

Carolyn's Home Sweet Home News

News To Help You Save Time And Money

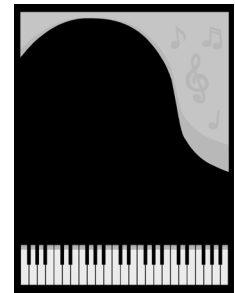
October 2010

Dreams Do Come True

Do you have a dream but think you lack the skills to achieve it?

A lack of skills doesn't mean you can't reach for – and achieve – your dream. Look at songwriter Irving Berlin.

Born in 1888 as the youngest of eight children, Berlin's family emigrated from Russia to New York in 1893. His father died when Berlin was eight, and as a young boy Berlin sold newspapers on the street to help support his struggling family. He left home at 14 and began singing in New York saloons for spare change, then went on to work as a singing waiter in Chinatown. With just two years of school and no formal music education, Berlin managed to get work as a lyricist on New York's Tin Pan Alley, the center of the American music publishing industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



Berlin had difficulty writing English and had to pick out his melodies on the piano with one finger, so after he composed a song he'd either sing or play it for an assistant who would transcribe it into musical notation. His own system of creating served him well: Seventeen complete musical scores for Broadway shows, musical scores for 18 Hollywood movies, and a total of more than 1,200 songs, 25 of which reached #1 on the popular music charts. In fact, if you've sung *God Bless America* or *White Christmas*, you've sung an Irving Berlin song.

When Berlin died at age 101, his fellow songwriter Jerome Kern said, "Irving Berlin has no *place* in American music. He *is* American music."

Not bad for someone who "lacked the skills" of reading and writing music!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Commonly Confused Contractions
- How To "Go Green" When You Clean
- Put Your "Best Fork" Forward
- Take A Gander At This
- It Was 50 Years Ago...
- Is There A Word For That?
- For You – Or Someone You Love
- Should You Wash Stuffed Animals?
- Entrepreneurial Exigencies
- A Moving Gift
- Halloween Dos And Don'ts

Commonly Confused Contractions

Don't let the misuse of contractions detract from your writing. Here are some commonly confused possessive pronouns and contractions:

Whose: a possessive pronoun. Do you know whose book is missing?

Who's: the contraction of "who is." Who's coming to visit?

Your: a possessive pronoun. This is your life.

You're: the contraction of "you are." You're just in time for dinner.

Its: a possessive pronoun. Put the book on its side.

It's: the contraction of "it is." It's a little confusing.

Their: a possessive pronoun. They took their time.

They're: the contraction of "they are." They're my best students.



How To "Go Green" When You Clean

Are you spending money on household cleaners when you may be able to do the job with items you already have at home and/or are less expensive than what you're currently using?

Using just a few of these ideas can help you save money on cleaning products – and be kinder to the environment, as well. A note of caution: Before using a homemade cleaning formula, test it in a small, hidden area if possible. Also, always keep your homemade formulas well-labeled and out of the reach of children.

Carpet stains: Mix equal parts white vinegar and water in a spray bottle, spray directly on the stain, let sit for several minutes, and clean with a brush or sponge using warm soapy water.

See An Interesting Home?

No need to wonder about the price. No need to call a high-pressure sales agent who will just make you feel obligated. My computers can send you the information quickly and easily for any house, listed or sold, anywhere in town.

Just ask me! It's all part of my free, no-obligation HomeFinder Service.

Leave the address on my voicemail, anytime, 24 hours a day, and I'll fax, mail or email all the information to you on that listing within 24 hours.

Food containers: To remove odors from plastic food containers, put a crumpled piece of newspaper in the container, seal, and let it sit overnight.

Windows: Combine 1/4 cup white vinegar and one quart warm water, pour into a spray bottle or apply with a sponge, and wipe dry with crumpled newspaper.

Kitchen smells: To get kitchen smells like fish and onion off cutting boards and utensils, wipe them with white vinegar and wash in soapy water.

October Quiz Question

What edible comes in hedgehog, pom pom, oyster and wood ear varieties?

September Quiz Answer

Question: What is the medical term for the rumbling, growling sounds emanating from your midsection?

Answer: Borborygmi.

Source: medterms.com

Kitchen surfaces: Apply baking soda directly with a damp sponge to stove exterior, refrigerator, and similar surfaces.

