

**PROFESSIONAL
CARPET
SYSTEMS™**

Healthy Home News

"Secrets For Living A Healthy, Wealthy & Happy Life..."

35th Anniversary of Earth Day, April 16



Started in 1970, environmental groups worldwide have chosen the third Saturday in April to focus on ecological issues, such as pollution, endangered species, and over-development, seeking reform and improved quality of life.

The Earth Day Network (consisting of over 12,000 environmental groups in 174 countries) proclaimed 2005's theme to be Fostering Healthy Environments for Children. "This year, our aim is to inspire a new generation of leaders to champion environmental causes that will deter practices contributing to substandard and unhealthy living conditions for children," a spokesman for the group said.

According to EDN, more than 40 percent of the world's children under the age of five carry diseases that can be attributed to environmental factors. These include lack of pure water, inadequate personal hygiene, lack of proper sanitation, unsafe food, air pollution, and chemical hazards.

The First Comic Strip

The first comic strip, which consisted of a sequence of drawings that told a story, dates back to the 1865 premiere of Max and Moritz, a moralistic German comic strip about two trouble-making boys written by Wilhelm Busch. By the late 1800s, American newspaper companies were discovering that comic strips dramatically increased sales. Press magnate Joseph Pulitzer hired German immigrant Rudolph Dirks to pen a light-hearted take-off of Max and Moritz, called The Katzenjammer Kids, which ran in the New York World. William Randolph Hearst responded by hiring Richard Outcault to create The Yellow Kid for his many papers. It was a tale about a child growing up in the tenements. As competition increased, comic strips began to appear daily and feature color.



Max und Moritz

A Little April Foolishness

- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met.
- How do they get deer to cross at those yellow road signs?
- A fool and his money are soon audited.
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- I intend to live forever. So far so good.
- Shin: a device for finding furniture in the dark.
- Time may be a great healer, but it's a terrible beautician.

Passover, April 23:

Passover is celebrated every year to remember the account of God leading the Hebrews out of Egypt by the hand of Moses, as detailed in the first 15 chapters of the Biblical book of Exodus.

The Passover (or *Pesach*, the Hebrew word for "protection") arises from the last of the 10 plagues God unleashed on the pharaoh of Egypt to force him to turn loose the enslaved Israelites. The first nine were blood, frogs, lice, flies, blight, boils, hail, locusts, and darkness. The tenth and final plague was the slaying of the first-born male of every man and beast in Egypt. The Israelites were warned of the coming punishment and marked their dwellings with lamb's blood so that the Angel of Death would "pass over," sparing their sons. This final plague convinced the pharaoh to release the Israelites, though he ultimately changed his mind and sent his army chasing them through the desert. At the Red Sea, the water parted, allowing the Israelites to cross to the other side. The Egyptian army, attempting to likewise cross in pursuit, were swallowed up by the water and drowned when God returned the waters to their place.

Jews celebrate the Passover with the seder, an elaborate meal at which the story of the Israelites' deliverance is retold. Many believe Christ's Last Supper was a seder.



Get Free Cleaning Tips And Specials At Our Hotline 905.646.6445!

See Insert This Issue:

April Showers Bring...



**...Dirty
Carpets!**

Have You Looked Down Lately?

Outstanding Client of the Month!

“YMCA OF NIAGARA”

Did you know the YMCA of Niagara has opened its new state-of-the-art facility on Woodlawn Rd. in Welland?

This charitable organization, open for everyone, builds strong kids, strong families and strong communities. We were privileged to be asked to assist in the clean up before its opening.

Every month I choose a very special **Client of the Month**. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks" to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business...YOU might be my next **Client of the Month**! Watch for your name here in an upcoming issue!

*Baseball, it is said, is only a game.
True. And the Grand Canyon is only
a hole in Arizona.*

George Will

*No matter how far you have gone
down the wrong road, turn back.*

Turkish proverb

*A man is not old until his regrets take
the place of dreams.*

Yiddish proverb

Preserving Vitamins

According to the University of Missouri Extension Service, frozen vegetables should not be thawed before cooking because that drains them of valuable nutrients. To preserve vitamins, use the least amount of water and the shortest cooking time possible -- or boil frozen foods in their own cooking bags for the highest nutritional impact.

