

Some of the More Unusual Observances for May



by Amy McGarry

May brings us more sunshine and flowers, and more days to observe or celebrate than many might guess. If you are one of our esteemed, regular readers of the *Huckleberry Press* you are accustomed to seeing articles that focus on one holiday or tradition. As spring brings about change, I was inspired to change things up a bit for the May edition. Instead of shining a spotlight on a single holiday,, this article will highlight a selection from the many May observances I was able to dig up, some of which may be lesser known. My selection runs the gamut from the fun and a little weird, to the downright bizarre, making me ask, “Who on Earth thought up this day and why did they think we needed a day to celebrate it?”

Let’s start with the first of May, also known as World Password Day. How does one observe World Password Day? I certainly wanted to know. I learned that Password Day is meant to encourage people to use stronger passwords. Full confession: I won’t be observing this May

holiday. My passwords and I already have a complicated relationship, I dare not mess around with it. However, I did learn that there’s a whole year of IT holidays and cybersecurity awareness days. Are you a rebel who likes to break from social norms? Then May 2, is your day to let it all hang out. Literally. The second of May is National No Pants Day. Started in New York City in 2002, this day is still mostly celebrated on New York subways. But be careful. No Pants Day can and does result in legal repercussions. You might prefer to stay on the safe side and just celebrate National Play Your Ukulele Day instead, which is also observed on May 2.

May the fourth be with you on Star Wars Day. This pun on the Star Wars catchphrase, “May the Force be with you” was first recorded as being used on May 4, 1979 in England. Margaret Thatcher was just elected as Prime Minister of the UK and her political party placed a congratulations in the newspaper saying, “May the Fourth Be with You, Maggie, Congratulations!” The day became popular among Star Wars fans who pay tribute to the movie with costume parties, gaming events, and movie

marathons.

While you’re planning your Cinco de Mayo (May 5) celebration, don’t forget to hug a shed and take a selfie. That’s right, May 5, is also Hug a Shed and Take a Selfie Day. Apparently, the late 1990s Australia saw a surge of “Women’s Sheds” – communal spaces for gathering to craft, learn, or socialize. If you, too, enjoy communal spaces *and* taking selfies, mark your calendar to observe this day.

These next two May observances just might be my all-month favorites. I’m grouping them together despite the fact that they occur on separate, non-consecutive days. May 6, is International No Diet Day and May 11, is Eat What You Want Day. Both of these days promote body positivity and the rejection of diet culture. They had me at “No Diet.”

Are you still mourning the loss of one of your favorite socks that went into the dryer but never came out? May 9, Lost Sock Memorial Day, is dedicated to all the socks we’ve loved and lost. If you’re like me, you’ve held onto the single sock too long, sometimes years, always holding out hope that its partner will return. This day is

Continued on page 11...

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Neither a Romantic Fantasy or Scary Nightmare



by Robin Milligan

Emily Flynn-Delay is an artist of vivid and intriguing portraits living in Rosalia, Wash. While she mostly works in acrylic and oil-based paints, she actually began at a young age as a watercolor artist.

Emily focuses on detail and color in her imagery; so much detail that you can count the eye lashes on her subjects. Her paintings are somewhat realistic except they contain something a little more. Her color choices are stark and contrasting and seem to open up more complex thoughts and feelings for the viewer than a traditional portrait. They are captivating, interesting, and intense.

Emily said she is constantly inspired by people as well as mythology and fables. “I am inspired by the stories of bravery and perseverance in the news and media, stories from people around the world. The quiet and normal lives of my neighbors and friends. The love and support from my family inspires me daily. I think there is not enough time in

the day to create everything that I’m inspired to make.”

She continued, “I love the work of modern expressionist style portraits, and I know they have influenced my own style pretty heavily. My mother remains the biggest influence on my art, considering my entire foundation and way of thinking about art I learned from her. The eyes in my paintings are something that is always complimented and my mother is the one who taught me how to draw eyes.

“I was deeply inspired by the story of Artemisia Gentileschi, an amazingly talented and successful female portrait artist who stood up against her abuser even when she knew it would be the end of her career,” Emily said.

When asked how she got into art, Emily said, “I don’t think I have a single moment or memory that I can say my journey began, I think I have always been on this path and I just naturally followed it. It was kind of a running joke in my family that they didn’t need to ask what I wanted to be when I grew up because I was always going to be an artist.”

She continued, “I think I was incredibly lucky to be born into a family that not only encouraged artistic thinking but pragmatic problem

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solving. They were always very clear that no amount of 'talent' makes up for hard work, so I still think of myself as a student of the arts first and enjoy talking about and learning from other artists in every medium."

