

APRIL 2022

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STATEMENTS

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FROM THE DESK OF *JOHN RAZUMICH*

APRIL ODD HOLIDAYS

1. *International Fun at Work Day*
2. *National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day*
3. *World Party Day*
4. *School Librarian Day*
5. *National Dandelion Day*
6. *National Tartan Day*
7. *National Beer Day*
8. *Draw a Picture of a Bird Day*
9. *Name Yourself Day*
10. *National Siblings Day*
11. *Barbershop Quartet Day*
12. *Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day*
13. *International Plant Appreciation Day*
14. *International Moment of Laughter Day*
15. *That Sucks Day*
16. *National Stress Awareness Day*
17. *International Haiku Poetry Day*
18. *Newspaper Columnists Day*
19. *National Garlic Day*
20. *Look Alike Day*
21. *Kindergarten Day*
22. *Girl Scout Leader Day*
23. *Take a Chance Day*
24. *Pig in a Blanket Day*
25. *National DNA Day*
26. *National Pretzel Day*
27. *Tell a Story Day*
28. *International Astronomy Day*
29. *Greenery Day*
30. *Hairstyle Appreciation Day*



7 BEST PRANKS BY US FOOD BRANDS

**THE LAND OF THE FREE – AND WEIRD
FOOD-RELATED PRANKS!**

I've heard my fair share of weird April Fools' pranks, but now that I've looked into it, I can't deny it: Food brands take it to a whole new level. You wouldn't expect Peeps to get into the April Fools' spirit ... until they announced cauliflower-flavored Peeps. Gross, right? Maybe not as gross as guacamole toothpaste. Here's seven of the weirdest pranks pulled off by America's favorite food brands.

'Creamy' Skincare by Kraft

In 2021, Kraft Food announced a brand-new, cheese-inspired skincare line with an unforgettable motto: "Discover your skin's natural, creamy complexion." The line, named V by Velveeta, has its own website for customers to "be added to the product waitlist." The website, however, reveals it's a prank, calling the line the "hottest skincare line to never drop."

Sourdough Campaign by Burger King

Creating a sourdough starter was all the rage during the pandemic, so it made sense that big fast-food chains like Burger King would want to get in on the action, right? Burger King put out an ad campaign that announced a new menu full of sourdough sandwiches, including sourdough Hershey Pies and Mini Shakes. They even changed their Twitter bio to "puttin' everything on sourdough since 2021," even though it was all a prank.

Guacamole Toothpaste by Chosen Foods

You may recognize Chosen Foods if you shop for avocado products. They produce a variety of guacamoles, salsas, oils, dressings, mayos, and more. But on April 1, 2021, they tweeted about a new addition to their lineup: guacamole toothpaste. The announcement says that their guacamole paste is "guaranteed to brighten your smile, enlighten your taste buds and freshen your breath with aromatic #savory flavors." No thanks!

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Cauliflower Bunnies by Green Giant and Peeps

Would two giant food brands collaborate just to pull off a prank? Apparently, yes! Green Giant and Peeps decided to team up and announce cauliflower-flavored Peeps. Believe it or not, some people were hopeful about cauliflower Peeps being real! Unfortunately, in the fictional world where these actually exist, these Peeps would be flavored cauliflower instead of made with them. That means you'd still be eating the same amount of carbs (6.5 grams) per marshmallow chicken with all the savory flavor of cauliflower.

'Smoup' by Heinz

There are few American food brands more iconic than Heinz, but thankfully, this April Fools' product is no runner-up in their most iconic offerings. For 2021's April Fools' Day, Heinz announced "Smoup" (smoothie plus soup), a drink that combines their popular tomato soup and Innocent's strawberry banana smoothie. Given that Campbell's Tomato Soup Cake recipe was trending during the pandemic, this prank tricked a surprising number of people.



