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# Maudie's Naughties



## Old Bones

A scientist and his wife are touring the museum at Big Bone Lick State Park and the man decides to test a janitor who works there by asking how old the bones of a certain mammoth displayed are.

"Three million seven years, six months and seven days," replies the janitor without hesitation.

"That's an awfully exact number," says the scientist. "Just exactly how do you know their age so precisely?"

"Well," replies the janitor. "I've been working here seven years, six months and seven days, and they were three million years old when I started."

## Brave at the Dentist's Office

The Smiths are shown into the dentist's office, where Mr. Smith makes it clear he is in a big hurry.

"No fancy stuff, Doctor," he orders. "No gas or needles or any of that stuff. Just pull the tooth and get it over with."

"I wish more of my patients were as brave as you," says the dentist admiringly. "Now, which tooth is it?"

Mr. Smith turns to his wife. "Show him your tooth, Honey."

## Coming Out of Surgery

Irving is just coming out of anesthesia after a series of tests in the hospital . . . and his wife, Sarah, is sitting at his bedside. His eyes flutter open, and he murmurs, "You're beautiful."

Flattered, Sarah continues her vigil while he drifts back to sleep. Later he wakes up and says, "You're cute."

What happened to 'beautiful'?" Sarah asks.

"The drugs are wearing off," he replies.

## Just Rewards

A woman is arrested for shoplifting. When she goes before the judge he asks her, "What did you steal?"

She replies, "A bracelet."

The judge asks her why she had stolen it, and she replies that she thought it was pretty.

The judge then asks her how many stones were in the bracelet. She replies, "6."

The judge says, "Then I'll give you 6 months in jail."

Suddenly her husband stands up in the courtroom and says, "She stole a 27-stone necklace, too!"

## Pay Lake

A man from the city who is fishing at the pay lake, sits down to fish beside Pa. The man notices after awhile that Pa has caught a basket full of fish when he hasn't even gotten a bite.

"How can you catch so many fish?" the man asks.

"Because I've gotten smarter from eating fish heads," replies Pa.

The man decides to try that; so, Pa cuts the heads of the fish he has caught and sells them to the man for \$8 apiece.

The next week the man shows up again at the pay lake and says, "Hey, I don't think eating those fish heads made me any smarter, and I just found out I could have bought the whole fish for \$4 each."

"See," says Pa. "You're smarter already!"

## Nobel Prize

Ma and Pa are driving home from church when they see Junior standing out in the middle of their pasture. Pa pulls over to the side of the road, calls Junior over and asks, "What are you doing, son?"

"I'm trying to win a Nobel Prize," replies Junior.

"How's that?" asks Pa. "All I can see you're doing is you're going to get whacked by a bull."

"Well," says Junior. "I just found out they give the Nobel Prize each year to someone who is out standing in their field."

## Chickens

Pa sends Junior to a neighbor's farm down the road to buy some chickens, but Junior drops the crate on the way home and the chickens go scurrying off in every direction. He finally makes it back home just before dark and Pa meets him at the gate.

"What took you so long, boy?" says Pa. "I had to milk all the cows by myself."

"I dropped the crate," admits Junior. "But I ran all over the neighborhood and managed to find all twelve of them."

"That's pretty good," says Pa. "Considering you left the neighbors' with only seven."

## Close Shave

A cowboy walks into a barber shop, sits down on the barber's chair and says, "I'll have a shave and a shoe shine."

The barber begins to lather the cowboy's face while a beautiful and most desirable woman kneels down and begins to shine his shoes.

"Young lady," says the cowboy. "You and I should go and spend some time in a motel room."

She replies, "I'm married and my husband wouldn't like that."

The cowboys says, "Just tell him you're working overtime, and I'll pay the difference."

"You tell him," she says. "He's the one shaving you."

# Kentucky Flu Activity Level Raised to Widespread

## Public health urges vaccination and hand washing for Kentuckians

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Jan. 4, 2019) - The Department for Public Health (DPH), within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), now reports "widespread" flu activity in Kentucky for the first time this flu season. Widespread is the highest level of flu activity, which indicates increased flu cases or flu outbreaks in at least half of the Commonwealth's regions.

