

## Roanoke's "Lost Colony"

On August 18, 1587, Virginia Dare was born, becoming the very first child born in the New World to English parents. This honor alone would have been enough to grant the girl fame, but she became even more famous for her mysterious disappearance as a member of the "Lost Colony" of Roanoke.



The founding of the Roanoke Colony in 1585 was the first attempt at establishing a permanent English settlement in the New World. The attempt was not successful, however. Due to a lack of supplies and bad relations with the local Croatan tribe, most of the settlers returned to England. A second contingent of settlers, led by John White, returned to the colony in 1587. Shortly after their arrival, Virginia Dare, White's granddaughter, was born. This small success was overshadowed by other hardships. Desperate for assistance, White sailed back to England in late 1587, leaving behind Dare and the others. If White had hoped for a quick return to Roanoke with fresh supplies, he was badly mistaken. The Anglo-Spanish War broke out, and White's return was delayed for three years.

White did eventually return to Roanoke, ironically landing on August 18, 1590, his granddaughter Virginia Dare's third birthday. The settlement, though, was completely deserted, and there was no trace of the 118 people he had left behind. Even stranger, there was no sign of a battle. The only clue left was the word "CROATOAN" carved on a fence post. White believed this to mean that the colony had moved to the nearby Croatoan Island. The colony, however, was never found, and their disappearance remains a mystery. Theories abound as to the colony's fate. Some believe they moved north and integrated with a local tribe, only to be slaughtered by another. Others say they perished during a drought. Still others claim they attempted to sail back to England and were lost at sea, or that they were killed by the Spanish. Whatever their fate, archaeologists and anthropologists have been searching for clues for centuries.

## August Birthdays

In astrology, those born between August 1–22 are Lions of Leo. Leos are natural leaders: intelligent, courageous, and bold. Leos' social natures also make them excellent friends. Those born between August 23–31 are Virgo's Virgins. Virgos love paying attention to details—not to be picky, but to help others. Their industrious efficiency makes them smart problem-solvers and fact-finders.

Maria Mitchell (astronomer) – August 1, 1818  
 Louis Armstrong (musician) – August 4, 1901  
 Neil Armstrong (astronaut) – August 5, 1930  
 Matthew Henson (explorer) – August 8, 1866  
 Alfred Hitchcock (director) – August 13, 1899  
 Davy Crockett (frontiersman) – August 17, 1786  
 H. P. Lovecraft (writer) – August 20, 1890  
 Dorothy Parker (writer) – August 22, 1893  
 Sean Connery (actor) – August 25, 1930  
 Charlie Parker (musician) – August 29, 1920  
 Frank Robinson (ballplayer) – August 31, 1935

## Getting Bogged Down



It's probably no surprise to hear that the sport of competitive bog snorkeling was invented by two buddies during a conversation at a bar in Wales in 1976. From this bar banter grew a sporting event like no other. Held every August, hundreds of swimmers from around the world converge on the stinking Waen Rhydd bog in Llanwrtyd Wells, Wales, to see who can swim two laps the fastest. Most of the fun, of course, comes in dressing in the most garish getup, and prizes are awarded for the craziest costume. The main event, however, is always the race. Wetsuits are encouraged, but the only equipment contestants are allowed are a pair of flippers and a snorkel. Swimmers swim two 90-foot laps as fast as they can. The bog races are all in good fun, but there is another message, too. The races are an opportunity to raise environmental awareness about the importance of peat bog habitats for animals, not just crazy human snorkelers.

# Woodside Senior Living



## Celebrating August BIRTHDAYS

Ellen Bacon	Aug 31st
Robert Broske	Aug 30th
George Hendricks	Aug 6th
William Intihar	Aug 3rd
Kenneth Kaminski	Aug 23rd
Alfonzo Lumpkin	Aug 12th
Helen Niles	Aug 31st
Merless Roberson	Aug 15th
Mary Rodgers	Aug 14th
Alexander St. Clair	Aug 29th
Marjorie Stulock	Aug 13th
Julia Thomas	Aug 12th
Eleanor Wamback	Aug 8th
Bruce Wesley	Aug 29th
Eva Young	Aug 23rd
Melanie Young	Aug 5th

## The Fairest of Them All

By the month of August, summer is in full swing, and nothing says summer like the state fair. With live music, animals, wacky inventions, crazy competitions, carnival rides, and a fascinating assortment of deep-fried foods, state fairs offer the ultimate Americana experience for Americans and foreign visitors alike.

The oldest state fair in America is the Great New York State Fair. Although the first fair did not take place until 1841, its story began in 1832 when a group of farmers formed the New York State Agricultural Society. The group tasked itself with innovating and sharing agricultural practices for New York's farmers. In 1841, the Society held its first ever state fair in Syracuse to showcase the bounty of New York's farms. It is estimated that 15,000 people gathered for the fair, where they heard speeches, viewed livestock, sampled fresh produce, and cheered on the contestants of a plowing contest. This first state fair was not much different from the Great New York State Fair of today, which is still held in Syracuse.

New York's state fair may have been the first, but these grand events are found in almost every state of the union, and each fair boasts the unique flavor of its home state. The Kentucky State Fair is known for its World Championship Horse Show, a prestigious competition that has been held since 1902. Every year, the Iowa State Fair boasts a cow sculpted entirely of butter; the first was carved by J.K. Daniels in 1911 and the tradition continues today. Additional butter sculptures have also included Elvis Presley, John Wayne, and the Last Supper. Washington's state fair, known locally as the Puyallup, ranks as one of the biggest in the world.

