

Yunta's North East News

Sponsored by the Yunta District Hall Inc.
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Distributed free to residents of the North East (SA)

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Introducing Geoff Brock

Volume: Forty Two. **Issue 5**

JUNE 2022

OCA Members visit Yunta

Members and staff of the Outback Communities Authority met with members of the Yunta District Hall committee at the Race Clubhouse on 5th May with eight people from each body attending. The purpose of the visit was to further discuss areas of the proposed Outback Futures Project.

After a tour of the clubhouse, OCA Presiding Member Mr Bill McIntosh commended the Yunta Race Club members and volunteers on the tremendous achievement of the new building. Bill had twice visited the project during the build process and had enthusiastically expressed his admiration of the undertaking.



The drafting of the Outback Futures Project has involved widespread consultative community meetings and communiques over the past two years.

The Board was questioned about the sustainability and equitable setting of a proposed Outback Levy which remains a contentious issue.

Following the meeting, Board members inspected Yunta's newly re-sheeted airstrip before returning to Pt Augusta. Hall President Allen Hucks thanked the Board for their interest in the Yunta community and their willingness to further discuss the proposed Outback Futures Project.

More on page 12

Re-vamped Airstrip Re-opened

Guests, RFDS staff and local residents braved icy winds to attend the airstrip re-opening on 30th May.

State Member for Stuart Geoff Brock and YDH Secretary Lisa Crawford cut the ribbon before the 25 attending scurried to the comfort of the Yunta Hall where the official speeches were followed by a lunch.



Member for Stuart Geoff Brock and Lisa Crawford cut the ribbon.

The major runway repairs and re-sheeting of the Yunta Aerodrome was instigated and overseen by the Yunta Hall Committee with Australian Government's Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program funding of \$156,503, which was matched by SA State Government funding.

See more on page 3

Community Calendar

June

- 4th North East Wool Show
- 9th RFDS clinic Yunta
- 13th Public Holiday, Queen's birthday**
- 23rd How to Retain Staff Workshop (pg 10)
- 21st RFDS clinic Wiawera
- 23rd RFDS clinic Yunta



Community Briefs

Winter has arrived - bringing with it icy mornings and wicked winds. Dress appropriately.

The official re-opening of the airstrip broke all speed records, with no long-winded (pun intended) speeches or drawn out proceedings. It was a dash out to the airstrip, the ribbon was cut – and all battled 40k head-winds to return to their vehicles. The Hall provided a snug haven for the speeches, a nice lunch and a warming cuppa.

The weekend prior produced lovely weather; a bonus for those who ventured to Broken Hill's Agfair and RFDS Ball.

A minor vehicle fire in Yunta caused no damage to other property but CFS members were extra quick in their response when it had been reported that the ute-owner's house was on fire!

Yunta's public toilets are undergoing crucial and long-awaited repairs and a revamp. Many will be relieved after the job is done!!

Did you see the recent Landline program featuring the faces of Richard Williams and Peter Absalom on screen? Kangaroo culling continues to have its hecklers so the views of those 'in the know' were important.

Road works involving shoulder-widening continue between Mannahill and Cockburn, so expect travel delays for a while yet.

Readers are reminded to consider contributing articles for our community newspaper. No news is not good news! All local news is gratefully accepted, so let's hear from your community or home.

Best wishes to Mick Goldsworthy, Kim Heinemann and their daughters Ally, Evelyn and Mackenzie as they leave McCoys Well Station to take up residence in eastern WA.

Photos and reports of the inaugural North East Wool Show will appear in the next issue. Well done to all the wool-growers for donating their fleeces to the RFDS fundraising efforts.

Warm wishes to all,
Ros Breeding
Editor, YNEN



Celebratory Lunch

Pictured at the Runway Re-opening lunch were Gary Fuller and airstrip contractor Willy Polomka



and below: Jackie Hanniver - RFDSSE Acting Regional Services Manager, Annette Ohlsen - Community Engagement Coordinator Broken Hill RFDSSE, Jenny Beach - General Manager, RFDSSE Health Service - and Sheryl Lewis, Yunta



RFDS Clinics	JUNE
Wiawera	21
Yunta	9, 23

For appointments call:
Jenny @ **Wiawera** on **8091 1526**
Sheryl @ **Yunta** on **8650 5099**
Or try booking via the HotDoc App.
or call 8080 3735.