Lip Balm by Pringles

You know the odd tingling sensation on your lips from eating sea salt and vinegar chips? Don't you wish that you could experience that discomfort on a daily basis? If you said yes, then we're afraid you'll have to rely on the old-fashioned method. Pringles Tingles by Pringles, a lip balm flavored like Pringles' Sea Salt and Vinegar chips, was announced in April 2021 but didn't make it into the real world.

Cereal Mac & Cheese by Banza

Known for their protein-filled chickpea pasta, Banza could've made another name for itself as the first brand to introduce cereal-flavored mac and cheese! Thankfully, they didn't — and the colorful image of rainbow cereal in a bowl of mac and cheese didn't entice me to wish otherwise.

I've mentioned the few that stuck out the most to me, but do you have any favorite brand pranks? I'd love to hear yours!

HIDDEN VACATION GETAWAY GEMS IN THE US

SHH! THIS IS OUR LITTLE SECRET ...

Who says you need to travel abroad for a glamorous or exciting vacation? We have so many incredible spots within the U.S.! From coast to coast, here are three underrated domestic, family-friendly vacation spots you just might be missing out on.

Best for Families: Broken Bow, Oklahoma

Travel Distance: 3 hours by car from Dallas, TX, or Tulsa, OK

Best Time to Visit: Late spring or fall

Thanks to its location by Broken Bow Lake, you'll be surrounded by forest and wildlife in almost any cabin or Airbnb you book in the area. The Wildlife Museum, BigFoot Speedway (a go-kart racing track), and Beaver's Bend Mining Company (a kid-friendly geology center to learn about rocks, minerals, and the area's mining history) are great attractions on top of the awesome hiking and lakeside outdoor activities available.

Best for Beach Vacationers: Jekyll Island, Georgia

Travel Distance: 1.5 hours by car from Savannah, GA, or 1.25 hours by car from Jacksonville, FL

Best Time to Visit: Fall

This island used to be a private escape for wealthy families in the 1880s — and it shows. It's a unique vacation spot on the East Coast for anyone looking for serenity and adventure. With over 10 miles of white sand beaches, and much of it undeveloped, you'll get a very natural, tranquil experience with excellent seafood and Southern-style dining options.



Best for Quiet Paradise Seekers: Silver Falls State Park, Oregon

Travel Distance: 1.25 hours by car from Portland, OR

Best Time to Visit: Summer

Oregon is already known for its spectacular waterfalls, but if you want to find a quiet oasis of cascading waterfalls and lush scenery, look no further than Silver Falls State Park. Set off on a 9-mile hiking trail loop named Trail of Ten Falls to see all 10 waterfalls. If you choose to stay overnight, the campgrounds include a gorgeous forested setting with spacious sites, nice bathrooms, and options for tent or RV camping.

These sites often require a little over an hour's drive, but that's why they are perfect for quiet and enjoyable vacations. Consider giving them a try!

SHE SAVED HER HUMAN!

MEET TINSLEY, A CAR CRASH SURVIVOR

On Jan. 3, 2022, New Hampshire State Police responded to a call about a lone dog wandering around on the interstate near Veterans Memorial Bridge. When they got there, the pup — a Shiloh shepherd named Tinsley — led the officers on what seemed to be a wild goose chase.

“When Trooper Sandberg and the Lebanon police officers attempted to get close to the canine, it continued to run northbound on Interstate 89, crossing into Vermont,” the police department wrote in a Facebook post. “A short time later, Trooper Sandberg and the Lebanon police officers located a damaged section of guardrail near the Interstate 91 and Interstate 89 junction.”

It turns out Tinsley had a destination in mind: an upside-down pickup truck that had crashed through that very guardrail.

The truck had rolled off the highway, and the people who were inside — including Tinsley’s owner, Cam Laundry — were on the ground, badly hurt and hypothermic! Thanks to Tinsley’s bravery, the cops called an ambulance that rushed them to the hospital.

“This was almost like a real-life Lassie situation,” one lieutenant told CNN. “It’s really quite remarkable. This dog definitely saved their lives. I don’t think they would have survived the night given the temperatures.”

