

March 2024

Northern Pines News

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



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

Welllderly 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

A Mathematical Celebration

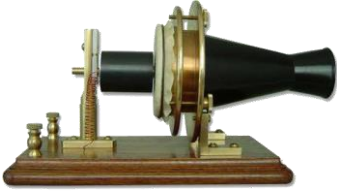
March 14 marks a unique celebration—Pi Day! It honors the mathematical constant pi (π) because the first three digits, 3.14, match the date. It is also recognized as the International Day of Mathematics, a celebration of the universal language of numbers. In addition, this busy day also pays homage to the genius behind the theory of relativity, Albert Einstein, who was born on March 14, 1879. Ironically, the fact that Einstein's birthday is widely celebrated might not have pleased the esteemed scientist, who once said, "It is a known fact that I was born, and that is all that is necessary."

Pi, that infinite number we encounter in circles, has an inseparable bond with Einstein's groundbreaking work. The beauty of pi lies not just in its numerical significance but in its appearance across mathematical landscapes, including the formulas that are the basis of Einstein's theories. The theory of relativity, famously distilled into $E=mc^2$, unveils the intricate dance between energy, mass, and the speed of light—a mathematical waltz through the cosmos.

This trio of celebrations is a chance to marvel at how math permeates our world. From the spirals of galaxies to the curves of flower petals, mathematical principles govern the very fabric of nature. March 14 is a day to appreciate the sheer delight of numbers, which transcend cultural and language barriers. It's a reminder that math isn't just about calculus or algebra, endless equations to mind-bending theories; it's about the joy of patterns, puzzles, and the universal language that connects us all. It is the basis of the wonders of the universe—the rhythm of the stars, the shapes of nature, and the logic that powers innovation.

As you munch on a piece of banana cream or homemade blueberry pie to celebrate Pi Day, raise a glass and toast to Einstein's legacy. Take a moment to reflect on how equations, formulas, and theories intertwine to unlock the secrets of the universe.

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.

March Birthdays

Those born from March 1–20 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. If you were born between March 21–31, you are Aries, the Ram. These independent adventurers like to strike out on their own and are natural leaders. Their enthusiasm and confidence mean they have big and outgoing personalities.

Dr. Seuss (author) – March 2, 1904
Jackie Joyner-Kersey (athlete) – March 3, 1962
Lou Costello (comedian) – March 6, 1906
Sam Donaldson (journalist) – March 11, 1934
Glenn Close (actress) – March 19, 1947
Chaka Khan (singer) – March 23, 1953
Danica Patrick (driver) – March 25, 1982
Walt Frazier (ball player) – March 29, 1945
Gordie Howe (hockey player) – March 31, 1928

Verses and Voices



World Poetry Day, initiated by UNESCO in 1999, arrives on March 21 to honor globally the artistry and diversity of poetry. It pays

homage to poets who craft words into emotion, images, and storytelling, transcending boundaries and enriching human experiences.

You can mark the occasion by sharing favorite poems with friends or family, attending poetry readings or events, or even trying your hand at writing a short poem. Dive into different poetic styles, from traditional sonnets to modern spoken word, exploring the richness of expression they offer. You might also support local poets or poetry organizations, sharing their work on social media or attending their performances. Whether you choose to write, read, or listen to poetry performed, World Poetry Day invites us to immerse ourselves in the beauty and power of words.