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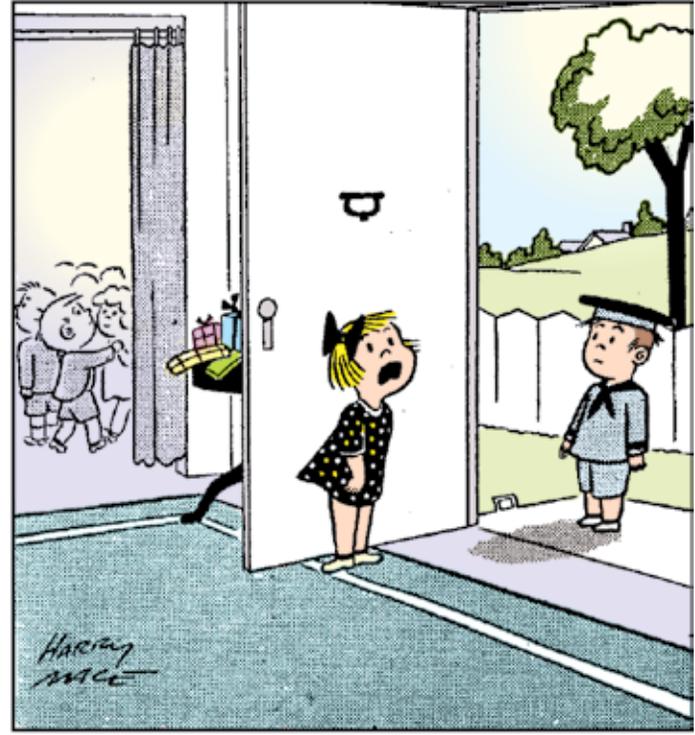
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DEBBIE TRAVIS' HOUSE TO HOME



FAMILY BULLETIN BOARD

BY DEBBIE TRAVIS

Dear Debbie: Our son and daughter (11 and 9 years old) have both asked to have a wall in their bedrooms that they can write on. We have heard of blackboard paint and wonder if you can cover it up when they change their minds and want paint or wallpaper again. Thanks for your kid-friendly ideas. — *Melissa*

Dear Melissa: With school about to start, this is the beginning of another year of lists, school assignments, sports practices and music lessons, and all the other important items and dates that will fill your children's days. A family notice board appears to be a necessity these days just to keep it all straight. I think it is a great idea for your kids to have a wall that they can divide up as they choose, and blackboard paint is a great solution. This paint can easily be covered with primer and repainted in regular paint, so that is not a concern.

I configured a study wall that took advantage of three surfaces — blackboard paint, cork board and metal. There are three applications for the notice-board combination, depending on how much you can do to the wall.

If this is a rental, then the third option will be the best for you.

The first is to paint the wall in blackboard paint. This should be available in a selection of colors at your paint or hardware store. If not, check the Internet for a supplier near you. Buy a framed cork bulletin board, and hang it on the wall at a comfortable height for your kids to reach. Never glue cork to the wall, as it is very difficult to remove. The metal board should be framed, as the edges are sharp. Nail the metal to the cork board and use simple wood trim to frame.

The second method is to buy a large piece of medium density fiberboard (MDF). Cover it with blackboard paint and attach to the wall with screws. Add cork and metal sheets. If you cannot put any holes in the wall, then use a flat-faced, hollow-core door to create the notice board and lean it against the wall.

Blackboard paint is fun. You can use it to paint a desk so your children can doodle and make notes. And this is for adults too, if you have a small desk in the kitchen. Whatever help we can get to stay organized and have fun is a great idea.

Dear Debbie: I would like some ideas on how to convert a closet into an office. I'd like my new work area to include a desktop computer and some shelving to store office supplies and books. The closet dimensions are: width 73 inches, height 95 inches, depth 22 inches, door opening 48 inches. Can I buy

products that will fit, or does this project require custom fitting? — *Randy*

Dear Randy: An unused closet is the perfect place to insert an office work station, and your measurements allow for room to set up a desk and lots of storage. You will need a power outlet for your computer cords, and this is worth taking the time to wire in properly to avoid mishaps. A built-in overhead light could be set up at the same time.

Visit a home store or a store that specializes in storage, and you will find a combination of shelves, storage units and boxes, filing cabinets and a computer desk that will fit nicely. It is important to leave space behind and around your computer and pavilion for air to circulate.

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Debbie Travis' House to Home column is produced by Debbie Travis and Barbara Dingle. Please e-mail your questions to house2home@debbietravis.com. For more ideas, look for Debbie's newest book, "Kitchens and Baths."



Make your own notice board using blackboard paint as the background. It's easily covered when you are ready for a change.



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PET SITTER PLAN- NING

BY HELOISE

Dear Readers: If you travel and use pet sitters while you're gone, you need written instructions, including detailed care, feeding schedule, treat amounts, whether your pet likes to be held, petted, walked, etc. Emergency veterinarian phone numbers, addresses and directions to the clinic are a must! For your pet to be treated, contact the vet before you leave OR sign a release to give your permission for the pet sitter to handle medical care while you're gone.

You should first have a meet and greet! Let your pet(s) meet the sitter and vice versa to see if they get along. Watch your pet's body language. If your dog is cowering or your cat is hiding under the bed and won't come out, then perhaps another sitter is best for the well-being of all. Asking for references is vital!

Since many pets stress out when their owners are gone, keeping the daily routine as normal as possible is important.
— *Heloise*

DOG FOOD

Dear Heloise: I have three little dogs, and they will only eat dry dog food that I have to make a special trip to get. I buy the largest bag available, and it's hard to open and close. So I bought a large plastic trash can with a swinging lid, pour the food into it and place a plastic cup on the top. Now when I need to fill their dish, it is easy to do. — *Wally S., Charlotte, N.C.*

CAT LITTER BOX

Dear Heloise: We have six cats of various ages, and I was having litter-box problems. They always went over the box, which was very frustrating and messy. I got rid of the boxes and just put cat litter in a child's small plastic swimming pool. No more messes, the cats love it, and it's easy to scoop out the clumps and change when needed!

I use one of the hard-sided small pools — the clumps don't stick to the plastic. I even bought an extra one so I can use

one and clean the other when it needs scrubbing. — *Sue, via e-mail*

TOY BASKET

Dear Heloise: I have several little Chihuahuas that play with lots of toys, which would always be scattered all over the house. I bought a pretty plastic basket (at a store that sells stuff for a dollar) and put all of their stuff in it. It is in the spare bedroom, and they know where to go if they want a toy! Now everyone is happy! — *K. Bowles, Texas*

BIRD-CAGE CLEANING

Dear Heloise: Cleaning my parakeet's cage was always a time-consuming chore. Then I came up with the idea of cutting several layers of newspaper to cover the bottom of the cage. Now when I need to clean the cage, I can just pull off the top layer and it's done! — *Jerry from Pennsylvania*

Dear Heloise: My dog's collar with tags on it made a lot of noise! There were times when the clanging and jingling of the tags drove me crazy! I put the tags so that the writing would be on the outside and then put small pieces of self-gripping fabric tape on the backs of the tags. Now, they stick together, and Tiny is quiet! — *Joy, New Braunfels, Texas*

PET PAL

Dear Readers: Amy Haycox of Fort Wayne, Ind., sent a photo of her two big yellow Labrador retrievers sitting on a dock at the lake, looking happy as can be. Amy says: "Both the dogs are 10 years old. They are named Zoey Jeanne the Biscuit Queen and Gypsy Doodle Dandy." — *Heloise*

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INSIDE PASSAGE

BY CATHERINE BODRY

Alaska is thousands of rugged miles from the Lower 48 — so remote and wild that it's almost a mythical land. But there's a link between dream and reality: Every Friday the Alaska Ferry sets sail from Bellingham, Wash., tracing the Canadian coastline before slipping into the foggy emerald maze of Alaska's Inside Passage.

Of the 27 All-American Roads, the Alaska Marine Highway is the only one that floats. Churning 3,500 nautical miles from Bellingham out to the far tendril of the Aleutian Chain, some of the highway's most dramatic scenes are pressed into the steep fjords and waterlogged fishing towns of the Inside Passage. A three-day trip on the Alaska Ferry ends in Skagway, traveling through the U.S.'s largest national forest, the Tongass, and stopping in several ports. A through-ticket will give you time in each port, while point-to-point tickets let you decide how long to stay in each town.

In Bellingham, you can walk, bike or drive onto the vessel, which departs from the historic Fairhaven District. Sleep the night before at the vintage-style Fairhaven Village Inn, across the way from the Village Green Park's farmer's market. Fill up with house-made desserts at the nearby Colophon Cafe & Deli.

As the ferry slides out into Bellingham Bay, you'll be treated to views of Mount Baker before the ferry squeezes through the Strait of Georgia. Thirty-six hours later, the ferry makes its first stop in Ketchikan. The historic, albeit touristy, Creek Street

was a clatter of brothels and bars in Ketchikan's boomtown years. Pop into Dolly's House Museum for an insider's view of what was a working parlor.

Departing Ketchikan, the ferry hums through Clarence Strait before arriving at tiny, false-fronted Wrangell several hours later. A mile from the ferry terminal is Petroglyph Beach, dotted with boulders depicting faces and figures carved thousands of years ago, including lifelike whales and owls. More recent Tlingit culture is showcased at Chief Shakes Island and Tribal House. Here, six totem poles tower among pines in which eagles often congregate.

