

## Happy New Year!

The baby and the old man have been symbols of the new and old year since the time of the ancient Greeks. Here are a few more symbols and traditions of celebrating the new year across the globe:

- ★ **In Spain and Portugal**, celebrants gather with 12 grapes in their hands. As the clock strikes midnight announcing the New Year, a grape is eaten for each strike of the clock.
- ★ **In Greece**, a special New Year's bread called, Vasilopita, is baked with a lucky coin or charm hidden inside. The bread is served at midnight and whoever gets the charm will have good luck all year.
- ★ **Many Europeans** eat cabbage or other greens to ensure prosperity for the coming year.
- ★ **In Asia**, people eat dumplings, noodles, and rice cakes whose names and appearances symbolize long life, happiness, wealth, and good fortune.
- ★ **Neapolitans** throw pots and pans, and sometimes furniture, out their windows into the streets to celebrate.
- ★ **Puerto Rican** children throw pails of water out windows to rid their houses of evil spirits.
- ★ **The Swiss** let a drop of cream hit the floor on New Year's Day.
- ★ **Romanians** wish their farm animals New Year's wishes, and then listen to see if their animals talk back.



## Turn Failure Into A Positive Force

Failure can be one more step on your road to success, you just have to learn how to turn it around in a positive direction. Here are some creative ways to view failure:

- ✓ Failure can push you harder to succeed.
- ✓ Failure can strengthen your determination to overcome obstacles.
- ✓ Failure can make you braver in the face of opposition.
- ✓ Failure can help you learn what you need to do in order to succeed.
- ✓ Failure can teach you what your limitations are, and your strengths.
- ✓ Failure can encourage you to change your strategy.

## Making The Bed

South African leader Nelson Mandela was known for many things, not the least of which was his humility even after he became famous around the world. Mandela always made his own bed, no matter where he traveled. One time he was visiting Shanghai, where he stayed in a very fancy hotel. Chinese hospitality requires that you allow the maid to clean your room. Doing it yourself can be regarded as an insult.

An aide tried to explain this to Mandela. In response, the leader asked for his maids to be sent up to his room. The aide talked to the hotel manager, and soon Mandela was speaking to the staff. He explained that he always made his own bed wherever he was, and the maids agreed.

“He never really cared about what great big people think of him,” the aide wrote later, “but he did care about what small people thought of him.”

### Do You Have A Question About Car Maintenance That You Want Answered?

We love to hear from all of our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question about anything related to your vehicle, feel free to give us a call at **(614)864-1600**,

**kerri@beanysautoservicecenter.com**  
**& www.beanysautoservicecenter.com.**

### January Events

January 1st	New Year's Day
January 8th	Bubble Bath Day
January 13th	Friday the 13th
January 16th	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday
January 23rd	National Pie Day



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**Steve Reynolds, Ken Arnold,  
Bonnie Custer, Jason Fink  
and Bill Sternberg**

## ***The Five-Second Rule May Not Be So Safe After All***

We've all heard of the five-second rule: If a piece of food drops on the floor, it's safe to eat if you grab it in five seconds or less. That may not be true, though, according to an article on the Medical News Today website.

Researchers at Rutgers University decided to test the rule. They used four types of surfaces: stainless steel, ceramic tile, wood, and carpet. They also chose four kinds of food: watermelon, bread, bread with butter, and gummy candy. Finally, they tested four different contact times: less than a second, five seconds, 30 seconds, and 300 seconds.

They cultivated bacteria similar to salmonella and spread it on the different surfaces, allowed it to dry, then dropped each food on each surface for each designated time period. The results: The bacteria was able to contaminate the food almost instantly in every case, although with different degrees of contamination. Watermelon soaked up the most bacteria because of its moisture; the gummy treats were affected the least due to their hard surface. Nonetheless, the scientists are confident that their findings disprove the five-second rule. So you're probably safer throwing out any food on the floor

## ***Quick Hits***

Want to liven up the conversation at your next party? Try some of these one-liners:

- ❖ "I, for one, like Roman numerals."
- ❖ "Why do they call it 'insomnia' and not 'resisting a rest'?"
- ❖ "I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me."
- ❖ "If a clock is still hungry after one serving, it just goes back four seconds."

