

# Planet Phundemic

PLANET PROCTOR • MAY 1, 2020

"It is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. It is the end of the beginning." ~ Sir Winston Churchill

## The Economy is so bad that...



**'FORE AND AFT'**  
Masking the frustration on Wall Street

**M**y car is getting three weeks to the gallon, but it's like being 16 again: Gas is cheap and I'm grounded. Parents in Beverly Hills fired their nannies and learned their children's names, and my rich neighbors are now playing miniature golf, and one of them got a pre-declined credit card in the mail. Oh, and a picture is only worth 200 words...

What's more, McDonald's is selling the 1/4 ounce, I saw a Mormon with only one wife, and when Bill and Hillary travel together, they have to share a room. The Treasure Island casino in Las Vegas is now managed by Somali pirates, a truckload of Americans was caught sneaking into Mexico, and Angelina Jolie had to adopt a child from America!

I was so depressed last night thinking about the economy, wars, jobs, my savings, Social Security, retirement funds, etc., I called the Suicide Hotline. I got a call center in Pakistan, and when I told them I was suicidal, they got all excited, and asked if I could drive a truck. But I've discovered I have a super power! This morning, I melted an ice cube with my mind – but it took longer than I thought it would. I've got plenty of time to try again!



"From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." ~ Arthur Ashe

## Everything you know is right!

**A** NEW BRITISH STUDY HAS FOUND conclusively that literally everyone except you is completely wrong about absolutely everything. The survey consisted of you looking at a number of comments threads, noting that most people held different opinions than you, and thus everyone is wrong about everything except you.

The study covered a number of topics, including Brexit, the Great British Bake Off, and the best Spice Girls song. In every instance, you were the only one who was correct, with the vast majority of other people being idiots.

There was a moment where it briefly appeared that someone else wasn't wrong regarding the correct order of Star Trek films by quality, but when you realized that person had rated *First Contact* above *The Undiscovered Country*, they therefore were wrong, like everyone is about everything.

**Simon Williams**, a Professor of You at Oxford University, explained, "The findings of the study don't really surprise me. You have long suspected that everyone is wrong except you, so a study by you confirming that fact is no real shock, you know?"

"A man who won't die for something is not fit to live." ~ **Martin Luther King Jr.**

## Go for it!

**T**ODAY IS 31 DAYS IN QUARANTINE w/o sugar; walking a mile a day, no meat, dairy or flour! I feel great! No alcohol (except for the one martini on my birthday) and a mostly vegan diet! And with a one-hour home workout every day, I've lost significant pounds and gained muscle mass!"

And by the way, I have no idea who this is from, but I hate him.

What's the difference between an etymologist and an entomologist? An etymologist knows the difference.  
~ **Phil's Phunny Phacts**

## It's a dog's life!

**D**OGS, MANY OF WHOM HAD GOT USED TO spending long periods alone every day when their owners were away for reasons they didn't understand, are reported to be "delighted" by suddenly getting a huge amount of extra attention over the last few weeks. "I expect my family have decided to stay at home all the time," said a labradoodle named **Luke**, "because they've realized they love me so much and want more of my company. Clearly I'm overjoyed that they finally accepted the reality of the situation and realized that long daily walks and plenty of affection is definitely the best outcome for both of us."

A spotted water spaniel named "**Bad Dog**" agrees. "I've been telling them since before I can remember that the best way to spend all day every day is running around with lots of petting and stroking. I don't want to be the one to say, 'I told you so,' but I think it's clear that everyone is happier now. Heaven knows how they used to spend their time, but I'm glad they finally wised up and decided to stay at home all of the time. I hope it lasts forever."

"No man is rich enough to buy back his past."  
- **Oscar Wilde**

**WHO'S A GOOD BOY?!?**  
Home is where the hounds are







**MASS EMPLOYMENT**  
Making government feckless  
and incompetent

## Die, democracy, die!

**IT'S THE CIRCLE OF DEATH FOR DEMOCRACY,** writes scholar **Lawrence Pettit** in **Quora**. "People who hate government elect people who hate government to govern, and they oblige by making government feckless and incompetent, so that the case of government haters is strengthened and they again elect government haters to misgovern."

"This process continues to lower the IQ of the voting public, until the good things about government are hollowed out, an authoritative regime takes over, and only the bad things about government remain, elaborated by tyrants."

Thus, government abandons social justice, and all that is left is oppressive social control. But if I am wrong, let me know..."

