

Car Talk

Car Alarm Likely Culprit Of Late-Night Beeping

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk:

If you could help us figure this out, we'd appreciate it sooooo much. During the summer, we love to sleep with the windows open for fresh air (in the house, not in the car). But every night, we are disturbed by a very rapid horn at a high pitch going "beep beep beep beep beep" at least six times (my husband hears seven beeps) in the space of 1 second. It scares us both awake every time. We live in a dense, otherwise quiet neighborhood with small lots, so there are lots of potential culprits' vehicles parked around our home. Do you know of a vehicle security system or other weird thing that could be malfunctioning? We're pretty sure it is an involuntary thing on this car, and not triggered by the owner's key fob, because no cars drive off and no doors are slammed shut afterward. Any ideas? We'd love to chat with this beeping-car person. Thanks a bunch.

—Cheryl

I think it's an alarm system that's being armed by the driver's key fob, Cheryl.

One of your neighbors gets home very late, and gets out and closes his



Ray
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or the alarm chirp when activated. They often can be programmed to do nothing, or to just flash the parking lights to let the owner know the car is locked and alarmed.

So you're going to have to do some detective work and figure out who the culprit is, so you can ask him to reprogram his alarm!

I'd employ some modern technology. You want to get a webcam; they're cheap these days. People use them to spy on their dogs while they're at work now, so they can come home and say: "I know you got into the garbage, Huey. I saw you on the webcam." As if the tipped-over garbage can and the week's worth of garbage strewn all over the

car door, which you sleep through. Then he uses his key fob to lock the door, which triggers the "alarm is armed" sound, which wakes you out of your dream about Matthew McConaughey.

Fortunately, most factory-installed alarms can be programmed to not sound the horn

Oriental rug isn't enough of a clue.

Anyway, I think you should set up this webcam on your front porch or in a street-facing window. Point it in one direction one night, and in the other direction the next night. See what you catch. Most alarm systems do also flash the car's lights when they engaged, so you should be able to see it.

Then you need to leave a note on the car and hope the owner is a humanitarian.

Hey, who knows, maybe he's trying to sneak home after carousing late at night without waking up his wife, and he'll be thrilled to know he can silence the car, too?

Don't get stuck with a lemon. Be an informed shopper. Read Click and Clack's guide "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Car Talk/Used Car, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

Got a question about cars? Write to Car Talk in care of this newspaper, or email by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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AND DOUG BERMAN

Top Toastmaster



COURTESY PHOTO

Kary Beltz, Yankton, recently received her Toastmasters International Competent Communicator certificate for giving speeches intended to inform, demonstrate, and use various media equipment. Beltz joins other professionals within the community who wanted to learn how to speak without the usual "ers, ahs and ums" often heard by professors, preachers and business professionals when they are speaking impromptu or conducting meetings. When Beltz wanted to improve her speaking ability, she joined Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Toastmasters Club 6217. She is learning at her own pace through the organization founded by Ralph Smedley. Beltz, a member since 2010, said she enjoys the meetings and learns a lot from other members. Speaking on a regular schedule, as well as continued use of various equipment, keeps members, like Beltz, in practice and thus they can easily prepare for those unexpected speaking engagements.

MENUS

Menus listed below are for the week of September 21-25, 2015. Menus are subject to change without notice. All meals are served with milk.

YANKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday: Popcorn Chicken
Tuesday: Hotdog
Wednesday: Turkey Tenders
Thursday: Tostito Scoops
Friday: Italian Dunker

YANKTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday: Popcorn Chicken
Tuesday: Cheeseburger
Wednesday: Chicken Fajita
Thursday: Chili
Friday: Roast Turkey

YHS R LINE MENU

Monday: Turkey Tenders
Tuesday: Shrimp Poppers
Wednesday: Chicken Noodle Soup
Thursday: Kung Pau Beef
Friday: Taco Bites

YHS W LINE MENU

Monday: Thai Chicken
Tuesday: Scalloped Potatoes
Wednesday: Breakfast Bar
Thursday: Broccoli Soup
Friday: Turkey & Cheese Flat Bread

YHS B LINE MENU

Monday: Footlong
Tuesday: Chicken Littles
Wednesday: Pepperoni Pizza
Thursday: Soft Shelled Taco
Friday: Hamburger

SACRED HEART SCHOOLS

Monday: Pulled Pork Sandwich
Tuesday: Tator Tot Casserole
Wednesday: Scrambled Eggs
Thursday: Teriyaki Chicken
Friday: Ham & Cheese Sandwich

THE CENTER/ YANKTON

Monday: Lasagna
Tuesday: Cheeseburger Pie
Wednesday: Pork Cutlets
Thursday: Swiss Steak
Friday: Ham Loaf

TABOR SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

Monday: N/A
Tuesday: Beef Tips
Wednesday: Homemade Pizza
Thursday: Meatloaf
Friday: N/A

MMC Earns Very High Effectiveness Rating

According to a study released by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), a collaborative organization of 12 Midwestern state governments, Mount Marty College was ranked "very high" in effectiveness rating, putting MMC on the top of the list for the second time in recent years.

The effectiveness rating is calculated by comparing the actual graduation rate to predicted graduation rate. Mount Marty College's "very high" ranking means the college's actual graduation rate is considerably above the anticipated graduation rate.

