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Geek Your Pencil Box

September = Back To School, much to the dismay to teenagers everywhere.



1. Super Phone Cases

2. Super Mario Wallpaper

In case your dorm-mates can't already tell you're a geek.



3. Sheldon Cooper Desk Calendar



So you can schedule pizza night and LAN parties appropriately.

4. Pony-Pack

To keep all your action figures in?



5. Use The USB!

6. School Supplies

Everyone needs pen and paper!



Google's Wings Clipped

Google Inc. founder Larry Page and Sergey Brin may have to cough up more of their hard-earned money if they want to continue to operate their fleet of private jets, after the U.S. Department of Defense ended a little-known arrangement that had allowed the tech billionaires to travel on sharply discounted jet fuel bought from the Pentagon for years.

The agreement began in 2007 between the Google founders and the government. It ended August 31st after officials at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (which sponsored the arrangement) opted not to renew it.

This move followed discussions earlier this year between the Pentagon and NASA over whether the Google founders may have exceeded contract terms by using fuel for non-government flights.

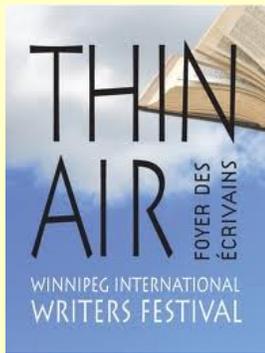
The arrangement is outlined in a letter from a Pentagon official which was released by Sen. Charles Grassley. Sen. Grassley is seeking an audit of the arrangement by the Pentagon's inspector general, concerned that some executives are getting a special deal on fuel that aren't available to other businesses.

The relationship with the Google founders already is part of an ongoing audit by NASA's inspector general. The cheap fuel for the Google executives were courtesy of a special agreement with NASA, whose Ames Research Centre is based at Moffett Federal Airfield, a former U.S. Navy base that is the most convenient airport to Google's Mountain View, CA headquarters (about 3 miles away).

Though closed to most other non-government traffic, NASA signed a deal in 2007 allowing H211 LLC, a private company representing jets owned by the Google founders and Google Charman Eric Schmidt, to base aircraft at Moffett. Google's fleet? Recently inventoried at 7 jets and 2 helicopters.

Originally, the deal had been struck as Google had agreed to "perform scientific flights and other NASA-related transport". However, came into question after several non-government related flights were noted, including a flight to Croatia for a wedding in which Mr. Page (Google's CEO) was a groomsman.

Since the fuel cutoff, the Google executives' planes have been coping by flying back to Moffett with extra fuel purchased elsewhere.



August 2013

Trivia Winner:

**Perry Grosshans at
Winnipeg International
Writers' Festival!**

In September each year, Winnipeg welcomes writers from Canada and around the world for a week of readings, lectures, interviews, conversations, book launches, and other events. That week of literary feasting—which reaches out into the rural areas of the province as well—is THIN AIR, the Winnipeg International Writers Festival.

Beginning with a few days of events, the festival has evolved into 9 full days of events. Their programming continues throughout the year, allowing them to showcase special writers and performances at Winnipeg venues throughout the year. Initially staffed with volunteers, they now have full-time staff, 3 of them year-round!

THIN AIR also runs a school program which showcases acclaimed writers for kid, from new reader to near-adult readers. It has two streams: Writers to the Schools where writers are welcomed to their classrooms or libraries, and the School Stage where middle-years students take in theatre-style shows.

This year's festival dates are: September 20-28. With programming for adults and children, in English and French, and lot of free stuff, THIN AIR is an infusion of energy into the thriving literary culture of this city!

**For more information,
call Perry Grosshans at 204-927-7373, or check
out their website at www.thinairwinnipeg.ca.**

Winnipeg International Writers Festival requires their computers to keep running at their full potential. With TbyD's Monthly Managed Services doing routine maintenance work behind-the-scenes, their computers are working when they need them!

**Don't forget your entry for this month's trivia for a
chance to win coffee & donuts...delivered to your
workplace!**

**PLUS, Your company will be featured In next
month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, Twitter,
and our Facebook page!**

Your feature will reach over 2000 potential customers!!

Pretty Fly For A White Guy!

