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**PRINT VERSIONS OF TODAY’S PREP:**

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### **WELCOME TO THE SHOW!**

Welcome to (THE JOCK SHOW), rated PG-13. Parental guidance is suggested for anyone with an I.Q. over 13.

### **PRESIDENTIAL WIT & WISDOM ([click here to buy the book](#))**

*(None on the weekends or holidays.)*

“I just received the following wire from my generous Daddy: “Dear Jack, Don’t buy a single vote more than is necessary. I’ll be damned if I’m going to pay for a landslide.” – John F. Kennedy

### **BIBLE VERSE OF THE DAY**

In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.  
-- *Ephesians 1:7*

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. — [Hebrews 12:2](#)

After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me."  
— [John 13:21](#)

### **HEARTLIGHT DAILY VERSE, PRAYER & THOUGHT**

*(From VerseOfTheDay.com)*

Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. — *Philippians 4:9*

Thought: As we seek to pass on the faith to our children, our friends, our younger spiritual "children" in the faith, we must remember Paul's example. He taught the truth; passed on the truth that had been revealed and passed on to him; he displayed that truth in his life; Paul then called on the people he was mentoring to put this truth into practice in their daily lives. This would enable them to fully experience the presence of God in their lives and find the peace that God so longs to give them.

Prayer: Father, help me be a better teacher in word and deed as I seek to influence those around me, those who need my help in their Christian walk, and those in my family seeking to grow in your grace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The Thoughts and Prayers for Today's Verse are written by Phil Ware. You can email questions or comments to [phil@heartlight.org](mailto:phil@heartlight.org).

### **“BIRTHDAY VERSE” OF THE DAY (*The chapter and verse correspond to the month and day!*)**

**Matthew 4:4 NIV** = Jesus answered, It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

### **TODAY IS WEDNESDAY – APRIL 04, 2018**

*(NOTE: Some holidays may be duplicated due to various calendars reporting conflicting dates)*

**WEIRD, WACKY, STRANGE, ZANY, ODD, BIZARRE, QUIRKY, UNUSUAL HOLIDAYS!  
THERE ARE ONLY 264 SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL NEXT CHRISTMAS.**

**HATE WEEK** begins today, according to George Orwell's novel, *1984*. \*\*\*Gee, there's a great way to start the day, eh?

Today is **PIGS BEAT IT DAY**. In 1995 Reuter news service reported that a farmer in Karnataka, India, scared wild pigs away from his crops by playing Michael Jackson tapes. \*\*\*It worked on his neighbors too.

Today is **NATIONAL ENJOY GAINING A POUND DAY**. \*\*\*Right, like that's ever a problem the rest of the year. Gaining weight IS the enjoyable part! Double cheese and pepperoni pizza, 2 pounds of chocolate malt balls in one sitting, 12 cans of soda in a day... heck, how can you NOT enjoy gaining weight! It's trying to LOSE that weight that a real bummer.

Today is **NATIONAL WORKPLACE NAPPING DAY**, a time to promote napping where you work. \*\*\*I know we had this yesterday as well, but I'm still sleepy.

Today is **HOKEY POKEY DAY**. In 1996 Larry LaPrise died at age 83 in Wendell, Idaho. In the late 1940s, he wrote "The Hokey Pokey," still played, danced, and skated by children throughout the world. The first group to do "The Hokey Pokey" were patrons of an Idaho ski lodge. \*\*\*Wouldn't it be sad if you find out that the Hokey Pokey IS what it's all about?

### **TODAY IS ALSO...**

Childhelp National Day of Hope  
International Day for Mine Awareness & Assistance in Mine Action  
Jeep 4x4 Day  
National Sexual Assault Awareness Day of Action  
National Walking Day  
Whole Grain Sampling Day  
Paraprofessional Appreciation Day  
Victims of Violence Wholly Day  
Vitamin C Day  
World Rat Day

**COMING UP NEXT** (*Just a list, we are not endorsing the holidays posted below. Find more holidays and link to their websites at [BrownieLocks.com](http://BrownieLocks.com)*)

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 05**

Gold Star Spouses Day  
National Fun at Work Day  
National Alcohol Screening Day  
National Burrito Day  
National Deep Dish Pizza Day  
Read A Road Map Day

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 06**

Army Day  
Charlie the Tuna Day  
Drowsy Driver Awareness Day  
Hospital Admitting Clerks Day  
Hostess Twinkie Day  
International Day of Sport for Development and Peace  
National Pie Day  
National Kids Yoga Day  
National Student Athlete Day  
National Walk To Work Day  
New Beers Eve  
Tartan Day  
Teflon Day  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Day

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 07**

Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide  
Every Day is Tag Day  
International Beaver Day  
International Snailpapers Day  
International Pillow Fight Day  
Metric System Day  
National Beer Day  
National Girl Me Too Day  
National Handmade Day  
National Love Our Children Day  
No Housework Day  
Tangible Karma Day  
World Health Day (UN)  
World Health Organization Day