Emily said she loves exploring new and different mediums as well. Her drawings are incredible and lifelike, and she is known for her plaster body casting; Emily has hosted workshops to teach others plaster body casting as well. Most recently she picked up an iron for wood burning. When discussing her creation process, Emily said she makes a mockup drawing first, then projects the original photo image onto her canvas to get the key points and proportions just right. Then, she paints in blocks of color, starting with mid tones, then into darks, and then brings out the highlights last. She draws in all of those little details by hand to get the images to really pop.

Emily said, "I was extremely lucky to have a creative mother who fostered an artistic eye in me and my siblings, as well as a very supportive extended family. My older sister pursued culinary arts and my younger brother is a professional makeup artist. I always used to say my mom taught me everything, but she has said I had 'talent' before she 'got her hands on me' our family didn't really put too much stock in talent in a traditional sense, but she always said I had a sense for the world, like seeing details and patterns where others didn't.

"I think there are always obstacles in life and everyone has their own struggles," Emily said by way of explanation for one of her major struggles of finding her own voice in her art. She found that making more genuine choices led to feeling more fulfilled, satisfied with the outcome, and enjoying the process more. "I took a break from the art world for some years due to the pressure and politics involved," she said. "I let too many opinions influence my art and it wasn't mine anymore. It took me some time to get my love for creating back and find my own voice."

Spending time with her three dogs is a big part of Emily's life and joy. They follow her around whenever she is home, acting as her shadows. She also has lots of hobbies and interests, like video games and watching foreign dramas. She is constantly listening to something and loves music, audiobooks, podcasts, and comedy shows. She enjoys studying languages and cultures as well.

"I think success is a very momentary state. I don't think that because you achieve something specific, it labels your life as 'successful.' I believe that things I have done in my life were completed successfully, but I don't think of my art in a state of pass or fail. I love to create and the dialog that accompanies my art is the only outcome I pursue through it. I hope to communicate and connect with people through my art, and as long as I'm doing that, I would consider it successful," Emily shared.

"The artist career was never a romantic fantasy, and it wasn't a scary nightmare either. I always had very real expectations of what being an artist meant, and I explored a lot of creative jobs before pursuing traditional art as a career," she said. "My mission is to make a living from my art and my goal is to have more happy days than sad ones in my life."

The most exciting gig she took part in so far was at an art studio and gallery space called Art Seed. Emily said, "It didn't matter where

you were from or what art you made, they would curate a beautiful amalgamation of artworks. I was lucky to be able to show my full collection of sculptures with them before they got shut down."

It was also the largest show she has been involved in, showing nine sculptures in six rooms for three months within a rotation of up to 50 other artists. She continued, "It was spectacular. It was my favorite. It was such a cool space in a historic building with such cool architecture, it was a joy to show in. It was a beautiful collection of people and artists of so many different mediums and I was sad to see it go, but fortunately I have found a wonderful group in the Artist Collective in Spokane with equally inspiring people and artists."

When I met Emily, she was hanging a show of her artwork

at a location I was curating. She brought in these hauntingly beautiful paintings representing the Seven Deadly Sins. Perfectly odd, they bordered on realism with intense colors and concepts that she said were made of tidbits of conversations with friends. The mysteries of each painting and character attracted and held my attention. They were beautiful, inspiring, and maybe a little disturbing. The colors were vivid and strange, the detail a bit unnerving.

Emily's newest artwork is part of a group exhibition curated by Kelly Baker at the Chase Gallery in Downtown Spokane City Hall called "Portraits from Within." This show will run from May 2 – June 27, with an artist reception on May 2, from 5-7:30 p.m.

The work being shown there is from her never seen before "NAME" series. It is a collaboration with the models to work backwards from titles Emily came up with to create the imagery. She said, "Unintentionally, a lot of the concepts ended up speaking about female confidence and self-esteem and explore concepts surrounding uniquely female experiences. We talked a lot about extreme emotions and inner thoughts during the concept phase of the project, so the best way I found to portray that visually was with intense, almost painful color."

Website: emilyflynnndelay.com. Instagram: [@emily.flynn.delay](https://www.instagram.com/emily.flynn.delay). TikTok: [@emilyflynnndelay](https://www.tiktok.com/@emilyflynnndelay).

Robin Milligan is an artist and entrepreneur living in Spokane, Wash. She curates art shows, runs an IT company, and teaches ceramics and painting from her home studio. When not working, Robin spends her time with her three children exploring nature, rockhounding, making art, and swimming.



