PERSPECTIVE

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and how it got
D., Blooming-

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WORD WATCH

The origin of words

gin, derived, as you may have guessed, from the resemblance of this kind of beard to the beard of a he-goat. The first attested use of "goatee" is from 1844, although the wearing of the style of beard seems to have been considered something of an eccentricity at the time. The current resurgence in the popularity of the goatee is more reminiscent of the beatnik style of the 1950s than of the fashion of the 19th century.

Q Can you explain the origin and meaning of the expression "handsome is as handsome does"? — S.O., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

A: Whether or not it was true that this proverb was "frequently cited by ugly women," as one 18th century reference work claimed, the meaning of "handsome is as handsome does" is that a person's behavior has a bearing on his or her attractiveness.

The expression first found its way into print in 1766 in Oliver Goldsmith's novel "The Vicar of Wakefield." The vicar, Dr. Primrose, is describing his family: "Our visitors would usually say, 'Well, upon my word, Mrs. Primrose, you have the finest children in the whole country.' — 'Ay, neighbour,' she would answer, 'they are as heaven made them, handsome enough, if they be good enough; for handsome is that handsome does.'"

The syntax of "handsome is as handsome does" seems a little obscure until you find out that the second "handsome" is actually an adverb. "Handsome" as an adverb doesn't appear to have been used since Shakespeare's time — except in our proverb. (Nowadays, of course, we would usually use the form "handsomely.") Shakespeare himself used "handsome" as an adverb when he wrote "I dress my self handsome" in Henry IV, part 2; there, its meaning is "properly, suitably, fittingly," from a now archaic sense of the adjective "handsome." In "handsome is as handsome does," the adverb reflects the nearly 400-year-old adjectival sense "marked by graciousness or generosity."

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition.

e Legislature

gnon, Senate Chair
, House Chair
nday, April 25, 2005,
State House
To Improve the Clean
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To Promote Clean
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To End the Influence of
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To Ensure That Direct
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To Prohibit Unfair
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Establish a Transparent
illed Spirits" (H.P.0173)
ne Doak, 100 State
ME 04333-0100,
287-1310

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

Rep. Hannah Pingree, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Tuesday, April 26, 2005, 2:00 p.m., Room 209, Cross Building
L.D. 1401 Bill "An Act To Further Coordinate the Laws Regarding Certificate of Need, the State Health Plan and the Capital Investment Fund" (S.P.0490)
L.D. 1487 Bill "An Act To Repeal Certificate of Need as it Applies to Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgical Units and Physician Offices" (H.P.1043)
L.D. 1483 Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Reimbursement of Nursing Facilities and Nursing Home Admission Contracts" (S.P.0509)
CONTACT PERSON: Amy Harmon, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-1317

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Sen. Bruce Bryant, Senate Chair
Rep. Thomas R. Watson, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Tuesday, April 26, 2005, 1:00 p.m., Room 206, Cross Building
L.D. 1153 Bill "An Act To Establish a Muzzle-loading Shotgun Season on Deer" (H.P.0796)
L.D. 1287 Bill "An Act To Allow the Use of All Muzzle-loading Firearms During Muzzle-loading Deer Season" (H.P.0884)
L.D. 1313 Bill "Resolve, Establishing an

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Arthur F. Mayo, III, Senate Chair
Rep. Hannah Pingree, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Wednesday, April 27, 2005, 10:00 a.m., Room 209, Cross Building
L.D. 1492 Bill "An Act To Permit the Department of Health and Human Services To Charge Fees to Homestead Facility Residents" (H.P.1049)
L.D. 1515 Bill "Resolve, To Establish a Responsive, Community-based, Cost-effective and Comprehensive Adult Mental Health System" (H.P.1060)
L.D. 1554 Bill "Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Delivery of Services to Maine Citizens with Brain Injuries" (H.P.1095)(EMERGENCY)
L.D. 1555 Bill "An Act To Improve Quality, Effectiveness and Efficiency in the Department of Health and Human Services" (H.P.1096)
CONTACT PERSON: Amy Harmon, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-1317

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Sen. Barry J. Hobbins, Senate Chair
Rep. Deborah Pelletier-Simpson, House Chair

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Arthur F. Mayo, III, Senate Chair
Rep. Hannah Pingree, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Thursday, April 28, 2005, 1:00 p.m., Room 209, Cross Building
L.D. 1178 Bill "An Act Regarding Access to Prescription Drugs and Reimportation" (S.P.0406)
L.D. 1310 Bill "An Act To Ensure Rural Access to Prescription Drugs" (H.P.0908)(EMERGENCY)
L.D. 1324 Bill "An Act To Improve Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs" (H.P.0923)
L.D. 1325 Bill "An Act To Ensure Continuity of Care Related to Implementation of the Federal Medicare Drug Benefit" (H.P.0924)
L.D. 1404 Bill "An Act To Increase the Quality of Care and Reduce Administrative Burdens in the Pharmacy Prior Approval Process" (S.P.0493)
L.D. 1507 Bill "An Act To Control the Spread of Methamphetamines" (S.P.0523)
L.D. 1538 Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Authorizing the Medical Use of Marijuana BY REQUEST" (S.P. 0533)
L.D. 1539 Bill "An Act Pertaining to Reporting of Prescription Drug Advertising Costs" (S.P.0534)
L.D. 1541 Bill "An Act Pertaining to Disclosure Disclosure of Health Care Prices" (H.P.0905)
CONTACT PERSON: Amy Harmon, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-1317

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Arthur F. Mayo, III, Senate Chair
Rep. Hannah Pingree, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Friday, April 29, 2005, 2:30 p.m., Room 209, Cross Building
L.D. 1284 Bill "Resolve, To Provide Increased MaineCare Reimbursement Rates to Physicians with High Ratios of MaineCare Patients" (H.P.0881)
L.D. 1411 Bill "An Act To Require Standardized Reporting of the Prices for Certain Health Care Services and To Repeal the Confidentiality of Sentinel Events" (H.P.0975)
L.D. 1438 Bill "An Act To Require Admission Policies for Hospitals Providing Swing Bed Services" (H.P.1002)
CONTACT PERSON: Amy Harmon, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-1317

JOINT STANDING COMMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Sen. Barry J. Hobbins, Senate Chair
Rep. Deborah Pelletier-Simpson, House Chair
Review of Portions of Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Educational Personnel, Part I and Part II, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education" (H.P.1075)(EMERGENCY)
CONTACT PERSON: Katherine Morse, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-3125

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Sen. Scott W. Cowger, Senate Chair
Rep. Theodore Koffman, House Chair
PUBLIC HEARING: Wednesday, May 4, 2005, 10:00 a.m., Room 214, Cross Building
L.D. 99 Bill "An Act To Include Specific Bodies of Water within Class C Standards" (H.P.0075)
L.D. 183 Bill "An Act Relating to the Definition of Indigenous Species" (H.P.0134)
L.D. 818 Bill "An Act To Specify Phosphorus Limits for Gulf Island Pond" (S.P.0273)
L.D. 1450 Bill "An Act To Amend Water Quality Standards" (S.P.0496)
L.D. 1533 Bill "An Act To Prevent Algae Blooms in Gulf Island Pond" (H.P.1078)
CONTACT PERSON: Rhonda Miller, 100 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0100, 287-4149