Marks on walls and painted surfaces: Many ink spots, pencil, crayon or marker spots can be cleaned from painted surfaces using baking soda applied to a damp sponge; rub gently, then wipe and rinse.

Silver: Wash items, then place them on aluminum foil in the bottom of a pot; combine one teaspoon of baking soda, one teaspoon of salt and one quart of hot water, then pour over items and let sit for a few seconds.

Toilet: Mix 1/4 cup baking soda and one cup white vinegar, pour into basin and let it sit for a few minutes; scrub with a brush and rinse.

If “homemade” isn’t your thing, check out the growing number of commercial non-toxic household items – from bathroom cleaners to laundry soap to pest control products – that can help you “go green,” as well.

Put Your “Best Fork” Forward

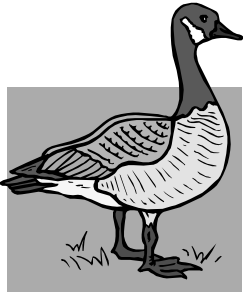
With the amount of business that’s done during a lunch or dinner, it’s important to send the right professional image. Here are some table etiquette guidelines:

1. Stay away from alcohol, at least until the business part of your meeting is over. It also depends on your company’s policy on drinking, so check prior to your meeting.
2. Order last. Always let your guests order their meals first.
3. Hold off on business talk. Wait to bring up business and bring out the paperwork until after the entrée plates have been cleared.
4. Turn off the cell phone. If you’re expecting an urgent call, let your guests know. Otherwise turn it off and put it away.
5. Ask for the check. Let your guests know that the meal is a treat from your company, and when the waiter brings your check, reach for it.

Take A Gander At This

A sure sign of Fall is the sight and sound of skeins of Canada geese, honking and flying in “V” formations. While one subspecies – the Giant Canada Goose – is relatively non-

migratory, others fly south for the winter though they don't venture as far as Central America. Much of the Canada goose population leaves Canada for the relative warmth of states like Illinois, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, and Pennsylvania where they can generally find leftover grain in farm fields and unfrozen bodies of water.



One of the best-known birds in North America, Canada (not “Canadian”) geese are found in every contiguous U.S. state and Canadian province at one time of the year or another. Their average life span in the wild is 10 to 25 years, and they mate for life and raise their offspring together. As young birds, geese learn the migration routes from their parents and older birds. They fly in V formations to reduce wind drag, and their hollow bones make them light and capable of soaring at great heights.

It Was 50 Years Ago...

At Halloween if “the spirit moves you” in the direction of scary movies, you might like to know that 2010 is the 50th anniversary of *Psycho*, the Alfred Hitchcock thriller that many consider the scariest movie ever made.

Here are some other 50th anniversaries observed in 2010:

- The first laser built and fired by Theodore Maiman at Hughes Research Labs in Malibu, California.
- The publication of Harper Lee’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*.
- CPR, which nearly doubles a sudden cardiac arrest victim’s chances of survival if administered before emergency medical services personnel arrive.

Is There A Word For That?

Have you ever turned your car into the last empty space in a full parking lot only to discover a motorcycle in that space? And is there a word for that?

Yes – but the word is a *sniglet*; that is, it’s not a *real* word found in the dictionary, but perhaps it should be. You’ll find it in the list below, along with some other fun sniglets:

Anticiparcellate (an ti si par´ sel ate) – waiting until the mailman is several houses down the street before picking up the mail, so as not to appear too anxious.

Facon (fa´ kon) – the fake bacon bits served at cheap salad bars.

Kawashock (kah wah shahk´) – pulling into the last remaining parking spot only to discover a motorcycle there.

Mittsquinter (mitt´ skwint er) – a ballplayer who looks into his glove after missing the ball, as if, somehow, the cause of the error lies there.

Phonesia (fo nee´ zhuh) – the affliction of dialing a phone number and forgetting whom you were calling just as they answer.

Shoefly (shew´ fliy) – the aeronautical terminology for a football player who misses the punt and launches his shoe instead.

