

March 2024



640 W. Randall St., Coopersville (616) 997-9253 [www.coopersvillefountainview.org](http://www.coopersvillefountainview.org)



## Celebrating March

**Umbrella Month**

**Optimism Month**

**Irish American Heritage  
Month**

**Iditarod Race**  
*March 2*

**Namesake Day**  
*March 3*

**Women in Construction  
Week**  
*March 3–9*

**Wellderly Week**  
*March 18–23*

**Napping Day**  
*March 11*

**Quilting Day**  
*March 16*

**Tea for Two Tuesday**  
*March 19*

**Memory Day**  
*March 21*

**Pencil Day**  
*March 30*



**Unseasonably warm February!**



## Dates to Remember:

- June 12: Resident & Family Picnic
- Aug. 7–9: Annual Yard Sale
- Aug. 21: Ice Cream Social



## Jeopardy's Journey



Television quiz shows came under fire in the 1950s when it was discovered that contestants were given help and sometimes even answers by quiz show producers. The incredibly popular shows *Quiz Show*, *Twenty-One*, *Dotto*, and *The \$64,000 Question* were all revealed to have been rigged,

with contestants playing along to increase the dramatic tension and make the show more enjoyable for viewers. In 1960, Congress finally passed a law banning all fixing of quiz shows.

It's not surprising that many television networks were hesitant to produce any new quiz shows. But audiences craved them. In 1964, television producer Merv Griffin wanted to come up with a new game show. His wife, Julann, pitched him this idea: a show where the contestants were given the answer and challenged to come up with the question. For example, if the answer is 5,280, the question is, "What is, 'How many feet are in a mile?'" From that simple idea, the hit show *Jeopardy!* was born.

On March 30, 1964, *Jeopardy!* debuted, hosted by actor Art Fleming. It was a successful show, but after 11 years it folded. It was revived in 1984, this time hosted by Alex Trebek. For over three decades, Trebek reigned as the quintessential host of *Jeopardy!* With his poised demeanor and unmistakable voice, Trebek guided contestants through the challenging questions with wit and charm. He personified knowledge, embodying the essence of the beloved quiz show.

After Trebek's death in 2020, the show embraced a rotating roster of hosts, including notable figures like former contestant Ken Jennings and actress Mayim Bialik. Each host brought their unique flair while honoring Trebek's legacy. Beginning with Season 40, Jennings took the reins as full-time host. As the winner of 74 games of the show, there is no doubt that he's qualified for the job!

Happy Birthday

**Don Larabee.....17<sup>th</sup>**

**Earl Meerman.....18<sup>th</sup>**

## The Perfect Pair



Feeling hungry? March 23 is Chip and Dip Day. This ultimate snack and party pairing has come a long way since chips and salsa. Often, the dip is the exciting element of the duo: creamy ranch made with sour cream, dill, garlic, and dried onions. Or guacamole with fresh avocados, garlic, onion, tomatoes, a dash of

cayenne, and a squirt of lime. For a change of pace, try hummus, spinach with artichokes, or a white bean spread.

Although it may be taken for granted, the chip is more than just a vehicle for the dip. Corn, potato, and baked pita chips provide a satisfying crunch. Sometimes you don't need a chip at all. Toasted slices of Italian bread are the perfect base for bruschetta. If you really want to impress a crowd, wow them with cheese fondue. The cheese is spectacular, but equally delicious are the sausage, bread, apples, and veggies for dipping.



## In Praise of Weeds



Gardeners get giddy in March as the ground begins to thaw and green buds burst forth showing signs of spring. However, not all of those buds are welcome, and gardeners will begin their assault on unwanted weeds. But wait! Before you break your back pulling out garden

invaders, take some time to understand these pests. March 28 is Weed Appreciation Day.

Many weeds are native species of flowers that provide important pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies as well as seeds for a variety of birds. They may not be always be pretty, but they are important. For example, the humble clover may be undesirable, but it has tremendous benefits. It grows easily and in abundance, is a tasty and nutritious crop for grazing animals, fixes its own nitrogen (which means less need for fertilizer), and grows in a wide variety of climates and soils. It is also one of the honeybee's main sources of nectar.

Many other weeds are edible and healthy. The roots of the burdock plant are regularly eaten in Japan and Korea. They taste similar to artichokes and are high in fiber and potassium. Dandelion and burdock are combined to make a tasty drink that is popular in England and tastes similar to root beer.

