

Morning Breaks

June 2025

Volume 26 Number 22

"A sense of humor keeps life interesting..." –Marjorie Pay Hinckley

June 1, 2025

Most of us consider ourselves broadminded enough to admit that there are two sides to every argument.

First and foremost, there is our side, and then there is the side that no reasonably intelligent, informed, sane, and self-respecting person could possibly hold.



Here's hoping there is no one like this at your workplace.

Faced with hard times, the company offered a bonus of one thousand dollars to any employee who could come up with a way of saving money.

The bonus went to a young woman in accounting who suggested limiting future bonuses to ten dollars.

A construction site foreman had 10 very lazy men working for him, so one day he decided to trick them into doing some work for a change.

"I've got a really easy job today for the laziest one among you," he announced. "Will the laziest man please put his hand up."

Nine hands went up.

"Why didn't you put your hand up?" he asked the 10th man.

"Too much trouble," he responded.

Recursive, adj.; see Recursive

A man was seen fleeing down the hall of the hospital just before his operation. "What's the matter?" he was asked.

He said, "I heard the nurse say, 'It's a very simple operation, don't worry, I'm sure it will be all right.'"

"She was just trying to comfort you, what's so frightening about that?"

"She wasn't talking to me. She was talking to the doctor!"

One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt.

Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me, "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

"It depends," I replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

He yelled back, "University of Utah."

On an evening when my parents were dining in a Chinese restaurant with two of their close friends, Dad was showing his skill in the use of chopsticks. In addition to picking up a piece of beef and a snow pea, he demonstrated his prowess by picking up a tiny morsel of rice.

Turning to the others at the table, he asked if there was anything else they would like to see him pick up.

"Yes," said his friend. "The check."



PERHAPS THE MOST NOBLE OF ALL RESCUE ANIMALS: THE LAVATORY RETRIEVER

Love is blind. Marriage is the eye-opener.

For all of you with teenagers or who had teenagers, you may want to know why they really have a lot in common with cats:

1. Neither teenagers nor cats turn their heads when you call them by name.
2. No matter what you do for them, it is not enough. Indeed, all humane efforts are barely adequate to compensate for the privilege of waiting on them hand and foot.

3. You rarely see a cat walking outside of the house with an adult human being, and it can be safely said that no teenager in his or her right mind wants to be seen in public with his or her parents.
4. Even if you tell jokes as well as Jay Leno, neither your cat nor your teen will ever crack a smile.
5. No cat or teenager shares your taste in music.
6. Cats and teenagers can lie on the living-room sofa for hours on end without moving, barely breathing.
7. Cats have nine lives. Teenagers carry on as if they did.
8. Cats and teenagers yawn in exactly the same manner, communicating that ultimate human ecstasy -- a sense of complete and utter boredom.
9. Cats and teenagers do not improve anyone's furniture.
10. Cats that are free to roam outside sometimes have been known to return in the middle of the night to deposit a dead animal in your bedroom. Teenagers are not above that sort of behavior.

Thus, if you must raise teenagers, the best source of advice is not other parents, but veterinarians. It is also a good idea to keep a guidebook on cats on hand at all times.

And remember, above all else, put out the food and do not make any sudden moves in their direction. When they make up their minds, they will finally come to you for some affection and comfort, and it will be a triumphant moment for all concerned.

I had been complaining for months about my noisy old upright vacuum cleaner. When it finally bit the dust, I happily ran out and bought the snappy-looking red canister vacuum that I'd had my eye on for some time.

I really wasn't aware of how much I bragged about the new addition to my cleaning arsenal until the day my husband walked in just as I came around the corner with my new vacuum in tow.

"Wow, honey!" he said. "When did you teach it to follow you like that?"

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June 8, 2025

The old man from the back hills of Kentucky had died. A wonderful funeral was in progress and the bishop talked at length of the good traits of the deceased, what an honest man he was, and what a loving husband and kind father he was.

Finally, the widow leaned over and whispered to one of her children,

"Go up there and take a look in the coffin and see if that's your pa in there."

attack. You must get the boat safely to shore and dock it."

So she drove the boat to shore and safely docked it. Later that evening, the wife walked into the living room where her husband was reading a novel. She sat down next to him, switched the TV channel, and said to him,

"Honey, go into the kitchen. Pretend I'm having a heart attack and set the table, cook dinner and wash the dishes."



