

Mary Lou's 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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Commonly Confused Contractions
- How To "Go Green" When You Clean
- Put Your "Best Fork" Forward
- Take A Gander At This
- Is There A Word For That?
- A Moving Gift
- For You – Or Someone You Love
- Entrepreneurial Exigencies
- Halloween Dos and Don'ts
- A Sweet Story

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!

Mary Lou Jaimes

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.

October 2010 – October 2011
MAKE IT HAPPEN
GRAND PRIZE TRIP FOR TWO
Referral Reward Program

- All you have to do is call me with a referral of someone who is interested in buying or selling real estate.
- For every referral who buys or sells with the Make It Happen Team, you will be eligible for one ticket towards the Grand Prize Trip Drawing for Two.
- For every 3 referrals you will be eligible for five tickets towards the Grand Prize Trip Drawing for Two

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.

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.

Client Of The Month

Congratulations to our
Client Of The Month,

Mary Lou and Phil Anderson
of Lewisville, TX.

They have won lunch for two at
Tierney's Café in Old Town
Lewisville

**Call me to find out how you
can become**

Client Of The Month!

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.

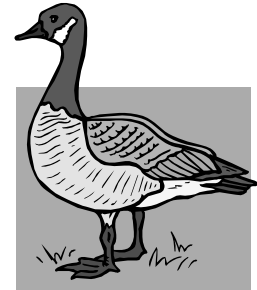
October Quiz Question

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

Everyone who faxes, emails or
calls in the correct answer by
the last day of this month will
be entered into a drawing for a
**\$10 gift certificate to
STARBUCKS**

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.

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.

**DO YOU WANT TO
FIND OTHER LOCAL
BUSINESSES THAT
GIVE OUTSTANDING
CUSTOMER SERVICE?**

Request a free copy of my service directory. All of the businesses listed in it have a proven track record for providing the outstanding customer service you deserve.

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.

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.

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

September Quiz Answer

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

Answer: Borborygmi.

Source: medterms.com

Congratulations to
_____. Your name
was selected at random from all of the
correct quiz entries and you'll receive

_____.
**Watch for your name
in a coming month!**

WELCOME NEW CLIENTS

Here are some of the new clients who became members of our "Real Estate Family" this past month. I'd like to welcome you and wish you all the best!

David and Carolyn Cade

Evelyn Melvin

(referred by Mary Lou Anderson)

Ana and Victor Juarez

(referred by Maria Plaza)

We love giving recognition to our new friends and our wonderful existing clients who are kind enough to refer their friends, family and neighbors to us.

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.

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

Free Reports!

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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 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.

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.



MARY LOU'S HOME NEWS

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 972-350-8575 or mail it to:

Mary Lou Jaimes – 2611 Cross Timbers Road, Suite 100, Flower Mound, TX 75028 or just call me at 972-849-0476!

www.MLJMakesItHappne.com [email: MaryLou@MaryLouJaimes.com](mailto:MaryLou@MaryLouJaimes.com)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

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

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

Free Reports

- 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 Home Finder 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 Mary Lou's 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: _____

Mary Lou's Home News

Mary Lou Jaimes
Make It Happen
2611 Cross Timbers Road, Ste 100
Flower Mound, TX 75028
www.MLJMakesItHappen.com

**Go Green:
Recycle This Newsletter!**

After you've enjoyed my newsletter, please recycle it by passing it along to a family member, friend, neighbor or coworker.

A Sweet Story



The Halloween treat candy corn was invented in the 1880s by George Renninger, an employee of the Wunderle Candy Co. of Philadelphia. Making the candy was labor-intensive, as each color of the mixture had to be poured separately into kernel-shaped molds, but the unusual confection was a big hit. The Goelitz Confectionery Co. began making candy corn in 1898 and today, as the Jelly Belly Candy Co., is still using the same recipe to do so. In the early 1900s when so many Americans were farming, the corn-shaped candy was especially popular – so much so that confectioners tried making candy in other vegetable shapes, including turnips. Candy manufacturers sell more than 35 million pounds of candy corn (about 9 billion kernels!) a year, with Halloween accounting for 75 percent of annual sales.

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