



# QUOTH THE MAVEN

BY BEVERLY KING POLLOCK

## Monster on the Wall

I have been yelling at that black monster on the kitchen wall all morning. It keeps ringing and with absolutely no satisfactory results. Every time I pick it up, it says things like, "Congratulations! You have been selected to receive three magazines for the price of two."

Or "Name the capital of Nevada and you win a free dance lesson." One time it said, "May I speak to Mr. Finnegan?"

When I pick up the phone, I want it to say newsy things like, "Guess who's getting married?" Or who's having a baby? Or elected as secretary? Or on honor roll?

The phone should remind me I am loved. (Even a reverse-charges from your kids mean they care enough to call.) But usually it says stuff like, "Pick me up after school, huh, Mom?" Or "Will you serve on the cleanup committee?"

The ideal phone should say, "You have just won a full-expenses-paid trip for you and your husband to Israel."

No matter what the phone says, the important thing is for you to get the message. When my older daughter turned 16, I realized I

never received phone messages. Mostly because my daughter never left the phone free.

So for her birthday we installed an additional phone line that says, "Children". (In case you're wondering, it still doesn't help. The children still use my line -- to keep their own number free for their important incoming calls.)

One thing I have tried to stress is the vital need for taking accurate messages (and remembering to relay them to the proper persons).

When someone calls my daughter (or son), I always write down the name and number of the caller and the message. Such as, "Can you do problem #9 on page 247 in algebra?" Or "What d'ya think of Lynn's new boyfriend?"

I also take accurate messages for my husband. Such as, "The golf date is changed to 7:30." Or "The store night light burned out." Or "How much will you contribute to...?"

Naturally I expect to get all the messages that come while I'm out. So what happens? My neighbor tells me, "I called three days ago to see if you wanted free theatre tickets, but since you didn't call back..."

Or "Moshe Dayan dropped in for dinner and I thought you might like to come over, but since you didn't call back..."

To return a call, one must first receive the message. I will not say that I never get messages, because I do. Just the other day my husband said, "Somebody called when you were away. It's that woman with the black hair. You know who. Her name is Myrna or Joan or Barbara or something like that. She said to be sure and call right back."

(This is the same husband who can recall at will and in exacting detail each minute phase of his business operations.)

Don't tell anybody what I said because I don't want to hurt family feelings. But next time you call and I'm not home, please leave a message.

And when you don't hear from me after 24 hours, please call back!

ST. LOUIS (WNS)--U.S. Air Force personnel--officers, enlisted men and chaplains--have a deep sympathy for and understanding of Israel's military position in the Middle East, Rabbi Alvan D. Rubin of Temple Israel, a member of the National Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the Jewish Welfare Board reported.

TEL AVIV (WNS)--Former Premier David Ben Gurion officially opened the Paula Ben Gurion Clinic at the SDE Boker School.

**CLEAN UP MOVIE FREE AT FOX**  
ALL KIDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A LARGE SACK OF TRASH OR LITTER FROM STREETS OR VACANT LOTS TO FREE MOVIE SAT. APRIL 3 AT 11 A.M. AND 1 P.M. AT FOX THEATRE IN CHARLESTON PLAZA. THIS IS PART OF SPRING CLEAN-UP DURING MONTH OF APRIL SPONSORED BY L. V. FIRE DEPT.

April of this year has been proclaimed spring clean-up month in Southern Nevada by the Southern Nevada Fire Prevention Council, the Regional Planning Council and Las Vegas Beautification Committee.

Spring clean-up will be in two parts, the first Anti-Litter and Lot Clean-up and the second will be directed to the individual paint-up, spruce-up, fix-up and clean-up drive.

The Anti-litter and Lot clean-up is being spearheaded by the Youth For Community Pride under the direction of Dean Schank of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Service. This group will conduct a Public Education Campaign on the dangers of trash and litter.

The following events are being scheduled for this part of spring clean-up. On April 3, the Fox Theater is holding the second annual spring clean-up movie, the price of admission is one large sack of trash or litter picked up from the streets and vacant

lots of Southern Nevada. On Saturday, April 17, the Boy Scouts of America will have Scouting Keep Southern Nevada Beautiful Day. On this day the scouts with the help of local business men will have a massive efforts to clean-up the local area. The paint-up, spruce-up, fix-up campaign is sponsored by all the fire departments in Southern Nevada.

The aim is to make every home in this community safe from fire. This means a concentrated attack on spots in and around houses where fires start, trash accumulated in storage closets, attics and garages, any place where there is trash or rubbish.

"Fires in the home are taking approximately 7,000 lives yearly according to the national Fires Protection Association figures," said Fire Chief Jerry Miller of the Las Vegas Fire Department, "and one of the major causes of fires is rubbish and trash. The Fire Service has an old saying, 'A Clean Home Does Not Burn.'"

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