

FLEET FOCUS

A newsletter from Lee County Fleet Management

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WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS?

Most of us think of Christopher Columbus as a great discoverer, but he was also a great leader and salesman. Before he could begin his great voyage of discovery that changed the world he had to sell what, to his contemporaries, was an utterly ridiculous idea! Consider the circumstances and conditions that were stacked against him. First, there was absolutely no market for a transatlantic voyage. Hundreds of years of tradition and superstition almost guaranteed there never would be. Second, although Columbus had made sea voyages as a passenger, he had never been the captain of a ship! Third, Columbus was a foreigner (an Italian) living in Portugal and then Spain. Fourth, Columbus did not have sufficient money to fund such an adventure. In fact, the only one who could legally fund a voyage of discovery was a head of state—a king or a queen. So his list of potential investors was rather short. Fifth, his price was not cheap. In addition to needing ships and support, Columbus had a long list of personal demands, including: 1.) a ten percent commission on all commerce between his discoveries and the mother country; 2.) a title – Admiral of the Ocean Sea (*no ego there!*); 3.) the permanent position of governor of all new territories; and 4.) all of his honors passed on to his heirs.

Remarkably, Columbus made the sale! He was propelled by a single-minded passion. He didn't mind asking again and again and again. He spent seven years asking King John of Portugal to fund the voyage. Then he went to Spain and worked on Ferdinand and Isabella for seven more years before he finally got his YES. Columbus had to "see" before he could "sail." Any successful leader knows this truth. People must buy into **you** before they buy into your dream. High morale in an organization comes from having faith in the person at the top.

- U. S. Andersen

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

One day, out of nowhere, you realize you don't know who you are, and none of the cards in your wallet provide the slightest clue to your real identity.

*Sam Keen
American Author*

Someday we'll look back on this moment and plow into a parked car.

Evan Davis

The cynic is his own worst enemy. It requires far less skill to run a wrecking company than it does to be an architect.

Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds. The latter cannot understand it when a man does not thoughtlessly submit to hereditary prejudices, but honestly and courageously uses his intelligence.

*Albert Einstein
Physicist*



DO I REALLY NEED TO KNOW THIS?

** In 1874, Levi Strauss blue jeans with copper rivets were priced at \$13.50 per dozen.

** The first Corvette rolled off the Chevrolet assembly line in Flint, Michigan in 1953 and sold for \$3,250.

** The first credit card, issued in 1950, was Diner's Club. Frank X. McNamara started the company with 200 card holders.

** The guillotine was first put to lethal use on April 25, 1792, at 3:30 PM, in Paris France. It separated highwayman Nicolas Jacques Pelletier's head from the rest of his body.

** The practice of trepanation, the surgical act of boring holes into the skull, began 7000 years ago and still continues today.

** Bobby Orr of the Boston Bruins won the James Norris Memorial Trophy eight times, more than any hockey player in history.

** In a typical restaurant, customers get 27 cents worth of food for each dollar they spend.

** "Old King Cole" was a real person. Coel was a 4th-century British prince who is said to be the father of St. Helen, who was the mother of Roman emperor Constantine. Coel

appreciated music, which may be why the nursery rhyme makes mention of "his fiddlers three".

** Drinking water after eating hot spicy food will not calm your tongue. The spices in most of the hot foods that we eat are oily, and oil and water don't mix. You are better off eating a piece of bread which will absorb the oily spices. A second solution is to drink milk which contains a substance called "casein" which will bind to the spices and carry them away.

** The first written reference to a milkshake was in a British newspaper in 1885. The recipe included a shot of whiskey.

** The cardinal is the most popular state bird. The seven states include: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

** The world's largest diamond was the Cullinan, found in South Africa in 1905. It weighed 3,106.75 carats uncut. It was cut into the Great Star of Africa, weighing 530.2 carats, the Lesser Star of Africa, which weighs 317.40 carats, and 104 other diamonds of nearly flawless color and clarity. They now form part of the British crown jewels.

** There are approximately 61,269 pizzerias in the US. Each person in America eats an average of 46 slices (23 lbs.) of pizza a year.

** The first World Series was played in 1903.



LAST MONTH'S TRIVIA

In a game of jacks, how many prongs are there on each jack?

- A. Five
- B. Six
- C. Seven
- D. Eight

The correct answer is "B" - six.



FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN IN AUGUST

Jeff Gordon	8/04
Whitney Houston	8/09
Fred Glasenapp	8/17
Brad Wright	8/18
Luis Pacheco	8/24
Richard Gere	8/31



THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA

How wide is an NFL football field?

- A. 100 feet
- B. 120 feet
- C. 140 feet
- D. 160 feet

Send your answer to Marilyn Rawlings at Fleet to be eligible for a prize. The winner will be selected randomly from all

correct respondents.



OLYMPIC TRIVIA

** Created in 1914, the Olympic flag contains five inter-connected rings on a white background. The five rings symbolize the five significant continents and are interconnected to symbolize the friendship to be gained from these international competitions.

** The rings, from left to right, are blue, yellow, black, green, and red. The colors were chosen because at least one of them appeared on the flag of every country in the world.

** The Olympic flag was first flown in 1920.

** Olympic medals are designed for each individual Olympic Games by the host city's organizing committee.

** Each medal must be at least 3mm thick and 60 mm in diameter. The silver medals must be made out of 92.5% silver and the gold medal covered in six grams of gold.

