

August 2009

In this issue:

Announcing:

Jason Mann joins team

Vista Series—Part 5:

Should you wait for 7?

Planning for 2010:

Business & budget

Tax Free Weekend:

August 7-9

Yours Personally:

Proper portion sizes

On the Lyte Side -

Cartoon

Important Dates:

Dates to Remember:

7th-9th - Sales Tax Free Weekend

15th - National Relaxation Day

In History:

1492 - Christopher Columbus left on his first voyage, leaving Spain on the 3rd and arriving in the Bahamas on the 12th of October

1914 - World War I began

1945 - The atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan

1959 - Hawaii entered the union as a state

1961 - Construction of the Berlin Wall begins

1963 - Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I have a dream" speech in front of a crowd of 200,000 civil rights demonstrators in Washington, DC

1969 - The music festival Woodstock was held on a farmer's field in Bethel, New York, becoming one of the defining music events in history

1981 - MTV began broadcasting. "Video Killed the Radio Star" by the Buggles was the first video

Little Bits:

The Internet got its introduction in 1988. That means the Internet is over 20 years old!

Radio Shack invented

Announcing:

We are happy to announce the addition of Jason Mann to the Blue Oak team! Jason served our country in the Army, including a tour in Korea. Most recently, he returned to the states after completing a year-long assignment in Iraq as a civilian IT support technician.

Wedding bells will ring for Jason this month, to be followed by the purchase of a home as well, so he's got a lot going on in addition to a new job! Please help us welcome Jason when you have the opportunity to meet him!

To Vista or not to Vista....The series

Part Five - Should You Wait for Windows 7?

(The final installment in this multi-part series.)

Some companies are considering whether to deploy Windows Vista or whether to skip in anticipation of Windows 7. The discussion is often phrased as one of balancing costs and timing of releases.

Historically, mainstream deployment does not occur when Microsoft releases a product but 18 months later. The mainstream deployment cycle isn't expected to begin for Windows 7 until around mid-2011. Due to the lag time between typical OS evaluation and deployment, companies who skip an OS release may end up relying on outdated software. For the vast majority of vendors and suppliers, deployment, application, and device support are well-established for Windows Vista, making it an operational best practice to begin migrating now.

Moving to Windows Vista will ease migration to Windows 7. It is a goal of the Windows 7 release to minimize application compatibility for customers who have deployed Windows Vista since there was considerable kernel and device level innovation in Windows Vista. The Windows 7 release is expected to have only minor changes in these areas. Customers who are still using Windows XP when Windows 7 releases will have a similar application compatibility experience moving to Windows 7 as exists moving to Windows Vista from Windows XP.

2010—Budget and Business Planning:

It is said that hindsight is 20/20. What kind of vision do you have in planning for 2010? I'm sure you don't want to find yourself looking back thinking, "I wish I would have..." or "If only I'd checked into..." Particularly in these challenging economic times, business planning is more important than ever! Many businesses are finding it necessary to alter offerings, adapt product lines and reach into new services to remain competitive.

It is the goal of Blue Oak Technology Solutions to be your partner as you approach your unique, individual business plans going forward. As the annual budget preparation season quickly approaches, please contact us. We are happy to help provide guidance and consultation to you whether you are exploring new avenues, looking to cut costs through greater technology efficiencies, or have a new project undertaking in mind.

As always, we truly want to do our part to help you succeed!

Tax Free Weekend is August 7-9:

Section 144.049, RSMo establishes a sales tax holiday for certain back-to-school purchases effective during a three-day period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in August and ending at midnight on the Sunday following. The sales tax exemption is limited to:

"Clothing" - any article of wearing apparel, including footwear, intended to be worn on or about the human body. The term shall include, but not be limited to, cloth and other material used to make school uniforms or other school clothing. Items normally sold in pairs shall not be separated to qualify for the exemption. The term shall not include watches, watchbands, jewelry, handbags, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, scarves, ties, headbands, or belt buckles—must have a taxable value of \$100 or less.

"School supplies" - any item normally used by students in a standard classroom for educational purposes, including but not limited to, textbooks, notebooks, paper, writing instruments, crayons, art supplies, rulers, book bags, backpacks, handheld calculators, chalk, maps, and globes, not to exceed \$50 per purchase. The term shall not include watches, radios, CD players, headphones, sporting equipment, portable or desktop telephones, copiers, or other office equipment, furniture, or fixtures. School supplies shall also include computer software having a taxable value of \$350 or less.

"Personal computers" - a laptop, desktop, or tower computer system, not to exceed \$3,500, which consists of a central processing unit, random access memory, a storage drive, a display monitor, and a keyboard and devices designed for use in conjunction with a personal computer, such as a disk drive, memory module, compact disk drive, daughterboard, digitalizer, microphone, modem, motherboard, mouse, multimedia speaker, printer, scanner, single-user hardware, single-user operating system, soundcard, or video card.

Personally Yours:

is over 20 years old.

Radio Shack invented the first laptop computer in the world.

In 1899, a pharmacist named George Bunting blended his own cold cream, which, in addition to removing makeup and relieving sunburn, gained popularity for its ability to cure eczema. The product's claim of "No Eczema" led to its name, Noxzema

Thanks to the electric light, the average American today sleeps 1.5 hours less each day than Americans of 60 years ago.

Whitcomb L. Judson, the inventor of the zipper, originally intended his invention to save people the trouble of buttoning and unbuttoning their shoes every day. He named it the "Clasp locker and unlocker for shoes."

Contact Info:
Traci McKown
816-415-2310
tmckown@blueoaktech.com

Personality Yours:

Proper portion sizing is a critical part of healthy weight management, but it's difficult to know exactly how big a portion of food should be. Especially when portion sizes at restaurants today have grown dramatically large! Even if you have your food pyramid memorized to know how many portions of dairy and grain you should have each day, how big should those portions really be? (By the way, if it's been a while since you sat through Health Class and you need a refresher on the food pyramid, go to www.webmd.com/food-recipes/healthtool-food-pyramid or www.mypyramid.gov.)

Here is a convenient "tech" tool to help you learn what a portion size should look like and to keep bookmarked as a handy reference: www.webmd.com/diet/healthtool-portion-size-plate. Using everyday objects such as a baseball, deck of cards, light bulb, or package of dental floss, images depicting the appropriate portion sizes for many common foods are available. The portion sizes are geared for adults, but parents can use this guide to gain a better understanding, and then scale back from there. A good guideline for preschoolers is to serve 1 tablespoon of food for each year of age.

Who knew that a serving of ice cream should only be about the size of a light bulb?!

On the Lyte Side:



2001 Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com

"Opportunity paged me, beeped me, linked me, e-mailed me, faxed me, and spammed me. But I was expecting it to knock!"