



Brake Override System Available on Many Cars

A number of car makers use a system that cuts off a car's throttle if the driver hits the gas and the brake at the same time. The Smart Pedal may have prevented fatalities caused by stuck accelerators on Toyota cars.

Chrysler started using the Smart Pedal system in 2003.

General Motors offers it on the Corvette ZR1, Camaro SS and the Malibu.

Hyundai intends to equip all of its vehicles with the feature in 2010. Nissan already offers it on all of its cars. Mercedes-Benz, BMW and others have it on some models.

Ford presently uses the technology on its Fiesta.

Toyota says brake-override systems will be standard equipment on all of its new vehicles in the Toyota and Lexus lines.

Quote of the Month

"Life is like a 10-speed bike. Most of us have gears we never use."

Charles M. Schultz

Vacation? Check Out Free Offers For Kids

Before finalizing your summer travel plans, check with hotels and resorts to see which have the most free offers for children. They may include:

* A free stay. All-inclusive resorts and big hotels are offering freebies like not charging for kids if they sleep in the room with you. Free meals and free activities for them are a plus.

* A free cruise. Crystal Cruises and others let kids age 17 and under share their parents' cabins free of

charge. They offer many family enrichments and activities. Contact them for information at 888-722-0021.

* Rocky Mountain skiing for free. Several resorts offer free programs and free ski days to kids who visit with their parents. Some resorts offer free flights to their location. Visit www.coloradoski.com, www.snow.com or www.parkcityinfo.com.

* Free assistance on bike trips. Renting bicycles is a great way to see the countryside, but what will

you do if someone in your party has a flat tire or a two-wheel fender bender?

No worries. There is no-charge assistance available at more than 200 bike rental agencies in the United States and Canada. Call 847-441-4292, or visit www.rentabikenow.com to see where they are.



Great Finds at Flea Markets and Yard Sales

At Sotheby's, the famous auction house, appraisers say about 5 percent of letters they get contain photos of paintings or furniture worth \$10,000 or more found at flea markets and yard sales.

What to look for in furniture:

* The item should impress you and stand out from other items at the sale.



Look for great workmanship on the legs, arms, handles and doors.

* Imperfections: Don't worry about chairs that are missing upholstery. Much of the value of great furniture is in the frame.

What to look for in paintings:

* Small tears are OK unless they run through the face on a portrait.

* Check the back for labels and stamps from a museum or gallery.

* Don't believe the signature. All forgeries have

a famous signature.

* Content. Paintings of women and still lifes of fruit or flowers, that have an intrinsic decorative value, recoup the purchase price better than hobbyist paintings of hunters, for example.

Collectables:

* Ask why the item is being sold, and where it came from to help establish authenticity.

* Smaller pieces are more valuable. Whether they are models of trains or antique furniture.

How Much Garden Can You Handle This Summer?

Absolute beginners can take a tip from Cornell University's Department of Horticulture. New gardeners can skip the investment in tools, fencing, raised gardens and the like by starting this way:

Dig up a 4-foot square in your lawn and sprinkle lettuce seeds on it.

No fertilizer is needed because lettuce will grow any place grass grows.

You won't have to pull weeds, because if you sprinkle enough seeds,



weeds won't have a place to grow.

Your 4 x 4 garden will fill the family's salad bowl for about six weeks. The lettuce will be fresh and more nutritious than what you buy in the supermarket.

In May, gardeners are eager to get started on the real thing. They want fresh air, exercise and the cash savings that come from growing their own produce.

But how much can they save?

According to Burpee Seed company, a pack of green bean seeds will produce a \$75 crop. The lowly potato will give back at least \$5 for every \$1 in seeds that you sow.

Six tomato plants can produce 12 to 15 tomatoes a

day at their peak, enough for eating, cooking, and freezing for winter stews or spaghetti sauce. Six pepper plants will do almost the same thing.

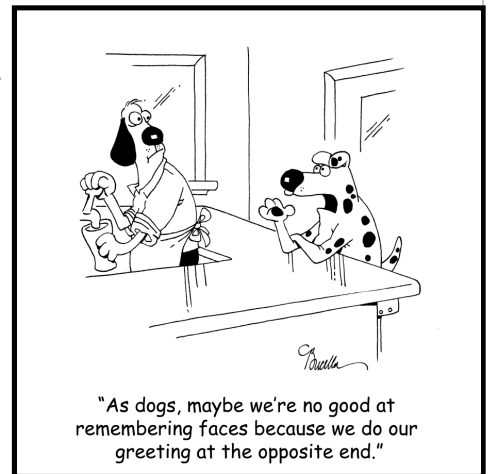
If you have the space, a few rows of sweet corn will produce more than you can use, but it's good eatin' when you cut the corn from the cob, bring it to a boil and freeze it for the winter.

Amateurs are excited about getting started. They love to see their new sprouts and developing vegetables. Unfortunately, when the hot summer sun comes their way, the faint of heart and weak of

muscle may forget the whole thing and head for their air conditioned sun rooms.

The moral of this story: Don't plant more garden than you can maintain.

For more tips go to: www.backyardgardener.com



"As dogs, maybe we're no good at remembering faces because we do our greeting at the opposite end."

7 Useful Ways to Comfort a Bereaved Person

When you have a friend or co-worker who has lost a loved one, you might be at a loss about what you should do. Here is some advice from grief counselors.

* The classic "I'm sorry for your loss" works in all cases and may provide an opening for the bereaved to tell you how they feel.

* Allow them to talk about their grief. Listen without interrupting.