After leaving Wrangell, the ferry enters the 22-mile-long Wrangell Narrows. The skinny, shallow Narrows (dubbed "Pinball Alley") requires nearly 50 course corrections as boats thread between more than 70 green and red channel markers. At its end sits Petersburg, a fishing village whose Norwegian history is evident in the flowery rosemaling (a decorative Norwegian art form) on its buildings. Walk the docks of North Boat Harbor, where fisherfolk unload the day's catch. To sample this seafood, take a harborfront seat at Rooney's Northern Lights Restaurant.

Complement your Petersburg layover with a kayak tour to LeConte Glacier. Constantly calving, the glacier is somewhat infamous for icebergs that release underwater and then shoot to the surface like icy torpedoes.

The ferry next arrives in Juneau, the only U.S. capital with no road access.

Stroll past the Governor's Mansion, with its assertive columns. The laid-back Alaskan Brewing Company is also worth a tour. It's located in the same neighborhood as the massive Mendenhall Glacier, one of the few glaciers in the Southeast you can drive up to. Sleep at Silverbow Inn, where the smell of baking bread wakes you in the morning — one of the amenities of this historic hotel is a bottomless cookie jar.

From Juneau, the ferry travels up Lynn Canal, North America's longest (90 miles) and deepest (2,000 feet) fjord, endowed with glaciers and waterfalls. Seventy-five miles from Juneau lies laid-back Haines, where most passengers with cars disembark for the Alaska Highway.

The ferry continues to Skagway, a gold-rush era town that revels in all its gaudy glory. On Broadway Street, women dressed in bright satiny dresses vie for tourists' attention. Consider taking the White Pass & Yukon Railroad, a dramatic, narrated ride along a narrow-gauge line through Glacier Gorge and over White Pass (a 2,885-foot climb).

Whether you end your trip in Skagway or another port, you'll need to backtrack on the ferry, or fly south, to get home.

GETTING THERE

From Vancouver, drive south on Highway 99 and I-5 53 miles to Exit 250 in Bellingham. From Seattle, take I-5 north 89 miles to Exit 250. Follow the signs to the Alaska Ferry Terminal.

EAT

Colophon Cafe & Deli 360-647-0092; 1208 11th St., Bellingham, Wash. Renowned for its African peanut soup and chocolate brandy cream pies.

Rooney's Northern Lights Restaurant 907-772-2900; 203 Sing Lee Alley, Petersburg, Alaska Overlooks the bustling harbor; all the crab and shrimp on its seafood platter is locally caught.

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* * *

This article was written by Catherine Bodry and adapted from Lonely Planet's "Pacific Northwest Trips" book. "Travels With Lonely Planet" is coordinated by Commissioning Editor Jessica McCall. You can e-mail her at jessica.mccall@lonelyplanet.com. For more travel information, visit lonelyplanet.com.



Yukon Railroad train on wooden bridge, White Pass, Skagway, Alaska.
Photo credit: Lee Foster/Lonely Planet Images

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NASCAR THIS WEEK

By Monte Dutton

SPEEDWAY, Ind. — Veteran driver Bill Elliott, the 1988 champion of what is now known as the Sprint Cup Series, wound up finishing 26th in the Allstate 400 at the Brickyard, but not before he turned heads with a fourth-place qualifying effort.

Elliott, 53, now competes only part time for what was once one of NASCAR's premier teams, the Wood Brothers. The most recent of his 44 career victories occurred on Nov. 9, 2003, at North Carolina Speedway in Rockingham, a track no longer on the Cup schedule.

The second-row qualifying effort erased a particularly bad memory for Elliott, who won at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in 2002. Wood Brothers Racing, a team that dates back to 1953, has won 96 races over the years.

After his Indy qualifying run, Elliott said, "All that kept going through my head was here a year ago and how bad we screwed up in qualifying. It hurt so bad, missing this race a year ago, and being able to come back here (and qualify near the front) meant a lot.

"(Co-owners) Len and Eddie (Wood) have really worked to give me something to drive, and I've been working my butt off making sure that I haven't let them down on the other side."

Elliott, from Dawsonville, Ga., is paired with crew chief David Hyder.

"I can't say enough good things about (the team)," said Elliott. "We've kind of meshed. We're able to get input back and forth. We're working so well together right now, and that's so important.

"I'm proud to get in this race car when we come to the track. They've done so much work."

Elliott takes heart in the performance of another veteran, Mark Martin, who, at age 50, has already won four Cup races this year.

"If a 50-year-old can win, I think a few more years ain't going to hurt a thing," he said, referring to Martin.

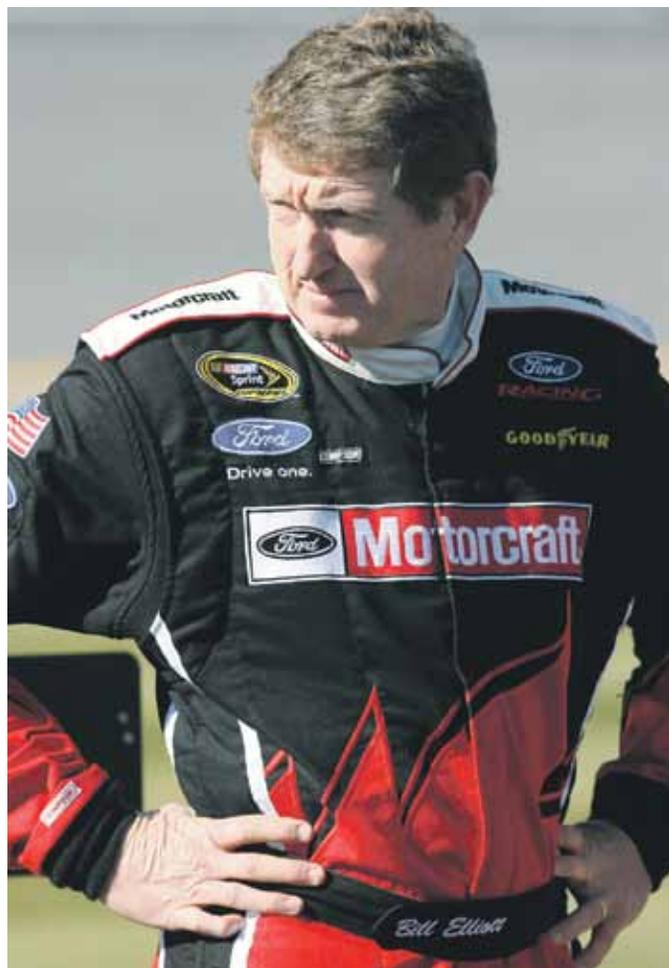
Among Elliott's predecessors in the No. 21 Motorcraft Ford were team co-founder Glen Wood, Cale Yarborough, Neil Bonnett, Buddy Baker, Dale Jarrett, Kyle Petty and, most notably, David Pearson.

Jimmie Johnson and Kurt Busch, with whom Johnson tangled at Chicagoland Speedway on July 11, are still harboring a little bitterness toward each other.

Johnson took exception to what Busch said about him on television, namely that he "wasn't sure" Johnson behaved like a three-time Sprint Cup champion. It particularly galled Johnson that Busch wasn't so harsh when the two were face to face.

In fact, the two have clashed three times in the past five races. Johnson took the blame for an incident at Infineon Raceway on June 21.

"At Sears Point, I walked up to him (Kurt Busch) to apologize and



John Clark / NASCAR This Week

Veteran racer Bill Elliott has put together some strong qualifying runs recently. Elliott is running on the Sprint Cup circuit on a limited basis for Wood Brothers Racing.

take the blame, and he sees me, mid-interview, and kind of backs off his tone and how mad he is at me," recalled Johnson. "Then, as I start talking to him, he's really chill about it and is, like, 'No, I should have let you go, it's my fault.' I was, like, don't give me that. I take responsibility, and I put us in that position and it's my fault."

The two didn't talk, except via text message from Johnson to Busch, until two days before the Allstate 400, won by Johnson.

Back to the boardrooms — Roush Fenway Racing revealed that DeWalt will not be back as Matt Kenseth's principal sponsor next year, offering yet another sign of hard economic times.

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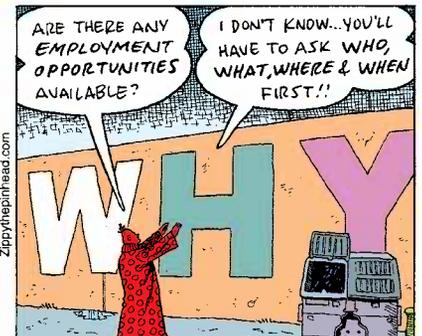
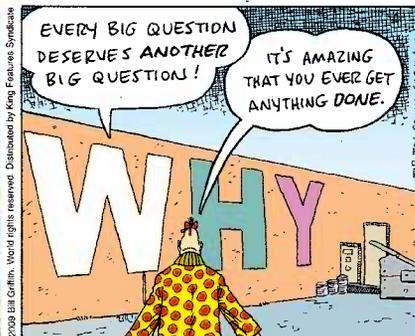
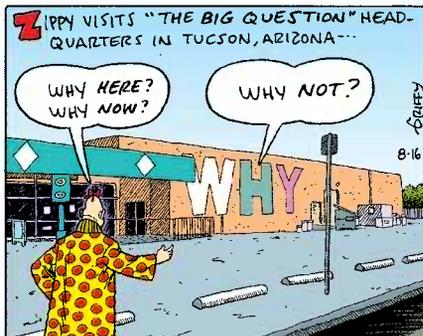
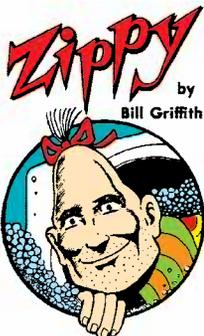
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CELEBRITY EXTRA

By CINDY ELAVSKY

Q: I specifically remember an episode of a TV show where the Niles Crane character was in his living room and his often-talked-about wife made a brief appearance. I can visualize her clearly but can't remember her name. She was very thin, mousy and had a rather pointed nose. Do you know if Niles Crane's wife ever appeared in any episode of "Frasier"? Maybe it was "Cheers" or some other spinoff? — *Dennis W., via e-mail*

A: The character of Niles Crane (portrayed by David Hyde Pierce) was married to Maris Crane on "Frasier," the highly successful spinoff of the hit comedy "Cheers." Although she was often discussed on the show, she was never seen nor heard. On some occasions she was present on camera, though only her outline or shadow could be seen. Having Maris as an unseen character was inspired by Vera Peterson, Norm's oft-mentioned but never-seen wife on "Cheers."

