

"I write because I don't know what I think until I read what I say." ~ Flannery O'Connor

Planet Feb-blur-ary

God help me

A man drives to the local mall. He has been driving around and around for quite some time, struggling to find a parking space.

"Lord," he prays. "I can't stand this. If you open a space up for me, I swear I'll give up the drink and go to mass every Sunday."

Suddenly, the clouds part, and the sun shines on an empty parking spot.

Without hesitation, the man says, "Never mind, found one!"

"I asked God for a bike, but I learned God doesn't work that way. So, I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness." ~ Anon

It's Greek to me

From Planeteer **Allen Schill** in Italy comes this old, and I mean *very old*, joke. "It comes from the ancient Greek world," he writes, "and is about a clueless person – **Homer Simpson** is a modern example.

Anyway, it seems that the Greeks held the intelligence of Cretans (the people of Crete, that is!) in very low esteem; so here it is:

A Cretan is walking with his companion, an Athenian, when he sees a eunuch across the street strolling with an attractive young woman. "See that eunuch over there?" says the Cretan to his friend. "I'll bet that's his wife whose hand he's holding."

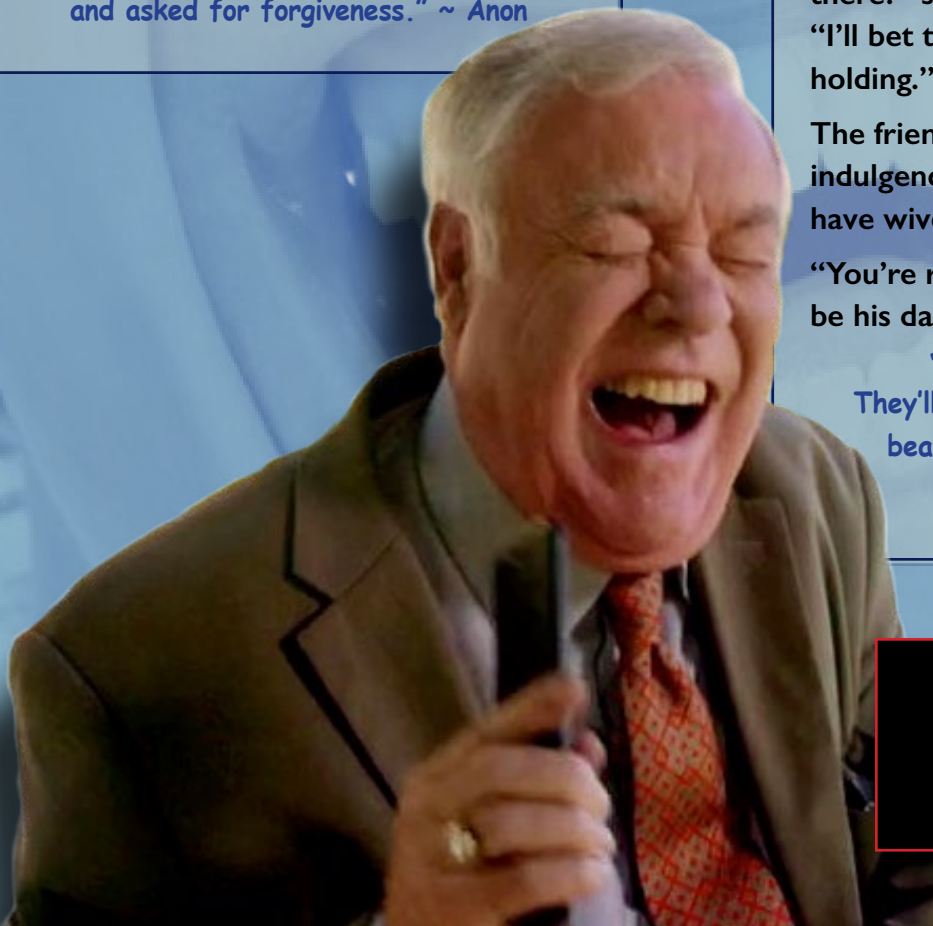
The friend answers (with gentle indulgence) "But eunuchs, you know, don't have wives."

"You're right," says the Cretan. "It must be his daughter."

"Do not argue with an idiot. They'll drag you down to their level and beat you with experience." ~ Anon

JEST FOR LAFFS

Doctor Proctor's
Prescriptive Reading Formula



Testing one, two, six

SIT IN A CHAIR WITH BOTH FEET ON THE ground. then lift your right foot a few inches off the floor.

Now, make a clockwise circle with your foot and at the same time, try to write the numeral six with your right hand.

If you are *six-sessful*, let me know at **PHIL.PROCTOR@MAC.COM**, and who cares?

"That's man all over for you. Blaming on his shoes the faults of his feet." ~ Samuel Beckett

She gave him the bird

A WOMAN WANTED TO FIND A PET TO KEEP HER company at home while her husband, Keith, was away on business and decided she'd to find a beautiful parrot to keep her company. After all, it wouldn't take as much work as a dog and it would be fun to hear it speak. So, she went to a pet shop and immediately spotted a large colorful parrot with a sign on the cage that said \$50.