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Spring at Last



by Ray Bilderback

The signs are everywhere: Curlew Lake has lost its ice, buttercups are on the south slope, the loons are back on the lake, and I have plants growing in the greenhouse. Seems like I am happiest when I'm in the greenhouse or the garden.

I suppose it all started with a victory garden in back of our wartime duplex in Vallejo, (va-lay-ho), Calif. It was 1941, and Father was working long hours in the shipyard as a rigger, Mother was keeping house for a husband and three boys while trying to put interesting meals on the table using our food ration book. At nine, I was the oldest boy and in charge of the grocery shopping. This I did at a country store about a mile from our duplex.

In 1941, schoolrooms were in short supply in Vallejo. I was truly lucky that way; I had school in the morning and the afternoon off. I knew kids who got up late, put on school duds (no, you can't play in those) and didn't get home 'til 4 p.m. By then, the day was shot.

Note that we were not at war yet, but there were foreign ships in the harbor. Some of them needed to be resupplied with everything, from shoelaces and cabbages to fuel oil, ammunition and maybe a new engine. Some of the ships had seen combat and were in terrible shape.

From across the bay where we lived, I could make out the flags of British, free French and Russian ships. They were all a long way from their home port, and in the case of the French, their home port was occupied by Nazis. Through a lend-lease arrangement, we took care of their needs.

Needless to say, helping allies in the war against Germany was partly responsible for our food shortages. For at least three years, we had been helping to feed Britain, and we were gearing up to meet a growing threat in the Pacific. Sure enough, December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor; I was selling newspapers by that time and got to sell the Oakland Call Bulletin edition of JAPS BOMB PEARL HARBOR. No, I didn't save any copies.

Rationing got tighter. Gasoline was 17 cents a gallon, but your ration was three gallons a month. It didn't matter, Dad didn't have many days off anymore, now that our own ships began pulling in for repairs and resupply.

We tightened our belts and dug in. It is hard to describe the feeling we had for each other and for the war effort. Maybe we were just too busy to be divisive: kids dug in (save that scrap of paper, you might need it later). We saved scrap metal when we found it, bought war stamps at school to fill our own war stamp book. I took 10 cents to school every day. Remember, I was a rich newspaper boy by then.

Mother died in August of 1943, and it all came tumbling down. With father working long hours at the shipyard, there was no one to care for Mother's boys. Back home to the Sierra foothills we went.

I landed at my maternal grandparent's farm. I was 11 and in WWII terms, I was almost a man. My comfortable schedule got changed. Now, with Grandfather ill, I was milking two cows, scarfing down a quick breakfast, then hustling off to a full day of school. In my spare time, I watered and weeded a very big garden, helped Grandmother with the canning and bringing in the winter wood. Whew! Out of it all, gardening was the most fun and the most challenging.

I took part in all of it, but my story was not unique; wherever I looked, boys and girls were chipping in, doing whatever was needed to help the war effort.

Long, long years later, I still love to garden and I urge you to build up a reserve of essentials like rice, dry beans, flour, salt and so on. I hope you will also can and dry fruits and vegetables, and garden furiously. You just might enjoy the feeling of security such action brings. I know I do.

Ray Bilderback, creator of the Reuben Braddock novels, was born and raised in the Sierra foothills of California. He served in the U.S. Navy Seabees during the Korean War and taught for many years in the west. He makes his home in the mountains of eastern Washington with his archeologist wife, Madilane Perry. "In the 1930s and 1940s, where I lived, we still used horses and hand tools, canned and preserved what we grew or raised, lit our kerosene lanterns, stoked our woodstoves. In my writing, I draw from those times like water from a sweet well."

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Taste Budz Review: Acorn Saloon and Feeding Station



By Zack & Brooklyn Bolin, Facebook:
Taste Budz, Instagram: tastebudz_spokane

Zack and I decided to get Easter lunch at Acorn Saloon and Feeding Station and we were delighted not only by the food and ambience, but the excellent service as well.

What we enjoyed:

- ~Reuben and Fries
- ~Jalapeno Swiss Burger
- ~Pineapple Upside Down Cocktail
- ~Michelada

I ordered the Reuben and fries, they served it traditionally, with dark rye and corned beef.

the drinks were out of this world. It is a big pet-peeve of mine that most small-town restaurants don't provide drink menus but, to my surprise, they not only had a menu but had one of the yummiest drinks. I ordered the pineapple upside down and it is by far the best cocktail I have ever had in Colville. It's a combination of whipped vodka, grenadine, pineapple juice and whip cream. I felt like I should've been sipping it on the beach. Zack liked it so much that he got one as well.

