

Help me make the music of the...

Hmm. Mr. Webber's Phantom of the Opera line doesn't quite work since this was during the day. How about, "The hills are alive, with the sound of music..." Yep, that works better. If you haven't guessed by now the position I subbed for today was music. Elementary music. Like most specials jobs in the district I was in, it was a traveling job, but fortunately this time I went to the right school first. The first two classes were great. They were fourth graders and they were really focused. As they were in a unit about stage productions/musicals, they got to watch a video with scenes with a couple of famous dancers if you thought of Billy Elliot, you are dead wrong. In fact, he's not even real. Did you know there is actually a [musical based on this movie](#) by the way?. Nope, not [Michael Flatley](#). At least he's real, but you are thinking too modern! Go way back to the 1930s-1950s to get this one. Okay, you have them- Fred Astaire and Gene Autry... No wait, not the kind of dancing that involves bullets at your feet- Gene Kelly of course.

Anyway, they saw scenes from a few shows including [Ziegfeld Follies](#), [Royal Wedding](#), and, of course, [Singin' in the Rain](#). In [Royal Wedding](#), There was a strange scene where Astaire danced not only on the floor, but on the walls and ceiling as well! If you go to the [Royal Wedding](#) link and check out the trivia for it you can find out how they did it. These days they would just use computers of course. The kids really enjoyed that scene, as well as Kelly getting wet in [Singin' in the Rain](#).

I wish I could say that the fifth graders at the other school did as well with this video, but I can't. There were technical difficulties (the LMC gave me a DVD player that was broken- it wouldn't play the disc) and the first class just talked and

talked, even after I finally got another player and started the movie. The second class was a little better, but still excitable during some scenes. The third class did much better, though not quite up to the fourth graders.

Finally, I had lunch then four afternoon classes with younger grades. No video for them, but instead the second graders worked on a show they were doing- we just went through all their songs on CD. I noticed this show involves the fifth grade as well. At first I wondered why the teacher didn't have me do this plan with that grade, but remembering how the first two classes went I quickly shelved that question. First grade had yet a different lesson, which we only got partway through, but that was expected by the teacher. Well, that's it for now.

Fever Pitch

Originally this post was called "CUBS WIN!!!" And I followed it up with: gee, I sure hope I'm not jinxing anything by posting this. And as I was typing that, the dang Brewers scored 3 runs! Now that I've changed the title of the post, the awful half-inning ended and the Cubs are now up with a chance to save the game and have one man on base. Unfortunately for me, I will have to miss the finale and seeing if the Cubs pull it off because I can't suspend my entire life for baseball, as much as I'd like to. I already rearranged my schedule around this game today, and wouldn't you know it, there were not one, but TWO rain delays, which is why the Cubs are still playing and why I have to miss the end of the game because my poor family has gone without dinner long enough! So, hope for me and for the Cubs that they pull this off - I must say it's starting to look good with 2 men on now and NO OUTS - this game has reached a fever pitch as their

pitcher is starting to choke and walk Cubs out the wazoo... OH MY GOSH – FUKUDOME JUST HIT A 3-RUN HOMER TO TIE THE GAME!!! My daughter can stand in the rain waiting for me to pick her up, can't she? It's opening day! Is there an emoticon for fingers crossed?!?!?

Baby Names – Part II

Well, we have narrowed down our choices for baby names! *(Insert drum roll here)* They are:

FIRST NAMES:

Mallory

Lindsay

Evangeline

MIDDLE NAMES:

Autumn

Athina (or Athena as it's usually spelled; I like the first one better)

Alexandra

We know we want a middle name that starts with an "A" because all of our girls have one. We're just not sure which name we like with which middle name. If you've read my previous posts, especially the one called Baby Names, you can see that I've given up my ideal name of Frances. Ok, it's not my ideal name, that's why I gave up on it, but I did want to name the baby after my late grandmother. I just wish she had a name that was a little easier to convince my husband to name our baby and for me to WANT to name the baby. Anyway, these are the final three so we'll see how it turns out. I am the one who signs the birth certificate in the hospital, so I can always sneak whatever I want on there, including Frances if I so desire... JUST KIDDING! I wouldn't do that... unless they

pump me full of some crazy drugs to get through the labor... then I can't be held accountable for my actions. But nothing is set in stone yet; we're still a few months away – I will site the example of my youngest-for-now. Her name was going to be Sydney until I was about 7 months pregnant... then all of a sudden I said to my husband, I don't think I like that name anymore! I thought it was the hormones causing my sudden change of heart, but to my surprise, my husband agreed that HE didn't like the name anymore either! We think it might have had something to do with our other daughters calling her Cindy – they could not grasp the concept of reversing the sounds. So anyway, these are the finalists in the name race for now, I will keep you posted on any changes!

