

August Birthdays

In astrology, those born between August 1–22 are Lions of Leo. Leos are natural-born leaders: confident, charismatic, and creative. Leos also use their humor and loyalty to bring people together. Those born between August 23–31 are Virgo Virgins. Virgos are one of the most careful signs of the zodiac. They pay attention to detail, analyze problems, and leave nothing to chance.

Herman Melville (author) – August 1, 1819
 Tony Bennett (singer) – August 3, 1926
 Lucille Ball (comedienne) – August 6, 1911
 Dustin Hoffman (actor) – August 8, 1937
 Alex Haley (author) – August 11, 1921
 Julia Child (chef) – August 15, 1912
 Roberto Clemente (ballplayer) – August 18, 1934
 Al Roker (meteorologist) – August 20, 1954
 Gene Kelly (actor) – August 23, 1912

Indian Thanksgiving

a sort of Mahabali welcome mat. Each day flowers are added to the Pookalam, and it grows and grows. On the fourth day, known as *Visakam*, families begin their preparation of the grand feast that is held on the last day. For the next five days, locals engage in various merriments. Snake boat races are held on the river Pampa. Each boat is oared by hundreds of paddlers while crowds line the river. Men play various traditional games known as *Onakalikal*. Competitors vie for archery and wrestling titles, while others play a game similar to dodgeball, except that players use their feet to move the ball. On the tenth and final day, King Mahabali arrives for the feast of *Onasadya*, which requires the preparation of a nine-course meal including 13 essential dishes. This is the culmination of a 10-day cultural tour-de-force.

Administration

Diane King
 Executive
 Director



Jose Arroyo
 Health Center
 Administrator

Rosemarie Perri
 Director of
 Nursing

Dana Hogan
 Director of
 Financial Services

Laurilee Osorio
 Social Service
 Director

Melissa Distalfo
 MDS Coordinator

Kathy Werbicki
 ALF Director

Shonda Brandon
 Rehab Director

Ivey Davis
 Campus Activity
 Director

Director of
 Dietary Services
 Sibia Seth

Tony Speers
 Director of
 Maintenance

The Village Voice

August 2018

1100 S. Courtenay Parkway Merritt Island, FL 32952

An Indian Thanksgiving

Around the world, August heralds the start of annual harvest festivals, when farmers begin to reap the delicious rewards of the summer growing season. Perhaps there is no place that celebrates the harvest with more joy and enthusiasm than the state of Kerala on India's Malabar Coast. For 10 days each August, Kerala celebrates *Onam* and gives thanks for the return of the god king Mahabali.

Hindu legend states that under Mahabali's rule, Kerala flourished with great prosperity, and he was beloved by all. He was so popular that the other gods became jealous and decided to overthrow him. However, when Mahabali showed reverence to the gods, they granted him one wish, that once a year he could return to his kingdom of Kerala. This is why, during *Onam* the people of Kerala prepare for Mahabali's return and enjoy the prosperity of the harvest.

The first day of *Onam*, known as *Atham*, involves visiting temples and preparing for the arrival of Mahabali. One of the most significant preparations is the *Pookalam*, a beautiful carpet made out of multicolored flowers,

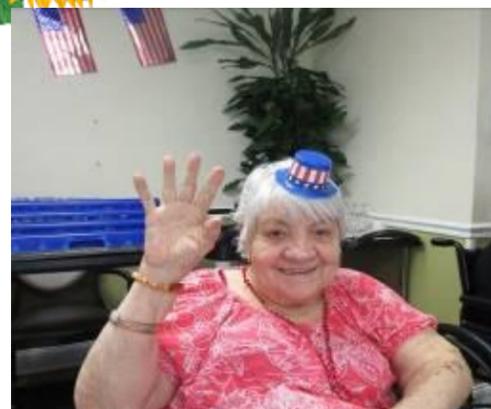


4th of July Celebration

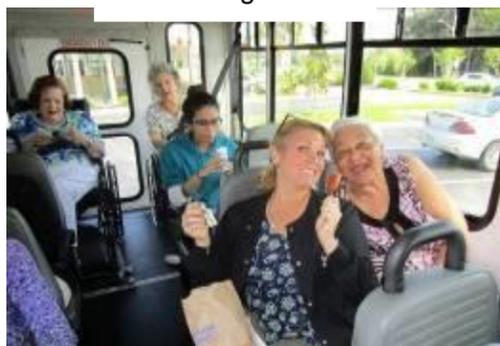
Happy 4th of July!



Celebrating the 4th



Turning 101 never looked so good!



On the road again!