The Top April Fool's Hoaxes of All Time

www.museumofhoaxes.com/hoax/aprilfool/

The Museum of Hoaxes has ranked the top 100 April Fool's hoaxes of all time, and here are the top three:

#1: The Swiss Spaghetti Harvest: In 1957 the respected BBC news show *Panorama* announced that thanks to a very mild winter and the virtual elimination of the dreaded spaghetti weevil, Swiss farmers were enjoying a bumper spaghetti crop. It accompanied this announcement with footage of Swiss peasants pulling strands of spaghetti down from trees. Huge numbers of viewers were taken in, and many called up wanting to know how they could grow their own spaghetti trees. To this question, the BBC diplomatically replied that they should "place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best."

#2: Sidd Finch: In its April 1985 edition, *Sports Illustrated* published a story about a new rookie pitcher who planned to play for the Mets. His name was Sidd Finch and he could reportedly throw a baseball with startling, pinpoint accuracy at 168 mph (65 mph faster than anyone else has ever been able to throw a ball). Surprisingly, Sidd Finch had never even played the game before. Instead, he had mastered the "art of the pitch" in a Tibetan monastery under the guidance of the "great poet-saint Lama Milaraspa." Mets fans everywhere celebrated at their teams's amazing luck at having found such a gifted player, and *Sports Illustrated* was flooded with requests for more information. But in reality this legendary player only existed in the imagination of the writer of the article, George Plimpton.

#3: Instant Color TV: In 1962 there was only one tv channel in Sweden, and it broadcast in black and white. The station's technical expert, Kjell Stensson, appeared on the news to announce that thanks to a newly developed technology, all viewers could now quickly and easily convert their existing sets to display color reception. All they had to do was pull a nylon stocking over their tv screen, and they would begin to see their favorite shows in color. Stensson then proceeded to demonstrate the process. Reportedly, hundreds of thousands of people, out of the population of seven million, were taken in. Actual color tv transmission only commenced in Sweden on April 1, 1970.

The History of the Lawnmower

From www.ouldlawnmowerclub.co.uk



The lawn mower was invented in 1830 by Edwin Beard Budding, an engineer from Stroud, Gloucestershire, England. He obtained the idea after seeing a machine in a local cloth mill which used a cutting cylinder (or bladed reel) mounted on a bench to trim cloth to make a smooth finish after weaving. Budding realized that a similar concept would enable the cutting of grass if the mechanism could be mounted in a wheeled frame to make the blades rotate close to the lawn's surface. He went into partnership with a local engineer, John Ferrabee, and together they made mowers in a factory at Stroud.

These early machines were all made of cast iron and featured a large rear roller with a cutting cylinder (reel) in the front. Cast iron gear wheels transmitted power from the rear roller to the cutting cylinder. Overall, these machines were remarkably similar to modern mowers.

Budding and Ferrabee were shrewd enough to allow other companies to build copies of their mower under license, the most successful of these being Ransomes of Ipswich which began making mowers as early as 1832. The company has made mowers virtually continuously ever since, and is now the world's largest manufacturer of lawn care equipment.

And Another Thing...

By Dori Knight

And another thing, I had to run the little ones to karate after a quick trip to the market, and a brief detour to the drive-through for burgers and cokes that were, invariably, knocked over onto the floor of the van, soaking the papers that I needed to bring to the insurance company, after I dropped off the dry cleaning which, Lord have mercy, I forgot at the house with the dog that needs to be brought to the vet for his shots.

Okay, times up. Pencils down. If you've failed to follow me thus far, you are not ready for full time motherhood. Take two aspirin and call Dr. Dobson in the morning. Then practice balancing the checkbook while helping with math homework, clipping little fingernails and putting on your make up. Yes, it can be done. There is always "another thing" that can be done. It just takes practice.

One day you will join the ranks of the amazing wives and mothers who make this country run. I'm not talking about day time television divas who have a staff of fifty doing all the real work behind the scenes, either. I'm talking about real women. I'm talking about the kind of women who could jar their own jelly, bake their own bread, and weave their own toilet paper if they weren't so blessed busy standing in line at the grocery store.

Yours will be a ministry of service, and though your brain may fall out along the way, do not be dismayed. Your children do not believe you have one anyway. They simply require you to sign your name on the dotted line, drive them to the nearest social function, and/or fork over large amounts of cash.

Your life will begin to resemble one long, run-on sentence of "other things" that need to be washed, cooked, driven, paid for, cleaned, polished or put away. Do not attempt to get it all done in one day. If you do this, your family will only demand more of you. Besides, it will make your friends jealous and you'll end up alone in your organization.

Best bet: always leave a few things laying around and forget to pay the phone bill from time to time. This makes everyone think you're overworked. You may even score big and get to have someone come in and help with the chores. If you accomplish this, you are automatically promoted to Queen Mother of Housewives, your feather duster will be gilded, and you'll become wealthy by selling the secret to your success. I will be your first customer.

