

Northridge News

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Celebrating July



Family Reunion Month

Roots and Branches Month
(Study your genealogy!)

Sandwich Generation Month

Ice Cream Month

Hot Dog Month

Canada Day
July 1

TV Premiere - Lawrence Welk Show
July 2, 1955

Quebec Founded, 400th Anniversary
July 3, 1608

Independence Day
July 4

TV Premiere - Family Feud
July 12, 1976

Bastille Day
July 14

Make Someone Smile Week
July 20-26



Honoring the Ties that Bind

The month of July “bursts” with reasons to celebrate who we are and where we are from as we recognize family reunions, genealogy, Parents Day, and several patriotic anniversaries. Happily, July also marks some yummy food observances. What better time to grab some loved ones, wave your family crest and country’s flag, and munch on all the hot dogs and ice cream you can eat?

Although families have gathered for reunions throughout history, U.S. President Ronald Reagan made it official. He formally issued Proclamation 5351 on June 14, 1985, declaring the period between Mother’s Day in May and Father’s Day in June as Family Reunion Month. Originally, it was a special month to raise awareness of the then-growing trend of runaway children and to encourage programs to help reunite families of runaways. Today, it is celebrated by all families. And since July is the most popular month for families to meet, Family Reunion Month is now a month-long July event.

According to *American Demographics* magazine, over 60% of Americans attend family reunions each year. And while location is important in determining a person’s odds of attending, their attitude towards the event is more telling. Three out of four people who enjoy the event, and half of those who are indifferent to the idea, say they’ll make it to a get-together each year. Only 28% of those who dislike reunions will show up at their family’s yearly gathering.

Popular reunion venues include recreational parks, banquet halls or restaurants, resorts or scenic areas, and destination cities such as New York City or Washington, D.C. Activities consist of eating down-home cooking – over 80% of all reunion-goers will cook or barbecue at their event – and breaking out the pigskin, softball, or even the potato sack for some sort of familial athletic competition.

Snap, Crackle, Pop!



Patriotic celebrations wouldn't be complete without fireworks. Fireworks displays are the focal point of many cultural and religious celebrations around the world. Ever wonder who invented those colorful noisemakers that light up the night sky?

Fireworks were "born" in China in the 12th century. The Chinese put their invention of gunpowder to good use when they packed it tightly in a paper roll with a fuse and invented fireworks. At first, fireworks were used to frighten away evil spirits while praying for happiness and prosperity. However, since they were also great fun to watch, fireworks soon became a form of entertainment. Fireworks masters were highly respected for their knowledge of the complex art used to create the dazzling displays. Today, China remains the largest manufacturer and exporter of fireworks in the world, shipping 135,000 tons of fireworks to North America every year.

Since their invention, fireworks have been used to commemorate births, deaths, weddings, royal coronations, New Year's Eve, and patriotic celebrations. American settlers brought their love of fireworks from England, and they used fireworks during the first national Independence Day celebration in 1777. Fireworks are also a part of Canada Day traditions. Canada Day and Victoria Day are the only two holidays where, in most municipalities, the public can purchase and ignite fireworks in Canada.

One of the largest fireworks displays in the world takes place every year over the Detroit River at the Windsor-Detroit International Freedom Festival. It is hosted by Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario, and it celebrates both Independence Day and Canada Day.

We all Scream for Ice Cream

July marks Ice Cream Month and Ice Cream Day, which is also called "Sundae Sunday" (annually the third Sunday in July). Who doesn't love the frosty, sweet taste of that wonderful confectionary treat called ice cream?

Ice cream has existed for thousands of years, with evolution to its current form popping up in Italy, England, and France in the 16th century. Today, even those who can't eat dairy can enjoy some fantastic soy-based alternatives.



The U.S. leads the world in annual production of ice cream and frozen desserts at about 1.6 billion gallons. Favorite ice cream flavors are: vanilla (30%), chocolate (10%), butter pecan (4%), strawberry (3.7%), and mint chocolate chip (3.2%). Better eat it fast before it melts!

Funny Census Names

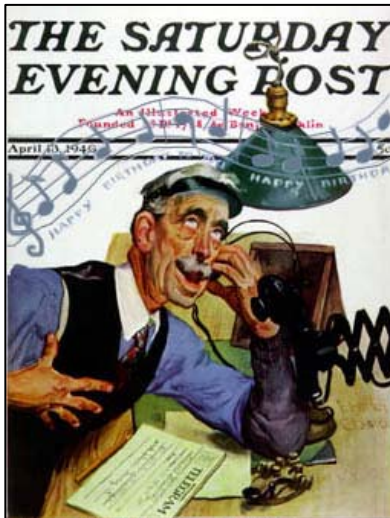
A genealogy guru found these interesting names in U.S. census records – no kidding!

