

"Wat's New?"

From Watson's Realty

May 2010

Travels

I finally got a chance to plant tomatoes, onions, basil and some flowers! It was so nice being out in the sunshine and digging in the dirt. I feel as though I'm really late with planting this year, but I don't think it's been quite warm enough to be outside until now -- and it felt great!

Scott and I recently went to Southern California to visit my Mom for Mother's Day. We took a nice leisurely drive down the coast and stopped in King City overnight to help break up the trip and relax a little.

Why King City you ask? It has a golf course...and you should have seen that coming. 😊

We did have a nice time though. We found this great little Mexican restaurant with some amazing authentic food right next to a decent sized Farmer's Market. Everyone was friendly -- even some kid named Jeremy at the hotel where we stayed. He's been living there for a couple of months (at the hotel) for work reasons.

We knew that when we ate dinner we would have a couple of beers. Scott and I don't like to drink and drive so we asked if the restaurant was within walking distance. It was farther than we wanted to walk so Jeremy, who was sitting in the lobby, offered to take us there and pick us up when we were done. We joked with him that we might stay up late and "party" to which he just laughed.

Come to find out he was laughing because everything in town closes at 10:00 PM.

The next morning Scott and I drove over to the local golf course where he played nine holes and I sat out on this pretty deck over looking the course. I had my laptop and an iced tea and just relaxed. Several friendly duffers asked me why I wasn't playing. I explained that the smallest white ball I thought I could truly hit with any kind of accuracy was a softball.

We ended up at Mom's house on Thursday evening to begin the weekend in Southern California. Scott drove to Palm Desert Friday morning to meet up with our friend, Jim, to play more golf.

Mom and I did what Mom and I do....shop! Nothing really extravagant mind you. The 99 Cent Only Store, Big Lots, Ross. We're bargain shoppers and we have such a good time just looking at everything and comparing notes about all of it.

When the weekend was over and we were packing the car, Scott kept grumbling saying, "How is it we come down here with four bags of stuff and end up taking back 27? Every single time"!

My Mom and I just laughed. Scott, we've been married almost 20 years. You should be used to it by now. 😊

The weekend after Mother's Day we were helping one of our clients with a garage sale as she is getting the house ready to put on the market. During the sale a cute little girl who was visiting her uncle across the street came over to check out what was for sale. She had her own money and was fascinated with several things but

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especially a single wine glass. Seven-year-old Maddie complained that her Dad never lets her touch his wine glass so she bought her own! We laughed out loud! Her uncle just shook his head and smiled.

Speaking of seven-year-olds, grandson Riley is going to be seven in June! Where does the time go? He was going to be spending the night with Grandpa and Nonna and this is something we always look forward to.

We learned a new game called Uno and Riley has beaten me twice and loves it. It's a simple game of numbers and colors and definitely more manageable than Monopoly®. And he can beat Nonna. 😊

I learned recently that my nephew, Tony, just sold some music to Sony Pictures that is being used in a movie trailer for an new film called "MacGruber." We are all so excited and proud! He and his family heard it on TV a few days ago.

They were in one room playing a game while the TV was on in another room. A commercial for "MacGruber" came on and suddenly Tony said, "Hey! That's my music!" How exciting would it be to hear something you've written on national TV? And in movie theaters? Wow...congratulations to Tony!

Enjoy the nice weather we've got coming. Enjoy life!

JK and Scott

JK & Scott Watson

Your Real Estate Friends for Life!



Some friends went to a restaurant recently for breakfast and sat in the patio section. They happened to notice zip lock baggies pinned to a post and a wall. The bags were half filled with water, each contained 4 pennies, and they were zipped shut. Naturally they were curious! The owner told them that these baggies kept the flies away. So naturally they were even more curious! They actually watched some flies come in the open window, stand around on the window sill, and then fly out again. And there were no flies in the eating area!

Danielle Says:

Fill a Ziplock bag with water and 5 or 6 pennies and hang it in the problem area. In my case it was a particular window in my home. It had a slight passage way for insects. Every since I have done that, it has kept flies and wasps away. Some say that wasps and flies mistake the bag for some other insect nest and are threatened.

Maggie Says:

I swear by the plastic bag of water trick. I have them on porch and basement. We saw these in Northeast Missouri at an Amish grocery store & have used them since. They say it works because a fly sees a reflection & won't come around.

The Real Reason:

Regarding the science behind zip log bags of water? A friend's research found that the millions of molecules of water presents its own prism effect and given that flies have a lot of eyes, to them it's like a zillion disco balls reflecting light, colors and movement in a dizzying manner. When you figure that flies are prey for many other bugs, animals, birds, etc., they simply won't take the risk of being around that much perceived action.

Tips For A Safe Walk

Walking is good exercise – unless you get hit by a car. The most common accidents between pedestrians and motor vehicles are caused by:

- Darting out in front of a vehicle in the middle of the block.
- Running rather than walking across intersections.
- Vehicles turning without seeing pedestrians in their way.
- Pedestrians crossing multi-lane streets.
- Vehicles backing up.