In the same report MMC also received a "low" expenditure rating, which tells parents and donors that the college maximizes every dollar received to the greatest benefit of students.

Mount Marty College President, Marc Long, is pleased the college was recognized with high effectiveness, "The MHEC effectiveness rating is something in which we take great pride. Only two of the five institutions in South Dakota that were rated in the report, MMC and Presentation College, received a "very high" rating, providing proof that we have the right processes for success here."

The report can be found at: <http://www.mhec.org/sites/mhec.org/files/201507EENational.pdf>.

For more on Mount Marty College recognitions visit www.mtmc.edu/about/recognitions.aspx.

Nebraska Wind And Solar Conference Right Around The Corner

LINCOLN, Neb. – Organizers of the eighth annual Nebraska Wind and Solar Conference and Exhibition announced a new feature, a Consumer Energy Showcase to be held Tuesday evening, Nov. 3, in advance of the regular conference that will be held Nov. 4-5. Both events will be held at the Hilton Omaha at 1001 Cass Street.

"We are excited to bring this convention to the City of Omaha for the first time and to offer consumers a chance to learn about energy efficiency for residences, energy efficient products and renewable energy for homes," said Adam Herink, Conference Co-Chair. "The \$5 registration fee also covers parking, so we hope people interested in renewable and energy efficiency on a personal scale will check our new event out."

The Consumer Energy Showcase will feature ideas on renewable sources and energy efficiency for homeowners and renters, including presentations that

highlight home energy saving tips, solar for residential, and Demand Side Management programs offered by the utilities. Attendees will also be able to visit with vendors of energy efficient home products and appliances, and information about renewable energy resources for residential.

In addition to the showcase on Tuesday, conference attendees will hear from nationally known and respected industry speakers on many topics including climate change impacts, battery storage, an update on Nebraska wind projects, the Clean Power Plan, solar for rural public power districts and cooperatives, integrating wind with wildlife, and community solar. Confirmed speakers include Dr. Don Wilhite, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Doug Danley, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Business & Technology Strategies; Loren Thirer, General Electric; David Bracht, Director of the Nebraska

Energy Office; Bruce Rew, Southwest Power Pool, and Mark Gabriel, Western Area Power Administration.

"This annual conference is rightly considered by many participants to be one of the best conferences of its kind in the United States," said John Hansen, Conference Co-Chair.

Registration information is available at the conference website <http://nebraskawindandsolarconference.com/>. For hotel reservations, contact Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE at (402) 998-3400 or <http://www.3.hilton.com/en/hotels/nebraska/hilton-omaha-OMACVHH/index.html/>.

60th Anniversary Celebration



Mr. and Mrs. List

Donavon and Marlys List of Yankton, SD will observe their 60th wedding anniversary on September 25, 2015. Marlys Thompson and Donavon List were married on that date at Zion Lutheran Church, rural Volin, SD.

They have one son, Kirby (Carol) List, Hutchinson, KS, and three grandsons, Jordan (Kim) List, Meridian, ID, Mitchell List, Topeka, KS and Nathan List, Kansas City, KS, also a great grandson, Neil List, Meridian, ID.

Their family requests a card shower in their honor. Greetings may be sent to: 705 James Place, Yankton, SD 57078.

50th Anniversary Celebration



Mr. & Mrs. George Adam

George and Connie Adam celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 23, 2015 with family in Yankton. The couple was married in Polo, SD, at St. Liborius Church.

Children of the couple are Richard (Tami) Adam, Midland, MI; Lynn (John) Thieman, Yankton, SD; Paul (Ruth) Adam, Hope, MI, and Renae (Dave) Hollis, Accra, Ghana. They have 13 grandchildren.

Greetings may be sent to: George and Connie Adam, 2110 Walnut Street, Yankton, SD 57078.

Funding For Housing Development Is Now Available

PIERRE – South Dakota Housing Development Authority (SDHDA) is inviting interested parties to submit applications for funding from the Neighborhood Stabilization program.

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program, authorized under Title III of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, provides financing to acquire and redevelop foreclosed, abandoned, blighted or vacant properties. SDHDA has \$500,000 available for allocation.

The Neighborhood Stabilization program allocation plan and application form can be found on SDHDA's website at www.sdhda.org. Complete applications must be received at SDHDA on Friday, Oct. 16, by 5 p.m. Central Time.

For more information contact Lorraine Polak at 605.773.3181 or Lorraine@sdhda.org.

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Thank You

The family of Rita Peterka would like to express our heartfelt and sincere gratitude to family, friends, and neighbors for all acts of kindness and sympathy throughout Rita's illness and following her passing. For the flowers, food, cards, donations, visits and kind words spoken; we were so touched. A special thanks to L&M Radiator and coworkers who assisted our family and Rita in so many ways. Your thoughtfulness was above and beyond. Also, thanks to the hospice team, especially Peg and Megan. Thank you also to Pastor Dani Jo Greaver and the staff at Opsahl Kostel Funeral Home. Your guidance and support was so comforting. We will be forever grateful.

God bless you all,
Don and Melissa Cuka and Family
Brad and Carla Kopp and Family