

July 2025

# Caraton Commons Green Bay

Building 1 & 2



## Celebrating July

**Grilling Month**

**Family Reunion Month**

**Share a Sunset with Someone  
You Love Month**

**Ice Cream Day**

*July 1*

**Tom Sawyer Days**

*July 1–5*

**Independence Day**

*July 4*

**Tom's Tunes**

**Raspberry Day**

*July 8*

**Thibby's Ice Cream Truck**

*July 15*

**Movie Day-Pearl Harbor**

*July 22*

**Chocolate Milk Day**

*July 28*

**Lip Stick Day**

*July 29*

## Resident of the Month



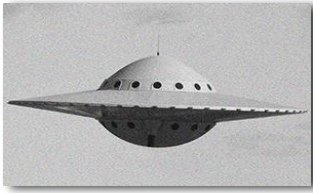
Mary is a joyful spirit who finds happiness in the simple things, like a plate of pork chops cooked any way, dancing to any kind of music (though she truly shines doing the Jitterbug), and the crisp, refreshing air of fall. Autumn holds a special place in her heart, not just for the colorful trees and cozy smells, but because it's the season of her mother, Arleen's, birthday.

Born and raised in St. Paul Minnesota, Mary has vivid memories of trying to avoid wearing snow boots in the winter—always swapping them out for regular shoes as soon as she arrived anywhere. Her family spent 10 years in Minnesota before moving to Marquette where her dad opened a hardware store, where she sometimes helped out. She proudly attended Catholic high school and graduated 3rd out of 52 in her class. Later, she moved to Milwaukee and earned her medical assistance degree.

Mary believes deeply in kindness and compassion. If she had a superpower, she'd end all wars and rid the world of illness. Helping others is a blessing to her, and she wants everyone to know that she loves and cares about them. Her advice to others? "Love yourself first, only then can you truly love others."

These days, Mary loves where she lives, especially the wonderful staff and the Life Enrichment department, who keep her active and laughing. She's a bright soul who brings warmth and joy wherever she goes.

## Flying Saucer Frenzy



In early July 1947, something strange happened on a ranch near Roswell, New Mexico. It all began after a night of intense thunderstorms.

The next morning, rancher Mack Brazel rode his horse to check on the sheep. What he found has inspired curiosity, conspiracy, and hysteria ever since. Metal debris was scattered all over the ground. A shallow trench ran for hundreds of feet. When Brazel showed some of the metal to his neighbors, the Proctors, they offered one explanation: it was a UFO.

Excited citizens making UFO sightings had become something of a fad during early 1947. This incident only stoked the fever. Many insist that not only did a flying saucer crash near Roswell but aliens had been recovered by the military. Conspiracy theorists contend that the military then scrambled to cover the entire incident, chalking it up as the recovery of a fallen top-secret surveillance balloon, complete with life-sized test dummies.

Fifty years later, in 1997, the Air Force was still trying to put rumors to rest. It released a 231-page report: "Case Closed: The Final Report on the Roswell Crash." Each July, however, believers and skeptics alike gather in Roswell to celebrate the UFO Festival. Attendees are encouraged to parade while dressed as their favorite ET and listen to evidence presented by panels of scientists and authors.

UFO sightings aren't limited to Roswell. Records from the Roman Republic around 200 BC describe ships descending from the sky. Japanese fishermen swore to an at-sea encounter with an alien in the year 1803. And in 1946, Swedish military personnel reported strange "ghost rockets" in the sky. Since a worldwide phenomenon deserves a worldwide holiday, July 2 is now celebrated by many as World UFO Day.

## Shining Star



Mikayla has been with Caraton Commons for 9 months and loves getting to know the residents and listening to their stories. She grew up in Appleton and moved to North Dakota in 2011. As the youngest of four siblings, she proudly holds the title of the "baby" of the family. Though her parents and two of her siblings now live out of state, she stays grounded with the help of her adorable Shih Tzu/Poodle mix.

Mikayla is passionate about making a difference in people's lives. She enjoys tending to her 16 (and counting!) houseplants, dabbling in ceramics, hiking, trying new foods, and traveling.

Her words of advice: *"Keep doing what you're doing. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."*

Looking ahead, Mikayla hopes to one day be living on a farm, traveling the world, and truly living her best life.

## Talking Heads

A special announcement for all those ventriloquists out there! Cincinnati's annual ventriloquists conference, known as the Vent Haven ConVENTion, is set to take place July 16–19 at the Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport in Erlanger, Kentucky.



The convention is named after the Vent Haven Museum in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky—just across the river from Cincinnati. Vent Haven is the only museum in the world dedicated to the art of ventriloquism. The word *vent* is short for *ventriloquist*, and the museum is certainly

a haven for those in the business. William Shakespeare Berger, known to his friends as W.S., was a Cincinnati businessman and amateur ventriloquist who amassed a vast collection of ventriloquism memorabilia. For years, Berger also served as president of the International Brotherhood of Ventriloquists. He even published a monthly magazine called *The Oracle*, which kept up on the latest in ventriloquism news. By the time Berger died in 1973, his collection had grown museum-worthy.