## ***Pew-Pew-Pew! Gaming Racks Up High Scores, And Sales***

Americans love their games, especially the electronic variety. The Entertainment Software Association surveyed more than 4,000 U.S. households on their gaming habits. If you've ever spent 12 hours slaughtering virtual zombies, these findings might be of interest:

Sixty-three percent of U.S. households in the survey have at least one frequent gamer. Forty-seven percent of gamers are between 18 and 49 years old. The average male gamer? He's 35 years old; the average female gamer is 44. The typical frequent game purchaser is 38; 60 percent of them are men.

They're spending a lot, too. Gamers spent \$23.5 billion on gaming in 2015, \$16.5 billion on gaming content alone.

## ***Use Limitations To Your Advantage***

Sometimes our limitations and constraints force us to find creative solutions. Here are two examples:

- \* **Django Reinhardt.** This jazz musician had two fingers fused together due to an accident as a child. Undaunted, he learned to play the guitar with his remaining fingers and became internationally famous, so much so that Black Sabbath guitarist Tony Iommi copied Django's technique when he lost the tips of his right hand's middle and ring fingers in an accident at a sheet metal factory.
- \* **Sir Richard Branson.** The British businessman has turned his dyslexia into an advantage. He says it's forced him get better at hiring and delegating, and prevents him from micro-managing employees' tasks because sometimes he literally can't take over.

## ***Punctuation Is Powerful***

Maria Feodorovna, the wife of Tsar Alexander III of Russia, was known for her charitable works. According to one story, she once saved a condemned man from exile in Siberia by moving a single comma in the warrant signed by her husband.

The original document read: "Pardon impossible, to be sent to Siberia." The Empress moved the comma so the warrant read: "Pardon, impossible to be sent to Siberia." The man was saved and released.



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## No Magic

An elderly gentleman was being treated by his doctor. "You're in pretty good shape for a man your age," she said. "But I'm only a doctor, not a magician. I can't make you any younger."

"I know that," the man said. "All I want is to go on getting older."



## Cure For Hiccups

A man walked into a drugstore and asked the pharmacist if he could give him something for the hiccups. The pharmacist promptly reached out and slapped the man's face.

"What did you do that for?" the man asked.

"You don't have the hiccups anymore, do you?" the pharmacist asked.

"No," the man said, "but my wife out in the car still does!"



## Test Your Ethics With These Questions

Decisions about ethics, what's the right thing to do when the situation isn't clear, are the toughest ones you'll face on the job. Ask these questions to find the right path:

- **What are the facts?** Make sure you know what's going on, who will be affected by the decision, and what you don't or can't know.
- **What are your options?** Consider several different solutions, weighing the consequences of each before choosing one.
- **Is it legal?** If the answer is no, find a different solution. Even if the answer is yes, continue investigating. Just because you can do X doesn't mean you should.
- **Can you justify it?** Imagine explaining your decision and the reasons behind it to a stranger. Would you be proud of what you did, or ashamed?



## Thanks For The Kind Words

"Very helpful. They got my vehicle in right away. I will return for any future work on my vehicle as they as it is nice to know you are dealing with an honest company"

Internet reviewer

## How To Get A Raise

Pete walked into his boss's office. "Ms. Smith, I'll be straight with you, I know the economy isn't great, but I have three companies after me, and I would like to respectfully ask for a raise."

After a few minutes of haggling, Ms. Smith finally agreed to a 5 percent boost. When Pete got up to leave, she asked him, "By the way, which three companies are after you?"

"The electric company, the mortgage company, and the phone company."



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## What's Inside?

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- Money Saving Offers -
- & Much More!

## *What's The Answer?*



*How Do You Get Rid Of Hiccups?*

*When Do You Ask For A Raise?*

*How Can We Turn Failure To Success?*

*Who's Making The Bed?*

*The Answers To These And  
Many More Questions Are Inside*