Appointments can also be made at the
Clive Bishop Medical Centre,
Broken Hill, 8080 3780

For more information on the COVID vaccination clinic dates, speak with the clinic coordinator on 0439 450 715.

Flu & Covid
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Available



Deadline date for the July issue
is 24th June
Email: rosjb@outlook.com
Phone: 8650 5005

On a very windy and cold 30th May, the Yunta Aerodrome was the centre of activity for Yunta. After forming the topic for an interview on ABC North and West SA's morning program, the Yunta Aerodrome had a number of dedicated attendees blow in for its official re-opening event.

Those braving the weather included the honourable Geoff Brock MP, State Minister for Local Government, Regional Roads and Veterans Affairs and Member for Stuart, representatives from the Outback Communities Authority, RFDS, S&E Polomka, the Yunta District Hall - and a small band of community members. Apologies were received from Craig Francis of Aerodrome Design Services and Jeff Allen, Yunta District Hall Inc's Vice President.

Minister Brock, who was representing the honourable Tom Koutsantonis MP (Minister for Infrastructure & Transport), in conjunction with Lisa Crawford, Secretary Yunta District Hall Inc, cut the ribbon and Minister Brock declared the Aerodrome re-opened.

Attendees then made their way to the Yunta District Hall for speeches and lunch. Despite the challenging conditions, the event was a success and the Yunta District Hall Inc would like to thank the following parties:

- Minister Brock for attending the event and conducting the official ribbon cutting;
- the Australian Government for funding the project under their Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program and providing support throughout the project;
- the South Australian State Government (Department for Infrastructure and Transport SA) for matching the funding and providing support throughout the project;
- Aerodrome Design Services for their airport technical specialist services throughout the life of the project including assisting with the grant application through to certification and sign off of the aerodrome;
- S&E Polomka for their skilled execution of the construction works and overall support of the Yunta District Hall Inc in delivering the project;
- the Royal Flying Doctor Service for their support of the project - and their continued provision of critical and exceptional health services to the Yunta Community;
- the Outback Communities Authority for supporting the Yunta District Hall's Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program grant application;
- the dedicated volunteers within the Yunta community for their ongoing efforts in maintaining the Yunta Aerodrome and the RFDS Clinic, and for supporting the RFDS to provide their critical health services; and
- everyone who attended the event, including those who assisted with the preparation activities, catering, set-up and clean-up. You all helped make it a success so thank you!

We look forward to the continued use and ongoing benefits arising from this wonderful community asset.

-Lisa

The official Runway Re-opening was the culmination of a vital project of enormous community benefit.



YDH Secretary Lisa Crawford was acknowledged for the enormous amount of time she contributed throughout the duration of the project. Gary Fuller was also recognised for his on-going overseeing of the airstrip.

Contractor Willy Polomka was effusive in his praise of Lisa, Gary and others, for ensuring the project ran efficiently. He added that he was honoured to be chosen to undertake the large project.

The RFDS (South East section) were well-represented at the Re-opening with the visiting Dental Clinic staff also joining in. Representing the Outback Communities Authority were Presiding Member Bill McIntosh (and Mrs Jane McIntosh) and Director Mark Sutton.

Following the speeches and acknowledgements, the 25 attending were treated to a lovely lunch - organised by Lisa!
Photos of previous page *- Editor*

The Yunta Race Club
sincerely thanks
all sponsors & supporters
of the 2022

Yunta Gymkhana & Bush Sprints

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BBB Rural Clothing
Jamestown Engineering
G & C Tyrepower, Peterborough
Hon Rowan Ramsey MP
Webbs Tyres, Jamestown
Mark Ludgate
Yunta Hotel

Gymkhana Overview

Yunta's 2022 Gymkhana seems a distant memory, but for some, the work continues. Accounts are being finalised, thank-you notes are being distributed by the dozen and a committee 'de-brief' meeting is still to be held. And maybe then, we can relax – or start planning a 2023 Gymkhana?!

