

A Free Monthly Newsletter From Your Friends At Riverside Tire Center

Worth The Paper It's Printed On? A History Of The Banknote

Governments print it, misers hoard it under their mattresses, rich people light their cigars with it, but where does the idea of paper money come from, anyway?

China, actually. The banknote apparently originated during the Tang Dynasty (7th century), to replace bulky copper coins carried by merchants. The coins were minted with rectangular holes in their center so they could be strung together on cords, but wealthy merchants found that lugging their coins around was difficult.

A system was born in which merchants left their coins with a trusted agent in exchange for a note stating exactly how much money was being held. The merchant could return the note at any time to redeem his or her coins, and in time paper money called "jiaozi" evolved.

In Europe, banknotes first came into use in the 14th century. The term "banknote" derives from *nota di banco*. The holder of a note could redeem it for an amount of silver or gold held on deposit with a bank.

In the New World, the Massachusetts Bay Colony was the first of the American colonies to circulate its own banknotes in the early 1690s, but all 13 colonies were issuing their own notes by the early 1700s.

The First Bank of the United States, chartered by Congress in 1789 shortly after the signing of the Constitution, was authorized to issue banknotes, but the U.S. federal government didn't start printing its own paper money until 1862.



A Humorous Look At Life

Thoughts and observations that might be true (or should be):

- * Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- * The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
- * If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- * I asked God for a bike, but it turns out God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked God for forgiveness.
- * We never really grow up. We only learn how to act in public.
- * A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a workstation . . .
- * I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.
- * Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, "In case of emergency, notify . . ." I put "DOCTOR."
- * You do not need a parachute to skydive. You do need a parachute to skydive twice.
- * I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.
- * You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- * I always take life with a grain of salt. Then a slice of lemon and a shot of tequila.
- * When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the fire department usually uses water.



Do You Have A Question About Car Maintenance That You Want Answered?

We love to hear from all of our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question about anything related to your vehicle, feel free to give us a call at **979-885-4009**, email us at **info@riversidetire.com** or visit us at **www.riversidetire.com**

October Events

- October 8th Yom Kippur
- October 10th Columbus Day
- October 13th Navy Birthday
- October 31st Halloween
- October 1-31st National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



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Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Special thanks go out to all of our clients and friends who graciously referred our shop to their friends and neighbors last month! Our business is built based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you. We just couldn't do it without you.

Jamie Robinson

Columbus Day: The True Story

Everyone knows that Columbus commanded three ships when he first voyaged to the New World: The *Niña*, the *Pinta*, and the *Santa María*. Right?

Actually, according to a 1987 article in the *Los Angeles Times*, those weren't the actual names of the ships that the intrepid explorer sailed on. They were nicknames. The *Santa María's* real name was *La Galicia*. The *Niña* was really the *Santa Clara*. The *Pinta's* true name is unknown. The ships were built and supplied by a Spanish town called Palos as a punishment for offending the crown.

And you probably know that Columbus didn't actually "prove" the world was round. By the 15th century, virtually all educated Europeans especially seagoing navigators knew the world wasn't flat, though some uneducated folks probably still expected him to fall off the edge.



'Let's Do Lunch' Less Common These Days

When was the last time you took a whole hour for lunch and actually left your desk? A survey from CareerBuilder reports that workers these days take an average lunch break of 20 to 40 minutes, and 18 percent of employees stay in their cubicle, office, or workspace to eat.

What should they do instead to feel fresh and productive the rest of the day? Try these activities:

- ➔ Take a walk outside
- ➔ Talk to a friend
- ➔ Take a quick nap
- ➔ Do some stretching exercises
- ➔ Play a quick, mentally challenging game



The Sky's The Limit For Solar Power

As sure as the sun rises every day, solar power appears to be growing in popularity. A survey by Applied Materials, a semiconductor manufacturer, found that 27 percent of Americans say they'd consider installing solar panels on their homes. Why? Well, 65 percent say that government incentives reducing their initial cost would drive their decision, and 54 percent felt that solar panels would increase their home value.



Costs for solar panels have fallen from around \$4 per watt in 2008 to just \$1 per watt today. Still, solar power accounts for less than 1 percent of U.S. energy production.