"We strongly encourage anyone who hasn't received a flu vaccine, particularly children six months and older and those people at high risk for complications related to the flu, to get a flu shot," said Jeff Howard, M.D., commissioner of DPH. "Also remember to cover your cough and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth because germs are spread this way. Be sure to frequently wash your hands with soap and water and stay home if you are sick with flu-like illness."

DPH reports weekly influenza activity to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The weekly report is located online at <https://healthalerts.ky.gov/Pages/FluActivity.aspx> and is updated each Friday by noon. Kentucky currently is reporting 1,457 laboratory-confirmed cases of flu. The report consists of laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza that are defined by molecular virus testing and positive virus culture test results. Rapid positive influenza tests are not included in this report, but are used as an indicator of flu-like illness circulating across the state.

The number of flu cases to date this season (1,457) is comparable to the number of cases at the same time last season (1,411). One of the hardest hit areas currently is Louisville Metro, which has confirmed more than 550 cases recently. Overall, approximately 882 cases have been confirmed in Louisville Metro this flu season, which is up from just 179 cases confirmed at the same time in the previous flu season.

Four adult deaths and one pediatric death have now been linked to the flu in Kentucky this flu season. At this time in the last flu season Kentucky had twelve flu-related deaths, all adults. During the entire flu season there were 333 flu-

related deaths in Kentucky last year, five of which were pediatric.

The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends flu vaccine for all individuals six months of age and older. People who are strongly encouraged to receive the flu vaccine because they may be at higher risk for complications or negative consequences include:

- Children age six months through 59 months;
- Women who are or will be pregnant during the influenza season;
- Persons 50 years of age or older;
- Persons with extreme obesity (Body Mass Index of 40 or greater);
- Persons aged six months and older with chronic health problems;
- Residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities;
- Household contacts (including children) and caregivers of children aged ≤59 months (i.e., aged <five years, particularly contacts of children aged <six months) and adults aged ≥50 years;
- Household contacts and caregivers or people who live with a person at high-risk for complications from the flu; and
- Health care workers, including physicians, nurses, and other workers in inpatient and outpatient-care settings, medical emergency-response workers (e.g., paramedics and emergency medical technicians), employees of nursing home and long-term care facilities who have contact with patients or residents, and students in these professions who will have contact with patients.

Adequate supplies of flu vaccine are available for this year's season. Vaccinations can be given any time during the flu season but providers are encouraged to administer the vaccine as soon as possible.

During the 2016-17 and 2017-18 influenza seasons, ACIP recommended that Flu Mist not be used because of concerns about low effectiveness against influenza A (H1N1). However, ACIP recommends that FluMist once again be an option for vaccination during the 2018-2019 influenza season for persons for whom it is age-appropriate and who have no medical contraindications. The change in recommendation is a result of the influenza A (H1N1)

strain being changed in the current FluMist formulation.

Due to the timing of the decision by the ACIP regarding use of FluMist, the Kentucky Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) will not be offering FluMist during the 2018-2019 influenza season. However, some private providers will offer FluMist this season for their patients.

The flu vaccine is especially important in light of the severe season experienced last year across the U.S. The CDC reports that more than 900,000 flu-related hospitalizations occurred and more than 80,000 people died as a result of flu. Of the pediatric flu deaths reported in last year's season, more than one-third of these occurred among healthy children between the ages of 6 months and 4 years.

It is especially important for pregnant women to be vaccinated before or during pregnancy. Antibodies cross the placenta and provide immunity to infants up to 6 months of age, when the

infant is eligible to receive their dose of flu vaccine.

DPH relies on sites such as doctors' offices, hospitals and health departments to help track the level of influenza activity in the state and to identify which strains of the flu are circulating in Kentucky. These voluntary sites collect data and report influenza-like illness (ILI) cases according to age groups each week. This sampling represents only a small percentage of influenza cases for the state, but contributes to the ongoing assessment of flu activity in the Commonwealth and helps determine the weekly level of flu activity.

Infection with the flu virus can cause fever, headache, cough, sore throat, runny nose, sneezing and body aches. Flu can be very contagious. For more information on influenza or the availability of flu vaccine, Kentuckians should contact their primary care medical provider or local health department. Influenza information is also available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>.

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You...

— PSALM 39: 4,5 —