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The Cracked Pot

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side?"

"That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them."

"For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Each of us possesses a unique beauty that affects our surroundings. I want to thank you for making my life a little brighter today!



What a girl wants...what a girl needs...what a girl knows...

Rising to the Occasion

When used in a recipe, baking soda really rises to the occasion. Put it to use in other rooms of the house, too:

- To soothe the itch from Poison Ivy, Sumac, Chickenpox and Measles, mix 1/2 cup in a warm bath and soak the entire body.
- Use as a dry cleaner on sinks, bath tubs and toilets. It's great on chrome, too, and you don't have to worry about scratches.
- Mix 1-2 teaspoons with warm water and soak hairbrushes and combs once a month to remove oily residue. Rinse and air dry.
- To reduce gas from digestion, add a sprinkle to the water when you soak dried beans.
- Make a paste with baking soda and a small amount of water. Use it to clean vehicle battery terminals to keep them free from corrosion. Wipe clean with cloth.



One of a Kind

With the holidays rapidly approaching, have you started thinking about your gift list? Interested in giving a unique gift this year? Start watching for local craft fairs to get shopping done early. Begin now planning the gifts you will make. Need ideas? Try hand stamped tile coaster sets, a handmade assortment of cards, picture frame, photo book or personally customized gift baskets.



Scentsational!

We all love a fresh smelling home. Add these creative ideas to your odor-busting arsenal:

- Simmer cinnamon sticks and cloves with apple slices or orange peels in water.
- Use dried or fresh eucalyptus in floral arrangements.
- Add sachets of rosemary or lavender to drawers and closets.
- Spray your favorite perfume on an unlit light bulb. When in use, the warmth of the bulb will spread the scent and make the room smell great.

Indulge your senses with the fragrances BeautiControl has to offer. Don't forget about him—there's a men's line, too!



Tasty Tidbit

How can you get antioxidants naturally in your diet? According to a recent study, the top ten sources are dried small red beans, wild blueberries, dried red kidney beans, pinto beans, cultivated blueberries, cranberries, cooked artichoke hearts, blackberries, prunes and raspberries.

For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness.

~Author Unknown

Plan Ahead

Remodeling? Get your home improvement off to the right start with these simple steps:

- 1) Draw your dream. Even a simple sketch will be helpful.
- 2) Learn from others. Confer with friends, family members and use the internet to get different perspectives.
- 3) Think ahead. How will this affect the value of your home and the changing needs of your household for years to come?
- 4) Count your money. Find out how much you have to spend and allow for cost overruns.
- 5) Choose your team. If you're not doing it all yourself, be sure you're working with qualified professionals that share your vision.
- 6) Negotiate a contract. This keeps everyone on the same page.
- 7) Get permission. Research permits that will be necessary for the type of remodel you are planning.
- 8) Plan for problems. The bigger the project, the more potential for problems.





Beauty Buzz

Ready... SET... GO!

New lower priced sets.
Buy the set and save.



Take advantage of these new reduced set prices! Check my website for the complete selection and for my WEEKLY specials!.



Skinlogics Sensitive® Set

The products include Gentle Cleansing Lotion, Rinse & Restore Tonic, Protective Services Calming Fluid and Hydra-Calm Moisturizer. All are pH balanced, fragrance free, oil free, dye free, gluten free, paraben free and non comedogenic.



Men's Skin Strategies® Set

Men's Skin Strategies Set includes: Scrubbing Gel Cleanser, Double Duty Moisturizer, Toning Eye Gel, All Over Wash for Hair and Body, Warming Shave Cream and Soothing Aftershave Balm.



Herbal Serenity® Set

Relax your mind and condition your skin with chamomile, vanilla, rosemary, jasmine and melon botanicals. Set includes Body Oil, Body Gel, Body Scrub, Body Creme and Foot Creme.

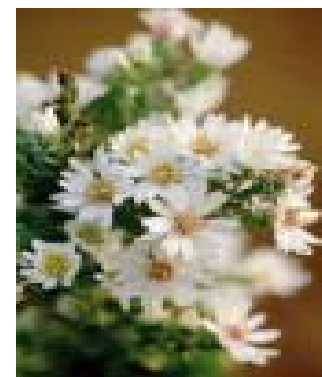


Luxuries of the Sea® Set

Set includes one of each Skin Balm with Nutrispheres, Ocean Bath, Moisture Wrap Body Conditioner, and Fango Seaweed Scrub/Mask

All seasons are
beautiful for the
person who
carries happiness
within.

~ Horace Friess



September

REASONS TO CELEBRATE!!

- 1 Labor Day/ Labour Day (U.S. & Canada)
- 2 Ramadan Begins
- 3 Skyscraper Day
- 6 Read a Book Day
- 7 Grandparents' Day
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 9 Teddy Bear Day
- 10 Swap Ideas Day
- 12 Chocolate Milk Shake Day
- 13 Positive Thinking Day
- 16 Working Parents' Day
- 17 International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 20 Oktoberfest Begins
- 21 Miniature Golf Day
- 22 Business Woman's Day
- 26 Johnny Appleseed Day (United States)
- 28 Ask a Stupid Question Day



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NEW specials!**

Super

September!

Book a spa with me this month and get one item of your choice at 50% off!

Relax Your Mind. Rejuvenate Your Skin. Indulge Your Senses.

Treat your friends and family to an exclusive bc spa. They'll love an hour of indulging spa relaxation and spa quality treatments for their face and body.

You'll earn fabulous rewards:

- Receive a 40% savings on our spa-quality skin care treatment when you schedule your bc spa with friends and family today!
- Enjoy an exclusive soothing spa neckwrap during your bc spa. It's yours to keep— free!
- Earn credit for FREE BeautiControl products.

Schedule your bc spa today. You'll be glad you did.



Simple Chef!

Lasagna-Style Baked Ziti

Ingredients

- 1 pound ziti, cooked according to package instructions
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 large yellow onion, diced
 - 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
 - 1 pound lean ground beef
 - 3 cloves garlic, minced
 - 1/2 cup chopped fresh oregano (optional)
 - 1 26-ounce jar pasta sauce
 - 1/2 cup (2 ounces) grated Parmesan
 - 1 15-ounce container ricotta
 - 1 10-ounce box frozen spinach, thawed and squeezed
 - 1 cup grated mozzarella
- In a large pot, over medium-low heat, heat the oil. Add the onion, salt, and pepper. Cover and cook until the onion is softened. Add beef, increase heat and cook until no trace of pink remains. Drain any remaining liquid.
 - Add the garlic and oregano and cook for 2 minutes. Add the pasta sauce and heat for 3 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in cooked pasta. Add the Parmesan, ricotta and spinach and toss.
 - Spread into a 9-by-13-inch baking dish and sprinkle with the mozzarella. Bake at 400° F until the mozzarella melts.



Money Magic

Tips to Reduce Household Bills

With the holidays quickly approaching, start saving money now! With these quick and easy steps, you can cut back on household bills.

- Don't throw out flat soft drinks: Pour them into ice cube trays and freeze. Use them to chill your next soda.
- Run the dishwasher only when it's completely full.
- Clean the dryer lint trap after every use.
- Grow your own vegetables. If you're tight on space, try having an herb garden or a few veggies in pots.
- Try to pay for purchases up front, rather than with credit. Even the "interest free" loans often have hidden charges built in, so avoid them when possible.
- Make sure your home is well insulated. This may require a small investment to add more insulation, but you'll save more on your heating and cooling bills.
- Make a grocery list. This will help you to plan ahead and reduce the number of trips you make per week to the store.