

LINCOLN

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Lagniappe

THE POWER OF INTEGRITY

SLU students will begin enjoying the new student center in October 2014.



Lincoln Builders Goes Back To College

Construction is underway on the \$32.5 million expansion and renovation of the Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU) Student Union building at the Hammond campus. Lincoln Builders of Baton Rouge was selected as contractor for the project via a two-step process conducted by Southeastern Louisiana University's affiliate, University Facilities, Inc.

The three-phase project includes construction of a new 87,163-square-foot addition to house multiple new dining operations on three floors, as well as renovation of the existing 89,000-square-foot War Memorial Student Union, which was

built in 1964, and the Student Union Annex, built in 1981.

The design merges the three different additions into a single, unified landmark on the campus, with a vibrant translucent exterior that welcomes visitors and serves as the "front door" to the university. In addition to multiple dining options, the new building will also include added retail, a bookstore, and other student lounging and meeting areas.

Holly & Smith Architects of Hammond is the architect of record.

Our New Year's Message...

The new year is traditionally a time of reflection, when we look back at the past and with promise to the future. The last several years have presented enormous challenges to us—personally, as families, as businesses and as a nation. We are blessed to be prospering during the continuing economic storm, and with the recent election now over, let's hope our leaders can come together to find long-term solutions to critical issues.

As we look ahead, it's a good time to appreciate our blessings. At Lincoln Builders, we are thankful for our dedicated, hardworking staff, outstanding building team partners, supportive corporate friends and, of course, our loyal clients, who are the heart and soul of our company.

All of us at Lincoln Builders hope you and yours had a wonderful holiday season and ask that you, too, take a moment to count your own blessings and try to assist those in need of help. We wish you a new year filled with happiness, hope and great opportunity!





“E” is the most commonly used vowel in English. Which one is second?

Trivial Knowledge

- 1) What were the given names of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid?
 - a) Robert and Harry
 - b) Paul and Fred
 - c) Billy and Adam
 - d) Ignatius and Lee
- 2) “E” is the most commonly used vowel in English. Which one is second?
 - a) A
 - b) I
 - c) O
 - d) U
- 3) From a geological perspective, which division of time is shortest?
 - a) age
 - b) era
 - c) epoch
 - d) period
- 4) According to the traditional carol, on which day of Christmas did my true love give the recipient “maids a-milking”?
 - a) eleventh
 - b) eighth
 - c) seventh
 - d) fourth
- 5) Which European nation is currently home to the most deployed U.S. troops?
 - a) United Kingdom
 - b) Spain
 - c) Italy
 - d) Germany

—from *mental_floss*

Answers: 1) a (Robert LeRoy Parker and Harry Alonzo Longabaugh just didn't have the same ring.) 2) a 3) a (an age is part of an epoch, which is part of a period, which is part of an era.) 4) b 5) d (More than 50,000 of the 80,000 troops in Europe are stationed in Germany.)

Don't Worry, Be Happy

Want to live a good long time? Eating right and getting lots of exercise are essential, but so is the right attitude. At least that's what one study suggests. Researchers at the Institute for Aging Research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine questioned 243 people age 100 or older. They found that centenarians tend to share certain personality traits (in addition to other factors, like genetics). In general, these long-lived people are:

- Outgoing
- Positive-minded about other people
- Full of laughter
- Open with their emotions
- Conscientious and disciplined
- Unlikely to obsess about anxieties or guilt

The scientists point out that these characteristics don't necessarily represent a cause and effect relationship. They did notice, however, that in many cases the personality traits they observed weren't necessarily lifelong tendencies, but behaviors their subjects learned as they grew older.

Focusing on the good and not worrying about the negatives may have a positive impact on overall life expectancy.

Forget Shuffleboard: Many Retirees Would Keep Working

Some people dream of never working again once they reach retirement. Others—more than you might think—are happy to keep on working. A study by Prudential has found that 40% of people planning to retire this year would be happy to keep working past their 65th birthday if given the opportunity. That figure represents 48% of men and 32% of women.

Money isn't the main factor, either. The primary motivation for 68% of this year's retirees is the desire to remain physically and mentally active, although 39% just don't like the prospect of sitting at home, and 54% say they simply enjoy working.

About 10% would consider starting their own businesses once they retire, and 5% are interested in volunteering. But most don't want to put in the same hours: Only 13% would be willing to work full-time, and 49% would prefer a part-time job after age 65.



Lincoln's Unusual Strategy

As a lawyer, Abraham Lincoln had a reputation for discouraging litigation that could be avoided through other means. One day, though, a client came to his office in an impassioned state, demanding that Lincoln bring suit against a man who owed him \$2.50, despite the fact that the fellow was already impoverished.

The client wanted to sue his adversary for the \$2.50. Lincoln tried to reason with the man, but he refused to back down. So Lincoln asked for \$10 in legal fees up front to begin the lawsuit.

Lincoln then hunted down the debtor and gave him half his fee. The debtor used the money to pay off the man who brought the lawsuit against him. Lincoln kept the other half.

And so the client who brought the suit was satisfied that justice had been done, the debtor got out of trouble, and Lincoln probably had a good laugh about it all.