**SUNDAY, APRIL 08**

Buddah Day (Historical Birth Date)  
Draw A Bird Day  
International Roma Day  
National Dog Fighting Awareness Day  
Trading Cards For Grown-ups Day

**MONDAY, APRIL 09**

Appomattox Day  
Jenkins Ear Day  
Jumbo Day (Elephants came to US and created the word for "jumbo" meaning "big" in our language.)  
National Cherish An Antique Day  
National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day  
Winston Churchill Day

**TUESDAY, APRIL 10**

ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Day  
Equal Pay Day  
Free Cone Day (Ben & Jerrys)  
National Be Kind To Lawyers Day  
National Farm Animals Day  
National Library Workers Day  
National Library Day  
National Sibling Day  
Salvation Army Founder's Day  
Safety Pin Day

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**

Barbershop Quartet Day  
International "Louie Louie" Day  
National Bookmobile Day  
National Pet Day  
National Teach Children To Save Day  
Submarine Day  
World Parkinson's Disease Day

**ON THIS DAY**

**1581:** Francis Drake completed a circumnavigation of the world. \*\*\*Although, there were some opposed to the idea and felt circumnavigation should be a family choice.

**1841:** President William Henry Harrison received the distinct honor of becoming the first American president to die in office. The even more sad part of this is that he died from pneumonia... after being sworn-in during absolutely horrible weather only a month earlier.

**1877:** The very first private telephone was installed in a home in Boston. \*\*\*It was a great time to have a phone, because telemarketers hadn't been invented yet.

**1915:** McKinley Morganfield was born in Rolling Fork, Mississippi. He became one of the great blues rockers, Muddy Waters, known for "Got My Mojo Working" and "Rolling Stone." He discovered Chuck Berry.

**1938:** After seven years of singing on the radio, Kate Smith began a new noontime talk show.

**1960:** On the same day Elvis Presley recorded "Are You Lonesome Tonight," RCA became the first record company to begin releasing pop singles simultaneously in both mono and stereo. Its first such release was Elvis' "Stuck on You."

**1964:** Twelve of the Billboard Hot 100 songs were by the Beatles, including the top five in order: "Can't Buy Me Love," "Twist and Shout," "She Loves You," "I Want to Hold Your Hand," and "Please Please Me."

**1967:** Johnny Carson quit as host of "The Tonight Show." He returned three weeks later with a \$30,000 a week raise. ([audio clip](#))

**1967:** The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in New York City announced his opposition to the Vietnam War.

**1968:** The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis.

**1974:** Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves tied Babe Ruth's home-run record by hitting his 714th homer in Cincinnati.

**1988:** Prudential Insurance lost \$11-million in loan repayments because a typist left off three zeros at the end of a million dollar figure.

**1992:** Billionaire Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart, died of cancer at 74. His retail store chain helped make him one of the world's richest men.

**1995:** Reuter news service reported that a farmer in Karnataka, India, scared wild pigs away from his crops by playing Michael Jackson tapes.

**1996:** Larry LaPrise died at age 83 in Wendell, Idaho. In the late 1940s, he wrote "The Hokey Pokey," still played, danced, and skated by children throughout the world. The first group to do "The Hokey Pokey" were patrons of an Idaho ski lodge.

**1999:** A tanker-truck overturned near Marlborough, Connecticut, and spilled 3,000 gallons of milk. Nobody cried over it, but firefighters had to spend hours cleaning it up.

**2002:** A 16-year-old bank robber in Rochester, New York, has such poor handwriting the teller couldn't read her note. By the time the teen was handed a bag of money, it was closing time and other employees were locking the doors. The robber wound up trapped in the foyer with the cash, where police captured her.

**2005:** The body of Pope John Paul II lay in state in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome where millions were expected over the next three days. Cause of death for the 84-year-old pontiff was septic shock and cardio-circulatory failure.

### **TODAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY**

**397:** Ambrose of Milan, the most talented bishop of the early church, dies. Biblical exegete, political theorist, master of Latin eloquence, musician, and teacher, he brought Roman Emperor Theodosius I to his knees in repentance after the emperor ordered a massacre of his citizens (This marked the first time the state submitted to the church). But he is perhaps best known for teaching his most famous pupil, Augustine of Hippo.

**1507:** Martin Luther is ordained a priest in Erfurt, Germany.

**1742:** Charles Wesley preaches his famous sermon, "Awake, thou that sleepest," to the University of Oxford. The sermon soon became Methodism's most popular tract.