For You – Or Someone You Love

Have you stopped feeling like yourself lately? Maybe you feel sad, empty and hopeless but don't know why you can't shake off the feelings. Or you've been feeling anxious, panicked or distressed by troubling thoughts and behaviors, and it's affecting your daily life and others around you. Or you're experiencing changes in sleep or appetite, decreased energy, difficulty concentrating, and no longer enjoying activities you used to take pleasure in. Or perhaps you're worried about someone you love who's experiencing some of this?

These symptoms may be a sign of clinical depression or an anxiety disorder, real conditions that touch *at least one in every five people*.

October 7 is National Depression Screening Day in the U.S. and Canada, a great opportunity to learn about the many support options available including anonymous in-person and online screening. Here are two Web sites to get started: www.mentalhealthscreening.org and www.heretohelp.bc.ca.

Should You Wash Stuffed Animals?

Stuffed animals are a comfort to small children, but pediatricians say that these much-loved toys are magnets for germs. Stuffed animals that are played with regularly should be washed once a week. To guard against damage, pop them into a pillow case knotted shut and wash and dry normally. Pediatricians also recommend that parents keep children from bringing stuffed toys to doctors' offices or day care centers.

Free Reports!

- How to Sell Your House For the Most Money In the Shortest Possible Time

Free Information!

- What did that house across the street sell for?

Free Subscription to My Newsletter!

See page seven for all this and more.

Entrepreneurial Exigencies

If you dream of owning your own business, you're not alone. The idea of being your own boss, calling all the shots, and taking control of your destiny is attractive to many people, but desire alone isn't enough. Before you make your first move, be sure you're cut out for the entrepreneurial life. Ask yourself these questions:

Do you have the energy? Running your own business isn't a 9-to-5 job. You need to be in good health, with lots of stamina, to maintain the pace of building a company from the ground up, especially during the early years.

Are you comfortable with risk? Don't invest your life savings unless you're sure you can live with the possibility of losing your nest egg. All entrepreneurs worry about money, but some can be paralyzed by that fear.

Are you passionate about your business? A business that doesn't excite you from the start won't sustain your energy when demands are great and payoffs uncertain. Pick a business that you truly believe in, one you'd be happy to work in regardless of whether you ever get rich.

Is your family on board? Running a business calls for all your concentration, and if your family feels short-changed, the added stress can do you in. Include them in any decision you make so you don't have to worry about problems at home.

A Moving Gift

If you want to give friends leaving your area a going-away present, consider a subscription to the local paper. It's not something they'll have to pack, and it will help keep them informed about their old hometown.

Halloween Dos And Don'ts

Halloween is an exciting time of year for kids, and to help ensure they have also have a safe time, here are some Halloween dos and don'ts from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP):

Do plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.



Do consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility.

Do remove from the porch and front yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.

Don't allow young children to go trick-or-treating without a parent or responsible adult.

Don't go to a home if the porch light isn't on, and never go into a home or car for a treat.

Don't let children sample their treats until you've inspected them and thrown away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

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Free Information Request Form

Please complete the box below and place check marks next to the free reports and information you'd like to receive.

Fax this form to 805-643-3338 or mail it to

Carolyn Herrera, Keller Williams Realty, 2831 North Ventura Road, Oxnard, CA 93036, or just call me at 805-377-8994
www.VenturaCountyProperties4Sale.com email: FORSALEBYCAROLYN@AOL.COM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal: _____ Fax: _____

Please send me the requested free information selected below via Mail Fax Email.

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- Protect Your Home From Burglars
- Five Deadly Mistakes Home Sellers Make
- Making the Move Easy On the Kids
- How Sellers Price Their Homes
- How to Stop Wasting Money on Rent
- How to Sell Your House For the Most Money In the Shortest Possible Time
- The 10 Dumbest Mistakes Smart People Make When Buying or Selling a Home

Free Information

- Send me information about your free, no-obligation HomeFinder service.
- Send me the special computer report showing the features and sale prices of up to 15 of the most recent home sales near the following address:
_____, City: _____ or in
the _____ area.
- Please let me know the listing price and features of the home at the following address:
_____.
- Please let me know the selling price of the home at the following address:
_____.
- Please call me to arrange a free, no-obligation market valuation on my house.

Do you have a family member or friend who would enjoy a free subscription to Carolyn's Home Sweet Home News? Just provide me with their contact information, and I'll add them to my mailing list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal: _____

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