

FUNNY BONE

"A cheerful heart
 is good medicine ..."

A funny thing happened on the way to better hearing...

This story has been around a while, but for those who haven't heard it, or have a doctor's visit coming up, it bears repeating:

The elderly patient overheard his doctor talking to the young intern-in-training about his condition.

When Dr. Gallagher returned to the elderly man's bedside, the patient asked, *"So how long do you think I have before I should get my final papers in order, Doctor?"*

The kindly old doctor hesitated, then responded, *"Well, it's always a good thing to have your affairs in order, Frank, but it's not the first thing you'll have to do when I release you tomorrow. Why do you ask?"*

"Oh," Frank answered, relieved. *"I thought you told the young doctor that you're going to recommend I order a casket."*

The doctor looked puzzled for a moment and then laughed out loud.

"Good heavens, no, Frank! I told him that if your symptoms persisted, I would recommend we order a 'CAT scan'!"

**Hearing Aids Can Help Give
 You Peace of Mind!**



Spouses Love How Their Mates Are Hearing!

Now we really know the technology is working!

We always ask our patients – "Are you hearing as well as you should be?" This question generates a wide variety of very pleasing answers—now more than ever we are hearing positive responses from our patients' spouses or other family members. *"Yes! S/He is hearing*

so much better than with the old set of hearing aids."

One of the ways we are able to determine how much better the hearing aid wearer is hearing—and making it easier for the patient to realize this for themselves—is we ask the patient's spouse (or other family member) to read a word list to them, first without their hearing aids,

Cont. pg 3

Happy 285th Birthday, George Washington!

George Washington is recognized as more than our first president. He's an American patriot and hero. Born on February 22, 1732 in Wakefield Virginia, Washington was a man strong in character and conviction. Distinguished as a military genius, he served in the United States militia in several wars and

skirmishes, including the French and Indian War where he was consigned as a Colonel by British officials of the Colonies. A British statesman wrote of Washington's first skirmish with the French, "The volley fired by a young Virginian in the backwoods of America set the world on fire." It would not be the last time

Washington significantly affected world events.

To finance the French and Indian war, Great Britain began taxation of the colonists, causing a great resentment. This taxation, among other political tensions, eventually led to the American Revolution, in which General George

Cont. pg 2

Happy 285th Birthday, George Washington!

Cont. From pg. 1

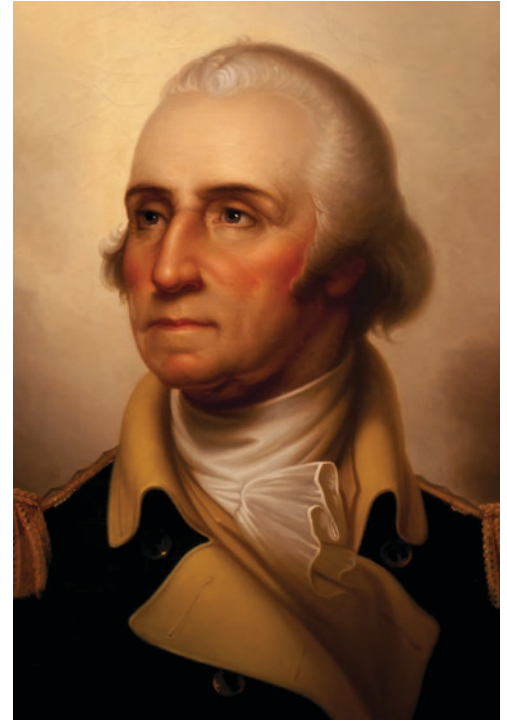
Washington was an instrumental military commander.

Washington designed the American strategy for victory against the British. It enabled the untrained Continental forces to maintain their strength for six years and capture two major British armies, one at Saratoga in 1777 and again in 1781 at Yorktown. The surrender of British General Lord Charles Cornwallis to General Washington on October 17, 1781 ended the War of Independence.

