**Perfect Timing**

**In Gulfport, Miss., two Norwegian tourists trying to operate an ATM banged on it setting off a burglar alarm that alerted police, who then discovered the bank was actually being robbed inside. The Norwegians later were commended for their inability to operate the machine. *(Bill Flick, 1994)***

**The best years of your life are when the kids are old enough to help shovel the snow but too young to drive the car. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**In September 1992, the world's currency markets were shaken by a run on British sterling. At the height of the buying frenzy, associates suggested to famed international investor George Soros that the time had come to bet prices would fall. But they urged him to make his first wager modest. Soros waved them off. “If we don't believe in what we're doing,” he said, “we shouldn't go in at all.” He ordered them to take what one associate called “a huge position” in the trading. Soros's perfectly timed, all-out decision netted $1.6 billion. *(Edwin Jr. & Sally Valente Kiester, in Reader's Digest)***

**The best time to buy anything is last year. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The minister says to himself: “Remember now. Don't call anyone a sinner until after the collection.” *(Reader's Digest)***

**In 1972, Mo Siegel, the founder of Celestial Seasonings Tea, came up with a hibiscus and rose hip blend that had a sharp and pleasing flavor and a natural bright red color. He called it Red Zinger. His timing was good -- food was becoming a counterculture issue as hippies, who once scarfed down burgers, were suddenly gravitating to natural foods, vegetarianism, and other “alternative” diets. The Red Zinger name (reminiscent of “Screaming Yellow Zonkers,” the trippy snack food of the late 1960s), the tangy flavor, and the promise of healthy ingredients were exactly what the bells and patchouli crowd had in mind. *(Jack Mingo, in How The Cadillac Got Its Fins, p. 112)***

**Billy: "Instead of on a weekend, couldn't they turn the clocks ahead during a school day?" *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Charles Schulz, the creator of Peanuts, the tender and sage comic strip starring Charlie Brown and Snoopy that was read by 355 million people around the world, died in his sleep on Saturday night at his home in Santa Rosa, Calif., just hours before his last cartoon ran in Sunday newspapers. He was 77. His wife, Jeannie, said, “He had done everything he wanted.” *(Sarah Boxer, in Rocky Mountain News, February 14, 2000)***

**In June 1876, Colonel Frederick D. Grant, oldest son of President Ulysses S. Grant, was serving as an aide to General George A. Custer, commander of the Seventh Cavalry in Montana. A day or two before the cavalry launched its attack on Chief Crazy Horse and the Sioux, Grant received “compassionate leave” to be at the bedside of his wife when she gave birth to their first child. By pure chance, Grant's eagerness to play the good husband kept him away from the ambush near the Little Bighorn River in which his unit was annihilated. *(Nicholas Rescher, in USAir magazine)***

**Good week for: Entrepreneurship, after a San Francisco Girl Scout set up a cookie stand outside a medical marijuana clinic, and sold out her entire stash of munchies in just 45 minutes. "They get very hungry after (smoking)," said Danielle Lei, 13. *(The Week magazine, March 7, 2014)***

**It's not always a dog's life. Michael, the famous Irish terrier star of Peg O' My Heart and other productions, was rescued from the Los Angeles pound the day before he was to be put to sleep. *(Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 5)***

**Olle Hult i Fegen, of Halland, Sweden, saws his sawmill struck by lightning and destroyed by fire -- less than a minute after signing his first fire insurance policy! *(Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 140)***

**Robert Jackson was a staff photographer for the Dallas Times Herald in 1963 who happened to be changing film at the tragic moment when President Kennedy’s motorcade passed him on November 22. Two days later, he was covering the assassination story and positioned himself at Dallas police headquarters where Lee Harvey Oswald was being transferred to the county jail. As Jackson raised his camera, Jack Ruby stepped in front of him, took two steps, and fired a gun at the same moment that Jackson hit his shutter release. *(Tidbits of Denver)***

**The time to relax is when you don't have time for it. *(Sydney J. Harris)***

**As a young draftee at Camp Upton, in Yaphank, New York, in 1917, Irving Berlin wrote an all-soldier musical revue called Yip, Yip, Yaphank. Twenty years later he dusted off a tune that he had cut from the show, and wrote new lyrics. The song that had lain abandoned for two decades? “God Bless America.” *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It's a Weird World, p. 87)***

**The time to stop talking is before people stop listening. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**An amazing instance of right place, right time saved the life of a toddler in Burbank, California, this week. Konrad and Jennifer Lightner were carrying a box-spring mattress as part of a move when they looked up and saw a 3-year-old dangling from a cord out of a third-floor window. Konrad quickly positioned the mattress under the boy, then partly broke the child's fall before he landed safely on the mattress. "It was very surreal afterwards," Jennifer said. "We were just moving the rest of the day, and every once in a while we'd look at each other and just be like 'That happened. That was real.'" *(The Week magazine, March 28, 2014)***

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