Niles and Maris divorced later on in the series, and Niles (briefly) married a plastic surgeon named Mel, even though he was in love with Daphne, whom he ended up marrying at the beginning of the 10th season. Perhaps the actress you're thinking of is Bebe Newirth, who played Frasier's ex-wife Lilith, and whose character has many of the physical traits you mentioned.

Q: Is Jessica Capshaw the daughter of Kate Capshaw and Steven Spielberg? My sister says yes, but I say his only child is by Amy Irving. Who buys dinner? — *Squabbling Sisters in Alabama*

A: Looks like you're going to have to go dutch. You are correct in that Steven and Amy do share a biological child, a son named Max Samuel. You are also correct in that Jessica Capshaw is not Steven's biological daughter; her father is Robert Capshaw, whom Kate was married to from 1976-80. However, you are incorrect in your statement that Steven has

only ONE biological child. He and Kate share three biological children (Sasha, Sawyer and Destry) as well as two adopted children (Theo and Mikaela).

Q: I read that Anne Hathaway is giving up Hollywood to devote herself to the stage. Is this true? — *Stephanie P., via e-mail*

A: While it is true that Anne, 27, received rave reviews for her performance in Shakespeare in the Park's "Twelfth Night" as Viola, she has no plans to leave Hollywood. In fact, she has many high-profile movies in the can or in production, including "Alice in Wonderland," "Valentine's Day," "Get Smart 2" and "Get Happy: The Life of Judy Garland."

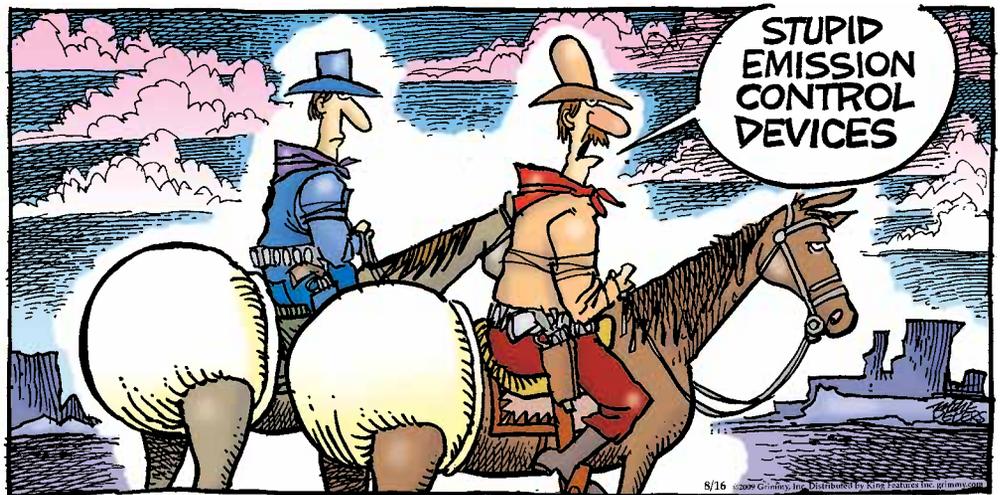
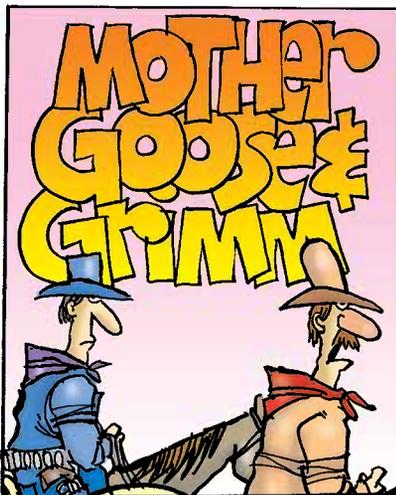


Anne Hathaway

Q: What happened to "Kings" on NBC? — *Teresa P., Punta Gorda, Fla.*

A: "Kings," the inventive drama that starred Ian McShane of "Deadwood" fame, has been canceled. Due to low ratings, NBC pulled it from its Sunday night lineup after only four episodes. The network has been airing the final episodes on Saturday nights since June 13. The last episode will air July 25.

