

The Aqua Almanac

April 2013 Volume 1, Issue 3

from our family to yours



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Inside this issue:

- ❖ History of April Fools
- ❖ Opening Day
- ❖ Time Management
- ❖ Tax Freedom Day
- ❖ And more!

One Theory Behind April Fool's Day

Ancient cultures, including those of the Romans and Hindus, celebrated New Year's Day on or around April 1. It closely follows the vernal equinox (March 20th or March 21st.) In medieval times, much of Europe celebrated March 25, the Feast of Annunciation, as the beginning of the New Year.

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII ordered a new calendar (the Gregorian calendar) to replace the old Julian calendar. The new calendar called for New Year's Day to be celebrated Jan. 1. That year, France adopted the reformed calendar and shifted New Year's Day to Jan. 1. According to a popular explanation, many people either refused to accept the new date, or did not learn about it, and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April 1. Other people began to make fun of these traditionalists, sending them on "fool's errands" or trying to trick them into believing something false. Eventually, the practice spread throughout Europe.

Pool season is right around the corner and coming faster than we think. New filter sand helps your pool filter more efficiently, so check your records and see if you are overdue for a sand change.

Tips, Suggestions, or Comments?
Feel free to let us know what you think.
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Hotdog Cookies



What you'll need!

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 drops red food coloring
- 3 tablespoons flaked coconut
- 2 drops green food coloring
- 1 (4.5 ounce) tube prepared yellow frosting



Directions

1-In a medium bowl, cream together the butter, confectioners' sugar and vanilla until smooth. Stir in the flour until dough is smooth. Remove 1 cup of dough, then cover and refrigerate remaining dough. Knead the red food coloring into the 1 cup of dough until the color of a hot dog is achieved. Refrigerate all dough for 1 hour.

2-Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Divide the red dough into 16 portions. Roll each piece into a 2 1/2 inch long sausage shape. For buns, divide the white dough into 16 portions and shape into 3 inch logs. Slice them almost in half lengthwise. Spread the buns open and place the hot dog dough's inside, leaving buns open. Place 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets.

3-Bake for 12 to 15 minutes in the preheated oven, or until firm. Remove from cookie sheets to cool. In a small jar or plastic bag, combine the coconut and green food coloring. Shake until coconut is evenly colored. Sprinkle over hot dog cookies when cool and make a zig zag with the yellow frosting for mustard.

Mondays seem to be the worst day of the week for most people. Coming back to work after a relaxing weekend of non-work related actives, everyone seems to be a little slow getting back into the "swing" of things. Today is a great day, besides the fact that it is April Fool's day, the one day we're allowed to do pranks in the office to get us through the day. It is an even bigger day for most people, many people, including myself, have been counting down for this day for the last two months just waiting for the Spring games to be over, welcome to opening day! Finally, baseball is back in the Nation's Capital and I could not be more excited. With an amazing post season run for the nationals the first time in 79 years and having a winning record since being back in Washington (2005) this season is going to be great! Strasburg can pitch more innings and Dan Haren is joining the starting line with Gio Gonzalez, Jordan Zimmermann and Ross Detwiler who are all in their 20's. The Nationals have one of the best bullpens in the MLB. So hang in there just a few more hours, the Nationals are scheduled to take on the Marlins at 1:05 pm!

GO NATS

Masters Match

How to play:

There is only one rule, every row, column and box of 3x3 cells must contain the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once.

			6	1		4		
1	9		5					
						2	7	
3			6				7	
		5	7		9	6		
	7				4		1	
5		2						
					5		6	8
	6		3	9				

Like in golf it is very important to know what the distance to the pin is from where you are on the fairway (if you aren't in the woods like myself) to help you better choose what club to hit. The same thing goes for flow meters in a pool once the flow gets too low it is a sign that you need to backwash your filter. Over time flow meters can get clogged with debris and have inaccurate readings either too high or too low. If you can guess who will win the Masters with closest number of strokes, you will win 1 free flow meter. Please respond via Email by Wednesday April 10th to be entered to win!