It was George Washington who established that civilian-elected officials to possess ultimate authority over the military. This is a key principle of self-governance and throughout the American Revolution, General Washington yielded to the authority of Congress and state officials. By the end of the Revolution, highly respected and revered, Washington could have

established himself as a dictatorial king. Deferring to the freedom he so strongly believed in, he chose not to set himself up as a crowned dictator. Once the War ended, Washington relinquished his considerable military power and quietly went home to Mt. Vernon.

As a statesman, George Washington helped forge a stable government out of political chaos. A man without arrogance, he modestly accepted the colonies' first presidency only after he had been elected by unanimous electoral vote. With wisdom, patience, courage, and a fierce dedication to freedom's cause, he led the fledgling country to solid footing as it wrenched liberty from the stifling grip of tyranny. Tempted by neither ambition nor opportunity, he was a loyal countryman, never swaying from the narrow path of honor. He served



as President of the United States from April 30, 1789 to March 4, 1797.

Buddy's Bio—Christ-mas Cheer with Buddy



Buddy is Living the Good Life— Lucky Little Elf!

Looking back at some of the pictures from this past holiday season I found this one of Buddy. With all the writing I do about how Buddy

gets into trouble I thought it would be appropriate—and fair—to show that he is not always on the hot-seat.

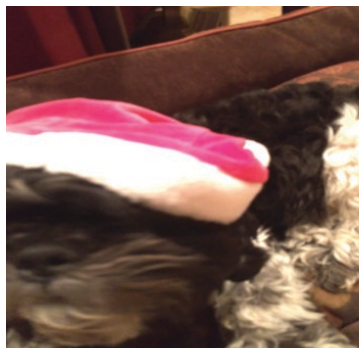
This is not the best of pictures, but here is Buddy sporting his Christmas cheer lying in his bed (no, not in the manger). He spends several hours a day here rejuvenating for his next escapade. We'll all be interested to see what that is going to be. Now, don't let the Santa hat fool you...I'll bet you ten ways

to Sunday he's dreaming up ways to play Cupid this month, one way or the other.

My grandchildren (I'm up to 5 now!) love to come over and play with Buddy. They will be here on Valentine's Day to share his love. And

who couldn't love Buddy? Uh.. maybe Mariela?

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone!



Buddy of
"Christ-mas Present" 2016



Buddy of
"Christ-mas Past" 2014

— LOONEY LAW —

In Ontario Canada, anyone driving at “normal speeds” in a vehicle bearing a sign designating it as a “Slow Vehicle” risks being stopped and fined.

— POTPOURRI —

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN:
FEB 12, 1809—APR 15, 1865**

Truth is stranger than fiction. Case in point: John Wilkes Booth's brother once saved the life of Abraham Lincoln's first-born and only surviving son. Following is a true story, documented both verbally and in writing by Robert Todd Lincoln himself:

Waiting at a train platform to buy tickets for a sleeping car, Robert Lincoln lost his footing as the train pulled out. According to Robert, Edwin Booth grabbed him by the collar and pulled him back to safety on the platform. Like his brother, John, Edwin Booth was a well-known actor, famous enough that Lincoln recognized him and was able to thank his rescuer by name.

It was less than a year after this life-saving event that Edwin's older brother, John Wilkes Booth, assassinated Robert Lincoln's father, Abraham, in cold blood. A strong and fervent supporter of Abraham Lincoln, Edwin grieved the loss of both his brother and his favorite president.

Edwin did not know whose life he had saved until years later when Robert Todd Lincoln made the incident publicly known and acknowledged his gratitude for Booth's quick and selfless action.

— FUN FACTS —

More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.

Spouses Love How Their Mates Are Hearing!

Cont. From pg. 1

then with their old hearing aids, then while listening with the new hearing aids. Everyone is able to see the marked difference right away. “Wow!” is a very typical response. I know that may sound silly, but it's happening over and over again.



