

August 2021

# Focus on Fountain Park

Fountain Park Assisted Living & Memory Care Neighborhood 1433 N. Main Street, Bryan, Ohio 43506 PH 419-633-9191



## Celebrating August

**International Pirate Month**

**American Adventures Month**

**Read a Romance  
Novel Month**

**International Clown Week**  
*August 1-7*

**Braham Pie Day**  
*August 6*

**Sturgis Motorcycle Rally**  
*August 6-15*

**Sandcastle Day**  
*August 7*

**Elvis Week**  
*August 11-17*

**Bowling Day**  
*August 14*

**Chef's Appreciation Day**  
*August 21*

**International Dog Day**  
*August 26*

**Pony Express Day**  
*August 29*

## Neighborhood News...

We want to thank all of you for your patience during this past year. We are so happy that things are slowly but surely getting back to normal.

## Up Coming Events

Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup> we will be going to the Cruise-in downtown Bryan at 6:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Should be fun if it isn't too hot out and if the rain holds off for us!

On Friday, we have a special treat for you! Karaoke with Kim! That's right, come and sing along with Kim to some good music.

The Trombone Guy will be here on Monday August 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM.

We will be taking a Walmart Trip on Tuesday August 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. I will be putting a sign-up sheet out on Monday. Be up front by 2:00 if you are planning on going. We can take 10 people.

On Friday August 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be going to the Blueberry Hill Pancake House at 11:30am. You must pay for your own meal so be sure to see Joni if you need some cash. There will be a sign-up sheet posted for this as well.

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a Doggie Parade at 3:00 pm. If you have a dog, dress it up (not required) and take a walk with everyone and show off your furry friend. Don't have a dog? Come anyways and have a good time seeing these furry creatures. I love animals, so I am really looking forward to this.

August Birthday Celebration will be on Monday August 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

Come & Celebrate your neighbors and let them know you are glad they were born! Might as well have some cake and Ice Cream while you are there too 😊

## A Macabre Month

During the seventh lunar month, from August 8 to September 6, Taiwan celebrates Ghost Month. Taoists and Buddhists believe that the gates of the underworld are thrown open, allowing “hungry ghosts” to roam the land. These lost souls, commonly called “Good Brothers” and “Good Sisters,” demand tribute from ancestors who have forgotten to honor them. August 22 is especially important, for it is on this day that families perform rituals and make offerings to appease the restless ghosts.

In order to satisfy the cravings of the ghosts, families leave offerings of food and hold large feasts with empty seats to appease the Good Brothers and Sisters. It is also traditional to use joss paper, a fragrant incense-like paper, to create papier-mâché offerings that look like clothing, gold, cars, televisions, and other goods. Even money known as “hell bank notes” is printed on joss paper. All the offerings are then burned, so that the gifts can be transported to the underworld and enjoyed by the hungry ghosts.

The goal of the month is to appease the ghosts, not attract them. For this reason, there are certain taboos every family should avoid. While lanterns are hung in temples to light the way for the lost souls, one should never hang lanterns or wind chimes in the home lest the ghosts find a way into



your house. Since the ghosts are believed to enjoy cold, damp, and dark spaces, it is important to let a lot of light into the house. Families open windows, install bright lamps, prune trees or shrubs that block the sun, and

refrain from painting rooms in dark hues to repel the Good Brothers and Sisters. It is commonly believed that the toes of one’s shoes point to where you are located. For this reason, people always point the toes of their shoes away from the bed while sleeping, so that the hungry ghosts cannot find them. At last, to lead the hungry ghosts back to the underworld, lanterns are lit and set on water. When the lights go out, families know that the ghosts have found their way back home.



Highway 127 runs from Addison, Michigan, to Gadsden, Alabama, and, at almost 700 miles long, it hosts the World’s Longest Yard Sale from August 5–8. The 127 Yard Sale, as it is known by locals, was invented in 1987 by a Tennessee city official named Mike Walker. In an effort to encourage drivers to avoid interstate travel, take local scenic routes, and thereby support local businesses, Walker suggested that local residents line their front yards with goods for sale. Each year, thousands of motorists drive the route, perusing the wares for sale and catching the unique attractions found in the six participating states. Route 127 doesn’t just offer the world’s longest yard sale but it also provides the backdrop of what may be America’s strangest (and most profitable) road trip.