Overall, the day was a great success, blessed by magnificent weather and a fun-loving crowd. The gymkhana events ran smoothly with riders collecting prize-money and horses being draped in ribbons as the day progressed. Kimberley and her team kept the program rolling all day, doing a marvellous job.

Those attending were never bored or hungry with the kitchen serving up tasty treats, the stall-holders offering a range of products, RICE and the inflatable maze entertaining the little folk – and the Bar cranking up before lunch. Novelty events triggered the usual humour and the Sheep Racing Calcutta's drew fervent bids, based solely on each animal's name-sake.

With an enormous last-minute effort and the 'paint barely dry' - the clubhouse was ready and drew admiration from all. And it served its purpose on the day, with the spacious and well-equipped kitchen perfect for the job at hand – and the amenities being widely acclaimed.

Behind the scenes, there were many people keeping things on track and without them we could not host such a big, successful event. Many kind visitors willingly contributed time to help where-ever needed and we could not have managed without them! *Thanks to all.*

The Club's new electronic payment system (which became operational only on the day prior) was a bonus, with its convenience and ease of operation.

Sponsorship monies (much of which was held since the scheduled 2020 event was cancelled) funded the running of the day, including increased insurance costs.

The new verandah signage promotes the businesses who very kindly sponsored the purchase of equipment and fixtures for the interior of the Clubhouse. In addition, most of those sponsors sponsored the 2022 Yunta Gymkhana & Bush Sprints. *Please support the sponsors.*

The continuance of our outback events depends heavily on enthusiastic committee members and the kindness of volunteers and sponsors. Every person who has contributed to the Yunta Race Club; including the rebuild, administration and/or the 2022 Gymkhana - should be mighty proud of themselves!

~ R Breeding, Secretary, YRC

Yunta Gymkhana Photos ...



Claire Scarman and Brock Neldner catch up with Melanie Lewis on the rail.



Kept busy in the kitchen were visitors Carol Burford, Penny Shepley and Donna Green.



Paratoo Station siblings Euleena and Alexander MaLachlan collected several gymkhana ribbons



Former North East residents Sheree and Kevin Sunners watch the gymkhana events.



Some Gymkhana event results

7 Years and Under –

Led Musical Mats

- 1st – Ellis Richards on Koorie
- 2nd – Hanna Crawford on Paris
- 3rd – Sophie Crawford on Rocky

Led Bending

- 1st – Codee Foster on Blaze
- 2nd – Mackenzie Goldsworthy on Missy

Led Flag & Barrel

- 1st – Codee Foster on Blaze
- 2nd – Sophie Crawford on Rocky
- 3rd – Hanna Crawford on Paris

7 Year and Under Age Champion - Codee Foster

11 Years & Under –

Flag & Barrel

- 1st – Abby Sheridan on Misty
- 2nd – Ella Crawford on Rocky

Figure 8

- 1st – Abby Sheridan on Misty
- 2nd – Ella Crawford on Rocky

Texas Barrel

- 1st – Abby Sheridan on Misty
- 2nd – Ella Crawford on Rocky

11 Years & Under Age Champion - Abby Sheridan

12-15 Years -

Walk, Trot & Lead

- 1st – Ava Turley on Aspin
- 2nd – Ebony Meyer on Boo
- 3rd – Elley Adams on Simba

Flag & Barrel

- 1st – Alice Johnson on Jazzie Littlegift
- 2nd – Elley Adams on Simba
- 3rd – Ava Turley on Aspin

Figure 8

- 1st – Alice Johnson on Jazzie Littlegift
- 2nd – Ebony Meyer on Boo
- 3rd – Ava Turley on Aspin

12-15 Years Age Champion - Alice Johnson

Raffle prize winners were:

