



Useful tips, news and information from James CRAFT & Son, Inc.



New Soybean Processing Plant for Perdue AgriBusiness

A multi-year year project with an investment of more than \$60 million was opened September 25, 2017. The new state-of-the-art Perdue soybean plant is located just south of Bainbridge, Pennsylvania on Route 441, and will produce soybean meal, and oil used in animal feed and food processors.

The new large-scale commercial processing plant has the capacity to process 17.5 million bushels of soybeans per year, eliminating the need to transport soybeans and finished product long distances.

James CRAFT & Son was contracted to install the new steam service, along with the process water for the new facility. With a processed water pit, three large condensate receivers, and more than 3,000 feet of black steel pipe installed and heat traced on pipe racks 40-to-80 feet in the air, the project offered many challenges.

Led by superintendent Tory Anderson, CRAFT was able to work with General Contractor Stewart & Tate, along with representatives from Perdue to meet all project deadlines.



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What is the world record for the most snowfall in a 24-hour period?

Trivial Matters

- 1) Ironically, the name of the author who penned the season-themed poems *A Winter Eden* and *Dust of Snow* was?
 - a. Robert Frost
 - b. William P. Snowdon
 - c. Lilian Winters
 - d. Ice T
- 2) What is the world record for the most snowfall in a 24-hour period?
 - a. 30 inches in Prince George, B.C.
 - b. 56 inches in Waterville, Maine
 - c. 76 inches in Silver Lake, Colorado
 - d. 110 inches in Rimouski, Quebec
- 3) In *North to Alaska* (1960), Sam leaves cold Nome, Alaska and sets out for Seattle so he can bring back what to his friend George?
 - a. a promising new medical treatment
 - b. George's fiancé
 - c. George's three grandchildren
 - d. a snow cone maker
- 4) What color snow fell over an area of 1,500-square-kilometers in Siberia on February 2, 2007?
 - a. Orange
 - b. Black
 - c. Pink
 - d. Gold
- 5) At Gemsstock ski resort, a portion of Gurschen glacier was covered in foil to protect it from melting. In what European country is the resort located?
 - a. Austria
 - b. Switzerland
 - c. Italy
 - d. Germany

Answers: 1.) a 2.) c 3.) b 4.) a 5.) b

Look For These Traits In Future Leaders

Have you surrounded yourself with a workforce of success-oriented people? They may not be easy to recognize, but they're crucial to an organization that wants to be innovative and entrepreneurial. Here's a list of factors that can help you identify and develop potential leaders on your staff:

- **Collaboration.** Look for employees who communicate well, delegate effectively, and build strong personal relationships with their co-workers, managers, and customers. They're committed to their own personal success, and they're also dedicated to helping other people.
- **Self-determination.** Entrepreneurial employees value their freedom and autonomy; they like being their own boss as much as possible, as long as they're doing something they enjoy. Allow employees to make their own decisions as long as they're moving firmly toward your organization's objectives.
- **Planning skills.** You want employees who look beyond today's tasks, who can focus on the long-term as well as the short. They're good at strategizing and weighing options, and at making decisions that minimize risk and maximize opportunity.
- **Curiosity.** Most great ideas start with simple questions: "What if I did this? Why does that happen?" Listen to employees' questions to spot those who are interested in solving problems and learning more about how things work.
- **Comfort with technology.** Every good leader or potential leader stays on top of the tools that can mean success or failure, and he or she isn't afraid to use whatever is available—as long as it works.
- **Drive for action.** Focus on employees who take initiative without waiting until conditions are perfect. They like to try things quickly, experiment, and then move on to the next challenge. They're also not discouraged by setbacks.



"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence."

—Vince Lombardi

Plan To Move Up In Your Career

If you want to advance in your career, a plan is essential. Here's how to build forward momentum:

- **Make a five-year plan.** What do you want to be doing in five years? What do you want to accomplish in that period of time?
- **Set your own goals.** Don't try to live up to someone else's expectations. It's your career—follow it your way.
- **Build your contact list.** Make connections inside and outside your organization. The more contacts you have, the more diverse your future career options will be.
- **Take on responsibility.** When you see an opportunity to volunteer for more responsibility, do it. Your boss will appreciate it, and you'll develop more authority at the office.
- **Look for challenges.** When you get bored with what you're doing, search for something new. Learn new skills. Dipping into new territory can open up the future—sometimes in unexpected ways.

Teens Aren't Always Glued To Their Social Media

Most of us imagine that today's teens do nothing but sit around with their smartphones texting each other, checking social media, posting images to Instagram, and the like. That stereotype, like most, isn't entirely true.

An Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research survey of teens recently found that 58% voluntarily take breaks from social media for various reasons:

- 8% say they take breaks when excessive phone use gets in the way of work or school
- 24% say they take breaks because they are tired of conflict and drama
- 20% say they put down the phone when they are tired of keeping up

Other findings from the survey:

- 23% of teens who have not taken a social media break have wanted to take a break
- 60% of teens who have taken breaks took three or more; 22% have taken two; 18% have taken just one break from social media channels
- About 50% report that their social media breaks are a week or longer
- Boys are more likely to take longer breaks: 36% of boys take social media breaks of two weeks or longer, and 22% of girls reported breaks of similar length

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



Why Did The Chicken Go To The Library?

A chicken walks into a library, goes up to a librarian and says, "Book, book, book..." The librarian gives the chicken a book and the chicken walks away. About ten minutes later the chicken comes back with the book, looking a bit agitated, saying, "Book, book, booooook ..."

The librarian takes the old book back and gives the chicken another one. The chicken walks out the door.

Ten minutes later the chicken comes back again, very agitated, saying, "Book, book, boooooooooook!" The chicken puts the book on the librarian's desk and looks up, waiting for another book.

The librarian gives the chicken a third book and decides that something weird is happening. He follows the chicken out the door and into the park, all the way to a pond. In the pond is a frog sitting on a lily pad. The chicken gives the book to the frog, who looks at the title and replies, "Reddit, reddit."



Try Mindfulness And Being Present For Better Health

Research from Dignity Health, one of the nation's largest health care systems, explores how mindfulness—the practice of being more present in daily life—can benefit friends, family, and communities.

A survey of 1,051 Americans found that 87% of respondents believe that practicing mindfulness—defined as a state of active, open attention to the present—can benefit not only one's own physical and mental health, but also the people they interact with, causing a positive ripple effect.

Dignity Health encourages people to set aside a minimum of two minutes every day—in the morning, during a work break, a stressful time throughout the day, or in the evening—to "check in" with yourself. Take this time to reflect on your relationships and the purpose or meaning behind your work and daily activities.

Ninety-seven percent of survey participants said they believe mindfulness has a positive impact on their health, and 95% believe it has a similar beneficial effect on their mood. They said they believe it makes them calmer (69%) and happier (58%) and leads to better sleep (61%).

Don't Stand In The Way

When Dwight D. Eisenhower was president of Columbia University, he was once asked by a committee of faculty members to make a statement prohibiting students from walking on the grass in the main quadrangle. "Why do they walk on the grass?" asked Eisenhower.

"Because it's the shortest way to the central hall from the main entrance," the committee chairman answered.

"If that's the way they are going to go," replied Eisenhower, "then cut a pathway there."

The point? There is often little use in trying to stand in the way of what is already happening.



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