

July 2024

The Periodical

Parsons House on Eagle Run | 14325 Eagle Run Dr. Omaha NE. 68164 | 402-498-9554



Celebrating July

Ice Cream Month

Farriers Day

July 7

Zookeeper Day

July 21

Independence Day

July 4

Amelia Earhart Day

July 24

National Milk Chocolate Day

July 28



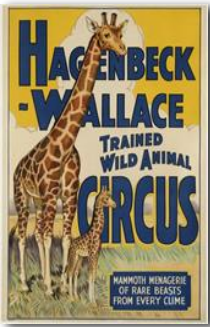
Does anyone else still get excited about summertime the way I do? I'm not just talking about being a little giddy. I mean the type of excitement you had on the very last day when school let out for summer break! As a kid, it always seemed to take forever to get to that point... but when that moment finally arrived, it was amazing!

That same childlike excitement still lives inside me. Unfortunately, there is no break from the real world as an adult! As we all know far too well, "the show must go on". If you find yourself lucky enough to escape the hustle for even a few moments, it sure can be refreshing to spend that time outdoors. I hope you all take a little time this summer to soak in the sunshine with friends and family while enjoying a cool treat!

Last week, here at Parsons House, we got to experience just that! We had our third-annual Car Show! Try as it may, the heat couldn't stop us from having a good time. In fact, I'd venture to say it "revved" us up! The Kona Ice truck kept us cool while we enjoyed the sights and sounds of some pretty spectacular cars! We had several amazing cars showcased this year and the day brought much joy to our residents. A special thanks to all that participated and helped the day run smoothly!

Now that summer is in full gear, we look forward to celebrating America's Birthday next week. From all of us at Parsons House, we wish you a safe and fun-filled July!

Under the Big Top



Peru, Indiana, calls itself the Circus Capital of the World, and for good reason. For years it was the overwintering home to seven of the world's major circuses. After all those winters, the circus life rubbed off on the residents of Peru, and today they celebrate their Circus City Festival from July 15–20.

Peru's famous circus history began when the successful businessman Colonel Ben Wallace decided to enter the circus business in 1882. He first purchased all the tents, poles, and costumes of a failing circus. He then traveled to Texas to buy some horses. Still unsatisfied, he bought other exotic animals in Chicago and hired a firm to build elaborate and ornate wagons. Wallace might have been new to the circus business, but he spared no expense in assembling the greatest animals and performers of the day. He called it Wallace and Co.'s Great World Menagerie, Grand International Mardi Gras, Highway Holiday Hidalgo, and Alliance of Novelties.

Sadly, in 1884, before he could take his wondrous show on the road, it suffered a horrible fire, and Wallace lost nearly his entire investment. Undaunted, he rebuilt his circus, and it quickly became one of the country's best-known acts. Each winter, upon Wallace's return to Peru, the various performers, workers, and animals joined him. It was a common sight to see elephants walking through town. Children raced to see lions and tigers bathing in the local river. Circus City was born.

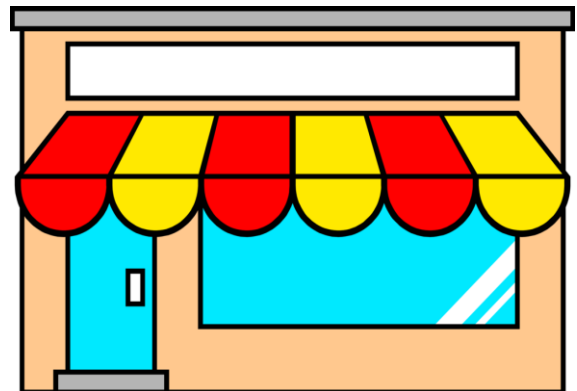
Today, the children of Peru practice clowning and flying on the trapeze like other children practice playing baseball. Every July, this youth circus performs during the Circus City Festival. And after the lights go down on the big top, visitors can visit the International Circus Hall of Fame and Museum. Peru is the perfect place to run away and join the circus.

In the Fast Lane

With more than 200,000 drive-thru restaurants in America alone, it's easy to see how much people love picking up a meal at a window. Maybe it's because we're so busy that we don't have time to order our meals inside. Or maybe we're just a little lazy. If you're looking for an excuse to grab some fast food, look no further than July 24, Drive-Thru Day.

Jack in the Box purports to have invented the first drive-thru in 1951 at its San Diego eatery. Others claim the drive-thru was conceived by two Texans, one a tobacco salesman and the other a doctor. They teamed up to open Kirby's Pig Stand drive-in restaurant in Dallas in 1921. Whether you drive-thru or drive-in, people have been eating in their cars ever since.