** During the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games, the procession of athletes is always led by the Greek team, followed by all the other teams in alphabetical order (in the language of the hosting country), except for the last team which is always the team of the hosting country.

** In 1921, Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic Games, borrowed a Latin phrase from his friend, Father Henri Didon, for the Olympic motto: Citius, Altius, Fortius ("Swifter, Higher, Stronger").

ANTI IDLE POLICY BEING DEVELOPED

Fleet is currently developing an anti-idle policy for County vehicles and equipment. Idling vehicles contribute to ozone formation due to the presence of two key ingredients in internal combustion engine emissions: nitrous oxides (NOX) and volatile organic compounds (VOC's). Idling vehicles produce unnecessary pollution that contributes to climate changes, smog and health problems, causes premature engine wear, wastes fuel, and increases costs to our taxpayers. In addition, an idling vehicle gets 0 miles per gallon. In general, it would include:

* With the exception of a warm-up period, not to exceed five (5) minutes at the beginning of the work shift, no vehicle will be left idling. *Exceptions will be included in the Policy.*

* Where applicable, electronic fuel controls will be set to shut down automatically after five (5) minutes of idle time.

*The engines of unattended or unoccupied vehicles are to be turned off.



TOP THINGS WE WISH WOULD MAKE A COMEBACK

1. The Far Side (comic)
 2. Lunch counters
 3. Easy to open packaging
 4. Hydrox Cookies
 5. Airplane Fun
 6. Phone Booths (no public cell phone use)
 7. Day games during the World Series (Advertising revenues prevailed)
 8. Full size spare tires
 9. Cursive writing
 10. McDonald's Fried Apple Pie
 11. 45 RPMs
 12. Real Milkshakes /Malts
 13. Gas Station Attendants
 14. Drive- in Theatres
 15. Jello Salads
 16. Chromed metal on cars
 20. Vent windows in cars
 25. Grape Nehi
- (From a list compiled by *WalletPop.com*)



SO LONG, FAREWELL, ADIOS, GOOD-BYE

Fleet Management sends it best wishes to all those County employees who participated in the early out program. Many were

long time friends and customers of Fleet. They will be missed.

SO THAT'S WHERE IT CAME FROM...

** The IKEA story began in 1931, when founder Ingvar Kamprad started selling matches to his nearby neighbors at the age of five. Later he would branch out into selling flower seeds, greeting cards, Christmas Decorations, and eventually, furniture. The name **IKEA** is an acronym for **Ingvar Kamprad Elmtaryd Agunnaryd** and is derived from the founder's name, the name "Elmtaryd" (the farm on which he was raised) and "Agunnaryd", the nearest village. (Source: Ikea.com)

** In the early 1800s, in the county of Worcester, a nobleman had two chemists -- John Lea and William Perrins -- try to duplicate a recipe he acquired on his travels. Lea and Perrins were not impressed with their initial results. The pair found the taste unpalatable, and simply left the jars in their cellar to gather dust. A few years later, they stumbled across them and decided to taste the contents again. To their delight, the aging process had turned it into a delicious, savory sauce. (Source: www.leaperrins.com)

** In 1915, T.L. Williams created the **Maybelline Company**, a family-owned business. The company was named after his sister **Maybel**, from whom

he originally received the idea of producing and selling an easy-to-use product to darken eyelashes.

(Source: maybelline.com)

** Hasbro was founded in 1923 by two brothers, Henry and Helal Hassenfeld, in a small office in Providence, Rhode Island. Originally named **Hassenfeld Brothers**, the Company first sold textile remnants, but soon moved into manufacturing pencil boxes and school supplies. Hassenfeld Brothers changed its name to **Hasbro Industries** in 1968. (Source: Hasbro.com)

** In 1956, **Chuck Williams** purchased a hardware store in downtown **Sonoma, Calif.** with the intention of converting it into a store specializing in French cookware. Within two years the shovels and electrical tape had been replaced with copper pans and chefs' knives, and the first **Williams-Sonoma** store was born.



COOL WEB SITE

GetHuman.com

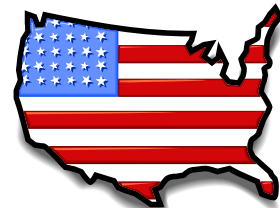
When you're sick of pressing 10 or more options in order to reach a human and spending many minutes or even hours on hold, consult the GetHuman database of secret phone numbers and codes that get an actual, live person on

the line for customer service at nearly 1000 companies.



BUT OFFICER, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT...

Just a reminder ...if you are in an accident with a County vehicle, an incident report must be completed. The original report along with the repair estimates should be sent to Risk Management with copies to Fleet Management. Many times, Fleet receives the repair request in the One World system but can't approve it because they don't know anything about the repair. Save your fiscal staff some aggravation by sending all pertinent information to Fleet prior to submitting the PO request. Also, Fleet Management will notify department directors when they find vehicle damage and no incident report is on file.



BATTLEGROUND ELECTION STATES

1. Iowa
2. Colorado
3. Wisconsin
4. Minnesota
5. Missouri
6. Virginia
7. Michigan
8. Ohio
9. Pennsylvania
10. Florida
11. Oregon
12. Nevada

13. New Mexico
14. New Hampshire
15. Maine