Have a question for Cindy? E-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com, or write to her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.
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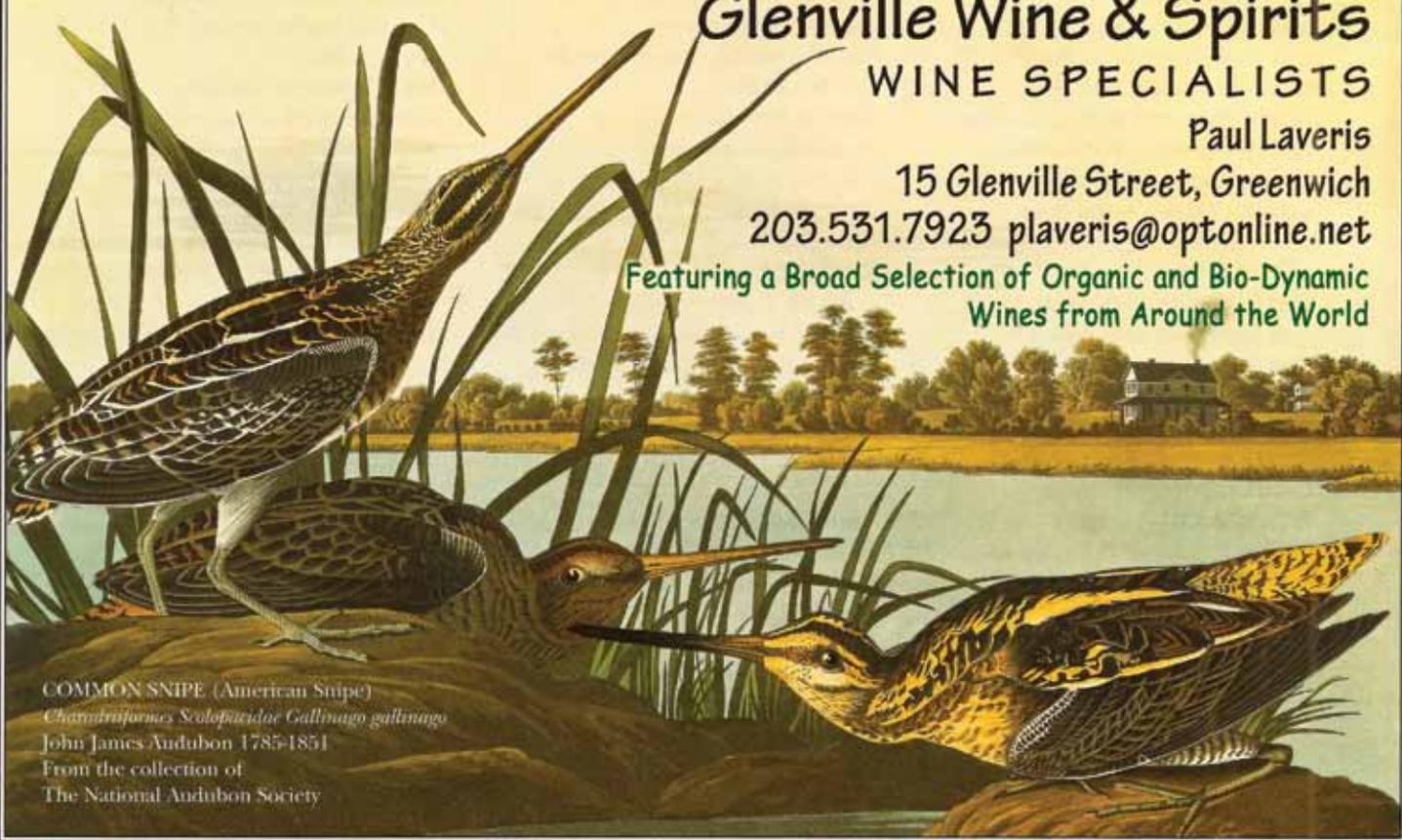
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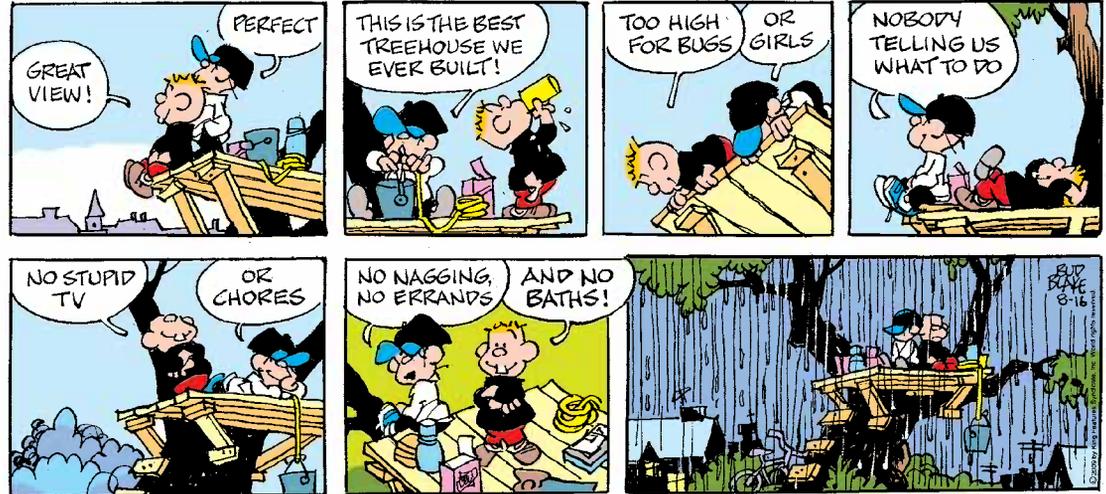
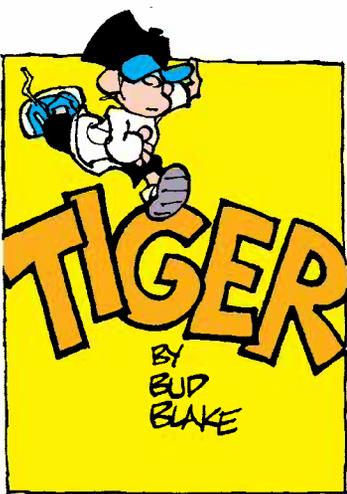
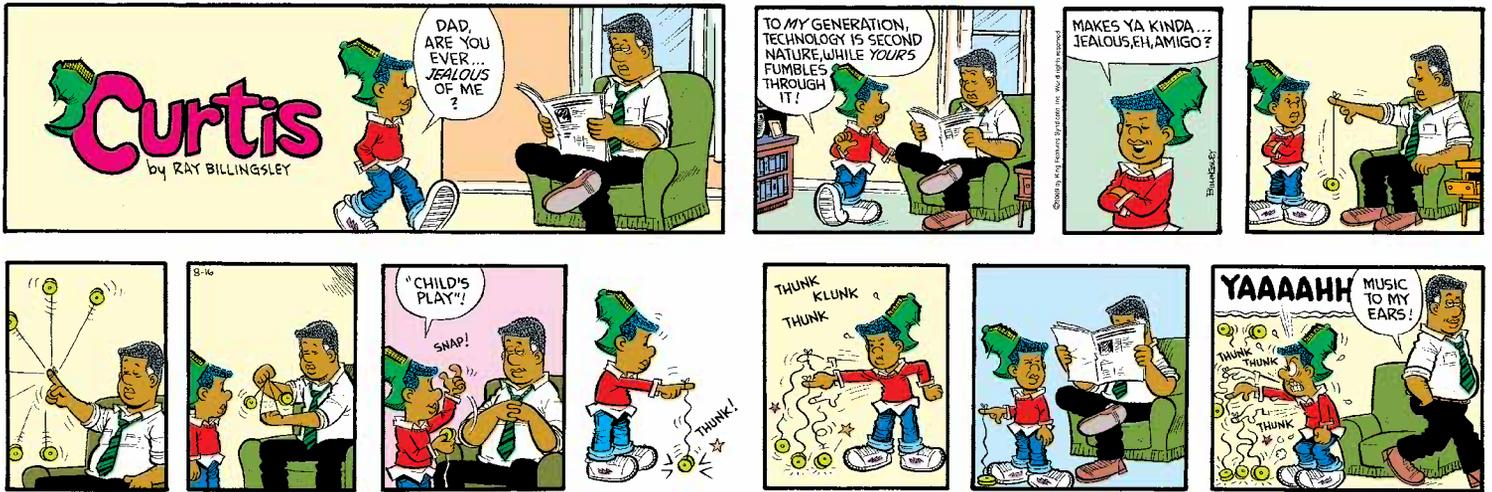
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KOVELS ANTIQUES

By Ralph and Terry Kovel

LIMOGES STYLE

The mark "Haviland Limoges" means fine porcelain to most collectors, but in the 1870s Charles Haviland wanted to expand his company's offerings. He traveled from Limoges, France, to Paris looking for new ideas and hired Felix Bracquemond to head a new operation in Auteuil, France. Bracquemond soon introduced plates and vases that were not decorated with symmetrical, bordered designs. Instead, country flowers, insects, landscapes and Japanese-inspired patterns were used. Vases were made of a new type of earthenware. It was hand-painted with slip, a thin paste made of white clay and water with added color. Then the vase was dipped in glaze that made the colors brighter and the vase watertight. The finished surface looked like that of an impressionist oil painting. The finished pieces, called "Auteuil" or "Haviland" even "Limoges-style" pottery, inspired Rookwood, some other Cincinnati potters and Pauline Pottery in Edgerton, Wis. They made similar vases using their own techniques. The French pottery was made until World War I.

Q: I bought a chest with shelves covered with wire work so my vase collection can be seen. It came from an estate sale and looks like a mid-19th-century English piece, but a paper label on it says "Beacon Hill Collection." The label has a picture of couples dressed in Victorian clothes walking on a wooded path. Do you know if Beacon Hill is a maker?

A: Beacon Hill furniture was made in the 1950s by a Boston company. It was top-quality and was made with solid

mahogany, inlay, brass hardware and designs that copied or were inspired by 18th-century furniture. The company was out of business by the 1980s, but the name "Beacon Hill" remains important in the world of furniture. It has been a design name and a maker's brand, and it's still used by several companies. The label on your chest identifies it as a piece from the 1950s. It would sell for almost as much as the English original it copies.

Q: I have a very old Sorry! board game that belonged to my grandmother. It's well-used but intact. The label says "Made in England," and the game includes a card advertising a Sorry! competition in the London Daily Mail. The publisher listed on the box is W.H.

Storey & Co., 34 West 33rd St., New York City. The copyright date is 1932. Can you tell me anything about it? How did it become the game we know today?

A: W.H. Storey & Co. was a British firm with a New York office. It introduced the game of Sorry! (a variation of Parcheesi) in 1932 in both England and the United States. It appears that Storey sold U.S. rights to the game to Parker Bros., which started selling Sorry! under its own name in 1934. Today it's still a Parker Bros. game, but Parker Bros. is a brand now owned by Hasbro. Your Sorry! game is unusual because of the British manufacturer, but it still wouldn't sell for much more than \$10.

Q: Can you tell me anything about my pewter teapot? I bought it about 10 years ago. It's marked "S. Simpson No. 1" on the bottom.

A: The mark on your teapot was used by Samuel Simpson, a pewter maker who worked in New York City from about 1845 to 1847 and in Yalesville, Conn., before and after that. His career appears to have spanned the years 1835 to 1852. Prices of antique pewter vary widely depending on condition and workmanship. Some teapots sell for less than \$100, others for well over \$1,000.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. By sending a letter with a question, you give full permission for use in the column or any other Kovel forum. Names, addresses or e-mail addresses will not be published. Write to Kovels, King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.



Pauline Pottery made pieces in the "Limoges style." The shape of the scattered flowers and their shaded yellow color resemble the decorations on French pottery. The 8-inch teapot sold for \$570 at a Cincinnati Art Galleries auction.

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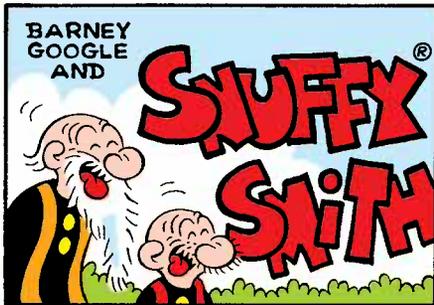