**1968:** Civil rights leader and Baptist minister Martin Luther King, Jr., is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

## **HOLLYWOOD, SPORTS AND CELEBRITY FIGURE BIRTHDAYS**

- o actress (“Zoey 101”) Jamie Lynn Spears, 27
- o actress (American Pie, Scary Movie 2, Blade: Trinity, “Orange Is The New Black”) Natasha Lyonne, 39
- o actress (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, The Grudge, Scooby-Doo) Sarah Michelle Gellar, 41
- o Magician David Blaine, 45
- o Actor (Saving Private Ryan, We Were Soldiers, Roger Maris in \*61) Barry Pepper, 48
- o Actress (“The Facts of Life”) Nancy McKeon, 52 ([audio clip](#))
- o actor (The Shaggy Dog, Good Night and Good Luck, Gothika, “Ally McBeal”, Iron Man) Robert Downey Jr., 53
- o actor (“Arrested Development”) David Cross, 54
- o actor (The Matrix, Lord of the Rings) Hugo Weaving, 58
- o actress (“Chicago Hope”) Christine Lahti, 68
- o Actor (“Coach,” “The District,” the voice of Mr. Incredible in The Incredibles, TV’s “Parenthood”) Craig T. Nelson, 74 ([audio clip](#))

## **BEE-BOP BIRTHDAYS**

***(Music Artist Birthdays From SongFacts.com)***

- 1914 : Frances Langford  
1915 : [Muddy Waters](#)  
1934 : Clive Davis  
1936 : Margo Sylvia (The Tune Weavers)  
1938 : Michael Parks  
1938 : Norro Wilson  
1939 : [Hugh Masakela](#)  
1940 : Sharon Sheeley  
1941 : Major Lance  
1942 : Kris Jensen  
1948 : Carol Douglas  
1948 : Berry Oakley ([The Allman Brothers Band](#))  
1948 : Pick Withers ([Dire Straits](#))  
1950 : Pip Pyle (Gong, Hatfield and the North, National Health)  
1951 : Steve Gatlin (The Gatlin Brothers)  
1952 : Dave Hill ([Slade](#))  
1952 : [Gary Moore](#) ([Thin Lizzy](#))  
1952 : Pete Haycock ([The Climax Blues Band](#))  
1962 : Craig Adams ([The Cult](#))  
1964 : Kid (Kid 'N Play)  
1966 : Mike Starr ([Alice in Chains](#))  
1972 : Magnus Sveningsson ([The Cardigans](#))  
1972 : [Jill Scott](#)  
1973 : Kelly Price  
1974 : Andre Dyrimple (Soul For Real)

## **SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE (Answering questions that have plagued mankind for minutes!)**

### **Is it true that animals are colorblind?**

You may have heard that a bull never literally "sees red" when the bullfighter waves a cape in his face. It's the movement of the cape that provokes. Animals, after all, are colorblind. Hold on, not so fast. Birds, for instance, have a marked ability to distinguish colors. They need it to spot food, such as berries, on the ground. On the other hand, most creatures of the night—including the ubiquitous house cat—have little sense of color. But they're awfully good at picking up movement. So the next time someone tells you that all animals are color blind, tell them that it's not such a black and white proposition.

## **NEWS KICKERS**

***(None on weekends. Want a customizable version with your specific station tag, FREE? [Email me for more information!](#))***

## **NEW NEWS KICKERS...**

***(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)***

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE: THIS FEATURE WILL BE TAKING A BREAK FROM MARCH 31 THRU APRIL 16. IT WILL RETURN TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018.\*\*\*\*\*

### **NEWS KICKER EVERGREENS...**

*(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

A study finds that tattoos still reduce your chances of getting hired. \*\*\*Especially if your tattoo says "Miley Cyrus Forever".

Do you get sad or depressed when you can't check your Facebook status? You're not alone. Research shows many people feel upset and lonely when they are deprived of access to the Internet. The study revealed that 53% feel upset when denied access and 40% feel lonely if they are unable to go online. \*\*\*It's in moments like these that you need to talk to a friend. Unfortunately, all of mine are online.

Today's sign of the upcoming Apocalypse: there are more payday loan stores in the U.S. than there are McDonald's locations. \*\*\*Well, yeah. How else are we supposed to get money to go to Mickey D's?

A study from the National Institutes of Health says women today take longer to give birth compared with women a half century ago. The typical first-time mother takes 6 1/2 hours to give birth these days. Women fifty years ago labored for just under four hours. \*\*\*But then, fifty years ago women weren't birthing so many morbidly obese babies.

Are kids safer in cars driven by mom and dad, or by grandma and grandpa? Kids may be safest in cars when grandma or grandpa are driving instead of mom or dad, according to study results that even made the researchers do a double-take. "We were surprised to discover that the injury rate was considerably lower in crashes where grandparents were the drivers," said Dr. Fred Henretig, an emergency medicine specialist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the study's lead author. Previous evidence indicates that car crashes are more common in older drivers, mostly those beyond age 65. The study looked at injuries rather than who had more crashes, and found that children's risk for injury was 50 percent lower when riding with grandparents than with parents. \*\*\*My guess would be this is because grandpa and grandma are only driving 13 miles per hour.

### **AS THE JUNGLE TURNS**

*(Not updated on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

**[CLICK HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD WEDNESDAY'S EPISODE**

OPEN: And now, FancyMonkey.com, (Show Name), and (Station Call Letters) bring you As the Jungle Turns! Last time, we found out the Plaid Guy – who all the Razzleflabbins had been terrified of for years, was actually a really nice guy! So nice, in fact, that the Razzleflabbins invited him to the barbecue and to the next day's busy day of playing and singing!

CLOSE: Tune in again next time for another inspiringly inspiring inspiration story from the never-ending deep-jungle soap-opera saga that is, As the Jungle Turns!