Last day of March...

And that means that April Fool's Day is tomorrow...

I've always like this day, since I have a very gullible daughter. My tricks on her are infamous in family discussions. I'm searching my devious little brain right now trying to come up with another trick or more that I can pull on anyone of my daughters.

I also have to think of a prank or two to pull on people at work.. Can't be too bad, or I'll get in trouble.

Anyone know of any good gags, pranks, tricks?

I'll post if I am able to pull anything off tomorrow. Be on your guard if I know you... You will never know if a prank is in your future..

There's An Awful Lot You Can Tell About a Person By Their Shoes...

Where they're going. Where they've been. I've worn lots of shoes. I bet if I think about it real hard I could remember my first pair of shoes... – FORREST GUMP

The preceding quote comes to mind because Disney, our youngest-for-now, got her first pair of shoes yesterday! She loves them! She always asks to wear them, even if it's just for around the house. But she always ends up just wearing one somehow and losing the other, so I wonder what Forrest Gump would think of that? At first when she got them on, she just stood there, as if locked in cement. Her big sister Taylor helped her learn to walk in them – it was adorable. She was so patient with her without doing too much for her and giving in by picking her up. Finally, Disney learned to walk in her new shoes and loves them. Pretty soon she'll be running around in her new shoes with me waddling behind her trying to keep up!

Seeing her “stuck” there when she thought she couldn't walk reminded me of my other daughter Samantha, who is now almost 4. When Sammie was learning to walk, it was summertime, and she was wearing sandals, so she'd be walking, walking, then as soon as she hit the grass – STOP! And she'd be stuck there too, just like Disney was in her new shoes. It's strange how learning to walk is such a huge new experience, yet I've never met anyone who remembers going through it... I think it's much more fun being on the parent side, this time around, but then again, I can't really name an experience that isn't!

One Day More

Ah... opening day at Yankee Stadium, the last opening day at Yankee Stadium as the Bronx Bombers will be moving next year to the new park across the street. I was anticipating a great game with a huge opening ceremony and all the pomp and celebration to open the final season in the House that Ruth Built. Alas, it was not to be.

1:05 came and went. The sportscasters on ESPN kept promising to start the game as soon as possible. Then, the channel switched to the [Detroit Tigers](#) game. A short time later, the screen went dark announcing a blackout in the area. I then switched the channel to WGN to see if the [Chicago Cubbies](#) game was still on. They were also under a rain delay. How ironic that Chicago and New York were getting rain while Detroit was able to start their game on time. I'm sure a certain Tigers fan will have something profound to say about that.

In the end, the Cubs game started shortly after 3. However, it was raining enough in New York to postpone [Yankee Stadium's](#) swan song season for one day.

As of this posting, the Cubs were under another another rain delay and the Tigers were tied in the 10th inning

Not Very Funny...

Said Short Round to Willie Scott after he nearly fell through the hole of a rickety bridge crossing a wide chasm where

hungry crocodiles awaited a tasty morsel. (*Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*)

As my Liswathistani friend so eloquently pointed out, several people at the wedding reception on Saturday did come down with a case of the dreaded scoots. We have come to the conclusion that it stemmed from some bad creamed chicken sandwiches which are usually very good. Apparently, the canned chicken (which was purchased a week ago) was bad.

All day long, we laughed and joked about the situation. It was definitely a reception no one will forget. Tonight around 10 o' clock, it became not so funny. Apparently, two of the groom's relatives are in the hospital with food poisoning. One of them is hooked to an IV.

The bride called the store this afternoon to explain the situation and ask about the return policy. I imagine tomorrow she will be inquiring about the liability policy. They will be getting a copy of the bills. Thank heaven all I have done is take some anti-diarrhea medication which seems to be doing the trick. Ironic how something that seems funny one moment can be so serious soon after.

