Words of Wisdom – 2012

By Phillip W. Weiss

Never tease anyone.

Mutual respect is more than a cliché.

To be ignorant by choice is tragic.

Anonymity provides a false security.

Fame means exposure.

To publish means taking a risk.

If it bears your mark, it's yours.

Be careful what you say because somebody may believe you.

The total expanse of the universe is beyond human comprehension.

From time to time, step back, relax and do a reality check.

Without faith one can live; without hope one merely exists.

Some chains are invisible.

Time is relentless.

Nothing stops time.

The clock is always ticking.

A small act of kindness can save a life.

Never tamper with someone's defenses.

Never confuse companionship with friendship.

To abuse a true friend is a sure sign of moral and mental decay.

To abuse another's generosity, extended in good faith, is depraved.

Education is about more than earning a diploma.

There is a life force.

People are full of surprises.

Within all of us is the hero.

Things happen for reasons that are inexplicable.

Love strikes without warning.

Loud talk is a facade.

People laugh for many reasons.

Talk is cheap until it's time to pay the phone bill.

Dreams are the portal to the subconscious.

Our minds are cluttered with thoughts.

Harboring a grudge is like scratching a wound – the injury just keeps on hurting.

A hero today; a heel tomorrow.

Buying love can be expensive.

Better to go down swinging then to be called out on strikes.

A quiet demeanor will diffuse most conflicts.

There are no degrees of love.

Bridging a gap is not the same as closing a gap.

Every bridge eventually crumbles.

The creative process manifests itself in infinite ways.

Love defies reason.

Never let yourself be suckered into an argument if you can avoid it.

Beware of those who provoke arguments.

Style trumps substance.

It's not what you say but how you say it.

A president must appear and act presidential.

Mudslinging is for the challenger.

If you can't take the flak, then don't run for the office.

Mudslinging is a sign of weakness.

The record speaks for itself.

Facts are open to interpretation.

The political process is supposed to be messy.

Congress's approval rating is 11 percent? That means the system is working.

Separation of power means diffusion of power.

Diffusion of power is the surest way to avoid tyranny.

Partisanship is part of the political process.

When partisanship ends, tyranny begins.

Free speech must never be abridged.

Beware of those who want to limit free speech.

The open exchange of idea is the cornerstone of democracy.

Never underestimate the resiliency of the American people.

A public debt is not the same as a private debt.

There has always been a public debt.

Beware of those who sound the alarm over the public debt.

Reducing the cost of government is easier said than done.

The purpose of government is to deliver services to the public.

The people and the government are one and the same.

Influence peddling is an insidious form of corruption.

Politics affects everyone.

One cannot be divorced from politics.

The judiciary is political too.

There are two sounds that are not found in nature: the clanking of metal and the noise from a fission explosion.

In theater it is the story that counts; everything else is window-dressing.

A good actor should be able to tell a story without props.

A good actor becomes the role.

A good play can be performed anywhere.

The street is a stage.

A room is a theater.

Theater is not a home.

Don't confuse theater with life.

Theater is make-believe made to seem real.

Drama contrived is hokey.

Think it, write it.

Friends come and go.

The playwright is like a god, always creating.

Everything depends on the script.

Sets, costumes, and music are mere distractions.

A king in rags is still a king.

When the audience is quiet, the play has worked

When the audience is restless, then it's time to rewrite.

What is gibberish for one is coherent to another.

Tastes vary.

A leading lady with talent is like a priceless jewel.

Any actor can play any role if they use their imagination.

Without the script there is no play.

Try staging a play without a script.

Reality television is life unrehearsed.

Actors must be able to show emotion.

Props are a contrivance.

Emoting requires no props.

There is drama everywhere.

Never give up on your dreams.

If you want it, go for it.

Know your part.

Creativity has nothing to do with collaboration.

Creativity is an individual process.

Collaboration involves compromise.

True artist remain faithful to their works.

To pander to the audience is artistic fraud.

A president cannot afford to indulge in partisanship.

A real leader is a lightning rod for criticism.

A real leader must be able to take criticism without flinching.

A real leader cannot afford to be argumentative.

Leadership inspires confidence.

Leadership means maintaining self-control.

Leadership means avoiding petty arguments.

Mudslinging is part of the political process.

Negative campaigning can yield positive results.

Nature calls.

A true leader is never combative.

Glibness wins elections.

Credibility is everything.

Modesty is becoming to a woman.

Those who flaunt should expect attention.

Spending money is easy.

Never save money just to save.

To deny oneself a well-earned pleasure is silly.

Every person is a philosopher.

Beware of the person with a bland smile.

Those who bicker waste time.

If you think anybody cares, think again.

Addictions are nature's way of tweaking our noses.

From afar everything looks good.

Nature is perfection.

Nothing lasts forever except nothing.

Comedy is tragedy turned inside out.

Laughter can turn into tears.

Just remember that everyone has a family.

Animals have feelings too.

Never underestimate the medicinal powers of booze.

If you're going to act corporate, then dress corporate.

Woe to the man who makes a woman weep.

Go beyond the statistics.

Facts are subject to interpretation.

People want answers, not promises.

A nervous laugh says it all.

A good catchphrase can launch a career.

The challenger need not act dignified.

Do not confuse beauty with virtue.

Never tell a woman how to manage her body.

Technology changes, human nature doesn't.

Speed is relative.

Time is absolute.

Righteous indignation is pretentious.