

# FRIDAY FOLLIES

Hey!

January 9, 2004

Well, here we go! 2004. Are you ready? I think I am!

Throughout this week's Follies are New Year's Eve photos. Great Fun!

Guess what?

I quit smoking! I am so pleased with myself! You do not understand... smoking has been such a part of my life for so long. Some of my fondest memories are of helping my dad fill and light his pipe years and years ago. I have even carried his ashtray around

(one that I bought him in Albuquerque decades ago) from room to room at home with me for fifteen years! I enjoyed smoking...very much! It was so comforting and relaxing to me. Well...no more. Aren't you proud of me! We will see how long it lasts, but I am sure that it will. It is time. Once I conquer this, then the other resolutions will be a piece of cake. Wish me luck!



Hey, something happened a few weeks ago that I wanted to share with you. Remember my



Follies after Thanksgiving when I talked about how I drove to Mississippi on the heaviest traveled day in the history of U.S. highways? Well, truthfully, I was traveling on one of the country's best interstates (interstate 85), and I was amazed at how outdated it was. The roads were rough and there



was construction ALL THE WAY . . . in every state . . . in every city . . . all the way! I just kept thinking about how antiquated our modes of transportation are...ALL of them. It reminded me of the turn of the last century...they were still in horse and buggies. How strange does that seem now? And yet, to me, cars seem so obsolete!

The truth is, I kept thinking the whole way...why don't we put our minds to it and come up with something better. This is ridiculous. We just landed on Mars, for heaven's sake! I mean, the money we would have to pour into the highway system just to catch up...and even then, it is so slow and cumbersome. Actually, though, I would rather drive anywhere than fly commercially. That has gotten so impersonal and intimidating that I won't even do it anymore unless I HAVE to. Flying used to be a luxury, not any more.

Well, all the way to Mississippi, I envisioned all of these new modes of transportation, some actually still using the highways below for markers and safety features...but from above it, not actually on it. I even came home and told JP about them when I got back.



The very next week, in one of our local magazines, there was an article from NASA (right down the road), about the new modes of transportation that will happen IN OUR LIFE TIME! Many within the next twenty to thirty years! It was so cool!

Here is some of what NASA is planning . . . There will be small commuter air and ground vehicles. They will be a cross between a motorcycle and an ultralight aircraft. They will hold one or two people and will travel 300 miles at about 100 knots. Then there will be slightly larger family aircraft which can fly a 1,000 mile range at 400 knots. (These would make it cheaper to fly cross country than it is now on a commercial airliner.) There are also designs for robot flown aircraft for all cargo (some of these prototypes we have already seen in the War with Iraq.) Anyway, from the article, it sounded like it will be relatively soon. Cool, huh?



Now I have to tell you, I also had the (almost original) idea of music videos. When I was a kid, I remember telling my brother-in-law how juke boxes could be built to show movies and clips of the bands while the records played. He thought it was a great idea. Then I told him about my idea of having encyclopedias that updated themselves and how. Both of those came to me in moments of brilliance and both, less than a year later, were reality... MTV was all the rage and computers and websites



came along equipped with floppy discs. Now I guess what I have to do is come up with these ideas at least a decade earlier... Then we would be set for the rest of our lives, right?



What a wonderful holiday season this year . . . starting with Thanksgiving . . . family, food, and friends, time to sing, time to dance, time to read, time to paint, time for movies, time to play, time to rest, and time to really visit with loved ones.

Best book I read - *The Da Vinci Code*, but also read

*The Four Agreements*, *The Alchemist*, several books on painting and then reread *Who Moved My Cheese*. "Lord of the Rings," was my favorite movies of the season, even though there are several more that I still want to see.





**R**enegades and  
Revellers on  
New Years' Eve!  
And even Presi-  
dent Bush showed  
up and everyone  
wanted their pic-  
ture made with  
him!





# WELCOME WISHES



**J.P. "Gus" Godsey**  
USA Weekend magazine's Happiest Man in America

**I**wish for the Beach to be a more giving, caring and loving community. I want us to spend our HOLIDAYS and to be grateful for all the wonderful things that this area offers.

We have always known Virginia Beach to be a GREAT place to live and Virginia Beach, with its stotted beaches, safe neighborhoods and friendly faces, is the star of the area. This year, when being named the best place to live in America, Virginia Beach can stand even brighter for the rest of America.

I simply want us to smile more. A smile can open the door to

happiness and break down even the bitterness of a cold heart. It doesn't cost a dime, but you do deserve to pay for a lifetime.

**H**ere is what a SMILE means to me:

**S** is for **SMOKE**. If we all give a little more, share a little extra, and try to smile more about our neighbors, it will reward us just those around us, but will open our hearts as well.

**M** is for **MOMENTS**. What I mean is just that not seeing a little more like our Moments to each other. For example, I wish us to all be a little more patient on our highways. There just

isn't any need for all of the anger and rudeness. Maybe we can all be a bit more understanding of those around us.

**I** is for **INTEREST**. I want all of us to hold precious the importance of our word and our commitments. I wish for us to promise much and deliver more.

**L** is for **LAIVE and LAUGHTER**. I want us to have each other like we once did and each other smile. And laugh at ourselves... long, loud and often.

**A** is for **ENTHUSIAISM**. If you are going to do it, do it. Sing loud, dance it! You sweat, and if you are

playing the game, play it to win. Everybody enjoys enthusiasm, even if they don't agree with you.

**W**ishes James said, "The greatest use of life is to spend it on something that excites it."

I wish for all of us here in the greatest city in America to spend our HOLIDAYS together, with love in our hearts, together on our lips and caring about our fellowman.

All country, happy New Year, Christmas, 'Tis the season, that's the **GOOD STUFF!**

Happy New Year, Virginia Beach!

J.P. "Gus" Godsey

J.P. was honored this week to be asked to write his seven "Wishes for Virginia Beach" for the local paper. If you cannot read it here, you can look it up on the website.



And here is my sweet "Maggie Mae" lying in the sun New Year's Day.

This next one I just had to send. While taking down the Christmas decorations, I sat my huge wooden bowl on the floor. The next thing I knew, "Bob The Spy Cat" had decided it made a nice resting spot.

And these are our neighbors' babies, Olivia (left) and Logan (below). They stopped over on New Year's Day.





To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Maine, Europe, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week.

*God bless.  
Remember, life is short...we need to make it a good one.  
Grow in peace and wisdom.*

*Your Friday Friend,*

# Judí Godsey

P.S. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!