Stay safe wherever you wander by following these safety practices:

Use the walkways. Stay on the sidewalk and cross at intersections with well-marked crosswalks.

Stand out. Make sure drivers can see you. Don't dash out into traffic suddenly. Wear bright, noticeable colors, especially at night, and consider garments and shoes with reflecting fabrics for nighttime walking.

Follow the rules. Obey traffic signals. Be aware of stop signs at intersections without traffic lights.

Watch out for blind spots. Big trucks with wide loads may not see you when turning or backing up. Smaller cars, too, can have significant blind spots. Don't assume any driver can see you just because you can see the vehicle.

Give cars time to stop. Don't take chances with moving vehicles. If the driver doesn't see you right away, or if you stumble, he or she may not be able to stop in time to avoid hitting you.

Be careful in parking lots. The traffic flow in a parking lot may not be obvious to either drivers or pedestrians, and visibility is more limited by the parked cars around you.

Walk facing traffic. If for some reason you must walk along the side of a road without sidewalks, walk toward the traffic so you can see and avoid cars better – and vice versa.

What's A "Portable Clock"?

The portable clock – that is, the watch – was invented by Peter Henlein in Nuremberg, Germany, in 1504. He used a coiled mainspring with a ratchet, which, unlike the weights and pulleys that drove larger clocks, could be placed inside a much smaller space. The first watches were worn on a belt or on a chain around the neck, measured about four inches wide and three inches thick, and were called "Nuremberg Eggs" because of their oval shape. They had no minute hand and no protective glass over the face, a feature that didn't appear for another 200 years.

The first person to wear a watch on his wrist was the French mathematician and philosopher Blaise Pascal, who, in the mid-1600s, attached his pocket watch to his wrist with string. True wristwatches – those attached with fabric or leather straps – didn't become commonplace until the First World War.

Last Year's Sunscreen



As our thoughts turn to beach time, camping, and other summer activities, don't forget to buy sunscreen and dispose of last year's supply. After a year, the chemicals

and active ingredients in sunscreen usually degrade and lose their effectiveness, so stock up – and slather it on!



Truth is like the sun. You can shut it out for a time, but it's not going to go away. ★ Elvis Presley



Does Generation Y = Generation Why?

If a fresh-faced batch of new graduates or interns gets hired at your workplace, don't dismiss them as naïve, spoiled, or indifferent – common misperceptions about Generation Y, loosely defined as people born in the 1980s and 1990s.

Diane Danielson, president of DWC Services, a professional development firm, says they have their good points. "Gen Y should be Gen Why? because they question everything," says Danielson. "They don't want to hear 'because we've always done it that way.' They want to look under every hood and tweak every process, which is not bad as that's what MBAs are trained to do."

In addition, Danielson says they've grown up in a world where technology changes constantly. "They expect things to change," she says. "I think this makes them more adaptable to whatever the future may hold."

Mosquito Trivia

Here's some trivia about the bug that everyone knows and nobody likes:

- A mosquito doesn't really bite; it stabs by piercing your skin with its long proboscis.
- Only female mosquitoes stab. They need the blood to nourish their eggs. Male mosquitoes are vegetarians, feeding on flower nectar.
- The mosquito's saliva causes that itchy bump on your skin. The saliva keeps the blood from clotting while the mosquito drinks its fill.
- A mosquito can drink one-and-a-half times its own weight.
- There are about 3,000 species of mosquitoes worldwide; more than 165 are found in North America.
- Mosquitoes like dark colors, especially blue.

This Is Timely

Time is an equal opportunity employer. Each human being has exactly the same number of hours and minutes every day. Rich people can't buy more hours. Scientists can't invent new minutes. And you can't save time to spend it on another day. Even so, time is amazingly fair and forgiving. No matter how much time you've wasted in the past, you still have an entire tomorrow.

– Denis Waitely

Start Small And Save Big

Saving money, especially these days, can seem impossible. The secret is starting small and staying the course.

Don't try to save too much all at once. Set a goal of saving just five percent of your income every month. Give yourself a regular reminder, perhaps by sending yourself an email every payday; studies suggest people save more consistently if they're reminded on a regular basis.

As time goes on, increase the amount you save. If you're careful and committed, you can probably get up to 10 to 15 percent, which, over time, can add up to quite a lot of money.



Do You Know The Watsons?

If you see Scott or JK at an Open House, on the street, in a store, or anywhere, just say "hi!"

We like meeting people and we're not shy about giving away gift certificates. Just tell us you "know" us somehow, whether you recognize us, you read our newsletter, or we look like our pictures - or even better in person (wink, wink) Just say something and enjoy eating out at Saki's Spin-A-Yarn.

You might have to tell us who you are - just in case we don't have a gift certificate with us, we want to know where to mail it!



Not redeemable for cash.