* Don't say you understand their pain or give examples in your own life. Don't tell them they are lucky for some reason or that they will soon feel better. Don't give advice

on how they should proceed with their lives.

* Understand the five stages of grief: denial (this can't be happening), anger (how could he leave me), bargaining (trying to cope with the loss), depression (this stage lasts the longest and must be dealt with carefully) and acceptance.

It's not unusual for a person who is grieving to be moody. Understand that it's probably not your fault.

* Don't ask what you can do. If you can do something, such as make food, do it. If you want to do

something such as help clean or organize, ask what time you can help. If you see something that needs doing, offer to do it.

* Be natural, but do not joke as you might under other circumstances.

* Include them.



Coming Security Device Could Help Defy PC Hackers

A Herndon, Va., startup has developed a security system they say is hackproof. Called InZero, the small device works on an entirely different principle from other security systems.

In development since 2002, it has been tested by the military's Defense Advanced Research Products agency as well as several companies that specialize in finding cracks in computer security. No one has broken it.



From its inception, InZero was designed to act like a second computer (in geek speak, a "sandbox") sitting between a vulnerable PC and the Internet.

Using the system when you are on the Web, it feels like you are using your own machine. But you are actually in InZero's sandbox. You can send email and go anywhere on the

Internet, even to sites known to harbor hackers and viruses.

The barrier between the sandbox and the computer prevents anything bad from getting to your machine. That's because the operating system and memory in InZero's sandbox are readers only. They can't be changed by a virus, and hackers can't commandeer the device.

CEO Louis Hughes says it's like a patient with an unknown disease who is quarantined behind a glass wall. "Our device is the equivalent of that glass wall."

The second-device idea has been used before to set up a buffer computer to interact with the Internet. But when the machine gets infected, the user has to wipe it clean and reinstall the software.

What's different about InZero's approach is that it offers the protection

without having to wipe it down if it gets infected.

One investor in the Ukraine ran a hacker contest. He offered a Harley-Davidson motorcycle to anyone able to penetrate the system. No one did.

Before InZero can be sold in the United States, the company has to prove to the government that its engineers, many of whom are in Kiev, haven't built in a back door for spies.

InZero hopes to market devices for PCs, servers and entire networks with prices beginning in the low hundreds.



Learn How To Avoid The Seven Threats To A Beautiful Smile

If you were with us for the last two issues, you'll recall **Threat #1** to your dental health was **Neglect**, either by you or your dentist, and **Threat #2 was Under-treatment**.

This month we're discussing **Threat #3, Over-treatment**.

How does a dentist over-treat a patient? By not getting clear on exactly what the patient wants.

For example, let's say a patient walks into the dentist's office and tells her, "I want a whiter, brighter, pretty smile."

A dentist's first task would be to carefully evaluate the current health of the patient's teeth, observing the position of each tooth, look, color, shape and overall condition.

Once those steps are complete, the dentist would likely move on to discussing possible treatments with the patient including selectively straightening specific teeth and then bleaching all of them.

Now, that could be a relatively simple thing to do. It would not require a lot of dental care and could range from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 from start to finish.

Over-treatment rears its ugly head when the dentist doesn't get clear on the fact that this is ALL the patient REALLY wants.

Instead they assume the patient is looking for, or should be looking for, "the perfect smile."

Over-treatment is not nearly as risky to your health as the others we'll cover,

but it does put the strong-arm on your wallet.

Moral of the story? Get clear on what you want then make sure your dentist is reading from the same page.

If you have more questions about this topic and/or would like to take advantage of our FREE No-Obligation Evaluation, just **call 858-454-3221**.

And don't forget to tune in next month for the most common dental threat of all!



Dr. Briscoe

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TO:

Did You Know...

Have you ever been face to face with someone whose breath smelled like a locker room – or worse? I'm not talking about coffee or onion breath. I mean someone you could smell from across the room. The good news is that 85% of the time the cause of malodor is dental related, i.e. gum disease, leaky fillings or crowns, decay. It can be resolved with some effort and a trip to the dentist. I know none of you have bad breath, but if anyone you are acquainted with does, give them our phone number.

We Now Offer Local Anesthetic Reversal!

Are you bothered by that lingering numbness that causes difficulty speaking, smiling, eating, drinking, and can give you a perceived sense of altered appearance?

Now numbness can be eliminated quickly and easily!

A painless administration of OraVerse can result in normal sensation twice as fast as before. Some patients have reported a return of sensation as quickly as 15-30 minutes.

OraVerse is the first and only local anesthetic reversal agent on the market. Officially launched earlier this year by the San Diego based company Novalar Pharmaceuticals, OraVerse has an excellent safety profile and there are no contraindications and no known drug interactions in clinical trials involving over 700 patients.

OraVerse is indicated for use in adults and children 6 years of age or older. For more information visit us or call 858-454-3221.

On The Personal Side...

We travelled to the western side of Oahu, Hawaii for Easter and the following week – spring break. My brother and his daughter, Jessica, joined us for the week (They live in San Clemente). It was their first visit to Hawaii and we took them to Hale'iwa on the North Shore and the Dole Plantation. We visited Waikiki and Diamond Head, and went out sailing and snorkeling. Matthew has kept busy with his swim team at school, and he joined me for Rotorians At Work Day on the 24th – our La Jolla Sunrise Rotary spent the day helping in the agriculture area of San Pascal Academy. It truly was great fun and rewarding to help out. Check out the April video at <http://www.lajolladental.com/AprilVideo.aspx>

Sincerely,
Charles Briscoe