Ventriloquism relies on the ability to “throw your voice.” Ventriloquism first began as a religious practice, where people made guttural sounds from their bellies and interpreted those sounds as the voices of the dead. Other cultures regarded it as witchcraft. Over the centuries, though, that which had been feared became entertainment. By the 1700s, traveling showmen were delighting audiences with fanciful ventriloquy, speaking mostly to imaginary friends. Before long, ventriloquists introduced their dummies and puppets.

So how do “vents” throw their voices? When noise is trapped in a larynx, it sounds as if it’s coming from a different direction or distance. Any other insights... well, those are closely held trade secrets.

## Weather or Not

It may seem strange that Americans use a groundhog to help predict the weather, but those in Britain look to the sky. According to an old rhyme about July 15, St. Swithin’s Day:

*St. Swithin’s Day if thou dost rain  
For 40 days it will remain.  
St. Swithin’s Day if thou be fair  
For 40 days ’twill rain nae mair (no more).*

Saint Swithin was the bishop of Winchester. At either his or other clergy’s request, he was buried outdoors where he could be among the people and where the rain could fall on his grave. After more than a century outdoors—on July 15, 971—the monks brought his remains to a shrine inside a newly built cathedral. And, as legend has it, torrential rains followed. Ever since, people have believed that the weather on St. Swithin’s Day will foretell the weather for the next 40 days. Those who have looked into the weather records from 971 say there’s no proof of 40 days of rain, but the legend lives on.

## Eye-Catching Diversity

While only one out of every 100 people experience this rare genetic trait, everyone is invited to celebrate Different Colored Eyes Day on July 12.



This genetic phenomenon is most common in cats, dogs, and horses. But humans, too, can experience heterochromia, or two different colored eyes. Our eye color develops shortly after birth due to the pigment melanin. More melanin means darker eyes, and less melanin means lighter eyes. It just so happens that sometimes two eyes develop differently. In fact, sometimes one eye can have two different colors, such as a blue iris with a brown ring around the pupil, or a completely brown eye with a splash of green. This is just one way that we are each a unique work of art.



## A Day for Kings and Queens



Every year on July 20, chess enthusiasts around the world come together to celebrate International Chess Day. This special day commemorates the

founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in 1924, which marked a significant milestone in the organization and standardization of chess as a competitive sport.

Chess itself has a rich history, originating in ancient India over a millennium ago. It evolved from a game called *chaturanga* and spread across the globe, influencing cultures and fostering intellectual development. Today, chess is played by millions worldwide, transcending language and cultural barriers.

International Chess Day was first celebrated in 1966, inspired by UNESCO, to highlight chess's role in promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding. The day is now recognized by the United Nations, which officially acknowledged it in 2019. On this day, chess clubs, schools, and communities organize tournaments, workshops, and events to celebrate the game's enduring appeal and educational benefits.

What makes chess so special? It's not just about moving pieces on a board; it's about strategy, patience, and sportsmanship. Chess teaches valuable life skills and values, making it a beloved pastime and educational tool. Whether you're a seasoned grand master or a beginner, International Chess Day is a chance to connect with fellow chess lovers and enjoy the game's unique blend of challenge and camaraderie.

So, on July 20, grab a chessboard, gather some friends, and join the global chess party. Whether you're playing online or in person, it's a day to celebrate the game that unites us all. To borrow FIDE's motto, "*Gens Una Sumus*": "We are one people, united by our love for chess."

## July Birthdays

In astrology, those born July 1–22 are the Crabs of Cancer. Crabs are emotional nurturers, dedicated to their home and family. Gentle and kind, they love storytelling around the dinner table and enjoy upholding traditions. Those born July 23–31 are the Lion star sign, Leo. Leos are dignified, strong, and powerful, making good leaders and honorable friends. They are also ambitious, reaching for the stars, working hard, and accomplishing their goals.

P. T. Barnum (circus showman) – July 5, 1810

Nancy Reagan (first lady) – July 6, 1921

Michelle Kwan (figure skater) – July 7, 1980

Milton Berle (comedian) – July 12, 1908

Harrison Ford (actor) – July 13, 1942

Phyllis Diller (comedienne) – July 17, 1917

Don Knotts (actor) – July 21, 1924

Gracie Allen (comedienne) – July 26, 1895

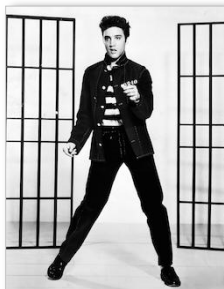
Paul Anka (singer) – July 30, 1941

**Leroy P. July 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Cynthia R. July 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Kathy V. July 27<sup>th</sup>**

## The Birth of a King



On July 18, 1953, a young man named Elvis Presley walked into the Sun Records studio in Memphis, Tennessee, to make his first record. The resulting acetate disc, with just two songs—"My Happiness" and "That's When Your Heartaches Begin"—was supposed to be

a gift from Elvis to his mother. Rumor has it, though, that the Presleys did not even own a record player. And besides, his mother's birthday had long passed. Many speculate that the recording was an attempt by Elvis to get the attention of Sun Records owner Sam Phillips. Apparently, Elvis made an impression, because he was invited back to the studio a year later, on July 5, 1954. At first, the session was uninspiring. The band was about to give up when Elvis began fooling around, goofing off, and singing. That sound was exactly what Phillips was looking for, and the King of Rock 'n' Roll was born.