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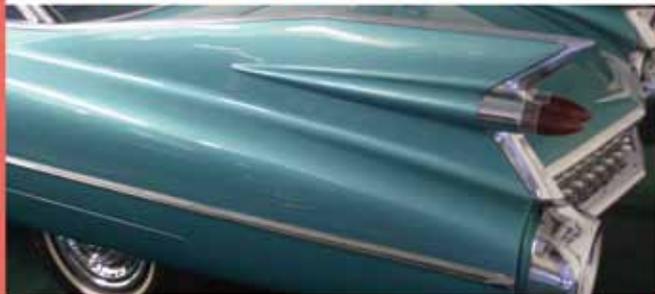
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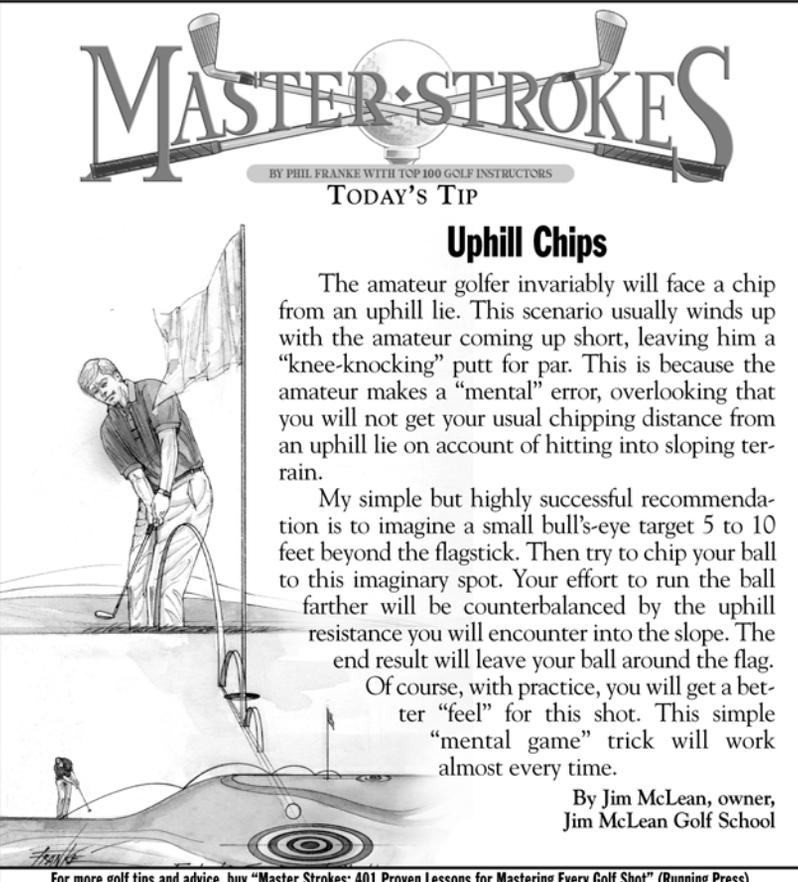
Uphill Chips

The amateur golfer invariably will face a chip from an uphill lie. This scenario usually winds up with the amateur coming up short, leaving him a "knee-knocking" putt for par. This is because the amateur makes a "mental" error, overlooking that you will not get your usual chipping distance from an uphill lie on account of hitting into sloping terrain.

My simple but highly successful recommendation is to imagine a small bull's-eye target 5 to 10 feet beyond the flagstick. Then try to chip your ball to this imaginary spot. Your effort to run the ball farther will be counterbalanced by the uphill resistance you will encounter into the slope. The end result will leave your ball around the flag.

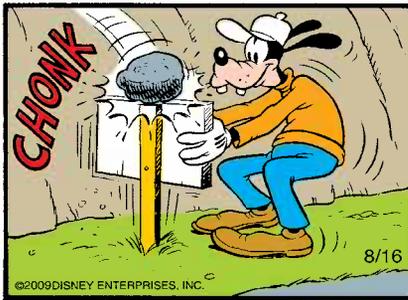
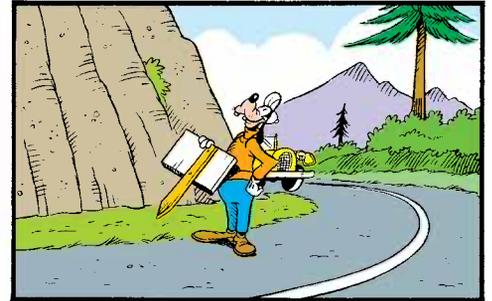
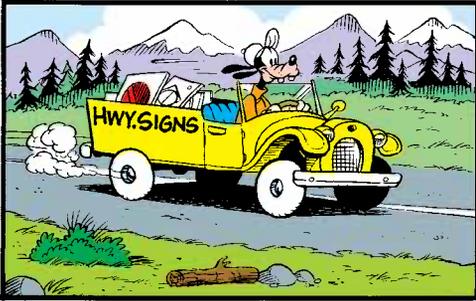
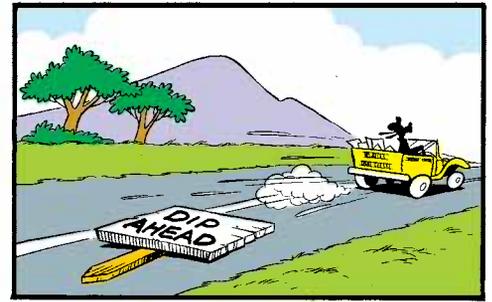
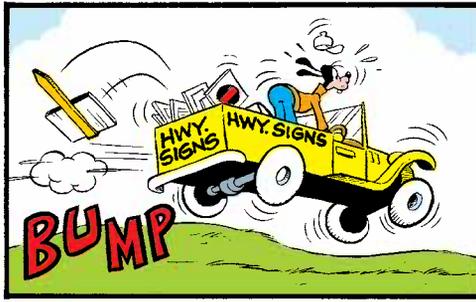
Of course, with practice, you will get a better "feel" for this shot. This simple "mental game" trick will work almost every time.

By Jim McLean, owner,
Jim McLean Golf School

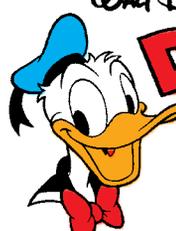
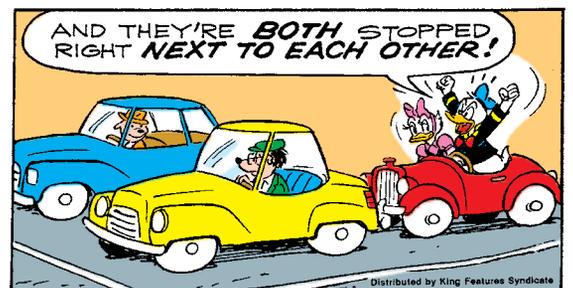
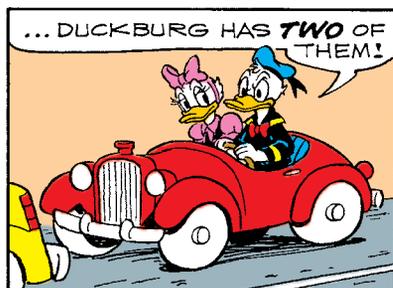
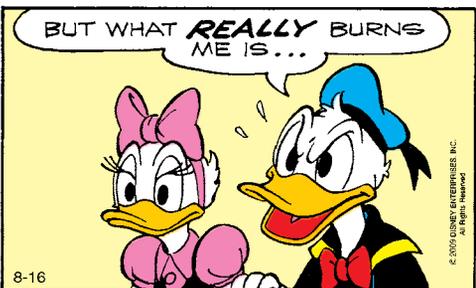
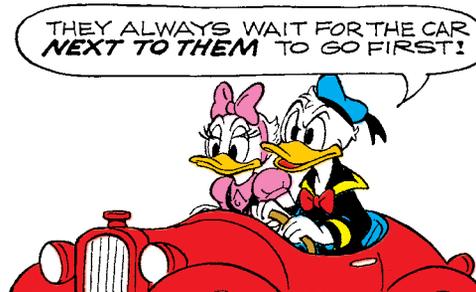
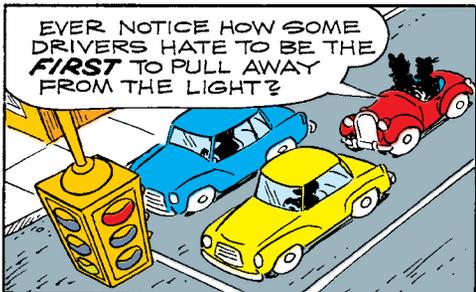
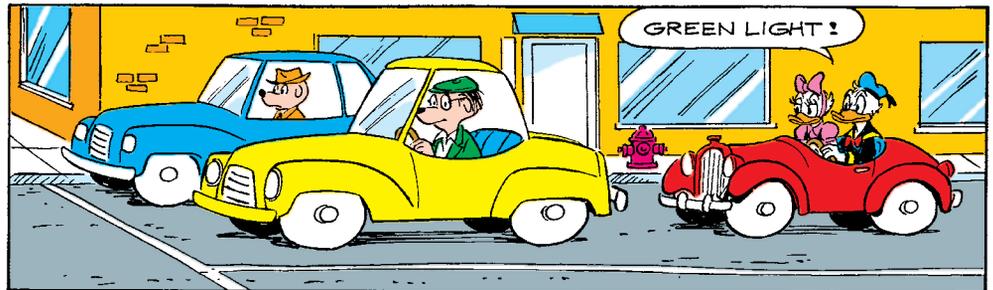


