



November 2016

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Better Home Living™

The Newsletter That's Both Informative and Fun!

Don't let clutter rule your life

Boxes of papers. Shelves full of dusty salt and pepper shakers. Mountains of clothing. Bathtubs full of unsent gifts. Guest rooms where no bed can be found under tons of "stuff."

Turn on cable television and you're bound to run across one of the new anti-clutter programs wherein a team of cleaning experts confronts exceptionally cluttered families.

The shows, hugely successful on cable, let the viewer gawk at the excesses of everyday people whose interests (and disinterests) have led to household chaos. In each version of the anti-clutter programming, householders learn they must let go of their junk and, in return, the clean teams come in, clean up, and redecorate.

All this has spawned a new philosophy of neat. The commandments:

- Just because it was a gift, does not mean you have to keep it.
- Don't keep things because you think you might use them someday.
- Don't let your home be a dumping ground for someone else's junk.
- Let go of mementoes of the past so you have room for the future.
- Don't keep things that don't work, don't fit, or are no longer relevant.
- It's wasteful if you leave it on your floor or packed forever in a box. Give it away, sell it, or throw it away.



I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter!

*Susie Duncan
Two Ladies & A Bucket*



When you see Nicole S. out and about on the Montana Team, please join me in celebrating Nicole's second year as a Bucket Team Member on 11/06/2016.

No flu for you!

Flu season is upon us and one shot could save you two weeks of suffering, says the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

This is recommended for everyone over the age of six months, except for those who may be adversely affected because of a weakened immune system.

There are a variety of vaccine options available to help individuals avoid the virus, or to lessen its impact, and they come in multiple forms - typically a shot, or a nasal spray.

This year, the CDC says that the nasal spray vaccine should not be used during the 2016-2017 flu season.

The CDC recommends the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). There are vaccines with three components (a trivalent shot) or four components (a quadrivalent shot). No matter which you choose, it usually takes about two weeks for the vaccination to fully take effect.

If you're interested in getting a flu shot, there are a variety of places where you can go to get that vaccination, including your doctor's office. A local health clinic, a pharmacy or even a drive-through flu shot clinic, if you can find one, are all places where you can get a flu shot.

If you're going to get a flu shot, now is the time to do it - too early and you may suffer later on, from waning immunity around the time that flu peaks next January or February



Nicole, we are all so happy to have you as a part of our team. You are a great addition to our team. We couldn't do it without you!!!

Don't forget to say Happy Birthday to Nicole on 11/11/2016.



*A smile is a curve that can set a lot of things straight
~~ Phyllis Diller*

Don't Forget

Please be patient...



Daylight savings time ends at midnight on Sunday November 6th. Don't forget to move your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Sunday night.

Now is a good time to check and change the batteries in clocks, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors.

Don't wait till the thermostat plummets to turn on your furnace to make sure that it turns on and gets warm.

We have recently upgraded our website. Follow the following link

<http://twoandabucket.com/>

to see all the recent changes. We do have some kinks to be worked out. Please be patient during this transition time.

Cable prices rise; cord cutting is a trend

The average monthly cable bill is now up to \$103.10, an increase of 4% from last year, according to the Consumerist. That rise surpasses the current U.S. inflation rate, which is about 1.1 percent.

Meanwhile, the cord cutter movement is slowly gaining steam. More than 82 percent of households subscribe to cable, satellite or fiber pay TV. But that number is down from 2011 when 87 percent were cable TV subscribers.

Cord cutters have more choices than ever. In metropolitan areas, a \$10 antenna can snag local TV digital signals out of the air for free, but it won't work very well for people in rural areas.

Hulu, at about \$10 per month, offers movies and network television shows one or two days after they air.

Netflix, \$10 per month, offers movies, television, and original programming.

Sling TV, \$20 per month, offers live sports and a variety of other channels.

These options depend on a high-speed internet connection, however, and that can add to the price of television.

One easy change consumers can make is buying their own DVR.

Cable boxes run about \$20 per box per month, but a DVR can be purchased for \$100 to \$175, according to cableboxandmodem.com. These boxes require \$3 cable card; which cable companies are required to sell.



"Let's go over this again. Anything that hits the floor is yours, with the following exceptions..."

OPERATION:

SHARE OUR BLESSINGS FOOD DRIVE

Please join us in serving our community!!!

During the month of November 2016, we are asking our family, friends, clients and those that want to share their blessings to please join with us in sharing our blessings with our community by

dropping off canned goods and other non perishable food items to our office or have the ladies pick up the items from your house after they clean.