Political Correctness For Kids

Your bedroom isn't cluttered; it's "passage-restrictive."

Kids don't get in trouble anymore. They merely hit "social speed bumps."

You're not having a bad hair day; you're suffering from "rebellious follicle syndrome."

No one's tall anymore. They're "vertically enhanced."

You're not shy. You're "conversationally selective."

You don't talk a lot. You're just "abundantly verbal."

It's not called gossip anymore. It's "transmission of near-factual information."

The food at the school cafeteria isn't awful. It's "digestively challenged."

Your homework isn't missing; it's just having an "out-of-notebook experience."

You're not sleeping in class; you're "rationing consciousness."

You don't have smelly gym socks; you have "odor-retentive athletic footwear."

You weren't passing notes in class. You were "participating in the discreet exchange of penned meditations."

Although this married couple enjoyed their new fishing boat together, it was the husband who was behind the wheel operating the boat. Still, he was concerned about what might happen in an emergency.

So one day out on the lake he said to his wife, "Honey, take the wheel... Pretend that I am having a heart

You're not being sent to the principal's office. You're "going on a mandatory field trip to the administrative building.

Two sister missionaries were walking down a residential street, noticed a little old man rocking in a chair on his porch. One of them called out to him as they passed.

"Hello there! I couldn't help but notice how happy you look. What's your secret for a long happy life?"

"I smoke three packs of cigarettes a day," he replied. "I also drink a case of whiskey a week, eat nothing but fast food, and never exercise."

"Wow!" The sister exclaimed in amazement. "How old are you?" she asked.

"Twenty-six," he replied.

The other sister took a picture – she now had a visual she could in their next discussion on the Word of Wisdom.



After arriving home from work, I found out that Courtney, our six-year-old daughter, had written on the washroom wall at school.

I talked to Courtney about the importance of respecting others and their property. Then I asked her how it was discovered that she'd written on the wall.

"I don't know, Daddy," she said.

After reading her a bedtime story that night, I asked again if she had any idea how the teacher had known for sure who had written on the wall.

"I don't know, Daddy," Courtney again replied.

Then I asked what she'd written.

"My name," she said.

We live in a small town where we have a volunteer Ambulance Corp. We are blessed with many dedicated and fully qualified attendants, who staff our ambulances and give freely of themselves. I was chatting with one of the EMS responders one day and she could hardly stifle a chuckle, so I asked her what was so funny and she told me this story...

It seems that she had gone to an automobile accident and was checking a patient who was lying on the road for injuries. As she knelt beside him and probed him, she asked, "Does this hurt or does that hurt?" After each probe, he replied, "No." When she had nearly completed her examination, she shifted to a better spot from which to finish the examination when after one of her probing questions, he exclaimed very loudly, "That hurts!"

When she asked where, he looked up at her with a look of real pain on his face and said, "Your kneeling on my fingers!"

An eccentric philosophy professor gave a one question final exam after a semester dealing with a broad array of topics. The class was already seated and ready to go when the professor picked up his chair, plopped it on his desk and wrote on the board: "Using everything we have learned this semester, prove that this chair does not exist."

Fingers flew, erasers erased, notebooks were filled in furious fashion. Some students wrote over 30 pages in one hour attempting to refute the existence of the chair. One member of the class however, was up and finished in less than a minute.

Weeks later when the grades were posted, the rest of the group wondered how he could have gotten an A when he had barely written anything at all. His answer consisted of two words: "What chair?"

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June 15, 2025

Preparing for a garage sale at our house, my wife and I decided to put out a wall mirror we'd received as a wedding gift. Because of its garish aqua colored metal frame we just couldn't find a room in our house where it looked good.

Shortly after the sale started, a man looking to decorate his apartment bought it for one dollar.