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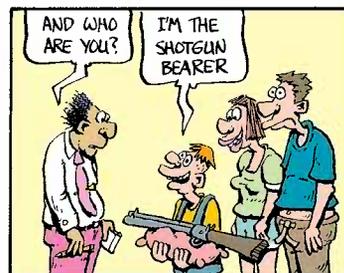
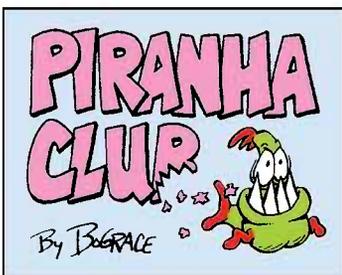
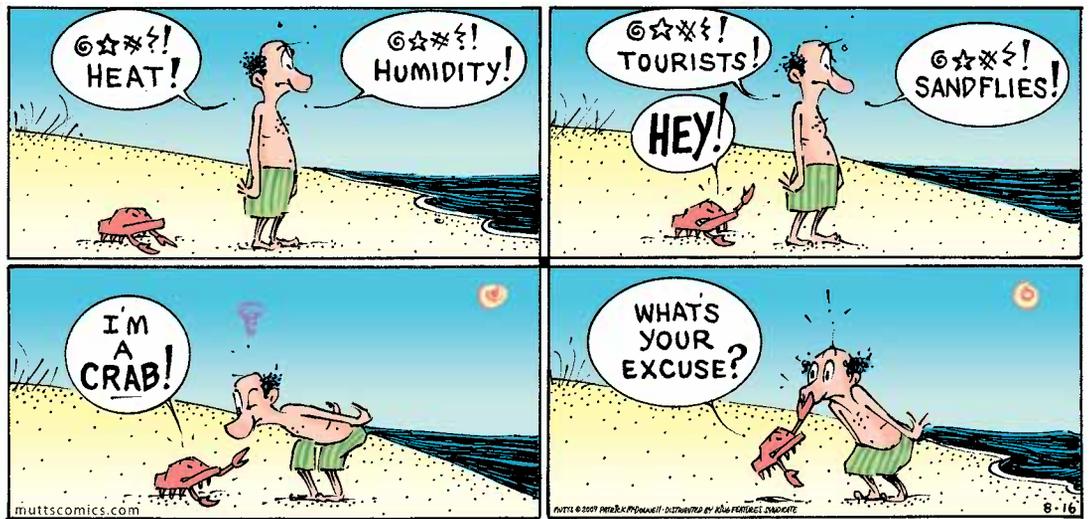
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THE SUPER HANDYMAN



BY AL AND KELLY CARRELL

FIX THAT FAUCET

One of the most common problems in a bathroom is a leaky faucet. Most are fairly easy to fix, but the job can be time-consuming when it comes to searching for parts and tools. Here are the basics for repairing a cartridge-type faucet, one of the basic faucet types.

The cartridge is located in the handle that controls the water flow, whether it's a shower, tub or sink.

You need to shut off the water supply to the faucet. Some cutoffs are in an adjacent cabinet, but if you don't find one, cut the water supply off to the whole house. Timing is important, since you won't want to turn it back on un-

til the repair is made. Plan ahead.

Assemble some basic tools. Screwdrivers, pliers, Teflon tape and plumber's putty are some basics to have on hand. Cover the drain so small parts don't accidentally fall into it. Protect decorative finishes by covering them with a rag before grabbing them with pliers or a wrench.

Sometimes getting the old cartridge out can be difficult. Most faucets have various covers, handles and other parts that need to be removed to get to the cartridge. Look for a set screw that holds the handle on. Then start trying to remove decorative covers and other parts to access the cartridge. As you remove parts, line them up in order so that re-assembly will be easier.

You will need to have the correct cartridge to replace, so if you don't know your faucet model number, take the old cartridge with you. If you can't find an exact match or you want to save some money, you can buy a repair kit that contains the basic washers, O-rings and other parts that you might need to replace, and just repair the old cartridge.

Replace the small parts or the entire cartridge, and

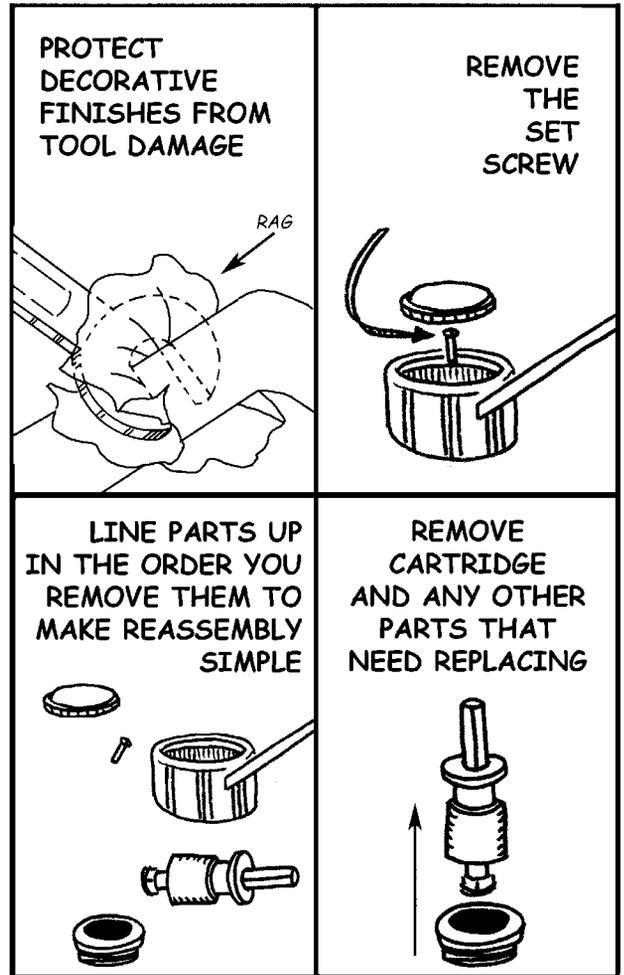
reassemble the faucet. Turn the water back on and give yourself a pat on the back. You just saved yourself a bundle, not only on your water bill but in hiring a plumber, too! Super job!

Q: I can hear water dripping in my sink downstairs, but I see no leak. What could it be? — K.D.

A: It could be a leak inside your wall, or it might be the condensation from your air-conditioning system draining into this line. If your AC is located in the attic, check it out. If not, you might consider hiring a pro to look into your walls for a leak.

Q: I have had trouble drilling into metal before, and need to do it again. How can I keep the drill bit in place when I am trying to start making a hole on a metal surface? — T.R.

A: You can try putting a piece of masking tape over the drilling area and mark your spot, then drill. This can help prevent the bit from skating across the surface. Another trick is to put a nail in the drill to make a small pilot hole. Sometimes this is enough to help you get started with your drill bit.



Got a question or a handy tip? Send it to The Super Handyman in care of this publication, or visit our Web site at www.thesuperhandyman.com. Those of general interest will be used in future columns.

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Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

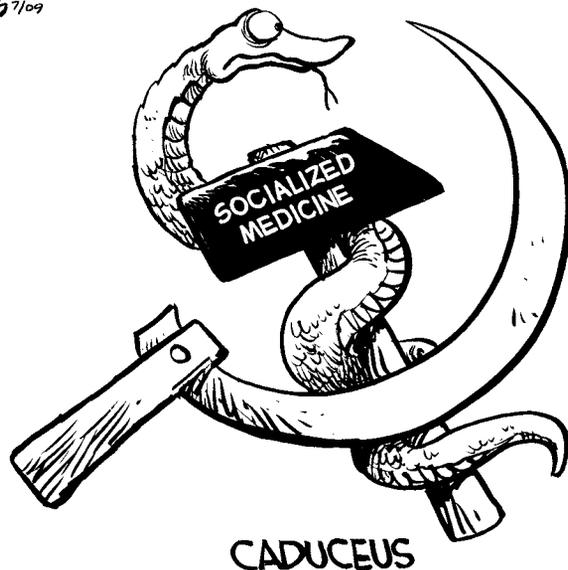
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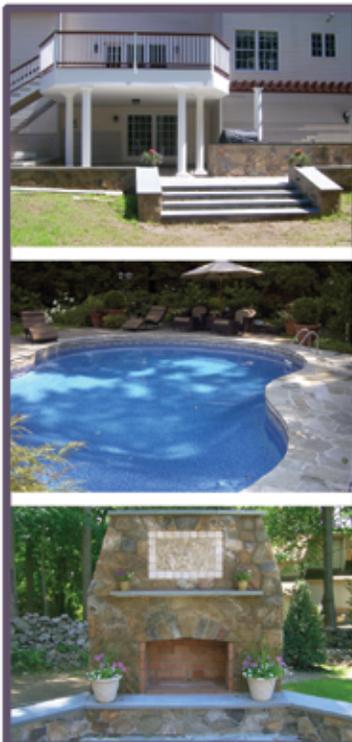
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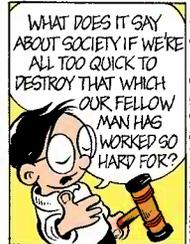
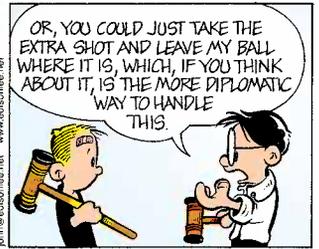
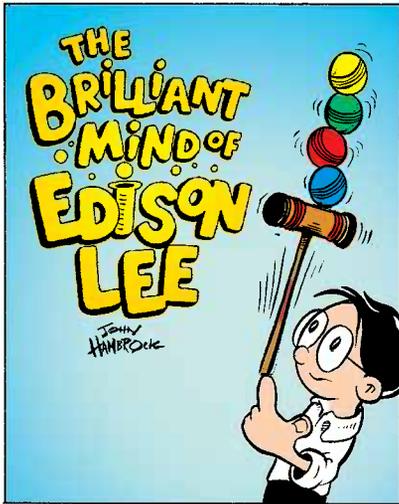
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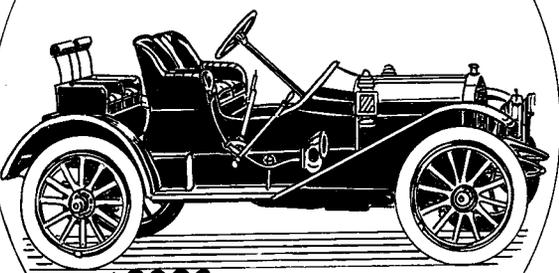
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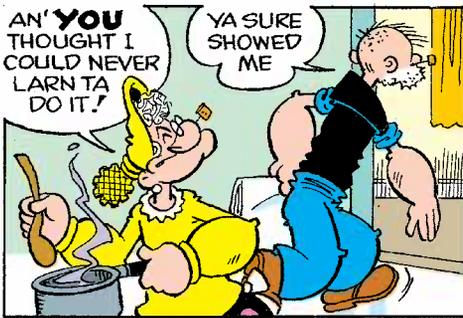
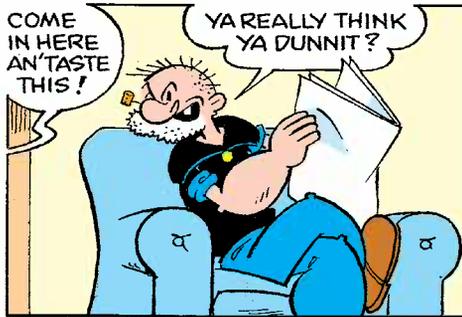
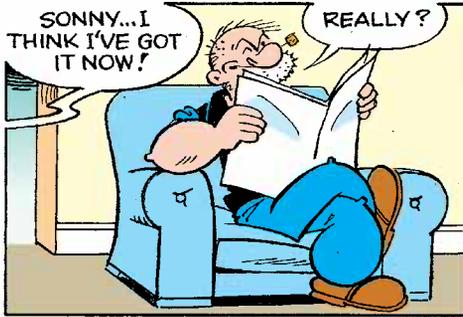
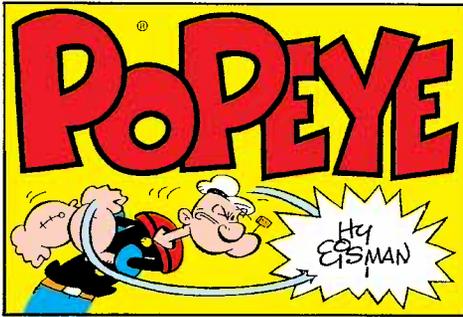
1909 Selden Roadster

