

THE NATIONWIDE STANDARD

Vol. 13, Issue 3

A Free Quarterly Newsletter for Lenders

10/3/2017

Serving you since 1987

Our Mission

"We are committed to being the foremost provider of accurate information and quality customer service at a competitive price for our clients."



WE WANT YOUR DELETIONS

Nationwide Real Estate Tax Service, Inc.
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THE 2017 ECLIPSE (EXCLUSIVE UPDATE!)

On Monday, August 21, 2017, at 10:15 am (PDT), we donned our trusty special Eclipse Viewing Specs, stepped outside our offices in Santa Rosa, CA, and saw...



...a clouded over sky. Oh well, we hope some of you got to witness this rare and special event (and did not stare at it directly without proper protection. For those of you who missed it (or were cursed by cloud cover), save your Sun Specs... the next eclipse to pass over North America will be on April 8, 2024.

Did You Know?

Top 10 Cities in US that People Are Moving To:

1. Charlotte, North Carolina
2. Houston, Texas
3. Las Vegas, Nevada
4. Seattle, Washington
5. Orlando, Florida
6. Tampa, Florida
7. Denver, Colorado
8. Phoenix, Arizona
9. Dallas, Texas
10. Atlanta, Georgia

Source: NRE Investor

Epic Product Failures

8. **The Edsel:** Known for shoddy workmanship, this 1950s Ford car sold only 84,000 models and cost Ford \$350 million.
9. **Segway:** This 2-wheeled vehicle promised to revolutionize travel, but at \$3000 a unit and its reputation as a sidewalk menace, it soon became a joke. In 2010, the owner of the company died when the Segway he was riding plunged off a cliff.
10. **Vegetable Flavored Jell-O:** Celery, Seasoned Tomato, Mixed Vegetable, and Italian Salad.
11. **Pepsi A.M.:** A "clear" cola beverage meant to be drank at breakfast. Of course.
12. **Downeyflake's Toaster Eggs:** This hockey puck egg mass would cook in your toaster.
13. **Heublein's Wine & Dine Dinner:** Included a small bottle of cooking wine that people mistook as to be served with the meal.
14. **Colored Ketchup:** Funky Purple, Blastin' Green, Stellar Blue... or how about "Mystery Color" to coat your fries?
15. **New Coke:** In 1985, while trying to revitalize their brand, Coca-Cola scrapped their old recipe for a new one. It didn't go over well; there were literally protests in the streets.
16. **Exubera:** In 2006, this inhalable form of insulin was no more effective than regular insulin... but twice as expensive.
17. **Ayds:** Around since the 1930s, this appetite suppressing candy suffered in the 1980s when the epidemic of the same sounding name emerged.
18. **Arch Deluxe Burger:** Trying to appeal to adults in 1996 with a larger, and more adult-sounding sandwich, this McDonald's mistake was a \$150 million campaign failure, not to mention the sandwich had 79% of daily salt intake and 36 grams of fat.
19. **Newton:** Apple failed with this personal digital assistant; it was too small for a tablet computer and too large to fit in one's pocket.
20. **XFL:** The WWE's answer to stodgy NFL football rules failed miserably after one season.
21. **Zune:** Microsoft's answer to Apple's iPod came 2 years after the iPod was already established.



1. **Olestra:** This zero-calorie fat substitute introduced in the 1990s caused "abdominal cramping and loose stools", just like its warning label warned it may.
2. **Apple Maps:** In 2012, Apple introduced this mapping program which pulled in data from numerous suppliers, to produce maps that drew train stations in water and highways that crossed airport runways, and that placed target push-pins nowhere near the intended destinations.
3. **"John Carter":** While plenty of movies "bomb" their way out of the theaters, Disney's 2012 sci-fi adventure lost them \$200 million dollars.
4. **Singles by Gerber:** Trying to branch out to a wider audience than babies, in 1974 Gerber introduced an adult version of their meals-in-a-jar. Who couldn't resist Beef Burgandy, Blueberry Delight, Mediterranean Vegetables, or Creamed Beef... in a jar?
5. **Smokeless Cigarette:** RJ Reynolds spent \$325 million to develop this poorly conceived product in 1988. It required special instructions to light and left a charcoal taste in the mouth.
6. **Pancakes & Sausage... on a stick:** This Jimmy Dean product is still around, but it could be considered a failure in aesthetics.
7. **Bottled Water for Pets:** Despite having such pet-friendly flavors such as beef, chicken, and fish, somehow it just didn't take. The K9 Water Co in 2003 tried a different angle: "Gutter Water," "Puddle Water," "Hose Water," and "Toilet Water" for dogs. Surprisingly, or not, this too failed.