Our office is located at: 5139 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63129. Our office hours are Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. Donations for the Food Drive will be accepted throughout the entire month of November, 2016.

Share Our Blessings Canned Food Drive items will be given to our local food pantry Feed My People located at 171 Kingston Drive St. Louis, MO 63125.

We are suggesting the folks give at least 10 cans and/or non perishable food items.

We appreciate your giving heart and blessing our community!!!



Trivia Teaser – Police Station

1. The RCMP is the national police force in which country?

a-Haiti, b-Canada, c-Russia, d-China.

2. What silent film producer created the zany Keystone Kops?

a-Hal Roach, b-Frank Capra, c-Samuel Goldwyn, d-Mack Sennett.

3. What Beatles song contains the line "Mister City Policeman sitting, pretty little policemen in a row"?

a-"I Am the Walrus," b-"Across the Universe," c-"A Day in the Life," d-"Dr. Robert."

4. Chief Inspector Morse of the Thomas Valley Police is the protagonist in a series of mystery novels by what author? a-P.D. James, b-Agatha Christie, c-Colin Dexter, d-Simon Brett.

5. What is the reggae theme song for the TV series "Cops"?

a-"Rise Up," b-"Watch Me Now," c-"Bad Boys," d-"I Shot the Sheriff."

6. Police scientist Barry Allen is the alter ego of what DC Comics hero?

a-Superman, b-The Flash, c-Green Lantern, d-Green Arrow.

7. Officer Dibble pounded a beat near the neighborhood of what cartoon character?

a-Daniel Tiger, b-Mr. Peabody, c-Top Cat, d-Touché Turtle.

8. What song was the debut single for The Police on A&M Records?

a-"Roxanne," b-"Every Breath You Take," c-"Message in a Bottle," d-"Every Little Thing She Does is Magic"

9. Police Chief Carl Kanisky was the head of the household on what sitcom?

a-"Uncle Buck," b-"Gimme a Break," c-"Family Matters," d-"The Good Guys."

10. In what Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera do singers complain that "A policeman's lot is not a happy one"?

a-"The Mikado", b-"Patience," c-"The Pirates of Penzance," d-"Trial By Jury."

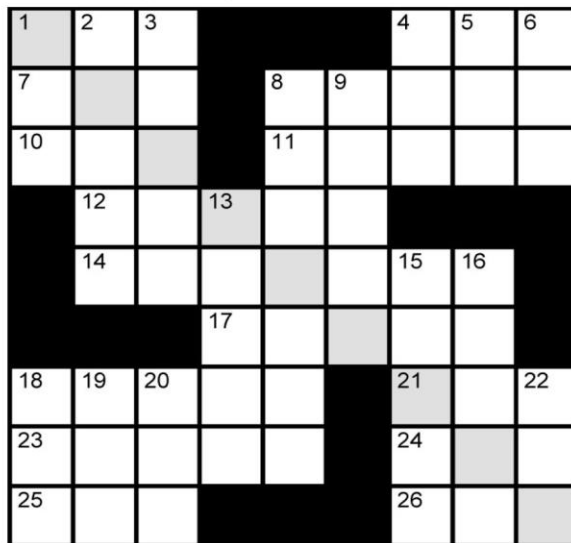
Answers to "Police Station"

1-b, Canada
2-d, Mack Sennett
3-a, "I Am the Walrus"
4-c, Colin Dexter
5-c, "Bad Boys"
6-b, The Flash
7-c, Top Cat
8-a, "Roxanne"
9-b, "Gimme a Break"
10-c, "The Pirates of Penzance"

The King's Spaniels

Across

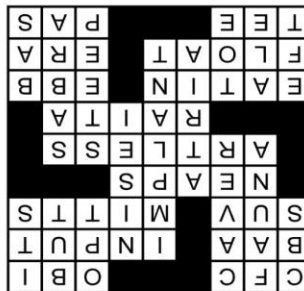
1. Ozone layer pollutant
4. ___-Wan Kenobi
7. Call to Bo-peep
8. Enter
10. Blazer, e.g.
11. Hands, in slang
12. Some tides
14. Naive
17. Indian yogurt dish
18. Dine at home
21. "Chicago" lyricist
23. Drink with a straw
24. Big time
25. Casual attire
26. Faux ___



Down

1. "60 Minutes" network
2. Flora's partner
3. Speleologist
4. Decide to leave, with "out"
5. On the other hand
6. "___ De-Lovely"

8. Artificial tooth
9. Japanese-American
13. Courtyards
15. Prepare, as tea
16. Mideast native
18. Newt, once
19. A pint, maybe
20. Little piggy
22. ___-relief



The headline is a clue to the answer in the diagonal.