*\*\*\*You may simulcast "As the Jungle Turns" on the Internet stream of your live broadcast only. Any other Internet use of "As the Jungle Turns" in whole or part including podcasting of your live broadcast is a violation of copyright law. Thank you for your cooperation on this vitally important issue. If you have any questions, please [e-mail](#) us and ask about "Jungle Jam & Friends the Radio Show" usage.*

### **MOMENT OF DUH**

**Hey, there are free hugs on the streets of China! Who wants one? Apparently, nobody.**

People in China have not warmed up to a "free hugs" campaign aimed at cheering up strangers by hugging them on the street. In fact, the tactic seems so strange that some huggers have been hauled away by police for questioning. The campaign hit the streets of a number of Chinese cities, with participants opening their arms to embrace passers-by and brandishing cards saying "free hugs" and "care from strangers." But in one incident, police moved in and took away four huggers briefly for questioning, seemingly baffled by their wacky, Western-style activities on a busy downtown shopping street.

### **TOP TEN**

**TOP TEN SPRING CLEANING TIPS FOR MEN**

10. Just because something is fuzzy and the kids don't pet it, doesn't mean you should throw it out!--Wait for it to start moving, then kill it, and throw it out!
9. Remove all your old, ratty, FAVORITE shirts from the closet and hide them until your wife has done her spring cleaning, then put them back!
8. Washing and waxing your car IN THE GARAGE isn't technically considered house cleaning!
7. Buying your wife a self-cleaning oven for Mother's Day is a nice gesture, but it shouldn't be considered your share of house cleaning for the next year!
6. Just because the dog doesn't die when drinking from the toilet isn't an indication that the bathroom is clean enough!
5. Contrary to popular male opinion, using car parts as accent pieces in the living room is ALWAYS a fashion faux pas!
4. Posting a "Do Not Touch, Experiment In Progress" sign on the refrigerator door isn't an acceptable compromise to cleaning the fridge.
3. Naming and issuing birth certificates for each dust bunny, in hopes of cashing in on some future novelty item business windfall, isn't being particularly realistic!
2. Most people overlook the sanitizing benefits of flame throwers. Using flame retardant paint on your walls and furniture makes using one of these "crispy cleaners" both fun, and effective!  
And the number one spring cleaning tip for men is:
  1. Start with the most important place first--your heart! Be like David and pray: "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10,NIV)

### **THE FILES OF LAW & DISORDER**

**How would you like to be Hector Hernandez-Graza. Not only did the Colorado man have his car stolen, but police actually fined him too...**

FILE #1: ...Hernandez-Graza left the engine of his Honda running when he went into a shop in the city of Aurora, Colorado. He said he was only gone for three minutes when the 1988 Accord was taken. But after he explained to a police officer that he had left the engine running and the doors unlocked, the cop gave Hector a \$15 fine. The law has been on the books for years and is aimed at preventing car thefts and conserving the resources of police departments that have to devote time to solving them. Hector said he understood and fortunately his car was later recovered the following day.

FILE #2: A Portuguese motorist who was stopped for shaving while driving his car told police he had needed to smarten up for an important meeting. The young man had the driving mirror turned toward him as he cruised along a road. \*\*\*MARLAR: "Smarten up"; what an appropriate choice of words.

FILE #3: Canadian prisoner David Wild is suing the government for \$1.95 million, claiming that his inability to sleep well has caused him emotional distress and depression, because the guards come by at night to ensure he's still in his cell.

STRANGE LAW: Myrtle Creek, Oregon has a law stating that you can not get into a boxing match with a kangaroo. \*\*\*You have to wonder how often something like that comes up.

### **THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON DRUGS**

***"This Is Your Brain On Drugs" is about people doing dumb things under the influence, but addiction is no laughing matter. If you or someone you know needs help, there's a toll free number you can call 1-800-438-0380. That's the Addiction Hope and Help Line at 1-800-438-0380.***

**Curiosity not only kills cats, it also corners confused criminals!**

Here's another tip for those contemplating a career in the potentially profitable field of drug trafficking. That was the career field that Gary Brunner of Carmel, New York opted for and he may still be doing business today had he not

made one slight miscalculation. Gary walked into the Putnam County Sheriff's Office to inquire as to whether there were any arrest warrants out for him. There were and police executed them and he remains in jail awaiting a hearing.

### **PHONER PHUN**

**HATE WEEK** begins today, according to George Orwell's novel, *1984*. So, without getting too cruel about it, what things do you hate? Here are a few to get you started...

