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AGGRESSIVE, ETHICAL REPRESENTATION FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Important Voting Deadlines

2020 Presidential Preference Primary and Uniform Municipal Elections

Early Voting: 10 a. m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, March 7, 2020 - Sunday, March 15, 2020

Vote by Mail: Due by 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Election Day: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020*

2020 Primary Election

Deadline to register or change party: Monday, July 20, 2020

Early Voting: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday, August 3, 2020 - Sunday, August 16, 2020

Vote by Mail: Due by 7 p.m., Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Election Day: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesday, August 18, 2020

2020 General Election

Deadline to register: Monday, October 5, 2020

Early Voting: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Monday, October 19, 2020 - Sunday, November 1, 2020

Vote by Mail: Due by 7 p.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Election Day: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2020

The General Election ballot will list the candidates for the Presidency and the winning candidates of the August Primary Election. During this election, voters will have the opportunity to vote for a candidate regardless of their party affiliation.

For more information visit www.pbcelections.org.



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Slow Cooker Mediterranean Stew

This meatless stew is not thin on flavor!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 14-ounce cans of fire-roasted diced tomatoes (no salt added)
- 3 c. low-sodium vegetable broth
- 1 c. coarsely chopped onions
- ¾ c. chopped carrots
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp. dried oregano
- ¾ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. crushed red pepper
- ¼ tsp. ground pepper
- 1 15-ounce can of chickpeas (no salt added), rinsed and divided
- 1 bunch Lacinato kale, stemmed and chopped
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- Fresh basil leaves
- 6 lemon wedges (optional)



PREPARATION

- Combine tomatoes, broth, onion, carrot, garlic, oregano, salt, crushed red pepper and pepper in a 4-quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on low setting for 6 hours.
- Measure ¼ cup of the liquid from the slow cooker into a small bowl. Add 2 Tbsp. chickpeas, and mash with a fork until smooth.
- Add the mashed chickpeas, kale, lemon, juice, and remaining chickpeas to the mixture in the slow cooker. Stir to combine. Cover and cook on low setting for about 30 minutes or until kale is tender.
- Ladle evenly into bowls (should make 6) and drizzle with oil. Garnish with basil. Serve with lemon wedges, if desired. •

April 2020 Notable Dates

April 2 – National Ferret Day **April 4** – National Walk Around Things Day **April 8** – National Zoo Lovers Day
April 11 – National Barbershop Quartet Day **April 16** – National High Five Day **April 19** – National Garlic Day
April 25 – National Telephone Day **April 28** – National Zipper Day

Hangin' with Your Peeps!

Peeps® top the list of non-chocolate Easter candy favorites. The soft, gooey marshmallow chicks, bunnies, and eggs are rolled in colored sugar that forms a less-soft outer coating. For some connoisseurs, stale is better. They expertly “age” their Peeps to make them crunchier.



Peeps were first produced by the Rodda Candy Company in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in the late 1940s. Just Born, a candy company located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, acquired Rodda in 1953 and was intrigued by Peeps. They quickly introduced an automated manufacturing system that reduced the time required to produce a Peep from 27 hours (everything handmade) to six minutes. Peeps were ready to take flight.

Speaking of which, the original Peeps were yellow chicks with wings. However, Just Born clipped those wings in 1955 to further streamline the manufacturing process. Flapping appendages got in the way.

Yellow chicks are still the favorite among Peeps varieties, which also come in pink, white, lavender, and blue. The sequels rarely outdo the original. Nearly 2 billion Peeps are produced each year. Roughly 700 million of those are snatched up during Easter season.

Peeps have a two-year shelf life and are nearly impervious to chemical assaults. In 1999, scientists at Emory University gauged their vulnerability to tap water, boiling water, acetone, sodium hydroxide, and sulfuric acid. Peeps survived them all. Phenol turned out to be Peeps' kryptonite, but even phenol couldn't dissolve Peeps' eyes, which lived to see another day.

Those unblinking, foreboding eyes are made of carnauba, a nontoxic, edible wax that's also found in some shoe polishes and car waxes. Maybe the eyes are the reason why two-thirds of Peeps fans bite off the heads first. •

Scooters, Scooters Everywhere!