Make Sure To Wash Those Fruits & Veggies

What could be better for your health than fresh fruits and vegetables? But even the ripest apple or the leafiest lettuce can carry dirt and nasty bacteria that need to be thoroughly washed off before it's safe to eat. Follow these tips for making sure your produce is untainted:

- ✓ **Start with a clean slate.** Wipe down your kitchen counter, scrub your knives and cutting boards, and wash your hands before cleaning your food.
- ✓ **Water is best.** Don't use soap or detergents to wash your produce; they can seep into the items and potentially make people sick. Use cool water and wash for 30 to 60 seconds in most cases. Some nutritionists say that a mixture of three parts water and one part white vinegar or lemon juice is even more effective, as long as you thoroughly rinse the produce when you're done.
- ✓ **Wash peeled food, too.** Dirt and microbes can hide in the crevices of such fruits as oranges and bananas, so even though you don't eat the skin, washing it prevents the spread of harmful material from the peel to the fruit through contact with your fingers.
- ✓ **Don't wash and store.** Wait until you're ready to eat the item in question. If you wash it and then stick it in the refrigerator, it will retain moisture and spoil faster.
- ✓ **Use a brush.** For firmer fruits and vegetables such as apples and potatoes, a stiff vegetable brush can do a good job of removing dirt and particles you don't want to eat.



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Congratulations To Our Client Of The Month!

Every month, we choose a very special client of the month. It's our way of acknowledging our great clients and saying thanks to those that support our business with referrals and repeat business.

This month's Client of the Month is

Eddie Lee



WE'LL KEEP YOUR MOST PRECIOUS 'CARGO' SAFE!



On The Origins Of The Jack O' lantern



Have you ever wondered how the practice of turning pumpkins into scary jack o' lanterns was born? The origin is quite fascinating.

O' lantern sounds Irish, and it is. The flickering, carved pumpkin faces that animate the American Halloween derive from an old Irish custom of creating rustic lanterns from vegetables. The Irish child's typical Halloween flashlight was a hollowed-out turnip or potato with a candle inside, and when the Irish landed in America in the nineteenth century, they were quick to spot the possibilities in the pumpkin.

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Our Love For Smartphones

You love your smartphone, but do you sleep with it? According to a survey of 3,700 "mobile workers" conducted by mobile service provider iPass, 61 percent sleep with their smartphones, and 38 percent wake up in the middle of the night to check email.



Thirty-one percent turn to their smartphones immediately upon waking up in the morning, and 30 percent check their messages every six to 12 minutes even when they're not officially on the clock. Not surprising, 29 percent in the survey said mobile technology was causing friction in their relationships.

Do You Want To Win A 25.00 Gift Certificate to Hometown Hardware?

The first 10 people to call with the correct answer will be eligible to win. At the end of the month we'll draw one lucky name. That winner will receive a 25.00 Gift Certificate to Hometown Hardware from us! Here is this month's trivia question: In what year did the U.S. Federal government start printing its own paper money?

(Hint: the answer is somewhere in this newsletter)

- a) 1690
- b) 1700
- c) 1789
- d) 1862

Call right now with your answer!

Last month's trivia challenge was, *In 1983 what was the name of the lobster in the Saturday Night Live skit that Eddie Murphy performed in?* a) Larry. Congratulations to last month's lucky winner!

Harvey Stuessel

A Question Of Honesty

A little boy and his mother were visiting a cemetery, placing flowers on a relative's grave. The boy wandered around for a while, looking at the tombstones, then came up to his mother and asked, "Mommy, do they ever bury two people in one grave?"



"I don't think so," his mother replied. "Why would you ask that?"

"Because over there I saw a grave that said, 'Here lies a lawyer and an honest man.'"

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October

What's Inside?

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& Much More!



What's The Answer?



Is It Worth The Paper It's Printed On?

*What Percent Of Employees Stay At Their Cubical,
Office Or Workspace To Eat Lunch?*

How Much Does It Cost To Produce Solar Power?

*Did Columbus Really Sail On Ships Named The Nina, The Pinta
& Santa Maria?*

***The Answers To These And Many
More Questions Are Inside***

