

The Story Behind the Plate

On April 25, 1901, New York became the first state to require license plates on vehicles. At that time, the state didn't provide the plates. Rather, individuals created their own license plates out of leather, brass, or whatever was available. When people began to create unlawful plates, state governments stepped in and began making their own.



In 1903, Massachusetts became the first state to issue plates. The very first license plate was number 1, issued to a man named Frederick Tudor. Amazingly, his family still maintains an active registration, which gives them the right to use the number 1 on a modern plate.

The first plates were made of iron covered in porcelain enamel. The background was a dark blue with the numbers in white. There were no standard sizes back in the early days of license plates. The more numbers on the plate, the larger the plate got. Motorcycles, too, needed license plates. The first looked identical to car plates, but started with the letter Z.

As if letters and numbers weren't enough, many plates have had slogans touting a state's fame or history. In our quiz below, try to connect each state with one of its license plate slogans.

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|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Idaho | A. Sunshine State |
| 2. Missouri | B. Vacationland |
| 3. New Hampshire | C. Land of Lincoln |
| 4. Washington | D. Garden State |
| 5. Illinois | E. Stars Fell On |
| 6. New Jersey | F. America's Dairyland |
| 7. Pennsylvania | G. Live Free or Die |
| 8. Wisconsin | H. Show-Me State |
| 9. Florida | I. Keystone State |
| 10. Alabama | J. First in Flight |
| 11. Maine | K. Evergreen State |
| 12. North Carolina | L. Famous Potatoes |

Having trouble? Perhaps a road trip is in order....

Answers: 1. L; 2. H; 3. G; 4. K; 5. C; 6. D; 7. I; 8. F; 9. A; 10. E; 11. B; 12. J

Resident Council Corner

Welcome to the newest area of the newsletter! The Resident Council Members wanted to ensure that all residents were in the loop on the happenings in our home. Let's dive in!

There were two new concerns from this month: Activities Calendars were not handed out on the first of the month to all residents and on one date this last month two activities were 20 minutes late. The follow-up was presented to the council, but they felt these concerns were needing to be reviewed again for this next month. The results will be presented to the council in April.

Thank you to those who were able to attend the monthly meeting. Your input and attendance are very much appreciated.

Our next Resident Council meeting will be April 23, 2025 at 1:30 pm in the Great Room. Residents will meet first to go over any new concerns for the month. The staff will be invited to come at 1:45 pm.

Happy Spring everyone, see you there!

April 2025

Mountain Vista View

Mountain Vista Assisted Living | 11800 W 49th Ave Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 | 303.421.4192



Spring Into April with Us!

Spring has officially arrived, and with it comes a renewed sense of energy, joy, and connection. As the days grow longer and the flowers begin to bloom, we have an exciting month ahead full of activities, celebrations, and special moments.

We kicked off the month with our annual Opening Day celebration, and what a great time we had! Residents and staff came together in their Rockies gear to enjoy classic ballpark snacks like peanuts and Cracker Jacks while watching the game. Although the Rockies fell to the A's with a final score of 6-3, the spirit and excitement of the day were a definite win for our community!

And this April, we're especially proud to celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Month! To our amazing volunteers—you are the heart of our community. Whether you're helping with activities, spending one-on-one time with residents, assisting with events, or simply offering a kind word or a listening ear, your presence makes a world of difference. Thank you for your time, your compassion, and your dedication. We look forward to celebrating with you throughout the month with special recognition and a small token of our appreciation. You are truly cherished!

On Wednesday, April 23rd, we'll be celebrating Administrative Professionals Day, a chance to recognize the incredible hard work and dedication of Deb and Laura—two of the most essential people behind the scenes who keep everything running smoothly. From answering phones with a smile to juggling schedules and supporting staff, residents, and families alike, Deb and Laura are the heartbeat of our front office. To show our appreciation, we're hosting a Thank You Social in the lobby at 2:30 PM. Join us for treats, laughter, and a warm round of applause for all that they do!

Celebrating April Birthdays

Delanah S, QMAP – 4/3
Allison T, QMAP – 4/3
Marcia R, Activities – 4/6
Natasha R, QMAP – 4/7
William S, Hskp – 4/11
Jayson R, Executive Dir. – 4/13
Erlinda L – 4/15
Cary W – 4/16
Judy M – 4/25
Michael H, Transport – 4/26
Richard C, Main – 4/30

Anniversaries

Natasha R, QMAP – 1 year
Lynda L, QMAP – 1 year
Kristian J, QMAP – 1 year
Gerri M, Dietary – 2 years

Stress Awareness Month

Jazz Appreciation Month

Passover

April 12-20

Easter

April 20

Earth Day

April 22

Laugh It Off

You may be laughing until it hurts, but that laughter is doing some powerful healing. Pull up a chair next to the class clown or the office cutup because April is Humor Month.



Humor may be one of the oldest and most effective methods of social bonding. No matter what your culture or background, all laughter sounds the same. Better yet, studies show that the more you laugh, the more attractive you become to the opposite sex... or perhaps that's just a joke?

Most laughter doesn't come from listening to jokes. Most laughter comes from spending time with friends and family. Furthermore, people tend to laugh more when they're in groups. Laughter truly is contagious. In fact, laughter strengthens immune systems by increasing infection-fighting antibodies.