As Plain As the Nose on Your Face

Took the kids to see the movie [Penelope](#) this weekend. Unusual choice for kids, I guess, but they watched the trailers for that one and for [College Road Trip](#), and they chose Penelope, a movie about a princess named Penelope (played by [Christina Ricci](#)) who is born with a pig nose because of a generations-old curse that is put upon her family. I wasn't expecting

much from the movie, mainly because I hadn't heard much about it, but also because let's face it, the premise isn't exactly one based in reality. I had read one little article about Christina Ricci, and how this is her first movie in awhile, yada, yada, but I didn't think much of a movie about a girl with a pig's nose – until it was in our local theater and it was only rated PG. I did not doze off during this one, and it did not bore the kids like I was expecting. Our 8-year-old liked it, our 3-year-old fell asleep; not from boredom, she just does that a lot in the movie theater, takes after Mom, I guess ☐ and our 17-month-old was rambunctious as can be. I think she is getting too old for movies. You know what I mean – there is a window where kids should not be taken to movies, I guess, say between walking age and an age they can sit still and actually enjoy the movie. Our youngest-for-now is reaching that age quickly!

So anyway, Penelope is actually quite entertaining, and it wasn't entirely predictable like I thought. Overall, a cute movie that kinda throws a lesson in for the kids – don't judge a person on looks alone. Christina Ricci is pretty good, barely recognizable, and I had trouble figuring out if it was because of her acting or her pig nose. [Catherine O'Hara](#) was wonderful and fun to watch as always, and [Reese Witherspoon](#) was also fun to watch (surprisingly so for me, because I'm not a big fan of hers) in her equally surprisingly small role as Penelope's newfound biker-chick friend. Fun to watch, ok for kids... I'd see it again.

MORAT RETURNS

HELLO EVERY PEOPLE! Morat Notboratnichkov a return to OHHO on his a way west to continue covering for de news election of

new owner America country. I a visit the strange person once again a working at the Super Kaiser Market or something like that. When I a enter the store in Edgertown, OHHO a woman say to me: "You are Morat!!!!"

"WOOLY SHEEP! YES, I A MORAT. You a know Morat?"

"Yes, I took my children to see your show. You made me laugh."

"So... you have little people so a you must be married woman?"

"No, I am not married."

"OH, then it would not a be possible for a you to go on de Wife Swap trading on tv box. So sorry. Thank you for a shopping at Super Kaiser Market."

Very strange person he a tell me he sing in wedding on Fiffelday. He a tell me that many people had de running problem to de bathroom today. He a say some sandwich chicken was a bad. Every people they a call his house and ask if everyone was ok. Very strange person he say he still has running to bathroom problem and had to go many times at the work. Morat say that is a very funny ☐ Strange man person did a not look amused.

OK every people, I a must go to sleep so I a can continue covering for news election of new owner. Morat say "NO WOMANS." And what is name of Obabadaba... I a no like so much.

Defunct TV

I received another email forward that is worth mentioning today. It was a list of people's first names followed by a tv show. The idea is that you are supposed to add your name to

the list along with a tv show you used to watch that's not on tv anymore. I was a huge fan of tv as a kid, and I watched it a lot, so it was fun to sit and think about shows that I enjoyed that aren't on tv anymore. Since you were only supposed to add one show after your name on the email forward, I'm going to share the other shows I was going to put in it, along with imdb links so you can learn about them if you wish:

[Dolphin Cove](#) – This is the show I included with my name in the forward. It was originally an Australian show, but they tried it in the US, and it only aired for one season, if that. I think there were 8 episodes. It was about an American widower who moves to Australia with his 2 children to work with dolphins. His daughter is mute because she is in shock after witnessing the accident that took her mother's life. She develops special communication skills with the dolphins. Since I was only 10 when the show aired, I don't remember much, I just know that I really liked it and that I was extremely disappointed when it didn't come back on tv. Since it was cancelled abruptly, there were some open-ended plot lines, and I waited for months hoping the show would be back. Of course it was not. If anyone knows how to get it tape or the internet or anything, let me know, I'd love to see it again! Oh, and something interesting I learned from imdb – apparently the show was written by [Peter Benchley](#), the author who wrote [Jaws](#). I read a book by him once called *The Beast*, and it was pretty scary. Not that *Dolphin Cove* was scary or anything like that, it's just a note. I'm not sure if he wrote the concept for the show or all the episodes or both, but it doesn't really matter much now anyway.

