

The Holiday Times

Holiday Retirement Home * 30 Sayles Hill Road * Manville * Rhode Island * 02895 * (401)765-1440



Celebrating March

3/5 Music With Eric Conlon

3/7 Kalifornia Karl

3/10 Jorene Lange W/Special Guest

3/11 Music W/Kim & Chris

3/13 Wine & Cheese Social

3/16 Music W/Rockin' Robert

3/17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration

3/19 Birthday Party

W/Steve Burke

3/22 Music W/Roger Chartier

3/23 Chips & Dip Social

3/29 Vendor Fair

3/30 Music W/Tommy Tunes

Diane's Desk

Here come the March winds whipping in. And if I may say so, I'm glad that February is all over. I'm sorry we weren't able to have all the scheduled activities for the month, but as they say, stuff happens. But, we were able to celebrate the birthdays with Gary Leanes, enjoyed music with Bob Trembley, and had fun with the Mardi Gras celebration. As always everyone enjoyed the pizza party.

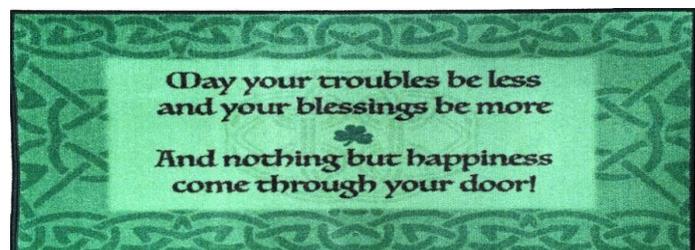
Anyhoo, I think this month's list of entertainment will make most of you happy. We have Kalifornia Karl, Eric Conlon, Jorene Lange and her brother together will be doing a Johnny Cash show, Kim and Chris, Rockin' Robert, Steve Burke and a newbie to us Tommy Tunes. How about that entertainment line up! Our annual vendor fair will be held on the 29th. We hope lots of you come out and shop and support the local vendors. Here are a few who will be providing their wares: Life Illuminations, Paper Rose, and paintings by Kris Lyn. I hope you can join us on Sunday March 29th from 10-3.

Well, this month is full of entertainment and fun events so I hope to see many of you there. And of course if there is anything you would like put on the calendar please let us know. Don't forget we have a monthly resident meeting to discuss events, and any concerns you may have. Check the calendar for dates and times.

Until then.....

I'll see you in activities

Diane



Mirthful Medicine



March was declared International Mirth Month by self-proclaimed “jollytologist” Allen Klein. Klein’s interest in the healing power of mirth came in 1974 when his young wife died of liver disease. Despite her deteriorating health, Klein’s wife kept her sense of humor to the end. She inspired Klein to give up his career in the theater and become a crusader for the stress-relieving benefits of humor.

Whether facing sicknesses or enduring other stressful situations at home or in the workplace, humor has been proven to be beneficial for both the body and the soul. Our human ancestors were aware of the benefits of laughter thousands of years ago. A proverb from the Old Testament states, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.” More recently, doctors studying the effects of laughter on human physiology have compiled empirical evidence to support these claims. Laughter releases endorphins, the body’s natural pain-relieving hormones; increases the production of cells responsible for strengthening our immune systems; and lowers cortisol, the hormone responsible for stress. Furthermore, humor has been shown to help us dispel fear and encourage creative thinking. In so many ways, our ancestors were right!

So how do we add more mirth to our daily routines? First and foremost, when you laugh, be sure to do it loud and proud. Big belly laughs leave muscles relaxed for 45 minutes. Funny television shows, YouTube clips, or friends are worth their weight in gold. Perhaps most importantly, learn to laugh at yourself. Don’t be afraid to share your own shortcomings or funny mistakes. Anthropologists believe that sharing our funny moments and drawing laughter is one of the strongest types of social glue, bringing friends nearer and keeping them close.

