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What's New

As of May 15, 2013

Here's a quick update of what's new from New Road Map Foundation, host of FinancialIntegrity.org and the [Simple Living Forum](#). These community-created websites are the "go-to" places for people who are integrating financial integrity into their lives by aligning their financial lifestyles with their personal values and goals.

Event:

For the Northern Hemisphere, Summer - as of June 21st. Enjoy.

For the Southern Hemisphere, Winter - as of June 21st. Enjoy.

On The Wiki

Resource: Resilience Circles (also known as Common Security Clubs)

Based on the concept that common people, working together using common sense and trusting their judgment, can bring about a better economy. Replacing "charity" with "reciprocity," the clubs provide a practice ground for learning to work together, giving and receiving equally, to find better solutions to debt, unemployment, reducing costs, and other financial challenges, learn to "push back against the powerful Wall Street interests," and lobby for change. [Resilience Circles and the Common Security Club](#) network offers guidebooks for starting and running a club and other curriculum materials.

Member Profile: Dianne & Patrick - Freedom Before Fifty

"Our journey started when my wife and I watched the PBS documentary "Affluenza" and we began to question our own levels of consumption. After watching the documentary we read the book "Your Money or Your Life." It tied sustainability and the economics of the fulfillment curve together in a way that spoke to our experiences and goals." The rest of the story is on our [wiki](#).

Resource: Downsizing your home with style : living well in a smaller space" by Lauri Ward

A book being read over on the Simple Living Forums: [Downsizing your home with style : living well in a smaller space" by Lauri Ward](#). Very few folks are talking about bigger houses. For years, moving into smaller houses was a reason to assume something bad happened. We know better, and yet, downsizing with style is new enough that advice is in short supply (though maybe not for long). Less is more, but how and why?

Got a book you want to share? [Tell us](#).

In The News

Take the personal finance quiz that 86% of Americans flunked.

Five out of five, that's tough; especially for folks unfamiliar with bonds.

Here's the [source](#) of the five question quiz, and also the [source](#) of an impressive database of spending habits. What's "normal"?

This article pulled a lot of traffic from the NRM/FI community. Did we score higher?

Who Controls the World? - James B. Glattfelder's TED Talk video uncovers the centers of power and the likelihood of conspiracy.

Conspiracy theories abound, but is there hidden center of power running the world? Patterns in data can reveal relationships, or can reveal the fundamental nature of the system. There is a wealth of data about how wealth is distributed, and someone had more than enough to sort out how many people control not just their wealth, but the wealth of others. The surprise is that the current system will produce such centers. Conspiracies aren't required.

Geeky and long (Hey, it's a TED Talk), this video ([James B. Glattfelder: Who controls the world?](#)) shows where the power resides, how few folks control it, and how far they can reach.

'The Minimalists' Share Their Journey to a Simpler Life. (Hint: One step at a time.)

Ryan Nicodemus discusses how and why he and Joshua Fields Millburn left successful careers, ditched most of their stuff, and set up shop in a Montana cabin.

"When asked what he misses from his old life, Ryan pauses his heretofore enthusiastic, stream-of-consciousness answers. After a long pause, he says, "I can't think of anything."

Thanks to [Mother Nature Network](#) for passing along [the story](#) of these minimalists.

Facebook Highlights

The Power of Liking us

The most viewed post on our [Facebook page](#) was our celebration of reaching another milestone on the road of "Likes".

"Yeah to Susan Jensen for being the 200th like!"

It was simple, and it can be fun celebrating simple successes. Next up, 250 Likes, after 201, 202, . . .

Quote of the month:

Great title.

"Don't Let the Apocalypse Get You Down "

The real message is more useful, but less catchy.

"Let the radical uncertainty of this moment enlarge your sense of possibility." - [Yes Magazine](#)

The Best of Simple Living Forums

Working Hard for What?

Any journey worth taking can include and maybe require a struggle. One of the values of the Simple Living Forums is mutual support from a community of folks who might just understand. Here's a thread based on the simple idea, "When you work hard and don't see any results." Sound too familiar?

A challenge was raised on the forums! How many days in May could you spend nothing out of pocket? Join the conversation about May No-Spend Days. And then, how about June?

Come Join Us

Transform the World's Relationship With Money

As a community-edited "wiki", content is constantly being updated at www.FinancialIntegrity.org. Come cruise the site for the latest entries, add new resources you've found, and let us all know what you're doing to increase financial integrity in your lives and in the world. If you're having any problems using the wiki, please let the moderators know at info@financialintegrity.org. We're here to help!

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