Roweena Menz	Sheryl Lewis
Keith Noble	Frank ?
Steve Griffiths	Carol Burford



Saturday 30th April, 2022

16 Years & Over –

Walk, Trot & Gallop

- 1st – Jamey Foster on Coco
- 2nd – Euleena MacLachlan on Charlie
- 3rd – Charli Smith on Chardi

Flag & Barrel

- 1st – Lachy Johnson on Buddy
- 2nd – Alana Pitts on Boo
- 3rd – Billie-leigh Gibson on Bubbles

Bending Race

- 1st – Amy Stone on Trixie
- 2nd – Maddie Jonas on Dixie

Figure 8

- 1st – Lachy Johnson on Buddy
- 2nd – Charli Smith on Chardi
- 3rd – Amy Stone on Trixie

Double Texas Barrel

- 1st – Billie-leigh Gibson on Bubbles & Deegan McAuliffe on Brother
- 2nd – Alana Pitts on Boo & Kimberley Longbottom on Naked
- 3rd – Maddie Jonas on Dixie

Texas Barrel

- 1st – Billie-leigh Gibson on Bubbles
- 2nd – Alana Pitts on Boo
- 3rd – Jamey Foster on Coco

Necktie Race

- 1st – Maddie Jonas on Dixie
- 2nd – Kimberley Longbottom on Stitch
- 3rd – Caitlin Mitchell on Wishes

Thread the Needle

- 1st – Lachy Johnson on Buddy
- 2nd – Caitlin Mitchell on Wishes
- 3rd – Maddie Jonas on Dixie

4 Horse Relay

- 1st – Charli Smith on Chardi, Maddie Jonas on Dixie, Kimberley Longbottom on Stitch & Lachy Johnson on Buddy
- 2nd – Amy Stone on Trixie, Keely Finlay on Rocky, Alex MacLachlan on Dixie & Euleena MacLachlan on Charlie

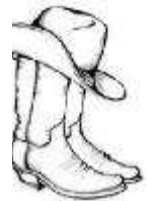
16 Years & Over Age Champion - Lachy Johnson

Bush Sprint 1

- 1st – Karah Knight on Diamond
- 2nd – Amy Stone on Rocky
- 3rd – Caitlin Mitchell on Bad Bitch Shorty

Bush Sprint 2

- 1st – Billie-leigh Gibson on Diamond
- 2nd – Jamey Foster on Coco
- 3rd – Daniel Baker on Alsoadamas



The YRC sincerely thanks all who assisted before, during and after the Gymkhana

Production to Recommence at Honeymoon Uranium Mine

It has been announced that uranium production will resume by the end of next year at the Honeymoon uranium mine.

Boss Energy announced that it has signed off on a \$113 million upgrade of the mine north of Cockburn, after previous plans to revive the mine were shelved in 2013 because of low uranium prices and high production costs.

Production is expected to begin by December 2023 with Boss Energy saying it will produce 2.5 million tonnes of uranium annually by 2026.

In a statement to the ASX, Boss Energy said it had raised capital for the project through \$125 million in share sales in March.

The company's managing director, Duncan Craib, and director Bryn Jones briefed South Australian Mining Minister Tom Koutsantonis on the project last week.

"This final investment decision puts Boss firmly on track to be Australia's next uranium producer," Mr Craib said.

"We are fully funded with no debt, fully permitted and (have) extensive infrastructure in place.

"Our front-end engineering studies are completed and we are ready to order key equipment and start construction immediately.





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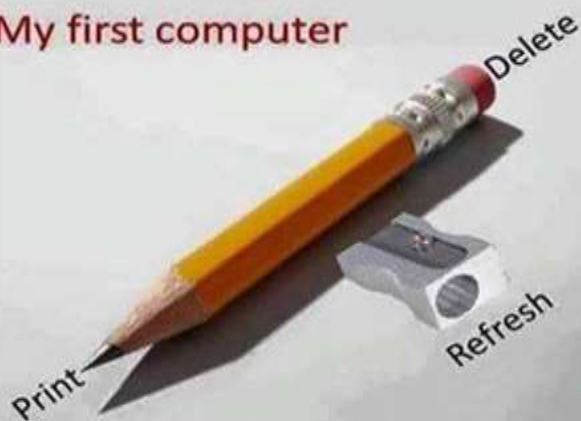
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Introducing

Hon Geoff Brock MP, Member for Stuart



I would like to introduce myself as your newly elected Independent Member for Stuart in the South Australian Parliament.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the great work and commitment that the previous Member Dan van Holst Pellekaan did as your local State Member.

