

PLANET NUMBVEMBER

"History never looks like history
when you're living through it."
~ John Gardner



More Heresy from Herschel

Although I love his candy bars, his ear candy contains too many nuts for my taste. Nevertheless, here's the latest from **Herschel Walker**, Georgia's Republican Senate candidate, which clearly clarifies his platform by rehashing the plot of a late-night horror film he recently watched whose title he remembered as "Fright Night, Freak Night, or some type of night."

"I don't know if you know," he explained, "but vampires are some cool people, are they not? But let me tell you something that I found out: a werewolf can kill a vampire. Did you know that? I never knew that. So, I don't want to be a vampire anymore. I want to be a werewolf."

Walker also said the vampire in the film was "looking real good in his black suit," And added, "Whoa! That sounds like Senator Warnock, doesn't it?" Indeed, Herschel's opponent, **Rev. Raphael Warnock**, was pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, formerly home to the great civil rights leader **Martin Luther King**, before becoming the first Black senator from Georgia and only the 11th Black senator, ever.

Walker, on the other hand, has fathered several unacknowledged children, been denounced by his own son, and though campaigning on an anti-abortion platform, is alleged to have pressured two women to have abortions.

But in the movie, the vampire attacked by a cross and holy water, proved immune to its expected effects, leading Walker to exclaim that this showed that It don't even work unless you've got faith. "We gotta have faith. We gotta have faith in our fellow brothers. Gotta have faith in this country. We gotta have faith in elected officials. And right now, that's the reason I'm here."

Yep. Counting on the electorate's willing suspension of disbelief, I guess...

"People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought, which they seldom use." ~ **Soren Kirkegaard**

PUPPET ON RIGHT

Herschel Walker endorses Werewolf
over former vampires.



Here's a big plug

"THE REASONS YOU SHOULD NEVER BUY AN electric car are many – too many to list here," says **Barry Green** on Quora, "So I'll only address a few."

1. You should never buy an electric car **if you are addicted to the smell of gas** on you and or your clothing and shoes.
2. You should never buy an electric car if you just can't live without being **nickeled and dimed** for routine and suggested maintenance.
3. You should never buy an electric car if you are hell-bent on **not having instant torque**.
4. You should never buy an electric car if you are wanting to stand firmly in your opinion that electric cars are a **fad for a niche market**.
5. "I could go on, but I think you get the picture."

"A man is just as happy as he makes up his mind to be."
~ **A. Lincoln**

Aye, there's the rub

ALTHOUGH THERE'S A NEW MOVIE DIRECTED by **Guillermo del Toro**, there is an intriguing folktale concerning **Pinocchio** that claims he never became a real boy but instead grew up and became a fully developed wooden man!

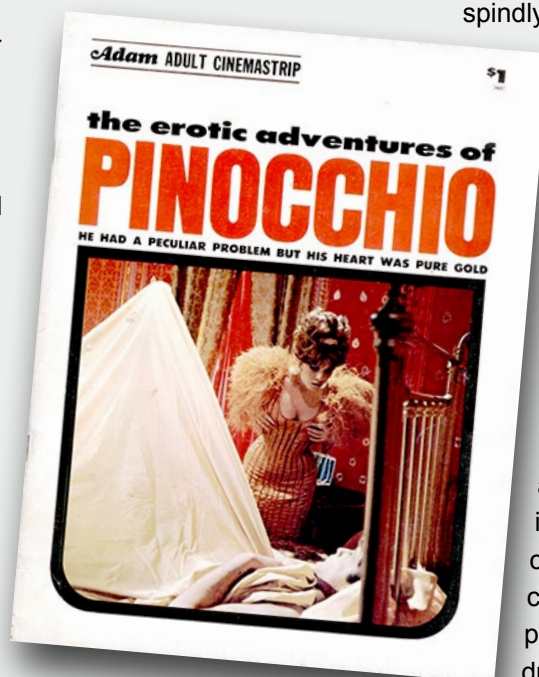
One night, Pinocchio's girlfriend says to him, "You know I love you Pinocchio, but I have to confess that every time we make love... I get splinters."