Comfort Castle (New York, 1830)
Constant Chase (Boston, 1830)
Noble Crapper (Maryland, 1790)
Orange Field (Georgia, 1930)
Tiny Little (Georgia, 1930)
Joy Rider (Ohio, 1930)
Cotton Tufts (Mass., 1830)
Page Turner (Georgia, 1880)
Frost Snow (Virginia, 1920)

Sorry if you are related. It's all in good fun.



Music is in the Air



Not only is the month of July hot, it's musical. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the first singing telegram, which was delivered to American singer Rudy Vallee on his 32nd birthday (July 28, 1933). When the order for the telegram came in from a fan, the

Western Union public relations director decided this would be a good opportunity to make telegrams, which had been associated with deaths and other tragic news, into something more positive. He asked a Western Union operator, Lucille Lipps, to phone Mr. Vallee and sing the message over the telephone – becoming the first singing telegram.

Another July musical anniversary is the television premiere of *The Lawrence Welk Show* on July 2, 1955. The musical series, hosted by accordionist and bandleader Lawrence Welk, ran until 1982, and it still appears regularly on public television stations. Popular guests included the Lennon Sisters, Alice Lon, Arthur Duncan, Joe Feeney and Guy Hovis. Welk's style came to be known to his large radio, television, and live-performance fan base as "champagne music," prompting the ABC television crew to engineer a bubble machine that spouted streams of large soap bubbles across the bandstand during the show's tenure.

July is also a month full of famous music festivals around the world, including Canada's Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest and Vancouver Folk Music Festival, England's Cheltenham Music Festival, and the U.S.'s Newport and Grand Teton Music Festivals. Are your toes tapping yet?

Famous Family Trees Quiz

Try to guess which famous family ties belong to each of the following celebrities: Don't Look at the answers!

- 1) Adam Vinatieri (kicker, New England Patriots)
 - 2) Tom Hanks
 - 3) Clint Eastwood
 - 4) Princess Diana Spencer
 - 5) Olivia de Havilland
 - 6) Senator John Kerry
-
- a) Abraham Lincoln
 - b) Joan Fontaine
 - c) Evel Knievel
 - d) Arnold Schwarzenegger
 - e) President George W. Bush
 - f) Johnny Apple Seed

Answers: 1) C; 2) A; 3) D; 4) E; 5) B; 6) F

1. Adam Vinatieri is a third cousin to the famous daredevil Evel Knievel.
2. Tom Hanks is a third cousin, four times removed to Abraham Lincoln.
3. Clint Eastwood and Arnold Schwarzenegger are cousins by marriage.
4. Princess Diana Spencer is a 13th cousin, one generation removed from President George W. Bush.
5. Olivia de Havilland and Joan Fontaine are sisters, born one year apart.
6. John Kerry can count Johnny Apple Seed as his sixth cousin, six times removed.

Happy Birthday Neighbor!



Monthly Entertainment

- July 10th @ 10:00.....Apostolic Faith Singers
July 13th @ 6:30.....RVF Group
July 15th @ 2:00.....Dave Dohren
July 23rd @ 11:45.....Old-Time Fiddlers
July 30th @ 5:00.....Larson Creek Singers

Special Activities

Fourth of July Party

Time: 8:30pm

Where: Back parking lot

Invite for families (please let me know how many will be coming, Thanks)

To join you for Fireworks, music and a special Ice-Cream treat!

Joke of the Month

An elderly couple was watching television one evening. The wife said, "I am going to get a dish of ice cream now." Kindly, the husband offered to get the ice cream for his wife. "I'll write it down so you don't forget," she said.

"I won't forget," the old gent said. "But, I want chocolate syrup and nuts on it. So, I'll write it down," she replied.

"I will get you the ice cream. Don't you worry," replied the gentleman.

A few minutes later, the old man returned with bacon and eggs. His wife said, "See, I should have written it down because you forgot the toast."



July Birthdays

Resident

Julia Miller.....July 3
Dorothy Warkinton.....July 19
Betty Klimek.....July 19
Greg Yamada.....July 22

Staff

Les Connell.....July 8
Kirsten Ribanszky.....July 9
Teresa Oliveri.....July 17
Tina Duncan.....July 22

Famous Birthdays

Estee Lauder July 1, 1908
E.B. White July 11, 1899
Ernest Hemingway July 21, 1899

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!!!