Corner Store



The Corner Store will be open July 8th and July 29th

Mallets and Madness

During July, in the green parks of Portland, Oregon, you might hear deep and resounding thuds, along with the dainty tinkling of teacups. If so, you may have discovered the strange world of Mondo Croquet. The rules of this backyard lawn game are almost identical to the original game from England, complete with period costumes and a picnic of tea and finger sandwiches. But instead of mallets, players wield sledgehammers, and in lieu of small croquet balls, they knock bowling balls through massive steel hoops. Sure, the occasional bowling ball cracks under the pressure, but players are allowed to continue their round using the biggest remaining piece. And there is one additional rule: once a player finishes a round, they are allowed to continue play with the sole purpose of knocking out other players' balls. If that doesn't sound fair, it should be noted that fairness isn't the purpose of the game. The goal of the game is to have fun, and when it comes to Mondo Croquet, the bigger the fun the better!

Protecting the Wild



The International Ranger Federation, a worldwide consortium of park rangers and uniformed conservationists, was founded on July 31, 1992. In 2007, July 31 was officially dedicated as World Ranger

Day, a day to honor all the hardworking men and women who put their lives on the line to protect the world's wild places.

How should you celebrate? Visit a park and thank a ranger in person. Donate to your local park or conservation fund. Light a candle for the brave rangers who have died in the line of duty. After all, rangers have the responsibility of protecting over 100,000 parks and conservation areas worldwide. That's more than 10 percent of Earth's entire landmass!

Happy Independence Day

Wednesday July 3rd
11 am- 1 pm
Grill Out
Cheeseburger/LTOP
Hot Dog
Beer Bratwurst
BBQ pull pork
Watermelon
Cole slaw
Pasta Salad
Chips
Cookies and Brownies
Assorted Soda

Kids 12 & under eat free 13+ \$12

A Canned Classic



Over the past 87 years, Spam—Hormel’s renowned meat product in a can—has transformed from a mere food into a worldwide pop culture phenomenon. On July 5, 1937, it was first introduced to the world as Hormel Spiced Meat, but

shortly thereafter, Ken Daigneau entered the name *Spam* into a naming contest and won \$100 for his efforts. Since then, over nine billion cans of Spam have been sold.

Spam was popular from the moment of its inception. Within one year of its introduction, 18 percent of all American households were enjoying the canned meat. However, it was during World War II that Spam really took off, as it was part of American army rations. Perhaps it is thanks to those American soldiers that the biggest consumers of Spam are residents of tiny islands that served as American military outposts: Guam, Hawaii, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The average Guamanian eats 16 cans of Spam a year. Spam is incorporated into family recipes, eaten at restaurants, and can even be found on burgers at McDonald’s and Burger King. Spam is so popular in Hawaii that it is called “The Hawaiian Steak,” and other canned meats, such as Armour Treet, are not nearly as popular.

Why has Spam become such a celebrated piece of Americana? Was it the now-famous 1970 sketch by Britain’s comedy troupe Monty Python that launched Spam to international stardom? Or is it the curiosity surrounding the meaning of its name or the mystery of its ingredients? We may never know why Spam has become so popular, but the Smithsonian has taken the lead in immortalizing it. Two cans of Spam, one bearing the original packaging and another with an updated design, have been added to the museum’s exhaustive collection. It may satisfy Spam’s devoted followers to know that their favorite canned meat product is a work of art.

July Birthdays

Those born between July 1–22 are Crabs of Cancer. Crabs love family and nurturing others. They may be emotional, kind, and gentle but are never soft. Cancers are strong-willed and tenacious in their search for peace and homeyness. If you were born between July 22–31, you are a Leo, the Lion. Creative and ambitious with magnetic personalities, Leos enjoy the spotlight. Warm, loving, and kind, they make loyal and honorable friends.

Joyce W. 7-16
 Sharen D. 7-30
 Alice D. 7-17
 Sherie H. 7-2
 Norine C. 7-27
 Woodrow F. 7-25
 Darwin B. 7-9
 Allen J. 7-24
 Mary H. 7-3

From Scotland to the World



Depending on your musical tastes, you may or may not enjoy Bagpipe Appreciation Day on July 27. This quintessentially Scottish instrument is traditionally used for almost any occasion.

There are over 200 different types of bagpipes, and variations have been played for centuries in parts of Russia, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. Scotland’s Great Highland Bagpipes have earned the most renown. A piper blows air into a blowpipe, which inflates a bag made of elk or sheepskin. Another pipe, a chanter, is held in the piper’s hands and is played like a flute. Also rising from the main bag are drone pipes that produce constant bass or tenor notes, providing background to the chanter’s melody. The music is unmistakable, and you may appreciate it even more after a glass of scotch. It may not be a coincidence that July 27 is also Scotch Day.