Six documents every homeowner should keep on hand

As a homeowner, you may find yourself with a lot of paperwork. While you don't have to keep all of it, it is a good idea to keep certain files for tax or mortgage purposes. There are several documents that you should keep as long as you own a property and some after you sell the property. Those include:

1. House deed: A house deed is a document that transfers ownership of a house from one party to another. Keep this for as long as you own a property, to have proof that you own it.

2. Closing documents: Keep documents related to closing the sale of your new home or property as long as you own the property, and three years after the sale.

3. Receipts for home improvements: Keep these for three years after you sell a property. It will help to show an increase in home value, help to justify a sales price during the sales process, and can be useful when it comes to your property taxes.

4. Mortgage payoff statements: Keep mortgage payoff statements indefinitely. These are documents from your lender that both parties sign when you've successfully paid off your mortgage. Keeping them indefinitely offers you a defense if your lender tries to come back to you later and say that you still owe money on your mortgage.

5. Private or primary mortgage insurance statements and cancelled checks: Keep these for three years after the tax year in which you've claimed this deduction. This payment is part of your monthly mortgage payment.

6. Property tax payment: Keep your tax bill and statements showing payment for three years after you've made the payment.

The minimum time to keep important household documents is three years after payment is made, although it doesn't hurt to keep many of these for longer. This is because the IRS can audit individuals for specific years for up to three years after the tax year (they can audit your 2015 tax return until the end of 2018.)



Two Ladies & A Bucket

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(314) 229-1736

www.twoandabucket.com

Email me at clean@twoandabucket.com

December Cleaning Special for All Loyal Clients

Enjoy your offer!

December: Oven Cleaning Special

\$39.99 w/ Oven Cleaner

OR

\$19.99 if you have a self cleaning oven
(you'll just have to run the self-cleaner that takes at least 4 to 5 hrs. the night before).

When you claim this offer, we'll go ahead and add this service for your next cleaning.

Another Happy Birthday

**hope your birthday
is as awesome
as you are!**

When you see Sonnet B. out and about on the Venture Team, be sure to wish her a happy birthday. Sonnet's birthday is 11/20/16.



Other Staff News

Please join me in welcoming our newest staff members

- Ashley Helm
- Alicia Miller

Ladies, you are both doing an amazing job. I look forward to a long and successful future with both of you.

~~ Susie Duncan

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it comes due.

~~ William Ralph Inge

Gifts for the ungiftable

Weird ice: Molds for ice are big. Ice molds come in shapes like round, skull, geometric, slanted, giant, tiny, Star Wars, golf ball, hand grenade, heart, bullet. A variation on the theme is rocks that keep your glass cool. Pair the perfect ice mold with a suitable bottle of refreshment.

Free passes: You can get passes for parks, museums, movies, car washes, even railroad trips.

Breakfast food: Try Zabars.com for breakfast baskets (and much more, of course). You can get a crate full of bagels, cream cheese, coffee, orange juice, and pastry. Can be pricey, though.

For the bacon lover, try the Sir Francis Bacon sampler pack. For \$30, you get a selection of bacon peanut brittle, bacon chocolate, and bacon toffee. Check it out on Amazon, where you will find other bacon gifts too.

Subscription boxes: You can order subscriptions to snack boxes, cosmetics, projects for kids, coffees, dog treats, dinners to make, strange food, and anything else possible to ship.

Crazy candles: Lots to choose from here: Some candles melt away to reveal a bronze sculpture. A pretty, swirled candle gives 60 hours of fragrance. See uncommongoods.com

Crafty stuff: A 3-D pen that oozes out a plastic that hardens within seconds. Your crafty friend will not just draw but sculpt, too. See it at hammacher.com. You can also buy 3-D puzzles.

Funny stuff: How about a custom bobble head? Upload your photo at 1minime.com and you can get your friend or loved one's head on a variety of bodies.

Or, go all the way and put your loved one's face on ancient art. Be Napoleon at society6.com.

Know Someone Who Needs A Good House Cleaning?



Offer for new clients...

All new clients that book their first cleaning between November 28th and December 23rd and receive a FREE fresh poinsettia to add to your holiday decorations, PLUS we'll sweep out your fireplace so Santa can come down the chimney. Let us take care of the so you can prep for Santa's arrival!!!



Refer a new client and receive a \$25.00 Amazon gift card.