Hours of Operation:
Mon – Fri, 8am – 5pm

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Halloween, 10/31

"Hold on, man. We don't go anywhere with "scary," "spooky," "haunted," or "forbidden" in the title."
~ Shaggy (Scooby-Doo)

Daylight Saving Time Ends, 11/5

Fall Back 1 Hour

Veteran's Day, 11/11

"The more we sweat in peace the less we bleed in war."
~ Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit

Thanksgiving Day, 11/23

"On Thanksgiving Day we acknowledge our dependence."
~ William Jennings Bryan

Christmas Day, 12/25

"The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other."
~ Burton Hillis

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Infamous Last Meals

The following is a list of last meals of infamous Death Row inmates before they were executed:

1. 1 jar of pickles – **Stacey Lamont Lawson**
2. 1 bag of assorted Jolly Ranchers – **Gerald Lee Mitchell**
3. Single olive with the pit in it – **Victor Feguer**
4. Lobster tail, steak, apple pie, vanilla ice cream; eat while watching Lord of the Rings trilogy – **Ronnie Lee Gardner**
5. Steak, fried chicken, cherry Kool-Aid, pecan pie – **Ricky Ray Rector**
6. "Justice, equality, world peace" – **Odell Barnes Jr.**
7. Garden salad w/ranch, a peach, a banana – **Karla Faye Tucker**
8. Steak, eggs, hash browns, toast w/butter & jelly, milk, juice – **Ted Bundy**
9. 12 fried shrimp, bucket of original KFC, French fries, 1 pound of strawberries – **John Wayne Gacy**
10. 2 pints of mint and chocolate chip ice cream – **Timothy McVeigh**
11. 1 ice cream sandwich – **Gary Leon Brown**
12. 1 flour tortilla, 1 glass of water – **Charles Francis Rumbaugh**
13. 2 dozen steamed mussels, 2 dozen steamed clams (flavored by a wedge of lemon), a double cheeseburger from Burger King, a half-dozen barbecued spare ribs, 2 strawberry milkshakes, ½ of a pumpkin pie with whipped cream, diced strawberries, and a 16-ounce can of SpaghettiOs with meatballs, served at room temperature. – **Thomas J. Grasso**



Infamous Last Words

The following is a list of last words of infamous Death Row inmates before they were executed:

1. "Let's do it!" – **Gary Gilmore** (firing squad)
2. "How's this for a headline: French Fries." – **James D. French** (electric chair)
3. "Forgive me sir, I meant not to do it." (after stepping on the Executioner's foot) – **Marie Antoinette** (decapitation)
4. "Soldiers, Fire!" – **Michael Ney** (firing squad)
5. "I would like to tell everybody that I'm sorry about the situation that happened. My bad - everybody is here because of what happened. I'd like to thank everybody that's been here through the years. The little kids overseas - they really changed me. Sister Doris, mom, brothers, sister, dad; I love ya'll. My brother... where's my stunt double when you need one? My Lord is my life and savior, nothing shall I fear." – **Vincent Gutierrez** (lethal injection)
6. "Well, gentlemen, you are about to see a baked Appel." – **George Appel** (electric chair)
7. "I'd rather be fishing." – **Jimmy Glass** (electric chair)
8. "I did not get my SpaghettiOs, I got spaghetti. I want the press to know this." – **Thomas J. Grasso** (lethal injection)



Just For Laughs

The Tea Set

A girl was given a tea set for her second birthday. It became one of her favorite toys, and when her mother went away for a few weeks to care for her sick aunt, the toddler loved to take her father a little cup of tea, which was just water really, while he was engrossed watching the news on TV.

He sipped each "cup of tea" he was brought and lavished generous praise on the taste, leaving the little girl immensely proud.

Eventually the mother returned home and the father couldn't wait to show her how his little princess had been looking after him. On cue, the girl took him his "cup of tea" and he sipped it before praising it to the heavens.

The mother watched him drink it and said: "Did it ever occur to you that the only place she can reach to get water is the toilet?"

Man Of The House

A husband had just finished reading a new book entitled, "You Can Be The Man of Your House."

He stormed to his wife in the kitchen and announced, "From now on, you need to know that I am the man of this house and my word is Law. You will prepare me a gourmet meal tonight, and when I'm finished eating my meal, you will serve me a sumptuous dessert. Afterwards, you are going to draw me a bath so I can relax. You will wash my back and towel me dry and bring me my robe. Then, you will massage my feet and hands. Then tomorrow, guess who's going to dress me and comb my hair?"

The wife replied, "The damn funeral director would be my first guess."



The Tale

Duane Confesses to Alvy Singer

Duane, sitting on his bed, sees Alvy walking past the open door.

DUANE: "Alvy."

ALVY (Walking in): "Oh, hi, Duane, how's it goin'?"

DUANE: "This is my room."

ALVY (Looking around): "Oh, yeah?" (He clears his throat) "Terrific."

DUANE: "Can I confess something?"

Alvy sighs and sits down, leaning his arm on Duane's dresser. Duane's face is big, lighted by a single lamp.

DUANE: "I tell you this because, as an artist, I think you'll understand. Sometimes, when I'm driving... on the road at night... I see two headlights coming toward me. Fast. I have this sudden impulse to turn the wheel quickly, head-on into the oncoming car. I can anticipate the explosion. The sound of shattering glass. The... flames rising out of the flowing gasoline."

ALVY (Reacting and clearing his throat): "Right. Tsch, well, I have to... I have t-o go now, Duane, because I-I'm due back on the planet earth."

He slowly gets up and moves toward the door.

~ Annie Hall (1977)

WORD WEIRD

HIGHFALUTIN: seeming or trying to seem great or important.

ETYMOLOGY: perhaps from *high* + alteration of *fluting*, present participle of *flute*.

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