"Why so little," she asked the pet store owner. "Look," he said, "I should tell you first that this bird used to live in a whorehouse, a house of prostitution, and sometimes it says some pretty vulgar stuff."

The woman thought about this but decided she'd buy the bird anyway, so she took it home, hung the cage in the living room and waited for it to say something.

The bird looked around, then at her, and said, "New house, new madam." She was a bit shocked at the implication but then thought "Big deal. that's not so bad."

But when her two teenage daughters returned home from school, the bird saw them and said, "New house, new madam, *new girls*."

Their mom explained the situation, and they all laughed about it. Moments later, her husband came home from two weeks on the road.

The bird looked at him and said, "Hi Keith."

CHARACTER RECOGNITION
New pet, long memory.



"Good judgement comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgement."

~ Mark Twain

Everything you know is wrong

IF YOU STOP GETTING THIRSTY, YOU NEED TO DRINK more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off. Drinking water after eating reduces the acid in your mouth by 61 percent. Drinking a glass of water before you eat may help digestion and curb appetite. Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that is why it is found in some medicines. Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

The banana cannot reproduce itself. It can be propagated only by the hand of man. Strawberries and cashews are the only fruits whose seeds grow on the outside. Avocados have the most calories of any fruit at 167 per hundred grams.

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

Peanut oil is used for cooking in submarines because it doesn't smoke unless it's heated above 450F.

Nine out of every ten living things live in the ocean. Glass takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times! Gold is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years. In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage.

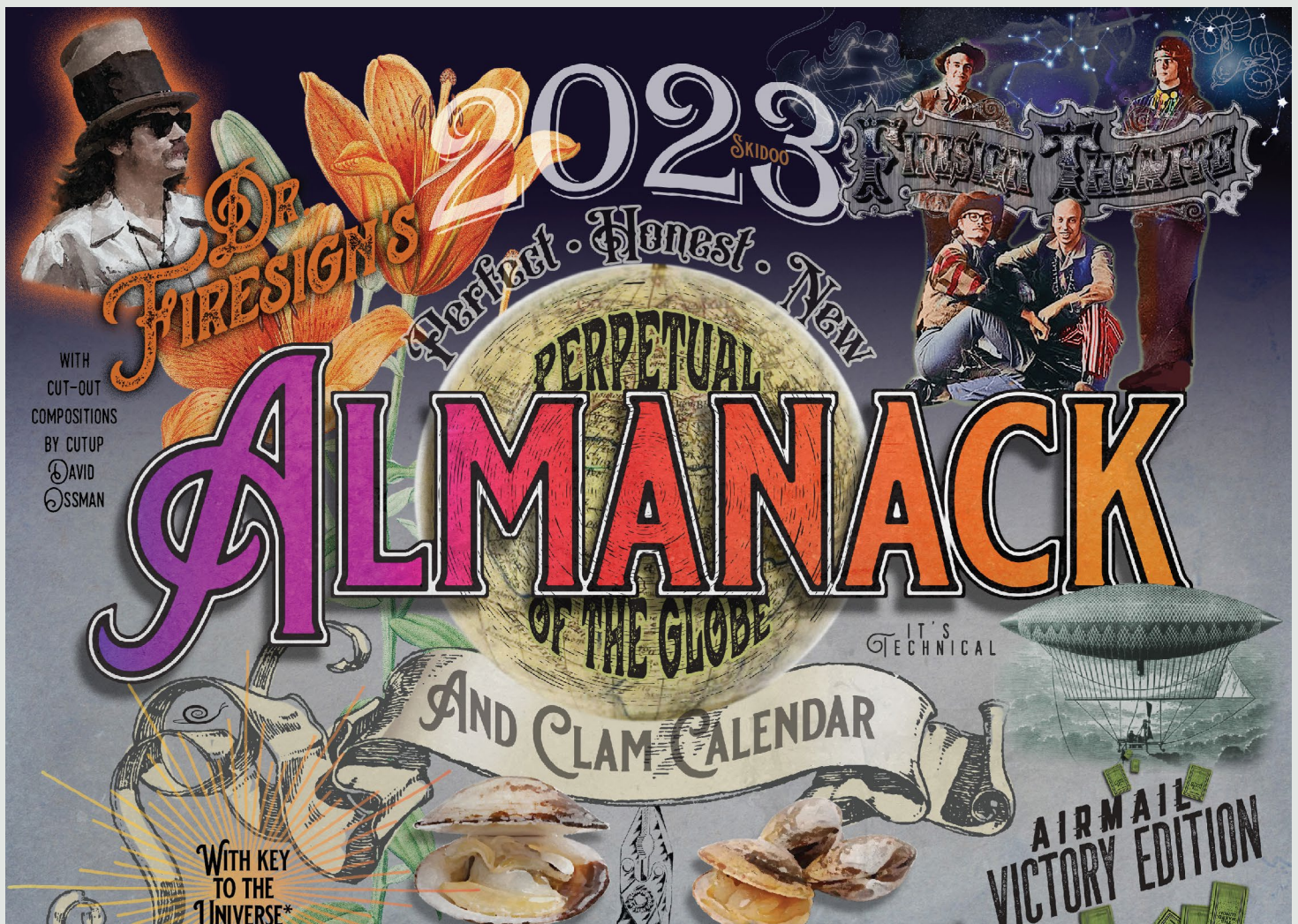
Catching it meant she accepted!

