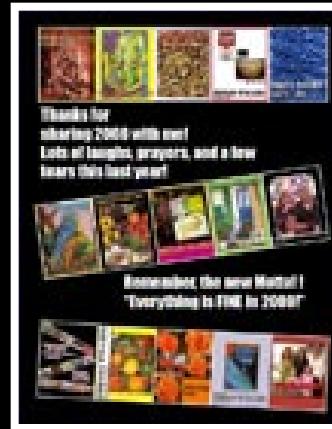




Hey, Hey, Hey!

January 1, 8 and 15, 2010

Where, O Where, do I start!? How about Happy New Year! So glad to be rid of 2009! Even though there were some high points, it was mostly downhill all the way... Here's to a better year. Last year's motto was, "Everything is Fine in 2009!" NOT! At least we started out optimistic! Ha! I did not make up a motto for this year - didn't want to jinx it before it started. If you come up with a good one, let me know!



So many of you have written to ask if I am OK that I feel a bit guilty! I am fine! I just took a short break from doing the Friday Follies for a few weeks. Listen, after 12 years of doing the Friday Follies almost every, single Friday -- I think I deserved to take a break. I mean, they are supposed to be fun for me, too, but by the end of this last year, things got so hectic that I decided I wanted to halt them for a few weeks. It did me good. But honestly, I missed them, too, silly as they are. And I really, really appreciated all of your notes more than you can know.

Now as I go back and do these (today is January 17) I am still not going to have a place to post them to my website. I have been looking for a new web-master, and I think I have found one to help me, but he may not get to it until February. I post the Follies myself, but I need a new 2010 page, and I need the archives and www.friday-follies.com to open to the 2010 page. I cannot do that part, myself. Well, I could if someone would show me, or if I could take a class, but I can't right now. Maybe that will be a goal this next year. My friend who may be taking over doing that type of maintenance on my site might be willing to teach me. We will see. For now, though, I will just post these to FaceBook and maybe to the 2009 page until 2010 is operative.



I am really kind of sorry I waited so long now because there is so much I wanted to tell you and now, not only is there not enough space, but it seems like ancient history! Ha! I will give you abbreviated photos and the condensed version of the last few weeks. There has been so much going on that it has simply been a BLUR! Honestly! I know it has been for you, too.



Christmas Eve was spent once again, as it is year after year, with my "surrogate sister" Wendy and her family. We have been bringing our families together on Christmas Eve now for over twenty years. This year was a bit different, though, in that Jessica and Ricky ended up going to one of his family functions. (I guess it is time for them to start their own family traditions.) We had a blast, though, and the most fun of all was Jeremy giving me pool lessons. (Thank you again Larry and Betty for inviting us to your party. Perhaps we can make it another year!)

Christmas Day was even better. Isn't it just one of the happiest days of the entire year? The presents don't matter. It is the food, family, anticipation, and appreciation that matter.





I always love the before and after eating photos. Ha! I am sure this Christmas is the last kind of "Lazy" Christmas for years to come with little Kai on the way. I decided to give Jess and Ricky personal items this year since everything for the last nine months and for the foreseeable future will be going to the baby! Jessica said one of her favorite gifts (even above the jewelry) was her smiley face, velvet PJs!

The day after Christmas, I had to move all of my items out of the antique mall. Boo Hoo! I actually made a little money from it in December, but not enough to justify keeping it open. I also became sick as a dog with a sinus infection - but STILL had to move out. The calendar waits for no





one. I sold so much stuff during my six months there, and still had SEVEN pick-up truck loads of items to move out. Needless to say, three truck loads went straight to the Salvation Army, but the other four had to be integrated back into my house! Yikes! It was simply too good to throw out.

But it caused a chain reaction which led me to organize every room in my house - including redoing my garage - or "Ollie's House," as I like to call it. It really felt great to get all of that done. Now all of my products are in one place instead of closets, the pantry, etc. Much easier to find and know what I have.

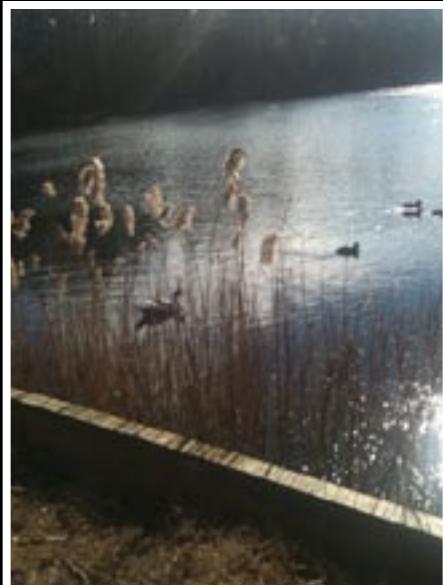
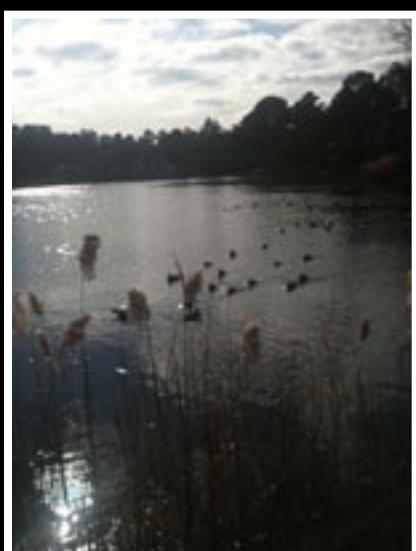




