

## **KANGAROO NIGHTMARE**

Phalaris (canary) grass is sickening Australia's eastern gray kangaroos and livestock such as sheep. The affected animals stagger around drunkenly, then die a painful death. The deadly grass is a nonnative import popular with farmers, but its unintended consequences remind us to "be careful what you wish for." (Source: EarthWeek.com)

## **PHILLY TACO**

The Philly Taco has been called "a turducken for drunks and stoners." It's also been called a great idea. Philadelphians, left to their own late-night devices, cobble together this Frankenfeast by stopping at two separate establishments. Assembling the melange of midnight munchies begins unassumingly enough—with pizza. A giant slice of Lorenzo's cheese pizza, more specifically, stands in as a taco shell. Then, diners rush their slice one city block away to Jim's Steaks. Here, they order their taco filling: a cheesesteak. At this juncture, participants have two options. They can either lay the cheesesteak in the middle of the slice, length-wise, or they place the end of the pizza against the center of the cheesesteak and roll it all up. It's important to act quickly, so as to ensure still-hot pizza cheese hits the meat-filled bread roll. Jeff Barg and Adam Gordon began the tradition, which they named "the Lorenzo's-Jim's Challenge," more than a decade ago. Jeff has since become a vegetarian. (Source: Atlas Obscura)

## **STRONG SILENT TYPE**

Who doesn't admire the cool, calm, and collected character? It's why both men and women alike are drawn to strong, silent types like James Bond and Sherlock Holmes. But there is something almost unsettling about their seemingly superhuman self-control. Being able to stay calm in emotionally charged situations is an asset; not being able to express any emotions at all is a disadvantage. Among other issues, emotionally "constipated" individuals tend to feel more awkward in social situations, are less confident and assertive, and may also have an underlying need

for approval. Expressing feelings, particularly those that would make a person seem vulnerable (e.g., fear, love, hate), requires a great deal of confidence and courage. People who are comfortable with expressing their emotions tend to be happier than those who keep their feelings bottled up inside. This may be because talking things out with someone trustworthy, a particularly useful coping strategy in stressful situations, can lighten a person's emotional burden. Granted, it's essential to be able to remain calm and objective in these situations, but a person must also be able to express his or her feelings truthfully and tactfully, be it frustration, fear, or love, and above all be able to accept the other person's feelings as well. (Source: PsychTests)

### **GRAMMARJAMMER**

A malapropism walks into a bar, looking for all intensive purposes like a wolf in cheap clothing, muttering epitaphs and casting dispersions on his magnificent other, who takes him for granite.

### **SWAMI SEZ**

How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box of matches to start a campfire?

### **MAYBURRITOVILLE**

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