- \* Form 1040
- \* Anybody with a 900 phone number
- \* People who park crooked
- \* Potholes
- \* Sales calls at home
- \* Alarm clocks

### **BIBLE BRAIN BUSTER!**

**QUESTION: Who had Jesus flogged?**

**ANSWER: Pilate, the governor (Mark 15:15)**

### **QUESTION IMPOSSIBLE**

**QUESTION: How many Philistines were killed by Samson with a jawbone?**

**ANSWER: One-thousand (Judges 15:15)**

### **TRUE OR FALSE**

***Pay attention! If our next player doesn't answer all ten T/F questions correctly we start all over from question #1! First person to answer question #10 correctly is our winner!***

1. Plymouth, Mass. is the oldest city in the United States. (False - St. Augustine, Florida)
2. The abbreviation 'ORD' for Chicago's O'Hare airport comes from the words, "O'Hare Regional Departure". (False - 'ORD' comes from the old name 'Orchard Field'.)
3. Quito in Ecuador, South America, is said to have the most pleasant climate in the world. (True. It is called the 'Land of Eternal Spring.' The temperature rarely drops below 46 degrees Fahrenheit during the night, or exceed 72 degrees Fahrenheit during the day.)
4. Napoleon Bonaparte was the first man to set foot on all continents except Antarctica. (False - Captain Cook)
5. The model ape used in the 1933 movie ' King Kong ' was eight feet tall. (False - 18 inches tall)
6. The high-jump method of jumping head first and landing on their back is called the Fosbury Flop. (True)
7. Powdered tea was once used as a snuff to stop bleeding noses. (True)
8. The women of the Tiwi tribe in the South Pacific are immediately married at the age of twelve. (False - they are married at birth!)
9. According to a Gallup poll, 11 percent of the US population believes in ghosts and other supernatural entities. (True)
10. The largest hailstone ever recorded was 17.5 inches in diameter. (True - bigger than a basketball!)

### **TABLOID MATCH GAME**

***You have to match the blank in the tabloid headline with the word or phrase that has been removed!***

**\_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS VENTURES ON EARTH REVEALED (ALIENS')**

Typically, the alien invasion is a thing of urgency and devastation. However, creatures from the tenth sector of Nebulon have taken a subtler approach to taking over the world. The contentious act of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," is even more complex of an issue than previously thought.

From environmental destruction to theorized effects on human health, the process of fracturing rocks to release natural gas has garnered scorn from all corners of the Earth. But what many do not realize is that business tyrants on this planet aren't the only ones they have to fear. An alien species known as "Plurvians" have their own investment in the practice, and though many see fracking's harm to Earth as simply a by-product, one expert is maintaining that's it's all part of the plan.

"Listen, they know we have nukes and bombs," says Bradley McKinney, chief scientist at B.O.L.T.. Labs in Chicago. "We've caught up to many species in terms of how big of a boom we can make. The Plurvians aim to get rid of humans one environmental disaster at a time. They're investing in anti-green causes, and human moguls only care about being rich now, so they let them do whatever they want."

## **THE WAY TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING TO UNDERSTAND THE PUNCHLINE EVEN AFTER TWO CUPS OF COFFEE JOKE OF THE DAY**

### **JOKE #1**

A man had just been laid off from work. He was standing on the railing of a high bridge getting ready to jump off, when he happened to look down and see a little man with no arms dancing all around on the river bank below. He thought to himself, "Life isn't so bad after all," and got off the railing. He then walked down to the river bank to thank the little man for saving his life. "Thank you," he said. "I was going to jump off that bridge and kill myself, but when I saw you dancing even though you have no arms, I changed my mind." "Dancing? I'm not dancing!" the armless man replied bitterly. "My nose itches, and I can't scratch it!"

### **JOKE #2**

A man phones a mental hospital and asks the receptionist if there is anybody in room 27. She goes and checks, and comes back to the phone, telling him No, the room is empty. "Good," says the man. "That means I must have really escaped."

### **JOKE #3**

The teacher in the bible class asked a woman to read from the Book of Numbers about the Israelites wandering in the desert. "The Lord heard you when you wailed, "If only we had meat to eat!" she began. "Now the Lord will give you meat. You will not eat it for just one day, or two days, or five, or ten or twenty days, but for a month—until you loathe it." The woman paused, looked up and said.... "Hey, isn't that the Atkins diet?"

## **USELESS FACTS**

A recent study shows that easy listening music is not relaxing to most people. In fact, most find it to be annoying. Elevator music tends to cause most listeners to become irritable and short-tempered. \*\*\*And yet we play it when people are trapped in a small box with no quick escape. Genius.

In 1965, a Senate subcommittee predicted that by 2000, Americans would only be working 20 hours a week with seven weeks vacation. \*\*\*I don't remember seeing that job description in the Help Wanted ads.

## **FEATURED FUNNIES**

### **THE BIG SHOW**

As the old man lies dying in the bedroom, out in the parlor the family discusses funeral arrangements. Son Gary says, "We'll make a real big thing out of it. We'll have five hundred people. We'll order fifty limos." Daughter Grace says, "Why do you want to waste money like that? We'll have the family and maybe a few friends. One limo just for us." They proceed. Grandson Jeff says, "We'll have lots of flowers. We'll surround him with dozens of roses and lilies, dozens and dozens." Daughter Alice says, "What a waste! We'll have one little bouquet, that's enough." Suddenly, the voice of the old man is heard, wafting weakly from the bedroom, "Why don't you get me my pants? I'll walk to the cemetery."

