GEICO.



The choice is yours, and it's simple.

Why enjoy just a slice of an apple when you can have the whole thing?

The same goes for car insurance. Why go with a company that offers just a low price when GEICO could save you hundreds and give you so much more? You could enjoy satisfying professional service, 24/7, from a company that's made it their business to help people since 1936. This winning combination has helped GEICO to become the 2nd-largest private passenger auto insurer in the nation.

Make the smart choice. Get your free quote from GEICO today.



geico.com | 1-800-947-AUTO | Local Office

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. Customer satisfaction based on an independent study conducted by Alan Newman Research, 2015, GEICO is the second-largest private passenger auto insurer in the United States according to the 2014 A.M. Best market share report, published April 2015. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Barkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. & 2016 GEICO

Contents

JUNE 2017

Cover Story

66 VACATION!

From Disney disasters to beach flops, readers share their funniest family travel stories.

Stranger Who Changed My Life

78 MY PATIENT BENNY

A man waiting for a heart transplant teaches his young doctor some valuable lessons. BY MATT MCCARTHY, MD, FROM THE BOOK THE REAL DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU SHORTLY

Nicest Place in America

86 THE PRICELESS CAR LOAN

A random act of kindness in tiny Wild Rose, Wisconsin, brightens a lousy day. MARISSA LALIBERTE AND ASHLEY LEWIS

Drama In Real Life

88 50 SECONDS FROM DEATH

A novice skydiver is unconscious—and plummeting to earth.

Health

98 40 THINGS CARDIOLOGISTS DO TO PROTECT THEIR HEARTS

How the experts beat the odds in their own lives.

CHARLOTTE HILTON ANDERSEN

What It's Like

112 LETTING A WILDFIRE BURN OVER YOU

When firefighters can't escape the flames, fire shelters are their last resort.

BRIAN MOCKENHAUPT FROM THE ATLANTIC

National Interest

118 WHY DID THIS INNOCENT MAN PLEAD GUILTY?

Plea bargains—even for those who are not guilty—are more common than you might think.

ANTOINE GOLDET FROM REVEAL

P. | 98

4 Dear Readers

6 Letters



READER FAVORITES

- 16 Photo of Lasting Interest
- 22 Points to Ponder
- 32 100-Word True Stories
- 34 Life in These United States
- 58 All in a Day's Work
- 60 News from the World of Medicine
- 84 That's Outrageous!
- 96 Laughter, the Best Medicine
- 111 Laugh Lines
- 133 Word Power
- 135 Humor in Uniform
- 136 Quotable Quotes

Everyday Heroes

8 The Boy Who Stopped a Kidnapper

ALYSSA JUNG

11 The Cover-Up

ANDY SIMMONS

VOICES & VIEWS

Department of Wit

13 Allow Me to Stipulate My Demands, Daddy

A father matches wits with his precocious offspring. SEAN WILLIAMS FROM SLATE.COM

You Be the Judge

19 The Case of the Ring and The Broken Engagement The groom cancels the wedding-

in a text. Can she keep the ring? VICKI GLEMBOCKI

Words of Lasting Interest

26 Don't Look Away Melinda Gates explains why

hope is her most potent weapon.

Finish This Sentence

30 If I Had an Extra Vacation Day, I Would ...

Ideas

36 Whom Do We Trust?

Professionals in the most respected fields explain how they earn our confidence. JENN MORSON

ART OF LIVING

45 9 Easy Eco-Friendly **Backyard Tips**

RACHEL LISKA FROM BIRDS & BLOOMS

Technology

48 Delete These Bad E-mail Habits

TERESA DUMAIN

Family

50 The Things I Wish My Dad Knew About Me Before He Died

> SUSANNAH B. LEWIS FROM WHOASUSANNAH.COM

Health

52 Delicious Hydration Tips LAUREN DIAMOND

P. | 52

Health

54 You Are Not Alone

MEGAN JONES



WHO KNEW?

128 13 Things Pet Stores Won't Tell You

MICHELLE CROUCH

130 The Truth About That White Dress (and 7 Other Wedding Traditions)

BRANDON SPECKTOR



PHOTOGRAPH SET STYLIST:

SET STYLIST
PETER
GARGAGLIAND;
HAIR AND
MAKEUP
ALLISON
BROOKE USING
FACE ATELIER
COSMETICS

06-2017 3

2 06-2017 rd.com