The leaves of lamb's quarters, also known as goosefoot or pigweed, are a good substitute for spinach. The seeds, known as quinoa, are a popular alternative to rice and other grains and are high in protein and vitamin A.

Purslane is eaten all over the world in salads, stir-fry dishes, and soups. It contains more of the all-important omega-3 fatty acids than any other leafy green. So this March, before you yank, consider whether that weed may actually be a boon for you and your woodland friends.

## A Winter Farewell

The first day of spring is a common reason for celebration for people all over the world, but the students at Lake Superior State University in Michigan may have taken it too far. Every March 20 since 1971, the students have bid farewell to winter by burning a snowman. This isn't just some wacky college prank; the bizarre tradition began in Germany as the Rose Sunday Festival, where a parade bearing a snowman (made of straw) passes through town to the village center. There, the mayor asks all the local children if they have been good, diligent in their studies, and mindful of their parents. When all the children publicly shout "Yes!" the snowman is burned.

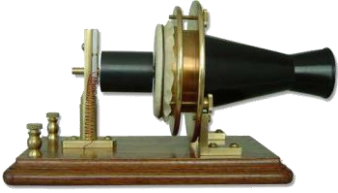
The 10-foot snowman is made of leftover paper and scrap wood and is sometimes dressed in a rival college's colors. As it burns, students, professors, local children, and anyone else who cares to join in recite poetry they have written about the snowman. Only one year has been skipped since the tradition began. A snowman was not burned in 1992, due to environmental concerns by a student environmental awareness group. Locals were furious. Disappointed reporters arrived to find poetry but no snowman, and the tradition was resumed the following year.

## Paws and Purrs



It doesn't get any cuter than March 23, when it is both Cuddly Kitten Day and National Puppy Day. The debate between cat people and dog people rages on. At the Westminster Dog Show, dog authorities argue that they are outgoing while cat people are more aloof. Cat owners over at the Black Diamond Cat Show say they are more intelligent and independent than their dog-owning counterparts. According to researchers, dog people are more extroverted, agreeable, and conscientious. Cat lovers are a bit less traditional and more artistic. Both parties, however, love to cuddle.

## Clash of Inventors



Alexander Graham Bell is hailed as the inventor of the telephone. It was Bell who discovered that sound travels over electrical wires and that

these wires can be connected in a way that allows two people to speak to each other over long distances. On March 10, 1876, the telephone was born when Bell spoke to his assistant, Thomas A. Watson, saying, "Mr. Watson. Come here. I want to see you."

Was Bell the sole inventor of the telephone? Another renowned inventor, Elisha Gray, was working on a similar device. On February 14, 1876, Bell submitted an application to the patent office for his telephone. Just hours later, Gray submitted his own application for a patent. Gray wrote:

"To all whom it may concern: Be it known that I, Elisha Gray, of Chicago, in the County of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented a new art of transmitting vocal sounds telegraphically, of which the following is a specification: It is the object of my invention to transmit the tones of the human voice through a telegraphic circuit, and reproduce them at the receiving end of the line, so that actual conversations can be carried on by persons at long distances apart."

When Gray discovered that Bell was awarded the patent, he took Bell to court. Not only did Gray believe that he submitted his paperwork first, he believed that Bell learned of one of his designs and stole it. How did Bell steal Gray's design? One of the patent examiners at the patent office swore in an affidavit that he had shared Gray's paperwork and designs with Bell. The legal battle lasted over two years.

The courts eventually ruled that while Gray had invented an important, even vital, component of the telephone, Bell had succeeded in creating the whole telephone. The rest, as they say, is history.

## Leadership Team

Connie Clauson...Chief Operating Officer

Chris Milowe...Regional Operations Director

Tara Frazier... Administrator

Nancy Brewer... Business Manager

Andrea Steffes... Life Enrichment & Volunteer Director

Gary Lutz...Food Service Director

Markus Temple...Maintenance Director



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**Justus Veen & Larissa Zimmer**

*...to Fountain View!*

*We are so glad you are here!*

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**We will sadly miss...**

Joseph "Ernie" Vada &

Mary Louise Meerman

**Our thoughts and prayers are  
with their families and friends.**

