

JULY 2018

Reflections in the Park

Menorah Park of CNY, Hodes Way 4101 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, N.Y. 13214 (315) 446-9111



Celebrating July

Parks and Recreation Month

Women's Motorcycle Month

Ice Cream Month

Canada Day

July 1

Independence Day (U.S.)

July 4

Strawberry Sundae Day

July 7

Ventriloquism Week

July 18–21

Tell an Old Joke Day

July 24

**International Day
of Friendship**

July 30

Tzfof Friendship Caravan Comes To Town

The Tzfof Friendship Caravan will visit on Friday, July 20, at 2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Founded in 1919, the Israel Scouts were the first Zionist youth movement in Israel and the first egalitarian Scouting movement in the world, where boys and girls participated together. The first delegation was sent to the United States in 1958. These encounters planted the seeds that are being nurtured and cherished throughout North America 60 years later. Today, the Israel Scouts (TZOFIM) remain the only non-political youth movement in Israel and are supported mainly by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Like Scouts the world over, the TZOFIM are "always prepared" and learn the principles of "working with spirit" and "providing community service." Out of 60,000 TZOFIM throughout Israel, only 100 are chosen annually for the TZOFIM Summer Delegation.

The TZOFIM Friendship Caravan travels throughout North America, visiting summer camps and cities. While all members of the delegation represent Israel, the TZOFIM Friendship Caravan members use song and dance as their means of expression. The Caravan is comprised of 10 musically talented teens and two adult leaders.

To become part of the Friendship Caravan, the TZOFIM must go through a four-tier elimination process. They are selected based on personal interviews, their knowledge of Israel, English communication skills, general group interaction and leadership abilities.

After they are selected to be part of the Friendship Caravan, the young people rehearse weekly over four months in Tel Aviv, under the direction of entertainment professionals. By the end of the rehearsal period, they have attained the level of a professional entertainment troupe.

The Caravan's performance will convey Israeli culture, music and tradition bringing with them a message of peace and friendship. Their professionally choreographed song and dance routines are charged with natural enthusiasm and energy. Audiences are encouraged to dance, sing and enjoy the spirit of Israel.

More July Happenings at Menorah Park

The Syracuse Parks & Recreation Stan Colella All-Star Band will perform at Menorah Park on Tuesday, July 31, at 10:30 a.m. in the Auditorium.

Playing in the band is a paying summer job for students exclusively from the Syracuse City School District. This orchestra plays 55 to 60 concerts at important city events, nursing homes, schools, parks, and public places throughout the urban area. In partnership with the City of Syracuse, the CNYJAF provides auditions, instruction, music directorship, and performance opportunities at the Northeast Jazz & Wine Festival. CNY Jazz provides a home base for its “youth orchestra” at Jazz Central in downtown Syracuse.

Dinner in the Bistro (residents only) will also be on July 31st from 4-7 p.m. Menu items will include Jerk Chicken Skewers, Cowboy Burger, French Fries, Potato Salad and Watermelon. Laurie Ann Wilbur will provide entertainment during the first hour of the dinner.

Happy Hour continues in the Bistro most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30p.m. until 4:30p.m. Feel free to join your loved one for live entertainment. Food and drinks are available for purchase at the Bistro starting at 4p.m.

The Happy Hour entertainment schedule for July is as follows:

- July 3: Jerry Cali
- July 5: Vinnie Cupo
- July 10: Ted Holmes
- July 12: Ed Vollmer
- July 17: Anth Perra
- July 19: Dan Robbino
- July 24: Nostalgic Notes
- July 26: Ken Harmes

Donation Request:

The Activities Department is looking for 300-piece (or less) large-piece puzzles. Please drop them off at the front desk in care of Activities.

FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE:

Dear Family Members and Caregivers,

The Menorah Park Family Council will meet on Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. in the Board Room.

Several topics will be discussed concerning you and your loved one.

Please come and join us for an informative and interesting session.

Looking forward to your attendance.

**Francine M. Goldstein, Chairman
Family Council**

Fried, but Not French



July 13 is French Fries Day, but are these delicious fried potatoes actually French? Potatoes did not originate in Europe, but in South America. Spanish explorers brought them back to Europe, where they became beloved for their versatility, especially in France. Fried potatoes became a common street food in Paris—sold not as long fries but in chunks. It is said that Thomas Jefferson grew so fond of the food while acting as ambassador to France that he introduced fries to America via his kitchen in Monticello. It is in Belgium, however, that the history of *frites* began a century before France’s fried potatoes. Frites (pronounced *FREETTS*) are so dear a food to Belgium that in 2014 the country petitioned UNESCO to make the frite the official symbol of its cultural heritage. So when did Belgian frites become French fries? The story goes that American soldiers marching through French-speaking Belgium during World War I discovered the fried potatoes. In the Americans’ confusion, they dubbed the newfound food *French fries*.

A Tale of Two Sherwoods



For 700 years, stories have been told of the outlaw Robin Hood stealing from the rich to give to the poor. While the legend of Robin Hood was born in Sherwood Forest, Nottinghamshire, England, each July the town of Sherwood, Oregon, celebrates its Robin Hood Festival.

Was there a real Robin Hood? As early as the 15th century, it was common for May Day revelers in England to act out plays starring Robin Hood. A hundred years before these celebrations, peasant farmers told grim tales of Robin Hood, who murdered government emissaries and rich landowners. Scholars have traced the earliest mentions of the name Robin Hood to 13th-century legal records. In these records, it was common to list criminals with the name *Robehod* or *Rabunhod*, variations on the name Robin Hood. Alas, there is no way of knowing whether these names are attributed to any real individual. What scholars do know is that starting in the 14th century, Robin Hood was first mentioned in writing as a common man living with his band in Sherwood Forest and fighting the Sheriff of Nottingham.