Zack ordered the jalapeno Swiss burger; when they served it to him it looked like it was made for a commercial. The bun was perfectly fluffy, toppings were freshly sliced, and the Swiss cheese beautifully blanketed the jalapenos. He opted for no onion (per usual) and upgraded to the onion rings. The patty was fresh and juicy, and he said it was the best burger from Kettle Falls to Spokane. The onion rings were coated with a delicious, delicate batter and fried to a golden brown.

At first glance, the restaurant's exterior may not catch your eye, but stepping inside reveals a whole different world. The quirky ambience and exceptional service create an experience



puppets and a huge (tasteful) painting of a naked lady. They also had modern touches like a pool table and two TVs showing sports.

Whether you are looking for a spot to grab a drink with friends or just a meal, you will be well taken care of. Zack and I are looking forward to stopping back in to try their breakfast menu.

262 S. Main St, Colville, WA 99114, 509-684-3337.



The rye was nicely toasted and had so much flavor, the corned beef was well portioned and not overly salty. There was a perfect ratio of sauerkraut to thousand island dressing. I upgraded to the seasoned fries which had a thin, golden, crispy breading.

Not only was my sandwich to die for, but

that truly surpasses expectations. The servers that day were Mistie and Alyssa and they were both so sweet and attentive. We were expecting the interior to be country, but it was more of an antique vibe. There was a big, gorgeous chandelier hanging in the center of the restaurant and lots of fun décor, like ventriloquist

Zack & Brooklyn are a married couple that love showcasing all the fun places to play and eat in the Inland Northwest. They created Taste Budz to promote local businesses and expose people to the great restaurants all around them. Keep up with them to find your next culinary destination!

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Perils of the Drive-Through Lines



by Bob Johnson

We have survived the slippery streets and dangerous drivers (all former Californians, no doubt) of the winter season, and now can once again roll down our car windows and order the (mostly) non-nutritious nourishment available at the Inland Northwest’s drive-throughs, without our faces being pelted by wet snow.

Ah, the wintertime memories of being stopped in front of the “Order Here” sign...

Recorded Voice: “Will you be using our mobile app?”

Me: “No.” (*Splat, the sound of snow hitting my left cheek.*)

Live Voice: “Will you be using our mobile app?”

Me: “No.” (*Splat.*)

Live Voice: “What can we get for you?”

Me: “I’ll have a number one — sandwich only, please.” (*Splat.*)

Live Voice: “That’s a number one – would you like to make that a meal?”

Me: “No, thanks.” (*Splat.*) “Sandwich only.” (*Splat.*) “And that’s it.” (*Splat.*)

Live Voice: “Okay, that’s a number one, sandwich only. Would you like a slice of cheesecake for dessert?”

Me: “No – just the sandwich.” (*Splat. Splat.*)

Live Voice: “Okay, that’s a number one, sandwich only, no dessert. Does your order look correct on the screen?”

Me: “I can’t see the screen. It’s snowing too hard.” (*Splat. Splat. Splat.*)

Live Voice: “Well, if your order is correct, your total comes to six dollars and one cent. Would you like to round up to seven dollars for our team scholarship program?”

Me: “If you’ll stop asking me questions, yes.” (*Splat. Splat. Splat. Splat. Splat.*)

Live Voice: “Please pull forward.”

As I started to roll up the window, I heard

the employee, who thought she had turned off the microphone, say to someone, “Man, he was not very polite.”

I prayed that wasn’t code for, “Put a worm on his burger.”

Now that we’re well into spring, the weather woes have mostly subsided, but we’re still faced with perils both at the “Order Here” microphone and the pick-up window. The challenges vary from restaurant to restaurant, but they fall into two broad categories:

1. Effectively communicating the order.
2. Receiving food prepared the way it was ordered.

The challenge is magnified by the number of items one desires.

In our family unit, we have one person who likes spicy food, one who likes it but whose system can no longer tolerate it, and one who doesn’t like it. One thing the two “no spicers” have learned is never to order an item that also is offered in a spicy version. Especially when chicken or chicken nuggets are involved, there’s a good chance some of the spicy stuff will touch some of the regular stuff in the kitchen. If you don’t believe me, just ask my tongue.

Tacos can present another spice risk. Almost all fast-food tacos come with some sort of mouth-burning ingredient, be it a sauce, a salsa or a spice. This requires asking whether the item is spicy so you’ll know what to have left off. We’ve found that when we ask that question and the answer is along the lines of, “Oh, it’s not very spicy at all,” what it actually means is, “Better stop for a pack of Tums on the way home.”

