

August 2024

Northern Pines Newsletter

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Celebrating August

Goat Cheese Month

Farmers Market Week

August 4–10

National Championship

Chuckwagon Race

August 24–

September 1

Professional Speakers Day

August 7

Bowling Day

August 10

World Honey Bee Day

August 17

Mail Order Catalog Day

August 18

Happy Birthday Grace!!!

August 23

Kiss and Make Up Day

August 25

Pony Express Day

August 25

Eat Outside Day

August 31

Aloha Anniversary

Hawaii, a tropical paradise in the Pacific Ocean, is known for its stunning natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and unique history. This year marks the 65th anniversary of Hawaii's statehood, a significant milestone in its journey as part of the United States.

Before becoming the 50th and final state on August 21, 1959, Hawaii's history is a tapestry of Indigenous Polynesian culture, European exploration, and colonialism. Captain James Cook's arrival in the late 18th century marked the beginning of significant Western influence on the islands. In the 19th century, Hawaii became a hub for the global sugar trade, attracting immigrant labor from China, Japan, Portugal, and the Philippines.

The road to statehood was not without challenges. Despite the islands' importance during World War II, it wasn't until after the war that momentum for statehood gained traction. In 1959, Hawaii joined the Union, becoming the first state with a majority Asian population and the only state composed entirely of islands.

Today, Hawaii is celebrated for its breathtaking landscapes—lush rainforests, cascading waterfalls, and pristine beaches with crystal clear waters. The islands are also home to unique flora and fauna found nowhere else on Earth, such as the endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the vibrant hibiscus flower, the state symbol.

Hawaii's cultural diversity is reflected in its cuisine, music, and festivals. Traditional Hawaiian luau feasts, ukulele melodies, and hula dancing are beloved cultural expressions that thrive alongside modern influences.

From Hawaii's ancient roots to its modern-day vibrancy, this unique state remains a cherished destination for travelers seeking adventure, relaxation, and the aloha spirit that permeates every corner of the islands.

A Striking Hobby



The first matchbook was invented by a Philadelphia lawyer named Joshua Pusey, who wanted a way to light his cigar while riding the train to work. By the early 1900s, businesses were printing matchbooks as advertisements. During the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago, matchbook

enthusiasts started gathering to show off their collections. And in 1940, a collector named Henry Rathkamp decided that he would hold a collectors' convention at every World's Fair. In this way, the Rathkamp Matchcover Society was born, and its 83rd Annual Convention is meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, this August 25–30.

A matchbook cover collector is called a *phillumenist*, and they collect unused matchbook covers with the matches stripped out of them. Generally, the covers are worthless, but what makes the hobby exciting is finding interesting or unusual pictures on the matchbook cover. Some covers also feature an “odd striker,” which means that the striker for lighting the match is located in an unusual area, such as on a picture of the seat of Hitler's pants. Matchbook covers span a variety of themes, including patriotic, railroad, national parks, colleges, and sports teams. Some matchbook covers are contoured with interesting and atypical shapes.

As with most hobbies, the rarer covers are the most coveted. Perhaps the rarest matchbook cover is from a matchbook given to guests attending Charles Lindbergh's luncheon at the Astor Hotel in New York in 1927 to honor his crossing of the Atlantic. The Lindbergh cover sold in 2015 for \$6,000 at auction, becoming the most valuable matchbook cover in the world. Only 11 of these covers are known to exist. Of course, one needn't own a rare matchbook cover to enjoy this hobby. Even the simplest matchbook cover may strike your fancy and ignite your passion for collecting.

August Birthdays

If you were born between August 1–22, you are a Leo, the Lion. Creative and ambitious with a magnetic personality, Leos enjoy the spotlight. Warm, loving, and kind, they make loyal and honorable friends. Those born between August 23–31 are Virgos. Virgos are considered shy and sometimes naïve, private, and tidy. They are curious explorers who are incredibly loyal and well respected by their friends and colleagues.

Tony Bennett (singer) – August 3, 1926
 Bob Cousy (athlete) – August 9, 1928
 Buck Owens (singer) – August 12, 1929
 Gary Larson (cartoonist) – August 14, 1950
 Julia Child (chef) – August 15, 1912
 Mae West (actress) – August 17, 1893
 Robert Redford (actor) – August 18, 1936
 Rita Dove (poet) – August 28, 1952
 Nancy Wake (war hero) – August 30, 1912

The Golden Age



August 21 is Senior Citizens Day, a day to recognize the importance of seniors and support them in their endeavors as they age. August 14 marks another significant day for older generations—Social Security Day, a day honoring FDR's signing of the Social Security Act into law in 1935.

We should honor our seniors all year long, not just in August, but what makes this demographic so special? For one, there are a lot of them—over 62 million in America, or about 18 percent of the population. And research shows that seniors are more satisfied than the young. Perhaps it comes from a confidence born of living through the Great Depression and WWII. It may be that seniors finally have time to focus on enjoying the present rather than worry about the future. This might be the most valuable lesson we can learn from our senior friends!