution in welcome mat design and purpose.

No longer were mats purely functional tools for wiping dirty shoes, but a means of expressing sentiment and decoration.



Further advances in manufacturing during the 21st century allowed colorful and ornamental mats to be mass-produced and adopted as decorative art for the first time. Welcome mats have two basic functions - 1) They are there to remind you to respect the home by cleaning your footwear before entering and 2) That this home welcomes visitors and that love lives within. Let's make sure our personal "Welcome Mat" is always extended.

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LABORATORY JOKES

JOERG R. MGR

There's a fine line between a numerator and a denominator. Only a fraction of people will find this funny.

"A programmer's wife asks him, 'Would you go to the store and pick up a loaf of bread? And if they have eggs, get a dozen.' The programmer goes to the store and returns home with 12 loaves of bread. 'They had eggs,' he explained."

The optimist says: "The glass is half full." The pessimist says: "The glass is half empty." The engineer says: "The glass is twice as big as it needs to be."

Limerick of the Month

There once was a lady named Jane
Who had a rather cute frame
Did yoga during the day
Stretched and breathed every way
Just to keep her trim body the same!



? RIDDLE ME THIS ?



1. - You want to boil a two-minute egg. If you only have a three-minute timer (hourglass), a four-minute timer, and a five-minute timer, how can you boil the egg for only two minutes?
2. - If a rooster laid a brown egg and a white egg, what kind of chicks would hatch?
3. - I'm orange, I wear a green hat and I sound like a parrot. What am I?
4. - Who makes it, has no need of it. Who buys it, has no use for it. Who uses it can neither see nor feel it. What is it?
5. - I make a loud sound when I'm changing. When I do change, I get bigger but weigh less. What am I?
6. - Two girls were born to the same mother, on the same day, at the same time, in the same month and year, and yet they're not twins. How can this be?

Answers on Back Page

We'll email you The LOCAL

For a lot of reasons you may miss a copy of **The LOCAL**. I will guarantee you get yours by just e-mailing me at **wizardpmb@provide.net** and I will send it out to you each month. We appreciate all of the kind comments our readers have made and their contributions to our publication.

If you would like to post The LOCAL on your website, just send me a note and I'll send you the link.



Ralph LeRoy - Editor



Paul Gauguin 1843-1903



“When the Paris stock exchange crashed in 1882, a stockbroker named Paul Gauguin found himself without a living and unable to support his wife and five children. Through the following years he slipped deeper and deeper into debt, finally deciding this was the time to make a career of his passion for painting. Gauguin began his artistic career with the Impressionists in Paris, but during the late 1880s he fled farther and farther from urban civilization in search of a paradise where he could create pure, “primitive” art. Gauguin pioneered the Symbolist art movement in France.

In 1891, abandoning his family, he fled on his own to Tahiti. In Gauguin's imagination it was a flight to an exotic paradise. But in the late nineteenth century, the unspoiled natural primitiveness of Tahiti survived only in colonized areas resembling reservations. Gauguin settled in one of the native villages and painted to ward off his disappointment.

Although Paul Gauguin's controversial art career was relatively short, in just thirty years he created highly original masterpieces in a wide range of styles and mediums. He painted Impressionist landscapes, still lifes, and interiors heavily influenced by Pissarro and Cezanne. His work ranged from sculpture and carved wood reliefs, and ceramics, to Cloissonist painting, with its firm outlines, to Synthetist painting, with its broadly generalized forms, to Symbolist painting, with its mysterious contrasts.

Gauguin's career included a wide variety of art traditions: folk art, caricature, medieval sculpture and stained glass, Japanese printmaking and decorative arts, Persian manuscripts and textiles, Far Eastern sculpture, and the so-called primitive arts of the South Seas. Yet he seldom lost sight of the Old Masters such as Caravaggio, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Delacroix, and Ingres.

In 1888, Gauguin moved to Arles, France where he joined Vincent van Gogh. Gauguin encouraged Van Gogh to paint as he himself did, from memory and imagination rather than from nature. Their collaboration ended abruptly when Van Gogh had a mental breakdown and cut off part of his left ear.

With financial success continuing to elude him in France, Gauguin decided to return to Tahiti permanently in 1895. He was suffering from syphilis by this time, yet was able to paint his masterpiece, *Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going.* (Seen Below)

This monumental painting served as a culmination of his art. He left in 1901 for the Marquesan island of Hiva Oa, still searching for his lost paradise. He died there in 1903.



Tell Me About Soda Fountains

There we were the five of us sitting at the soda fountain. We had just come back from a choose up game of baseball at the field near the end of our street. We had taken a short break laying down on the field grass and watching the clouds form animals as they floated by. Now we had just ordered our drinks, a lemon phosphate, a cherry coke, a cream soda, a chocolate phosphate and a malted. I remember the guy spritzing in the soda water into the flavored syrup and the special sound it made. The whirrrr of the Hamilton Blender made another memorable sound as the malted was created. And boy - did they taste good.



Little did we know that 50 years earlier druggists were mixing tonics for various ills and sicknesses with the sweet taste of coke. As the carbonation process was developed through several stages and inventors, the pharmacy realized it could make a profit selling sweet drinks using the carbonation process.. Various flavors of syrups were developed along with root beers. The invention of the freezer and the ability to freeze ice cream enabled the pharmacy to offer cones, shakes, malts, sundaes and combinations of all. Soon the pharmacy or at least the bar (now called the soda fountain) where the concoctions were made was the place to be. When food was added it really became the young persons gathering place. It was said that straws were invented because it was really laborious to clean the ladies lipstick off the glasses!

Newer generations will remember the movie “Grease” with John Travolta, ONJ (who?) And the soda shop scenes. So we finished our drinks skimmed through the dime comic books and made our way homewards. Just the five of us having a great day - kind of like the one Nat King Cole would sing about some 20 years in the future Those Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer. Ahhh the good Old days!

Riddle Answers 1. - Once the water is boiling, turn the three-minute timer and five-minute timer over. When the three-minute timer runs out, put the egg in the boiling water. When the five-minute timer runs out, two minutes have elapsed and it is time to take the egg out of the water. You don't need the four-minute timer for this riddle.

2. - NONE, Roosters don't lay eggs. **3.** - A carrot.

4. - A coffin. **5.** - Popcorn. **6.** - The two babies are two of a set of triplets.