

February 2024

Northern Pines News

Northern Pines Assisted Living | 130 Mary Ann St. Grayling, MI 49738 | (989) 344-2010



Celebrating February

Bird Feeding Month

Spunky Old Broads Month

Happy Birthday Susan!!!

February 1

Happy Birthday Freddie!!!

February 3

Liberace Day

February 4

**Chinese Lunar New Year's
Day**

February 10

Happy Birthday Char!!!

February 13

Galentine's Day

February 13

Valentine's Day

February 14

Presidents' Day

February 17

For Pete's Sake Day

February 26

Leap Day

February 29

God Is LOVE

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us" 1 John 4:7-12. Looking at our passage, we see the word love bolded thirteen times! God does the initiating of his love by sending his one and only Son, Jesus, into the the world (vs.9) to die on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins (vs.10). God did not have to send Jesus. He could have left us in our sin. Yet, God's love is so deep and so wide (Ephesians 3:18-19) he rescued us from our sin. He initiated our redemption through the blood of Jesus. In verses 8,11 and 12, we see God's love is not passive, rather it changes and transforms us. We cannot love if we do not know God, because God is love. We are his creation, made in his image, and an extension of his love. God's love drives us to care for a person in need, to offer empathy to a grieving friend, to rejoice with one who comes to know Christ. Today, I offer you a challenge - how will you initiate God's love to another person encountering a mental health crisis, a friend with differing political views, apologizing to your brother or sister, asking forgiveness for your mistakes or listening well to someone else's feelings and concerns. You and I do not love because we want to. We love because God first loved us. His love creates a desire within us to be obedient to him in giving his love to those around us. We love because God's love changes and transforms us. The month of February is about LOVE. As Valentine's Day approaches, take the initiative to love others as God loves you and watch it change and transform you and the person you shared it with.

Chaplain Val

For the Love of Reading

While couples are courting each other with the perfect valentines on February 14, local libraries are wooing their local communities on Library Lovers' Day. Citizens have always appreciated their local libraries, but on this day, libraries show that the feeling is mutual.



Library patrons, how do your libraries love thee? Let us count the ways. One library hosted a couple that renewed their wedding vows after 40 years of marriage. Another library held a "blind date with a book" party, where borrowers were hooked up with mystery books. The staff

of another library dressed up as characters from Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice*, held a tea party for borrowers, and read excerpts from the book.

Why do we develop such emotional connections with books? Is it because we love learning new things? Books can teach us anything and everything, from cooking to space travel to macroeconomics. Do we love the way they inspire our imagination to take flight? We think we have only one life to live, but through books we inhabit other lives and even other worlds. Reading allows us to explore an infinite variety of paths in life. Reading is not a passive act but an intensely challenging mental act. It is as good for our brains as exercise is for our bodies. Regardless of your reason for loving books, instead of taking your loved one out to a restaurant this Valentine's Day, consider taking them to a library.

Looking for more reasons to indulge your love of literature? February 9 is Read in the Tub Day. How do you keep the pages from getting wet? Simply place a plank or caddy over the tub to rest your book and your rubber ducky on. Just remember not to take those library books into the bath with you!

February Birthdays

If you were born between February 1–18, you are an Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Aquarians are loyal and smart humanitarians who want to make a difference in the world. They are energetic, have inquisitive minds, and come up with creative solutions. Those born from February 19–29 are Pisces, the Fish. Like fish, Pisces like to go with the flow in an easygoing manner, but on the inside, they are intuitive, intensely spiritual, and deeply emotional.

Lisa Marie Presley (singer) – Feb. 1, 1968
 Farrah Fawcett (actress) – Feb. 2, 1947
 James Michener (author) – Feb. 3, 1907
 Mary Leakey (scientist) – Feb. 6, 1913
 Sarah Palin (politician) – Feb. 11, 1964
 Peter Dinklage (guitarist) – Feb. 13, 1942
 Hugh Downs (news anchor) – Feb. 14, 1921
 Amy Tan (author) – Feb. 19, 1952
 Julius Erving (basketball player) – Feb. 22, 1950
 Cullen Jones (swimmer) – Feb. 29, 1984

Connecting the World



On February 4, 2004, the internet changed forever. Harvard freshman Mark Zuckerberg launched Facebook, a website that has transformed the way people socialize and communicate. Facebook

has more than three billion active users a month. For many, staying in touch via Facebook, sharing pictures, sending messages, and commenting on friends' posts is preferable to communicating by mail, telephone, or email.

However, a scientific study in 2017 suggested that using Facebook had negative consequences. The more the study participants used Facebook, the worse they felt afterward. Users felt less satisfied with their lives and were lonelier. It seems that direct social contact may still be the best form of interaction of all.