The Stranger

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Texas town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger....he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet. (I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home... Not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our longtime visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush. My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol. But the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked...And NEVER asked to leave.

More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

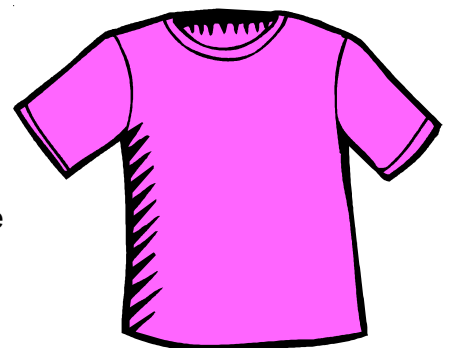
His name? ...

We just call him 'TV.'

He has a wife now....We call her 'Computer.'

Choose Your Family Color

If your family is heading for an amusement park, national park, the beach, or anywhere else lots of people gather, here's some advice from travel experts: Have everyone in the group wear a shirt of the same bright color. This will help prevent you from getting lost or separated from one another. If you have a fashion-conscious teen or pre-teen who deems this dorky, let him or her choose the color.



Dog Tired

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. The homeowner could tell from the dog's collar and well-fed belly that he had a home.

The dog calmly approached the man, who gave him a few pats on the head. The dog followed the man into the house, down the hall, and fell asleep in a corner.

An hour later he went to the door and the man let him out.

The next day the dog returned, greeted the man, resumed his position in the hall, and slept for an hour. This continued for several weeks.

Curious, the man pinned a note to the dog's collar: "I'd like to find out who the owner of this wonderful dog is. Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap."



The next day the dog arrived with a different note pinned to his collar: "He lives in a home with six children, two under the age of three – he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

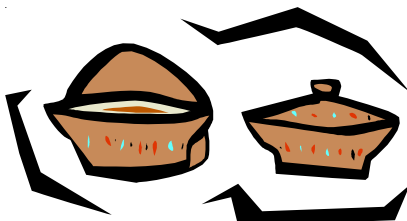
Meals That Appeal

The next time you take a meal to family or friends who are grieving, recovering from surgery or childbirth, or just in need of some assistance, here are three things to remember:

Opt for dishes that can be eaten for breakfast, lunch or supper such as quiche and ham or sausage casseroles. Others will probably bring dinner items, so something that can be eaten at any time of day will be appreciated.

Package food in inexpensive plasticware that doesn't have to be returned. You don't want to add to people's stress by asking them to keep track of your dishes.

Write simple directions for reheating, and note whether the item can be frozen.



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We'd Like to Welcome

Debbie Sierra
referred by Brandon Sass

Nick & Laura Data
referred by Debe Data

Call The Watsons!
Thanks for thinking of us!

PUNNY STUFF

Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
Shotgun wedding - A case of wife or death.
A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play.
Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.
Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.
A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
Local Area Network in Australia - the LAN down under.
Every calendar's days are numbered.
A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
Acupuncture is a jab well done.



WE DON'T KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS

Do you pretend that you know the answers at work when you really don't? If you do this, then you know that it takes a lot of energy to pretend. And lots of people can see through the veneer of what you're saying, usually because there's no substance behind it.

People pretend they know answers when they don't for varied reasons. Some people are insecure about looking foolish or stupid. Some people want to be respected. Some people want to be seen as problem solvers. Whatever your reason for pretending to know more than you do, though, it's a good idea to stop participating in something that can undermine your credibility with others when they find out you don't really know what you're talking about.

Use your energy instead to find the answer to what you don't know. Start by admitting it: Say simply, "I'm not sure what the answer to that is, but I'll try to find out." Then follow through with your promise of looking into it. Or accept graciously the information others are likely to offer you when you admit up front you don't have all the answers. You'll find that this takes less energy, is more rewarding, easier – and will give you the reputation you desire as someone who knows how to find out whatever needs to be known.

I always advise people never to give advice. ★ P.G. Wodehouse

The good thing about procrastination is that you always have something planned for tomorrow. ★ Anon

It is useless to hold a person to anything he says while he's in love, drunk, or running for office. ★ Shirley MacLaine

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May Quiz Question

And the results are in for our [April Quiz Question](#)...the question was: **What famous literary character offers this sage advice: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be"? Answer:** Polonius offers the advice to his son, Laertes, in Hamlet (Act I, Scene III)

Congratulations go to **Joel Lym!** His name was selected at random from all of the correct quiz answers. He may choose a \$30 gift certificate to Saki's Spin-A-Yarn Restaurant, Trader Joe's, Macy's, Safeway or Dale Hardware.

Here's your [May Quiz Question](#) : **Which professional athlete hit a home run in a major league baseball game, and scored a touchdown in an NFL football game, in the same week in 1989?**

If your name is chosen from our group of correct answers, you can choose a \$30 gift certificate to your choice of Saki's Spin-A-Yarn Restaurant, Trader Joe's, Macy's, Safeway or Dale Hardware. Good luck!

Send your answers to:

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