Dancing With The Stars going into their 17th season, and apparently the pickings are getting slim.

Everyone's favorite 'Science Guy' Bill Nye will compete against 11 other celebrities (and I use that term loosely) in the popular dancing reality show.

To explain his decision to go on the show, Bill states "In order for us to carry out our mission to get the world—our world—excited about and supportive of space exploration, we need to engage people everywhere. The show is watched by millions. I'll be there as your CEO of The Planetary Society and a student of Carl Sagan. Buzz Aldrin appeared on this show three years ago."

Space geek aside, now we get to see if he's figured out how to calculate the exact dance moves that it takes to win the whole thing.

Bill Nye will be competing against such 'celebrities' as Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi, NFL wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson, Saved By The Bell star Elizabeth Berkley, and Ozzy Osbourne's son Jack.

On his chances of winning, Bill reports "I'll be fighting decades of bad posture, which may prove my undoing. It will be a personal exploration".

I just hope he wears his bow tie.

Spider Clones?



Since we're on the science geek path...a spider that builds elaborate, fake spiders and hang them in its web has been discovered in the Peruvian Amazon. The arachnid crafts the larger spider from leaves, debris and dead insects. Though there are other sculpting arachnids, this is the first one observed to build a replica with multiple, spidery legs.

Scientists suspect the fake spiders serve as decoys, part of defense mechanism meant to confuse or distract predators.

COMING THIS FALL!

This fall TbyD will present a
Lunch & Learn

Call 204-800-3167 Or email: helpdesk@tbyd.ca

Yahoo! Debuts! New! Logo!

After 18 years without change, and a 30-day count-down of rejected logos, Yahoo has finally unveiled its new logo:



Yahoo states "We wanted a logo that stayed true to our roots, yet embraced the evolution of our products".

The logo is so whimsical that, not only is the exclamation point still part of the logo, but it's also animated, and bounces around before settling in its spot when you visit Yahoo.com.

Christmas Is Coming...

As happens every year in the fall, a computer disaster has occurred which will affect prices going into the Holiday season.

The world's #2 maker of DRAM (memory) chips, DK Hynix Inc, states it has suspended operations at its China plant, due to a fire. This plant produces around 12% of global memory chips. A spokesperson for Hynix (a major Apple Inc. supplier), stated it was unclear when production would resume.

I think it's safe to say with the holiday season coming up, that any prolonged suspension could tighten global supply of DRAM chips, widely used on computers and mobile devices. DRAM chip prices have nearly doubled this year already in the first 6 months of this year due to tight supply.

SEPTEMBER TRIVIA QUESTION:

Which one of the A Team was a Pilot?

Email your answer to: answer@tbyd.ca for your chance to

win coffee & donuts delivered to your workplace!

PLUS, Your company will be featured in next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!

Your feature will reach over 2000 other people!

"Red Light" = STOP!

I know many of you have been waiting for this since the 80's. Now the time is here!

Eddie Murphy has recently recorded a full-length all-reggae album called "9". His first single "Red Light", was released Sept. 3 and features Snoop Dogg as his alter ego "Snoop Lion".

See the video and hear the "Red Light" single at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRmELIhCZbA>

After listening to the first 15 seconds, I think he should have let his music career die with "Party All The Time" and "Whatzupwitu".

TechTip Postcard

Insider Tips and Secrets to Get The MOST Out of Your Computer

Exclusive FREE Report:

“What Every Business Owner Should Know About Backing Up Their Data To Get A FAST, Easy, And Economical Recovery In The Event Of A Disaster”

If your data is important to your business and you cannot afford to have your operations halted for days – even weeks – due to data loss or corruption, then you need to read this report and act on the information inside. This report will outline the most commonly made, costly mistakes that most small business owners make with their data backups, as well as important questions you should ask any offsite backup provider before giving them access to your data.

You'll Discover:

- ✓ What managed backups are, and why EVERY business should have them in place.
- ✓ 12 critical characteristics you should absolutely demand from any backup service; do NOT trust your data to anyone who does not meet these criteria.
- ✓ Where tape backups fail and give you a false sense of security..
- ✓ Frightening trends, cases, and questions every business owner should know and consider regarding data security.
- ✓ The single most important thing to look for in a backup service provider.



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