

What did August say  
when June claimed that  
today is the last day of  
the month?  
Don't July to me!



Town Hall Meetings Next  
Month:

- August 3rd Driftwood at 11am
- August 4th Lakeshore at 9am
- August 4th Beachside at 11am



National Blueberry Month

For the month of July, we are celebrating National Blueberry Month. Blueberries have always been a part of West Michigan and our history here. Residents would pick wild blueberries in the woods and marshes along the lakeshore. In the early 1900's, an effort was made to cultivate and grow blueberries commercially. Research was done to find wild varieties of Michigan blueberries and propagate new varieties that would satisfy the consumers desire for the fruit. The first commercial blueberry plants were planted in the 1940s. The initial growth of the industry was slow due to the need of large numbers of workers to harvest the fruit by hand. In 1968, that all changed when Mr. Harvey, of Grand Haven, invented and patented the mechanical harvester. The industry continued to grow, with Michigan leading the way being the largest producer of blueberries in the U.S. Currently, there are approximately 24,000 acres of blueberries in Michigan. The reason that West Michigan is the leader of the blueberry industry, is because of the ideal acidic soils and the climate that we have along the lakeshore. Blueberries are now very popular and have a high demand, so they are grown all over the United States and the world, but Michigan is still recognized as having the best tasting fresh blueberries. A few local Blueberry farms include Reenders Blueberry Farms, Wa-Hu Blueberry Farm, Crossroads Blueberry Farm, Midwest Blueberry Farm and Bowerman's Blueberry Farm.

★ THE PATRIOT ★

AmericanHouse.com

Holland

July 2023



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Independence Day

The Fourth of July has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. ON July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence and two days later, from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a history document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to now, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities. In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. During the summer of 1776, some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on American and the triumph of liberty. The festivities that included concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets would accompany the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia was the first state to hold the first annual commemoration of Independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war. The Fourth of July today, is still celebrated with fireworks, parades and concerts as well as family gatherings and barbecues. Happy Fourth of July!!

ENTERTAINERS/SPEAKERS

July 6	Marty Miller, SCV 5pm	July 25	Silverados, SCV 2pm
July 11	Kyle Schippa, SCV 2pm	July 27	Karaoke, SCV 2pm
July 13	Fall Prevention, SCV 3pm		
July 18	Koul Band, SCV 2pm		
July 20	Wilma Quist, SCV 2pm		

Bus Rides

Driftwood & Beachside - Wednesdays at 2pm  
Lakeshore - Thursdays at 2pm  
Sandy Cove & Boardwalk - Fridays at 1:30pm



National Ice Cream Month

Happy National Ice Cream Month!! We know how much our American House Holland residents love ice cream. In the month of July, we will be taking trips to Captain Sundae for some ice cream treats. Keep an eye open for a sign up sheet and let your Life Enrichment Assistants know if you would like to go!



Things to Celebrate in July

Along with National Blueberry Month, July is also National Picnic Month and Social Wellness Month. Other things to celebrate in July include:

- July 1 - National Gingersnap Day
- July 9 - National Sugar Cookie Day

- July 11 - Grab those blueberries you picked, cause it's National Blueberry Muffin Day
- July 12 - National Pecan Pie Day
- July 13 - National French Fry Day
- July 14 - National Mac & Cheese Day
- July 19- National Ice Cream Day
- July 19 - National Hot Dog Day
- July 24- National Cousins Day
- July 29 - National Lasagna Day
- July 30 - National Cheesecake Day
- July 30 - International Friendship Day
- July 31- National Raspberry Cake Day



misconceptions about sharks. As time went on, it grew in popularity and became a hit on the Discovery Channel. Since 2010, it has been the longest-running cable television programming event in history. It is broadcasted in over 72 countries.

Shark Week

Shark Week is an annual, week long TV programming block at the Discovery Channel, which features shark-based programming. Shark week had originally premiered on July 17, 1988. Shark week is featured annually, in July or early August, originally devoted to conservation efforts and correcting



- Gerald Ford - July 14, 1913
- John Calvin - July 10, 1509
- Nelson Mandela - July 18, 1918
- Ernest Hemingway - July 21, 1899
- Georger Bernad Shaw - July 26, 1856
- Milton Friedman 0 July 31, 1912
- Henry Ford - July 30, 1863
- Rembrandt - July 15, 1606
- John Quincy Adams - July 11, 1767
- Diana, Princess of Wales - July 1, 1961
- Henry David Thoreau - July 12, 1817

Historical July Birthdays

There is a lot of history that happened in the month of July, along with a handful of historical birthdays. Those include:

- Alexander the Great - July 21, 356 B.C
- Julius Caesar - July 13, 100 B.C

America the Beautiful Program:

Be sure to attend the Great Lakes Presentation, Trivia and Motor City Happy Hour!



MONDAY JULY 3

Join us for our Fourth of July celebration. Monday, July 3rd starting at noon. Every building will have a summer picnic themed lunch, followed by live music, yard games, crafts and face painting outside. Residents, families and friends are all invited!! Wear your red, white and blue and come out for a good time!!