Kites were used in the American Civil War to deliver letters and newspapers. The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent. Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is joined at only one point; and when a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go – *What?* – and the last sense we lose is sight. See?

"Republicans are for both the man and the dollar, but in case of conflict the man before the dollar."

~ A. Lincoln

■ **CONTINUED**



Comeuppances

ATENTION, SEEKERS! THANKS TO THE ARTISTIC genius and fellow Firehead, Floridian **Bruce Snyder**, we are proud to offer a compendium of useful and useless information, **The Perpetual Almanack of the Globe and Clam Calendar for 2023!**

You can get your grimy hands on your very own glossy copy directly from the twisted maestro himself, for only \$29.98, by [CLICKING HERE](#).

And then for **FREE**, you can hear me and my darling wife **Melinda** in the hysterical recreation of a classic Jack Benny show starring the irrepressible impressionist **Brad Zinn** as Jack. It first streams February 18, and thence forever after:



And at last, of course, **Phil & Ted's Sexy Boomer Show** is now **LIVE** every Tuesday from 1-2 p.m. on listener-

supported KPFK, where Firesign Theatre was born!

Be there or be square, because there's really no greater thrill for us than to be broadcasting live again, and the incredible interviews so far will soon be posted at our **FACEBOOK PAGE**, so **STAY TUNED**.

"Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want."

~ Randy Pausch, computer scientist

Displace or yours?

MY DEAR FRIEND AND SCROLL & KEY comrade at Yale, **Paul Gorman**, has informed me that, according to *The New York Times*:

"The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, which tracks people displaced within their own country (for any reason) estimated that disasters displaced an average of 800,000 U.S. residents every year from 2008 through 2021."

Well - count me out!

"All of humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone." ~ Blaise Pascal

Give it up

A YOUNG NEWLYWED COUPLE WANTED TO join a church. The pastor told them, "We have special requirements for new parishioners. You must abstain from making love for two weeks." The couple agreed and returned after two weeks passed.

"Well," the pastor asked, "Were you able to get through two weeks without being intimate?"

"Pastor, I'm afraid we were not able to go without making love for two weeks," the young man sheepishly replied.

"So, what happened?" inquired the pastor.

"Well, my wife was reaching for a can of corn on the top shelf and dropped it, and when she bent over to pick it up, I was overcome with lust and took advantage of her right then and there."

"You understand, of course," said the minister solemnly, "this means you can not be welcome in our church."

"That's OK," said the man, "We won't be welcome back to the grocery store either."

"Macho does not prove mucho." ~ Zsa Zsa Gabor

Personal passings

I WAS VERY SAD TO HEAR THAT EMERITUS professor **George Irvin** had passed away. A respected and important progressive development economist, George worked at the International Institute of Social Studies for 25 years conducting research. He also consulted in Africa, Asia and Latin America and later took a position at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. But his best work was his study on income distribution in the USA and UK. He cared deeply for his colleagues and students, for he loved life, and he is remembered fondly for the twinkle in his eye.

Melinda and I were able to spend some fun-filled days with George and his wife **Lindsay** at their charming home in Hove, near Brighton Beach. But previously, we were very close friends at Riverdale Country School in the Bronx,

and I even spent a week at his father's sheep ranch in Maryland, shoveling out the compacted shit in their winter barn. That's friendship, or at least, *deep sheep dip*.

AND MORE RECENTLY, I was truly shocked to learn of the death by natural causes of Tony and Emmy-nominated **Charles Kimbrough** (below right), at 86. Chuck attained fame and fortune portraying an uptight newscaster during the 10-year run of "Murphy Brown," from 1988 to 1998.

He and I were at Yale together in the early '60s, where he performed with and later married the beautiful and talented **Mary Jane Wilson**, who played opposite me in **Austin Pendleton's** musical adaptation of *Tom Jones* with lyrics



co-authored by a certain **Peter Bergman**!

After their divorce in 1991, Chuck met his second wife, actor **Beth Howland**, in a production of *Company*; but I will always remember his engaging charm and innate talent as part of the Drama School, back at Yale.

"Exit laughing," Chuck.

"We are all born to die; the difference is the intensity with which we choose to live."

~ Gina Lollobrigida

Friends

Bob Joles, Allen Schill, Jim Meskimen, Henry Jaglom, Kent Mc Caman, Kenneth Wilhite, Jr., Sevan Minasian, Sue Kocielo, Melinda Peterson, Nick Oliva, and BaBa for anecdotes, and *The Week* for many quotes. And thank you, "Sleepy" **Joe Biden** for the "woke" State of the Disunion speech! NOT INSANE!!

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves." ~ A. Lincoln

PLANETCLICK

TRENDS

DANCE

BACKSTAGE

JAG

IT'S THE LAW

"Lucky is the land that has no need of heroes." ~ Bertolt Brecht

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