Here's a rakish antique roadster of 1909, complete with one of those infamous old "mother-in-law" seats that offered a minimum of safety and a maximum of danger. These open-air, flimsy and completely hazardous rear seats eventually were replaced with rumble seats in the post-World War I era. And with the end of the 1930s, rumble seats were "out," and five-passenger, two-door convertibles with all seats within the cab were "in." But the rumble seat made a much later reappearance as an extra on the '57 Thunderbird. That extra was known as the "bird's nest."

Who knows who coined the term "mother-in-law seat," but it may have been someone who disliked his own mother-in-law and hoped she'd fall out when he took a fast corner! Even more dangerous than that was the positively hazardous running-board seat, a skimpy little thing that folded out for use and hovered precariously above the running board, completely outside the car! It was used on a few speedsters and sport roadsters in the late teens and early '20s. Much safer were the "clover-leaf" roadsters of that same era, which offered a back seat inside the body and under the convertible top.

The Selden automobile was conceived (but not engineered) by George B. Selden, who until 1911 had demanded a royalty on every gas-powered car built in America, as he claimed to have "invented" the internal-combustion engine in 1877. He'd built no cars then, but years later had constructed a buggylike auto with "1877" painted on its sides, a car that he had designed "in his head" back in 1877. Henry Ford and a few other manufacturers eventually refused to pay Selden his tribute, and Seldon lost his case when it was brought to court.

Tad Burness welcomes mail from readers. His address is "Auto Album," P.O. Box 247, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like a reply. If you would like to be contacted by telephone, please include your phone number, with area code, in your reply.



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2	9	1	8	5	3	6	4	7
9	1	6	4	3	8	7	5	2
4	7	5	6	9	2	3	8	1
8	3	2	5	7	1	4	9	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/16

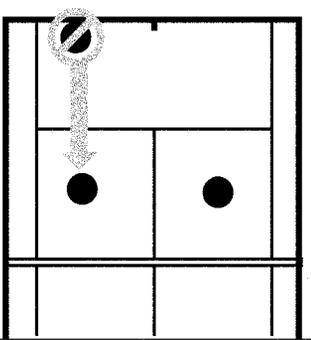
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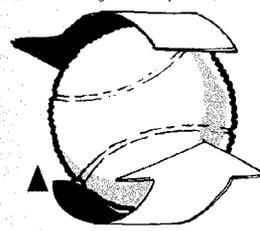
STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

MOVE TOGETHER

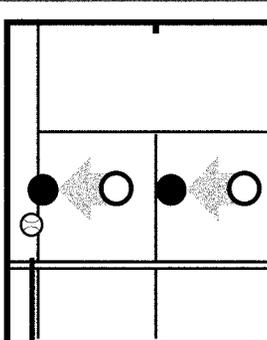
In doubles, players should cover the court side by side, not one up and one back. Don't stand back and watch the action; move forward and join your partner at the net. Don't fear the lob!



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"Underspin" means a ball has a backward rotation, which makes it skip lower after it bounces.



After you get up to the net, remember to move together.

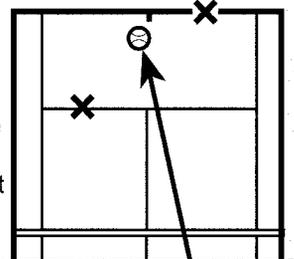
If your partner moves to the left to cover a down-the-line shot, you should move to the left with him.

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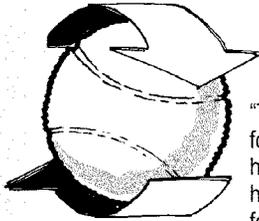
8-25

OVERHEAD TARGETS

In doubles, a general guideline is to hit your overhead down the middle of the court, where you have a better chance that it will land in.



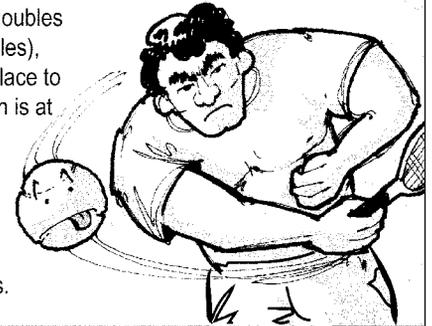
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DIFFERENT SPINS

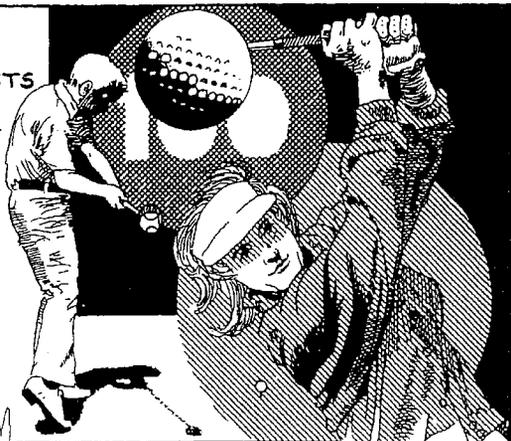
"Topspin" means that the ball has a forward rotation, making it bounce higher than a ball without spin. The higher bounce can make it harder for the opponent to return the ball.

In competitive doubles (vs. social doubles), often the best place to direct the smash is at the opponent's feet. Be sure to let him know after the point that you meant no hard feelings.



Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

SCIENTISTS CLAIM THAT HIGHER-COMPRESSION GOLF BALLS GO FARTHEST, NO MATTER HOW THEY'RE HIT OR BY WHOM.



I STILL BELIEVE MOST GOLFERS WILL PLAY BEST WITH THE BALL THAT FEELS AND SOUNDS "RIGHT" TO THEM AT IMPACT, IRRESPECTIVE OF ITS COMPRESSION.

THAT'S WHY I'VE USUALLY PLAYED WITH A 90-COMPRESSION BALL DESPITE THE FACT SO MANY PROS USE 100.

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8-24

We hope you enjoy all the features and entertainment in our fun magazine. Drop us a line if you have any suggestions, comments, or just to say "hello" neal@thebestoftimes.us

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

AMERICAN CITY FOLKS ACROSS

- 1 Income source for a resort area
- 8 Self-effacing
- 14 Enriched with fat
- 20 Endeavor
- 21 Street
- 22 Rave about
- 23 "Walk the Line" star
- 25 Approach
- 26 Snick-or- — (old-fashioned knife)
- 27 Grammy winner for the album "Avant Gershwin"
- 29 Cable sports channel
- 33 Early adding devices
- 36 Upper-left PC key
- 37 Saturate
- 38 "Home Alone" director
- 42 Religious recluse
- 46 Pipe smoked by a Wonderland caterpillar
- 47 French for "silk"
- 48 Vigoda or Burrows
- 49 Young fella
- 50 Spherical
- 51 "Jackass" co-star
- 56 Hesiod's H's
- 57 Infant
- 58 Candle stuff
- 59 Steel town of Germany
- 60 "— vous plaît"
- 61 Vocalist Perry
- 62 Sonic the Hedgehog's game company
- 65 Unwell
- 66 "Bewitched" star
- 73 'Neath's opposite
- 74 E, on a map
- 75 Columnist Barrett
- 76 Umpteen millennia
- 78 Pre-euro French coin
- 81 Ballpoint pen brand
- 83 Emulates Betsy Ross
- 84 Sky-colored
- 85 Singer called "Queen of the Blues"
- 90 "The Wreck of the Mary —" (1959)
- 91 Writer Fleming
- 92 Notable period
- 93 Copy a lion
- 94 Piled (up)
- 95 Beat badly
- 98 All-time batting strikeout leader
- 101 Address in cyberspace
- 102 Air-testing org.
- 104 Spread out
- 105 Shipped off
- 106 He sang with the group Dawn
- 111 Fuzzy fruit
- 113 Esoteric