*Illustration by Jeffrey Smith for  
'How to Build an Autocracy'  
(The Atlantic)*

THROUGHOUT  
THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING  
**DARK RED TYPE**  
OPENS A RELATED  
INTERNET LINK.

"Volunteers don't get paid not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."  
~ **Sherry Anderson**

## TP or not TP?

**THE TIMING FOR MY WEIRDEST AUDITION STORY** is very funny since toilet paper is such a hot item right now," actress **Sarah Hernandez** of "House of Payne" and "The Mentalist" reveals on The Casting Networks blog.

"I was auditioning for "Labor Pains" for the role of a young mother, and my actual mom suggested I hold a prop baby during the scene as a way to stand out. So, we used what we had on hand to create one, which ended up being three rolls of toilet paper stacked on top of each other and wrapped up in a bath towel she had in her car so that the prop baby was kind of swaddled in it."

"It had seemed like a good idea at the time, but when I walked in for the audition, I was nervous the prop baby would distract from the scene and might cost me the role. But instead, it ended up booking me the job. I know that because when I got on set, the director said, 'Oh, my gosh, I loved your audition tape and your prop baby. You're the only one that did that, so I had to have you on set.'" It's a wrap!!

"Who is this Rorschach guy, and why does he paint so many pictures of my parents fighting?"  
~ **Phil's Phunnies**

## Across the pond

Advice from the U.K about COVID-19:

Walk to the pub. (exercise)  
Put lime in your vodka. (fruit)  
Celery in your Bloody Mary. (veggies)  
Drink outdoors on the patio. (fresh air)  
Tell jokes with your mates and laugh. (eliminate stress)  
And then pass out. (rest)

The way the Brits see it... If you keep your alcohol levels up, the virus can't get you -- and remember, "A shot in the glass is better than one in the ass!"

■ **CONTINUED**

"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves."

~ Helen Keller

## Ch-ch-ch-changes!

**H**ERE IS AN E-MAIL SENT TO CLARENCE PAGE of the *Chicago Tribune* after an article he published concerning a name change for the

### Washington Redskins:

Dear Mr. Page, I agree with our Native American population. I am highly insulted by the racially charged name of the Washington Redskins. One might argue that to name a professional football team after Native Americans would exalt them as fine warriors, but nay, nay. We must be careful not to offend, and in the spirit of political correctness and courtesy, we must move forward.

Let's ditch the **Kansas City Chiefs**, the **Atlanta Braves** and the **Cleveland Indians**. If your shorts are in a wad because of the reference the name Redskins makes to skin color, then we need to get rid of the Cleveland Browns. The **Carolina Panthers** obviously were named to keep the memory of militant Blacks from the '60s alive. Gone. It's offensive to us white folk.

The **New York Yankees** offend the Southern population. Do you see a team named for the Confederacy? No! There is no room for any reference to that tragic war that cost this country so many young men's lives. I am also offended by the blatant references to the Catholic religion among our sports team names. Totally inappropriate to have the **New Orleans Saints**, the **Los Angeles Angels** or the **San Diego Padres**.

Then there are the team names that glorify criminals who raped and pillaged. We are talking about the horrible **Oakland Raiders**, the **Minnesota Vikings**, the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers** and the **Pittsburgh Pirates**! Now, let us address those teams that clearly send the wrong message to our children.

The **San Diego Chargers** promote irresponsible fighting or even spending habits.

The **New York Giants** and the **San Francisco Giants** promote obesity, a growing childhood epidemic. Wrong message to our children.

The **Cincinnati Reds** promote downers/barbiturates. The **Milwaukee Brewers**? Well, that goes without saying. Wrong message to our children.

As diehard Oregon State fans, my wife and I, with all of this in mind, suggest it might also make some sense to

change the name of the Oregon State women's athletic teams to something other than "the **Beavers**" (especially when they play Southern California. Do we really want the Trojans sticking it to the Beavers???)

I always love your articles and I generally agree with them. As for the Redskins name, I would suggest they change the name to the "Foreskins" to better represent their community, paying tribute to the dickheads in Congress.



What's the difference between Las Vegas and Wuhnan? What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas."

~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

## On a tear!

**M**Y NEIGHBOR WAS WORKING IN HIS YARD when he was startled by a late-model car that came crashing through his hedge and ended up on his front lawn! He rushed to help an elderly lady driver out of the car and sat her down on a lawn chair and suggested, "You appear a bit old to be driving."