If you want to learn more about humor theory, check out *The Humor Code: A Global Search for What Makes Things Funny* by Peter McGraw and Joel Warner.

Istanbul Not Constantinople

On March 28, 1930, the city of Constantinople, Turkey, changed its name to Istanbul, a change famously celebrated by the Four Lads in their 1953 novelty song “Istanbul (Not Constantinople),” a song that enjoyed a resurgence in 1990 thanks to a cover by the band They Might Be Giants. Why did Turkey change the name of its most important city? In AD 330, the city, then called Byzantium, was the world’s hub of culture and trade. Emperor Constantine declared the city the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire and changed its name to Constantinople. When the Ottoman Empire collapsed in 1923, the newfound Republic of Turkey changed the name from Constantinople to Istanbul, a name many had used to describe the city. *Istanbul* was a Turkish translation of an old Greek phrase meaning “in the city.” Despite the official change, travelers, businesses, and even foreign governments still referred to the city as Constantinople. This all changed in 1930 when the Turkish government decreed that all mail addressed to Constantinople would not be delivered.

The Old New Year



During the Colonial era in America, New Year’s Day was celebrated not on January 1, but on March 25, a date that can be traced to the colonies’ roots in England.

As a Protestant nation, England and its Protestant ruler Queen

Elizabeth I refused to adopt the Gregorian calendar proposed by the Catholic Pope Gregory XIII. As such, March 25 officially remained the date of the start of the new year. This date was chosen to coincide with the Feast of the Annunciation, the date when the archangel Gabriel visited the Virgin Mary to announce that she would be the mother of Jesus, the son of God. For this reason, the date was also called Lady Day. The new year was held on Lady Day from 1155 until 1752, when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted.

The Power of Names

The power of bestowing names is so great that in the Old Testament of the Bible it is God who grants this amazing gift to Adam and Eve. Modern psychologists agree that names are significant. As children develop the ability to speak, they name things to make sense of the world around them. The first full week of March is Celebrate Your Name Week, a time to appreciate our names.

In 1948, professors at Harvard University studied the success of recent Harvard graduates. As it turned out, those with common names like Mike had found more success than those with unusual names such as Berrien. The professors concluded that rare or unusual names had negative psychological effects. More studies followed, and they bore out similar results. Names seemingly influence where we go to school, where we choose to live, who we marry, and even the kind of financial investments we make. Psychologists have attempted to explain this phenomenon as a result of the “implicit-egoism” effect, or the fact that we are drawn to things that resemble us. Other psychologists offer a different explanation.

Names send powerful signals about where we come from: our native country, ethnicity, religion, and economic background. When we hear a name, we hear so much more.

Of course, not everyone loves their given name. According to Legal Zoom, people often change their name if it's very common. They list Britney and Ashley as two examples. Another reason people change their name is because it's difficult to spell or pronounce.

Celebrate Your Name Week is a chance to be proud of not just our names but of who we are. When you introduce yourself, say your name loud and proud, for the way you treat your name shows the way that you want to be treated.

Sock Monkey Day

The fabulous folk-art-toy-turned-kitschy-gift known as the sock monkey enjoys its own holiday on March 7. (Some sources say March 1.) The sock monkey can trace its origins back to England's Victorian era and the exploration of the continent of Africa. Tales of exotic new animals were recounted in news reports and fictional tales such as Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. It became fashionable to decorate children's rooms with all manner of stuffed animals such as lions and monkeys. It did not take long before the trend reached America. Swedish immigrant to America John Nelson patented a sock-knitting machine in Rockford, Illinois, in 1868. His socks became so popular that they became known as “Rockford Red-Heels.” During the Great Depression in America, economical families created their own stuffed animals, notably monkeys, using these trademark red-heeled socks. The red heels gave the “sock monkeys” their distinctive red mouths. In 1953, a woman named Helen Cooke patented the “sock monkey” and eventually sold her idea back to the Nelson Knitting Company, still located in Rockford.