A visit to Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire may turn you into a believer that Robin Hood did exist. After all, you can visit the Major Oak tree, which is believed to have been one of Robin Hood's hideouts. Robin Hood's Well is considered the spot where Robin Hood married his love Maid Marian. And then there is Nottingham Castle, where the Sheriff of Nottingham would have jailed Robin Hood and where the Merry Men would have staged his fabulous escapes. Oregon's town of Sherwood may lack historical sites, but it has plenty of enthusiasm. Residents have celebrated their Robin Hood Festival since 1954, and since 1956, Sherwood, Oregon, has hosted an International Archery Tournament against archers from Nottingham, England. This international celebration is testament to the enduring appeal of England's favorite outlaw.

Can't Buck the Truth

Rugged men wearing chaps and cowboy hats with six-shooters on their hips, sitting high in the saddle, driving cattle across wild landscapes—it is an image as American as apple pie but also one perpetuated by Hollywood. Enjoy these interesting cowboy facts for the Day of the Cowboy on July 28.

Cowboys actually did not originate in America at all, but in Mexico. Two hundred years before the first American set foot out west, Mexican *vaqueros* were honing their roping, riding, and herding talents and becoming expert ranchers. When Americans ventured westward, they modeled their habits and dress on the *vaqueros* found in modern-day Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The Wild West also wasn't as wild as the movies lead us to believe. Bank robberies were uncommon. Settlers did not circle their wagons and were not under constant threat of attack from Native Americans. And half of all cowboys were either Mexican *vaqueros* or former slaves. In fact, many believe that the character of the Lone Ranger was based on Bass Reeves, a former slave from Arkansas turned U.S. marshal. On the Day of the Cowboy, take in a Hollywood western, but also celebrate the real Wild West.

To Kiss or Not to Kiss?



Is there any act more romantic than a kiss? World Kiss Day may fall on July 6, but not everyone around the world believes that a kiss is an expression of love or friendship. Americans reserve kisses for special loved ones, but in Europe it is common for friends to greet each other with kisses on the cheek. Researchers have also found kissing to be common in both the Middle East and Asia. However, in Central America, kissing has no place in romance. Similarly, kissing is not common in sub-Saharan Africa, and in some parts of Brazil kissing is considered just plain gross. It seems that kissing is not a universally accepted human practice, so be careful where and how you celebrate World Kiss Day.

Cleri-who?



The cleriheh may not be the most well-known form of poetry, but it does enjoy its own holiday on July 10, Clerihew Day. Edmund Clerihew Bentley, English writer and humorist born on July 10, 1875, invented the cleriheh in 1905 when his first book of poetry

was published. What is a cleriheh? It's a short, four-line poem, made up of two rhyming couplets. What makes the cleriheh so popular is that its subject is often a whimsical take on a celebrity. What inspired E.C. Bentley to invent the cleriheh? Rumor has it that he wrote his first as a teenager in high school:

Sir Humphrey Davy
Abominated gravy.
He lived in the odium
Of having discovered sodium.

Where most kids would be content to doodle in the margins of their notebooks during a boring chemistry lecture, Bentley instead invented an art form. His success may have been helped by his close friendship with the renowned British author, philosopher, and poet G.K. Chesterton, who helped popularize the cleriheh. Other famous writers also experimented with the form, including poet W.H. Auden, but the beauty of the cleriheh lies in the fact that anyone can write one. All you have to do is choose a famous person and rhyme the first and last two lines, like this:

Cher
(To compare)
Has more money
Than Sonny.

While Bentley is remembered for the cleriheh, he should also be given his due as a crime novelist. His mystery *Trent's Last Case*, published in 1931, is widely considered the first modern mystery. This original cleriheh is for him:

Trent's Last Case was a mystery
That made literary history.
But we remember Bentley's cleriheh
More than his tales of derring-do.

Famous July Birthdays

In astrology, those born between July 1–21 are Crabs of Cancer. Guided by their hearts, Crabs are deeply emotional and nurturing. They create deep bonds and comfortable homes and are always willing to welcome people into their circle. Those born between July 22–31 are Lions of Leo. Leos are natural-born leaders: confident, charismatic, creative, and warmhearted. Leos also use their humor and loyalty to bring people together to work for a common cause.

Carl Lewis (Olympian) – July 1, 1961
Ann Landers (advice columnist) – July 4, 1918
Ed Ames (singer) – July 9, 1927
E. B. White (author) – July 11, 1899
Woody Guthrie (folk singer) – July 14, 1912
Ginger Rogers (actress) – July 16, 1911
John Glenn (astronaut) – July 18, 1921
Ernest Hemingway (writer) – July 21, 1899
Don Drysdale (ballplayer) – July 23, 1936
Mick Jagger (singer) – July 26, 1943
Beatrix Potter (author) – July 28, 1866
J. K. Rowling (author) – July 31, 1965

Menorah Park July Birthdays

Please wish the following residents happy July birthdays:

Jean B. 7/1
Lulu B. 7/3
Anna H. 7/5
Arlene S. 7/7
Peter Z. 7/11
Stanley C. 7/15
Nancy M. 7/22
Elizabeth S. 7/29

“Some day you will be old enough to start reading fairy tales again.”

— C.S. Lewis

