

# The Some Times Newsletter

## Take The Sting Out Of Tax Day With These Facts About Taxes

Few of us enjoy paying taxes, but on April 15, they're due, like it or not. To ease the pain, or just amuse yourself while standing in line at the post office, consider these facts about the U.S. income tax:

1. The first U.S. income tax was passed in 1861 to finance the Civil War. Citizens were taxed 3% on incomes over \$800, although that was replaced with a tier tax structure in 1862. The office of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue was created in 1862.
2. The current income tax system was established in 1913, with World War I looming. That's when the original Form 1040 was introduced; it was three pages long.
3. More than 131 million individual tax returns were filed in 2009. A single IRS employee, working at the unbelievable rate of one return per minute, would need more than 250 years to process them all.
4. The IRS offers more than 480 different forms on its website.
5. The first internet transmission of a tax return via the Internet took place on Jan. 24, 1986.
6. It's estimated that more than 300,000 trees are cut down each year to produce the paper used for all the forms and instructions sent out by the IRS.
7. Originally, taxes were due on March 1, a date set shortly before the current system was authorized by the 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1913. "Tax Day" was changed to March 15 in 1918. It was changed again to April 15 in 1955 to allow the IRS to spread out the processing of all the forms being filed.

## Nothing But The Truth

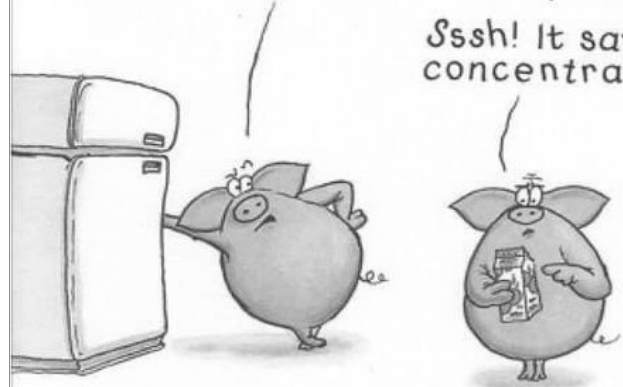
A farmer whose mule was killed in an auto accident sued the driver of the car, citing the farmer's own injuries. The driver's lawyer cross-examined him on the witness stand. "Now, Farmer Smith, did you or did you not tell the first officer responding to the scene that you were fine?" "Well, let me explain—" "Yes or no, Farmer Smith, please." "Well, yes." "Then clearly any injuries you suffered could not be the result of the accident?" "Let me tell you what happened," the farmer said. "My mule was pulling the wagon when this car came out of nowhere and hit us. I was thrown clear, and before I knew anything the police car was there. My poor mule was dying, and the cop took out his gun and put him out of his misery." "Then he looked at me and asked, 'Are you OK?' What would you have said?"

## April Showers

The next time you find yourself caught in the rain, consider this interesting phenomenon: rain is naturally enriched with vitamin B12, the nutrient necessary for healthy blood. It becomes airborne when brought to earth by wind and rain.



You've been staring at that carton of orange juice for half an hour. What's the problem?



Pigs are gentle creatures with surprising intelligence. Studies have found they're smarter than dogs and even 3 year old children.

# \$10 Off Labor Coupon

- Not Valid On Oil Change -

You must present this coupon at time of service. Coupon will not be accepted after repair is completed and paid for. One coupon per person per repair order. Cannot combine with other coupons.

**Valid Through April 30, 2024**

## Turn It Up

National 8-Track Tape Day on April 11 recognizes an era that was here and gone in 20 short years. It is a day to remember listening to great music of the sixties and seventies on eight-track tapes. I know, I know...I can hear the kids saying "What are 8-Track Tapes?"

In September 1965, Ford Motor Company offered 8-track players as an option in their 1966 model cars. As popularity rose, the 8-track player soon became standard in all Ford cars. The 8-track tape was the first tape format that was widely available across the nation and easy to use. Music became portable for the first time. 8-track tape players for the home were not introduced until 1967-68.

The popularity of the 8-track tape was relatively short from 1968-1975. There were problems with the 8-track tape. Perhaps the biggest problems were that the tapes were unreliable, sound quality diminished over time and they were expensive.