Due to changes made to the Electoral Boundaries both Dan and I were standing against each other for the Electorate of Stuart Member of Parliament.

I was the Independent Member for the Electorate of Frome for 13 years and consider myself very fortunate to continue to serve the community in the Electorate of Stuart. I pledge to give my total dedication and commitment over the next 4 years as your Independent State Member.

I have many long and happy memories of my time spent living and working in the Northeast sector of the state, dating back to when my father was trapping rabbits on Frome Downs to when I moved to Port Augusta to work for BP Australia as a Manager.

During my years as a Manager for BP Australia I travelled right throughout the regions to the far North and Northeast of the State.

I moved to Port Pirie with my family and worked at the smelters for 30 years. I also served on the Port Pirie Regional Council for almost 20 years, the last 6 years as Mayor prior to becoming involved in State politics.

I am a very family orientated person. I lost my wife in a car accident many years ago but now have a loving, supporting partner in Lyn, with an extended family and 14 grandchildren between us.

I have a great affiliation and appreciation for the people living in regional South Australia and look forward to catching up with communities in my Electorate as soon as I can.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns or I can assist you in any way please contact my office on 8633 1210 or email stuart@parliament.gov.sa.au.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Hon Geoff Brock MP
Member for Stuart

www.geoffbrock.com.au

Postal Address: PO Box 519, Port Pirie SA 5540

Phone: 8633 1210 Email: stuart@parliament.sa.gov.au

Looking Back through the pages of Yunta's North East News

Vol. 38 Issue No. 8.

September 2018

Iris Williams of Cockburn had reported that the town was to again feature on the big screen, this time as a backdrop for an Aldi supermarket advertisement.

The Cockburn Progress Association had raised funds by hosting a Sausage Sizzle at the recent Broken Hill Market day.

The Sept 2018 issue also reported that Sue Chase had sold Cowell Electric Supply Pty Ltd to the Ahrens Group. Cowell Electric had been contracted by the SA Government in 2016 to maintain the Remote Areas Energy Supplies. The power station and distribution network involved 13 remote towns, including Mannahill.

Do you want to recruit and retain staff? Yunta Workshop

Best practice techniques and guidance in successful recruitment strategies, retaining and developing staff, effective performance management, confirming and managing job expectations.

Up to two-hour mentoring session available to all workshop participants at no extra cost (optional)

Attend this workshop to gain skills, a workbook resource, templates, and valuable information links

Date: Thursday 23rd June

Time: 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Location: Telecentre Community Room

Cost: \$25.00

Contact: Greg Williams

Business Development Manager, RDAFN

Phone: 0400 746 259



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It's a Girl



Many congratulations to Geordie and Jordan Crawford on the arrival of Florence Elizabeth who arrived on 6th May 2022 weighing 7lb 8oz (3041grams). A fourth grand-daughter for Pauline.

PUALCO PASTORAL



Goats required
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Live weight or on hooks

Stephen Obst
Phone: 0438 343 434

Kids!

OPINIONS:

On the first day of school, a Reception student handed his teacher a note from his mother which read; 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

ON THE SAUCE:

A woman was battling to get the sauce out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang and she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer it. 'Mommy can't come to the phone right now because she's hitting the bottle.'

New round of Property Management Planning open

Taking time out to spend on your business rather than working in it is not always easy but the results can be life-changing. Pastoralists from 12 properties in the SAAL region who have taken part in the first and second round of the board's **Property Management Planning (PMP)** program have all gained a lot from what it has offered with many making beneficial changes to their properties and businesses as a result of taking part in the PMP.