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- 114 Arkansas senator elected in 1998
- 121 Two-time Best Actress Jackson
- 122 Mexican state
- 123 Sabato or Maserati
- 124 Part of CBS
- 125 Like a homer with one man on
- 126 Sows again
- 28 Refrigerator
- 29 Sonic boomerangs
- 30 Revealing nightgown
- 31 The big leagues
- 32 Sneakers with swooshes
- 34 Easy, as a job
- 35 "— a roll!"
- 39 Long-faced
- 40 Recycling container
- 41 Motorist's 180
- 43 Movie critic Reed
- 44 Account
- 45 Fall garden?
- 48 Blogger — Marie Cox
- 51 Doorframe component
- 52 Slender woodwind
- 53 Skater Michelle
- 54 "Scooby-Doo" girl
- 55 Maui, e.g.
- 57 Wild pig
- 61 Prague citizen
- 62 — Na Na
- 63 Long dashes
- 64 Grasped
- 65 Particles with charges
- 67 Scottish island
- 68 Kind of support for a PC user
- 69 Smartphone from Palm
- 70 Prom dress
- 71 Backslide
- 72 "Deal!"
- 77 Negative contraction
- 78 Bank acct. protector
- 79 Tehran coin
- 80 Heralds
- 81 Oil container
- 82 "That — lie!"
- 83 Take it all off
- 84 Birds' bills
- 86 Tcensy
- 87 Great anger
- 88 Egg drink
- 89 Comics' bits
- 90 Yuletide mo.
- 94 Out of kilter
- 96 Cager Kobe
- 97 Fair-haired woman
- 98 Was nearly out of stock
- 99 Actress Sommer
- 100 Warden
- 103 Blue Ribbon beermaker
- 106 Labels
- 107 Paris airport
- 108 Paper unit
- 109 Soap star Linda
- 110 — about (circa)
- 112 Hostels
- 115 Grand — (wine designation)
- 116 Solo of sci-fi
- 117 So-so mark
- 118 Suffix of sugars
- 119 "Inc." cousin
- 120 Refusals



PRIME TIME WITH KIDS

BY DONNA ERICKSON

"You can have your cake and blossoms too," was the greeting my friend Janet proclaimed when she arrived for coffee time on my deck last week.

Carrying a freshly baked Blueberry-Lime Pound Cake recipe from *Fine Cooking* magazine, the allure of her culinary presentation wasn't just about the yummy cake. Ringing the confection were eye-popping clusters of bright orange and yellow organic nasturtiums. The delightful decoration of blooms she had just picked from her garden turned a simple get-together into an event.

Tap into the power of fresh flowers that are in full bloom right now. Let your kids pick their favorites and enjoy "flower play" as you create something together. It can be as easy as tossing rose petals down the center of your dinner table. There's an idea for everyone.

1. Set a pretty bloom and floating candles in a clear glass bowl or wide-mouthed vase half-filled with water. Set on a patio table and light the candles for an al-fresco family supper.
2. Tuck an aromatic gardenia in your daughter's hair for an eye-catching 'do. No need for perfume with nature's floral scent.
3. Press a flower in a summer journal. It will be a treasured keepsake when you thumb through the pages this winter.
4. Make a basic arrangement in a water-filled vase following the simple principle of using a focal flower, such as a rose, and adding a few smaller flowers, such as daisies, along with a pretty vine or hosta leaves. When kids do the creating, the look will be less contrived and more informal. Name the flowers as you clip and arrange them together.
5. At a family party, top an ice-cream cone or cupcakes with edible flowers such as pansies and johnny jump-ups. Or, for a unique presentation, arrange a few nontoxic flowers in a narrow jar or vase, and place it in the center space of an angel food cake.

PAINT PRINTS WITH GARDEN LEAVES

Green leaves just don't get the attention they deserve. Usually, we ooh and aah in the fall at the emerging splashy colors of crimson and golden leaves on trees and bushes. But there is infinite variety in the green and the gray of those leaves on trees, vegetable plants and bushes that continually grow, shade and add a natural umbrella in gardens and parks in the hottest of July days.

Pick a handful of fresh leaves and sprouting greens from your trees, shrubs and vegetable garden, and look at them with your kids through a magnifying glass. Observe their intricate patterns and delicate design, and then print them onto fabric with a zany technique using a hammer from the toolbox and your child's muscle and energy.

First, collect the fresh green leaves. Ferns from an indoor floral bouquet also work well. Then, decide what you would like to print, such as a plain white or cream-colored cotton fabric T-shirt, an apron, potholder or library book bag.

Cover a hard, flat surface such as a picnic table or wooden breadboard with plain paper bags. Set the fabric to be printed on top. If using a T-shirt or tote bag, place a sheet of wax paper or cardboard inside the shirt or bag.

Arrange a leaf or fern on the fabric (secure it in place with small pieces of masking tape, if you wish), and cover with a sheet of wax paper. Hammer over the wax-paper-covered leaf until its color has been absorbed into the fabric. It's important that you hit every part of the leaf to release the natural pigments. Remove the leaf or fern and wax paper to reveal the natural image. Colors vary in intensity, so you may wish to test several varieties on a piece of scrap fabric first.

Repeat the process with additional leaves. Try it with a few flowers too, and see how the beautiful colors from nature appear. Label each print with the name of the tree, plant or flower using a permanent marker.

Note: The natural pigments may eventually fade. Wash fabric in cold water.

Donna Erickson's new award-winning television series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.

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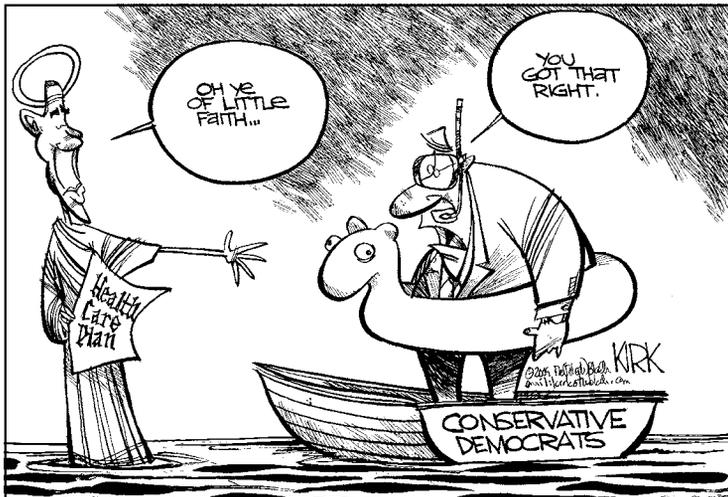
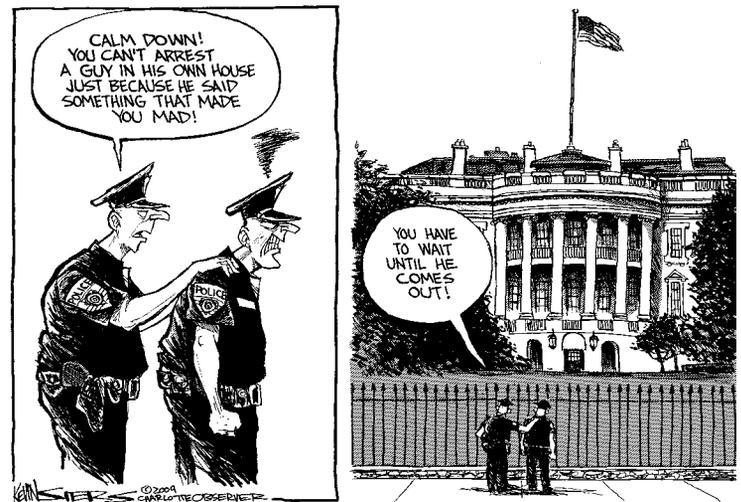
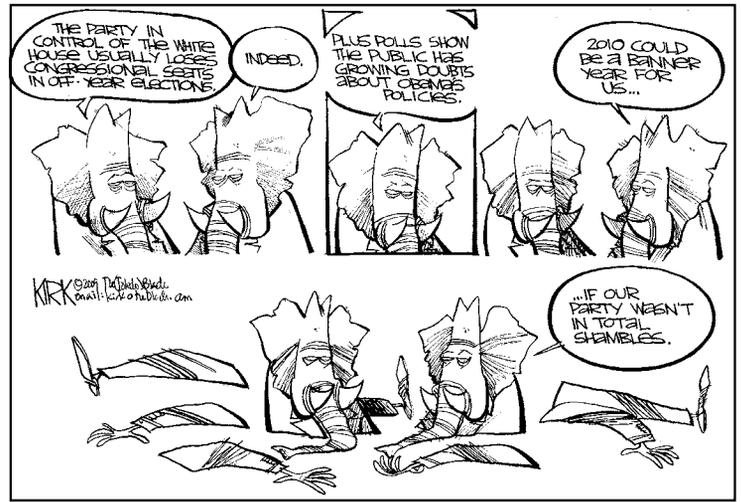
Both individual and group classes are available. Classes now forming! Contact the person below for seminar dates and availability.

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