

FLEET FOCUS

A newsletter from Lee County Fleet Management

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ELVIS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

This month (January 8th) is the birthday of a legend of rock n' roll, Elvis Aron Presley. (His middle name really is spelled that way.) Elvis is affectionately known by millions of ardent fans as "The King" of rock n roll. Now, 32 years after his death, Elvis dynasty lives on and generates more money than it did when Elvis was alive. If you are a NASCAR fan, the words "The King" refer to a different personality, well known NASCAR race driver, Richard Petty. Petty was among the original drivers who raced directly on the beaches of Daytona. In spite of his retirement from driving, he is still involved with stock car racing and is still popular with the fans and the memorabilia stores.

So what makes these men so memorable? Why do millions of people visit Graceland every year looking hopefully toward the upstairs windows for a sign of a living legend? What makes NASCAR fans look anxiously for the black cowboy hat that has become "King" Richard's trademark? Perhaps it is the fact that both of these men were born of humble means. Maybe it is the fact that both of these men were seemingly unaware of their status. Perhaps it was the fact that both of these men have given a lot of their wealth to help other people. Whatever the case, these men have left a legacy behind them that others have recognized and admired.

Most of us will never be called "king" or recognized by the world as having done anything legendary. But will our families thank us in our later years for what we have deposited into their lives and the lives of their children? When we leave Lee County government or move to North Carolina with all the other retirees, will people think fondly of what we have planted in their lives? Will they thank us for our contributions or be glad we are gone? Will they thank us for speaking "life" in to them? As we start this new year, be aware of the legacy you are leaving behind in your families, your co-workers and your friends. Work to fulfill your destiny but remember to take other people along with you for the ride.

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

I do not want to get to the end of my life and find that I just lived the length of it. I want to have lived the width of it as well.

- Diane Ackerman

A resolution to avoid an evil is seldom framed till the evil is so far advanced as to make avoidance impossible.

- Thomas Hardy

Above all things, never be afraid. The enemy who forces you to retreat is himself afraid of you at that very moment.

Andre Maurois

"You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take."

Wayne Gretzky

If the first law of friendship is that it has to be cultivated, the second law is to be indulgent when the first law has been neglected.

- Voltaire

My advice to you concerning applause is this: enjoy it but never quite believe it.

Robert Montgomery

DO I REALLY NEED TO

KNOW THIS?

** The Dalmatian dog is named for the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia, where it is believed to have been originally bred.

** Fast food restaurants use yellow, red, and orange because those are the colors that stimulate hunger.

** A one-third pound stalk of broccoli contains more vitamin C than 204 apples.

** It takes about three hours for food to be broken down in the human stomach.

** Chocolate contains the same chemical your brain produces when you fall in love.

** Blueberries have more antioxidants than any other fruit or vegetables.

** James Doohan (Scotty of Star Trek) lost his right middle finger during WWII. Most of his scenes are shot to hide it. In scenes showing Scotty's hands operating the transporter, someone else's hands were always used.

** Name aside, Antarctica is the only major land mass in the world without ants.

** Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is known as the Golden City of 100 Spires because of all the church steeples on its skyline.

** Déjà vu is feeling that you've already experienced or seen something before even though you haven't. Jamais vu is feeling as

though you're experiencing something or meeting someone you're very familiar with for the first time.

** Strom Thurmond of South Carolina was the only write-in candidate ever elected to the US Senate. He was also the oldest and longest serving senator in US history.

** In 1916, iodine was the first anti-knock additive used in automobiles, but it proved to be too costly.

** Baseball slugger Ted Williams was also inducted into the International Game Fish Association Hall of Fame in 1999 and the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame in 2001.

** The praying mantis is the only known one-eared creature on earth.

** Winter wheat is planted in the fall, goes dormant after the first frost, grows quickly in the spring and is harvested in late spring or early summer.

** In fencing competition, a tie breaking bout is called a barrage.

** The Italian alphabet has 21 letters (no j, k, w, x, and y).

** The buildings shown on U.S. currency are:

\$5 - Lincoln Memorial;

\$10 - U.S. Treasury;

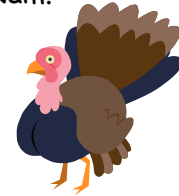
\$20 - the White House;

\$50 - the U.S. Capitol;

and \$100 - Independence Hall.

** Fourteen countries border China - Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, India, Kazakstan, Lyrgy-

stan, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, N. Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Viet Nam.

**LAST MONTH'S TRIVIA**

In Victorian England, turkeys were popular for Christmas dinners. Some of the birds were raised in Norfolk, and taken to market in London. To get them to London, the turkeys:

A) Were herded by sheep dogs

B) Flew

C) Rode in huge wagons called "turkey-vans"

D) Were supplied with boots made of sacking or leather

The correct answer is "D". The turkeys were walked to market. The boots protected their feet from the frozen mud of the road. Boots were not used for geese: instead, their feet were protected with a covering of tar. **Sylvia Rodriguez** from **Public Works Administration** was this month's prize winner.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO U**

Jayne Winters	1/04
Louis Braille	1/04
Russell Ball	1/05
Robert Duvall	1/05

Elvis Aron Presley	1/08
Julia Louis-Dreyfuss	1/13
Muhammad Ali	1/17
Paul Newman	1/26
Carol Channing	1/31



THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA

What NASCAR driver went from rookie of the year in 1979 to Winston Cup champ in 1980?