But with all of that work and being sick, too, I was wiped out for the remainder of the holidays. I did not even go out on New Year's Eve! Actually made a little blanket bed in front of a roaring fire and watched it on TV! Loved it.

One of my favorite parties of the year is at my good buddy Mary-Ann's each New Year's Day. There is always a theme, awesome cocktails served through an ice sculpture, delectable appetizers, fabulous scenery, and tons of friends. I took what I thought was a great photo of Mary Ann and her daughter, Kara, at the top, here, but alas, Mary Ann's eyes were closed. And then there is Paige, another friend I have not seen in a while. Just a very nice party. (Only took a couple of photos because I just did not feel too great!)

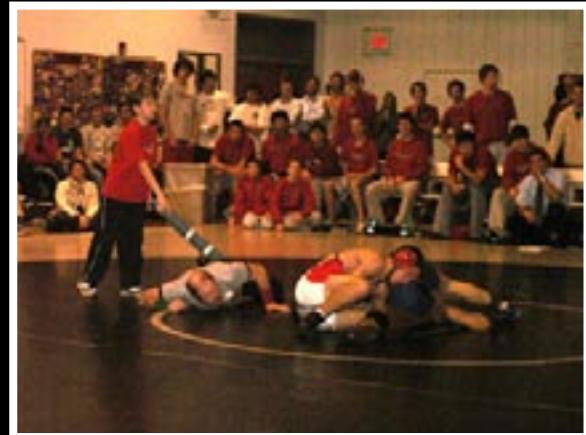
Then, once I felt better, the cold set in. I think it was below freezing for over two weeks here. It was so cold that our lake actually froze - a rarity around here. I took these photos at noon one day once it had thawed out. That white duck is Charlie, my favorite duckling.





OK, American Idol fans! Remember Elliott Yamin? What a doll baby! He was at the Jewish Mother this past week, and I went to see him with Jessica. Man, can he sing! I LOVE his music, too. It is not all that crazy stuff. It is new and nicely alternative, but very easy to listen to. Loved, loved, loved him. Wanted to get a shot with him after, but he was mobbed after the show, and since it was a week night, I slipped out. (Getting old...) If he is ever appearing in your area, go see him. I think you would be pleased.

Another surprise last week... a good buddy I had not seen in several years called to tell me his son was going to be wrestling at my school the next day. I met up with he and his wife and loved watching the match. I simply cannot believe his boys are old enough to be wrestling in high school sports. It was great seeing you Chris, Ann, Charlie and Georgie!



Jeremy's room mate moved in with his girlfriend, so Jeremy had to find a new place to live. He found what he thought was going to be a great place on the water in Poquosin, but really did not like it after moving in, so he has moved again and seems MUCH happier now. All settled and ready to go!

Ricky had to go to Florida for five days with a new company he is a representative for, CatchSurf, and since Jessica has been having some mild contractions already, I stayed with her in the evenings. I loved it. Nice girl time, but honestly, by the time we got in the house and settled after work each day, it was almost 8, and we were both beat! Still nice, though. I am just so thankful she made it through and Ricky will be back in plenty of time for the baby! Due date is February 2, but we will see. Babies have a way of surprising everyone...

Today is also the children's father's birthday! Happy Birthday, Max!

OK, There is so much more I would like to go into, but simply do not have the time and you probably are tired of reading by now anyway! Ha! I hope this is the best year ever for us all! It started off with a terrible tragedy, but the way the entire world has come together has been inspiring. This country - hey - the others can say what they want - but even during one of the worst economic times we have seen in our lifetime, look how much has already been contributed to the cause. Americans are simply amazing...

If you do not know where to go to contribute - please consider donations to the Salvation Army. They have been in Haiti for decades and have churches, schools, missions, you name it, already there. (Many were damaged, but they are already a trusted part of the communities.) Click on the banner below to go to the Salvation Army site to read more. They now have the texting option that has become so popular.



Please know that I love you all very much. I appreciate your concern and comments after the last Friday Follies went out and then the lull. I am fine... have just been swamped! Love to you all.

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, Lake Tahoe, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Poland, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Saudi Arabia, New Hampshire, Tampa, Chattanooga, France, Phoenix, New York, Oregon, Russia, Maine, Australia, Bangkok, 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!