We went to a drive-through restaurant the other day that sells tacos in pairs for a combined price. We all were in a taco mood, and the one who likes spice was really hungry. At the “Order Here” window, I asked for, “Two tacos with no sauce and two tacos with sauce.” My wife and I were going to have one no-

sauce taco apiece, while our hungry daughter was going to have two regular, spicy ones.

We didn’t check the bag when it came out the pick-up window, but as I pulled away my wife mentioned, “This feels a little heavy.”

I pulled into a parking space, and we emptied the bag. It contained four no-sauce tacos and four with-sauce tacos. The order was wrong, and we were charged the full amount for the wrong order; in other words, we paid double what we had intended to pay.

“Do you want to take them back?” I asked my wife.

Her answer embodied much wisdom: “Is there any guarantee they’ll get it right the second time?”

We took the tacos home and managed to consume them over a three-day period.

Pro tip: A taco with grease seeping through its bag does not get less greasy with time spent in the refrigerator.

Where had I gone wrong? My guess is that the restaurant’s POS (point-of-sale) system has a key or button specifically for the two-taco special. Ordering the way I had – two tacos with no sauce – would have required the order taker to use some basic logic to key in the correct POS number, which would have been a one. Ditto for the with-sauce tacos.

According to the results of a Google search, 71% of eighth graders in Washington state are not proficient in math, so that could explain the conundrum faced by the order taker when it came to dealing with multiple tacos. Then again, that search was powered by artificial intelligence, so those eighth graders may be doing even worse in terms of math proficiency.

I’ve since tried to figure out how I should have placed that order. On a previous visit to a different location of that restaurant chain, I had said, “I’ll have two orders of the two-for-one tacos, please.” The response: “So you want four tacos?”

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That order taker would have been in the upper percentile when it came to math.

Honestly, they ought to take the tacos off the “More Treats” area of their menu board and instead give them a number. Then I could simply say, “I’ll have number 15, tacos only.”

But I already know what the reply would be: “Would you like to make that a meal?”

Of course, burgers are the mainstay of American fast-food, and one of my favorite drive-through burgers is rendered completely vein-clogging by the addition of bacon slices, a couple onion rings and barbecue sauce. That sauce is a little too tangy for me, so I like to have mayonnaise added to tone it down a bit.

Each time I arrive at the “Order Here” microphone, I say the proprietary name of the burger, followed by, “add mayonnaise, please.”

Seven times out of 10 (we’ve started keeping track), the reply has been, “So you want barbecue sauce *and* mayonnaise?”

On many occasions I have bitten my lip to keep from saying, “Do you not know what ‘add’ means?”

Three times out of 10, we’ll get home and there will be no trace of mayo on the burger. This is particularly maddening because the chain has started charging for mayo if it’s not already included on the burger ordered. Fortunately, we keep a jar at home. But we’re still out 30 cents every time that happens.

Cheese also presents a challenge at local drive-throughs. Specifically, trying to have cheese removed from an item that comes with it.

Several restaurants are offering \$5-or-so

value meals that include a sandwich, some nuggets (that hopefully haven’t been near any spicy ones), an order of fries and a beverage. One of the burgers available as part of the deal has two small patties topped with cheese, ketchup, mustard and onions. My preference, however, is to have the two patties with a little mayo – no cheese, no other condiments.

I have tried ordering this burger in so many ways, and despite my best efforts, there is only a 50:50 chance that it will be delivered with just two patties and mayo. The most common mistake is that cheese is not excluded. Every so often, the special order is ignored entirely.

Here’s how I order it: “For the sandwich, I’ll have the double burger (not its real name to protect those who get it right) with mayonnaise only, no cheese.”

Sometimes, out of a sense of hunger-fueled desperation, I’ll quickly add, “That’s just the burger and mayo, please, nothing else.”

I stopped doing that when, one day, the reply was, “So you don’t want nuggets, fries or a drink?”

Because this burger comes out of the window wrong so often, I now take a moment to open the bag, open the burger wrapper and peek under the top bun. If there’s cheese on it, I send it back inside right away, politely saying, “I asked for no cheese.”

I hate to be that person in a drive-through line, but the chain’s batting average on this particular special order needs to improve.

To this chain’s credit, most of the time the reply is along the lines of, “Oh, I’m so sorry. We’ll get a fresh one made for you right away.”

I always pray that’s not code for, “Put a

worm on his burger.”

