



“Hello, my name is Brandon J. I am the Director of Maintenance for The Shores of Lake Phalen. I have years’ experience in building, and residential properties. I am a father to two beautiful children and graduated from Penn State in Pennsylvania for administration and graduated from Hubert H. Humphrey with a culinary degree. In my spare time, I enjoy state of the art video games and home improvement projects. My passion is to help residents smile while fixing requested items..”

If you see Brandon around our community stop and say hello!

### Notable Quotable

“Age is no barrier. It is a limitation you put on your mind.

~ Jackie Joyner-Kersey  
(born March 3, 1962)



### International Fanny Pack Day

International Fanny Pack Day is celebrated on the second Saturday in March every year. Though the name might imply it is a day solely to celebrate fanny packs, the heartfelt meaning behind the day goes much deeper. A trend that hit in the 1980s, fanny packs are small pouches strapped around the waist for carrying little items, such as phones, money, and other items too small to warrant large bags. Whether you call it a waist bag, a belly bag, a belt bag, a moon bag, or even a bum bag, there is no denying the usefulness of this accessory. The true history behind the day makes International Fanny Pack Day even more special.

### 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, except one, the students have bid farewell to winter by burning a snowman. This is not 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. 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.

March 2024

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Celebrating March

Umbrella Month

### World Poetry Day

Optimism Month

Irish American Heritage Month

Peanut Butter Lover’s Day

March 1

Read Across America Day

March 2

Fanny Pack Day

March 9

Poetry Day

March 21

Wear Purple Day

March 26

Wear Pastel Day

March 29

“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.” — Writer Elizabeth Barrett Browning dedicated this iconic poem to her husband Robert Browning, but her famous sonnet could just as easily declare love for poetry itself. We can all do that on World Poetry Day, on March 21. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) founded this day in 1999. Poetry uses rhythms and imagery to stir emotion and the imagination of the reader.

Poetry can rhyme, using what are called meters of long and short syllables. Some poetry, written in what is called ‘free verse,’ does not employ rhyme or meters. Poems are broken into stanzas, which are like paragraphs, and can be up to twelve lines long. We believe the first known poem appeared 4,000 years ago in Babylon. Today, countless types of poems are available to enjoy, including haikus, limericks, sonnets, and ballads.

### Biodiesel Change

Rudolf Diesel, inventor of the eponymous diesel engine, was born on March 18, 1858. Biodiesel Day celebrates a type of fuel that Diesel himself valued. As he stated in 1912, “The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum and the coal-tar products of the present time.”

It appears that Diesel was not only a great inventor but also a visionary. In 2012, one hundred years after that statement, the U.S. produced over one billion gallons of biodiesel fuel. This fuel is biodegradable and nontoxic, produces less carbon dioxide than fossil fuels, and can be produced from vegetable oils, animal fats, algae, and even recycled restaurant grease.





## National Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day has a delightful background that began a few decades ago! Back in 1985, Comic Relief started as a charity with the desire to respond to the famine that was devastating Ethiopia at the time. The desire was to get comedians together to help people laugh while raising support to help people around the world.

The following year, the notion of Red Nose Day was established and was then held every other year, broadcast on British Television (BBC) as a telethon usually taking place in March. Although the charity focuses have changed throughout the years, the organization continues to raise funds for those in need, particularly for ending poverty in children.

By 2015, Red Nose Day had made its way to the United States, and it had a great amount of success there. In 2021 it was announced that Red Nose Day in the UK and in the US would convert from every other year to taking place annually, which is a win for those watching as well as for the kids that it supports!

Red Nose Day events have featured some of the most famous comedians, pop stars and other famous people from around the UK, the US, and other places.



This includes names like Rowan Atkinson (Mr. Bean), Steve Martin, Take That, Jack Black, Simon Cowell, James Corden, Miranda Hart and so many more over the years.

Skits and activities have included entertainment such as Dance-a-Thons, LOL-a-thons, and even a record set in the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest radio show.

In addition to comedy and performances, other events and challenges have been included in Red Nose Day. Some years have included special reunions in honor of film casts, such as “Four Weddings and a Funeral,” as well as the “Love Actually” cast. Some more recent years have also included a Kilimanjaro challenge in which several celebrities participated in a climb up the largest mountain in Africa.

All in all, Red Nose Day has been responsible for raising over £1 billion GBP and more than \$250 million USD that has been donated to charity, with expenses for the show being completely underwritten by sponsors. In addition, the show has sold millions of red noses for people to wear that help to lend support and raise awareness for the day.

## National Wear Purple Day

The origin of Wear Purple for Peace Day is still unknown, like aliens, but that does not mean peace is. Peace is well-known. Most of us know exactly how it feels. It feels really good — no conflict and no violence. Sadly, some people in other parts of the world do not feel the same.

World peace is a state where people in all nations experience freedom, happiness, and peace within. Who doesn't long for such a heavenly state? No conflict, no violence, no war, and no fighting — world peace is worth fighting for. So, why purple? The color purple is associated with royalty, nobility, and ambition. It can also represent spirituality, wisdom, and peace.

## National Peanut Butter Lovers Day

National Peanut Butter Lover's Day made its appearance in 1990 commemorating the anniversary of when peanut butter made its commercial debut in the United States. Promoted by both the Adult Peanut Butter Lovers Fan Club and the National Peanut Board, the day found full coverage in newspaper spreads across the country.

An un-named doctor was given credit for first providing peanut butter to his patients. In March of 1890, he began providing the spread to those patients who had difficulty chewing. More than one hundred years later, we continue to celebrate the benefits of peanut butter, and its history, too.

SPREAD  
THE  
LOVE



## Clash of Inventors

Alexander Graham Bell is hailed as the inventor of the telephone. Bell 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. 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 to reproduce them at the receiving end of the line, so that actual conversation can be carried on by persons at long distances apart.”

When Gray discovered that Bell had awarded the patent, he took Bell to court. Not only did Gray believe that Bell submitted his paperwork first, but he also believed that Bell learned of Gray's designs and stole it. One of the examiners at the patent office issued an affidavit that he had shared Gray's paperwork and designs with Bell. The legal battle lasted over two years, but the courts eventually ruled that Bell had invented an important, even though Gray succeeded in creating the whole telephone. The rest, as they say, is history.

*Bell's mother and wife were both deaf. This had a major influence on his work.*