Expressions of Interest are now open for the third round of the PMP program with only six positions available. It's a four stage program where participants need to commit to taking part in all stages, which are:

STAGE 1: Personal Business Drivers Workshop 15 & 16 August 2022

STAGE 2: On Site Property Mapping, September 2022

STAGE 3: Financial Analysis Consultation and Workshop 6 & 7 March 2023

STAGE 4: Action Plan Workshop 2 & 3 May 2023



The PMP is ideally suited for people interested in:

- Ensuring the sustainability of their pastoral business for future generations
- Exploring ways to adapt and innovate
- Understanding more about their business in a holistic manner
- Building the capacity of their business and persons involved
- Diversifying their business to remain competitive

Note: All personal financial details shared between you and the financial adviser are confidential and will not be available to the Board or staff.

Expression of Interest are to be submitted by **4pm, Friday, 20 June 2022**. All the details are at <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/projects-and-partners/projects/building-pastoral-sustainability-program> and for any assistance or questions call Andrea Tschirner, Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator on 0438 720 469 or Andrea.Tschirner@sa.gov.au

Apply here: https://landscape.smartygrants.com.au/PMP_R3

Building Pastoral Sustainability Grants Open until June 20

Do you have a management practice or new technology you would like to trial to help your pastoral property better adapt to varying climates and markets and improve your sustainability?

The Pastoral Sustainability Grants offer between \$10,000 to \$30,000 for successful projects, with a total of \$180,000 is available in this round.

The grants are offered as part of the Building Pastoral Sustainability (BPS) project, which is designed to build on the capacity and resilience of pastoral businesses in the SA Arid Lands.

The BPS project is supported by the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Grant applications close at 4 pm on 20 June 2022. You will find details at

<https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/projects-and-partners/projects/building-pastoral-sustainability-program>

Apply here: https://landscape.smartygrants.com.au/BPS_Grants

As always, for any assistance please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Di Makotter

Community Landscape Officer, NEP

dianna.makotter@sa.gov.au | 0408 944 751



OCA BOARD AND STAFF MEMBERS VISIT YUNTA



Pictured: Warren Breeding with the OCA's Community Development Officer David Thiele and Executive Officer Janelle Greatbatch.

Continued from page 1...

Following a visit to Yunta by Outback Communities Authority Board members and staff, Presiding Member Bill McIntosh sent a letter of thanks to the Yunta District Hall committee.

In part, Bill wrote:

"On behalf of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA), I would like to express our appreciation for the hospitality extended to OCA Board members and staff by the Yunta District Hall and Yunta Race Club members during our recent visit. Being able to enjoy your generous catering in the extremely impressive newly upgraded Yunta Race Club made it a memorable experience and a great reminder of the strength and commitment of your community.

The OCA offers its congratulations to all involved in upgrading the Club which will be such a valuable asset for the Yunta community, for not only the

immediate future, but also for many years to come. Your vision, attention to detail and persistence and skills in administering such a large project, are a wonderful example to the rest of the outback region, showing what can be achieved when communities really work together.

The OCA also appreciated the opportunity to meet and hopefully address some of the concerns expressed by Yunta community members regarding the OCA's recommendation for a shared responsibility model for the Outback. As I hope was clearly articulated, it is intended that these recommendations will be made only on the proviso that the State Government commits to fully fund public benefit services in the Outback and also matches any funds raised by Outback residents to pay for services that support those resident Outback communities.

The Outback Futures Project has been complex and required much consideration by the OCA over the last couple of years on how to ensure the Outback is thriving and vibrant well into the future. Our Board have remained committed to listening to all the feedback received throughout the consultation process and I would like to thank all the Yunta community members who took the time and effort to provide comments for the OCA to consider.

As you are aware, final advice will be provided to the Minister for Local Government at the end of this month and will soon after, be made available to the Outback Community including the Yunta District Hall and anyone who has registered to be updated on the progress of the Outback Futures Project.

I thank you again for your time and hospitality. I believe the OCA found the meeting very valuable in considering its recommendations, particularly in demonstrating the uniqueness of each outback community and the need to consider issues of equity, between and within those communities."

Don't you just love LEXOPHILES?!

- How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.
- Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!
- A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last.

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