Electric scooters are a new version of rideshare transportation that's spreading like wildfire in urban areas and on college campuses. They are eco-friendly, quicker than walking, and fun.

Just download an app, locate an e-scooter, “unlock” it, ride it, and essentially abandon it at your destination — for a small fee. App users can also track down e-scooters needing a recharge and get paid for juicing them up.

Generally, e-scooters can be used on public pathways, trails, and streets with designated bike lanes. Many states and municipalities ban e-scooter use on sidewalks. Others, however, don't specifically disallow it.

E-scooter downsides abound, however. They can reach a speed of 15 mph, enough to cause severe injuries in pedestrian collisions. Speeding or inattentive e-scooter operators also raise their risk of plowing into sidewalk obstacles.

When riding in bike lanes, riders are subject to the same traffic laws as other vehicle operators. They're also susceptible to dooring and wipeouts caused by potholes, road debris, and gravel.

An unusual feature of e-scooter usage is riders' instructions to basically ditch the scooter upon reaching their destination (the idea being that another app user will locate it for use). E-scooters have cluttered sidewalks; blocked crossing areas, entrances, and exits; and made life more difficult for the disabled and able-bodied alike. Many people have suffered injuries from tripping over, running into, or veering around them.

Mechanical defects such as brake failure or locked-up front wheels can cause rider injury. E-scooter companies' user agreements state that riders assume the risk of injury, making claims more challenging.

If you suffer an injury involving an e-scooter, contact a personal injury attorney to protect your rights. •



Take My Income. Please!



The income tax came into existence in 1913 with the ratification of the 16th Amendment. Prior to 1913, excise taxes, tariffs, customs duties, and public land sales were enough to fund the U.S. government.

The groundwork for the income tax was laid in 1861 when President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the Revenue Act of 1861, which included a temporary income tax in order to pay for Civil War expenditures. The legislation was revised in 1862 and created the position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue (sound familiar?).

The income tax was repealed in 1872. Congress got nostalgic and attempted to enact it again in 1894. However, the legislation was challenged, the Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional, and Congress was left bewildered, as the court reversed their ruling from a similar 1881 case. Congress took 15 years to regroup and then mounted their 16th Amendment effort.

The income tax was supported by the people because lower-income citizens were hit hardest by consumption taxes (taxes on goods and services). Most felt an income tax would force higher-income citizens to shoulder a fairer portion of the tax burden. The amendment pitched a shutout in the Senate, 77-0, and passed overwhelmingly in the House, 318-14. By 1913, the required 36 states had ratified it.

The 16th Amendment dramatically broadened the scope of the federal government — for better or worse. In 1913, the tax code was 15 pages in length; today, over 4,000 pages (70,000 if you count past statutes and case law).

Albert Einstein reportedly once told his accountant that “the hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax.” If Einstein was perplexed, what chance do the rest of us have? •



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This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

Elements of a Wrongful Death Claim

A wrongful death claim can be brought against a defendant whose negligence, recklessness, or intentional act caused or contributed to someone's death.

If the victim had a will, a personal representative may have been named who can pursue a wrongful death claim on behalf of the victim's estate. Otherwise, typically a close family member — a spouse, parent(s) who lost a minor child, or minor child who lost a parent(s) — can initiate an action. Laws concerning other relatives/scenarios vary from state to state.

The plaintiff must show that the defendant had a duty of care toward the victim (e.g., a motorist must drive responsibly and follow the rules of the road) ... and breached it; demonstrate how the defendant's negligence caused or contributed to the victim's death; and detail the economic damages resulting from the defendant's negligence, a sometimes complex process.

Since a wrongful death lawsuit is a civil action, the plaintiff must show that it's more likely than not that the defendant was liable for the wrongful death ("preponderance of evidence"), which is a lower threshold than a criminal trial's "beyond a reasonable doubt."

A plaintiff may seek compensation for medical expenses, funeral costs, loss of future earnings, financial support, and loss of care, comfort, and consortium. Instead of wrongful death damages, a plaintiff might be able to elect to pursue a "survival action" — personal injury damages for the deceased's conscious pain and suffering (physical and emotional) for the time between their injury and their passing.

If you lose a close family member due to negligent conduct, contact an experienced wrongful death attorney to fight for you.