"Well, yes, I am," she replied proudly. "I'll be 97 next month and am now old enough that I don't even need a driver's license anymore."

"Really?" he asked skeptically, "And how did you manage that?"

■ CONTINUED



"Well, the last time I went to my doctor, he examined me and asked if I had a driver's license, and I told him, 'Yes' and handed it to him. He took scissors out of the drawer, cut the license into pieces, and threw them in the waste basket, saying, 'You won't need this anymore.'"

"So, I thanked him and drove home!"

I tried walking up a hill without a watch  
but had neither the time nor the inclination.  
~ Phil's Phunnies

### DANNY GOLDMAN

October 30, 1939 – April 12, 2020



## Picture this!

**A** NEW YORK ATTORNEY REPRESENTING A wealthy art collector called his client and said, "Saul, I have some good news, and I have some bad news."

"I've had an awful day," the art collector replied. "Give me the good news first."

The lawyer said, "Well, I met with your wife today, and she informed me that she just invested \$5,000 in two pictures that she thinks will bring a minimum of \$15-\$20 million, and I think she could be right."

"Well done!" Saul replied enthusiastically. "You've just made my day! My wife is a brilliant businesswoman, and now I know I can handle the bad news. What is it?"

The lawyer replied, "The pictures are of you and your secretary."

"The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard but must be felt with the heart."  
~ Helen Keller

## Leaving us

...WITH GREAT MEMORIES: ACTOR, BELOVED CASTING director and fellow Smurf, **Danny Goldman**; old-time ukelele virtuoso and deliciously antic Grammy-winning performer, **Ian Whitcomb**; the irreplaceable powerhouse



### PETER BEARD

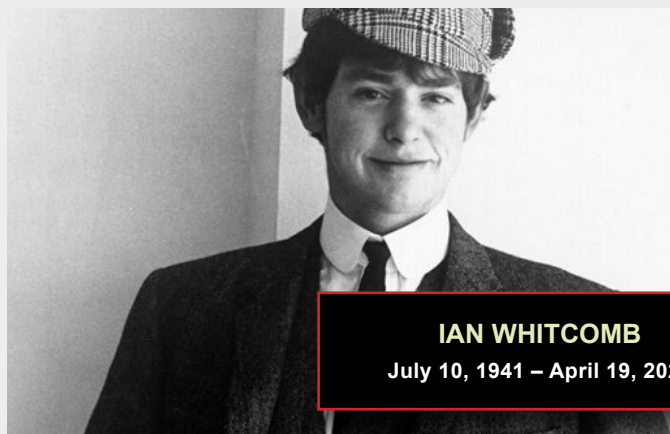
January 22, 1938 – April 2020

performer and multiple award-winner over an illustrious and wide-ranging career, **Brian Dennehy**; dashing wildlife and NY wild life chronicler, **Peter Beard** (Yale '61), and finally, our sweet longtime friend **Allen Daviau**, five-time Academy-Award nominated cinematographer for such films as *E.T.* and *The Color Purple*.

