

For Active
People
Ages 60+



Cyberspace News

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Why Your GPS Doesn't Always Work

GPS (global positioning system) navigation systems and GPS-enabled smartphones are wonders of the modern world. They allow us to save time and money as we wander the world. Often they teach us new ways of getting where we want to go. Ever wonder how they work and why they sometimes don't? Read on.

A Global Positioning System (GPS) includes a receiver that communicates with satellites orbiting the earth. Through a process called triangulation (where three satellites cooperate to measure the line-of-sight distance of the GPS unit), the GPS device plots a course of travel, location, or elevation.

Because satellites are broadcasting radio signals to your GPS device, you can sometimes unexpectedly encounter a problem called multipath interference. This is where radio waves reflect against tall buildings. If you're using a GPS device in an urban setting populated with sizable

structures, do your best to position it under open sky. You might also notice terrain-related interference, such as incorrect location estimations, as you pass through mountain ranges or tunnels. A miscalculation could also be due to spelling or punctuation errors you've typed.

When the GPS receiver isn't properly processing satellite signals, blame cell towers, radio towers, and other frequency-producing sources that could be weakening the GPS signal. Indications of a feeble signal are hanging and freezing. Keep driving (or moving away from the area) to relocate a strong signal or add an antenna to boost the signal. If the device continually freezes or seems buggy, perform a factory reset on the device. This typically involves rebooting the device, but check your users manual for specific instructions.

Source: www.smartcomputing.com

Don't Just Read Cyberspace News

Participate! Send your favorite computer tips and websites to me at the following email:

newsletter@wacci.net

Please include in the Subject line "for WACC." 😊

Just For You

Cyberspace News is now archived on the WACC website. There you can see prior issues of CN, full issues of the newsletter between September 2007 and October 2009 as well as selected articles from other issues. In some articles, additional important material is included (for instance, information obtained after publication). Just go to www.wacci.net and click the "Archives" button along the left side.

The Little Things

As you might know, the head of a company survived the 9/11 attacks because *his son started kindergarten.*

Another man survived because *it was his turn to bring the doughnuts.*

One woman was late because *her alarm didn't go off on time.*

One was late due to being *stuck on the New Jersey Turnpike because of a car accident.*

One person *missed his bus.*

One spilled food on her clothes and *had to take the time to change.*

One's *car wouldn't start.*

One went back *to answer the telephone.*

One man *had a child that dawdled so he didn't leave when he was supposed to.*

One couldn't get a taxi.

And one man put on a new pair of shoes that morning, took the various means to get to work, but before he got to work, developed a blister on his foot and stopped to buy a Band-Aid. That's why he's alive today.

Now when you're stuck in traffic, miss an elevator, turn back to answer a telephone or encounter all the things that annoy you, remember that *you're exactly where you are fated to be.*

Source: A friend.

Alphabetizing Favorites

Here's a handy little tip I just learned from the website www.worldstart.com. To alphabetize your Favorites in Internet Explorer 7 and 8:

1. Click on Internet Explorer to open it up.
2. Click on Favorites.
3. Right-click on any folder or link.
4. A menu should then pop up

with a list of tasks. Left-click on Sort By Name.

Your Favorites should now be alphabetized.



Don't Throw Out Those Expired Coupons

If you're like me, every week you reach into your coupon drawer (or file or whatever) and pull out coupons for this week's shopping only to find out they're recently expired. Before you throw them into the recycling bin, stop! Send them to deployed family service members instead where they'll do some good!

Families on overseas military bases don't usually get newspapers

and the weekly circulars that are in them, so the families can't clip those coupons. Fortunately, their commissaries will accept coupons for up to six months after they expire.

The coupons the families most want are for household items like diapers, toiletries, and laundry soap.

To find out more, log onto www.couponmom.com/military.

Seniors: Looking Good And Having Fun

In the almost 11 years I've been writing Cyberspace News, I've seen the number of websites catering to seniors explode. The problem is that many of them focus on the difficulties of growing older without pointing out some of the fun of being an older person. So I was delighted to find the following site: (note the absence of the www in this web address) <http://seniors.lovetoknow.com>.

This site has the usual health, estate planning, and retirement living articles, but it also has a feature I've never seen on a senior website before: slide shows. And not just slide shows related to the topics above, but *fun* slide shows highlighting things like:

- Clothing for Mature Women
- Hair Styles for Senior Women
- Fun Activities For The Elderly

- Senior Hair Styles For Men
- Sexy Seniors (as in sexy is a state of mind)
- Senior Chair Exercise Pictures
- Hairdos For Gray Hair
- Hairdos For Silver Hair
- Gift Ideas For Elderly Women

As you can see, this site tackles issues the usual websites don't like looking good and feeling sexy. And the pictures defy the usual stereotypes of older people as sick and feeble. The individuals pictured are largely vibrant and attractive.

Side shows! What a great way to get ideas across. Check it out and let me know what you think!

Free And Fun



Come to our Computer Fun Meetings, which are free and open to everyone, whether you're a WACC member or not. Meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 11:30AM to 1PM.

Watch Out

Due to cuts in school budgets which affect bussing, more children than ever may be walking to school. Be especially careful as you drive this school season. Remember, as printed in the June 2010 issue of this newsletter, The Crosswalk Law states it is a *moving violation* if you don't come to a complete stop for pedestrians in designated crosswalks punishable by a fine and points off on your driver's license.

A Rebate Update

Astute WACC member George Morris discovered that the NJ State Budget for fiscal year 2011 contains changes to the Homestead Rebate Program.

Applications for the 2009 homeowner rebate will be mailed to eligible homeowners in the Fall. And instead of receiving a check, qualified homeowners will receive their benefit as a credit on their property tax bill for the second quarter of 2011.

For more information, log onto www.state.nj.us.

Thanks, George, for always passing along pertinent information!



A Nuptial Surprise

Jacob, age 92, and Rebecca, age 89, living in Miami, are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way, pass a drugstore. Jacob suggests they go in. Jacob addresses the man behind the counter:

"Are you the owner?"

The pharmacist answers, "Yes."

Jacob: "We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course, we do."

Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely."

Jacob: "How about suppositories?"

Pharmacist: "You bet!"

Jacob: "Medicine for all types of memory problems, arthritis and Alzheimer's?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety. The works."

Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely."

Jacob: "Everything for heartburn and indigestion?"

Pharmacist: "We sure do."

Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers and canes?"

Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes."

Jacob: "Adult diapers?"

Pharmacist: "Sure."

Jacob: "Thank you. We'd like to use this store as our Bridal Registry."

Source: www.suddenlysenior.com

Fun Facts About Facebook

If you're on Facebook, you're just one of a half *billion* people now using it on a monthly basis. Here are some fun facts about this social networking site:



If Facebook was its own country, it would be the third most populous in the world behind China and India.



The largest number of Facebook users live in North America with 35.4 of this

continent logging on every month.



About 17 percent of people living in Europe and 2.3 percent of people in Asia are on it.



Facebook's estimate value ranges between \$22 and \$25 billion.

Source: www.networkworld.com