



Betty Kaiser

Betty Kaiser's Chatterbox: Laughter cures winter blues for senior citizens

at 60-65. The Social Security Administration says that 67 is the age of retirement.

I was about 60 when Taco Bell asked me if I was a senior. So, I guess anyone with gray hair is fair game to be elderly.

Last month, my daughter Kathy started a flurry of senior jokes and advice with a "Welcome to the Golden Years" dialog. Someone passed it on to her, to pass on to me. It sounds like a mom and dad conversation because I am prone to lose keys.

Visualize Chuck and me and prepare to laugh.

"The keys weren't in my pocket. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He's afraid that the car could be stolen.

"As I looked around the parking lot, I realized he was right; the parking lot was empty.

"It was gone.

"I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car and that it had been stolen. Then I made the most difficult call of all to my husband, telling him 'I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen.'

"There was a moment of silence. I thought the call

had been disconnected but then I heard his voice. 'Are you kidding me?' he barked. 'I dropped you off at the mall!'

"Now it was my turn to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, 'Well, come and get me.' He retorted, 'I will. Just as soon as I convince the police that I didn't steal your dang car!'"

The following senior citizen quotes are mostly one-liners with attitude. My friends and I don't like to waste words explaining ourselves. We tend to be bluntly truthful and we don't take ourselves too seriously.

After you read the following quips ask yourself if, maybe, you *too* are a senior citizen:

- Today I was in a store that sells sunglasses, and only sunglasses. A young lady walked over to me and asked, "What brings you in today?" I looked at her and said, "I'm interested in buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond.

- When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I want to say, "No, it's for company!"

- It's okay if you disagree with me; I can't force you to be right.

- On aging: Eventually, you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

- Hospital and medical forms always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

- The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

- Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

- Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know WHY I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

- Reporters interviewed a 104-year old woman. "What do you think is the best thing about being 104?" they asked. "No peer pressure," she answered.

- Ann Landers said: "At age 20, we worry about what others think of us. At age 40, we don't care what they think of us. At age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all."

That's it for now. Thanks for making me laugh and forgetting it isn't spring-time. May your troubles be less, your blessings me more and nothing but happiness come through your door.

Contact Betty Kaiser's Chatterbox at 942-1317 or email bchatty@bettykaiser.com



Pet tips 'n' tales

By Mary Ellen
"Angel Scribe"

CNAs — Cat Nursing Aids

Whoever initially adopted and named Kiwi, the black and white brother and his calico sister, Mango, must have had a nutty... errr fruity sense of humor. When the siblings were six months old, they were given to a rescue center where one of 250 nursing home employees hired them on the spot.

The kittens were housed in the facility's recreational room along with their food, litter, two scratching posts and enough toys to spoil them into accepting the paws-ition of house-mousers.

Occasionally, field mice make their way into the care home to test if the kitchen has a rodent inspector. It does, but the sneaky grey intruders still sneak in. Kiwi and Mango purr-ole the purr-e-mices(premises) "rattin'" out unwanted mice.

The facility is the home for 230 physically and cognitively impaired residents. Locked doors separate each area for residents' safety. During the cats mouse-hunt quest, they patiently wait by the doors or elevator, taking a brief bath until some-



Mango and Kiwi have an un-purr-esidented 480 parents who love and care for them.

one walking by activates the locks. The furry workers saunter through an open door or ride up/down elevators with their tales confidently held high.

Kiwi is an escape artist. Residents were "trained" by their own cats to open doors for a cat, innocently opening outside doors — and therefore, aiding Kiwi's quick exit.

Recently, the nursing home received a phone call from a delivery driver.

"I think I have your cat," he announced.

After the man had completed his delivery to the care home and closed the truck's doors, he drove onto three other businesses. Three hours later, up popped Kiwi well-rested from his mobile cat nap. It was a miracle he had not jumped out the open doors at the other locations. Luckily, the driver recognized him and delivered the hitch-hiker back to his 500 waiting parents.

Also, there is a children's daycare a block from the care home. A teacher approached one of Kiwi's staff and said, "Every day, Jack drops in and visits our children, has snacks, then naps."

Apparently, Kiwi-Jack is a master snack detector who feels he must share his love with all humans, not caring what name they give him.

Then there was the time he visited a house and asked inside. The home owners thought he was lost, so they took him to the humane shelter! Kiwi's tattoo ear ID alerted the shelter to his owners. He was once again "adopted/rescued" for a second time by the care home!

"Many of our residents offer the kitties snacks, and the cats have favorite beds they sleep on," said a staff manager. "Visitors bring dogs but they forget that our residents love cats too. Having felines on the premises gives our facility a sense of home and heartwarming entertainment. I often see a cat being wheeled by, sitting or sleeping, on utility carts or someone's lap."

Recently, a third scratching post materialized in the hallway that the cat's perch on like pirates in a ship-mast's lookout snooper-vizing the area. The post is tall enough to keep the cats safe from wheelchair wheels but short enough for everyone walking by to pat their heads or scratch under their chins.

As for Kiwi, his days of wandering are over after he was narrowly missed by traffic. An "emergency meeting" was held and staff declared that he is "in the dog house," confining him to his work area.

Looks like the child center will now have to adopt a cat of their own!

TIPS:

- Scientists proved that purring cats lower blood pressure.

Besides being excellent mousers, the residents reported, "We like cats and love seeing them walking around," "They are pretty like fur-art-work in motion," "They make the home feel like our home again," "They brighten my day and I like petting them," "Kiwi and Mango nap on dining room chairs, but they are never on a table," and "They are purr-fessional mousers, and respected in the facility and you must admit they are pretty darn cute!"

Share your fun, amazing or crazing pet tips and tales at angelscribe@msn.com or Follow Pet Tips 'n' Tales on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales. Adopt loving pets online at www.PetFinder.com. For spay or neutering, call the Humane Society at 541-942-2789.

EPUD now accepting scholarship applications

Emerald People's Utility District is accepting applicants for its \$15,000 annual scholarship program.

Five \$3,000 scholarships are available in 2019 to individuals to attend college or utility industry career training.

Students pursuing a career that could be of value in the utility industry are encouraged to apply.

"We draw on skills and expertise from many different professions. Students interested in careers in line work, communications, design, accounting, customer service, energy efficiency,

power resources and business should consider applying for our scholarship," said Patty Jo Angelini, EPUD public relations coordinator.

"A wide range of customers can apply for these funds. These scholarships are for senior high school students looking to start college, returning college students and others look-ing for second-career education or training," Angelini added.

Scholarship applicants must:

- Be EPUD customers or family members attending a college, university or trade school

- Have graduated high school or received their GED from an accredited educational institution

- Provide a school transcript showing an accumulated GPA of at least 2.0 if they are high school graduates or college students

- Be planning to pursue a career that could be of value in the utility industry.

"Our utility originated from the communities we serve, so it is important that we give back. Providing opportunities for our customers and families to continue their education is one way we do this," said Angelini.

Individuals can apply online at www.epud.org or call 541-746-1583 to request an application.

The deadline to submit an application is 11:59 p.m. Monday, April 15.

Scholarship winners will be announced in mid-May.

Emerald PUD has offered annual scholarship opportunities to its customer-owners since 1990. This is the 11th year Emerald PUD has offered the scholarship to adults interested in pursuing second-career training as well as high school seniors.

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY 54° 36° Partly Cloudy	FRIDAY 54° 35° Partly Cloudy
SATURDAY 55° 37° Partly Cloudy	SUNDAY 55° 36° Partly Cloudy
MONDAY 53° 34° Sunny	TUESDAY 53° 33° Partly Cloudy

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