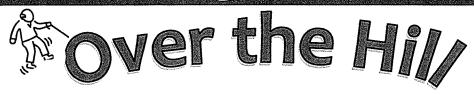
Village Voice



Recently while attending a local school activity I overheard a young couple talking about her Grandfather being "over the hill". The Grandfather in question is someone I happen to know. He's at least fifteen years younger than I. The over the hill statement made me question "what hill were they referring to? Was there a hill somewhere I don't know about or have I been over it for so long I don't remember it; and worse of all am I over the hill like her Grandfather?"

Lots of questions, so I turned to my old friend Google for the answer to my question of the meaning of being over the hill. Google's definition is someone who is old (what's that?) and no longer useful or past your prime. I don't know of a single person, young or old, that doesn't have worth. However, we all recognize the signs of aging that

Over the hill?

What hill?

I don't remember any Hill?

are all around us such as: when you try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks and discover you aren't wearing any – it takes two or more tries to get up from your chair – your address book has mostly names that start with Dr. – everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work. At the breakfast table you hear snap, crackle, pop and you're not eating cereal or your back goes out more than you do, and last off, your idea of weight lifting is standing up.

In conclusion, the words of Abe Lincoln seem appropriate to end this question of being "over the hill". He said "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years."

Still looking for that hill! El Foore

