

MARCH 2018

Gold Country Gazette

ASSISTED LIVING ACTIVITY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



Celebrating March

Mad for Plaid Month

Women's History Month

El Dorado Dance Academy *March 3*

Monthly Birthday Party *March 8*

Monthly Bus Trip TBA *March 16*

St. Patrick's Day *March 17*

Talia's Easter Program *March 30*

Awaiting a Return to Capistrano

On March 19, the residents of San Juan, California, look forward to the return of special visitors to the old Spanish mission: cliff swallows. The return of the cliff swallows to the San Juan Capistrano Mission is legendary. Hundreds of years ago, local shopkeepers drove away the swallows, which built mud nests on shops and homes. The displaced birds built new nests in the eaves of the old stone church. Every year since the 1930s, the community has heralded the return of the swallows to Capistrano with great fanfare.



In recent years, though, the swallows have returned in decreasing numbers. Some people blame urbanization. For a century or more, the mission was the largest building in San Juan, a perfect target for the nesting swallows. As the population increased, more buildings were built, and swallows began to find alternate nesting sites. Things were complicated further in the 1990s when a restoration of the church began, and the mud nests were removed. Cliff swallows are known to be attracted to places with old nests. The restoration, while architecturally important, discouraged the birds. That's when the mission sought the help of a professional.

Dr. Charles R. Brown, a cliff swallow expert, was charged with the task of luring the birds back to the mission. He has employed everything from broadcasting cliff swallow song to building an artificial wall of swallow nests out of plaster. The good news is that the birds have again been spotted in the area of the mission, even though they have not been nesting on the church. Yet every year on March 19, St. Joseph's Day, the swallows are welcomed with the ringing of the mission bell, flamenco dances, food, and fanfare. Even if the cliff swallows aren't ready to return to Capistrano, the locals are ready for them.

March Birthdays

In astrology, those born between March 1–20 are Pisces. Friendly and selfless, Fish are always willing to help others with their hearts on their sleeves. Thanks to an intuitive understanding of life, Pisces make deep connections with other living beings.

Aries' Rams are born between March 21–31. As the first sign of the zodiac, Aries are energetic and assertive initiators. With bravery, zeal, and speed, they jump headfirst into life, confident that they can navigate any challenges.

Desi Arnaz (actor) – March 2, 1917
Knut Rockne (coach) – March 4, 1888
Lou Costello (comedian) – March 6, 1906
Yuri Gagarin (astronaut) – March 9, 1934
Liza Minnelli (entertainer) – March 12, 1946
Hank Ketcham (cartoonist) – March 14, 1920
Wyatt Earp (cowboy) – March 19, 1848
Fred Rogers (actor) – March 20, 1928
Normadene C. (resident) – March 22nd
Marcel Marceau (mime) – March 22, 1923
Reba McEntire (musician) – March 28, 1955
Violet A. (resident) – March 29th
Warren Beatty (actor) – March 30, 1937

March is

SOCIAL SERVICES MONTH

Thank you to

Vicky Hume Estrada, Social Services

Phoebie Carcot, Community Outreach

Dixie Adams, Community Relations

We appreciate all you do!

The Boston Massacre

It was a cold, snowy night in Boston on March 5, 1770. American colonists (calling themselves patriots) gathered outside Boston's Customs House to taunt the British troops who had been stationed in the city to enforce newly decreed taxation measures. When the redcoats affixed bayonets to their rifles, the Americans responded by throwing snowballs and rocks. Moments later, shots were fired. Five Americans were the first fatalities of the Revolutionary War in what would become known as the Boston Massacre. What is often forgotten in this episode of American Independence is how avowed patriot and future president John Adams, a lawyer, defended the British soldiers who were subsequently put on trial. Two of the eight were convicted of manslaughter, but for many Americans, justice was far from done. Paul Revere, famed for his midnight ride, turned the Boston Massacre into a provocative engraving, creating an effective piece of propaganda that helped turn Americans against the British.



A Slice of Pi

When one measures a circular object, it always turns out that its circumference, or the length around, is a little more than three times its width across—3.1415926 to be exact. This number, known as pi, actually goes on forever. Scientists have calculated its value to more than one trillion digits past its decimal. But for the purposes of celebration, Pi Day is held on March 14, or 3/14, each year. The first Pi Day was organized in 1988 by physicist Larry Shaw, who worked at the San Francisco Exploratorium. The original celebration consisted of Exploratorium staff walking around in a circle and eating pies. Celebrations have evolved since then, including competitions to see who can recite the most digits of pi and Albert Einstein look-alike contests, thanks to that famous scientist's birthday also falling on March 14. It's a mathematical holiday Einstein likely would have been pleased to be a part of.



Don't Fear the Ides

It was William Shakespeare, via his play *Julius Caesar*, who warned that the Ides of March, on March 15, were cursed. Indeed, while Caesar was murdered by a group of political conspirators on March 15, the Ides of any month are not particularly evil or ignominious. The words *Ides*, *Kalends*, and *Nones* are terms used to describe any month's phases of the moon. *Ides* simply means the first full moon of the month, so in reality the Ides of March technically takes place this year on March 31. Likewise, the *Kalends* marks the month's first new moon, which is on March 17, and the *Nones* is the moon's first quarter, on March 24. Far from cursed, March's Ides were particularly joyful because they also heralded the new year.



Name: _____ Date: _____

St. Patrick's Day Word Search

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| M | Y | Z | V | E | P | F | G | O | L | D | J |
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| G | N | F | A | X | N | C | N | W | Y | H | P |
| E | E | X | D | E | R | S | A | Q | B | C | R |
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| SHAMROCK | BLARNEY | LEPRECHAUN |
| RAINBOW | MISCHIEF | CELEBRATE |
| CLOVER | COINS | GREEN |
| IRISH | LEGEND | GOLD |
| TRADITION | MARCH | LUCK |



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WELCOME TO

Kathryn Bessie
Virginia Barnett-Buckner
Virginia Phillipet

**We are happy
to have you!**

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