Many spouses are frustrated with their partner's inability to understand simple conversations at home, in restaurants or while riding in the car. Let's face it, our spouses are the people we talk to the most. And making them happy is our primary goal for a happy life, right?

As the patient, you keep your hearing aids clean, wear them regularly and keep your scheduled appointments with us for checkups. As the spouse, you get their attention before speaking.

It's to everybody's advantage that lovebirds work together to achieve the best possible communication. Love is in the air this month with Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 14th. This is a perfect opportunity to show each other how important communicating with your loved one is to both of you. Speak clearly and directly to them (not from another room) and try to be patient when they need things repeated. Harmony in the home starts with the ears and the heart.

Find some time to come in before Valentine's Day so we can demonstrate how you can hear with new technology and how it can help you hear the sweet romantic words you've been missing. You may want to make a surprise reservation at your favorite restaurant to see just how much easier it is to have a conversation!

Give us a call today to schedule an updated hearing exam. As always, we're here to help you live, and love, life to its fullest!

Solution to Valentine's Day Sweets Treats Trivia

From pg. 4

sweets

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. J—Jolly Rancher | 6. H—Cadbury |
| 2. D—Laffy Taffy | 7. E—Mary Jane(s) |
| 3. B—TWIX | 8. C—Sugar Daddy |
| 4. G—Charleston Chew | 9. A—Milky Way |
| 5. I—Tootsie Roll | 10. F—Sweethearts |

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Now 'Ear This from the Expert

ITCHY EARS, UGH!

"The itching in my ears is driving me crazy!" It seems like every week at least one patient comes in and tells me this. They say - I have to take my hearing aid out and put my little finger in my ear and just rub it around and scratch it with my fingernail. Some patients find they have to do this numerous times a day. So what causes that itch in your ear canal?

Here are the top five reasons your ear canal itches:

- **Psoriasis** – This is a chronic skin condition that can cause red scaly patches to appear inside or outside of the ear canal.
- **Rhinitis** – This is an inflammation of your nasal cavity lining. It can be infectious and spread to the ear canal through the air.

- **Otitis externa** – This is a basic ear infection in the outer ear.
- **Malignant Otitis externa** – this occurs when an internal infection spreads to the outer ear.
- **Earwax blockage** – A simple build up of ear wax in the canal.

Whatever the cause, it can sure be annoying! How to relieve the itching? Keep your hearing aids clean! Wipe them off with a clean dry cloth at night when you remove them from your ears. After showering or bathing, make sure your ear is dried well. Products that claim to relieve itchy ears are *Miracell*, *Calm Ear* and *Similasan*.

Better yet, come in and let us look in your ear so we can give you advice on how to remedy your particular problem. It just takes a few minutes!

VALENTINE'S DAY SWEET TREATS TRIVIA

Answers on pg. 3

Match each item with the correct candy fact.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| A. Milky Way | F. Sweethearts |
| B. Twix | G. Charleston Chew |
| C. Sugar Daddy | H. Cadbury |
| D. Laffy Taffy | I. Tootsie Roll |
| E. Mary Jane(s) | J. Jolly Rancher |

1. The company name of this hard candy suggests its western hospitality. _____
2. The name of this candy is derived from its silly wrapper jokes and candy type. _____
3. Mars, Inc. combined the words "two" and "sticks" to name this candy. _____
4. This candy bar was named for a popular dance of the early 20th century. _____
5. This was the first candy to be individually wrapped. _____
6. What famed chocolate company introduced the Valentine's heart-shaped box? _____
7. The brothers who invented this candy named it after their favorite aunt. _____
8. This long-lasting candy treat was renamed from Papa Sucker in 1932. _____
9. In 1935 the slogan for this candy bar was "The sweet you can eat between meals." _____
10. These classic conversation candies were introduced for Valentine's Day in 1902. _____