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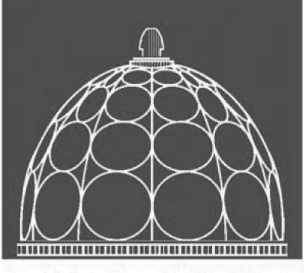
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Cut out chapter 8 and paste it into your workbook

The famous Woody and Chloe are back with "We're all EARS"



Chapter 8

"That's not blood, sweetheart," Mom replied. "That's marinara sauce. You and Chloe were upstairs clogging and you fell through the ceiling. You landed on the table, splashing up all the pizza and marinara sauce. Somewhere along the way, all four of your, uh, my shoes, fell off your paws. One shoe broke a dinner plate, another landed in the middle of a peach pie, and two of them are sticking out of the potted plant," Mom said as Dad examined me.

Not only did I ruin a plate, a potted plant and a peach pie, I'd managed

to destroy the entire upstairs flooring.

"Here Woody," Chloe said sweetly as she applied a carrot poultice to a bump on my head.

"Thankfully," Dad said as he gently lifted me out of the box, "with the exception of this little goose egg, you came out unscathed, and that's the best news of all."

"I'm sorry. I'll save up and pay for the damages," I said, knowing it would take years to replace the floor - and probably longer to replace four pairs of high heels!

"It was an accident," Dad reassured me as Mom wiped mari-

nara sauce from my hair.

"Where's Mr. B.?" I asked. Before anyone could answer, in walked Mr. B. carrying a beautiful wicker basket filled to the brim with various items and an unusual looking broom.

"Land sakes you gave us a scare," Mr. B. said as he began unloading the basket. "I ran home to get supplies so I could help clean. My Kentucky handmade broom will get the job done. It was made by my friend who's a broom squire."

"A what?" I asked.

"A broom squire," Mr. B. repeated. "That's someone who makes brooms by hand."

"Couldn't he see the handle is crooked?" I asked.

"It's made from a tree limb," Mr. B. explained. "Have you ever seen a perfectly straight limb? The bristles are made from a sorghum type of crop called broomcorn."

"Why would you want to make a broom when you could buy one at the store?" I asked.

"Not everybody lived near a store," Mr. B. said. "And those who did may not have had the money to buy a broom. Most folks had to make their own basics. If someone needed soap, candles, brooms, mops or even toys, they made them. When they made something, they wanted it to be functional and beautiful. That's what you call folk art. Fine art is pretty, but folk art is beautiful and useful. I wouldn't trade this for a store-bought broom for all the money in the world," Mr. B. said as he swept up the dust from the mess I'd made.

"Mr. B.," I asked, "why do you have a basket of corn shucks?"

"Glory be, you're full

of questions! Ever'body in Appalachia has a basket. We use baskets for gathering eggs, carrying in vegetables from the garden, keeping a lady's knitting, and a host of other purposes. Corn shucks are a major staple in Appalachia. I bet you folks have never gone to a good ol' fashioned corn shuckin' have you?"

"I've been to several corn shuckin' parties," Dad said with a grin.

"Tell us about it, Dad!"

"When farmers were ready to shuck their corn, they'd tell their neighbors. People from the community would come and help the farmers shuck corn, and of course when those helpers needed their corn shucked that farmer would return the favor," Dad explained. "Everyone would laugh and talk, and when we finished we would sit down to a feast."

"Did you ever find a red ear of corn?" Mr. B. asked Dad.

"A red ear of corn?" Mom repeated.

Dad sighed and said, "The unmarried guys would have a contest.

The first one to shuck a red ear of corn could choose one girl to kiss."

"Did you ever find a red ear of corn?" Mom asked.

"Why do you have these shucks?" Dad asked quickly, trying to change the subject.

"I use corn shucks for everything - making dolls, hats and even mops. I brought these shucks to mop up the mess."

I picked up several of the corn shucks and I put some to the side of my head and some to the side of Chloe's head and said, "Mom, Dad, look! We're all ears! Get it? Ears? Ears of corn, our ears ..."

"Seriously, Woody," Chloe said, "that joke is so corny!"

We all laughed so hard we could hardly breathe.

"Oh, I almost forgot!" Mr. B. said after he stopped laughing. "The Craftiest Kentuckian competition is quickly approaching, and I have a good-luck present for you."

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Board has special called meeting

The Adair County Board of Education is taking steps to improve the wireless technology for the district.

The school system's current technology has burned out or become outdated and been unable to maintain signals and adequately handle all of the traffic. Allen Sparr, a retired Kentucky Commonwealth Office of

Technology employee, has been advising board members and helped the district fix some faulty equipment and figure out what needs to be replaced.

Steve Turner, the acting technology coordinator, said that the current core router can handle about 1,500 clients at a time, while the whole district uses

around 1,700 at any given time. Turner indicated that future plans include putting routers on busses and at the Jim Blair Center, which will also have to run through the core router.

The project to update the system will take place in phases, Turner said.

The first step, which was approved by the board at a

special call meeting on Tuesday, is to purchase a new state-approved core router to handle more traffic. According to Turner, the new core router will be able to handle about 6,000 clients for each school, which is 24,000 overall. Students and staff will also be able to bring their own devices.

At the meeting, the board also approved setting a fund for matching KETS technology and using Sparr's services as a consultant in installing and repairing technology.

Alan Reed, the school superintendent, said the goal is for Sparr to provide further training for Turner and Jason Rector, another tech-

nician, to be the ones solely reliable for the installation and upkeep of the network rather than relying on an outside company. Reed said that he and Judy Evans, the state engineer, have been unimpressed with the performance of the company they were using.

By James D. McIntosh Jr. james@adairvoice.com

Oak Ridge Boys to perform at Campbellsville University

Campbellsville University will be rocking away once again with The Oak Ridge Boys' "Christmas Night Out" on Monday, Nov. 24 at 8 p.m. EST in Ransdell Chapel, 401 N. Hoskins Ave., Campbellsville.

Known for their hits such as "Elvira," "Bobbie Sue" and "American Made," The Oak Ridge Boys group is one of the biggest names in country music.

The group has scored 12 gold and three platinum albums, one double platinum album, plus one double platinum single, and had more than a dozen national number one singles and over 30 Top Ten hits.

Bass singer Richard Sterban said, "I think our stage

show is one of the reasons for our continuity. We're still having fun doing this. We love what we do. Getting on stage and bringing our music to people is still what we live for."

Originally "The Oak Ridge Quartet," the band dates back to the 1940s when they began making a name for themselves in the gospel music industry. After some purists thought their music to be too edgy, The Oak Ridge Boys transitioned to country music to find even more success.

This will be the band's second performance at Campbellsville University, with the group performing last year as part of their

40th Anniversary Tour.

General admission tickets are \$60, and VIP tickets are available for \$125. The VIP tickets include admission to the show along with a meet and greet with the band. A Meet and Greet will be held at 7 p.m.

Proceeds from the concert will go to CU's Scholarship Fund to benefit students' education at CU.

The Oak Ridge Boys' official website is <http://oakridgeboys.com>.

For tickets and more information call the Office of Development at (270) 789-5211 or 1-800-264-6014 ext. 5211.

By Candice Boone, students news writer

