

March 2022

# Northern Pines News

Northern Pines Assisted Living | 130 Mary Ann St Grayling MI | (989)344:2010 |

## Celebrating March

**Irish American Heritage  
Month**

**Craft Month**

**Women's History Month**

**Mardi Gras**  
*March 1<sup>st</sup>*

**Happy Birthday Mickey**  
*March 5<sup>th</sup>*

**International Women's Day**  
*March 8<sup>th</sup>*

**St. Patrick's Day**  
*March 17<sup>th</sup>*

**Happy Birthday Betty**  
*March 18<sup>th</sup>*

**World Poetry Day**  
*March 21<sup>st</sup>*

**Shakespeare Week**  
*March 21<sup>st</sup>–27<sup>th</sup>*

**Mothering Sunday (UK)**  
*March 27<sup>th</sup>*

**Little Red Wagon Day**  
*March 30<sup>th</sup>*

## What are you doing to thrive today?

Many of us know Psalm 118:24 because it is a popular worship chorus to sing. "This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Even though the Psalm was written for a national day of rejoicing, it can apply to every day of our life. This day, the day we are living today, is a day which the LORD has made. What we do with this day is a choice that we can make. We can rejoice, be glad and see the opportunities to thrive today.

A friend sent me an uplifting writing about how they are viewing their day. It reads:

"Today, when I awoke, I suddenly realized that this is the best day of my life. Ever! There were times when I wondered if I would make it to today, but I did. And because I did I'm going to celebrate! Today, I'm going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I have had so far, the accomplishments, the many blessings, and, yes, even the hardships because they have served to make me stronger. Today, I will share my excitement for life with other people. I'll make someone smile. I'll go out of my way to perform an unexpected act of kindness for someone I don't even know. Today, I will give a sincere compliment to someone who seems down. Today is the day I quit worrying about what I don't have and start being grateful for all the wonderful things God has already given me. As the day ends, I will lay my head down on my pillow, I will thank God for the best day of my life. I will sleep the sleep of a contented child, excited with expectation because I know tomorrow is going to be the best day of my life, ever!" Chaplain Jeff

## History in Bloom



On March 27, 1912, Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo gifted 3,020 cherry trees to Washington, D.C., as a gesture of friendship and cooperation between Japan and the United States. Over 100 years

later, Washington's Cherry Blossom Festival remains one of the capital's most beloved events, drawing over one million visitors each year.

The story of the cherry trees began in 1885 with author, geographer, and photographer Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore. Scidmore often accompanied her brother, a diplomat, on assignments to the Far East, enjoying access to parts of countries that ordinary travelers could only dream of. It was Scidmore who, upon her return to Washington D.C. from Japan, first floated the idea of planting cherry trees along the Potomac River. Scidmore's ideas were rebuffed, but she was persistent.

In 1909, Scidmore wrote a letter to the new first lady, Helen Herron Taft, informing the president's wife of her intention to raise money to purchase and donate cherry trees to the city. The first lady was more than receptive. As luck would have it, a Japanese delegation was present in Washington. Hearing of the plan, the delegates graciously offered 2,000 trees, which the first lady accepted. Unfortunately, these trees arrived in America infested with insects and parasites. All 2,000 had to be destroyed. The idea, however, did not die. Japanese officials announced that another 3,020 trees would be shipped to Washington.

It was on March 27 that First Lady Helen Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two Yoshino cherry trees on the north bank of the Tidal Basin. Additional trees were planted around the Basin, in East Potomac Park, and at the White House. Many of the original trees, despite being over 150 years old, still bloom each year in Washington to the surprise and delight of botanists. The cherry trees are the most pampered in Washington, getting expert care from National Park Service horticulturalists. The tree crews are tending not only to the trees but also to American history.

## March Birthdays

In astrology, those born from March 1–20 are Pisces' Fish. Pisces are sympathetic and selfless, making them compassionate friends. Their intuitive natures also make Fish creative and expressive artists. Those born from March 21–31 are Aries' Rams. As the first sign of the zodiac, Rams love to lead the charge of change and progress. Sometimes impulsive, always passionate, Rams are dynamic and fun friends.

Lupita Nyong'o (actress) – March 1, 1983  
Desi Arnaz (actor) – March 2, 1917  
Alexander Graham Bell (inventor) – March 3, 1847  
Shaquille O'Neal (athlete) – March 6, 1972  
Raul Julia (actor) – March 9, 1940  
Liza Minnelli (entertainer) – March 12, 1946  
Simone Biles (gymnast) – March 14, 1997  
Vanessa Williams (singer) – March 18, 1963  
Spike Lee (director) – March 20, 1957  
Steve McQueen (actor) – March 24, 1930  
Aretha Franklin (singer) – March 25, 1942  
Warren Beatty (actor) – March 30, 1937

Make sure to follow us on Facebook for all the fun and exciting things we have going on at Northern Pines!

If you would like to volunteer at Northern Pines Please reach out to Christina Jones, our Life Enrichment Director at (989)344-2010 or email [Christina.Jones@baruchsls.org](mailto:Christina.Jones@baruchsls.org)