By 1980, 8-track tapes were obsolete thanks to the much cheaper, more reliable cassette tape. After it's brief moment of popularity, the cassette was replaced by the CD, then iTunes and mp3s.

So no matter how you listen to your music... turn it up, dance to your heart's content and enjoy the holiday!



## Lifetime debts repaid in full

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy whom Farmer Fleming had saved.

"I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's life."

"No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied, waving off the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel. "Is that your son?" the nobleman asked.

"Yes," the farmer replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me take him and give him a good education. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll grow to be a man you can be proud of."

And that he did.

In time, Farmer Fleming's son graduated from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin.

Years afterward, the nobleman's son was stricken with pneumonia. What saved him? Penicillin.

The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.

## The lighter side

**Barber Shop** → The guys at the barber shop asked me what actress I would like to be stuck in an elevator with. I told them the one who knows how to fix elevators.

**Politician's Sandwich** → On a political tour, a prominent politician was pleased and proud that the local sandwich shop had named a sandwich after him. He was somewhat less pleased after he found out what was in it. "Mostly baloney," said the owner.

**Four-Letter Surgery** → Jerry is recovering from day surgery when a nurse asks him how he is feeling. He said he was OK but he didn't like the four-letter-word the doctor used while working on him. "What did he say?" asked the nurse. "OOPS!"

**Marriage Math** → I just read that last year 4,153,237 people got married. I don't want to start any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?



## Did You Know?

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**You don't have to go back to the Dealer for service or maintenance on your new or used vehicle!**

Federal Law (Magnusen-Moss Act 1975)



## Jolene's Corner

Water makes up 93% of asparagus's composition. Asparagus is low in food energy and very low in sodium. It is a good source of vitamin B6, calcium, magnesium, and zinc, and a very good source of dietary fiber, protein, beta-carotene, vitamin C, vitamin E, vitamin K, thiamin, riboflavin, rutin, niacin, folic acid, iron, phosphorus, potassium, copper, manganese, and selenium, as well as chromium, a trace mineral that regulates the ability of insulin to transport glucose from the bloodstream into cells. This recipe is of Chinese origin and a favorite of my father.

### Asparagus with Beef and Black Beans - serves 4-5 people

- 1 1/2 pounds asparagus cleaned and sliced into 1/4-inch pieces.
- 1/2 pound beef flank steak, sliced thin across the grain
- 3 Tablespoon light soy sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 2 Tablespoons dry sherry or Chinese rice wine
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 3 tablespoon peanut oil
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced thin
- 1 Tablespoon fermented black beans (dow see), rinsed
- Pinch of salt
- Pinch of sugar
- 1/4 cup chicken stock



In a small bowl marinate the sliced beef in 2 tablespoons of the light soy sauce, ginger, sherry or rice wine, and the cornstarch. Mix well and sit for 15 minutes.

Heat a wok or large frying pan and add the oil. The oil should just begin to smoke. Quickly lay the meat on one side in the pan. Do not turn but cook over high heat for a moment and remove from the pan, allowing the oil to drain back into the pan.

Heat the pan again and add the garlic. Stir for 10 seconds and then add the rinsed fermented black beans. Stir for another 10 seconds and then add the asparagus. Toss for a few seconds and then add the remaining soy sauce, salt and sugar. Cook just until tender, about 5 minutes. Add the meat and chicken broth. Stir to make a sauce. Serve with cooked rice.

### ***Bring A Light To People's Eyes***

According to a story, Benjamin Franklin wanted people in the city of Philadelphia to adopt street lighting, but initially he couldn't get anyone interested. So instead of arguing, he simply hung a nice lantern on a long bracket in front of his door. He kept the glass polished, and every night he made a point of going outside to light it as the sun set.

Franklin's neighbors watched. And soon they began mounting their own lights outside their homes on their own. After a short while the entire city was brightly lit at night, without Franklin having to do anything more than demonstrate the usefulness of a light.

**Sometimes the best way to persuade is to set an example.**



*Thanks for the kind words!*

Great communication, found bad filters also! Even fixed bad turn signal I forgot to mention. I'm impressed.

Lori

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**Valid Through April 30, 2024.**



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