**If there is an activity you would like to do that we aren’t already doing, Please let Vicki or Susan know. We want to hear your ideas! If you think of something and we aren’t here, please write your suggestion down and slide it under our office door 😊**

**Thank you!**

## Decoding History



August 14 is Code Talkers Day, a day to recognize the invaluable contributions of the World War II Navajo code talkers. Using a complex Navajo-based code, these cryptographers encoded and transmitted

messages to American forces working in the Pacific theater. The encoded language was so unique that it was never cracked by the Japanese.

While tremendous gratitude is owed to the famed Navajo code talkers of World War II, they were not the first Native American code talkers to be employed by the U.S. military. During World War I, a small group of Cherokee soldiers from western North Carolina were attached to British troops fighting the Germans off the west coast of France. When it was discovered that the Germans were intercepting communications, the Cherokee cleverly volunteered to transmit messages in their native language. The soldiers had guessed correctly. The Germans could not translate the communications. This tactic proved so effective that it was reused during World War II.

It was Philip Johnston, a non-native speaker of Navajo and a World War I veteran, who suggested the use of the Navajo language as code to the Marine Corps. Johnston knew enough of the language to know that it would be indecipherable to the Japanese. The Marines quickly recruited Navajo and helped them develop a code that could be rapidly transmitted and decoded. Throughout the entirety of the war, the Navajo code talkers would gain a stellar reputation for the skill, speed, and accuracy of their code-making. The Navajo may be the most famous of the code talkers, but they were in no way alone. Native speakers of Comanche, Assiniboine, Cree, Meskwaki, Mohawk, Muscogee, and Tlingit also provided unbreakable code for U.S. forces. The Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2008 finally recognized every Native American code talker with a Congressional Gold Medal.

## Mastering Mahjong

If you're looking for a challenging new game to play, then consider taking up mahjong on August 1, International Mahjong Day. This Chinese tile-trading game is similar to rummy, where the object is to collect and trade matching sets of tiles.

The game was not developed in ancient China but was created around Shanghai in the mid-1800s. One story suggests that it was a servant of the emperor who applied the rules of popular card games to a newly designed set of tiles. The game grew in popularity locally amongst the Chinese, and Americans visiting China brought it back to America in the 1920s. Before long, mahjong was a popular and common parlor game played everywhere from living rooms and parks to sidewalks and resorts. The appeal of the game comes not just from the intellectual challenge and strategy involved, but from the social interaction required during play. The trading of tiles encourages talk between players across the table, and for many players, this table talk is what makes mahjong so enjoyable.

## Feeling Left Out



It may be fitting that International Lefthanders Day falls on Friday, August 13. Like many superstitions associated with Friday the 13th, left-handedness was once believed to be a source of evil. The Devil himself is thought to be left-handed, and in the Middle Ages, lefthanded people were thought to practice witchcraft. Luckily, modern science has put such unsettling notions to rest. There are really no great differences between right- and left-handers in personality, health, or thinking. For the 10% of the population that is left-handed, things might be more inconvenient—after all, the majority of the world is right-handed, so many products and designs cater to right-handed people.

Fountain Park Assisted Living  
& Memory Care Neighborhood  
1433 N. Main St  
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Postage  
Information

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## Let me introduce you to the Management Team:

**Kim Greear: Executive Director**  
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**Jenee Orta: Wellness Director**  
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**Susan Sigman: Program Director/Activities**  
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## August Birthdays

**Benny Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Susie Aug 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Carlos Aug 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monna Aug 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Emma Aug 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wanda Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Joni Aug 28<sup>th</sup>**

We will be celebrating August Birthdays on  
August 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM in the Activity Room. All  
residents are welcome to come and celebrate  
with your neighbors

☺HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF  
YOU ☺