



Celebrating April

Lawn and Garden Month

Humor Month

Welding Month

Laugh at Work Week

April 1-7

National Volunteer Week

April 21-27

Peanut Butter and Jelly Day

April 2

National Gardening Day

April 14

Take a Wild Guess Day

April 15

Earth Day

April 22

International Jazz Day

April 30

Dates to Remember

Resident & Family Picnic

Wed., June 12 5-7

Annual Yard Sale Fundraiser

August 7-9

Tartan Tales

Scottish American Heritage Month is a time to don kilts, hum to the tunes of bagpipes, and celebrate the rich tapestry woven by Scottish immigrants in the fabric of American history. Rewind to the 17th and 18th centuries, and picture the adventurous Scots sailing across the Atlantic to the promising landscapes of Canada and the United States. They sought refuge from religious persecution, economic hardships, and land scarcity. Political unrest, coupled with the promise of religious freedom and better prospects, were incentives for many Scots to pursue a fresh start in the New World.

The spirited settlers didn't just plant their flags; they wove their culture into the fabric of their new homes. From Nova Scotia to North Carolina, they created communities that echoed the hills of Scotland. They didn't leave behind their love for haggis or the skirl of bagpipes; they infused these traditions into the heartbeat of American culture.

Fast forward to today, and you'll find echoes of Scottish influence in the very fiber of America. From the lilt of folk tunes to the thunder of athletes at Highland Games, their legacy lives on. The haunting, soulful whine of the bagpipes and the swirl of the tartans evoke a sense of kinship, reminding us of the indelible mark left by these pioneers.

Scottish American Heritage Month isn't just a nod to history; it's a celebration of resilience, tradition, and the merging of cultures. From their stories of fortitude to their rich cultural contributions, their legacy transcends time, resonating in the essence of the American spirit. This April, don your tartan, strike up the bagpipes, and celebrate the remarkable journey and enduring impact of the Scottish Americans who made this land their own. Raise a dram of whisky (or your favorite beverage) to salute the spirited Scots who helped shape America. Cheers to a heritage as rich and diverse as the Scottish landscape itself!

Bingo & Chocolate is always great!



Thank you Coopersville Community & Family Dollar for all of the candy bars!



Michelle's goat visits were a success again!



Barb Rosenberg.....2nd

Linda Lasser.....15th

Marcy Goosen.....29th

Unraveling the Art of Tatting



While a handkerchief, table runner, doily, or collar made of intricate knotted lace appears nearly impossible to construct, the art of tatting is easy to learn. All you need to start tatting is thread, a

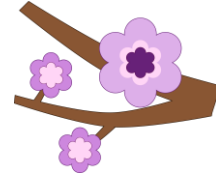
shuttle (a small device that helps guide a silk thread through loops into knots), and your two hands. Give it a try on April 1, International Tatting Day.

This decorative art form may have grown from the netting and ropework handmade by sailors and fishermen of olden times. Tatting became fashionable in the 1800s and enjoyed a surge in popularity during the 1950s and 1960s. Technology has usurped the handiwork required to make tatted lace, which means that handmade tatting is more precious than ever.

Welcome to Fountain View:

Donna Lozon, Elaine Emmons, Linda Lasser, Marcy Goosen, Jan Cunningham, & Alberto Benivamonde

We are so glad you are here with us!



Let the Good Times Roll



All April long, opponents will be throwing their knuckles down. Don't worry, this isn't anything sinister. "Knuckles down" is the position you assume before shooting in a classic game of marbles. So, this April, Knuckles Down Month, you too can play for keeps.

The classic game of marbles is called ringer. Two parallel lines, lag lines, are drawn 10 feet away from each other. A large 10-foot circle is drawn between the lag lines. In the middle of the circle is a cross made of 13 target marbles, or mibs. To determine who plays first, each player lags from one lag line to the other; that is, they toss their shooter marble to the opposite line. The player whose shooter lands closest to the lag line goes first.

Play starts by knuckling down along the edge of the ring and using your thumb to cast your shooter at the mibs inside. The object is to knock a mib outside the circle while keeping your shooter inside. You next knuckle down inside the ring where your shooter landed. If you fail to knock out a mib, then it is your opponent's turn. The first player to knock out a majority of marbles wins, and it's up to you to determine whether to play for fair (return all marbles to their original owners) or play for keeps (the winner keeps all the marbles).



Dale is all smiles holding the baby duck. Now Barb... isn't so sure about the baby chick.



Growing fast and exploring the outdoors in just a few short weeks.

For the Love of Birds



Many have heard of the Audubon Society and know it as an environmental organization dedicated to studying and preserving birds and their natural habitats. The organization is named after John James Audubon, the French American painter of birds who dedicated his

life to his unique art. His birthday, April 26, is now celebrated as Audubon Day.

Audubon showed an affinity for birds starting in childhood. He spent hours roaming the countryside, collecting birds' nests and eggs, and drawing them once he returned home. Audubon's father was a sailor and hoped his son would join the navy, so John James went to military school. However, he suffered from seasickness and so returned to the woods.

In 1803, the Napoleonic Wars broke out in France. Audubon's father obtained a fake passport and sent John James to America to avoid the war. It was at his family's farm in Pennsylvania that Audubon devoted himself full-time to the outdoors: hunting, fishing, and drawing birds.

Audubon was obsessed with birds. In an effort to study their habits, he tied string around their legs to see if they returned year after year. He learned the art of taxidermy and worked in natural museums. But his greatest contribution to ornithology was his brilliant book *Birds of America*. He dedicated his life to drawing every single bird in America. His style was new and different: a highly detailed drawing of each bird, more accurate than ever before. His drawings were life-sized, with some pages over three feet tall and two feet wide. After 14 years of traveling the entire country, Audubon drew over 700 species of birds. *Birds of America* is often considered the greatest picture book ever made, and original copies have sold for over \$10 million. How's that for a nest egg?

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



We will sadly miss...

Ron Kieft and Walter Dill who recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Follow us!