Tinsley is a real hero on four legs, just like Lassie, a fictional pup who saved two little boys from dying of hypothermia in the snow. Fortunately, Tinsley’s grateful



owner, Cam, made a full recovery. He also knows just how special his pup is.

“She gets spoiled all the time,” he told the WPTZ news station. “She’ll get some venison, probably [a] burger tonight, and probably some back scratches with it.”

Tinsley is not the only dog who has saved a human from the cold. In the winter of 2017, a rescue pooch named Peanut saved the life of a 3-year-old girl in Michigan who had wandered away from home, and a golden retriever named Kelsey saved her owner after he slipped in the snow and broke his neck. She kept him warm for 19 hours and barked until help came. To read the full story of Tinsley’s roadside rescue, visit CNN.com and search “real-life Lassie.”



Pecan Cream Pie

Inspired by TogetherAsFamily.com

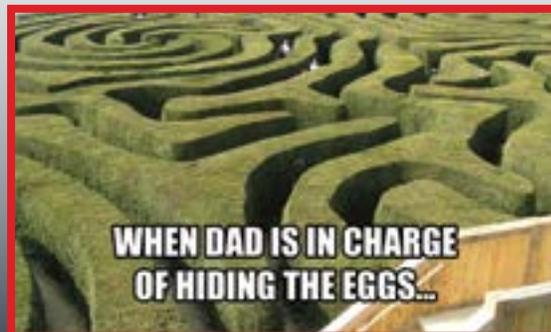
Ingredients

- 1 9-inch uncooked pie crust
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 2 8-oz bars of cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup
- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped pecans, divided

Directions

1. Cook pie crust according to package instructions.
2. In a small bowl, combine heavy whipping cream and powdered sugar. Beat for several minutes with a hand mixer until stiff peaks form.
3. In a separate larger bowl, combine the softened cream cheese, brown sugar, and maple syrup. Beat together until combined and creamy.
4. Fold the whipped cream into the cream cheese mixture and stir together until combined. Stir in 1 cup of chopped pecans.
5. With a spatula, spread mixture into the baked and cooled pie crust. Sprinkle the remaining pecans on top of the pie.
6. Cover and refrigerate overnight before serving.

TAKE A BREAK!





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April Fools' Day Gone Wrong

3 PRANKS THAT SEVERELY BACKFIRED

April 1, aka April Fools' Day, is when people love to pull pranks on one another. But if they're not careful, pranks can end with a court case or jail time. Let's take a look at a few April Fools' pranks that have brutally backfired.

Navistar Plant Shutdown

In April 2021, Pamela Sisco texted her sister about an active shooter at Navistar Plant in Clark County. Her sister was frightened, and she called the authorities to let them know about the situation. The plant shut down after hearing about the incident because they thought it was a real threat. When officers were at the scene, they charged Sisco with inducing panic and disrupting public services. This is a fifth-degree felony in Ohio, and she was sentenced to a year in prison.

Radio Contest Gone Wrong

KBDS (103.9 FM) is a radio station in California that held a contest in 2005. They told their listeners they could win a new Hummer if they tracked the number of miles of two Hummers as they drove around town. Shannan Castillo won the contest, and when she went to pick up her brand-new car, the DJ came out with a remote

control toy car. They then went on air and laughed about how they fooled everyone. Castillo hired an attorney and sued the radio station for \$60,000 — the cost of a new Hummer.

Practical Joke at Work Creates a Law

Glenn Howlett was a services manager at London City Hall in London, Ontario, Canada. In 2004, he decided to take a vacation to relax and not think about work. His colleagues decided to tell him that a major project he was working on was due earlier than Howlett expected. So, he made his vacation short and decided to return to work to finish his project. He became so stressed out that he began having heart palpitations and collapsed. Afterward, he sued his now former employer for damages. As a result, the city passed a law prohibiting practical jokes within workplaces.

As you plan your pranks for April Fools' Day, remember not to go too far with your jokes. Make them lighthearted and fun so everyone can laugh about them in the future.

