

What On Earth

Is Happening in the Clearfork Valley

Comments and suggestions to What On Earth P.O. Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730

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Teamwork

Do we have as much sense as a goose?

Next fall when you see geese heading south for the winter flying along in a “V” formation, you might be interested in knowing what science has discovered about why they fly that way. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are going.

When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It pays to take turns doing hard jobs— with people or geese flying south.

These geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

What do we say when we honk from behind?

Finally, (*Now I want to get this*) when a goose gets sick or is wounded by a gun shot and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow him down to help protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly or until he is dead, and then they launch out on their own with another formation to catch up their own group.

If we have the sense the of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

-Author Unknown-

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched—
they must be felt with the heart.”

-Helen Keller-

Tax Refund Delays

By Ben Popken

If your refund is delayed this year, you can thank the IRS — and identity thieves.

Millions of low-income Americans who rely on their annual tax refund to help pay their bills are going to have to wait a few weeks longer to get their check this year as the agency cracks down on fraudsters.

The delays impact 40 million working poor families claiming the earned income tax credit and the additional child tax credit.

For 2016, the maximum earned income tax credit is from \$506 for no qualifying children to \$6,269 for three or more qualifying children.

"For most of these people it's the biggest check they are going to get all year," IRS Commissioner John Koskinen told the Associated Press in an interview. "We are sensitive to that."

Under the 2015 PATH Act that goes into effect this year, the IRS must delay these refunds to have more time to screen the returns. Scammers and organized crime syndicates have been filing fraudulent returns and claiming tax payers' refunds before they have a chance to file, according to the IRS.

The agency has been reminding taxpayers and prepares about the change in news releases since this summer.

Tax filing starts January 23. The IRS says most direct deposit e-filers usually receive their funds within 21 days. So those filing on day one might see their refund by mid-February. But now the additional processing time will delay those refunds until the end of February, Koskinen said.

Reprinted from NBC News

One Week

Written by: Gretchen Michaels

Roanoke College class of 2020

Learning, service, old friends and new ones. I spent one week at the Clearfork Community Institute learning about rural Appalachia and its people. Being from Central Ohio I had no idea what to expect. I had been on service learning trips before but I never connected to a place like I did this one.

As soon as my phone lost service I knew we had made it to Eagan, or at least that we were close. My trip leader started pointing out all the strip mine sites and I started getting a feel for how prevalent the coal companies were. During my time, there we spent many hours listening to the stories of those who had lived in the mountains their whole lives, making connections with the once strangers. This is why we were here. To get to know the people that call Eagan home. Not just to build things, though we did do a fair bit of that. We helped a young boy build a chicken tractor and turned old shipping pallets into benches for the school house. The work we did was fun and important but the things I'll remember most are meeting and talking to community members and learning their stories, hearing the struggles of some, and of course singing with Ronnie Adkins.

In just one week, Eagan Tennessee and its people stole my heart. I didn't want to leave and I can't wait to take others to experience the crazy wonderful place.

IRS Warning about Phone Scams

It is that time of year for people to begin filing taxes which means that that it also brings out scammers making threatening telephone calls saying they are from the IRS and that you are being sued. The IRS was contacted about the matter and the following information was given. **Taxpayers should know that your first contact with the IRS will not be a telephone call, but through official correspondence sent through the mail.** A big red flag for these scams are angry, threatening calls from people who say they are from the IRS and urging for immediate payment, this is not how the IRS operates.

Additionally, it is important for taxpayers to know that the IRS:

Never asks for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the telephone.

Never insists that taxpayers use a specific payment method to pay tax obligations

Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately following a phone conversation. Taxpayers usually receive prior notification of IRS enforcement action involving IRS tax liens or levies.

Potential phone scam victims may be told that you owe money that you must pay immediately to the IRS or they are entitled to big refunds. When unsuccessful the first time, sometimes phone scammers call back trying a new strategy.

Other characteristics of these scams include:

Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names and surnames to identify themselves.

Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of a victim's Social Security number.

Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.

Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls.

Victims hear background noise of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.

After threatening victims with jail time or driver's license revocation, scammers hang up and others soon call back pretending to be from the local police or DMV, and the caller ID supports their claim.

If you don't owe taxes, or have no reason to think that you do:

Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.

Contact TIGTA to report the call. Use their "[IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#)" web page. You can also call 800-366-4484.

Report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the "[FTC Complaint Assistant](#)" on FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

Taxpayers should be aware that there are other unrelated scams (such as a lottery sweepstakes) and solicitations (such as debt relief) that fraudulently claim to be from the IRS.

The IRS encourages taxpayers to be vigilant against phone and email scams that use the IRS as a lure. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as text messages and social media channels. The IRS also does not ask for PINs, passwords or similar confidential access information for credit card, bank or other financial accounts. Recipients should not open any attachments or click on any links contained in the message. Instead, forward the email to phishing@irs.gov.

For more information or to report a scam, go to www.irs.gov and type "scam" in the search box.

Comments and Suggestions

Addressed TO;

What On Earth P O Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730

Email Woe.CCI@hotmail.com

Subscribe \$15.00 a year

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Obituaries

Our condolences go out to the family of

William "Red Jaws" Hatfield (72) of Duff

February 24, 1944 to December 22, 2016

George "Cave Man" Faulkner (69) formerly of Morley

October 30, 1947 to December 31, 2016

Danny Ray Chambers (59) of Williamsburg, KY

June 30, 1957 to January 6, 2017

Curtis Wayne Hamblin (50) of Jellico

May 12, 1966 to January 4, 2017

George Womble (83) of Duff

March 20, 1934 to January 15, 2017

"Gone from our sight but never from our hearts"

Community Calendar

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

Claiborne County: 3rd Monday of the month in large court-room located on Main Street in Tazewell at 6:30 p.m.

Campbell County : Regular Business meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month.

CLEARFORK UTILITY BOARD MEETING 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00p.m

CLAIRFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: meets on the 1st Monday of the month.

SENIOR BINGO Second and Fourth Monday of the

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28			What On Earth PO Box 81 Egan TN, 37730	