[The Charmings](#) – I was 9 years old when this show was on and I thought it looked stupid then, if that tells you anything. Still, as a pre-tween girl, the intrigue of a sitcom based on a fairy tale was irresistible, so I gave it a try, and I still found it dumb. The tagline says it all: *"Snow White and Prince Charming fell asleep in the Enchanted Forest... they woke*

up in Burbank!" Unbelievably, this show actually WON a primetime Emmy and was nominated for 3 others. True, it won the Emmy for Outstanding Lighting Direction (Electronic) for a Comedy Series, (does that one even still exist?) but still... I guess that magic mirror was truly something to behold. The writing and acting apparently were not however, since the show only lasted for 2 seasons, and they switched Snow Whites after only 6 episodes.

[The Carol Burnett Show](#) – I'm not talking about the well-known show that ran from 1967-1978 since I wasn't around for that; I'm talking about the hour-long show that aired in the early '90's. Each show featured a series of sketches with an awesome cast of supporting actors, and this is where I was introduced to an actor named [Richard Kind](#), who went on to do shows such as [Mad About You](#) and [Spin City](#). I loved every skit he was in on The Carol Burnett Show of the '90's – they were my favorites. I don't know how long the show lasted because I was very young at this time and there is not much info on it at [imdb.com](#), but I know that it should have lasted longer because it was true family entertainment – very funny for all ages.

[Silver Spoons](#) – Hardly anyone in my generation has forgotten this show. Airing for 5 seasons, it made a star of a young [Rick Schroder](#) (then he was known as Ricky Schroder, a heart-throb for teen girls everywhere!) as a spoiled rich kid who lived in a mansion but faced many of the problems normal teenagers face. His father (played by [Joel Higgins](#), whatever happened to him?) was a toy inventor, so needless to say, their house and the gadgets inside were pretty cool and fun to watch. It's hard to believe this show only lasted for 5 seasons, but then again, it was rerun on so many networks in syndication, and that's where I saw the majority of the episodes I watched. I still remember the theme song, and no, I didn't have to look it up first, which I guess is a little sad, but anyway: *"Here we are, face to face, a couple of*

Silver Spoons. Hopin to find, we're two of a kind, making a go, making it grow, together..." I could go on, but you get the idea.

As an avid tv watcher, of course I watched many more shows than the ones I've listed here. These are just the ones that came to my mind today which I thought would make interesting conversation. And, for extra fun, here is a copy of the forward:

How many shows can we come up with that we USED to watch that are no

> longer on TV? Add one and keep going.

> This should be fun and jog our memories. No repeats on the shows please.

> Send to all your friends and back to me.

> Lisa.....Dolphin Cove

> Jamy.....Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman

> Barb.....Little House on the Prairie

> Dutch.....Dragnet

> Marilyn.....Friday night fights!!

> Dutch.....Dynasty

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> Carol.....Streets of Sanfrancisco

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> Cheryl.....St. Elsewhere

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> Lisa.....Here Comes the Brides

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> Toni.....Peyton Place

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> Mary.....Topper

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> Madeline.....Friday Nite Videos

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> Sheila.....China Beach

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> Twyla.....I Remember Mama
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> Sandy.....Dallas
>
> Melanie.....The Adventures Of Brisco County
>
> Ellen..... Sports Night
>
> Karen.....Hawaii 5-0
>
> Pat.....Lucy's Toy Shop
>
> Karma.....Happy Days
>
> Shari.....That Girl
>
> Bill.....Checkmate
>
> Judy.....Amos 'N Andy
>
> PegMickey Mouse Club
>
> Ron —— Lucky Strike Hit Parade
>
> Paula.....My Three Sons
>
> Cindy.....Mary Heart Line
>
> Barb.....I Love Lucy
>
> Glenda.....Phil Donahue Show
>
> MARLENE.....MY LITTLE MARGIE
>
> AJ.....Saturday Night Hit Parade
>
> June.....The Naked City

>
> Jeanie.....Danny Thomas Show
>
> Pam.....Bozo The Clown
>
> KimAndy Griffith Show
>
> Cassie.....30 something
>
> Kay.....Saturday Night FRIGHTS (good ol scary movie
night)
>
> Kaye.....Dick Van Dyke
>
> Karen RustFather Knows Best (way back)
>
> Kat D.....Mama's Family
>
> Janna.....The Love Boat
>
> Dan.....Night Court
>
> Maureen.....Once and Again
>
> MicheleBosom Buddies
>
> Jennifer.....The Lawrence Welk Show
>
> Marilyn.....Dr. Kildare
>
> Diane.....Have Gun Will Travel
>
>Phyllis.....Bonanza

>Sharon.....Winky Dink