Another favorite chain is gradually working its way north, now with a growing presence in Oregon. This purveyor of hot dogs used to offer a special that was difficult to pass up: four chili-cheese dogs for \$5.

One time we ordered four chili dogs without the cheese, thus saving the restaurant some money in cost-of-goods, and I handed the person at the window a \$5 bill (for the dogs) and a \$1 bill (to cover the tax). She looked at me with a strange expression and said, “Your order comes to \$8.64.”

“What about the four-for-\$5 special?” I asked.

“That’s for chili-cheese dogs,” she answered. “You ordered just chili dogs.”

“But I’m saving you money by not ordering the cheese,” I retorted, trying to remain calm.

“I don’t have a key on my register for that,” she replied.

Even though I knew it would be challenging for them to sneak a worm onto a hot dog, I simply sighed, grabbed a \$10 bill from my wallet and made a mental note not to make that mistake again, should the chain ever make it to the Inland Northwest.

For now, I’ll simply embrace splat-free ordering for as long as it lasts.

Bob Johnson is the author of the sports biography, “Mr. 900: The Glenn Allison Story,” and recipient of 95 national writing awards. Now, he and his family are exploring the many aspects of their new home in North Idaho and the surrounding area, and Johnson is sharing his observations with Huckleberry Press readers.





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		5	7				3	
6			4			5	7	
7	8		2					
			3	1				
8		7				6		3
				7	6			
					2		4	8
	4	3			8			7
	6				7	3		

Sudoku Puzzle Instructions:

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces.

Every row must contain one of each digit – so must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

Puzzle difficulty level is "Medium." Good luck!

SUDOKU SOLUTION:

Below is the Solution to This Week's Puzzle

6	5	8	7	4	1	8	9	2
7	9	2	8	6	5	3	4	1
8	4	1	2	3	6	9	7	5
5	2	6	9	7	8	4	1	3
3	1	9	4	2	6	7	5	8
4	8	7	5	1	3	9	2	6
9	6	4	3	5	2	1	8	7
1	7	5	6	8	4	2	3	9
2	3	8	1	9	7	5	6	4



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BERRY FUNNIES

Jokes curated from the Internet and books, and created by Thea Cruden

I have a head and a tail but not a body. Who am I? A coin.

If you throw a stone in the ocean, what will it turn out to be?
Wet.

What has hands but doesn't clap? A clock.

Where does an egg keep all of its best jokes? In a yolk book.

What kind of keys do kids prefer? Cookies.

What word is spelled wrong in the dictionary? Wrong.

What country is really cold but also really hot? Chile.

What has four Is but can't see? Mississippi!

What goes up but never comes back down? Your age.

Why did the chicken cross the road? To bock traffic.

Why did the chicken cross the road?well, I am asking you?

Don't you hate it when someone answers their own question? I do.

A sandwich tried to get a reservation at a restaurant, but the waiter said they don't serve food there.

Dang it, I keep thinking today is Monday," said Jamal. "Today is Monday," said Catherine. "I know, that's why I keep thinking it!"
Reply Jamal.

"You've gotta help me doctor, my wife keeps thinking she a pretzel!" Doctor said, "Bring her here and I'll see if I can straighten her out!"

"Hey doctor, if your brain stops working, do you die?" asks the man. "What a silly question," said the doctor, "You're still alive aren't you?"

What kind of cheese is always sad? Blue cheese.

Why was the baseball player arrested? The police heard he stole a lot of bases.

Why would a benched football player want the field to flood? So, he could go in as a sub.

A boy goes into the doctor for something wrong with his foot.
The doctor tells him the boy had athlete's foot. You would think the boy would be sad, but no, he cheered and was happy and glad. He said to the doctor, "So does this mean that I can play any sport I want now and be good?"

Do you want to hear a pizza joke? Nahhh, it's too cheesy.

What did the buffalo say when his son left? Bison.

What do you call a cold dog? A chili dog.

Where do you learn to make banana splits? At sundae school.

What do you call a lion that's missing an eyes? Lon

A man went to visit a friend and was amazed to find him playing chess with his dog. The man watched the game in astonishment for awhile. "I can hardly believe my eyes!" he said. "That's the smartest dog I've ever seen." "He's not so smart," the friend replied. "I've beaten him three games out of five!"

What did one ocean say to the other? Nothing, they just waved.

I try not to tell dad jokes. But when I do, he thinks they're really funny.

What do cakes and baseball teams have in common? They both need a good batter.

Where do polar bears keep their money? In a snowbank.

Why are horses so sleepy? They're always hitting the hay.