Speaking of unique flavors, one of the best parts of every fair is the food. Traditional fair fare includes everything from Fisher scones dipped in honey butter and jam, to deep-fried butter, to corn dogs. All across America, there is a state fair to suit every taste.



August 12th and 26th

Loving Hands

has a new name

Cook & Garden



August 5th

**Friends and Family Referral Program**

It's Easy As 1, 2, 3!

- 1 Introduce Us To Someone You Know In Need Of Assisted Living (Name Not Already In Our Database).
- 2 Provide Their Name And Phone Number.
- 3 Get Entered Into A Monthly Drawing (Drawings Held On The 30th Of Each Month).

BONUS: Once They Move Into Woodside Senior Living, You Will Receive \$1,000.00 Off Your Next Month's Rent.

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**Reminder**

**WEIGHT CLINIC**  
August 6th

- Executive Director **Ayana Greer**
- Sales & Marketing Director **Patti Walschon**
- Director of Nursing **Charlotte Lee**
- Assistant DON **Michelle Augustine**
- Business Office Manager **Rachel Allen**
- Human Resources **Shalawn Williams**
- Administrative Assistant **Rewa Stewart**
- Maintenance Director **Jim Sawchik**
- Dining Services Director **Brian Hudson**
- Social Worker **Kathleen Thomas**
- Activities Director **Vicki Crayne**
- Housekeeping Director **Quamesha McDowell**



- First Thursday Bible Study 2pm Chapel
- First Saturday Baptist Service 6:30pm Chapel
- Last Monday Bible Study 10am Chapel
- Second Friday Catholic Service 10am Chapel
- Last Friday Catholic Mass 10am Chapel
- Every Saturday Bible Study 2pm Chapel
- Every Wednesday Learn the Bible 3pm 2LNG
- Last Friday Fireside Chat 9am SDR
- Second & Fourth Sunday Baptist Service 2pm MDR

### The Great Moon Hoax of 1835



On August 25, 1835, the *New York Sun* newspaper published the first of six articles describing the discovery of strange new life on the moon, including unicorns, two-legged beavers that walked upright and lived in huts, and winged, bat-like humanoids that worshipped at the Temple of the Moon. These organisms frolicked on white sand beaches amidst pyramids and massive amethyst crystals. While the discovery may sound far-fetched today, it was very believable then, especially since it was purported to be a reprint of a paper published in the *Edinburgh Journal of Science*. The articles were written by Dr. Andrew Grant, who was describing the findings of his colleague, the esteemed astronomer Sir John Herschel, who had already gained fame for establishing an observatory on South Africa's Cape of Good Hope. What the public did not know was that the *Edinburgh Journal of Science* had folded the year previous and Dr. Grant was completely fictional. The articles had been deliberately written as satire in order to poke fun at those who had written serious articles about life on the moon.

Readers, however, did not recognize the pieces to be satire, and the *New York Sun* suddenly enjoyed skyrocketing sales. Scientists from Yale University even traveled to New York trying to get their hands on the scientific papers from Edinburgh. The articles were reprinted in newspapers across Europe. What is now known as "The Great Moon Hoax" duped readers not just in America but around the world. When Herschel learned that the bogus discoveries had been attributed to him, he could only laugh. Horror writer Edgar Allan Poe was also amused. He had recently published the short story "The Unparalleled Adventure of One Hans Pfaall," where a man voyages to the moon in a hot-air balloon. Poe was working on a follow-up when the articles broke, but he abandoned his work because he felt that he could not compete with the fantastic fictional reporting. *The Sun*, for its part, did not admit that the story was a hoax until a month later and never did apologize.

### The Lammas Harvest

Lammas Day is a traditional agricultural holiday celebrated every August at the start of the season of the wheat harvest. The term *lammas* comes from "loaf," for loaves of bread, and "mass," meaning a religious feast. On Lammas Day, the first loaves of bread baked from the newly harvested wheat were taken to churches to be consecrated. The blessed loaves would then be broken into four pieces, and each piece would be placed in a different corner of the barn to protect the newly harvested grain stored there. Wheat is not the only grain harvested at Lammas time. Barley, oats, rye, corn, sunflowers, and Calendula were also part of the Lammas harvest season. This was also the day, in olden times, when tenants were supposed to present the first freshly harvested wheat to their landlords. These days, thousands of people still celebrate Lammas by baking bread that is shaped to look like a sheaf of wheat, an owl, or even a pagan figure of the "corn god." These symbols show how closely related Lammas is to other old harvest celebrations such as the Irish Lughnasadh.

### Lincoln's Penny



On August 2, 1909, the very first Lincoln cents were put into circulation by the U.S. Mint. Before 1909, a president's visage had never appeared on a coin. In January of 1909, the Mint approached artist Victor David Brenner to design a coin depicting President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Lincoln's birth. Two years earlier, Brenner had completed a plaque of Lincoln in profile for the Gorham Manufacturing Company; it was this plaque that became the design for the Lincoln cent, with Brenner imprinting his initials VDB on the reverse. When the cent was released, Treasury facilities were mobbed by those seeking the new pennies. Just one week after the minting, production of the pennies was halted to remove the VDB initials on the reverse, making the original VDB pennies invaluable collector items.