

July 2010

Festival of Frugality

DO YOU
HAVE
ENOUGH
MONEY TO
RETIRE?

P.2

Money tips for
Home Remodeling

P.2

CONTENTS

1. Hit the Links for Less pg.1
2. Remodel Your Home Without Remodeling Your Bank Account pg.2
3. 5 Library Perks pg.2
4. Raising a cow for beef pg.2
5. Can you afford your house? Your car payments? pg.1
6. The cost of commuting pg.1
7. How much Money do you need to retire? pg.3
8. Will the Dow really drop by 90% pg.3
9. Creating a gas budget pg.4
10. Crank Up Your Money Saving Goals With SmartyPig pg.4
11. Things you shouldn't pay for pg.4
12. This family paid cash for their car; you can too! pg.4
13. My coupons got social pg.5
14. Coupon use is on the rise pg.5
15. 5 Types of money saving tools online pg.5
16. Is it bad that we wrote a check for \$10? pg.6
17. Are Americans too materialistic? pg.6
18. Only today pg.6
19. Make Money for free pg.6
20. Pay day loan suck pg.6
21. Frugality project: Food and Government Help pg.6

22. Teaching kids to earn and manage money pg 4



Welcome to the Festival of Frugality #240! This weekly festival spotlights the excellent ideas that are floating around out there to help squeeze a few extra pennies, nickels, dimes, or quarters out of every dollar. This week's festival features 22 articles ranging from coupons to retirement. I have highlighted the articles that I like with a gold box. Please visit the blogs offering the ideas and comment. Feel free to drop me a line about this week's festival of frugality or my website Wealth Informatics or to just say hello! I would love to hear your comments. Hope you will enjoy this issue and find it useful!

Suba @ Wealth Informatics

COMMENTS FROM READERS

Last issue of the festival of frugality was hosted by [Modern Tightwad](#). These are some of the comments from readers on the articles that were included in last issue.

Student Loan Debt Forgiveness

Wow, very interesting, Craig! Good find. I didn't know about this at all. It's a great benefit for ministers...

Paul Williams

If you don't repay the loans, then I guess I do, Mr. Taxpayer.... since you mentioned Federal programs... that means my tax money. Someone has to repay the money that the borrower does not repay correct?

Financial Bondage

Rent vs. Buy: Tools, Textbooks, Caskets?

We have rented tools and such in the past and it was great. Places that rent out tools usually keep things sharp and perform all the maintenance, so you don't have to worry about that when you rent either. Everyday Tips

I agree with these - especially the casket. I actually know of a few families that have rented caskets because of the costs. Khaleef

Please visit the blogs that are included and leave your comments. If you have some problem with this particular issue write to suba@wealthinformatics.com or wealth.informatics@gmail.com Visit www.festivaloffrugality.com to learn more on how to submit articles for future carnivals.

Can you afford your house? Your car payments?

by [Money Help for Christians](#)

One of the negative results of borrowing money and being upside down in debt is that there might come a time when you need to come face to face with some very tough decisions: Can I afford to keep the house? Can I afford to keep the car payments? [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

The Cost of Commuting... Should You Drive or Ride?

by [Billeater](#)

In today's economy everyone wants to save money. One of the biggest budget entries for some is the cost of commuting. We can drive an hour or more in highway traffic, drive to the commuter parking lot and take public transportation, or share a ride with someone. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

Hit the Links for Less: Some Obvious and Not So Obvious Ways to Save on Golf

by [Free Money Finance](#)



In 2004, Forbes.com featured a list of the most expensive sports. While the very top of the list was populated by the more exotic recreational activities like sailing, car racing, and flying, golf is a sport that is popular among the upper and middle classes alike. Still, golf made the list, and if you want to regularly sink a putt without making your finances a veritable sinkhole, [here are a few things to think about.](#)

Remodel Your Home Without Remodeling Your Bank Account

by [Money Ning](#)

Remodeling your home is often just wishful thinking, but you can turn that dream into reality without going bankrupt if you make a few wise decisions. There are places where you can save money without compromising quality, and other areas where you should plan to spend more to ensure a good result. Here are a few tips to get you started. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)



5 Library Perks

by [Rich Reasonably](#)

Ever since Barnes and Nobel started putting Starbucks in their stores, there really hasn't been much of a reason to hit the public library. Well, draw yourself away from their frothy mocha-chino's for one moment and let me remind you the upsides of your local book rental facility; you're already paying for it with your taxes, why not give it another shot? [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

Raising a cow for beef

by [Provident Planning](#)

Provident planning is raising a cow for beef. He has been tracking the cost and time for his activity of raising Bambi, the cow. Bambi is 11 months old now. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

How much money do you need to retire?