## **IT MUST BE TRUE BECAUSE I HEARD IT ON THE RADIO!**

### **I SAW THE SIGN**

**Do you have a weird hobby? One man's hobby is about to destroy his marriage. The signs are obvious.**

A British wife says her husband's obsession with road signs has taken over their lives. Graham Stanton from Worcester has spent 25 years collecting 700 road signs. They fill several rooms of their house. His wife Lynne has told him to rent a warehouse to keep the signs or give up his hobby. The 53-year-old's obsession began after he found a Men at Work sign in some bushes. \*\*\*MARLAR: Maybe that's why we never see road construction workers actually working – they're waiting for the sign to tell them what to do.

## **INSPIRATIONAL INSPIRATION**

### **LESSONS IN HUGGING**

Life's biggest lessons aren't learned all at once. They are taught and learned time and time again over years and years. I realized this today when I was with my youngest son in the store. We were walking back and forth looking for something both good tasting and good for you when he suddenly reached over, wrapped his arms around me, and gave me a hug. This made me smile with both laughter and joy. I realized then that even though I hadn't been able to teach my son everything over the years, I had at least been able to teach him how to hug.

I am so delighted too that all of my children have learned this lesson so well over the years. My daughter's hugs brighten my days and uplift my soul. I have been blessed a million times over by the love and joy she so freely shares with me. My two sons' hugs always bring happiness to my heart as well. It makes me feel good to know that they have learned two of the most important things in life: how to choose love and how to spread joy.

Remember then that every loving act you do, smile you share, and hug you give teaches all those around you as well. The lessons they share are priceless. Little by little, time after time, and year by year they teach the minds, hearts, and souls of all you touch. They spread God's love and life's joy everywhere. They show all who are watching how to love, how to give, and how to live.

I hope that someone was watching when my son gave out his own lesson in hugging. A single hug can warm a hundred hearts. Hugs like love, joy, laughter, and smiles travel from heart to heart and from soul to soul until they circle the world. They make us more like the angels and Earth more like Heaven. They help us to give lessons in God's love and wisdom each time we simply open our arms and wrap them around another.

## **DRIVE TIME DEVOTIONAL**

### **HOW TO FACE ANOTHER DAY**

**Read: [James 4:13-17](#)**

***This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. —Psalm 118:24***

World-famous cellist Pablo Casals once gave this challenging testimony: "For the past 80 years I have started each day in the same manner. . . . I go to the piano and I play two preludes and fugues of Bach. I cannot think of doing otherwise. It is a benediction on the house. But that is not its only meaning for me. It is a rediscovery of the world of which I have the joy of being a part."

If that is how a dedicated musician daily started his waking hours, we Christians—by the enabling grace of the Holy Spirit—can surely dedicate each new day to our Lord. No matter where we are or what our situation may be, each day we can resolve to dedicate the hours before us to God's praise. As David wrote, "This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

If you are facing loneliness or pain as once again you pick up your burden, you can draw on the Lord's resources and be a living testimony of His all-sufficiency. If you're filled with thanksgiving and praise, you can tell others of God's goodness.

James reminded us that we "do not know what will happen tomorrow" (4:14). All the more reason, then, to dedicate each day to rejoicing in the Lord. —Vernon Grounds

*This is the day the Lord hath made,  
He calls the hours His own;  
Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad,  
And praise surround the throne. —Watts*

**If you know Jesus, you always have a reason to rejoice.**

## **LEFTOVERS**

### **I'M FATMAN**

#### **Can you lose weight on a high fat diet?**

Chicago nutritionist Dr. Jan Kwasniewski is promoting a high-fat, low-carb diet called the Polish Diet. It promises that you can lose weight by eating extremely high-fat foods, like kielbasa, bacon, veal brains in aspic, buttered Polish bread and eggs cooked in spicy lard, with a cup of heavy cream for a beverage. One patient on the "fit through fat" diet has dropped from a size 14 to a 4. She said we think fat is bad when it's really good for you: it provides energy

and makes you feel better. But another happy dieter says it's not short-term; it's a lifelong lifestyle change.

\*\*\*MARLAR: It's already helping me lose weight: just hearing the phrase "veal brains in aspic" has killed my appetite.

## **LIFE... LIVE IT**

### **FIVE WAYS TO SABOTAGE YOUR MARRIAGE BEFORE IT STARTS**

1. Live together before you marry
2. Get into debt
3. Marry an unbeliever
4. Refuse to go through premarital counseling
5. Dream of a "soul mate"

### **How long can a sandwich survive in a plastic baggie? One school in Germany found out... the hard way!**

Piles of old unwanted sandwiches dating back to the 1970s have been found behind a radiator in a German school's music room, ending years of confusion about the bad smell. Workers carrying out repairs on the floor of the room found a cavity behind and under the radiator where generations of children had stuffed their unwanted pack lunches. The school's head teacher had already spent thousands of dollars for experts to examine the room to try to find the source of the smell, but they found nothing and recommended that the music teacher air the room more thoroughly.

