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20 MOUTHS 1 MICROPHONE



Maudie's Naughties



Peatie's Big Crash

Peatie had just totaled his pickup in a horrific accident. Miraculously, he manages to pry himself from the wreckage without a scratch and is straightening up his hat when the state trooper arrives.

"My goodness!" the trooper gasps. "Your pickup looks like an accordion that was stomped on by a pig. Are you okay, sir?"

"Yes, officer," says Peatie. "I'm just fine."

"Well, how in the world did this happen?" the officer asks as he surveys the wrecked car.

"Officer, it was crazy!" Peatie begins. "I was driving along this road when from out of nowhere this tree pops up in front of me. So I swerve to the right, and there is another tree! I swerve to the left and there is another tree! I swerve to the right and there is another tree! I swerved to the left and there is..."

"Sir," says the officer, cutting him off, "There isn't a tree on this road for 30 miles. That was your air freshener swinging back and forth."

More Last Words

While a preacher is visiting a dying man in the hospital, the man suddenly begins to flail about and make motions as if he would like to speak.

The preacher, keeping watch at the side of his bed, leans quietly over and asks, "Do you have something you would like to say?"

The man shakes his head, "Yes," so the minister hands him a pad and pen.

"I know you can't speak," says the preacher, "But use this to write a note, and I will give it to your wife. She's waiting just outside."

Gathering his last bit of strength, the man takes them and scrawls his message upon the pad and stuffs it into the preacher's hands. Then, moments later, the man dies.

The preacher says a short prayer over the man and then goes to break the sad news to the wife.

After consoling her a bit, the priest hands her the note, saying "Here were his last words. Just before passing on, he wrote this message to you."

The wife tearfully opens the note which reads, "You're standing on my oxygen hose."

Helping With Homework

Little Julie says, "Pa, can you ask me some questions about my homework so I can get a better grade this time?"

"I guess I can," replies Pa, "What is the shape of the earth?"

"According to my daddy," she answers, "It's terrible."

"It says here the answer is 'round'," says Pa.

"The next question is 'Where do you live?'"

"Well, we get our mail at the Needmore Post Office," she answers. "But Mama told Brother to clean up his room that he was living in Filth. And Uncle Ed saw the law coming up the road and told Mama that he had to get out of Dodge for a while. Aunt June claims her neighbors across the road are living in Squalor, but Mama says Aunt June and her boyfriend are living in Sin."

"Maybe you'd better get Ma to help you with this."

Needing Curtains

"Pa, you need to put up these new curtains up on your bedroom window," says Ma. "Since it faces the road."

"Well, that's nice that you were thinking of me," replies Pa.

"I wasn't!" replies Ma. "The neighbors bought you these new curtains."

Guided Tour

A young American tourist goes on a guided tour of a creepy old European castle. At the end of the tour the guide asks her how she enjoyed it. She admits to being a bit worried about seeing a ghost in some of the dark cobwebby rooms and passages.

"Don't worry," says the guide. "I've never seen a ghost all the time I've been here." "How long is that?" asks the girl.

"About three hundred years..."

Last Words

Farmer Luke is on his deathbed. His children and grandchildren are all gathered around him in his final moments. Trying to make him comfortable, they offer him a half glass of warm milk from the farm, but he refuses. One of his nieces takes the glass back to the kitchen where she fills it to the top with Irish whiskey. She returns to his bedside and holds the glass up to his lips. He tastes of it and drinks a little, then he drinks more. Eventually, he drinks the entire contents of the glass.

"Father," one of his sons pleads, "Please give us some words of wisdom before you go."

The old man raises himself up in the bed with a very stern look on his face and says, "Don't sell that cow."

Laurel County waste recycler expects to add 30 jobs with loan through Jackson Energy

Southeastern Environmental Solutions is turning recycled material into revenue. A Rural Development Loan through Jackson Energy Cooperative will help the Laurel County company grow while decreasing waste products in landfills.

The \$2 million no-interest loan is offered through the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development office and the loans are administered by local electric cooperatives, like Jackson Energy. The company expects to add 30 new jobs over the next three years as a result of the loan.

"We recycle material that at one point in time would go into a landfill," said Ernest Matt House, co-owner of Southeastern Environmental Solutions (SES). Other owners include Mike Bargo and Russ Asher. "We're taking scrap material, mainly from the automotive industry, and repurposing it." House said the scrap mainly comes from materials used for headliners and flooring that goes down before carpet is installed in vehicles.

The loan will be used to purchase an additional machine for the company's site in the Fariston Industrial Park in Southern Laurel County.

House said SES operates three shifts at the facility and has 15 employees. The additional machine will allow them to process more material. Scrap material comes into the company in big rolls and is shredded. "It looks like syrup," he said of the first steps in processing, "which then freezes and is chopped into pellets."

The pellets are eventually turned into fabric. An 80,000 lbs. load of scrap material generates 40,000 lbs. of finished product, which makes its way back to the automotive industry.

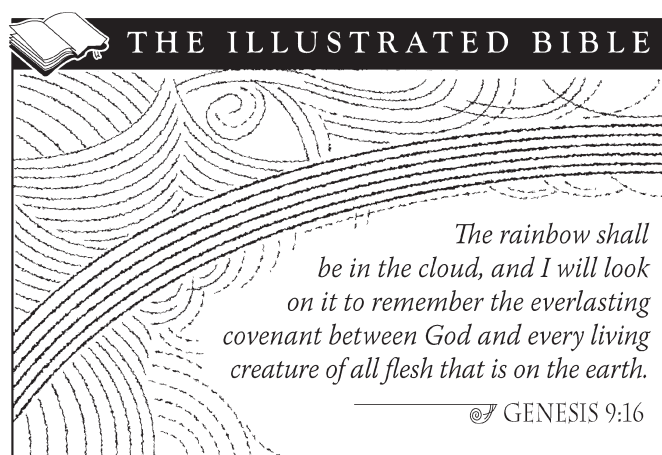
"One thing I've learned,"



Jackson Energy President & CEO Carl Wright, left, presents Ernest Matt House, co-owner of Southeastern Environmental Solutions, LLC, with a big check for a \$2 million Rural Development Loan.

House said of the recycling process, "is how much everything has polyester in it." Currently, the company works with a broker to sell the finished product. House said the ideal situation would be to establish a working relationship with one or two companies to get their scrap material and ship the finished product back to them.

"The Rural Development Loan program allows Jackson Energy to help local companies expand," says Jackson Energy President & CEO Carol Wright. "This is the twelfth loan we have administered to companies throughout our service area. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the region not only by providing electric service but also through economic development."



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