So, Pinocchio, abashed, goes to Geppetto to ask his advice.

"Sandpaper, my boy," says the old man, "That's all you need. But just be careful with it, so as 'knot' to injure yourself!"

"Thanks, father," says the puppet man, and a few days later Geppetto runs into Pinocchio and says, "So, my dear boy, how are you doing with the girls now?"

"Who needs girls?" says Pinocchio.



"Learn from the mistakes of others. You can never live long enough to make them all yourself."

~ **Groucho Marx**

Toot-toot

CHESTER, ILLINOIS, IS A SMALL TOWN WHOSE only claim to fame is its unique **Popeye Museum**, and there you will learn the true origins of this immortal character...



As the story goes, **Dolan Morgan** worked at the local tavern hauling kegs of beer, and whenever a fight broke out in the tavern, mighty Morgan would wade in and in minutes several men would be out cold on the floor! And so, Dolan became the inspiration for **Elzie Crisler Segar** (pictured at left with two

young fans) to create "Popeye the Sailor Man," who first appeared in the daily King Features comic strip Thimble Theatre on January 7, 1929.

And his girl pal, Olive Oyl, was also based on a local, a spindly shopkeeper who became a main character a decade before Popeye's appearance.

The one-eyed, spinach-gobbling sailor quickly became the main focus of the strip during the '30s and became so popular that the strip's title became "Popeye," leading to appearances in countless animated cartoons for theaters and TV.

After Segar died in 1938, Thimble Theatre was continued by several writers and artists, most notably Segar's assistant **Bud Sagendorf**. In 1933, **Max Fleischer** adapted the Thimble Theatre characters into a series of "Popeye the Sailor" theatrical cartoon shorts for Paramount Pictures, which continued production through 1957. These productions also included Allied propaganda during the Second World War, and lead to comic books, television cartoons, video

games, hundreds of advertisements, peripheral products ranging from spinach to candy cigarettes, and **Robert Altman's** 1980 live-action

■ **CONTINUED**



ALT-MAN

Live action 'Popeye' ala Robert Altman in 1980, with Dooley, Duvall and Robin

film starring **Robin Williams** as Popeye, **Shelley Duvall** as Olive Oyl and our dear friend **Paul Dooley** as Wimpy. **Charles M. Schulz** said, "I think Popeye was a perfect comic strip, consistent in drawing and humor." In 2002, TV Guide ranked Popeye number 20 on its list of the "50 Greatest Cartoon Characters of All Time."

However, when Popeye was created in 1929, *spinach* was slang for *cannabis*. It can be heard, for example, in that sentence in the number "The Spinach Song (I Didn't Like It The First Time)" by the jazz band **Julia Lee and Her Boyfriends**, who also had a hit with "Lotus Blossom (Sweet Marijuana)." They performed in jazz clubs in Kansas City where a cloud of weed smoke hung every evening. They used spinach as a metaphor for marihuana and as American sailors were among the first to smoke cannabis

in the United States, why shouldn't the spinach-addicted Popeye ingest his greens through his pipe?

And of course, '30s anti-pot propaganda implied that cannabis made you immune to bullets and gave you supernatural powers, just like Popeye used to sing: "I'm strong to the finish 'cause I eat me spinach", and do you recall that his dog was named Birdseed because in those days birdseed contained hemp seed, so SING ALONG, MATEYS:

"Spinach has vitamin A, B and D, but spinach never appealed to me But one day while having dinner with a guy, I decided to give it a try