\*\*\*MARLAR: The hard part was distinguishing the smell from the school cafeteria.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

### **I'M TASTING BLUE**

#### **Can the color blue fight tooth decay? Apparently, yes!**

The ultimate cure for bad breath is on the way and it's a blue light! That's the word from Nikos Soukos, who directs the Forsyth Laboratory of Applied Molecular Photo Medicine. He is developing a dental light pen that people can shine in their mouths to zap the bad bacteria that cause bad breath. The light works by blinding the bacteria, suppressing the bad microbes and allowing healthier bacteria to flourish. Soukos expects his dental light pen to be on store shelves in a few years. Toothpaste and mouthwash are the best ways to fight bacteria, but Soukos is convinced his blue light will be better. \*\*\*MARLAR: Cool... so now you can go shopping with your mouth open around K-Mart's blue light specials and save money and your teeth at the same time! (I don't think drinking blue water from the toilet is going to have the desired effect though.)

## **FUN LIST**

### **MURPHY'S LAW FOR CHURCHES**

- Video projectors always work before the program begins.
- The probability of the preacher tripping over the mike cord is greater on "Bring A Friend" Sunday than any other week.
- The largest Bible Class will show up when the teacher feels his/her worst.
- No matter how many bulletins you print, you'll always need one more.
- A member living 15 miles away will be 15 minutes early; members living two blocks will be 15 minutes late.
- The shorter the agenda, the longer the business meeting.
- When you answer the Bible teacher's question right, nobody remembers; when you are wrong, nobody forgets.
- The furnace only fails when the outside temperature is more than 20 degrees below zero.

## **MORE SHOW PREP STUFF...**

### **SEVEN WAYS TO SAVE THE PLANET**

Earth Day is coming up, that time of year when we all ask ourselves, What's the *least* I can do? Are there ways that I can save the planet without putting in any real effort or time? Here are a few ways to help save the planet.

- **Wash your hands sparingly.** Washing many times a day wastes gallons of water, and your hands are never as dirty as you think.
- **Turn off your watch when you're not checking the time.**
- **Stop bread waste.** Place condiments on both sides of the bread and use just one slice. This saves on oven-baking time and is perfect for today's low-carb lifestyle.
- **Create your own ecologically friendly products.** For example, toothpaste: My recipe includes mint gum, peanut butter, and mayonnaise. The consistency and color is perfect, with no tubes clogging up the landfill.

- **When throwing away books, be sure to break the spines first.** Unbroken books can lodge in the throats of bears and cougars.
- **Don't walk -- run!** Running saves time, propelling you to incredible sales and discounts faster.
- **Wear socks with sandals.** My personal favorite. A socks/sandals combo says to others, "I don't care about how I look, I care about our natural environment." You will also save money on expensive habits like having a social life. Spend it on shrubs and flowers instead.

### **OTHER STUFF I WANT TO CRAM INTO TODAY'S PREP**

*(Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

Research is showing that volunteering and giving back, in addition to helping others, is actually beneficial for your own physical well being. Richard Davidson, a neuroscientist and researcher on the brain, is one of those who has studied the effects of volunteering and giving on individuals. "When we engage in acts of generosity, those experiences of positive emotion may be more enduring and outlast the specific episode in which we are engaged," Davidson told The New York Times. Volunteering and helping others has even been shown to slow the process of aging.

<http://dlvr.it/PyYLS8>

Your nails are more than a thing to polish. They could be signals of serious health problems. It turns out, your fingernails can tell you a lot about your health. Low oxygen levels, nutritional deficiencies, and even arsenic poisoning can be determined by looking at your fingertips. Discoloration could indicate an infection or even liver and kidney issues. Unusual textures and shapes may be a side effect of nutritional deficiency. Split nails can lead to potential injury, infection, or even drug reactions. However, officials also note that many common nail afflictions, such as deep ridges or the appearance of white spots, are completely harmless and normal. So what do your nails say about your own health? Find out at...

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/healthtrending/your-nails-could-be-warning-you-about-serious-health-problems-here-s-what-to-look-out-for/ar-AAu4ZkM?ocid=ob-tw-enus-595>

Classic tourist attractions may have their charms, but they come with a huge drawback: sooo many crowds. Instead, MSN suggests you try some out of the way destinations. From fascinating museums to gorgeous scenery, their destinations are just as interesting but are off-the-beaten-path, even for locals, and a guaranteed hit for your next long weekend. Check out their list of the 50 Most Underrated Attractions in Every State.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/tripideas/50-most-underrated-attractions-in-every-state/ss-BBYjOU?ocid=ob-tw-enus-595>

You might find yourself running into something a bit unusual in remote and rural areas across America — fences posts painted purple. While it's a lovely color, it's not being done in an effort to brighten up the scenery. It's to tell people that there is "no trespassing" on a specific property, and this little known law is being enforced by many state legislatures.