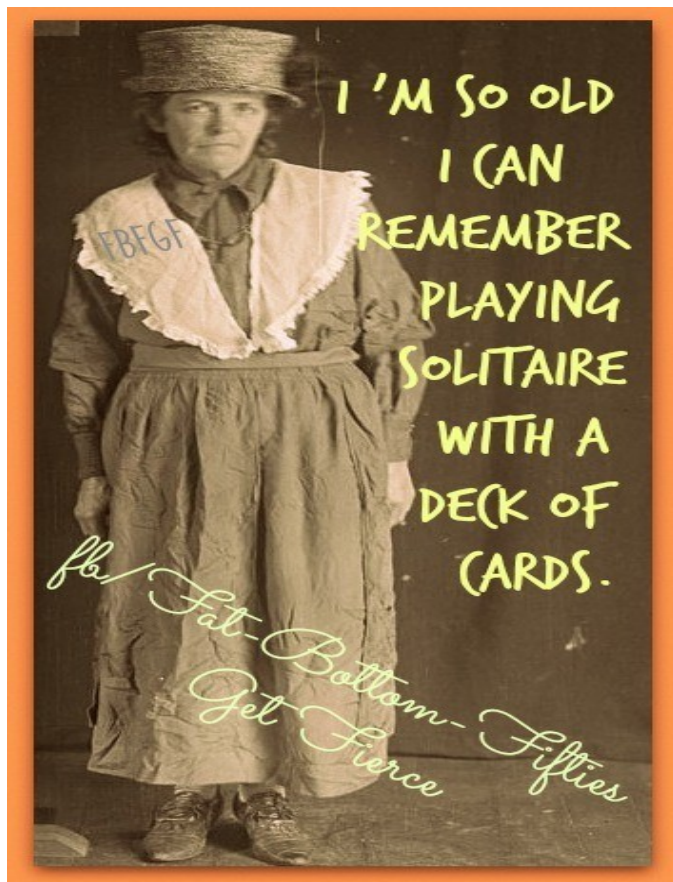
"This is a great deal," he said excitedly, "It still has the plastic on it."

Then he peeled off the aqua colored protective covering to reveal a beautiful gold finished frame.

Three men worked in the Empire State Building on the 102nd floor.

One day the elevator was out of service, so they had to walk up to their office. To pass the time, they decided that one would sing a song, one would tell a joke, and the third would tell a sad story - each taking a turn every floor until they reached the top.

Finally, as they reached the 100th floor, one man sang his last song. As they reached the 101st floor, the second guy told his last joke. As they ascended the flight to the 102nd floor, the third man said, "I forgot the key."



Just after we moved into our first home, I decided to build a garden shed.

I bought a prefab package from a building-supplies store and read the instructions carefully. With much rereading and rechecking of measurements, I finally completed the shed.

Proud that it had turned out perfectly, I called my brother to come over to show him my handiwork. He listened silently, all the while looking at the floor as I pointed the features out. Then I followed his gaze to the floor and read the large black lettering: THIS SIDE DOWN.

"This house," said the real estate sales man, "has both its good points and its bad points. To show you I'm honest, I'm going to tell you about both.

The disadvantages are that there is a chemical plant one block south and a slaughterhouse a block north."

"What are the advantages?" inquired the prospective buyer.

"The advantage is that you can always tell which way the wind is blowing."



How bad a mistake can you make on your resume?
Here are some real-life examples:

"My intensity and focus are at inordinately high levels, and my ability to complete projects on time is unspeakable."

"Education: Curses in liberal arts, curses in computer science, curses in accounting."

"Instrumental in ruining entire operation for a Midwest chain store."

"Personal: Married, 1992 Chevrolet."

"I have an excellent track record, although I am not a horse."

"I am a rabid typist."

"Created a new market for pigs by processing, advertising and selling a gourmet pig mail order service on the side."

"Exposure to German for two years, but many words are not appropriate for business."

"Proven ability to track down and correct errors."

"Personal interests: Donating blood. 15 gallons so far."

"I have become completely paranoid, trusting completely nothing and absolutely no one."

"References: None, I've left a path of destruction behind me."

"Strengths: Ability to meet deadlines while maintaining composer."

"Don't take the comments of my former employer too seriously, they were unappreciative beggars and slave drivers."

"My goal is to be a meteorologist. But since I possess no training in meteorology, I suppose I should try stock brokerage."

"I procrastinate--especially when the task is unpleasant."

"I am loyal to my employer at all costs...Please feel free to respond to my resume on my office voicemail."

"Qualifications: No education or experience."

"Disposed of \$2.5 billion in assets."