I didn't like it the first time, it was so new to me



REAL CHARACTERS

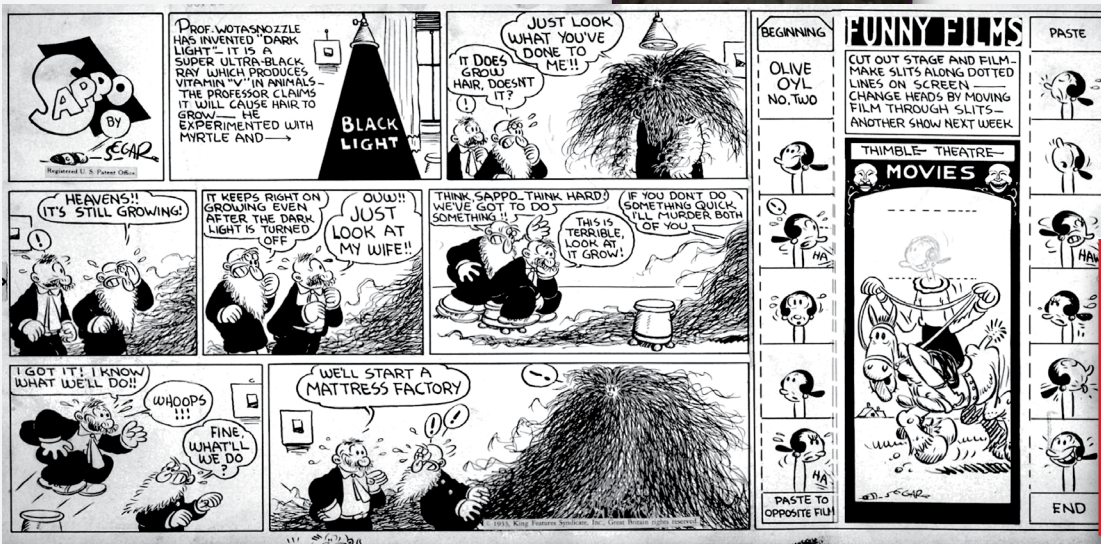
Chester, Illinois residents who were the inspiration for residents of Popeye's world:

Left, top to bottom: Frank 'Rocky' Fiegel, Popeye; Dora Paskel, Olive; and L. William Schuchert, Wimpy

I didn't like it the first time, I was so young, you see

I used to run away from the stuff, but now somehow I can't get enough

I didn't like it the first time, oh, how it grew on me!"



"Forget the Joneses, I keep up with the Simpsons." ~ Phil's Phunny Phacts

■ CONTINUED

E.C. Segar's 'Sappo' (1933)

One of Segar's early cartoons. Note the DIY filmstrip to be made by snipping Olive and running her through the slits!

Bear with me

A PHOTOGRAPHER, WHO WAS ALSO A confirmed atheist, decided to go into the woods to capture photos of the fall foliage. It was a beautiful day: fall colors, birds chirping, a babbling brook, and a gentle breeze rustling the leaves. While snapping shots, the photographer heard a noise behind him and whirled around to see a huge bear coming through the bushes.

He dropped his camera and ran. And kept running and running... And looking behind him, he noticed the bear was gaining on him! He was so scared that tears

came to his eyes. He ran faster, but the bear was closing in on him. He ran faster yet and tripped over a root. Rolling over onto his back, the man saw the bear rise to his full height and raise a huge paw... and the atheist cried out, "Oh, God, no!" And everything stopped. The birds stopped chirping. The brook stopped babbling. The gentle breeze stopped. And the bear froze with his paw in the air.

And the man heard a booming voice say, "Young man. For years you've doubted my very existence, but now that your life is in peril you call my name to help you. Why should I do so?"

And the man thought for a moment, and said, "Yes, you are right. If you are God, then it would be hypocritical of me to become a Christian at this point in my life. But, do you think that you could at least make

the bear a Christian for today?" And the booming voice was quiet for a moment and then said, "Done." And everything started again. The birds chirping, brook babbling, and gentle breeze rustling the leaves. And the bear slowly lowered his paw.

Then the bear put his paws together, and bowed his massive head and said, "Dear Lord, please bless this food we are about to eat."



TIME TO PREY
Crafty creatures use deception
before they attack the weak.

"All formal dogmatic religions are fallacious and must never be accepted by self-respecting persons as final."