<https://cards.twitter.com/cards/18ce53wah5a/47s8i>

How shallow is that woman of yours, guys? Turns out, some women would do anything to be thin including saddling a best friend with the unwanted weight. In a survey of women, ages of 18-34, a substantial 25% admitted that they would make their best friend fat for life if it would guarantee that they would remain thin. The same percentage also said that they would rather be a super model than become a Nobel Peace Prize winner. But most of the women don't seem to be quite that shallow or ruthless. A whopping 75% swore they'd be willing to shave their head to save the life of a stranger. And 88% said they'd give up a cell phone, jewelry and makeup to preserve a friendship. So yes, she may have a few quirks and issues – but more likely than not, that gal on your arm is a pretty good one, boys.

### **SOUL-GLO**

*(Feel-good stories! Only posted as new stories come available. Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

### **TOTALLY OUTRAGEOUS!**

*(Only posted as stories come available. Not posted on weekends and U.S. holidays.)*

#### **LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM TOO GOOD TO BE ALLOWED TO PLAY**

**Can a little league team be too good to be allowed to play against other teams? That's the story in Apache Junction, Arizona!**

(From 2013) The Apache Junction Little League team known as "The Hooks" have been terminated from their baseball season ... and parents are furious.

The League's governing board accused the team's coaches of rigging the player draft system in their favor so they could get some of the best players. The team denies it, and the 8, 9 and 10-year-old players say they're tired of being harassed for being too good.

One Hooks player said, "I just think they're jealous and they want to make up stories." Another player said, "Our whole family doesn't like being called cheaters... we're being called liars too."

This kids' baseball team being called a bunch of cheaters isn't sitting well with moms and dads who are outraged their kids' baseball season is ruined after a month of practices. **The team hasn't played in real games yet.**

Apache Junction's Little League Board told upset parents their kids will have to join other teams if they want to play this season.

Parents say their children are depressed. They worry breaking the little players away from all of the friends they've made takes away all of the fun.

On April 1, The Apache Junction Little League Board issued the following statement in response to this story: *In Little League, one of the responsibilities of the governing board members to maintain the integrity of the league. The Apache Junction bylaws state, "Membership may be terminated by resignation or action of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted meeting, shall have the authority to discipline or terminate the membership of any Member of any class when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the interests of the local League and/or Little League Baseball." Based on the above bylaw, a unanimous decision was made with the support of District 7 to terminate the membership of two coaches, with a third coach voluntarily resigning. The decision made affected coaches only; all players remain members of the league and are encouraged to continue to play. For players affected, provisions have been made. Refunds will be issued to those requesting them by Friday of this week. Apache Junction Little League appreciates the continued support of our community*

**PHONER: What is your response to this story as a parent?**

### **AND I LEAVE YOU WITH THIS THOUGHT**

Today's (JOCK SHOW) was only a test. If it had been an actual (JOCK SHOW), you would've been entertained and be feeling pretty good right now.

### **THE TICKET Movie Reviews with MARIE ASNER**

**Marie Asner has been reviewing films for over 35 years. Her outlets include radio, print and Internet. For more in-depth movie reviews of the following films, visit [www.Tollbooth.org](http://www.Tollbooth.org). Ratings from 1 (Low) to 5 (High).**

#### **MARCH 30, 2018...**

**Ready Player One**---Steven Spielberg directs this film that is based on an Ernest Cline novel from 2011. It is a science fiction film, set in 2045 and in a world where the reality everyone lives in is just too hard to bear. People live in barren cities and use a virtual reality world to exist. The outside world is something like "Blade Runner." Enter Mark Rylance (remember him from "Dunkirk") as the man who is head of the Oasis Corporation, along with Simon Pegg. In Mark's later years, they set up a game called "Anorak," supposed to be unsolvable. Well, tell that to teens. If you win the game, you get an enormous amount of money and life away from this present place. Now, everyone goes to solve the game, so if you don't play, it means, you like to remain just where you are. "Ready Player One" is rated PG 13. Rating of 2 for fans and you know who you are.

**Acrimony**---Taraji P. Henson, who makes a name for herself in the television series, "Empire," now plays a betrayed wife in Tyler Perry's newest film, "Acrimony." Woe to the husband, played by Lyriq Bent. Also in the cast is Crystie Stewart. "Acrimony" is rated R. No rating.

**Loveless (opening in select cities)**---A husband and a wife (Boris and Zenya) quarrel all the time. They don't seem to notice their son, Alyosha. One day, after a heated argument, they notice the boy is missing. A massive search begins, and in the meantime, how does the couple deal with this enormous loss---a missing child. "Loveless" is rated R. Rating of 2. Subtitles.

#### **APRIL 06, 2018...**

**You Were Never Really Here** has Joaquin Phoenix in a thriller about a kidnapped young woman.

**Blockers** is a comedy starring John Cena about a father trying to stop his daughter from serious dating.

**A Quiet Place** has John Krasinski as the actor/writer/director of this thriller that also stars his wife, Emily Blunt. Keep quiet when the prowlers come.

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**WARNING: Don't believe anything you read on the Internet or email (including stuff you read here) unless you can confirm it with another source, and/or it is consistent with what you already know to be true. The opinions in this publication are not necessarily those of Darren Marlar, Marlar House Productions, or any company or organization affiliated with aforementioned. (Regardless of how stupid you may think those opinions are. So there - nyah!)**

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