



## HUMAN INTEREST

Friday, January 8, 2010



### Man Rams Car Into Restaurant, Eats Breakfast

PORT ORANGE, Fla. -- Diners at the Biscuit's "N" Gravy and More restaurant in Port Orange received a surprise Wednesday when a car plowed into the side of the building. A 92-year-old man was at the wheel when his vehicle crashed into the busy restaurant on Nova Road. The driver wasn't hurt, but the cook said a customer had just left the damaged seating area. Investigators think Charles Pierce stepped on the gas instead of hitting the brake while trying to

park, but instead of panicking and amid all that debris, he calmly got out of the sedan and placed his order. The driver asked if anyone was hurt. There was very minor injury, but once Pierce was sure all was well, he dug in to his breakfast. "Come out of his car, no problem. He sat down at the table, has his breakfast, and God bless America, beautiful," City building officials said there are no structural problems, so the restaurant can continue to operate. The damage is estimated at about \$25,000. The elderly driver was cited, after breakfast, for careless driving. ([Video Here](#))

### Big Di\*\* in Park Slope



Brooklyn -- Here's the premise: Livingston wears a 6 foot long flaccid felt penis (stuffed with sofa upholstery, of course), and walks around various NYC neighborhoods documenting people's reactions. Oh yeah, and in "Big Dick in Park Slope," he's also wearing a doll in a baby bjorn. If this doesn't already sound like the best idea you've heard since Yogo Monster started selling soft pretzels, there's clearly something wrong with you. ([Videos](#))

**Life imitates the Simpsons: the tomacco man!**



Oregon -- Rob Baur is generally a straightforward, sensible man. A senior operations analyst at an Oregon sewage treatment utility company, he's responsible for research and development in the wastewater field, something he's been doing for 33 years. 'I've had one wife, one employer', he says, 'try to keep it simple.' He's a liberal sort of fellow who loves The Simpsons. It's the latter point that has given Rob Baur 15 minutes of fame that have lasted seven years. In 2003, inspired by an episode of The Simpsons, he grafted together a tobacco root and a tomato stem to make 'tomacco'. In 'E-I E-I D'oh' (episode 231, first aired November 1999) Homer invents giant tomacco plants that taste disgusting but are completely addictive ('That's horrible!' says Bart as he spits one onto the floor: 'I want another one!'). Baur's tomacco, on the other hand, has made him something of a Simpsons legend and given him a story to dine out on to this day (at wastewater conferences, he says, he often gets introduced as 'Mr

Tomacco'). After the plant produced its first fruit, he sent a press release about what he'd done to a local television station, thinking they might find it reasonably funny.

### Man receives ten year sentence for purloined tenderloin

The prosecutor began his opening statement by asking, "Where's the beef?"—reprising the famous Wendy's tagline from the 1980s. He then convinced the jury that Mark Zachary, 51, had the beef—an \$80 side of New York Strip—under his shirt as he was leaving a Reid's supermarket in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Now Zachary is going to prison for ten years after being given the maximum sentence for shoplifting (third offense or greater). According to the police report, Zachary fled when the store manager approached him about the bread-box sized side of beef under his shirt. That is, he fled directly into the path of an off-duty police officer, Kevin Dukes, who was entering the store. On the stand during his two-day trial, Zachary denied he was stealing the meat, arguing that he was merely "massaging it." The Aug. 26, 2009 incident was Zachary's ninth offense.

### 'Aliens will eat the fatties first': Gym sparks outrage with new advertising campaign



An advertisement for one of Britain's biggest gyms has sparked outrage by declaring: 'When the aliens come, they will eat the fatties first.' The campaign, featuring a little green man, was meant to encourage people to join up and shed pounds put on over Christmas. But instead slimmers have branded the ad in offensive and weight loss experts said the 'negative message' is more likely to drive people away. Signs put up near the health club and spa at Cadbury House Hotel in Congresbury, Bristol, read: 'Advance health warning! When the aliens come, they will eat the fatties first.' However, mother-of-two Vicky Palmer, who suffered from an eating disorder as a teenager, believes the sign should be removed

immediately. Mrs Palmer, 45, of Churchill, Somerset, said: 'I would like to think that their hotline is very "hot" with people phoning to complain about this degrading and offensive advertising. 'I am not overweight yet I still find this extremely offensive and patronising but how much more so to someone genuinely overweight? 'People who have a weight problem may also suffer with low self esteem

and this advert is not going to help them in any way.

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