~ Hypatia of Alexandria



Is Trump trumped?

A N L.A. TIMES LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM Steve Klein of Thousand Oaks suggests that Donald J. Trump is *ineligible* to run in 2024 because "He never conceded his loss in 2020, and he and his lemmings still claim he won.

"And therefore," Klein concludes, "he is currently in the middle of his second term and cannot run for a third. Either he admits his loss in 2020, or he can't run. He can't have it both ways."

And incidently, he announced he is running again for President exactly 666 days since he left office. So – vote for the Anti-Christ or be damned!

"All is flux, nothing is stationary." ~ **Heraclitus**

"Keep your head, and always carry a lightbulb."
~ Advice from **Bob Dylan**

Who is that masked man?

A MALE PATIENT WAS LYING IN BED IN THE hospital, wearing an oxygen mask over his mouth and nose, still heavily sedated from a difficult four-hour surgical procedure.

A young student nurse came into his room, ready to give him a partial sponge bath. "Nurse," he mumbled from behind the mask. "Are my testicles black?"

Embarrassed, the young nurse replied: "I don't know, Sir. I'm only here to wash your upper body." He struggled to ask again: "Nurse, are my testicles black?"

Worried that he might elevate his vitals over concern about his testicles, she overcame her embarrassment and sheepishly pulled back the covers.

She raised his gown, held his penis in one hand and his testicles in the other, lifting and moving them around and around gently. Then, she took a close look and said: "No sir, they aren't. And I assure you, there's nothing wrong with them!!" The man weakly pulled off his oxygen mask, smiled at her and said, very slowly:

"Thank you very much. That was wonderful. But listen very, very closely.... "Are my test results back?"

"The road to Hell is paved with adverbs." ~ **Stephen**

Seekers

Richard Wilhite, Jr., Jamie Alcroft, Laurence Budd, Donna Walker, Dave Logan, Nick Oliva, Babamail, *The Weekly*, and farewell to far too many legends like **Jerry Lee Lewis**, who perhaps suffered from "Great Balls of Fire," the publicly and privately adorable **Leslie Jordan**, the real Hogan's Hero, **Robert Clary**, and our personal friend, and Public Radio personality, **Renee Pringle**, whom we remember below.

PLANETCLICK

**PEEPERS
BOOMERS
WEIRD
DISNEY-90
JOHN ELTON
MUSK-EX**

Hear now

RENE E MICHELLE PRINGLE, PEACEFULLY transitioned into eternal rest at the age of 69, on Sunday, October 16, 2022. A native Washingtonian, she was the first Black woman hired as an Audio Engineer at National Public Radio, where she worked for 42 years.

She also worked with NBC/Channel 4 and the Rites of Passage Womanhood

Training Program at Union Temple Baptist Church, in Washington, DC. But to us

who were inspired by her presence at the Midwest HearNow Radio Festivals in recent years, she was an admired collaborator, whose premature passage came unexpectedly after a series of unfortunate personal setbacks, including losses in a house fire.

We will miss you dearly, Renee.

*You only live once, but if you do it right,
once is enough." ~ **Mae West***



TRAILBLAZING RENEEES
Pringle, right, with Renee
Montagne in 1989.

And attention Sexy Boomers

I & **TED BONNITT** ARE NOW APPEARING (MOSTLY live) on **Phil & Ted's Sexy Boomer Show** every Tuesday from 1-2 on Pacifica's KPDK (As long as the station lasts!)

After a revealing show about the Kennedy assassination, we will feature our covid conversation with **Weird Al Yankovic** to coincide with release of his bio-pic: **Weird: The Al Yankovic Story** on Roku.

"A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for." ~ John G. Shed

Visit the new **FIRESITE** and the old **BOOMERS**

HOME • FORTUNE COOKIE • RIGHT WING UNCLE • MERCH

To join the Planet Proctor mailing list **CLICK HERE**.

PLANET PROCTOR © Phil Proctor 2022 • layout and production Cristofer Gross / **Theatertimes.org**