Time Management Skills

It's normal to hear time management discussed in business circles; yet, it is a topic that can be of great benefit to everybody. Time is a challenge for all of us, whether we're business people, workers, students or stay at home moms or dads. There seems to be less time in today's world, and that's why it's a lot more important to learn how to properly manage our time. In this article, we are going to be discussing a few key reasons why time management is so important.

A big benefit of time management is just how it boosts your productivity. It is something that almost everybody hopes to be able to do. Seldom do you hear of individuals who feel that they've got adequate time to do the things they need and wish to do. In lots of instances, the problem is not, not enough time, but rather the fact that you do not have an efficient way of managing your time. Time management shows you how to set priorities and to focus on how much time you're wasting every day. The idea is not really to put yourself under more pressure to try and do more, but to utilize your time more wisely so you appear to have more of it.

One positive advantage of time management is decreased levels of stress. Not having enough time is one of the main reasons we experience stress. Think about how tense you feel if you are worrying about being late for a scheduled visit or if you're stuck in traffic. These issues relate to time, and if you have this type of situation often you could probably benefit from some training in time management. Learning how to control schedule so that overwhelmed us and become an issue indicates that you are supervising your time efficiently. We often believe that the solution to our problems is doing things faster, but it could be even better and more relaxing if we learn how to manage our time better.

Time management doesn't just include boosting your productivity and efficiency; you also want to feel more pleasure and a better quality of life. Time is an important component of life and so we feel better about our lives when we have the ability to control our time. Conversely, feeling that we're running out of time can create an overall feeling that we aren't good in some part of life. Those who are genuinely successful are aware that time management is a crucial skill they have to get good at. It could be the one determining factor that lets you live in the moment and appreciate your life instead of feeling that time is a merciless boss.

Time management is very significant in our present times, even more so than in previous decades. Existing technology allows us to do things faster than before and yet we feel forced to continually increase the pace. As an example, we continue to have difficulty keeping track of the large number of available information even with computers and other gadgets that are extremely powerful. Time management is the component that can give us a sense of control over time so we can quit rushing and loosen up.

http://www.articlecity.com/articles/self_improvement_and_motivation/article_9370.shtml

Sudoku Answers

7	2	3	8	6	1	5	4	9
1	9	4	5	7	2	3	8	6
8	5	6	9	4	3	2	1	7
3	4	1	6	5	8	9	7	2
2	8	5	7	1	9	6	3	4
6	7	9	2	3	4	8	5	1
5	1	2	4	8	6	7	9	3
9	3	7	1	2	5	4	6	8
4	6	8	3	9	7	1	2	5

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Tax Freedom Day

The tax increases scheduled to take effect in January 2013 – dubbed Taxmageddon – could have the American people spending more days than ever working to pay Federal and State government, a report from the Tax Foundation shows. A host of tax rates are scheduled to rise in January 2013 – when George W. Bush-era tax rates and the annual patch for the Alternative Minimum Tax expire – leading to a tax increase of approximately \$500 billion in 2013, according to the conservative Heritage Foundation.

The Congressional Budget Office reported in January that taxes would increase by \$4.6 trillion over ten years, if Congress allows the rates to rise as scheduled at the end of this year.

Tax Foundation economist William McBride estimated that this historic tax increase would push Tax Freedom Day to its latest point ever.

Tax Freedom Day is the day when – theoretically – Americans begin working for themselves and can stop paying for government. It assumes that 100 percent of a person's wages go to paying for Federal and State tax burdens. The day when government operations are fully paid for is Tax Freedom Day.

In 2012, Tax Freedom Day was April 17. However, Taxmageddon may push it until the end of April or beyond, McBride reported in a blog post on the foundation's website. At the federal level, the 2012 tax increases would add 11 days to the Tax Freedom Day calculation, pushing it to April 28.

Adding in rising state and local tax revenues could push Tax Freedom Day beyond its May 1 record.

CNSNews.com