What did one hat say to the other? You wait here. I'll go on a head.

How do you stay warm in any room? Go to the corner – it's always 90 degrees.

What insect is the sneakiest? Spy-ders.

Why are trees so unreliable? They're shady.

Why was the broom late for work? It over-swept.

Why are bunnies so great at catch? They always g-rabbit!

Why did the two rabbits get on so well? Love was in the hare.

The teacher asked little Johnny if he knew his numbers. "Yes," he said. "My father taught me." "Good. What comes after three?" "Four," answered the boy. "What comes after six?" "Seven." "Very good," said the teacher. "Your dad did a good job. And what comes after 10?" "Jack."

What's it called when French fries hang out? A ketchup.

What do you call two birds in love? Tweethearts.

How does NASA organize a party? They planet.

What is a computer's first sign of old age? Loss of memory.

My boss asked me how good I was at making spreadsheets. I told him I Excel at it.

What do computers like to eat? Chips.

Where will you find Friday before Thursday? A dictionary.

I pity the calendar. Its days are numbered.

Why did the frog take the bus to work? His car got toad.

Why did the developer go broke? Because he used up all his cache.

What kind of tea is hard to swallow? Real-i-tea.

What is a cloud's least favorite exercise? Yoga. It struggles to feel grounded.

I'm on a seafood diet. I see food, and I eat it.

What questions should you never ask while winter skating?
Icebreakers.

What snack never gets mad? Pickles. They're cool as a cucumber.

Why did the robber jump in the shower? He wanted to make a clean getaway.

What classic bar game do swimmers always win? Pool.

A waiter gives a gentleman a cup of coffee. The gentleman takes a sip and spits it out. He turns to the waiter and says, "Waiter! This coffee tastes like mud!" The waiter, looking surprised, turns to the gentleman and says, "But, sir, it's fresh ground!"

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...continued from page 1

intended to help you move on and say goodbye to single socks, find ways to repurpose them, or give them a final resting place.

If the sock ritual left you a bit sad, the next day will cheer you up for sure. This year, May 10, is World Laughter Day. It was started in India in 1998 by Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of the Laughter Yoga movement, and is now celebrated on the first Sunday of May worldwide. According to Wikipedia, the celebration of World Laughter Day is a “positive manifestation for world peace and is intended to build up a global consciousness of brotherhood and friendship through laughter.” Now that you know, all you Bloomies can laugh your way to the finish line of Bloomsday, also the first Sunday of May.

Do you always run out onto the wedding reception dance floor when you hear “The Chicken Dance” song start to play? I know I sure do. And we have a whole day in May dedicated to that phenomenon. May 14, is Dance Like a Chicken Day. I will be on the lookout for adherents dancing around with arms flapping and bottoms shaking.

Due to space constrictions, I’ve been forced to exclude Bird Day, World Turtle Day, International Chihuahua Appreciation Day and all the other animal celebration days in May. However, I simply had to include National Sea Monkey Day on May 16. This is mostly because I didn’t even know what a sea monkey was when I learned there was a day dedicated to it. I was disappointed to see that Sea Monkeys look nothing like a cross between a monkey and a fish. Maybe older readers will remember that Sea Monkeys are brine shrimp who were sold as pets in the 1950s.

Star Wars fans have another holiday to look forward to in May; the

21st is Talk Like Yoda Day. For those of you who didn’t see any of the seven movies in which Yoda appears, help you I can. To talk like Yoda, reverse the English grammar format Subject + Verb + Object format to Object + Subject + Verb. “I can help you” becomes “Help you I can.” If it’s too troublesome to translate everything you want to say on May 21, you can find a Yoda-speak generator online at yodaspeak.co.uk. This next one is for the folks who surely don’t need the Yoda-speak generator. May 25, is celebrated by some as Geek Pride Day, coinciding with the anniversary of the release of the original Star Wars movie on May 25, 1977. If you identify as a geek, you’ll want to be a little “extra” and wear your geekiest clothes and showcase your collections.


We now come to the finale, the last day of May. From No Pants Day to Password Day, May brings something for all of us to celebrate. Whether or not you choose to hug a shed or dance like a chicken, I hope everyone will join me in celebrating National Smile Day on May 31. The benefits of smiling include improved mood, stress reduction, and enhanced immunity. Yes, there’s evidence that smiling can keep you healthy. Of course, your smile makes other people feel happy and more connected to you, too. So, if the worries of the world make you forget to smile, make a commitment to celebrate Smile Day. You just might notice everything seems a little bit better when you smile.