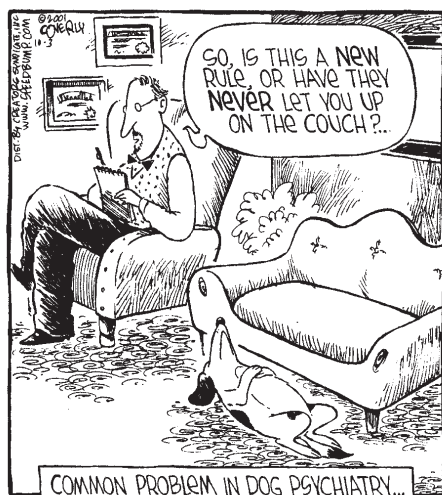
Solving Problems Creatively

Everyday problems usually respond to tried-and-true solutions. But sometimes you need to go beyond the obvious. Try these tactics when you need to take a more creative approach to problem-solving:

- **Do some extra research.** Don't assume you have all the facts you need. Before trying to solve the problem, dig deep into the background and the issues surrounding it. You may uncover something new that will lead to a fresh approach when nothing else has worked.
- **Set up the problem correctly.** In your rush to find a solution, you might treat the symptoms and not the underlying cause. Seek opinions and perspectives from other people, and keep an open mind about what's really going on.
- **Consider the impact.** Who else does the problem affect? You may gain valuable insight by including others in your analysis and solution. You'll also build support for your solution by drawing in your co-workers and other interested parties to help you implement it.
- **Try a lot of solutions.** Instead of zeroing in on one approach and hoping it works, experiment with as many different options as you can. Keep track of what you're doing so you can identify what worked or combine promising aspects of different attempts.

SPEED BUMP

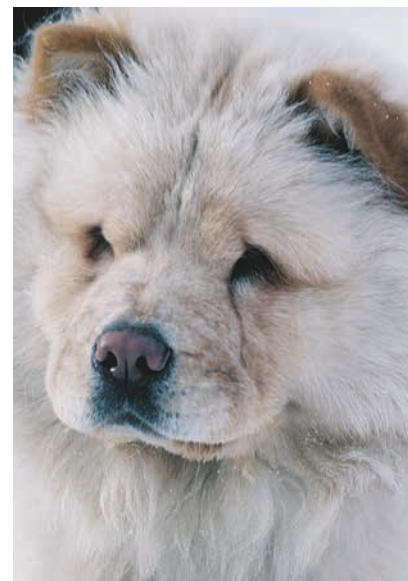
Dave Coverly



Caring For Your Aging Pet

A beloved pet can be like a member of the family. And just as Grandpa may need a little extra help as he ages, your pets will require more care and support as they grow older. Give your pets the love they need in their golden years by paying attention to these issues:

- **Vet visits.** When your pet hits middle age (7-10 years, depending on their size), six-month checkups are a good idea. Your veterinarian will be better able to alert you to potential health problems and give you pertinent advice.
- **Incontinence.** Older pets will need to “eliminate” more frequently. More litter boxes and “pee pads” will help—put one in every room, and keep them clean. Check with your vet to rule out medical problems.
- **Weight.** Keep pets on a healthy diet, and as their activity level declines, cut back on their calorie intake. Pay attention to any unexpected weight gain or loss, and be on the lookout for any loss of appetite.
- **Vision/hearing.** Dogs and cats may no longer be able to see or hear as well as they age, and may not respond to verbal or visual commands. Provide adequate light and adjust your cues—get their attention with a flashlight instead of a command, for instance.
- **Environment.** Make sure pets have a safe, comfortable place to sleep that they can find and get into easily. If you have small children, remind them that they need to be more gentle and quiet with older pets than they were with puppies and kittens.



Shift Your Company's Gears By Exploring These Questions

From time to time, everyone needs to jump-start his or her thinking. In business, that's even more vital. Learn to open the minds around you to all the possibilities and move your organization forward in a new direction. Start by asking these key questions:

- Are we making the right things?
- Are we making the right things in the most effective ways?
- Are we minimizing our costs?
- Are the things we make as well or better than what our best competitor makes?
- Are we serving the widest possible market?
- Do we have a unique selling proposition—a reason for someone to buy from us rather than from someone else?

How We Connect Online

Social networking brings us all together online, but whether that's a good thing or not is still up for grabs. From a survey by the social networking site *Badoo*, consider these findings about our new connected lives:

- People who socialize more online than in person: 39%
- People who prefer communicating online or via text to talking face-to-face or on the phone: 19%
- People who have shared bad news (death, divorce, etc.) through their social networks: 39%
- People who have shared good news (marriage, pregnancy, etc.): 62%
- People who accept friend requests from folks they aren't very interested in (or whom they don't especially like): 24%.

The Journey Place: Where A Walk With God Begins

The ribbon has been cut and the children have come into The Journey Place children's wing at Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, Louisiana. Working along with Michael L. Walpole, Architect, Lincoln Builders of Ruston recently completed this educational addition for Temple Baptist's vibrant, growing congregation.

The new children's education wing provides 17 classrooms for preschool babies through five-year-olds on the first floor, where a high-tech, user-friendly security and check-in system offers a secure environment for the little ones.

The second floor houses the children's ministry for first through sixth graders and has 12 classrooms and a multipurpose room with a kitchen for large gatherings. Children's Sunday school, music and missions, and all other children's ministry activities will take place within a secure environment on this floor.

From the "Tiny Trekkers" in the preschool section to the "Summit Kids" in the children's area, Temple Baptist Church wants The Journey Place to be "where a walk with God begins."



In the atrium on the first floor, a multi-level indoor play structure offers climbing areas, a slide, and other ADA-accessible adventurous features, as well as a soft-play area for the preschoolers.



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