- Jimmy Johnson
- Richard Petty
- Bill Elliot
- Dale Earnhardt

Send your guess to Marilyn Rawlings at Fleet by the 25th of the month to be eligible to win a prize.

BEEN IN THE CORPORATE WORLD TOO LONG?

** Do you ask your waiter what the restaurant's core competencies are?

** Have you decided to make your family a team-based organization?

** Do you refer to dating as test marketing?

** Do you write executive summaries on your love letters?

** Do your Valentine's Day cards have bullet points?

** Do you believe you don't have any problems in your life, just issues and improvement opportunities?

** Can you explain the difference between re-engineering, down-sizing, right-sizing, and firing people?

** Do you talk to the waiter about process flow when dinner arrives

late?

** Do you feel sorry for Dilbert's boss?

** Can you use the term "value-added" without falling down laughing?

** Do you give constructive feedback to your dog?

HEALTH (?) TIPS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

** In Japan, Unagi-Nobori soda isn't your ordinary energy drink --this tonic is infused with eel extract. Eating eel is believed to deliver extra energy during the dog days of summer. Daphne Miller, author of 'The Jungle Effect' says that "eel is a great source of vitamin A, D and E as well as omega-3 fats. Unfortunately, much like the energy drinks that are marketed here in the U.S., any nutritious upside to the drink is far outweighed by all the sugar, caffeine, food coloring and other additives." The bottom line? If you want to get health benefits from eel, eat the sea animal instead of the soda.

** In Malaysia, spa-goers have been undergoing a unique exfoliation process incorporating fish. People immerse themselves in tanks and allow a unique breed of fish to nibble away at their dead skin.

** Researchers from the University of Ulster and United Arab Emirates University have been

experimenting with skin secretions from a South American shrinking frog, which they believe could be used to treat type 2 diabetes. Apparently a compound from the frog, which grows when they're tadpoles, stimulates

THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.

- Benjamin Franklin
(1706 - 1790)

If in the last few years you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse. You may be dead.

- Gelett Burgess
(1866 - 1951)

Good resolutions are like babies crying in church. They should be carried out immediately.

Charles M. Sheldon

insulin release.

(Excerpt from *Health.com*)

IS IT REALLY AN EMERGENCY?

Fleet Management on-call staff currently responds to after-hours phone calls. Recently, the number of actual after-hour emergencies is dwindling and the non-essential calls are increasing. Responding to these calls has increased our overtime substantially.

In an effort to reduce our expenses, Fleet staff members are reviewing the call out process to determine ways to reduce our costs of this program. We want to reduce our expenses without affecting the safety of County drivers and operators. Please watch the Fleet Focus for changes to our procedures. We will keep you posted as they are finalized.

WHAT'S IN A NAME???

** Sony - It originated from the Latin word 'sonus' meaning sound, and 'sonny' a slang used by Americans to refer to a bright youngster.

** Yahoo! - The word was invented by Jonathan Swift and used in his book 'Gulliver's Travels'. It represents a person who is repulsive in appearance and action and is barely human. Yahoo! Founders Jerry Yang and David Filo selected the name because they considered them-selves yahoos.

** Apple Computers - It was the favorite fruit of founder Steve Jobs. He was three months late in filing a name for the business, and he threatened to call his company Apple Computers if the other colleagues didn't suggest a better name by 5 o'clock. They didn't. He did.

** Google - The name started as a joke boasting

about the amount of information the search-engine would be able to search. It was originally named 'Googol', a word for the number represented by 1 followed by 100 zeros. After the founders - Stanford graduate students Sergey Brin and Larry Page presented their project to an angel investor - they received a check made out to 'Googole.'

** Intel - Bob Noyce and Gordon Moore wanted to name their new company 'Moore Noyce' but that was already trademarked by a hotel chain so they had to settle for an acronym of INTEgrated ELEctronics.

** Motorola - Founder Paul Galvin came up with this name when his company started manufacturing radios for cars. The popular radio company at the time was called Victrola.



NEW YEAR'S TRIVIA

** The Chinese New Year occurs at the second new moon after the beginning of the Northern Hemisphere winter (January 20th to February 20th).

** The Jewish calendar began 3,760 years before the beginning of the

Christian era. The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, is celebrated during September or October of the Gregorian calendar.

** Century years can be leap years only when they are divisible by 400 (e.g. 1600). This rule eliminates three leap years in four centuries, making the calendar sufficiently correct for ordinary purposes.

** In September 1752, the Julian calendar was re-placed with the Gregorian calendar in Great Britain and its American colonies. The Julian calendar was 11 days behind the Gregorian calendar, so September 14 followed September 2 on the day of the change. The result was that between September 3 and 13, nothing happened!

** The first Roman calendar (introduced in 535BC) had 10 months, with 304 days in a year that began in March. January and February were added later. In 46BC, Julius Caesar created "The Year of Confusion" by adding 80 days to the year making it 445 days long to bring the calendar back in step with the seasons. The solar year - with the value of 365 days and 6 hours - was made the basis of the calendar. To take care of the 6 hours, every 4th year was made a 366-day year. It was then that

Caesar decreed that the year begins with the 1st of January.

**In 325AD Constantine the Great, the first Christian Roman emperor, introduced Sunday as a holy day in a new 7-day week. He also introduced movable (Easter) and immovable feasts (Christmas).

QUOTABLE QUOTE

In prosperity our friends know us; in adversity we know our friends.

- *John Churton Collins*
English Literary Critic