■ CONTINUED

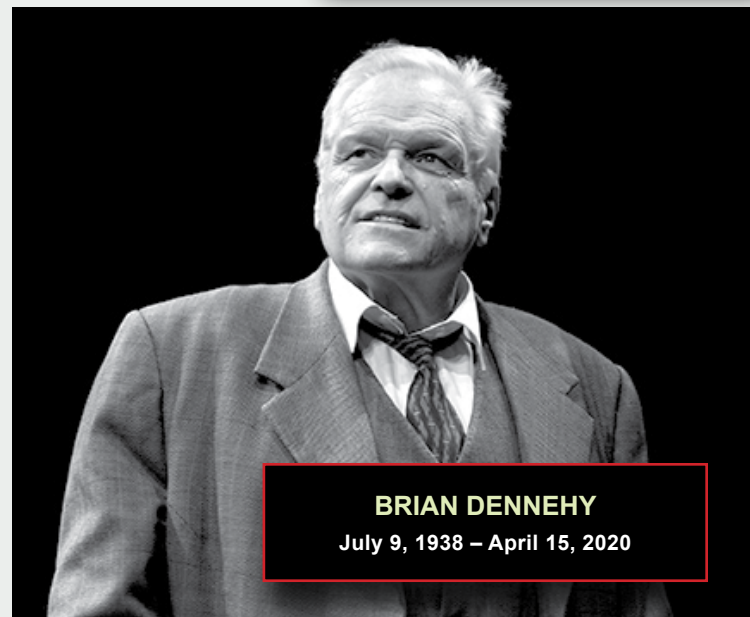
### IAN WHITCOMB

July 10, 1941 – April 19, 2020



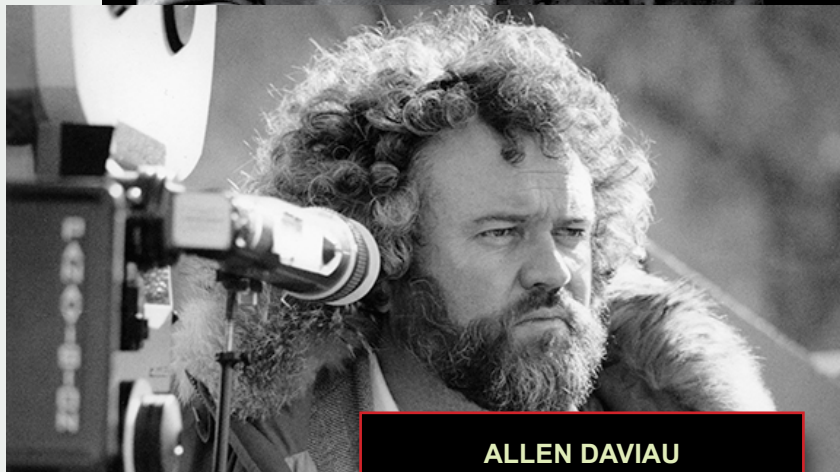
### BRIAN DENNEHY

July 9, 1938 – April 15, 2020



### ALLEN DAVIAU

June 14, 1942 – April 15, 2020



## PETER HUNT

December 19, 1938 – April 26, 2020

Live long, Bonnie!

Yes, **Phil and Ted's Sexy Boomer Show** is coming soon to your favorite podcast platform with a special "Bunker to Bunker" series, featuring

## Phil and Ted's



## Sexy Boomer Show

intimate and funny conversations with sheltered-in-place Hollywood

luminaries including **John Goodman, Harry Shearer, Kevin Pollak, Melanie Chartoff, David Ossman, Leonard Maltin, Phil Hendrie, Jamie Alcroft** and **Danny Mann** and features original comedy and rarely played dropins from The Firesign Theatre and Proctor & Bergman. And the SueMedia-produced radio play, **Debs in Canton**, featuring me as the Socialist firebrand and my wife **Melinda Peterson** as my wife, will premiere at the **HEAR Now Festival** online June 12, the actual day of his historic speech, and will be available to NPR stations all over the U.S. **INFO**

"The great arrogance of the present is to forget the intelligence of the past."

~ Ken Burns

## PLANETCLICK

### Reporters

**WINNIE  
EGG ME ON  
WALMARTIANS  
RINGO  
SHREDDER  
LES MIZ  
TRAMP  
TRUMP TRIPS  
TROMP  
TRUMPED**

We helped Allen get into the union when he shot the Firesign Theatre's *Everything You Know is Wrong*, which we lip-synced to our prerecorded track. And Allen is the first of our dear friends to succumb to COVID-19.

And just before we went into orbit, I got word that another Yale associate, **Peter Hunt**, '61, who gained fame with **1776** and went on to a "vibrant" award-winning career directing and producing for stage, TV and film, had passed on from complications of Parkinson's. In the **Yale Dramat** Peter honed his skills as a brilliant lighting designer working with such future luminaries as **John Badham, Tom Ligon, Skip Hinnant, Austin Pendleton, Sam Waterston** and – well, **me**, before becoming artistic director of the Williamstown Playhouse. Stay safe, seekers!

"No sudden inspiration can replace the long years of arduous labor necessary to train the eye to observe, the hand to reproduce." ~ **Auguste Rodin**

### Supporters

**M**elinda Peterson, Robert Proctor, Tom Hensley, Jamie Alcroft, Thom Hartmann, Joan Allemand, Neil Toffee, Bob Schulenberg, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Newsthump, and The 365 Stupidest Things Ever Said calendar by Ross and Kathryn Petras.

\*And a very happy 60th Birthday to Melinda's "baby sister," **Bonnie**, who the Peterson family feted in an online Zoom party, including a terrific slideshow by **Linda Pountney**!



**'BONNIE' BONNIE**  
Zooming past 50!

"I invented a new word today. Plagiarism." ~ Phil's Phunnys

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