

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how outdated it was.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 jute 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.

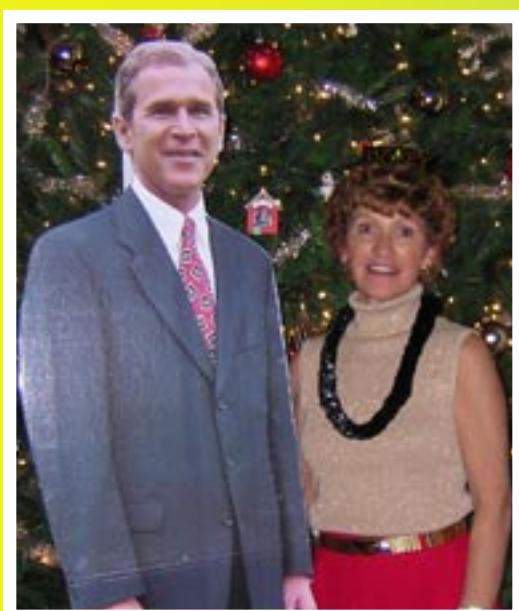
Best book I read - *The Da Vinci Code*, but also read



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.



Renegades 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 strong, caring and loving community. I want us to count our blessings and to be grateful for all the wonderful things that this area offers.

We have always known Thompson Street to be a GREAT place to live and Thompson Towers, with its started beachy style neighborhood and friendly faces, is the star of the show. This is where home sweet home truly means to live in America. Virginia Beach can never ever forget for the rest of America. I simply want us to realize more, & visit even even the down

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

More is worth a SMILE minus the smile.

S is for SHARING. If we all give a little more, share a little extra, and try to realize care about our neighbors, it will reward us just those around us, we will uplift our hearts as well.

M is for Manners. What I mean is just that we all make a little more like our Mama taught us. For example, I wish us all be a little more patient on our highways. There just

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

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

L is for LOVE and LAUGHTER. I want us to love each other like we may not see each other again. And laugh at ourselves - long, loud and often.

A is for ENTHUSIAST. If you are going to do it, do it. One load, done all you want, and if you are

playing the game, play it to win. Everybody enjoys enthusiasm, even in this short career with you.

William James said, "The greatest one of life is to spend it in something that counts it."

I wish for all of us here in the greatest city in America to spend your "vacation" together, with love in our hearts, laughter on our lips and caring about our neighbors. As country singer Kenny Chesney says, "Yeah man, that's the GOOD LIFE!"

Happy New Year, Virginia Beach
J.P. "Gus" Godsey (204) 989

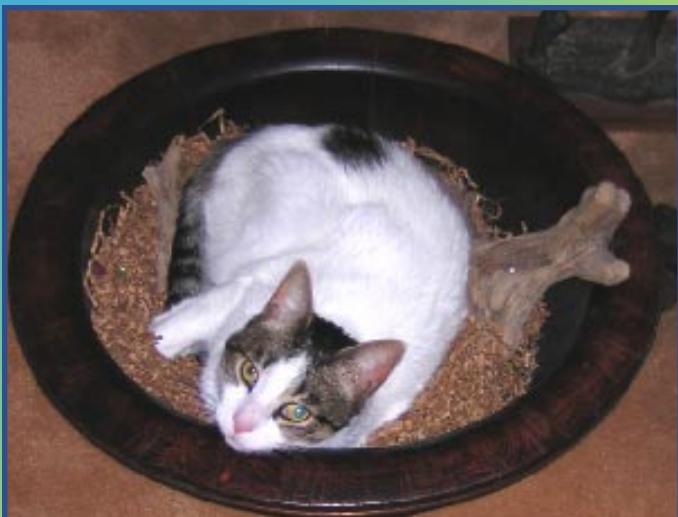
J.P. was honored this week to be asked to write his seven "Wishes for Virginia Beach" for the local paper. If you cannot read it here, you can look it up on the website.



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,

Judi 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!