But for now, I need to get along: my husband is calling for help with the littles, who are having a sleep over with eight of their best friends and have spilled coke on the floor which I'll have to steam clean in the morning after I run to the store for bug spray, but before I go through the car wash to vacuum up yesterday's french fries that are beginning to attract the ants that I have to kill before I can steam clean the carpets in the van.

And another thing...

-- Read more from Dori at her website, www.doriknight.com

This Month in History

10 Years Ago: 4/25/1995
The Hubble Space Telescope is launched.

15 Years Ago: 4/24/1990
(April 24) West and East Germany agree to merge economies and currencies on July 1st.

20 Years Ago: 4/17/1985
The first live telecast of the Easter Parade is filmed.

30 Years Ago: 4/29/1975
U.S. forces pull out of Vietnam.

50 Years Ago: 4/10/1955
Dr. Jonas Salk successfully tests the Polio vaccine.

100 Years Ago: 4/12/1905
The Dufaux brothers of France make the first successful helicopter flight.

140th Anniversary of the End of the Civil War, April 9, 1865. The war lasted nearly four years and took the lives of more than 600,000, making it the deadliest conflict in our nation's history. It ended when Confederate General Robert E. Lee and his troops surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

Thank You!

Thanks to YOU the word is spreading! Thanks to all of my wonderful clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends and neighbors last month!

My business runs on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you! I couldn't do it without you!

A special thanks to all these fine folks who referred me...

**Colleen Bates, Martina Gibbons, Rob Welsh,
Tammy Nowell, Liz Croskery**

Thanks For All The Kind Words!

Mr. Rempel states:

"The 30 year old area rugs my late wife made and you cleaned, look super on my new oak floors, thank you"

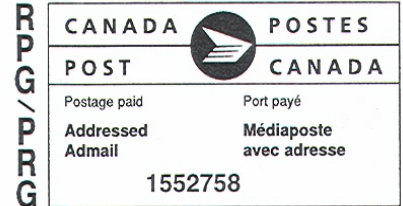
Len Hume
Professional Carpet Systems
300 Welland Ave, St. Catharines,
Ont. L2R 7L9 (905) 646-6655



Your New Issue Has Arrived!

*Look Inside For Some
Amazing Money-Saving
Tips and More!*

Len Hume



RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
PORT DE RETOUR GARANTI

Dogs and Cars

Animal experts say that it's not a good idea to pet a strange dog sitting in a parked car if you're walking by and the window is open. Even a normally lovable pooch can be very territorial while in a car, believing that you're encroaching on its owner's property. Sticking your hand in for a friendly pat is setting yourself up for a bite.

Spilled Antifreeze Can Kill Pets

Be especially careful not to spill antifreeze if you have pets around. Ethylene glycol antifreeze has a sweet taste that dogs and cats love -- but it's lethal. Just a teaspoonful is enough to kill an eight- or nine-pound cat. If you see your animal acting sleepy and uncoordinated and you suspect antifreeze poisoning, take it to the vet immediately.

Medical Lingo

Impress your friends by using these technical medical terms for common ailments:

- Tinnitus -- ringing in the ears
- Taresthesia -- foot asleep
- Bruxism -- grinding teeth
- Epistaxis -- bloody nose
- Myopia -- nearsightedness
- Sternutation -- sneezing
- Singultus -- hiccups

2005©Piranha Marketing Inc.

Who Wants To Win Movie Tickets?

Take my Trivia Challenge and you could win too!

This is one of my favorite parts of the newsletter! Each month I'll give you a new trivia question. And the first 10 right answers will entered into a draw for 3 prizes of **two FREE movie tickets**. Enjoy a night out on me with someone special in your life! Take your best guess, then call me at **(905)646-6655!** Remember, your chances of winning are better than you think!

This month's *Holiday MegaTrivia Question* is...

The eagle, maple leaf, panda and krugerrand are all:

- a) International newspapers
- b) Gold coins
- c) Passenger trains
- d) Volcanoes

March's Answer: D 64

March Winners: Cathy Buchannan, Joe McLaughlin, J McClellan

Pepper Spray Can Lose its Potency

Pepper spray is a non-lethal aerosol spray made from oleoresin capsicum, a pepper derivative. When sprayed in the face of an attacker, it causes temporary blindness and instant inflammation of the nose, throat, and lungs, making it difficult to breathe. These reactions typically last 15 to 30 minutes.

Safety experts say that it's wise to check the expiration date of the spray you keep at home or in your pocketbook. Most sprays lose their effectiveness after two years.