Doctors have become wise to the positive health effects of laughter. Laughter has been shown to decrease blood pressure, improve the function of blood vessels, increase blood flow, and decrease hormones associated with stress. Laughter even reduces pain by stimulating the release of endorphins. One doctor believes laughing is such good exercise that he calls it "internal jogging." One minute of laughing, he says, is equal to 10 minutes on a rowing machine.

Laughter is not just good for the body; it's also good for the mind. Humor stimulates creativity, improves problem-solving abilities, enhances memory, and teaches resilience. All April long, make sure to take "laughter breaks" every day. Avoid the news and instead watch a sitcom or funny movie, read the daily comics, perform a sight gag, tell a joke, play games, spend time with children, and most importantly, do these things with friends. Hoot and holler with reckless abandon, and your body will thank you.

The Metric Divide

Feet, inches, pounds, miles, teaspoons, and degrees Fahrenheit. What do all these types of measurements have in common? They are part of the U.S. customary measurement system, closely akin to the British imperial units—a standard many say has outlived its usefulness. After all, only three countries in the world—the United States, Myanmar, and Liberia—use this system. The rest of the world has adopted the metric system of measurement. If you're ready to join the rest of the world, then take a stand on April 7, Metric System Day.

The metric system was developed in France during the French Revolution and was officially adopted on April 7, 1795. Nearly every nation in the world has adopted it since. Yet the United States still clings to its own system. Americans still bake using cups, measure height using inches, and fill up gas tanks by the gallon. This persistence is largely due to the time and cost associated with changing the country's infrastructure, as well as pushback from big businesses and citizens reluctant to undergo such a significant transition.

"Louie Louie" Lives On

Some call "Louie Louie" the most popular party song of all time. Others call it the most incomprehensible. Try your best to decipher the lyrics on April 11, International Louie Louie Day, in honor of composer Richard Berry's birthdate in 1935. It was the music group the Kingsmen who made "Louie Louie" a hit in 1963. A year later, the FBI opened an investigation into the song's mysterious lyrics. One concerned listener believed the song contained obscene language. After months of analysis, the FBI concluded the song was unintelligible. Today we know that it is a simple song about a seafaring man pining for his love.



The Mighty Mule Legacy



Mule Day in Columbia, Tennessee, is so beloved that it is actually celebrated for four days: in 2025, from April 3–6. Why celebrate such an animal? As the offspring of a male donkey and a female horse, mules are more patient, surer-footed, and longer-living than horses, and faster, smarter, and more cooperative than donkeys. Mules, it seems, are the best of both worlds.

Mule Day began as Breeders' Day in the 1840s. Farmers would gather from miles around to bring their mules to market on the first Monday in April. This was a crucial business before the advent of mechanical tractors, and Columbia became known as the "Mule Capital of the World." Of course, once tractors came into fashion, the demand for mules slipped, but Columbia continued to hold its traditional Mule Day just the same. Today, Mule Day features mule-driving contests, mule parades, a flea market, music, and food and drink. No other town loves its mules as much as Columbia, Tennessee.

However, Matanzas, Cuba, comes pretty close. This Cuban city celebrates April 27 as Matanzas Mule Day. On this date in 1898, Matanzas became the site of the first military action of the Spanish-American War. American naval ships amassed in the bay and bombarded the city with heavy artillery. Amazingly, the only casualty was a mule, who became an instant folk hero. Legend has it that the Matanzas Mule was buried with full military honors as a military band played for hundreds of mourners. Some claimed this story was a complete fabrication—an act of propaganda meant to humiliate the American forces—but the tradition continues. We may never know for sure which town adores mules more: Columbia, Tennessee, or Matanzas, Cuba. It may make more sense to simply declare April International Mule Month.

Treat Yourself Head to Toe

Looking for an excuse to treat yourself to a little TLC? Look no further than April 25, Mani-Pedi Day. Manicures and pedicures involve an entire host of hand and foot treatments, including filing and clipping nails, massages, and softening and moisturizing the hands and feet in hot paraffin wax, lotions, or oils. Some even choose to decorate their nails with tiny jewels, dried flowers, or glitter.

The nail salon, once seen as a primarily feminine space, is now attracting a more diverse crowd. A professional nail treatment can complement a sharp outfit, a fresh haircut, polished shoes, and a touch of fragrance, creating a polished look for anyone. Even NFL athletes have been known to unwind with a calf massage while their feet soak in warm paraffin wax. Some upscale salons offer a relaxed vibe, pairing nail care with beverages like beer or scotch and big-screen TV sports.

Dig into Deep-Dish



It's a pizza that stands apart from all the rest, with three-inch-high walls of buttery crust holding in a simmering stew of sauce, cheese, sausage, pepperoni, peppers, onions, and whatever else your stomach desires.

The Chicago-style deep-dish pizza has become such a culinary icon that it bears its own holiday, Deep Dish Pizza Day, on April 5. The deep-dish pizza debuted in 1943 at Chicago's Pizzeria Uno restaurant, but locals debate its true roots. Was it the Malnati family, working at the first Pizzeria Uno, who invented the deep dish? Did the Malnati family matriarch develop the dough recipe for another restaurant entirely? The best way to settle the debate is to take one of Chicago's Deep Dish Pizza Tours and eat until you're as stuffed as a Chicago-style pizza pie.