"Accomplishments: Oversight of entire department."

"Extensive background in accounting. I can also stand on my head!"

Cover letter: "Thank you for your consideration. Hope to hear from you."

Harry walked over to the minister after services, "You know Reverend, I am really stuck in a quandary. I would like to attend church next week but I just can't miss the big game next Sunday. It's just out of the question."

"Oh Harry," said the minister, "don't you know that's what DVR's are for."

Harry's face lit up. "You mean I could record your sermon?"

One of the youth league soccer coaches didn't care much for my refereeing and had no problem letting me know it.

Fed up, I threatened him with a penalty if he didn't stop.

He calmed down, but an older woman took up where he'd left off.

"You'd better control your sideline," I warned the coach.

The coach turned to the woman and barked, "Knock it off, Mom!"

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June 22, 2025

My friend's father is a locksmith in a resort town. Once he saw a group of beach goers park near his shop and dump trash from their car on his property.

As soon as they were out of sight, and walking towards the beach, the locksmith picked the lock on their car door, put the garbage back inside and relocked the car.



I know a lot about cars. I can look at a car's headlights and tell you exactly which way it's coming.

How Hot Is It?

How hot is it?

The birds have to use potholders to pull worms out of the ground.

The trees are whistling for the dogs.

The best parking place is determined by shade instead of distance.

Hot water now comes out of both taps.

You can make sun tea instantly.

You learn that a seat belt buckle makes a pretty good branding iron.

The temperature drops below 95 and you feel a little chilly.

You discover that in August it only takes 2 fingers to steer your car.

You discover that you can get sunburned through your car window.

You actually burn your hand opening the car door.

You break into a sweat the instant you step outside at 7:30 a.m.

Your biggest bicycle wreck fear is, "What if I get knocked out and end up lying on the pavement and cook to death?"

You realize that asphalt has a liquid state.

The potatoes cook underground, so all you have to do is pull one out and add butter, salt and pepper.

Farmers are feeding their chickens crushed ice to keep them from laying boiled eggs.

The cows are giving evaporated milk.

A knight and his men return to their castle after a long hard day of fighting.

"How are we faring?" asks the king.

"Sire," replies the knight, "I have been robbing and pillaging on your behalf all day, burning the towns of your enemies in the west."

"What?!" shrieks the king. "I don't have any enemies to the west!"

"Oh, no..." says the knight. "Well, you do now."

When I went to get my driver's license renewed, our local motor-vehicle bureau was packed.

The line inched along for almost an hour until the man ahead of me finally got his license.

He inspected his photo for a moment and commented to the clerk, "I was standing in line so long, I ended up looking pretty grouchy in this picture."

The clerk looked at his picture closely.

"It's okay," he reassured the man, "That's how you're going to look when the cops pull you over anyway."



Students at the school where I work must sign in and out, and must have a note from a parent if they're late. Signing in at 11:00 one morning, Billy peered across the counter at me.

"Morning, Billy, do you have a note?" I asked.

"No," he replied.

"Where were you?"

"At the dentist."

"Do you have a dentist card?"

"No," he said. Then, taking a deep breath, he added, "but I have these," and shoved a box across the counter. Inside was a set of plaster impressions the dentist had just taken, complete with date and time.

If you think you're a person of influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around.

Part of my job as a public-health nurse is teaching new parents how to care for their infants.

As I was demonstrating how to wrap a newborn, a young Asian couple turned to me and said, "You mean we should wrap the baby like an egg roll?"

"Yes," I replied, "That is a good analogy."

"I don't know how to make egg rolls," another mother said anxiously.

"Can I wrap my baby like a burrito?"

Dear Optimist, Pessimist, and Realist:

While you guys were busy arguing about the glass of water, I drank it.

Sincerely,

The Opportunist

It was the first camping experience for Jed.

As soon as he had pitched his tent, he went for a hike in the woods. In about fifteen minutes he rushed back into camp, bleeding and dishevelled.

"What happened?" asked a fellow camper.

"I was chased by a black snake!" cried the frightened Jed.

The camper laughed and retorted, "A black snake isn't deadly."

"Listen," groaned Jed, "If he can make you jump off a fifty-foot cliff, he is!"