Amy McGarry grew up in Spokane Valley, Washington. After a 20 year hiatus, she moved back to Spokane Valley where she lives with her husband, daughter and two cats. She is the author of I am Farang: Adventures of a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand, available on Amazon.com, Auntie’s Bookstore, and Barnes and Noble.

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Sarah Fisher enrolled in the Pharmacy program at Spokane Community College (SCC). She had heard about the small class sizes and faculty support from friends and family who also attended SCC. Sarah graduated as a Certified Pharmacy Technician and immediately got a job at a local hospital. Her experience at SCC set her up to transfer to WSU and pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.



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MLS# 44404 \$249,999

PRICE DROP! Just a little paint and flooring and this could be your next home. Very well maintained, large 3 bedrooms 2 bath home in the quaint town of Marcus, WA. 5 minutes to Lake Roosevelt, boat launch and Marcus Island and 10 minutes to Kettle Falls, WA. Pellet stove, electric heat pump, ceiling fan, walk in bath tub, wheel chair ramp, Laundry room is off the kitchen in its own room, with exit/entry from the attached carport. Enjoy a covered, screened in patio on the front and covered patio on the back, partially fenced large yard with room for a garden. large workshop/shed. Garage burned down a few years ago, slab and electrical are ready for a new one to go up, car shelter can stay. Contact Carrie for a showing at 509-701-3709.

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Beautifully updated split level 4-bedroom 2 bath home in the heart of Kettle Falls. Fenced large yard makes this a very private setting. Alley access on both sides of the garage for easy access. This home has all the amenities, deck overlooking the yard with great views, updated kitchen, walk-in tub, gas free standing stove, lots of windows adding light to all the rooms and an entry to the basement from the back yard. Extra-large 1 car garage with work bench and storage, plus an open carport with added storage room and Natural gas furnace. It’s all here! Currently has a VA loan.

MLS#44437 \$369,000

4-bed, 3 & 1/2-bath with 95’ of Peyee Creek frontage, Chewelah’s finest. Meander over your own bridge, with creek babbling through your fully-developed, landscaped yard. Fully fenced back yard. Charming details, wired and set up for big screen movies and stage plays. Boasting elegance and functionality. Lighting and ambiance in every room. Upstairs laundry, office or rec room as well as main bed, bath and 2 additional bedrooms with dormer windows. 2 car garage and street parking on 2 sides. Nothing was forgotten when this home was built.



MLS# 44303 \$565,000

Beautiful views from this 4 bedroom 2 bath Manufactured home on 3.67 acres. Fenced pasture for your critters with a shop and large shed for outdoor equipment. The home has a primary suite with large bath and large closet, The additional 3 bedrooms are a great size plus the main bath are located on the opposite side of the home. There is an extra living area that is currently being used as an office. The kitchen has an open concept for enjoying the home with a dining area that leads out to the patio and fenced yard.



MLS# 44393 \$399,000



MLS# 43205 \$429,000

Fully outfitted rancher with large shop and hay barn on large lot just outside KF city limits! 2 usable acres with 3 bed/2 bath upstairs, full basement with 2 additional sleeping spaces and full bath. 36’x36’ insulated shop with full roll up doors. 2 car attached garage electric 12’x7’ door, and one 8’x8’ manual. Basement is partially finished and ready for your final touches. Plumbed and wired for second

kitchen space. Don’t miss the root cellar just before going upstairs to outside from basement. Garden/greenhouse and small tack shed along with partial fencing. Some finish work still needed, but the square footage and usable 2 acres right outside city limits is outstanding.



MLS# 44277 \$599,999

Breathtaking 180’ Views of Lake Roosevelt and the Columbia River. Main floor living with Master Suite with walk in shower and large closet. Beautiful woodwork and ceilings throughout. Open kitchen, dining and living room with great views. You have to see this home to understand how comfortably elegant it is & Great for Entertaining. 1 additional bedroom on the main level and 2 bedrooms upstairs and a family room. 2 shops 36x48 /24x40, 2 car carport, 2 car attached garage. Large patio for bird watching and enjoying the views. Upstairs has a relaxing balcony with views of the mountain and fields. Did I mention the Views were Outstanding. Close to all amenities and easy access off the hwy.



MLS#44272 \$289,000

NEAT, CLEAN AND READY TO GO describes this 1995 Valley manufactured home in central Kettle Falls with comfortable floor plan. Spacious kitchen and living room, primary bedroom with bath gives lots of storage and great one-level living. Covered front and back porches, backyard with alley access and 1-car carport completes the package. New roof in 2018. Close to all schools and amenities.

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