By [Wealth pilgrim](#)

It's easy to calculate how much money you need to retire. There is a bit of math involved but you don't need to pay someone thousands of dollars to create a fancy financial plan that doesn't make sense. Go through the following steps to do your own calculations. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

Will the Dow really drop by 90%

By [Watson Inc.](#)

We've been having a nice little stock rally lately. As of yesterday, the Dow stands at 10322. Still, the shocking warning of market analyst Robert Prechter is still being discussed all over the net. He predicted that the Dow will drop precipitously to below 1000 within the next six months. Do you believe him? [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)



Crafting a Gas Budget

By [Canadian Finance Blog](#)

Now that we are in the heat of summer, there's nothing quite like the open road.

However, freedom and possibility don't always come cheap. Once you know how much fuel you are consuming as you are going from place to place, you can start accurately budgeting for gas. [This is how you do it.](#)

Things you shouldn't pay for

by [Donna Freedman](#)

What services can you get for free?

Financial planning, mailing, coin counting, Jewelry cleaning... [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

This family paid cash for their car; You can too!

by [Personal Finance by the Book](#)

A real life story of a family who is debt free (having paid off \$130,000 in debt) and committed to staying that way. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

Crank Up Your Money Saving Goals With SmartyPig

By [Free from broke](#)

One of the more interesting and innovative ways to save up for specific goals is to make use of SmartyPig. SmartyPig is a free online savings tool that allows you to save for for specific financial goals. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

Teaching Kids to earn and manage money

By [Blogging for change](#)

Everyone knows that it is possible that an emergency may occur and they could be in need of that cash NOW! Instead of investing all of the \$10,000 into one CD, why not break up that money and instead stagger your investments into smaller, strategically timed CDs. What do I mean: [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)

My Coupons Got Social

By [Modern Tightwad](#)

So I'm a little critical of the concept of social buying. Sites like Groupon, Living Social, Tippr, and all of the others I haven't stumbled on yet, offer the ability to get great deals on a variety of local deals. [There are some caveats with this craze.](#)

5 Types of Money Saving Tools Online

By [Bucksome Boomer](#)

There are plenty of resources and tools to use that can help online shoppers reduce the amount of money spent online, and grab deals wherever they're available. In fact, these resources can be split into five different groups, so you can [choose one from each and optimize your new-found saving habits...](#)

Coupon Use is on the rise

By [Coupon Shoebox](#)

Many people look at coupons and wonder whether or not it is worth it clip them. Even the most frugal of us might have doubts. After all, how much could you really be saving. You might be surprised at how much you could save if you took the time to actually clip coupons. [Read the rest of the entry here...](#)



Is it bad that we wrote a check for \$10?

By [Budgets are sexy](#)

Do you guys have problems writing checks for a few bucks? What is your threshold for writing checks? If you still use them that is...[Read what J. Money and his readers got to say here...](#)

Are Americans too Materialistic?

By [Go Banking Rates](#)

Yes, Americans can be materialistic. Need Proof? [Find out here...](#)

Payday loans suck

By [Live Real, Now](#)

What do you think about Payday loans? Good, Bad, Evil? [Read Jason's take on this...](#)

Frugality Project: Food and Government Help

By [Doubled Up](#)

It's been a while since I've written about my Frugality Project: How to live simply, save the earth, save your health and save money in the process... [Read more about it here...](#)

Only Today

By [Magical Penny](#)

We make thousands of decisions each day and we find ourselves prioritizing one thing over another all the time. [What do you prioritize?](#)

Make Money for free

By [ptMoney](#)

Is there a way to make money without expending energy (i.e. doing work), spending some time on it, or giving up something of value (e.g. stuff, privacy)? [Find out here...](#)

Want to participate in the fun festival and share some wisdom with others? Visit [Festival Of Frugality](#).

If you have any comments about this issue of festival of frugality, whether you liked it or hated it... I would love to hear, please drop me line wealth.informatics@gmail.com

Thanks! Hope you enjoyed this week's festival!

Festival of Frugality Vol. 240
Compiled by [Suba @ Wealth Informatics](#)