Fit to the Finish?



The first Sunday in March is known as Finisher's Medal Day, honoring all those who don't win the race but just cross the finish line. The day was designed to encourage everyone to participate in races, not just those with a real shot at winning. But this begs the question, does awarding a medal or trophy just for participation send a good message? Some argue that such participation medals diminish excellence. They become worthless mementos of participation rather than true tokens of achievement. They send the message that everyone is a winner, when in real life there are winners and losers. In some ways, these medals rob kids of the important lessons of losing, like how to cope with disappointment and how to remain resilient in the face of defeat.



We'd like to thank our environmental services departments for their tireless efforts during our recent clean-up.

Holiday Retirement

Home

Annual Vendor Fair

March 29th, 2020

10-3

Join us for a fun day filled with a great variety of Direct Sales vendors and independent crafters. Try your luck at our Penny Social raffle table, enjoy a delicious lunch, and treat yourself (or someone special) to something new.

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Women of the World Unite



Women around the world will take to the streets promoting women's rights to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8. The first National Women's Day occurred over 100 years ago on February 28, 1909, in New York.

Theresa Malkiel, a factory worker who rose to the top of the leadership of the Women's National Committee of the Socialist Party, proposed the first celebration. Malkiel believed that socialism was the path toward the liberation and equality of women. When the men of the party showed no true interest in equal rights for women members, Malkiel took it upon herself to organize her fellow women and strengthen their place in the party. The first Women's Day celebration was a show of strength for the women she organized.

The struggle for women's rights was not unique to America. Across Europe, women were organizing for workers' rights and the right to vote. In 1910, at the International Socialist Women's Conference in Denmark, European activists decided to establish an international holiday modeled on the one organized by Malkiel. The following year, on March 11, 1911, International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time by over a million people in Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland. Women took to the streets, marching for the right to vote, to hold public office, and to enjoy equal opportunities for employment. Six years later, on March 8, 1917, International Women's Day marchers across Russia marched for "Bread and Peace," demanding an end to World War I, tsarism, and government-imposed food shortages. This marked the beginning of Russia's February Revolution (according to their old calendar). Seven days later, Tsar Nicholas II abdicated the throne, and women were granted the right to vote. Over the decades, the holiday has transformed from a socialist holiday to a mainstream celebration of political activism by women. While the day is an official holiday in many countries, the fact that it is not observed in many places speaks to the pressing need to continue the fight for women's rights.

March Birthdays

In astrology, those born between March 1–20 are the Fish of Pisces. Fish feel things deeply, as in under-the-sea deep. These intuitive, creative, and intelligent people have strong feelings of right and wrong and also love to help others. Those born between March 21–31 are the Rams of Aries. As the first sign of the zodiac, Aries like to be number one. Bold, courageous, passionate, and somewhat impulsive, Rams dive headfirst into even the most challenging situations.

Lorraine Bibeault	March 3 rd
Helen Auger	March 4 th
Theresa Munroe	March 4 th
Nicholas Sollecito	March 15 th
Roland Parenteau	March 17 th
Florence Messier	March 18 th
Lucille Cibicki	March 21 st
Frank Lennox	March 23 rd
Claire Breault	March 26 th
Emma Filliatreault	March 27 th
Joan Marcellino	March 28 th
Lorraine Parenteau	March 30 th



Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Each year, March 20 is celebrated as Won't You Be My Neighbor Day in honor of the birthday of Fred

Rogers, everybody's favorite television neighbor. Rogers suffered a lonely childhood and was often taunted about being overweight. He overcame his shyness to become a Presbyterian minister but left the seminary to go into television. He hated TV and wanted to transform it into a means of nurturing those who would watch and listen. Rogers was a natural when it came to children's broadcasting, using his talents to develop puppets, music, and characters that appealed to kids' better natures. By the time the show *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* aired in 1968, he had mastered his use of imaginative elements and the kind,