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June 29, 2025

On a street, where the speed is limited to 30 mph the police stop a driver.

"Not only have you been driving too fast, you've been passing cars where it is not allowed. Your lights don't work, your tires all completely worn out. This is surely going to cost you a lot. What's your name?"

"Schtrathewisizeski Vocgefastilongchinic."

"Well, I'll let you go this time but don't do it again."



Here are the reasons I'd like to thank Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, and my local grocer for having 25 checkout lanes and only three open at any given time.

-- Waiting in long lines keeps my domestic brain from going completely idle -- there's so much to learn!

- I can catch up on my magazine reading without buying any.

- I have time to leave my cart in line and run back to get the 13 things on my list I forgot.

- I can be one of those annoying cell phone users and catch up on all my phone calls to my insurance agent, mother-in-law, and Auntie Anne.

- I can catch a quick catnap now rather than on the drive home.

- I can assess what other people have in their carts and get exciting new dinner ideas.

- I can finally apply my top coat of nail polish with plenty of drying time.

- I can run next door and pick up my dry cleaning.

- I can update my coupon organizer and leave the trash in the 'we never open enough checkout lanes' store instead of my purse.

- I can practice my standup comedy routines on unsuspecting fellow customers.

- I can practice some standing yoga poses and then do those isometric muscle-contracting exercises no one else in line is supposed to know you're doing.

- I can taste test my package of the newest low-carb, zero-transfat, Splenda-saturated cookies.

- I can breathe heavily on my T-bones so they're defrosted in time for dinner and I won't have to leave them out on the driveway in the hot late afternoon sun as I normally do.

My doctor told me to stop having intimate dinners for four, unless there are actually three other people present.

"So, what's the matter?" asked one woman of her friend over lunch. "I thought you just got back from a nice relaxing fishing trip with your husband."

"Oh, everything went wrong," the second woman answered.

"First, he said I talked so loud I would scare the fish.

Then he said I was using the wrong bait; and then that I was reeling in too soon.

"All that might have been all right; but to make matters worse, I ended up catching the most fish!"



Things a True Southerner Knows

- Only a True Southerner knows the difference between a hissie fit and a conniption fit, and that you don't "HAVE" them, you "PITCH" them.

- Only a True Southerner knows how many fish, collard greens, turnip greens, peas, beans, etc., make up "a mess."

- Only a True Southerner can show or point out to you the general direction of "yonder."

- Only a True Southerner knows exactly how long "directly" is ... as in: "Going to town, be back directly."

- Only a True Southerner knows exactly when "by and by" is. They might not use the term, but they know the concept well.

- Only a True Southerner knows instinctively that the best gesture of solace for a neighbor who's got trouble is a plate of hot fried chicken and a big bowl of cold

potato salad. If the neighbor's trouble is a real crisis, they also know to add a large peach cobbler!

- Only a True Southerner grows up knowing the difference between "pert near" and "a right far piece." They also know that "just down the road" can be 1 mile or 20.

- Only a Southerner knows you don't scream obscenities at little old ladies who drive 30 MPH on the freeway. You just say, "Bless her heart" and go your own way.

- Only a True Southerner knows that when somebody's "fixin" to do something, it won't be long.

- Only a True Southerner knows how good a cold grape Nehi and cheese crackers are at a country store.

- Only a True Southerner knows that there ain't nobody's biscuits like Grandma's biscuits!!

- Only a Southerner knows a good dog is worth its weight in gold.

- Only a True Southerner knows that real gravy don't come from the store.

- Only a True Southerner knows to never assume that the other car with the flashing turn signal is actually going to make a turn.

- Only a True Southerner knows that you may wear long sleeves, but you should always roll 'em up past the elbows.

- Only a True Southerner knows that rocking chairs and swings are guaranteed stress relievers.

- Only a True Southerner knows that rocking chairs and swings with an old person in them are history lessons.

Far too many people spend their lives reading the menu instead of enjoying the banquet.

After a long day out, my mother and I stopped at our local grocery store on the way home. I ran in to pick up just a few things, leaving her in the car.

As I approached the checkout, I was surprised to find her standing there, waiting for me.

"Mom," I said, "what are you doing here? I left the motor running."

"I know, dear," Mom replied, "and it's all right. I locked the doors."